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# Bishop's Waltham Palace Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire

Archaeological Watching Brief



Ref: 108231.02  
October 2015



**Bishop's Waltham Palace  
Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

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**Report Date: October 2015**

**Report Ref: 108231.02**



## Quality Assurance

<b>Project Code</b>	108231	<b>Accession Code</b>		<b>Client Ref.</b>	
<b>Planning Application Ref.</b>	Scheduled Monument Consent: ENSEN009	<b>Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)</b>	455144, 117312		

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\* I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final

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# Bishop's Waltham Palace Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire

## Archaeological Watching Brief

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# Bishop's Waltham Palace Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire

## Archaeological Watching Brief

### Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Nick Johnston of English Heritage to carry out an archaeological watching brief during repair works to fencing at Bishop's Waltham Palace. The purpose of the watching brief was to comply with a condition of the Scheduled Monument Consent.

English Heritage prepared a written scheme of investigation for the works. An archaeologist was required to monitor the opening-up work conducted during the site visit. In brief, some fence posts had been damaged and the bases had rotted *in situ*. To install new fence posts, the bases were extracted from holes that have been reused over time. The recording comprised inspection and photography of the areas where opening up work was completed to extract the base of rotted fence posts.

The fence posts are located beside the Latrine Pit of Bishop's Waltham Palace, which is thought to date from Bishop Wykeham's phase of build, between 1367-1404, and located to the east of the main hall and service room ranges. An earlier phase of wall is adjacent to the Latrine Pit, dating from mid to late 12th century. Despite the age of the adjacent buildings, it is thought that the post holes had been disturbed and reused several times and, therefore, the deposits within were of disturbed deposit. Therefore the two fragments of ceramic tile which were retrieved, could date from 12th – 13th century and have come from the roofing of the ranges, but could not be defined as being strictly *in situ*.

The works at Bishop's Waltham Palace were monitored and recorded on 15th October 2015.



# **Bishop's Waltham Palace Bishop's Waltham Hampshire**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief**

### **Acknowledgements**

Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Nick Johnston of English Heritage for commissioning this archaeological watching and recording programme. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful to Quadron and the carpenters for meeting site staff and carrying out the works that were monitored. Thanks are due to English Heritage for supplying data used in this report.

Rosemary Thornber carried out the watching brief and wrote the report, while Elizabeth James created the illustrations. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Matt Rous.



# Bishop's Waltham Palace Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire

## Archaeological Watching Brief

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by English Heritage to conduct a watching brief on repair works to fencing that had failed. The fencing was located around the Latrine Pit at Bishop's Waltham Palace, in Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire, centred at Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) 455144 117312. The work involved the digging out and removal of rotten fence post bases, prior to the insertion of new fence posts. Where the fence posts came out complete, it was not necessary to excavate the holes and therefore these were recorded in less detail.
- 1.1.2 The work was carried out in conjunction with, and on the same day as, similar repairs to failed fence posts at Portchester Castle. This work has been reported on separately (Wessex Archaeology 2015).
- 1.1.3 'Bishop's Waltham Palace and associated fishponds' is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (National Heritage List for England (NHLE) entry 1016169). A separate notification for the watching brief for the works was made under the Standing Scheduled Monument Consent with Historic England (the reference for this is: *Works of Routine Management and Conservation Maintenance or repair by, or for the English Heritage Trust to Scheduled Monuments in the National Heritage Collection which are authorised by the Standing Scheduled Monument Consent, 20 February 2015, Scheduled Monument Consent No. ENSEN009*)
- 1.1.4 Wessex Archaeology were commissioned by Nick Johnston at English Heritage (EH) to undertake an archaeological watching brief of the repair work on Bishop's Waltham Palace in order to comply with the Scheduled Monument Consent condition. EH prepared a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for the works.

#### 1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 Bishop's Waltham Palace is located on the south side of Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire (**Figure 1**). The settlement was previously concentrated to the north-east of the palace, however the town expanded west in the late 19th century and this area is known as 'New Town'.
- 1.2.2 The following description is based on information in the English Heritage (*Written Scheme of Investigation*) *WSI for Archaeological Watching and Recording Brief: Bishop's Waltham Palace, Hampshire* (2015), which was prepared for the conservation works completed in 2015.
- 1.2.3 The English Heritage site comprises the inner court of the Bishop's Palace. The court is rectangular in plan, surrounded by a 12th century moat. The standing remains of the





palace chiefly comprises ranges around the edges of the court with a cross wall dividing it in two, that range in date from 12th century to 17th century or later. The south end of the court has been infilled with structures from several phases whereas the north end remains open apart from the ranges along the edges.

