

THE BOOKE OF THE CIRCUYTE AND PARTICULER DECAYES  
OF THE TOWN AND CASTELL OF BARWICKE DECLAYRED.  
IN ARTICLES.<sup>1</sup> (*Tempore Hen. VIII.*)

*A Declaracion of the Circuitte of the Wawles of the Town and Castell of Barwicke, with the Towers of the same; and of the particuler Decayes necessary to be repayed, and other diverse thinges to be noted for the strength of the said Town.*

FIRST, frome a tower called Percy Tower, beinge th'entre furth of the town into the castell, unto the tower at the gaitte called Saint Mare Gayte, beinge th'entre towarte Scoteland, is the distaunce of v<sup>xx</sup> yerdes of waulle, wherof the most parte of the foundation is decayed, which must be underset with stoone and lyme, and a part of the same is bowgyt and lyke to fawll to the grounde within breve tyme.

*Item*, The same tower called Saint Mary Gaite is in divers places rysted through the waulles, and the wawll therof conteigneth in thikenes of the part towart Scoteland in some places, iiij foote, in some places bot iij foote, and the syd towarte the town bot ij foote, in hieght frome the ground upwart xl foote, and in compase within xl foote sqwayre.

*Item*, Betwen the same gaithowse or tower of the north part of the town, towart Scoteland, and the tower called the Brode Stair Hed Tower, beinge a tower of defence estwart, is distaunce of a hundreth and xij yerdes of waulle, the moost part wherof beinge maide of stoone and blake erth is soore bowged and like to fawll down within breif tyme. And the entre into the said tower furth of the town through the Countermoore contenith in length xxxij foote, and in bred iiij foote, and is maid of stone and lyme, and overheled with tymber, which tymber is now soore rotten, waisted, and fallen down, by occasion wherof the Countermoore discendith, fallith down, and stoppith the entre. And the same tower conteignith in widenes within wher the gunners should occuppye their ordenance xij foote, and the mayne wawll of the same tower owtwart vj foote in thikenes, which tower maikes no defence bot by the grounde allonges the wawlle of either syd, and the overpart of the same tower is fylled with erth and dampned.

<sup>1</sup> Among the records in the Public Record Office, Rolls House, and in the custody of the Master of the Rolls, pursuant to the statute 1 and 2 Vict., c. 94, to wit, among the Records of the Treasury of the Receipt of the Exchequer, in the Book marked "B. 1, 24." From an office copy communicated by the Subscribers to the Hodgson Fund.

*Item*, Bitwen the said tower at the Braid Stair Hed, and a tower beinge dampned and fylled full of erth, estwart, is the distaunce of vij<sup>xx</sup>viiij yerdes, wherof diverse partes beinge maid of stone and blake erth is soore bowget and like to fawll shortely, to the value of iij<sup>xx</sup>viiij yerdes.

*Item*, On th'est parte of the same tower is one other tower dampned and filled full of erth, called Wawlles Tower, distaunte from the other tower xlviiij yerdes. The most part of which wawll, beinge likewies maid of stone and erth, is bowged and in danger of fawllinge to the grounde.

*Item*, It is to be noted that the said twoo towers beinge thus filled and dampned is a great decaye of the defence of that part of the town.

*Item*, Bitwen the said Walles Tower and the Bell Tower, estward of the said north parte of the town, is the distaunce of xx<sup>vi</sup>viiij yerdes, wherof is fawllyn to the grounde xix<sup>t</sup> yerdes. And the same Belle Tower conteignith in widenes for the gunners to occupye their ordenance, xij foote. And the mayne wawll of the same tower is in thikenes xj foote. And the entre in to the same, furth of the Countermoor, is substanciall and good, and cummyth frome above the Countermoor downewarte, and maikith no defence bot allonges the wawlle by the grounde, and the over-part above the vault is filled full of erth.

*Item*, Furth of the same Bell Tower, standinge upon the corner of the wawlles, is a Posteron to issue in a Bullwarke adjonyng unto the same, which bulwarke was maid in haist by maister Candisch, in tyme of need, of duffet, for the scoringe and defending of the said north part of the town, and specially of a great large castyn dyke called the Sterlinge Dike, towart the see, wherin a greate company of enemyes might ells savelly lye without danger of th'ordenance of the town; and now the same bulwark is rotten and fallen in decay, and conteignith in length from the said Bell Tower, owtward, iij<sup>xx</sup>x yerdes, and in widenes in th'end next the wawll xxj yerdes, and in the other end ix yerdes.

