

Archaeological assessment of Pembridge, Hereford and Worcester

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Summary

The historic town of Pembridge was surveyed during the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey, a desk-based study of the 64 smaller historic towns in Shropshire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. Archaeological and documentary evidence relating to the historic core of Pembridge was carefully analysed, comprising topographic data, published and unpublished archaeological reports, museum collections, primary and secondary historical sources, historical maps, and field data recorded by the project team.

Detailed evidence is provided on the character and layout of the settlement in the medieval and post-medieval periods. For each period the available information is analysed and mapped in detail, and a model of the development of the town is proposed. In addition, the evidence for pre-urban occupation is considered, together with evidence of 19th century occupation. All archaeologically-relevant information has been recorded as part of the county Sites and Monuments Record. Specialist assessments of artefacts, ecofacts, standing buildings and documentary sources are included. A detailed archaeological research framework has been developed for Pembridge, which will inform future archaeological investigations as well as management decisions.

The historic core of Pembridge contains buried archaeological deposits, and these are judged to have high potential. In addition there is moderate potential for the recovery of artefact and ecofact assemblages. The historic buildings constitute a complementary body of evidence, and the late medieval buildings in particular are judged to have high potential for detailed study and recording. The surviving documentary sources are not extensive and consequently the potential for further study is limited.

1 Introduction

1.1 Location and landuse

The urban area of Pembridge is located at NGR SO 390 581 in Leominster District. The modern settlement of Pembridge comprises a linear settlement along East and West Streets with modern housing extending towards the River Arrow and down Suckley Lane.

1.2 Topography, geology and soils

Pembridge lies at a height of between 100m and 115m OD. The town runs parallel to the River Arrow on the slightly higher ground to the north. The soils of the Rowton association are typically argillic brown earths overlying glaciofluvial or river terrace

gravel and till (Soil Survey of England and Wales, Ragg *et al* 1984). The underlying geology consists of Downtonian Raglan Mudstone Formation (British Geological Survey 1:250,000, sheet 52°N-0.4°W).

1.3 Chronological outline

The manor of Pembridge belonged to Earl Harold prior to the Conquest and contained a village in 1086 (Thorn and Thorn 1983). The church belfry dates to the early 12th century which supports the suggestion that the 11th century, or earlier, village was the nucleus of the later town (Noble 1964). At the end of the 12th century Pembridge was part of the Honour of Radnor and was held from the de Braos by a family called de Pembridge. From 1230 to 1246 the Honour of Radnor was owned by the king.

The first mention of burgesses at Pembridge is in 1240 when Henry de Pembridge obtained a royal charter for a market and fair (Beresford and Finberg 1973, 123). Soon after this he took advantage of a break in the succession of his overlords to establish a "free borough". Pembridge and Ploughfield were the last borough foundations in Herefordshire (Noble 1964). Henry was a follower of Simon de Montfort and was disinherited in 1265. The manor and borough were seized by Roger Mortimer and the moated manor house (HWCM 358) became a residence of his widow between 1282 and 1301 (Noble 1964).

In the 13th century Pembridge was one of the most westerly points to which English merchants and traders could venture without losing the protection of the laws of England (ie without venturing into the marcher lordships). The borough was prosperous and the survival of many of its 14th century buildings suggests it may have escaped the worst ravages of the Welsh during Glyndwr's rebellion between 1402 and 1408 (Noble 1964). In the 15th century Pembridge passed, with the rest of the Mortimer lands, to the House of York and to the Crown. In 1500 it was one of only nine markets in Herefordshire but it seems to have declined in the early post-medieval period due, perhaps, to the rise of Kington (O'Donnell 1971).

Pembridge became the subject of complicated legal disputes in the 17th century and in 1675 it was described as "now in the declining hand, their market which is on Monday is very small. But they have two fairs" (WNFC 1917, 193). In 1698 the market is again described as "very inconsiderable" (O'Donnell 1971). The decline in the status of Pembridge seems to be a later 17th century phenomenon as many new buildings were constructed in the 17th century including the almshouses (HWCM 1571, HWCM 1573) and this contrasts markedly with the lack of new building in the 18th century. However, Pembridge continued to function as a town, and fairs were still held into the 19th century (O'Donnell 1971).