- 1.2.4 The 12th century remains include parts of the south range of the Bishop's Palace, a doorway and the Chapel Crypt to the north-east, as well as an east-west wall extending from the Hall and Service Rooms range on the west side of the court. Additional walls constructed between 1367-1404 include a second east-west wall on top of the 12th century wall, with an attached Latrine Pit, connecting it to the Service Rooms range. The range was further remodelled and enlarged in 1387-93 by Bishop William of Wykeham, to include construction of an upper floor as well as a new fireplace in the west wall of the kitchen.
- 1.2.5 The cross wall that bisects the site runs from the Service Rooms in the west range to the southwest corner of the Brewhouse/Bakehouse range. It is thought to date from the 17th century or later and leads from the Latrine Pit, east to the Brewhouse, and continues east to the moat.
- 1.2.6 The palace gatehouse is located at the northwest corner of the court with remnants of the late 15th century lodging range along the north side of the site. A post-medieval farmhouse is located in the northeast corner of the court. The brewhouse and bakehouse range extends along the east side in the north half of the court. Its remains relate to two phases: the ground floor was constructed in 1378-81 under Bishop William of Wykeham, then the building was remodelled and enlarged by Bishop Henry of Beaufort between 1439 and 1441. A first floor was added to the structure, the level of the ground floor was lowered and doorways in the west wall were altered with lower sills and heads to accommodate this change in level.
- 1.2.7 In the southeast corner of the court are remains of 13-15th century ranges as well as a chapel constructed in Beaufort's 14th century phase. There are also the remains of an earlier, mid to late century, crypt that intersects the later chapel. The southwest corner of the court contains building remains from multiple phases ranging from the mid-12th to 17th centuries or later. These include the remains of a 12th century doorway recorded as part of this project.

## **2 METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Aims and objectives**

- 2.1.1 The archaeological watching brief was commissioned to comply with a condition of the Scheduled Monument Consent, issued in February 2015. These repair works are covered by the consent.
- 2.1.2 The objectives were for an archaeologist to monitor opening up works under a watching brief (EH 2015). The purpose of archaeological attendance on site was to monitor the repair work in order to preserve by record any archaeological features revealed.

### **2.2 Fieldwork methodology**

- 2.2.1 The methodology for the watching brief was established through email communications with Nick Johnston of EH and complies with the '*Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*' (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, December 2014).



- 2.2.2 Inspection and photography were the primary method of recording, which in general took place after completion of vegetation clearance and repointing work. Photographs were taken on a Canon D40 digital SLR camera. They were recorded on Wessex Archaeology's pro-forma 'Photographic Record' sheets.
- 2.2.3 The drawn record includes sketches and metric drawings, at an appropriate scale, on Wessex Archaeology pro-forma permatrace. Notes were taken on Wessex Archaeology pro-forma Daybook sheets and Trench Record sheets.
- 2.2.4 A Leica GPS Viva Net Rover GS08 unit (WA no.22) was used to map the location of the post holes, together with the surrounding Latrine Pit walls, to provide a context for the postholes. This data was downloaded and put into AutoCAD 2014 drawing files.

### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

#### 3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 An archaeologist attended site on the 15th October 2015 to conduct the watching brief. The existing fence post holes were mapped using the GPS Rover and the excavation of the rotted bases of the posts, was then observed.