*Item*, Bitwen the said Bell Tower called the Murderer, on th'est parte of the town, southwart frome the Bell Tower, is the distaunce of vj<sup>xx</sup>x yerdes, wherof is of laite buyldinge iijj<sup>xx</sup> yerdes, and the rest of ald buylding of stone and erth from thre yerdes above the erth upward. And the entre into the same Murderer, through the Countermoor, conteignith in length xxxij foote, maide with stoone and lyme, and in bred iijj foote. And the same entre is overheled which tymber, which tymber is rotten, and fallith down and stoppith the entre. And the same Murderer contenyth in wydnes viij foote, and in hyght within viij foote, and without. . . . .foote. The mayne wawlle in thikenes bot ij foote. And the same Murderer is mayd of lyme and stoone, and joyned unto the tower clere without the wawlle, which tower doith serve for no defence, bot for oone entre into the said Murderer, and is filled from the vault upwart with erth.

*Item*, For against the said Murderer owtward is a hed and perticion, maide of erth, bitwixt two stankes of the length of xx<sup>ti</sup> and viij yerdes, and the bred of vj yerdes, and doith lye oppyn, so as ennemyes may come over the same in a darke night hard to the wawlles, and slay the scoutwatch, as thei have doon befor tymes, or enterprise other dangers, which wer necessary to be mayd upe with stone and lym.

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*Item,* Betwen the said Murderer and a tower called the Myddyll Tower, beinge dampned and filled with erth, of the same part is the distance of v<sup>xx</sup> yerdes of ald wawll.

*Item,* Betwen the same dampned tower and a tower called the Rede Tower, is the distaunce of v<sup>xx</sup> and iij yerdes of lyke wawll, and the entre into the same Rede Tower, through the Contermoyre, is in length xxviiij footte, and in bred iij footte and a half. The over helinge of the same, for beringe uppe the Countermore, was maid of tymber, and the same is rotten, and the Countermore fallith down and stoppith the entre so as the guners can not have incurse into the same. The same tower is in wydenes within viij footte, and the mayne wawll is vj footte thiike, owtward, and fylled with erth frome the vaulte upwart, and maykith defence onely by the erth allonges the wawlles, as the other for said towers doith.

*Item,* Betwen the saide Rede Tower and the Cowgaite Tower is the distance of v<sup>xx</sup> and viij yerdes, wherof diverse places ar ruynned and nedfull to be repayred. And the same Cowgaite Tower haith two places for ordnance of either syd, one conteynyng in wydnes viij footte a pece, which onely shottith by grounde allonges the wawll, so as thei maike no defence outward. The mayne waulle is in thikenes on the one syde iij footte, and on the other syd iij footte. And the same tower is covered with flagges, wherthrough the weit haith issue and rottith and waistith the tymber.

*Item,* Without the same gaite and tower, and streight bifer the same, is a Bulwarke of erth and duffet, mayd for the defence of the same gaite, which is soore decayed and necessary to be repayred.

*Item,* Betwen the same gaite, and a tower of the southsyd of the same, on the said est parte of the town, is the dystaunce of v<sup>xx</sup> and viij yerdes. And the entre into the same tower furth of the town, through the Countermoor is xviiij footte in length, and in bred v footte. And the overhelinge thereof, maid of tymber, is rotten and fallyn down in lyke forme as the other entres of towers ar. The wydenes of the same tower within is x footte, and the mayne wawll of the same is vij footte in thikenes owtwart, and doith mayke no defence bot by the ground allonges the wauall, and is fylled frome the vault upwarte with erth and dampned.

*Item,* Ther is a Posteron on the southsyd of the said tower, goinge furth of the town, to a Bulwarke called the Great Bulwarke, in the Snooke, the entre wherof extendith in length through the Countermoyr xxij footte, and bred v footte and a half. And the overhelinge of the same, mayd of tymber, is rotten and decayed in like caace as th'entres into the towers be.

