# Bishop's Waltham Palace Phase II

Archaeological Watching Brief

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## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by English Heritage to undertake various archaeological monitoring works at Bishop Waltham Palace, Southampton, centred of National Grid Reference 455152, 117435. The palace is a Scheduled Monument (National Heritage List for English no. 1019075).

The conservation work was carried out under English Heritage's Standing Scheduled Monument Consent agreed by Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) and Historic England. A condition of SMC was that the works were archaeologically monitored by a watching brief and that provision was made for archaeological recording.

Monitoring was focussed on interventions which were substantially intrusive or affected key archaeological horizons and features present in the fabric, and notable features observed which characterised the affected fabric were recorded.

Largely modern overburden deposits and surfaces were encountered, with well-established turf over topsoil and subsoil observed within the Lord's Garden. Possible bank material was recorded in the majority of the postholes dug along Station Road. Made ground deposits observed in the postholes around the North-West Tower contained a notable amount of building material, possibly associate with the construction of the Palace or it may have resulted from the disintegration on the structures.

The works within the Gatehouse apron revealed that a surface of mortar with flints and CBM lay beneath the current surface at 0.10 m below the ground level, rather than the concrete expected at c. 0.20 m below the ground level. It was determined that this mortar is relatively modern.

A photographic record was taken of a series a cracks in the north, east and west wall of the Kitchen and west wall of the Great Hall of the West Range.

## Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank English Heritage, for commissioning the archaeological watching brief, in particular Deborah Beeson.

# Bishop's Waltham Palace: Phase II

## Archaeological Watching Brief

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by English Heritage, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the excavation of 3 test pits in the Gatehouse apron, the installation of a fence along the outer western edge of the monument and to document the cracks in the walls of the kitchen and the Great Hall, which comprise Phase II of restoration works at the monument. The monitored works covered centred on NGR 455152 117435, at Bishop Waltham Palace, Station Road, Southampton, Hampshire, SO32 1DH (**Figure. 1**).

1.1.2 The conservation work was carried out under English Heritage's Scheduled Monument Consent (HE ref. S00241472, endorsed by Historic England on 16 July 2021). Various monitoring work were undertaken, these involved the digging of three 0.30 m x 0.30 m test pits in the Gatehouse apron, the digging of 75 posthole to facilitate the installation of a new fence line, and the recording of cracks in the north, east and walls of the kitchen and Great Hall.

1.1.3 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies, and standards to be employed (English Heritage 2020). The WSI set out the basis for the conduct of the archaeological watching brief and subsequent mitigation and analysis, if necessary. The watching brief was undertaken on various dates between June and October of 2020.

#### 1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the watching brief, to interpret the results within their local or regional context (or otherwise), and to assess their potential to address the aims outlined in the WSI, thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

#### 1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The watching brief was located within the grounds of Bishop's Waltham Palace (Scheduled Monument NHLE 1019075), Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire, located 14.7 km to the south west of Winchester and approximately 13 km to the east north east of the centre of Southampton. The site comprises the extant remains of Bishop's Waltham Palace and grounds immediately south of the B1277 which separates the site from the main residential area of Bishop's Waltham to the north. Station Road provides the easternmost boundary, with dense treelines indicating the perimeter of the site. A single test pit was excavated within the car park belonging to The Crown Inn, approximately 97 m to the east of the Palace grounds.

1.3.2 Existing ground levels 37 m Ordnance Datum (aOD).

1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as Lambeth Group Clay Silt and Sand – sedimentary bedrock formed in the Palaeogene Period (c.48 to 59 million years ago). Superficial alluvial deposits comprising Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel are recorded (British Geological Survey online viewer).

## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The WSI (English Heritage 2021) and the report for the previous investigation (Wessex Archaeology 2021) provides an appropriate archaeological background and sections from these documents have been reproduced for the purposes of this report in order to set the results into context.

### 2.2 Previous investigations related to the development

*Archaeological monitoring of test pits (Wessex Archaeology 2020)*

2.2.1 The monitoring of six test pits dug around the boundary wall of the Palace was carried out by Wessex Archaeology to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains, and to record the extent, character, date, condition, and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.

2.2.2 Test Pit 1 located on the east side of the north-east tower revealed the wall to continue 0.82 m below ground level (bgl), consisting of 0.56 m of brickwork and 0.26 m of foundation. The bricks all corresponded to the dimensions of nine inch bricks, all being within handmade variation of nine by four by three inches. The foundation of 106 was seen to consist of a pale whitish brown mortar with moderate flint nodules (0.15 m+) to act as stabilisation.

2.2.3 Test pit 6 was located against the outside of the southern section of the boundary wall. This revealed the upstanding section of perimeter wall consisted of nine inch brickwork in no continuous bond. This sat (at 100 – 120 mm bgl) on a plinth of dark red hand-made bricks bonded to a lime concrete foundation. These bricks were noticeably larger than the nine inch bricks. The two examples seen were nearer to eight inches wide than four, and marginally less than three inches thick, although that may have been a result of the wear apparent on their surfaces. Lengths could not be determined, and it remains possible that they represent eight-inch tiles rather than bricks.