1.4 Placename studies

Pembridge appears as *Penebrug(g)e*, probably "Pen's Bridge" in 1086 and this spelling continues in some documents until the 14th century. The name is also spelt *Penbrugge* (c 1148), *Penebriga* (late 12th century), *Penbrug'* (1317) and *Pennebrugge* (1406) (Coplestone-Crow 1989).

1.5 Syntheses of documentary and archaeological data

Some work has been done on selected manuscripts from the town (Morgan 1941) but there has been no synthesis of the documentary evidence from the town. No synthesis of the archaeological evidence has been carried out. The present assessment was carried out by the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey in 1993. The text was revised in March 1995 to incorporate the results of fieldwork undertaken by the Survey (see section 1.7). No information published after December 1994 has been incorporated into this assessment.

1.6 Cartographic sources

Nineteenth century maps include the tithe map of 1842 (HFNS nd) and the Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (*Herefordshire sheet LXVIII.3* (1886)) have been used to identify remains and aid in the definition of components.

1.7 Archaeological excavations and surveys

No archaeological investigations have taken place in Pembridge and only one chance find, a Greek coin, has been recorded (HWCM 1572). Archaeological and antiquarian interest has concentrated on the standing buildings of the town, a survey of which was carried out by RCHME (1934). Fieldwork was undertaken by the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey in November 1994. This identified remains, investigated and revised the extent of components, and recorded 18th and 19th century cellarge and modern developments in the urban area.

1.8 Acknowledgments and personnel

Survey fieldwork was undertaken by Victoria Buteux and Nigel Topping. Analysis and report writing were undertaken by Victoria Buteux and the report was edited by Hal Dalwood.

2 Pre-urban evidence

There is evidence of quite intensive prehistoric activity in the modern parish of Pembridge, with earthworks and cropmarks of prehistoric barrows and undated cropmarks of enclosures, some of which predate the 8th century Rowe Ditch. This linear earthwork, built by the Mercians as part of the frontier with the Welsh (Rowley 1986, 79) runs 800m to the west of Pembridge. There are also reports of a Bronze Age axe hammer and Roman finds from the vicinity of Pembridge (HWCM 21996, HWCM 21997). An early medieval village certainly existed within the manor (see section 1.3) and this may have had pre-conquest origins. No prehistoric, Roman or Anglo-Saxon artefacts have been recorded from the parish, probably due to lack of fieldwork in the area.

3 Medieval archaeological evidence

3.1 Medieval remains and buildings

No evidence of buried deposits of medieval date has been recorded for the town of Pembridge. The church of St Mary (HWCM 1566) and its detached belfry (HWCM 16357) have been described and planned, and the sequence of construction interpreted (Marshall 1943; Morris 1977, 1982; RCHME 1934; Whitehead 1901). The post-medieval market house incorporates a medieval cross plinth (HWCM 7283). There are twelve buildings within the town dating to the medieval period (HWCM 16362, HWCM 16363, HWCM 16365, HWCM 16366, HWCM 16369, HWCM 16371, HWCM 16376, HWCM 16378, HWCM 16379, HWCM 16384, HWCM 16385, HWCM 16386) and at least one apparently 16th century building which may have an earlier origin (HWCM 16367). The earthworks of a medieval moated manor house (HWCM 358) at Court House are just to the south of the church. Other earthworks in this area (HWCM 21388) may also be medieval in date.

3.2 Medieval urban components

Analysis of the evidence summarised above and secondary documentary sources indicate the existence of eleven urban components. The characteristics of these urban

components are summarised below.

Manorial enclosure (HWCN 19397). The earthworks of the moated manor house form a readily identifiable monument. It is possible that, given its proximity to the early 12th century church (HWCN 1566, HWCN 16357), this site was the centre of the Domesday manor of Pembridge. The date of the construction of the roughly square moat is not known but it was probably built before 1350 (Stanford 1991, 150). The western end of the moat was filled in at some time prior to the construction of the early 17th century Court House and outbuildings. The manor house is likely to have included service buildings outside the moat and this component includes the land shown on the 1842 tithe map (HFNS nd) as "homestead" and "house orchard". Unidentified earthworks in this area (HWCN 21388) may relate to this component.