*Item,* The Bulwarke, without the said posteron, is mayd of erth and duffet, for the great strength and defence of th'est part of the town, and is now sore waisted and decayed, and verray nedfull to be repayred.

*Item,* Betwen the tower next aforesaid and the tower next byneth the same posteron, sowthwart, is the distaunce of vj<sup>xx</sup> and xj yerdes, and the entre into the same tower, through the Countermoor, conteigneth in length xxiiij fote, and in bred v footte, the overhelinge of the same, being of tymber, is rotten and fallen down, so that the Countermoor fawllith and stoppith the entre. And the same tower beinge of compas within

viiij foote, and the mayn waulle of the same vj fote thike outward, is so decayed and craysed as the gunners dar not within the same occupy any ordenance for fear of fawllinge of the same tower to the erth, and doith maike no defence, bot as the other aforesaid towers doith.

*Item,* Betwen the same tower and a tower called the Conduyte Tower is the distaunce of vj<sup>xx</sup> yerdes, and the entre into the same Conduyte tower, through the Countermoor, conteignith in length xx foote, and in bred v foote. And the overhelinge of the same, maid of tymber, decayed and rotten, the countermoor fawllen down, whereby the entre is stoped. The tower within is in wydenes ix foote, and the mayne wawlle owtwarte in thikenes iiij foote, and is filled, in lyke manner, from the vault upwarte with erth.

*Item,* Betwen the Conduyt Tower and the Tower against the Wynde Myll, is the distaunce of vj<sup>xx</sup> yerdes, and the entre into the same tower, through the Counter moor is xx<sup>ii</sup> foote in length, and in bred v foote, covered and overheled with tymber, which now is rotten, and in like caace as the other entres aforesaid be. The tower within is viij foote wyde and the mayn wawlle iiij foote thike, and is filled with erth frome the vaulte upwarte.

*Item,* For against the same tower, without the wawlles, ther is a hede or a particion of erth maid bitwixt two stankes in the manner of a bulwark, which now doith lie oppyn, so as eennemyes may come hard to the wawlles and danger the scowt watch, or enterpryce other dangers in a darke night. And the same hed doith conteign in length frome the wawll owtwart xxviiij yerdes, and in bred viij yerdes.

*Item,* Betwen the same tower for against the Wynde myll and Saint Nicolles Tower is the distaunce of vj<sup>xx</sup> yerdes, and the same Saint Nicolles Tower contenith in wydnes bot iiij foote, and in thikenes bot two foote, and so sore decayed that the gunners dar not occupie any ordenance within the same. And the foundation of a botterace mayd for the strengthinge of the same, with the foundation of the same tower self, is waisted, and by sources of the wattir shronkyn and fallyn down, so as the same tower beinge on of the carners of the wawlle of the said tower is right lyke to fawll within breyf tyme, oneles it be the rather repayred and amendyt.

*Item,* Ther is oone entre or a posteron to yssue, yf cause should requyer, furth of the same town, nigh above the sa[me Saint] Nicolles Tower, and of the north syd of the same, throug[h the] Countermoor, conteignynge in length xxx foote and [in bred] v foote, and tymber above of the overhelinge therof is r[otten], and fallyn down like as other entres ar.

*Item,* Without the same posteron ther is a hed of erth mayd for keeping in of the watter to the stanke and for issuyng of men to the feldes, which hed conteigneth in length xx<sup>ii</sup> and viij yerdes, and in bred viij yerdes, and is mayd with payll, which rotteth and waisteth, and were necessary to be mayd with lyme and stone.

*Item,* Bitwen the said Nycolles Tower and the Blakewatchowse Tower is the distaunce of vj<sup>xx</sup> yerdes, the foundation of divers playces wherof, with of a butterace laitelymayd for strengthinge of the same, is worn away by sources of the wattir, to the danger of the fallinge of a part of the same wawll within breve tyme, without the same be the moore haistely

repayred and amendyt. The entre into the sam Blake watchhowse Tower is through the Countermoor xxij<sup>o</sup> foote in length, and v foot and a half in bred, and in wydnes within viij foot. And the mayne wawll of the same tower outward is viij foote thiike, and is so revyn and in such decay as the gunners dar not occupye any pece of ordenance within the same for doubt of fawllinge therof, and is fylled with erth frome the vault upward.