*Archaeological Watching Brief (Wessex Archaeology 2021)*

2.2.4 The archaeological monitoring documented selected areas of the South-west tower and precinct wall prior to vegetation removal, after hand cleaning and before repointing had taken place. Monitoring was focussed on interventions which were substantially intrusive or affected key archaeological horizons and features present in the fabric, and notable features observed which characterised the affected fabric were recorded.

2.2.5 The discovery of a garderobe on the second floor of the south-east tower adds to the understanding of the tower as there is scant information on the building of the precinct wall in the 16th century.

2.2.6 During the monitoring works it was noted that many of the areas in need of restoration had already been repaired in the 20th century, indicated by the presence of cement mortar. It was found that in the gate on the southern wall, lime mortar had been used to bond the outer bricks but in the interior of the wall 20th century cement had been used, suggesting it had been previously repaired in a sympathetic fashion.

## 2.3 Archaeological and historical context

2.3.1 The manor of Waltham formed part of the estates of the bishops of Winchester from at least the early 10th century and it is possible that the Anglo-Saxon bishops had a residence on the estate. The buried remains of a late Saxon hall were discovered north of the guardianship area but to date no pre-Conquest evidence of occupation has been encountered within it. The first reference to a bishop's residence at Waltham is found in the Winchester annals for 1138 and records a 'castle' constructed by Henry of Blois (bishop 1129-1171). Although it is unclear what was meant by use of the term 'castle' in this context, excavation of the southwest corner of the inner court has provided some of the earliest evidence for construction on the site and this, in addition to the earliest extant masonry of the kitchen, hall, tower, great chamber and the chapel crypt, are dated to the episcopates of Henry of Blois and his successor, Richard of Ilchester (1171-1205).

2.3.2 The palace was regularly used by the bishops as a residence during the 13th and 14th centuries and the remarkably complete accounts from the Winchester Pipe Rolls reveal almost continuous spending on maintenance and rebuilding, including a kitchen and brewhouse in 1252 and a new lord's chamber in 1340.

2.3.3 Bishop William of Wykeham (1367-1404), an administrator of the king's building works at Windsor and elsewhere, was responsible for a major transformation of the palace and spent over £1,500 remodelling the principal buildings to update them and bring unity to the form and design. The hall was rebuilt first, in 1378-81, followed by a new service area and kitchen between 1387 and 1393. Finally, a new great chamber was built in 1394-96. These buildings survive substantially intact as roofless ruins.

2.3.4 Wykeham was succeeded by Bishop Henry Beaufort (1405-47) who shared his predecessor's interest in building. Beaufort added an extra storey to the west tower in 1406 and work to construct a new chapel began in 1416, although this was not completed until c.1427. Between 1438 and 1443 the new lodging range and a new gatehouse were added, and a cloister was constructed before Beaufort's death. His successor William Waynflete (1447-86), appears to have carried out only minor repairs, but made the palace his main, favoured, residence.

2.3.5 Regular maintenance continued in the 16th century, with bishops Thomas Langton (1493-1501) and Richard Fox (1501-28.) Langton refaced Beaufort's lodging range in brick and rebuilt the inner gatehouse. He is also credited with construction of the brick precinct wall and corner towers that enclosed the bishop's garden. Evidence of further activity in the 16th century is scant, but the palace was of a suitable standard to welcome Henry VIII and Emperor Charles V in 1522.

2.3.6 Despite a brief 7-year period in which the site was surrendered to the crown, the palace appears to have been maintained by the bishops of Winchester as an active residence until the Civil War. The bishopric supported King Charles but in 1644, in the aftermath of the defeat of the royal army at the battle of Cheriton, the royalist garrison holding the palace was forced to surrender and the palace suffered substantial damage. Although the site was returned to the bishops at Charles II's restoration in 1660, it was never again used by them as a residence.

2.3.7 After the restoration, the park was divided and leased by the incumbent bishop, Dr George Morley (1662-84.) Some of the buildings were used as sources of building material, while others were used for agricultural and domestic purposes. The ruins remained in the ownership of the bishops until 1869, when they were transferred to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The freehold of Palace House and the ruins of the palace were purchased

by Admiral and Mrs Cunningham prior to the Second World War and in 1952 the Cunninghams placed the palace ruins (inner court), the precinct wall and north-east and south-west towers into guardianship. English Heritage now manages the site and opens the inner court as a free-to-enter property. There is currently no public access to the interior of the precinct wall or the north-east and south-west towers.

*The gatehouse (NHLE no. 1016169)*

2.3.8 At the heart of the core guardianship area at Bishop's Waltham Palace is the multi-phased ruined structures and archaeology of the inner court of the palace, that form a loose courtyard around open grassland, subdivided by a post-medieval flint wall. The historic entrance to the inner court was via the gatehouse in the north-west corner of the site. Whilst the gatehouse displays a central passageway with small chambers containing fireplaces to either side, it is unclear whether additional storeys ever existed. This arrangement remains in ruined form with a pedestrian gate and adjacent double gates (the only vehicular access route to the site), all of modern timber, securing the passage. Predominantly of uncoursed flint, both chamber structures have recently been cleared of obscuring vegetation and works to conserve the structures will commence in summer 2021. This work forms part of a planned scheme to enhance the presentation of the gatehouse; therefore, returning some of its lost status and prestige as the main entrance to the palace's inner court.

