The Archaeology of Wiltshire's Towns An Extensive Urban Survey

WESTBURY

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August 2004

The Archaeology and History of Westbury

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Towns are an important component of the historic environment which have developed over many hundreds of years and are under constant development pressures. The archaeological resource within our historic towns is an invaluable and irreplaceable source of data about past societies and the evolution of our culture. Despite these factors the archaeology of many towns, especially the smaller market towns, is poorly understood.
- 1.2. In 1976 the D.O.E. sponsored a study of the archaeology of Wiltshire's historic towns, aiming to assess the relative importance of the towns at different points in time as a basis for future archaeological research. This resulted in the publication of "Wiltshire Towns: the archaeological potential" (Haslam 1976). Since then, the book has been one of the key references for archaeologists monitoring urban development and its impact in the county.
- 1.3. A massive increase in the amount of archaeological and historical data available and changes in legislation such as the introduction of Planning Policy Guidance note No.16 have meant that a reappraisal of the situation is now due. The Extensive Urban Survey of Wiltshire has been commissioned by English Heritage, as part of a National programme, to address the need for a new assessment of urban archaeology in the county. The current structure of the historic county of Wiltshire is two-tier, with the County Council working in conjunction with the four District Councils (Kennet, North Wiltshire, Salisbury and West Wiltshire) and the new unitary authority of Swindon historically part of the county. The survey aims to map the development of all of Wiltshire's and Swindon's historic towns (Fig. 1) and to assess the extent of the surviving archaeology and built heritage. It is also proposed that the threat of development on the historic environment within the county's towns will be examined.
- 1.4. As far as is known the first towns in Wiltshire appeared during the Romano-British period but all the known examples are now greenfield sites, although some may have given rise to nearby settlements. Most modern towns in the county have their roots as Saxon villages or defended settlements such as Cricklade and Wilton. Many of the villages grew into small towns after the Norman invasion, often focussed around a castle or market and in the early thirteenth century 'planted boroughs', in which individual plots of land were sold by the major landowner.
- 1.5. The definition of a town for inclusion in the survey follows the criteria laid out in Heighway (1972), by which the settlement must possess certain facilities such as defences, a mint, a market, a street plan, or a judicial centre, and demonstrate such urban attributes as high population, a diversified economic base or a central or key location. For the purposes of the survey, however, the towns should meet these criteria historically, even if they no longer do so. This allows, for example, the inclusion of the five known Roman towns in the county, and settlements such as the village of Heytesbury, which was developed as a planned town in the 13th century, but which did not succeed as an urban centre.

The full list of 34 towns included in the survey and the criteria for inclusion are included as Appendix 1. Westbury's inclusion in the survey is due to it's mid 13th century market grant (*criteria* iii) and, from an early date, its diversified economic base (*criteria* viii). These two factors indicate the presence of an urban trading centre by the middle of the Medieval period.

- 1.6. The area of study in each town is defined by the size of the town as it stood in 1945, encompassing both the historic core of the town and the older industrial and suburban development. There is an emphasis on the earlier material, and the later Victorian and 20th century development are covered here only very briefly. Although more detailed than Haslam's report, in most cases each study remains no more than a brief summary of the data, and a guide to the location of more detail for other researchers. The extent of the study area for Westbury is depicted in Fig. 2.
- 1.7. The research into each town will be encapsulated into two reports: a summary and assessment of the data gathered and an outline strategy for future management of specified sections of the urban area. This first report is intended to provide a clear and up-to-date synthesis of the available archaeological and historical data for Westbury, with an assessment of the main areas of historic settlement in the town and of the potential and sensitivity of the archaeologically important areas. The assessment reports are compiled from four main data streams: geographical and geological sources for the location and topographical summary; secondary historical sources for the historical outline; recorded archaeological data for the sites and finds information; the archive of the Wiltshire Building Record (WBR) for architectural data. The architectural summary is not subject to the same level of research as the other three data streams, and the information presented in the reports is based upon evidence compiled from the existing WBR archive, updated in places by field visits to note non-listed buildings of historic interest, combined with the Department Of The Environment schedule of listed buildings.
- 1.8. This Assessment was prepared originally in 2001, with amendments from consultations added in 2004. Table1 (archaeological investigations) has been updated, but the results of these more recent events have not been assimilated.

2. LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 2.1. The town of Westbury lies within the district of West Wiltshire, c.5km from the Somerset border, and approximately equidistant between the towns of Trowbridge and Warminster. The town lies on historic north-south and east-west trade routes, now respectively the A350 Chippenham to Poole road and the lowland route along the northern edge of Salisbury Plain.
- 2.2. The geology of the Westbury area is fairly complex, and in broad terms changes as the terrain moves from uplands in the south-east to low-lying ground in the north-west, passing through Lower Chalk, Upper Greensand, Head Deposits, Gault and Kimmeridge Clay (British Geological Survey 1965). The urban study

area lies at approximately 76m AOD and is situated chiefly on the strip of Upper Greensand which runs beneath the great chalk escarpment of Salisbury Plain, and which divides the chalk uplands from the clay country. Numerous springs and wells rise at the foot of the chalk escarpment, the two largest of which are the Wellhead spring to the south-west, whose waters flow to join the Biss Brook – later the River Biss; and to the east an unnamed spring feeds the Bitham Brook, which passes through the town to join the Biss (VCH 8 1965).

3. PAST WORK AND THE NATURE OF THE EVIDENCE

3.1. Historic Sources

- 3.1.1. This is a desk-based study, using material available within the County Council Heritage Services facilities in Trowbridge: the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR); The Wiltshire Reference Library; the Wiltshire & Swindon Record Office; and the Wiltshire Buildings Record. Historical data are generally drawn from secondary sources, normally the Victoria County History and histories of the individual towns, based on recommendations or specific requirements. Data on archaeological investigations and their results are drawn directly from the original reports or publications wherever these are available, but for some poorly recorded finds we have had to rely on passing references or the existing entries in the county SMR.
- 3.1.2. The use of primary sources in the Record Office is restricted to maps and sometimes other pictorial material, which are consulted to accurately locate individual sites or buildings and to trace the growth of the settlement.

3.2. Archaeological Work In The Town

3.2.1. This section outlines the known archaeological investigations that have taken place in Westbury. The list is compiled from information in the County Sites and Monuments Record, Excavations Register, and the fieldwork reports kept in the County Archaeology Section in Trowbridge. Others have been added as a result of incidental mention in one of the above sources, and where there is enough information to get at least a general idea of the location of the site. The numbers refer to the map included in this report (Fig. 3).

Event	Year	Site Name/Location	Event Type	Excavator	Reference
001	1990	Angel Mill	Evaluation	C.A. Dyer	Thamesdown Archaeological Unit 1991
002	1992	Bitham Park	Chance Find	AC Archaeology	AC Archaeology 1992
003	1993	42 Edward Street	Evaluation	Wessex Archaeology	Wessex Archaeology 1993
004	1993	Bitham Park	Evaluation	Wessex Archaeology	Wessex Archaeology 1993
005	1993	Bitham Park	Excavation	Wessex Archaeology	Wessex Archaeology 1993
006	1996	42 Edward Street	Watching Brief	Wessex Archaeology	Wessex

007	2000	Edward Street	Evaluation	AC Archaeology	Archaeology 1996 AC Archaeology 2000
*008	2002	Bitham Mill	Watching Brief	Wessex Archaeology	Wessex Archaeology 2002
*009	2002	Bitham Mill	Recording	Bath Archaeological Trust	Bath Archaeological Trust 2002
*010	2002	Kendrick's Garage	Evaluation	Wessex Archaeology	Wessex Archaeology 2002
*011	2003	50 Edward Street	Evaluation	Thames Valley Archaeological Services	TVAS 2003
*012	2004	4-6 Church Street	Evaluation	Thames Valley Archaeological Services	TVAS 2004

Table 1: Archaeological Investigations in Westbury. Reports marked thus * have been received since this Assessment was compiled and have not been assimilated. Examination of these reports indicates little of new significance.