#### 3.2 Results

- 3.2.1 The fence around the Latrine Pit consisted of square profile oak posts measuring 0.1 x 0.1 m in profile, with two metal wires linked between them and fixed to the 15th century east-west wall, with metal rings. The posts were situated approximately 1.3 m apart (**Cover**).
- 3.2.2 Turf forms a layer over the area surrounding the Latrine Pit walls and the 12th century east-west wall, through which the fence post holes have been made. It was commented by the carpenters installing the new posts, that they estimated the current posts to be roughly 10 years old and possibly the third or fourth set, inserted within the same holes. This would suggest that the deposit within the holes would be very disturbed and consist largely of back-filled material. They further commented that any flint nodules within the holes had been inserted to pack the posts into position, rather than being *in situ*.
- 3.2.3 Post hole 1 was located adjacent to the 12th century east-west wall and the west wall of the Latrine Pit (**Plates 1 and 2**). The post hole was set beside the east-west wall and the turf layer was approximately 0.08 m thick. The next deposit that was encountered (context 003) was a mid-brown sandy silt containing flecks of ceramic building material (CBM) measuring less than 10 mm diameter, together with one larger fragment set into the north section, measuring approximately 10 x 25 mm. There are also flecks of chalk less than 5mm and two pieces of slate measuring 20 x 30mm. Two large flint nodules were also seen, approximately 100 x 600 mm in size. The post hole was excavated until the rotted post base was retrieved and the depth reached was 0.58 m below the ground surface.
- 3.2.4 Post hole 2 was located approximately 1.5 m to the south of post hole 1 and included the turf layer to a depth of 0.08 m (**Plate 3**). The deposit below (context 005) was similar to 003 and contained a fragment of tile, with white lime mortar on both of the flat surfaces, measuring approximately 10 x 30 mm. The mortar on the surfaces may suggest that the tile fragment had been previously incorporated into a wall, possibly as a reused fragment or as a capping tile for a wall. Small natural flint fragments were seen approximately 10 x



20mm in size. The post hole was excavated until the rotted base was retrieved and reached a depth of 0.58 m below the ground surface.

- 3.2.5 Post hole 3 is located 3.5 m south of the south face of the 15th century east-west wall (**Plate 4**). In similarity with the post holes 1 and 2, the turf layer was found to a depth of 0.08 m and the hole was excavated to a depth of 0.58 m. The deposit (context 007) matched 003 and 005 apart from containing no CBM fragments.
- 3.2.6 Post hole 4 was located approximately 1.8 m east of post hole 3 (**Plate 5**). The rotted post came out in one piece and therefore the hole was not excavated, leading to minimal disturbance of the deposit within. The deposit within (context 009) was similar to 007 and was present 0.08 m below the ground surface, to a depth of 0.58 m. As the hole was not excavated, the deposit was minimally disturbed.
- 3.2.7 Post holes 5, 6 and 7 were located along the east side of the Latrine Pit, approximately 3.3 m east of post holes 1, 2 and 3 and directly opposite (**Plates 6, 7 and 8**, respectively). The wires fixed to the east-west wall were unscrewed and all three posts were lifted out of their holes in one go (**Plate 9**). Therefore there was minimal disturbance and the deposits within were not excavated, viewed or recorded.
- 3.2.8 Following the watching brief, the new fence posts were inserted in the old post holes.

## 4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1.1 A watching and recording brief was successfully conducted by Wessex Archaeology during the repair works outlined above, to fulfil the condition of the Scheduled Monument Consent. It has achieved the aims of monitoring the repair works and recording any archaeological features revealed during the removal of the rotted post bases. The drawn record and a selection of the photographic record are included in this report.
- 4.1.2 Post holes 1 and 2 revealed two fragments of ceramic building material, probably tile, which are likely to have been redeposited during the activities of excavation and fence post insertion over the course of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. However, their presence indicates that tile was used on the site. The 12th century east-west wall, the adjacent 15th century east-west wall and the Latrine Pit walls are all constructed of flint nodules, however, it is most likely that the ceramic tile fragments came from roofing tiles, which had become deposited over time. The mortar on the fragment from post hole 2 suggests that the fragment might have been used as a capping tile mortared into place, or incorporated into the build of a wall. The tile fragments were discarded as they were deemed non-diagnostic.
- 4.1.3 The excavation of the post holes did not disturb any untouched archaeological deposits and no further dating evidence for the Palace was gathered from the watching brief. The new fence posts will not have any adverse impact upon the existing archaeological remains of the site.



## **5 ARCHIVE**

### **5.1 Preparation and deposition**

5.1.1 The Site archive, to include all project records, will be prepared in accordance with *Deposition of Archaeological Archives with the English Heritage Collections Team* (Version 4, May 2011) and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; IfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013). On completion of the project Wessex Archaeology will arrange for the archive to be deposited with English Heritage at the regional curatorial store: Fort Brockhurst, Gosport, Hampshire.

5.1.2 The archaeological watching and recording brief project archive will include:

- *hard copy of the report*
- *pdf copy of the report on CD*
- *full photographic record with photographic registers*
- *hard copies of the drawn record at 1:100 (or other appropriate scale)*
- *field notes and sketches*

5.1.3 If required, following approval of the report, Wessex Archaeology will provide hard copies to:

- *David Wilkinson, Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Roy Porter, Territory Properties Curator (South), English Heritage*
- *the Hampshire Historic Environment Record*

5.1.4 Upon completion of the on-site watching and recording programme, Wessex Archaeology will submit an OASIS 'Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations' form that, once written, will be included in this report as an additional appendix.