2.3.9 Whilst archaeological investigation of the gateway causeway took place in 1956, it is unfortunately unclear how extensive this excavation was and, whilst it is likely that previous works have caused local disturbance of deposits at relatively shallow level, overall, the area is to be considered archaeologically sensitive. The potential risk to evidential value associated with all periods of the site's history will be managed through archaeological monitoring of trial pits under a watching brief. If a new sub-base is required, an additional WSI will be provided to Historic England for approval.

# 3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

## 3.1 Aims

3.1.1 The aims of the watching brief, as stated in the WSI (Historic England 2020 and 2021) and as defined in the CIfA *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014a), were to:

- It has been agreed with Historic England that 3 trial pits will be hand dug to ascertain the existence and condition of the gateway apron sub-base. The location of the pits shall be agreed with the project architect in advance of works.
- The purpose of the archaeological monitoring will be to preserve by record the presence and nature of archaeological features and deposits encountered during the works.
- The archaeological contractor will signal to interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, the discovery of any archaeological material for which the resources allocated to the watching brief are not sufficient to support treatment to a proper and satisfactory standard.
- There will be a presumption of retention of fabric in situ unless its removal is absolutely unavoidable. Cases involving the removal of archaeological despots should be rare and undertaken only in consultation with Historic England.

### 3.2 Objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the objectives of the watching brief, also defined in the WSI (Historic England 2020 and 2021), were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified works area;
- record and establish, within the constraints of the works, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains (a preservation by record);
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource on the site by preparing a report on the results of the watching brief.

## 4 METHODS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology set out within the WSI (Historic England 2020 and 2021) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in CIfA guidance (CIfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

### 4.2 Fieldwork methods

*Monitored works*

4.2.1 Three 0.30 m x 0.30 m test pits were excavated in the Gatehouse apron to determine the depths of an appropriate subsurface prior to re-gravelling. These test pits were hand dug and then recorded by the monitoring archaeologist. The results of the test pits informed the methodology for the introduction of the new gravelled surface, including a specification for the introduction/repair of a sub-base. Monitoring of the resurfacing of the apron, the installation of metal edging and drainage in the Gatehouse apron was undertaken, along with monitoring of 8 gate and fence posts around the inside of the Gatehouse.

4.2.2 Along the west side of the outer boundary of Bishop's Waltham Palace adjacent to Station Road 75 fence postholes were hand excavated. The postholes measured 0.30 m² in diameter and were dug at approximately 2 m intervals and ranged in depth from 0.50–1.06 m with an average of 0.65 m.

4.2.3 Along the Brewhouse Moat 53 fence posts were hand excavated spaced 1 m apart, they measured 0.20 m² and 0.17–0.49 m deep, although most measured 0.40–0.45 m deep. Fence post excavation was also monitored around the inside of the North-East Tower. The 14 postholes measured 0.20–0.3 m² and 0.35 –0.68 m in depth, with an average depth of 0.38 m.

4.2.4 The excavation of 3 test pits (0.30 m² and 0.20 m deep) along the path from the car park to the bridge adjacent to the Bakehouse were monitored, the results of the test pits informed the methodology for the introduction of the new gravelled surface. Following this, improvements to the path were monitored, which consisted of the removal of the bark chipping surface and the digging of stake holes (0.20 m² and 0.18 m deep) 1m apart on each side of the path for wooden edging.

4.2.5 The excavation of a single sapling planting pit (0.60 m² and 0.40 m deep) was also monitored, located 45 m south-west of the North-East Tower, within the Lord's Garden.

*General*

4.2.6 Where necessary, the surfaces of uncovered archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand to aid visual definition. Spoil from hand excavated deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.

*Recording*

4.2.7 All exposed deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.

4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

### 4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Historic England 2020 and 2021) The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and CIfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 1: Description).

### 4.4 Monitoring

4.4.1 The Historic England monitored the watching brief, any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and Historic England.

## 5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

### 5.1 Gatehouse and lodgings range test pits and monitoring

*Introduction*

5.1.1 Initially, three 0.30 m by 0.30 m test pits were excavated in the Gatehouse apron (**Fig. 1**) to determine the depths of an appropriate subsurface prior to re-gravelling. These test pits were hand dug and then recorded by the monitoring archaeologist. No archaeological deposits were encountered and no finds were recovered. Following these initial works, resurfacing of the apron was monitored along with the installation of edging which lined the north and south sides of the Gatehouse apron and the excavation of drainage trenches along the west edge of the apron was monitored. Eight fencepost holes were excavated around the remains of the lodging range attached to the Gatehouse.

*Soil sequence of Gatehouse apron*

5.1.2 Test Pit 1 (**Plate 1**) was topped with the modern Gatehouse apron surface of Type 1 light yellowish brown, rounded and sub-rounded gravels 0.07 m thick, beneath which lay a

compact layer of crushed tarmac 0.07 m thick, likely a bedding layer for the above gravel. This overlain a deposit of compact mid greyish yellow mortar with large sub-rounded and rounded flints and small flecks of ceramic building material (CBM), revealed to a depth of 0.14 m below ground level (bgl). This layer was determined to be relatively modern in date.