4. <u>HISTORICAL OUTLINE</u>

- 4.1. This report is not intended to provide a major historical review of the history of Westbury and the material included here relates mainly to events which might have had some impact on the archaeology of the town, or its survival. The chief source of historical information for Westbury is Volume 8 of the Victoria County History (1965), upon which, unless otherwise stated, this Historical Outline is based.
- 4.2. Westbury is first referred to in the Domesday Survey, which records the placename variously as 'Westberie' and 'Wesberie', from 'west-burgh' (Haslam 1976). The 'burgh' element commonly indicates the former presence of a Saxon fortified settlement, although the exact meaning of the term in this case is uncertain.
- 4.3. Domesday lists a large royal manor, which under Norman rule was progressively fragmented by a series of land grants away from the crown estate, a process evidently ongoing by Domesday, which lists a smaller estate (later to become Dilton manor) within the royal manor, held by William I's cook William Scudet doubtless a grant of favour. A church is also listed, although no details are given.
- 4.4. Westbury had no burgesses in 1086, and was therefore not of town status, but it was the centre of a Hundred, so of at least nominal administrative importance, and a sizeable settlement is attested by the listing in Domesday of six mills, swineherds, beekeepers and, unusually, potters, although these may not necessarily have been working in the settlement itself.
- 4.5. There is little information for the town in the Medieval period. The diminished royal estate was granted away from the crown in 1173 to the Pavely family, and in 1252 a weekly market and fair was granted to Walter Pavely. Further market and fair grants followed in 1291, 1460 and 1515. When Leland visited Westbury

- in c.1540 he described the market as a small one, although in 1673 it was said to be 'very considerable for corn'. The market appears to have declined in the later 18th century, and by 1835 trade was said to have passed to Warminster. By 1876 the market at Westbury was extinct.
- 4.6. At the time of Domesday there were six mills listed within the manor, although some of these would have lain outside the study area. In 1323 there are two mills on the capital manor at Westbury their locations are not certain. The first direct mention of a mill within the study area is that of Bitham Mill from 1570, described as a large fulling mill. A corn mill in the town was conveyed in 1428, but its location is not known. The site of Angel Mill, at the junction of Church and Maristow Streets is first mentioned in 1784.
- 4.7. Westbury, in common with other towns of north and west Wiltshire, emerged as a centre of the cloth industry towards the end of the 15th century. Indeed, as early as 1433 there is a record of a Westbury clothier transacting business with a merchant in the east coast port of Lynn, and later that century prosperous 'clothmen' are recorded in the town. By the middle of the 16th century Leland could write that 'the towne stondithe moste by clothiers'. However, by the early 17th century a depression was apparent within the industry, which was accentuated in Westbury by a plague in 1603-4. The town was still impoverished in 1616 when a major fire destroyed many buildings, although the period after the Civil War saw expansion within the medley cloth industry, bringing a new phase of prosperity. There is no evidence of guild organisation amongst the Westbury cloth-workers, although a guildhall is mentioned in documents of 1599 and 1610.
- 4.8. By the late 18th century there were fifteen clothiers in Westbury, creating an annual return of over £100000. The increasing introduction in the late 18th and early 19th centuries of mechanised production techniques created widespread poverty amongst the mass of manual workers, and led to civil unrest and emigration. Cobbett, visiting the town in 1826, described it as 'a nasty, odious, rotten borough, a really rotten place', with its cloth mills 'ready to tumble down, as well as many of the houses'. Just before the catastrophic slump in the cloth industry, in 1838, there were eight mills in the town. All were closed in the sharp downturn, and although the industry's fortunes fluctuated thereafter, by the late 19th century there only two mills left in the town Angel and Bitham Mills.
- 4.9. The decline of the cloth industry occurred at a time when other industries were ascending. The arrival of the railway in 1841 brought vastly improved communications, enabling the rise of a wider trading sphere. It was also responsible for the discovery of iron ore in the geological strata beneath The Ham, which was extensively mined for smelting at the adjacent Westbury Iron Foundry, located just to the north of the study area. The foundry and mine closed in 1920. Their legacy today are the lakes and ponds created when the open-cast pits flooded. Other industries of the period included gloving and tanning, indigo dye manufacture, mineral water bottling, malting (described as a

considerable industry by Hoare in 1825), a brick & tile works, and umbrella manufacture.