Churchyard (HWCN 19394). The churchyard lies on a small hill to the north of the manorial enclosure, next to the market place and contains the church of St Mary (HWCN 1566) and a detached belfry (HWCN 16357). The earliest, reused, masonry within the church can be dated to the 12th century (RCHME 1934). Dendro-chronological dating of one of the four oak posts of the belfry indicates that it was probably constructed in the period 1115-1135 (Webster and Cherry 1980). Such an early date suggests that the church may have been part of the village mentioned in Domesday.

The 1842 tithe map (HFNS nd) shows the post-medieval boundary of the churchyard. Small plots of land fronting the market place and East Street shown on this map may represent encroachment onto the medieval churchyard. If this were the case the churchyard would have originally formed the eastern boundary of the market place. The date of this encroachment is not known, but examples from other towns in the region suggest that this occurred in the later medieval period.

Market place (HWCN 19396). The triangular medieval market place at the junction of West Street, East Street and Barewood Lane has survived relatively unchanged into the present day. A 14th century cross, a fragment of which was reused in the post-medieval market building (Jack 1927), probably stood in the market place. The market place could have been part of the earlier village of Pembridge or it may have been created at the same time as the planned development of the town along West and East Streets.

Street system (HWCN 19405). There is no published documentary evidence relating to the medieval street system of Pembridge and it has been reconstructed using the roads shown on the 1842 tithe map (HFNS nd). West Street and East Street form part of the road between Leominster and Kington along the valley of the River Arrow. The burgage plots fronting these streets were probably laid out in the mid-13th century at around the time of the market charter and Henry de Pembridge's declaration of a free borough. Both West and East Streets have buildings of 14th century date along their length and the streets must, therefore, have been in existence at that time. Suckley Lane and Barewood Lane do not conform to the planned layout of the burgage plots and may predate them. These lanes may be part of the 11th and 12th century village.

The date of Bridge Street is not clear. The antiquarian Leland mentioned a bridge in the mid-16th century (Chandler 1993) and the place-name implies the existence of a bridge across the Arrow by the 11th century. A 14th century hall close to the river on Bridge Street (HWCN 16361) suggests that there was a road to a crossing point by that time, but it has been suggested that the bridge was at Twyford to the east (George 1917). However the evidence for this suggestion is unclear.

Manley Lane and the road, now no longer in existence, which ran northeast at the

east end of the town lead to two medieval open fields, Manley Field and Lower Field (HFNS nd). The road running southwest from the west end of the town ran through a holloway (HWCM 19390) and through the meadows to the Curl Brook, the date of this road is uncertain.

Tenement plots (HWCM 19398, HWCM 19399, HWCM 19400, HWCM 19401, HWCM 19402, HWCM 19403, HWCM 19404). It is possible that the earliest tenement plot component in the town is HWCM 19398. This has an irregular plot pattern and is bounded by Suckley Lane and Barewood Lane, both of which appear to predate the layout of the rest of the town (see above). This component in combination with the churchyard (HWCM 19394) and the manorial enclosure (HWCM 19397) forms a group which may be the early medieval settlement focus.

Components HWCM 19399, HWCM 19400, HWCM 19401, HWCM 19403 and HWCM 19404 appear to be planned extensions to the settlement. These components are made up of regular rectilinear burgage plots, except where they conform to earlier boundaries (eg HWCM 19403 and HWCM 19404). Components HWCM 19400 and HWCM 19399 share the same rear boundary and may have been laid out at the same time. At present there is no information to date this development, but it is possible that it started around 1240 with the granting of a market charter. Components HWCM 19400, HWCM 19404 and HWCM 19401 contain 14th century buildings.

Component HWCM 19402 contains the most westerly medieval building in the town, and does not conform to a regular tenement plot pattern. The reason for this is not clear.