5.1.3 Test Pit 2 (**Plate 2**) was topped with the modern Gatehouse apron surface of Type 1 light yellowish brown, rounded and sub-rounded gravels 0.06 m thick, beneath which lay a compact layer of crushed tarmac 0.05 m thick, likely a bedding layer for the above gravel. This overlain a light yellowish brown modern sandy clay 0.03 m thick. Beneath this lay a deposit of compact mid greyish yellow mortar with large sub-rounded and rounded flints and small flecks of CBM, revealed to a depth of 0.10 m bgl.

5.1.4 Test Pit 3 (**Plate 3**) was topped with the modern Gatehouse apron surface of Type 1 light yellowish brown, rounded and sub-rounded gravels 0.07 m thick. Beneath this lay a made ground of mid grey mixed sandy clay, with large fragments of CBM, gravels and flint, 0.05 m thick. This overlain a deposit of slightly silty light yellowish brown clay, with sub-rounded and rounded flints to a depth of 0.10 m bgl.

5.1.5 Soil sequence observed during the monitoring was found to be the same as that seen in test pits (**Plate 4 and 5**), no additional layers were uncovered. The drainage trench across the western edge of the Gatehouse apron measured 3.50 m long, 0.25 m wide, to a depth of 0.20 m bgl. The drainage trench to the ditch measured 2.80 m long, 0.25 m wide, to a depth of 0.36 m bgl (**Plate 6**).

*Soil sequence of fence line around the lodging range*

5.1.6 The soil sequence (**Plate 7**) consisted of topsoil of dark greyish brown silt clay loam with occasional sub-angular to sub-round flint and chalk fragments, 0.10 m thick. This overlaid a made ground (0.35 m thick) of dark brownish grey silt clay with common sub-angular to sub-round flint and chalk fragments, ceramic building material and roof slate and modern rubbish (sweet wrapping). Beneath this a second made ground layer was observed in the eastern fencepost holes, which consisted of yellowish orange sand 0.20 m thick. A power cable was revealed within some of the post holes so the plan was revised in consultation with English Heritage.

## 5.2 Car park entrance test pits and monitoring

*Introduction*

5.2.1 Prior to resurfacing of the path between the car park and the bridge, three test pits (0.30 m² and 0.20 m deep) were excavated to assess the ground beneath the bark chipping surface (**Plate 8**). Following this, the removal of the bark chipping path surface, gravel step surface and the excavation of stake holes for wooden edging was monitored (**Plate 9**).

*Soil sequence*

5.2.2 Bark chippings were removed to exposed an earlier path surface of compact sandy gravel. The bank material of greyish brown silty loam on either side of the path was slightly cut back to install the wooden edging. The removal of the gravel on the steps revealed made ground associated with the construction of the steps.

## 5.3 Sapling planting pit monitoring

5.3.1 A single tree was planted in the Lord's Garden, approximately 45 m south-west of the North-east Tower (**Plate 10**). The planting pit (0.60 m² and 0.40 m deep) was topped with well established turf which overlaid topsoil of brownish grey silty clay loam 0.22 m thick. Subsoil

consisted of greyish brown silty clay with rare flecks of charcoal, rare CBM fragments and sub-angular to sub-round flint fragments.

## 5.4 North-east tower fence line installation monitoring

*Introduction*

5.4.1 On the inside of the North-East Tower 14 post holes measuring 0.20–0.3 m² and 0.35 –0.68 m in depth were excavated to erect a fence line (**Plates 11–12**).

*Soil sequence*

5.4.2 The post holes were topped with a well-established turf which overlaid a topsoil of greyish brown silty loam with rare CBM flecks and fragments of mortar, 0.20–0.52 m thick. Beneath the topsoil lay a made ground of mid greyish brown silty loam 0.12–0.19 m thick with fragments of mortar and CBM including frequent tile fragments. This layer may relate to demolition activity or the disintegration of the tower. Subsoil was observed beneath the made ground within the north–south fence line, it consisted of mid greyish brown silty loam with rare charcoal, mortar and CBM flecks.

## 5.5 Brewhouse Moat fence line installation monitoring

*Introduction*

5.5.1 Along the Brewhouse Moat the fence line was replaced, and new kissing gate was installed at the north end of the fence line (**Plate 13**). In total of 53 post holes were excavated to facilities these works, each measuring 0.20 m² and 0.17–0.49 m deep.

*Soil sequence*

5.5.2 Turf overlaid a topsoil (0.18–0.22 m thick) of greyish brown silty loam with mortar and CBM flecks. Beneath this lay a subsoil of greyish brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular to sub-round flint fragments (**Plates 14–15**).

## 5.6 Station Road fence line installation monitoring

*Introduction*

5.6.1 The monitoring archaeologist recorded the stratigraphy exposed during the excavation of 75 fence postholes on the west side of the outer boundary Bishop's Waltham Palace, approximately 150 m along Station Road. The postholes measured c. 0.30 m² and were dug at approximately 2 m intervals. The postholes ranged in depth from 0.50-1.06 m with an average of 0.65 m.

5.6.2 Postholes 1-61 ran from the south side of the north-west entrance gate to the southern corner of the Inner Court, to meet the wall at the entrance of Bishop's Lane. Postholes 62-64 were located immediately south of the gate. Postholes 65-75 ran from the north side of the gate to the junction of Station Road and the B2177.