5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SUMMARY

5.1. Introduction

5.1.1. The following is a resume of the archaeological record of the town, drawn from the county SMR and the various excavation reports. Data on surviving buildings come from the Wiltshire Buildings Record unless otherwise stated. The bold print numbers in this section refer to entries in the Urban Survey database, and appear on the sites and findspots location maps in Figs. 4 - 6, which were created from the database and the SMR.

5.2. Prehistory (Fig. 4)

5.2.1. Westbury lies within an area rich in Prehistoric archaeological sites, and settlement evidence of Iron Age date has been excavated just beyond the south-east of the town at Wellhead, although no in situ remains of the period have yet been found within the study area. There are a small number of chance finds of worked flint (WE001), (WE002), and (WE003), and some residual material within later contexts from an archaeological excavation at Bitham Park (WE009) (Wessex Archaeology 1993). Other chance finds of the period include sherds of Iron Age pottery from near Pound Farm (WE004), and a Celt-Iberian coin of the 1st century BC near the site of the former ironworks (WE005).

5.3. Roman (Fig. 4)

- 5.3.1. There is extensive Romano-British settlement evidence just beyond the northern and southern boundaries of the study area at, respectively, The Ham and Wellhead. The site at The Ham was completely destroyed by open-cast mining in the 19th century, the southernmost extent of which grazes the edge of the study area. Although not strictly within the scope of this survey, the site at The Ham may be of relevance to the origins of Saxon Westbury. The finds recovered in the 19th century indicate extensive occupation throughout the Romano-British period, and it is possible that the settlement itself was located to exploit the mineral resources, although any evidence for this will have been destroyed during the modern operations.
- 5.3.2. There are two recorded sites in the study area. At Bitham Park (WE007) (AC Archaeology 1992) two inhumations, one within a coffin aligned east-west, may represent a later (Christian) graveyard in the vicinity, although further investigations did not reveal more burials. A chance find of coarseware pottery was made in a garden in Newtown (WE006).

5.4. Saxon (Fig. 5)

- 5.4.1. Although a Saxon settlement is known at Westbury there is very little material evidence. Two sites can be identified, one from documentary records, and the other from archaeological work. The presence of a Saxon church (WE010), probably on the site of the present Medieval All Saints Church, is attested by the listing of a church at Domesday. We know that a large manor existed prior to the Conquest, and it would be usual for this to be accompanied by a church. Unfortunately, large-scale repairs to the foundations in 1969 have probably removed much of any evidence for an early church which may have survived on the site. Excavations at the Angel Mill site in Edward Street (WE011) (Thamesdown Archaeological Unit 1991) revealed evidence for stream modifications consistent with the management of a mill leat, the earliest phases of which may date to the 10th century.
- 5.4.2. A relatively large assemblage of Saxon grass-tempered pottery was collected during excavations at Wellhead, just to the south of the study area. Although it is not expected that settlement was contiguous between that location and the historic core of Westbury, it is possible that the Wellhead settlement activity may extend into the southern periphery of the study area.

