



## **Historic Building Recording at Blackfriars Monastery and Preaching Cross, Herefordshire**

Project code: BFHH 11

Hereford Archaeology Series: 920

Date of report: 25/01/2012

Report title: Historic Building Recording at Blackfriars Monastery and  
Preaching Cross, Herefordshire

Authors name: S R Mayes

Project summary sheet

Client: S T Walker and Duckham

National grid reference: NGR SO 5118 4043

Address: Blackfriars Monastery, Hereford

Local Authority: Hereford Borough Council

HAS Number: 920

SMR Number 418 (Blackfriars) and SMR number 3983 (Preaching Cross)

OASIS Entry:119035

Project Manager: Andy Boucher

Text: A Boucher, S.R.Mayes

Illustration: S R Mayes,

Fieldwork: S R Mayes

Schedule: Fieldwork October 2011; Report February 2011



## **Blackfriars priory and Preaching cross- building survey**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The majority of the work was conducted before the end of September 2011 in order to cause minimal disturbance to any hibernating Bats with advice from Rebecca Collins, the protected species consultant. Headland Archaeology (UK) Limited carried out a program of archaeological building recording on the standing structure at Blackfriars, Hereford, Herefordshire (NGR: SO 510 390).

S T Walker and Duckham Architects commissioned the work acting on behalf of Amey in respect of remedial repairs to the fabric of the building and associated preaching cross

The site is within the Hereford Area of Archaeological Importance and both structures are Scheduled Ancient Monuments and listed buildings.

### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The ruins of Blackfriars Monastery lie outside the site of the Widemarsh Gate and are set back a little from Widemarsh Street, behind Coningsby Hospital. (NGR SO 5118 4043).

The area is currently set out as formal gardens and the ruins of Thomas Coningsby house, formally part of the Monastery, remain as upstanding walls only, while the preaching cross is relatively intact due to reconstruction work carried out in the 1840's.

### **OBJECTIVES**

It was the Objective of the project to produce simplified elevation drawings of the existing remains in order to aid the marking up of the buildings to facilitate repairs.

### **METHOD**

The buildings were digitally photographed, creating overlapping elevations of the wall faces, with control points being located using an EDM. These combined images were then digitised using an A3 tablet into AutoCad to produce a series of elevations of the buildings.

The tower elevation was photographed with overlapping images at less than 1m intervals in order to create a flattened image of the tower, this method was affected, by the restricted access to the tower, and hence the resulting image represents a generalised image of the existing elevation

### **HISTORY**

The ruins, which remain, formed the range of buildings and the cloister walk on the west side of the cloister of Black friars Priory. (RCHM,I, 1931, 128-9)

There would doubtless originally have been other ranges of buildings also with aisles or cloisters. The church would have been to the south of the cloister but its length and width is not known (Butler, 1960). The whole site, which was bounded by Widemarsh Street on the west, Coningsby Street on the south, the Tanbrook on the north, and probably Canal road on the east, excepting the area occupied by the Hospital of St John.

After the dissolution the buildings generally fell into ruin but eventually the western range was adapted as a town house by Thomas Coningsby and was repaired from time to time thereafter. Parts of the 14<sup>th</sup> century building remain but much of the work is of early 17<sup>th</sup> century date and attributed to Thomas Coningsby.

## **OUTPUTS**

The results of the survey have been presented as a A3 layout plots showing elevations with a plotted at a scale of 1:50.

The images and the survey data has already been issued in its raw format prior to this report on DVD

## **Relevant standards**

Institute for Archaeologists 2008 “Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation”, IfA, revised, October 2008.

## Table of Illustrations

Title	Paper size	Description	Scale
BFHH11-001	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
BFHH11-002	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
BFHH11-003	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
BFHH11-004	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
BFHH11-005	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
BFHH11-006	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
Preaching Cross 1	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
Preaching Cross 2	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
Preaching Cross 3	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
Preaching Cross 4	A3	CAD Layout	1:50
Preaching Cross 5	A3	CAD Layout	1:50