5.6.3 Postholes have been grouped by stratigraphic sequence. Largely, the postholes were topped with the modern tarmac surface and bedding layers or topsoil, which overlain a made ground deposit which appeared to form the bank material for the moat. No other archaeological deposits were encountered. A selection of finds, largely CBM was retained for potential dating purposes. Detail and dating of finds can be found in **Table 1** (section 7.1.2).

*Postholes 1-64 (south of gate)*

5.6.4 Postholes 1-3 (**Plate 16**), 6, 11-19, 21, 22, 24-33 were topped with tarmac on average 0.17 m thick bedded with gravel on average 0.10 m thick. Beneath which lay a made ground of mid greyish brown silt with flint and chalk fragments and brick and tile which looked to be handmade and similar to those used in later restorations of the monument. Postholes 13, 14, 15, 17 and 18 revealed a power cable. The natural geology of clay with flints was reached in Posthole 33 at a depth of 0.82 m below ground level.

5.6.5 Postholes 4 (**Plate 17**) and 5 were topped with tarmac on average 0.20 m thick, which overlain a made ground of pale grey fine silt on average 0.25 m thick were appeared to be a bedding for the tarmac. Beneath this lay the made ground of mid greyish brown silt with flint and chalk fragments and brick and tile.

5.6.6 Postholes 7-10 (**Plate 18**) and 23 were topped with tarmac on average 0.25 m thick which directly overlain the made ground of mid greyish brown silt with flint and chalk fragments and brick and tile.

5.6.7 Posthole 20 (**Plate 19**) was topped with tarmac 0.18 m thick, with bedded with gravel 0.07 m thick. This overlain concrete rubble 0.20 m thick, which in turn covered the made ground of mid greyish brown silt with flint and chalk fragments and brick and tile.

5.6.8 Postholes 34 (**Plate 20**) consisted of a topsoil of dark brown loam 0.20 m thick, which overlain gravel 0.09m thick. Beneath this was the made ground of mid greyish brown silt with flint and chalk fragments and brick and tile.

5.6.9 Postholes 35-38, 52 (**Plate 21**), 59 and 62 were topped with a topsoil of dark brown loam 0.24 m thick which directly overlain the made ground of mid greyish brown silt with flint and chalk fragments and brick and tile. The natural geology of clay with flints was reached in Posthole 35-37, at a depth of between 0.82-0.88 m below ground level.

5.6.10 Postholes 39-44 (**Plate 22**), 46 and 47 were topped with tarmac on average 0.12 m thick, which overlain a topsoil of dark brown loam 0.24 m thick. Beneath which lay the made ground of mid greyish brown silt with flint and chalk fragments and brick and tile.

5.6.11 Postholes 45, 48, 49, 50 and 51 (**Plate 23**) were topped with tarmac on average 0.18 m thick, which overlain concrete rubble on average 0.21 m thick. Beneath which lay the made ground of mid greyish brown silt with flint and chalk fragments and brick and tile.

5.6.12 Posthole 53 (**Plate 24**) was dug through the backfill of the cable trench containing rubble and modern rubbish and dark yellowish brown gravel and sand.

5.6.13 Posthole 54 (**Plate 25**) consisted of a topsoil of dark brown loam 0.28 m thick, which overlain a made ground of largely flint fragments with mid yellowish brown silty clay and a single fragment of CBM.

5.6.14 Postholes 55 (**Plate 26**) and 56 consisted of a topsoil of dark brown loam on average 0.23 m thick, which overlain a made ground mid greyish brown mottled with yellowish brown silty clay loam, on average 0.20 m thick. Beneath which lay a made ground of largely flint fragments with mid yellowish brown silty clay and a single fragment of CBM.

5.6.15 Postholes 57 and 58 (**Plate 27**) were topped with a topsoil of dark brown loam on average 0.21 m thick, which overlain modern disturbance of mid brownish yellow with large fragments of flint and concrete.

5.6.16 Postholes 60 and 61 (**Plate 28**) located at the southern end of the fence line, against the existing boundary wall, contained modern disturbance of dark brown mottled with yellowish brown silty loam with common modern brick fragments and occasional flint fragments, this appeared to be the backfill of the wall.

5.6.17 Postholes 63 (**Plate 29**) and 64 located directly to the south of the gate into the monument were topped with a topsoil of dark brown loam on average 0.21 m thick, which overlain a made ground of mid orangey brown sandy clay. This deposit appeared to form the material used to build up the entrance way.

*Postholes 65-75 (north of gate)*

5.6.18 Posthole 65 (**Plate 30**), the northern most posthole was dug through the current tarmac surface, 0.13 m thick and bedding of light brownish grey sand and gravel.

5.6.19 Postholes 66, 68 and 69 (**Plate 31**) were dug through the current tarmac surface, 0.13 m thick and bedding of light brownish grey sand and gravel, 0.15 m thick. Beneath which lay a made ground of dark greyish brown silty loam with modern brick fragments and CBM, 0.13 m thick. This overlain redeposited natural of orange brown sandy clay with patches of topsoil.

5.6.20 Postholes 67 (**Plate 32**) topped with the current tarmac surface 0.15 m thick and bedding of light brownish grey sand and gravel, 0.05 m thick. Beneath which lay a made ground mid orange brown sandy clay loam.

5.6.21 Postholes 70 and 71 (**Plate 33**) contained a made ground of mid brown mottled with yellow brown sandy clay loam, with common gravel and CBM, modern glass observed but not retained.