*Item*, Bitwen the Blake Watchhouse Tower and the Watchhowse Tower is the distaunce of vj<sup>xx</sup> yerdes, and is in right soore decay, and in danger of fawllinge a great part of it. The entringe into the same tower is in length xxvi foote, and in bred v foote, and the tymber above rotten, and in such caace as other entres aforesaid be. The tower within is in wydenes viij foote, and the mayn wawll of the same owtwort viij foote thiike, and in such ruyn as it is lyke to fawll to the ground, for doubt wherof ther dar no gunner occupy any ordenance within the same.

*Item*, Bitwen the same Watchowse Tower and the Plommers Tower is the distaunce of iiij<sup>xx</sup> yerdes, all which is in soore decay by sources of the wattir. And the wawll must in some partes be takyn downe and made of new, and in other some parttes it must be substauncially pynned and poynted with stone and lyme. The entre into the sam Plommers Tower conteignith in length xxxvi foote through the Countermoor, and in bred v foot, the overhelinge wherof maid of tymber in lyke decayes as the other entres aforesaid. The widnes of the tower within is vij foot, and the mayne wawll owtward vij foot thiike, and in such decay as it is lyke to fawll to the ground, for doubt wherof ther dar no gunner occupye any ordenance within the same. And the overpart frome the vault upward is fylled with erth.

*Item*, Bitwen the Plommers Tower and the Tower within the Stooone Bulwarke of the Sandes is the distaunce of iiij<sup>xx</sup>xvij yerdes, wherof diverse partes ar in soore decay. And the same tower doith serve for no defence, bot for one entre into the said bulwark, which bulwarke is set unto the said tower, and so dangered with the see as in the tyme of full see ther can no gunner remayn within the same, ne any ordenance kept dry ther, and is oppyn above, and haith no manner of coveringe, and contenith within in wydenes ix foote, and the mayne wawll in thikenes iiij foote, and in hight xiiij foote frome the ground.

*Item*, Betwen the saide bulwarke and the New Tower of the Sandes is the distaunce of vj<sup>xx</sup> yerdes, the foundation wherof is in great decay by the sourginge of the wattir, and must be underset in diverse parttes with stone and lyme. And the same new tower conteignith within in wydenes ix foote, and the mayne wawll in thikenes iiij foote.

*Item*, Betwen the same tower and the Gaite that goith into the Nese is the distaunce of lxvij yerdes, a parte wherof must be underset at the foundation, which is worne by sources of the wattir.

*Item*, Betwen the same Gaite that goith into the Nes and the Wattir Gaite is the distaunce of v<sup>xx</sup> and xj yerdes of ald wawll maid of stone and erth far in decay.

*Item*, The same Wattir Gaite being mayd of yeron is in such exstreme decaye as it is unneth habill to be oppynned and lokked, so that in theyr playces other new gaittes must be maid and set up.

*Item*, Betwen the Wattir Gaite and the Maysyndue Gaite is ix<sup>xx</sup> and

xviij yerdes, the moost part wherof maid of stone and claye, and in soore decaye.

*Item*, Bitwen the Maysyndew Gaite and the Brige Gaite, beinge the entre frome over the brige into the town, is the distaunce of iij<sup>xxvj</sup> yerdes.

*Item*, The gayte at the said Briggait is mayd of wood and in great decaye, and the wawlles abowt the same gaite ar neither of any strength ne good like to the avewe.

*Item*, Bitwen the Briggait and the Percy Tower is the distaunce of v hundreth and iij<sup>xx</sup> yerdes, the moost parte beinge maid of stoone and clay, is soo low that a man may stond within the wawll and tak a nother by the hand without the wawll, and diverse partes of the same like to fawll. And one part contenyng in bred xij yerdes is all redy fawllyn to the erth.

*Item*, It is to be noted that bitwixt the New Tower upon the Sandes, and the Percy Tower, at the entre into the Castell furth of the town, beinge the distaunce of viij hundreth iij<sup>xx</sup> and xvj yerdes, ther is not in any parte of the wawll any manner of tower, bulwarke, or seperate place of owtward defence to be mayd, bot onely upon the hieght of the wawll.