3.3 Medieval urban form

Definition and classification. The medieval urban form (HWCM 19421) has been defined and mapped, based on the extent of the identified urban components. The available evidence indicates that the medieval urban form of Pembridge can be classified as a small medieval market town (English Heritage 1992).

Survival. The earthworks of the medieval manor house are well preserved despite some post-medieval disturbance and waterlogged deposits may occur in the moat itself which is wet in winter. Lack of archaeological fieldwork or recorded observations of deposits during modern construction means that there is no information on the extent or fragility of medieval archaeological deposits in the town. The survival of buried deposits in Pembridge is likely to be higher than in most similar towns, however, because of the large number of standing medieval buildings and the lack of 18th and 19th century development.

Within the medieval urban area there are 14 standing buildings of medieval date including the church and belfry. With the exception of the religious buildings most of the medieval structures in the town have been much altered in the post-medieval period. Because of the decline of Pembridge during the post-medieval period the medieval boundaries of the town are well preserved and the components readily identifiable.

4 Post-medieval archaeological evidence

4.1 Post-medieval remains and buildings

No evidence of buried deposits of post-medieval date have been recovered from Pembridge. Nine buildings of 16th century date and 23 buildings of 17th century date survive within the town. Existing buildings were altered in the 18th century but there is no

published record of any 18th century buildings within the town. Building recording work has been carried out on some structures but the majority have not been studied in detail.

4.2 Post-medieval urban components

Analysis of the evidence summarised above and of cartographic and documentary sources indicated the existence of 15 urban components. The characteristics of these urban components are summarised below.

Churchyard (HWCM 19395). The extent of the post-medieval churchyard has been determined using the 1842 tithe map (HFNS nd). There seems to have been encroachment by small tenement plots fronting the market place (see section 3.2). The date of the standing buildings in this area indicate that any encroachment had begun by at least the early 16th century (HWCM 16368 and HWCM 16375).

Manorial enclosure (HWCM 19397). It is not clear when the medieval manor house was demolished, but this probably happened before the 17th century when part of the ditch was filled in and Court House farmhouse and outbuildings constructed.

Market place (HWCM 19396). The medieval market place continued in use throughout the post-medieval period. A market hall was built in the market place in the first half of the 16th century. This originally had an upper storey which has now been removed (RCHME 1934).

Street system (HWCM 19405). The medieval street system continued with little or no alterations into the post-medieval period. The bridge over the Arrow was mentioned by the antiquarian Leland in the 16th century (Chandler 1993). The present bridge is of early 19th century date.

Tenement plots (HWCM 19398, HWCM 19399, HWCM 19400, HWCM 19401, HWCM 19402, HWCM 19403, HWCM 19404, HWCM 19406, HWCM 19409). The prosperity of Pembridge seems to be declining by the later 17th century and there was relatively little change to the tenement plots and their associated buildings after that date. Two small plots at the west and east of the town (HWCM 19406 and HWCM 19409) contain 17th century buildings and may be early post-medieval extensions to the medieval town. The concentration of occupation within the town decreased after the later 17th century and the tenement plots opposite the market and church (HWCM 19398) were almost entirely orchard and garden by the time the 1842 tithe map was drawn up.

Almshouses (HWCM 19419 and HWCM 19420). Duppa's Almshouses on Bridge Street were founded by Jeffrey Duppa and augmented by Bryan Duppa, Bishop of Winchester, in 1661. Trafford's Almshouses (HWCM 19419) on the eastern edge of the town were founded in 1686 by Dr Thomas Trafford. The extent of these components has been defined using the 1842 tithe map (HFNS nd).

4.3 Post-medieval urban form

Definition and classification. The post-medieval urban form (HWCM 19422) has been defined and mapped, based on the extent of the identified urban components. The available evidence indicates that the post-medieval urban form of Pembridge can be classified as a small post-medieval market town (English Heritage 1992).