5.6.22 Postholes 72, 74 and 75 (**Plate 34**) contained topsoil of dark greyish brown silty clay loam 0.21 m thick. This overlain a made ground of mid brownish grey silty sandy clay loam, with common gravel, mortar fragments and CBM, 0.36 m thick. Beneath this lay a made ground of light to mid yellowish brown sandy silt, with gravel, CBM and mortar fragments.

5.6.23 Posthole 73 (**Plate 35**) contained topsoil of dark greyish brown silty clay loam 0.20 m thick. Beneath which lay a deliberate backfill of light yellowish brown of sand and gravel, 0.16 m thick. This is likely the backfill of the adjacent wall and lay against the concrete footings for the brick wall. Beneath this the lay a made ground of light to mid yellowish brown sandy silt, with gravel, CBM and mortar fragments.

## 5.7 Great Hall and Kitchen wall repair monitoring

*Introduction*

5.7.1 The monitoring archaeologist made a photographic record of the cracks in the north, east and west walls of the kitchen and the new crack in the west wall of the Great Hall (**Fig. 1**). A structural appraisal was carried out in 2018 (Historic England) of the West Range and West Tower which identified areas of concern and in need of repair. A recent survey carried out in 2021 (Historic England) identified further areas of repair.

*Kitchen, West Range*

5.7.2 The north elevation of the north wall in the Kitchen exhibited a vertical crack in the mortar (**Plate 36**), immediately to the west of a series of large square stones. This wall also contains a significant fracture that runs from the ground the majority of the way up the wall, the top of which was recorded via the scaffolding (**Plate 37 and 38**). The west elevation of

the east wall arch in the Kitchen (**Plates 39-41**) exhibited general degradation to the mortar, loosening the embedded flints. The west elevation of the west wall exhibited damage caused by ivy growing into the mortar (**Plate 42**).

*Great Hall, West Range*

5.7.3 A new crack (**Plate 43**) was noted on the south side of the southernmost window at the west tower end of the Great Hall.

## 6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1.1 A small quantity of finds was recovered during the monitoring of the erection of the fence line, consisting largely of ceramic building material. Finds were recovered from six contexts and in all cases, from the nature of the deposits (topsoil, rubble layer, made ground) are likely to be redeposited. The assemblage ranges in date from medieval to post-medieval, with one possible prehistoric artefact.

6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

**Table 1** All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

| Context | Description | CBM | Flint | Pottery | Stone |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1004 | Topsoil | 4/1638 | | 1/6 | 1/40 |
| 1007 | Topsoil | 1/17 | | | |
| 1010 | Rubble layer | 1/63 | | | |
| 2002 | Made ground | 1/62 | | | |
| 2005 | Topsoil | | 1/6 | | 1/11 |
| 2006 | Topsoil | 7/145 | | | |
| **Total** | | **14/1925** | **1/6** | **1/6** | **2/51** |

CBM = ceramic building material

### 6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 The single sherd of pottery, found in topsoil 1004, is medieval. It is an undiagnostic body sherd in a sandy/calcareous coarseware, not corresponding to any specific known type, but probably of relatively local manufacture. Its likely date is 11th-/12th-century.

### 6.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

6.3.1 CBM was the most commonly occurring material type encountered and includes fragments of brick and roof tile. Four fragments of roof tile are all from flat peg tiles, broadly dated as medieval/post-medieval as these tiles are not susceptible to close dating. There are several medieval centres of tile production in the area, including at Bishop's Waltham in the late 14th century, when Bishop William of Wykeham had his own tilehouse from at least 1372 to 1380, although up to this point slate, imported from Devon and Cornwall, had been the predominant roofing material (Hare 1991, 90, 92, table 1, fig. 1).

6.3.2 The brick fragments are all post-medieval. Only two fragments, both from topsoil 1004, retained measurable original dimensions; both these derived from unfrogged bricks with a thickness of 55mm, which would be consistent with a date of 18th-century or later.

### 6.4 Stone

6.4.1 Both pieces of stone are roofing slate fragments. One from topsoil 2005 is from a post-medieval/modern thin slate, but the fragment from topsoil 1004 is a thicker piece in blue slate, almost certainly medieval (see above).

### 6.5 Flint

6.5.1 One piece of worked flint, found in topsoil 2005. This is a flake in relatively fresh condition. While this could be a prehistoric artefact, it is perhaps more likely that it represents waste from the preparation of flint walling, of medieval date or later.

## 7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1.1 No deposits or horizons were deemed suitable for environmental sampling and consequently no samples were taken.

## 8 CONCLUSIONS

### 8.1 Summary

8.1.1 The archaeological monitoring was successful in identifying that no significant archaeological deposits were damaged during the various excavation works carried out. Largely modern overburden deposits and surfaces were encountered, with well-established turf over topsoil and subsoil observed within the Lord's Garden. Possible bank material recorded in the majority of the postholes dug along the west side of the monument. Made ground deposits observed in the postholes around the North-West Tower contained a notable amount of building material, possibly associate with the construction of the Palace or it may have resulted from the disintegration on the structures.

8.1.2 The works within Gatehouse apron revealed that a surface of mortar with flints and CBM lay beneath the current surface at 0.10 m below the ground level, rather than the concrete expected at c. 0.20 m below the ground level. It was determined that this mortar is relatively modern.