*Item*, It is necessary that the New Tower upon the Brige be buyldt upe, which might be a great strength for that part of the town, for the same tower standinge as it doith, and the wawll uncovered, grewith greatly in decay by reason that the rayn gyttith entre into the wawll above and discendith and perishith the same in weshinge away the lyme.

*Item*, The towers of defence abowt the wawlles restith uncovered, by reson wherof the rayn fallen upon the Countermore discendith through the same and perishith the wawlt, and mosturith the ordnance and powder within the same towers.

#### THE CASTELL.

FIRST the entre frome the Percy Tower into the said castell, unto the Draw Brige is the distaunce of 1<sup>u</sup> yerdes, and the same draw brige is iij yerdes over. And bitwixt the sam draw brige and the Dongean, beinge the entre into the Court of the castell, is xxj yerdes, which entre conteignith in bred . . . . . yerdes, and is mayd of lyme and stoone, and a parte therof shronk in and revyn.

*Item*. Betwixt the saide Dongeon and the Counstable Tower, stondinge southward frome the same, is the distaunce of xxvj yerdes, and the same Constabill Tower conteignith in wydenes within xvj foote for the gunners to occupye their ordnance, and the thikenes of the wawll in the lower parte iij foote, and above the vault ij foote.

*Item*. Between the same tower and the Posteron Tower, on the south syd of the castell, is the distaunce of xx<sup>u</sup> yerdes, which tower is dampned within, and a greate part of the same tower toward the castell, inward, is fallen down, and the rest of the same will fawll verray shortly owtward. And nyegh the same tower, on the west syd, is a Posteron of ieron, with a woode gaite without, good and stronge.

*Item*, Bitwen that tower and the Chappell Tower is the distaunce of twentie and thre yerdes. The same tower conteignith in wydenes within . . . . foote, and so soore decayed as at every great wynd it doith shak so dangerously. as no man dar aventur to lye in the lodgeinge of the same of

the over part, and by all likelihed will fawll to the ground right shortly.

*Item*, Bitwen the same Chappell Tower and a Buttres mayd with a Tower casten owt apou the tope, myd against the Hawll, is xxix<sup>th</sup> yerdes of the same south syd, and is in right soore decay booth at the ground and the most part of the same upward, and a great parte therof in danger of fallinge. The compase of the same botterase is iiij yerdes.

*Item*, Bitwen the same Butteres and the wawll called the Whit Wawll, goinge streight from the owtwart corner of the castell to the watter of Twed, is the distaunce of xl yerdes, a great part wherof beinge the wawll of the Hawll and the Lodginges for the Captaigne, is in extreme decay, and many steannes fawllen furth of the same, without spedye repayringe wherof it will put a great parte of the same wawll in danger of fawllinge.

*Item*, The said Whit Wawll, goinge southwart frome the utter corner of the castell down to the watter of Twed, conteignith of length iiij<sup>th</sup> xiiij yerdes, in the myddest wherof is oone yeron Posterou to issue into the felde; and at the end of the same wawll is a tower mayd for occupyng of ordenance, and stondith in the wattir, the foundation wherof is under myned by the watter, and the corners of the same dryven away, wherby the same tower by all likelyhed will right shortly fawll into the wattir. The same tower conteignith in widenes within ix foote, the wawll in thikenes iiij foote. The entringe into the sam frome above the wawlle was covered with tymbre, and the tower self with flagges of stoone. The tymber is rotten and decayed so as ther dar no gunners neither lye within the same as hath ben accustomat, ne yet occupy any ordenance, for doubt of fawllinge therof.

*Item*, Frome th'end of the said wawll called the Whit Wawll, adjoined to the castell, to a Botteres of the west syd of the same castell northwart frome the same Whyt Wawll is the distaunce of xix yerdes, which wawll in diverse places reven and shronkin. And the same botteres is in compase x yerdes.

*Item*, Betwen the same Botteres and the wawll goinge down frome the castell to the stanke, northward, is the distaunce of lx yerdes, diverse places wherof is craysed and reven, and nedefull to be amendyt. And of the same west syd, and that part of the wawll, is one yeron Posterou, to issue furth of the castell in to the feld.