### **5.2 Copyright**

5.2.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. The designated repository, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profit making, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.

### **5.3 Security Copy**

5.3.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

### **5.4 Discard Policy**

5.4.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In



this instance, certain categories of 'vulnerable' finds (i.e. materials requiring some form of conservation treatment for long-term storage) are considered not to warrant retention, on the basis of having little or no potential for further research; these comprise most of the metalwork (retaining only the horse bit, possible leather-working tool, and possible strapend) and all of the leather (offcuts, and parts of one modern shoe of common type). Marine shell and roofing slate have also been discarded on the same grounds. All finds discard has been documented in the project archive.

## 6 REFERENCES

### 6.1 Bibliography

ADS 2013, *Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice*, Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice

Brown, D.H., 2011, *Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)

ClfA 2014, *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

ClfA 2014, *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

English Heritage 2014 May. *Deposition of Archaeological Archives with the English Heritage Collections Team*. Version 4

SMA 1995, *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive*, Society of Museum Archaeologists

Wessex Archaeology 2015 *Portchester Castle, Portchester, Hampshire, Archaeological Watching Brief*, unpublished client report, Ref: 108231.01



## APPENDIX 1 : POST HOLE SUMMARIES

		Max Depth: 0.58 m	Length: 0.20 m	Width: 0.20 m
Context	Type	Description		Depth (m)
001	<i>layer</i>	Turf layer over site		0.00 – 0.08 m
002	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of Post Hole 1, nw corner of latrine pit		0.00 – 0.58 m
003	<i>Deposit</i>	Mid-brown clay-silt deposit, with <1cm flecks of cbm, chalk, flint and sand, two slate fragments, 1 flint nodule and 1tile fragment		0.08- 0.58 m
004	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of Post Hole 2, w side of latrine pit		0.00 – 0.58 m
005	<i>Deposit</i>	Similar deposit to 003, 1 tile fragment, 1 flint nodule		0.08- 0.58 m
006	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of Post Hole 3, by SW corner of latrine pit		0.00 – 0.58 m
007	<i>Deposit</i>	Similar deposit to 005, no cbm flecks		0.08- 0.58 m
008	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of Post Hole 4, S side of latrine pit		0.00 – 0.58 m
009	<i>Deposit</i>	Similar deposit to 007		0.08- 0.58 m
010	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of Post Hole 5, by SE corner of latrine pit		0.00 – 0.58 m
011	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of Post Hole 6, E side of latrine pit		0.00 – 0.58 m
012	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of Post Hole 7, E side of latrine pit		0.00 – 0.58 m



**APPENDIX 2 : OASIS REPORT FORM**

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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## Printable version

**OASIS ID: wessexar1-228890**

### Project details

Project name	Bishop's Waltham Palace, Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire Watching Brief
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Nick Johnston of English Heritage to carry out an archaeological watching brief during repair works to fencing at Bishop's Waltham Palace. The purpose of the watching brief was to comply with a condition of the Scheduled Monument Consent. An archaeologist was required to monitor the opening-up work conducted during the site visit. In brief, some fence posts had been damaged and the bases had rotted in situ. The fence posts are located beside the Latrine Pit of Bishop's Waltham Palace, which is thought to date from Bishop Wykeham's phase of build, between 1367-1404, and located to the east of the main hall and service room ranges. An earlier phase of wall is adjacent to the Latrine Pit, dating from mid to late 12th century. Despite the age of the adjacent buildings, it is thought that the post holes had been disturbed and reused several times and, therefore, the deposits within were of disturbed deposit.
Project dates	Start: 15-10-2015 End: 15-10-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	wessexar1-221807 - OASIS form ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Other 8 - Land dedicated to the display of a monument
Monument type	BISHOPS PALACE Medieval
Significant Finds	N/A None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Scheduled Monument Consent

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE WINCHESTER BISHOPS WALTHAM BISHOP'S WALTHAM PALACE, BISHOP'S WALTHAM, HAMPSHIRE
Postcode	SO32 1DH
Study area	1.4 Hectares



Site coordinates SU 455205 117386 50.902772261273 -1.352566033175 50 54 09 N 001 21 09  
W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 32m Max: 34m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Wessex Archaeology