Survival. Lack of archaeological fieldwork or recorded observations of deposits during modern construction means that there is no information on the extent or fragility of post-medieval archaeological deposits in the town. The survival of buried deposits in Pembridge is likely to be higher than in most similar towns,

however, because of the number of standing 16th and 17th century buildings and the lack of 18th and 19th century development.

The urban area contains nine 16th century buildings, 23 17th century buildings, of which four are not listed (HWCM 19386, HWCM 19387, HWCM 19388, HWCM 19389), and no recorded 18th century buildings. The components of the urban form comprising churchyard, manorial enclosure, tenement plots, public buildings, market and street system can be readily identified. The survival of all these components is very good.

5 Post-1800 archaeological evidence

The remit of the present study has not allowed for a detailed survey and assessment of the archaeological evidence relating to Pembridge in the period from 1800. Further work is required before such an assessment can be carried out. Major archaeological remains have been identified, however, including schools (HWCM 16375 and HWCM 21970), a forge and smithy (HWCM 16371, HWCM 21969) and a chapel (HWCM 21969). There is only one listed structure, the bridge, dated to the 19th century within the study area.

6 Specialist assessments

6.1 Assessment of artefactual evidence J D Hurst

Hardly any artefactual evidence is available for Pembridge. The earliest artefacts from the parish are a stone axe (HWCM 21996; Shotton, Chitty, and Seaby 1951), and a Greek coin (HWCM 1572), the latter presumably having been lost in recent times. There is also an unconfirmed report of Roman finds from a field called 'Church Cobbetts' (HWCM 21997; Anon 1917, 191-6). A fragment of a stone cross (HWCM 7283), probably of medieval date, was reused as a foundation stone for the market hall.

6.2 Assessment of environmental evidence E A Pearson

No environmental remains have been recovered from Pembridge to date.

6.3 Assessment of documentary sources P A Stamper

The available documentation for Pembridge is poor, and it seems likely that little in the way of records survives from the Middle Ages. Principal groups of primary sources are listed in section 9. The main secondary sources consulted during the archaeological assessment were Morgan (1941) and Beresford and Finberg (1973). A secondary source not consulted during the assessment was Langston (1931).

6.4 Assessment of buildings R Morriss

Pembridge is an essentially timber-framed village that has seen little major development since the late 17th century. It is a linear village along the west-east route of West and East streets. There is a residual central crossroads where Bridge Street leads northwards down the slope to the bridge over the Arrow. To the south of this is the medieval church, and immediately to its west, the former Market Place. There is a surprising lack of surviving historic buildings lining Bridge Street, and thus no firm architectural evidence that this was ever a T-shaped settlement like Kington.

The good survival of medieval houses in the settlement clearly indicates that in the medieval period it was at least as large as it is now, and possibly larger. The evidence of the surviving 17th century buildings, and of buildings clearly altered during that

period, suggests that the settlement continued to prosper during the early post-medieval period but the quality of the surviving medieval buildings is greater than that of the later 17th century work. This may indicate that the status of the earlier buildings along the main artery of the settlement was greater in the medieval period than in the 17th century and seems to reflect the documented decline in the economic prosperity of the settlement at that period. Several of the buildings appear to have been subdivided in this period. All in all, the architectural evidence agrees with the documentary evidence in suggesting that Pembridge's most prosperous period was over by the late 14th or early 15th century.

The linear pattern of the medieval settlement, the apparent lack of back service lanes, the placement of most of the known medieval open halls parallel to the street, and the quite generous street frontages all point to a lack of real pressure on land even in the prosperous medieval period. This is also reflected in the relative lack of significant building in rear plots. The lack of pressure on land within the settlement allowed, for example, the development of a 17th century farmstead (HWCM 16394) close to the former economic heart.

The settlement seems to have been virtually fossilised by the latter part of the 17th century with almost no large scale development or even large scale refurbishments of existing properties until well into the 19th century. It has only been in this century that any expansion of the declining village has occurred.

Survey and analysis. Many, but not all, of the buildings were briefly assessed in the early 1930s (RCHME 1934), and some have been surveyed in recent years. There has yet to be a synthetic study.