*Item*, without the saide posterou is a Barmeking, of stoone, for the defence of the posterou and of that parte of the castell, the most part wherof is decayed and fallen to the ground, and so lyyth oppyn.

*Item*, The same wawlle goinge down, northwart, frome the castell to the stanke conteignith in length . . . . . yerdes.

*Item*, Bitwen the hed of the same wawll and the Bakhowse Tower is the distaunce of x yerdes, and the same tower is dampned and fylled with erth frome the grounde to the myddest. The entre into the same tower, through the myddest of the Countermoor, is xij foote in length, and in brede v foote. Which tower is overheled with tymber and counter-moored above, and the same tymber is rotten and fallen down, and a part of the countermoor into the said tower, and haith stopped the same. so as neither ther can any ordenance be occupied within it, ne discharged upon the tope of the same, for doubt of fawllinge of the rest of the said countermoor. The same tower conteignith in wydenes x foote, the mayne wawll in thikenes vj foote.

*Item*, Bitwen the same tower and the Boukill Tower is the distaunce of xx yerdes. The entre into the tower is v yerdes in length, under the Countermoor, and in bred. . . . yerdes. The same tower conteignith in widenes within xvj<sup>th</sup> foote, and the mayne wawll in thikenes ix foote. The vawlt of the same tower is so craysed, as for doubt of fallinge therof, ther is a prope of wod set upe to the same, and the gunner dar unneth occupie any ordenance within it. The same tower frome the vawlt upwarte is fylled with erth and dampned.

*Item*, Bitwen the same tower and the Gunners Tower is the distaunce of xxij yerdes. The entre into the same is in length. . . . foote, and in bred. . . . foote. The same tower conteignith in wydnes within xx foote, and the mayne wawll in thikenes iij feete.

*Item*, Bitwen the same Gunners Tower and the Dangean is the distaunce of xxxv yerdes of slender wawll; and the same dongeon of the utter part contenith xxxvj yerdes, the wydenes of the yaite of the same, beinge the passage into the castell, is x foote; and the same dongeon is in wydenes within xv yerdes, and in diverse places craysed and decayed.

And forsomuch as ther is not within the said castell neither brewhowse, myln, garners for kepinge of stoor of corne, ne howse to kepe any ordenance, so as yf any haisty danger shold come unto the same castell, or that the town should be woon, as Gode forbed, or yf th'inhabitanttes should rebell against the capetaign, all the kinges ordenance, saving such as ar stondinge upon the wawlles of the castell, should so be in ennemyes handes, the mylnes and brewhows barred from the castell, and the capetane his stoor of corne beinge in garners within the town, to the great danger of the same and the strength of the ennemyes. For the avoding of all which dangers it wer verray necessary and expedient that a myln, with a brewhowse, a garner, and a howse for the kepinge of th'ordenance wer mayd and set upe within the said castell.

*Item*, It is to be noted that the same Bakehowse Tower and Boukill Tower is not covered above, by reason wherof the rayne wattr discendith through the countermore and moostith the towers, so as the ordenance nor powder can no be keped dry within the same.

*Item*, It is also to be noted that the castell stondith in such forme and so lowe under the town, as yf the town by any meanes be against the castell, either woon by enemyes or by rebellinge of th'inhabitauntes against the capetane, the said castell can no waies hurte or danger the town, and the town greatly hurte and danger the castell.

*Item*, Ther is a wawll at the entringe into the haven called Holdeman Wawll, which was maide for savegard of the same haven. And the same wawll is now decayed, by reason wherof the mowth and entringe into the same havyn gatherith and is filled so with sand, that oneles speddy remedy be provydyt for the same, the said haven shall within breve tyme to come be clerly stopped and sanded.

*Item*, Over and above thes special noticions of decayes, decayred in the articles above writtyn, ther ar divers playces of the said wawlles of the town and castell, which had much neid to be pynned, poynted, and brittished with stoon and lym, the doinge wherof in tyme shall save the kinges hieghnes the one half of the charges which within breve tyme he shalbe inforced els to maike for the repayringe of the sam.