Project brief originator English Heritage

Project design originator Wessex Archaeology

Project director/manager Matt Rous

Project supervisor Rosemary Thornber

Type of sponsor/funding body English Heritage

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient English Heritage

Digital Archive ID 108231

Digital Contents "other"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Survey"

Paper Archive recipient English Heritage store, Fort Brockhurst, Gosport, Hampshire

Paper Archive ID 108231

Paper Contents "other"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Diary", "Plan"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Bishop's Waltham Palace, Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire Archaeological Watching Brief

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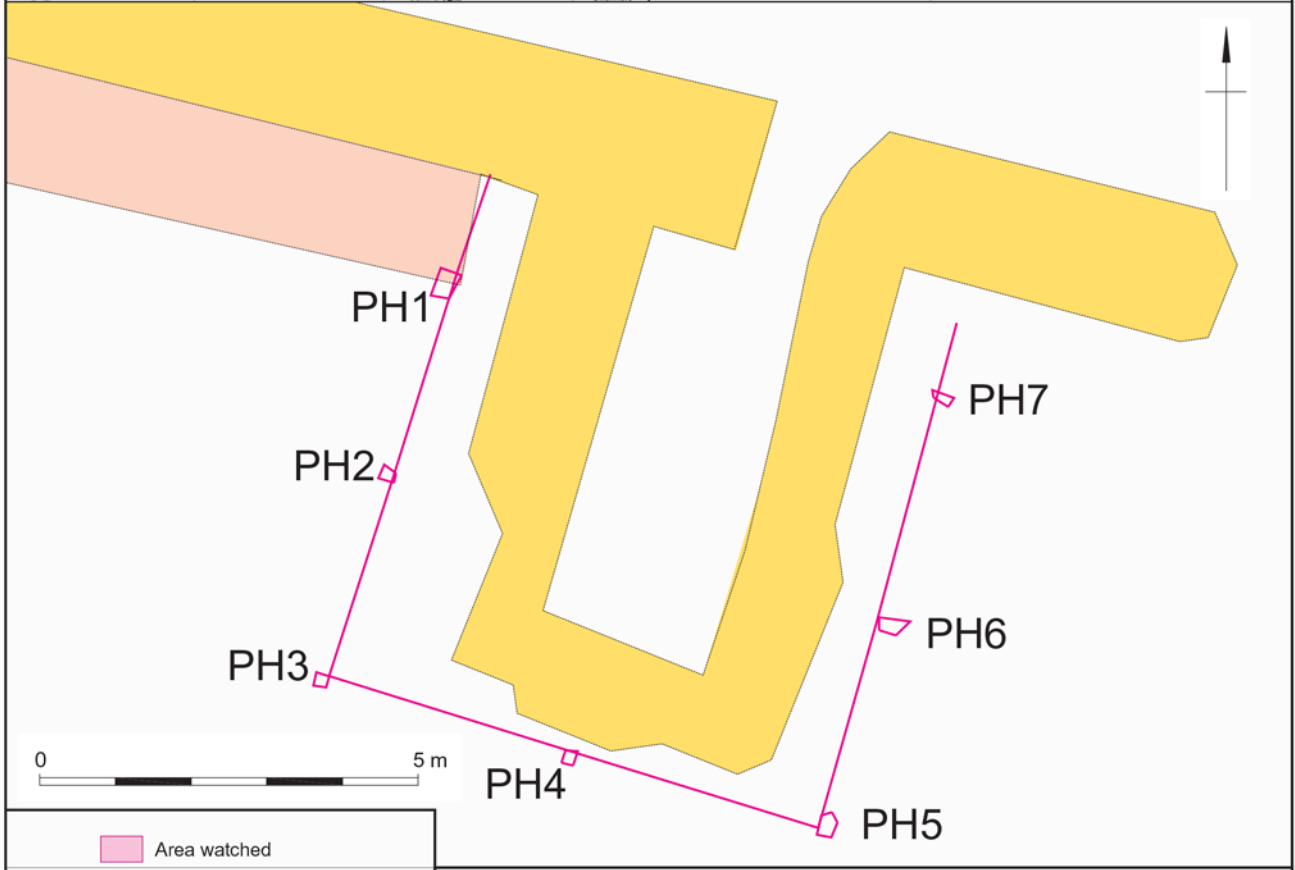
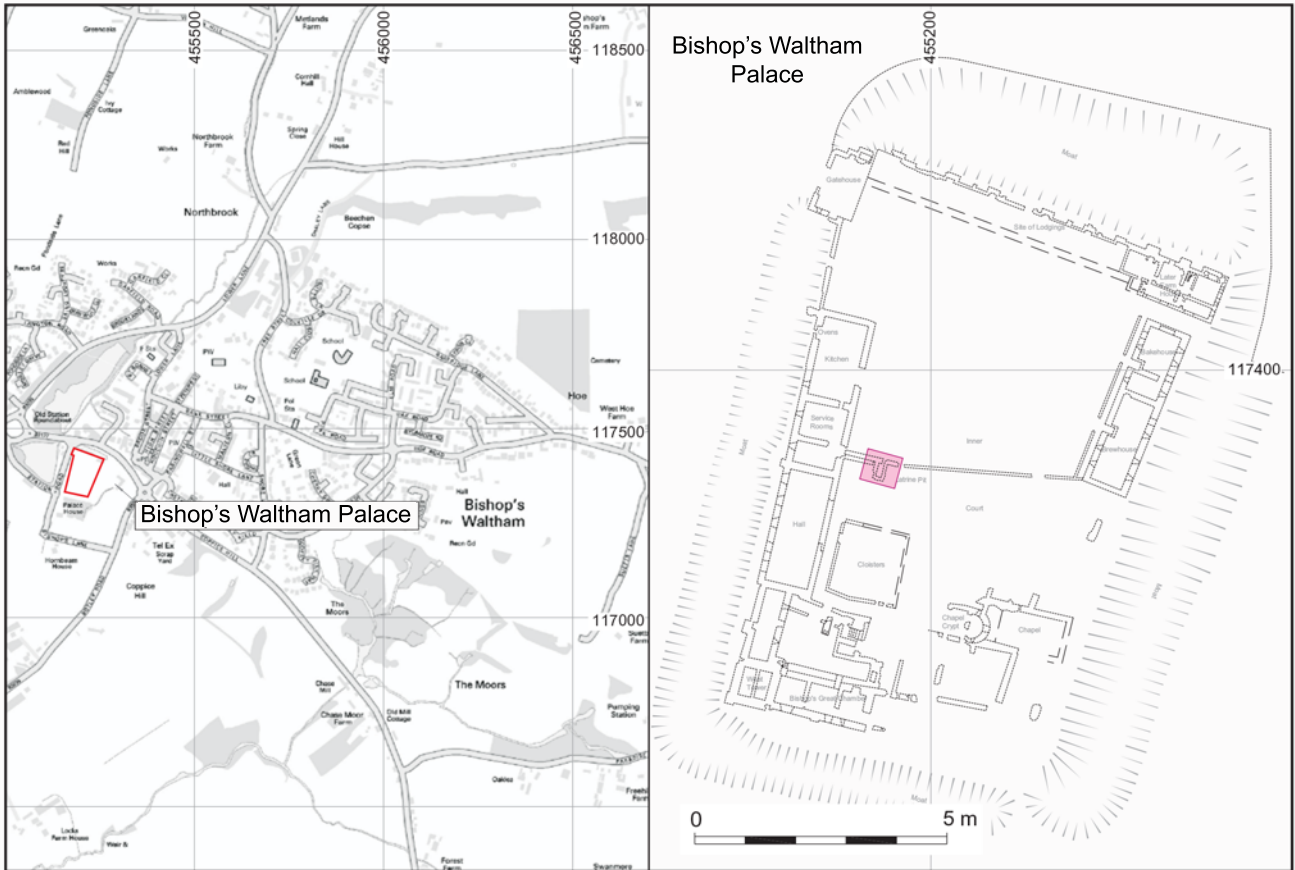
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Entered on        4 November 2015



- Area watched
- Fence and post holes observed
- Mid to late 12th century
- Bishop William of Wykeham 1367 - 1404



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Site location plan showing area watched

Figure 1



Plate 1: Post hole 1 with scale bar of 10cm divisions, looking north



Plate 2: Post hole 1 in front of east-west walls, looking north

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Plate 3: Post hole 2, looking north



Plate 4: Post hole 3, looking north



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Plate 5: Post hole 4, looking north



Plate 6: Post hole 5, looking north

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Plate 7: Post hole 6, looking north



Plate 8: Post hole 7, looking north



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Plate 9: Removed fence posts from east side of Latrine Pit, looking east

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