Assessment of the listing details. The listing is a modern one, comprehensive, well-written, and well up to the standards now expected. One minor inaccuracy is that the Bell Tower (HWCM 16357), noted as having early 13th century origins, has been dated by dendro-chronology to the start of the 12th century.

7 Archaeological research framework

7.1 Model of urban development

A model of the medieval and post-medieval town of Pembridge has been produced which is predictive and capable of testing through archaeological investigation. This model has both chronological and spatial (landuse) dimensions (see sections 2 to 5) and is based on an analysis of documentary, cartographic and archaeological sources. The model is derived from the current academic understanding of urban development in Britain, and forms one element of a developing regional research framework. The model is provisional and will be subject to confirmation or revision in the future as new information becomes available, or new studies lead to changing understandings of towns in the region.

2.2 Chronological framework

The archaeological and documentary evidence indicates that urban occupation commenced in the 13th century around the nucleus of a medieval rural settlement (possibly originating in 11th century or earlier). Pembridge has been continuously occupied until the present but evidence from documentary sources and standing buildings suggests that the settlement declined in prosperity from the later 17th century and by the end of the 19th century had lost its urban function. The broad outlines of this chronological framework are provisional and require testing through archaeological investigation.

7.3 Urban landuse

The medieval and post-medieval components identified here (sections 3.2 and 4.2) have been mapped and constitute a model of urban landuse for each period. These landuse models are partial and provisional and capable of testing through archaeological investigation. None of the urban components of Pembridge have been archaeologically investigated and little is understood of the nature and density of occupation and how this has changed through time. Of particular interest would be information on the location of any industries which must have operated in the medieval and post-medieval town.

7.4 Potential for survival of buried remains

No information is available on the depth of archaeological deposits in Pembridge nor the extent to which earlier deposits have been damaged by later activity. However certain assumptions can be made, based on the survival of earthworks and comparison with other towns in the study area. The earthworks of the medieval manor house are well preserved despite some post-medieval disturbance and waterlogged deposits may occur in the moat itself which is wet in winter. Buried deposits of medieval and post-medieval date in the rest of Pembridge may survive better than in other towns in the study area because of the lack of redevelopment in the 18th and 19th centuries. The large number of standing medieval and early post-medieval buildings suggest that contemporary buried remains associated with them may be relatively undisturbed. Such deposits are likely to be located beneath relatively shallow modern deposits and would be easily damaged by any future development or landscaping.

Fieldwork was undertaken by the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey in November 1994. The extent of 18th and 19th century cellarge was mapped, together with the extent of 20th century development (new buildings and major landscaping work). This showed that there was little observable cellarge along the main streets but moderate modern redevelopment within the historic core.

7.5 Potential for artefactual studies J D Hurst

No archaeological excavation has been undertaken in Pembridge, and so the extent of surviving artefactual evidence in buried deposits cannot yet be assessed. There is, however, evidence that localised waterlogging may be present in the vicinity of a moated site (HWCN 358), and so artefactual evidence may be exceptionally well preserved here.

Period discussion. As a result of lack of fieldwork the extent and character of the medieval town, as well as the date of the earliest settlement here, is largely unknown.

7.6 Potential for environmental remains E A Pearson

As there has been a lack of archaeological investigation in the town, no biological remains have been recovered or observed and there is therefore little indication of the full potential for environmental archaeological research. The soils are well drained, and survival of organic material by waterlogging is unlikely in most areas, except perhaps in deep features such as pits or the moat surrounding the manor house which is normally wet in winter. This material may provide information relating to the surrounding natural environment and any dumped occupational rubbish present.

The earthworks of the manor house may overly buried soils from which information may be gained on the previous use of the land (eg whether the land was under cultivation or pasture) using soil micromorphology and pollen analysis. In some cases there may be little other archaeological evidence for the previous use of the area. Other environmental information relating to the occupation of the town may be recovered from areas identified as tenement plots.

No environmental archaeological studies have been undertaken in Pembridge, and any environmental material would be of interest. This could provide information on diet, living conditions and agricultural or industrial economy. Future excavation should include a policy of sampling and wet-sieving deposits in order to recover plant, insect, molluscs and small animal remains in conjunction with hand-collection of larger items. Where appropriate, specialist sampling for soil and pollen analysis may be required.