### 8.2 Discussion

8.2.1 The aims of the archaeological monitoring were to preserve by record the presence and nature of archaeological deposits encountered during the conservation works, before and during works. It was anticipated that this would further inform the existing understanding of the construction and development of the monument and mitigate potential harm to evidential value associated with the conservation work. In the event, the works consisted of only superficial interventions to largely modern deposits and the removal of modern repointing episodes and consolidation of historic dilapidation to the monument. No opening up or dismantling works were observed in the structure of the monument.

## 9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

### 9.1 Museum

9.1.1 The archive resulting from the watching brief is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. English Heritage has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

## 9.2 Preparation of the archive

*Physical archive*

9.2.1 The physical archive, which includes paper records, graphics and artefacts will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by English Heritage, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CIfA 2014c; Brown 2011).

9.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 1 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 1 files/document cases of paper records

*Digital archive*

9.2.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (e.g., site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

## 9.3 Security copy

9.3.1 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.

## 9.4 OASIS

9.4.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (http://oasis.ac.uk) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 1). A.pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the English Heritage Archaeologist. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

# 10 COPYRIGHT

## 10.1 Archive and report copyright

10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.

10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

## 10.2 Third party data copyright

10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

## REFERENCES

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Wessex Archaeology 2021 *Bishop's Waltham Palace Phase I: The Lord's Garden*. Unpublished report ref. 233191.02

**Appendix 1 OASIS record**

# Summary for wessexar1-502730

| | |
|---|---|
| OASIS ID (UID) | wessexar1-502730 |
| Project Name | Watching Brief at Bishop's Waltham Palace Phase II |
| Activity type | Watching Brief |
| Reason For Investigation | Heritage management |
| Organisation Responsible for work | Wessex Archaeology, Wessex Archaeology |
| Project Dates | 01-Mar-2021 - 12-Aug-2021 |
| Location | Bishop's Waltham Palace Phase II<br>NGR : SU 55152 17435<br>LL : 50.953715347511, -1.2161900542609<br>12 Fig : 455152,117435 |
| Administrative Areas | Country : England<br>County : Hampshire<br>District : Winchester<br>Parish : Bishops Waltham |
| Project Methodology | Three 0.30 m x 0.30 m test pits were excavated in the Gatehouse apron to determine the depths of an appropriate subsurface prior to regravelling. These test pits were hand dug and then recorded by the monitoring archaeologist. Monitoring of the resurfacing of the apron, the installation of metal edging and drainage in the Gatehouse apron was undertaken, along with monitoring of 8 gate and fence posts around the inside of the Gatehouse.<br>Along the west side of the outer boundary of Bishop's Waltham Palace adjacent to Station Road 75 fence postholes were hand excavated. The postholes measured 0.30 m² in diameter and were dug at approximately 2 m intervals.<br>Along the Brewhouse Moat 53 fence posts were hand excavated spaced 1 m apart. Fence post excavation was also monitored around the inside of the North-East Tower. The 14 postholes measured 0.20–0.3 m² and 0.35 –0.68 m in depth, with an average depth of 0.38 m.<br>The excavation of 3 test pits (0.30 m² and 0.20 m deep) along the path from the car park to the bridge adjacent to the Bakehouse were monitored. Following this, improvements to the path were monitored, which consisted of the removal of the bark chipping surface and the |

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| | digging of stake holes (0.20 m² and 0.18 m deep) 1m apart on each side of the path for wooden edging. The excavation of a single sapling planting pit (0.60 m² and 0.40 m deep) was also monitored, located 45 m south-west of the North-East Tower, within the Lord's Garden. A photographic record was taken of a series a cracks in the north, east and west wall of the Kitchen and west wall of the Great Hall of the West Range. |