7.7 Potential for the study of standing buildings R Morriss

The collection of historic buildings in Pembridge is important enough to warrant a major intensive architectural and archaeological survey programme. Such a programme may, especially with the aid of dendro-chronology, be able to refine the present broad date ranges of the medieval buildings. As well as adding to the general knowledge of local architecture, it could also be important in trying to indicate more precisely when the town began to decline, and why. For example if the present "14th to 15th century" dates were refined to the mid-14th, it may suggest that the Black Death was a major factor. Conversely, if the dates are later, the importance of the Black Death needs to be put into context.

7.7 Summary of research potential

The historic core of Pembridge contains buried archaeological deposits, and these are judged to have high potential. In addition there is moderate potential for the recovery of artefact and ecofact assemblages. The historic buildings constitute a complementary body of evidence, and the late medieval buildings in particular are judged to have high potential for detailed study and recording. The surviving documentary sources are not extensive and consequently the potential for further study is limited.

8 Management framework

8.1 Urban archaeological area

The mapped extent of the medieval and post-medieval urban forms defined above indicated the extent of the urban area (Pembridge Urban Archaeological Area).

8.2 Existing protection measures

The archaeological urban area of Pembridge has been defined above. The different parts of the urban area are afforded different measures of protection through legislation and the planning process. Directly relevant measures are outlined below.

Scheduled ancient monument. There are two Scheduled Ancient Monuments in Pembridge, the Court House Moat (Here and Worc no 134) and the Market Hall (Here and Worc no 7). It is possible that following the current Monument Protection programme English Heritage may modify the scheduled area or add other monuments in Pembridge to the schedule.

Listed buildings. There are a total of 40 buildings listed as of historical or architectural importance within the urban area. Buildings of special architectural or historic interest should receive very special attention. Such buildings are limited in their number and there is a need to protect and preserve them. The presumption when considering applications to demolish or alter is in favour of preservation. This presumption is also likely to preserve archaeological remains beneath and immediately around such buildings from development. It is important that the architectural and archaeological interests are considered together.

The alteration of listed buildings requires the greatest skill and care to avoid

damage to historic structures. Specialist architectural advice is given by the County Conservation Architect or through the District's own conservation officer where that District Council has their own specialist staff.

Conservation Area. A Conservation Area has been defined which entirely encompasses the archaeological area (Leominster District Local Plan deposit draft (1996)).

8.3 Management approach

The archaeological urban area of Pembridge contains earthworks and buried remains relating to medieval and post-medieval occupation, associated with contemporary buildings. The buried remains may vary in complexity and depth, will contain significant archaeological information. It is desirable that any proposed development within the urban area that has a potential impact on earthworks or buried remains should be assessed by the appropriate archaeological body as early as possible in the planning process.

The course of action recommended will depend upon the nature of the development and current planning legislation and frameworks. The archaeological response will be framed using both the archaeological information summarised in this document and any subsequent information recorded on the Sites and Monuments Record, supplemented by other sources as and when available.

9 Principal groups of primary sources compiled by P A Stamper

(HRO: Hereford Record Office)

HRO AM 35	Court book 1771-1832 for manor of Pembridge Foreign
HRO AA 4	Parish records. Registers from 1564
HRO 3/50-1	Glebe terriers, nd and 1636
HRO passim	Several collections include post-medieval deeds and related documents. There are no large groups, however.
HRO HD OS 237	Tithe map (1842) and apportionment (1843)

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11 Mapping

The illustrations for this report comprise CAD plots of the urban components for each period and a location plot of archaeological remains combined with OS digital map data (1995) at 1:5000. These plots are current at the date of the completion of this report (March 1995). After this date new information will be held by the Hereford and Worcester County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

- * Historic buildings (listed and other recorded buildings) and urban area
- * Archaeological remains and urban area
- * Medieval urban form and components
- * Post-medieval urban form and components
- * Urban area and scheduled ancient monuments