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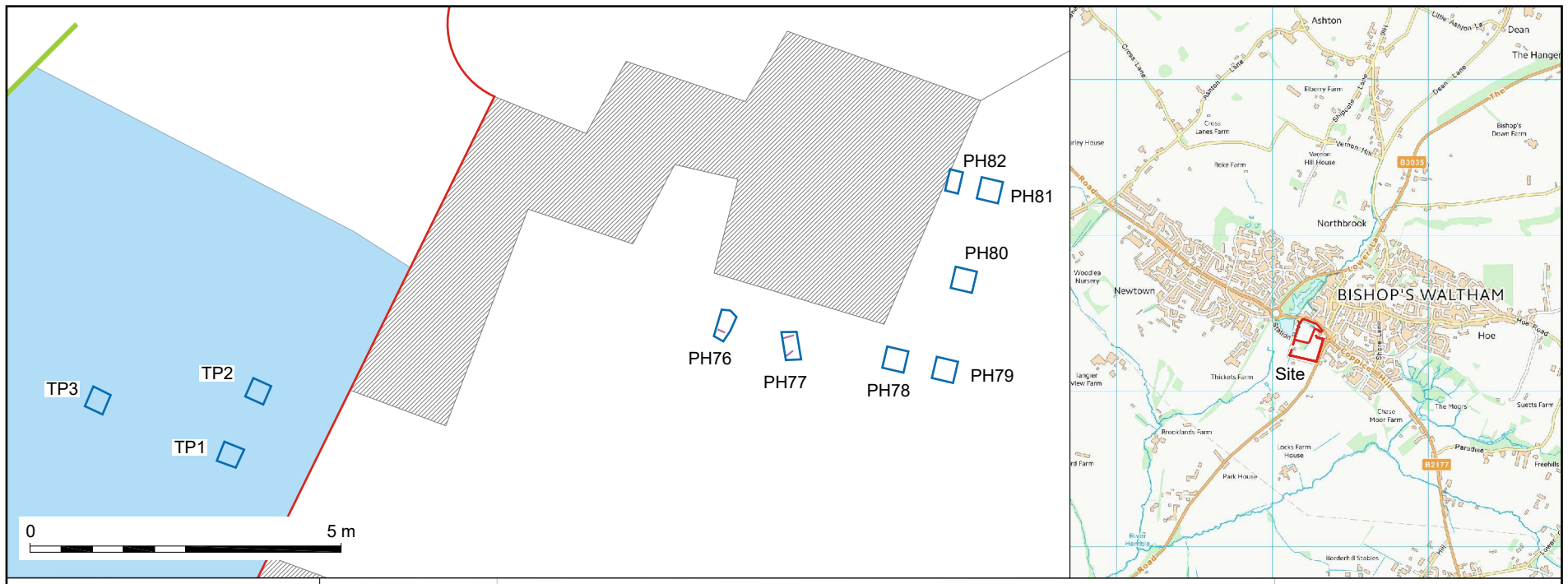
| Project Results | No significant archaeological deposits Largely modern overburden deposits and surfaces were encountered, with well-established turf over topsoil and subsoil observed within the Lord's Garden. Possible bank material recorded in the majority of the postholes dug along the west side of the monument. Made ground deposits observed in the postholes around the North-West Tower contained a notable amount of building material, possibly associate with the construction of the Palace or it may have resulted from the disintegration on the structures |
| Keywords | Brick - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Roof Slate - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Body Sherd - MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus |
| HER | Historic England review - unRev - STANDARD |
| HER Identfiers | |
| Archives | Physical Archive, Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Historic England Archive |

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Site location and monitoring works plan

Figure 1

Plate 1: West facing section of Test Pit 1 (0.2 m scale)

Plate 2: West facing section of Test Pit 2 (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 3: West facing section of Test Pit 3 (0.2 m scale)


Plate 4: Gatehouse apron with surface removed, view from the north-west (1 m and 2 m scales)



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Plate 5: North-west facing section of sub-base in Gatehouse apron (1 m scale)

Plate 6: View from the north of drainage trench to ditch (1 m scale)



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Plate 7: Post hole around North-East Tower, view from the east (0.2 m scale)

Plate 8: test pit in path between the carpark and bridge, view from the east (0.5 m scale)



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Plate 9: Removal of path surface and installation of wooden edging, view from the north-west

Plate 10: Sapling planting pit, view from the east (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 11: North-East Tower fence line post hole, view from the north (0.2 m scale)

Plate 12: North-East Tower fence line post hole, view from the north (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 13: New kissing gate, view from the north

Plate 14: Brewhouse moat fence line post hole, view from the south-east (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 15: Brewhouse moat fence line post hole, view from the west (0.2 m scale)

Plate 16: Posthole 1 from the south-east (0.2 m and 0.5 m scales)



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Plate 17: Posthole 4 from the east-south-east (0.2 m and 0.5 m scales)

Plate 18: Posthole 10 from the east-south-east (0.2 m and 0.5 m scales)



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Plate 19: Posthole 20 from the east-south-east (0.2 m and 0.5 m scales)

Plate 20: Posthole 34 from the east-south-east (0.2 m and 0.5 m scales)



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Plate 21: Posthole 52 from the west-north-west (0.2 m scale)

Plate 22: Posthole 44 from the from the east-south-east (0.2 m and 0.5 m scales)



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Plate 23: Posthole 51 from the west-north-west (0.2 m scale)

Plate 24: Posthole 53 from the west-north-west (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 25: Posthole 54 from the south-south-west (0.2 m scale)

Plate 26: Posthole 55 from the south-south-west (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 27: Posthole 58 from the south-south-west (0.2 m scale)

Plate 28: Posthole 61 from the south-south-west (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 29: Posthole 63 from the north (0.2 m scale)

Plate 30: Posthole 65 from the north-north-west (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 31: Posthole 69 from the north-north-west (0.2 m scale)

Plate 32: Posthole 67 from the north-north-west (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 33: Posthole 71 from the north (0.2 m scale)

Plate 34: Posthole 75 from the north-north-east (0.2 m scale)



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Plate 35: Posthole 73 from the north-west (0.2 m scale)

Plate 36: Crack in north wall of Kitchen from the north



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Plate 37: Significant fracture in north wall of Kitchen rom the north (1 m scale)

Plate 38: Significant fracture in north wall of Kitchen from the south (1 m scale)



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Plate 39: East wall arch in Kitchen from the south-east (1 m scale)

Plate 40: East wall arch in Kitchen from the north-east (1 m scale)



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Plate 41: East wall arch in Kitchen from the east (1 m scale)

Plate 42: West wall of Kitchen from the west (1m scale)



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Plate 43: New crack in Great Hall, West Tower end from the west (1m scale)



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