5.5. Medieval (Fig. 5)

- 5.5.1. The documentary evidence for Medieval Westbury identifies a number of sites. The church of All Saints (WE012) is listed in Domesday, although the present building is of 14th and 15th century date. A potential site for the capital manor is a site on the junction of Market Place and Maristow Street (WE013) where a Georgian building called Manor House may indicate the site of an earlier building. To the south of All Saints Church, at the north end of Church Street is the probable site of Rectory Manor (WE014), which in the 12th century was passed to Salisbury Cathedral and which was occupied by the precentor of that institution. The present building on the site (The Chantry) incorporates 14th century architectural elements. Adjacent to The Chantry is the former site of the farmhouse and farm of Rectory Manor (WE015), also known as Church/Parsonage Farm . The farm can be traced to the 12th century, and until the late 19th century was an extensive holding which occupied much of the area to the south-east of All Saints church and the Market Place. The present house on the site dated 1732 replaces a much earlier building.
- 5.5.2. The Market Place **(WE016)** dates from the mid 13th century and the first market grant, although there is no mention in historic documents of the Medieval streets adjoining it (although see par. 7.3, below, for a conjectural reconstruction of the Medieval topography).
- 5.5.3. Three mills of the period can be identified within the study area. The later phases investigated during excavations at Angel Mill, Edward Street (WE008) (Thamesdown Archaeological Unit 1991) comprised 12th to 14th century watercourse revetments, probably for a mill stream. Angel Mill itself is not mentioned until the 18th century. Bitham Mill (WE017) is sited on one of the

major spring sites, which has probably been utilised for milling since early in the town's history. However the first mention of a mill on the site is a conveyance of 1570, which relates to an established, probably Medieval, building. A recent architectural survey (Lawson Price Environmental 1996) of the derelict cloth mill on the site recorded surviving masonry elements of a pre-industrial building incorporated within the basement of an 1820s factory. A corn mill on the Bitham Brook, to the east of Fore Street (WE018) may be the one for which a conveyance of 1428 survives. This site was destroyed in the latter half of the 20th century.

5.5.4. Medieval soil horizons have been recorded at 42 Edward Street (WE020) (Wessex Archaeology 1993), where a 12th/13th century soil was cut by a 13th/14th century ditch; and at the Old Clinic site, also in Edward Street (WE022) (AC Archaeology 2000), where 12th to 14th century artefacts were recovered from a probable Medieval horizon overlying the natural Greensand. On the northern edge of the study area, at Bitham Park (WE019) (Wessex Archaeology 1993), the remains of a Medieval ridge and furrow field system were discovered.

5.6. Post Medieval (Fig. 6)

- 5.6.1. The excavations at Bitham Park also revealed a group of postholes, gullies and a small pit of Post-medieval date (WE021). The other site of this period is in Victoria Gardens (WE023), which was the site of the former Town Mill, in existence from at least the 16th century, and which burnt down in 1861. Victoria Gardens are formed from the backfilled mill pond, while the mill buildings stood in what is now the garden of No. 2 Alfred Street.
- 5.6.2. On the western side of the study area is Leighton Park (**WE034**), a country estate dating to Tudor times, although the present mansion house was built c.1800. The park extends beyond the study area and is now, with the house, used as a military base.

5.7. Industrial/Recent (Fig. 6)

- 5.7.1. Westbury flourished as a result of the Industrial Revolution, which substantially altered the topography of the town, and whose legacy is Westbury's continuing success as an industrial centre, although most of the modern industrial activity is now located outside the study area. There are a number of historic industrial sites remaining.
- 5.7.2. Angel Mill in Edward Street **(WE024)** was one of the two large cloth mills in Westbury. Established in 1806 it expanded substantially throughout the first half of the 19th century, and was one of the last cloth mills to close in the 1960s. Bitham Mill **(WE028)** was the other large factory, established on an earlier mill site in 1803. It also expanded in the 19th century and its closure in the 1970s marked the end of the Westbury cloth industry. Several smaller cloth mills and workshops were active in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The post office

in Edward Street (**WE025**) was a clothiers house in the 1830s, with a now demolished three-storey workshop attached. The 1960s development of the High Street involved the demolition of a large clothiers house, 'Fontaineville', itself built on the site of a cloth factory (**WE026**) active in the late 18th/early 19th centuries. Beyond the High Street where Edward Street meets Church Lane is the former Home Mill (now a restaurant) adjoining Westbury House (**WE027**), while in nearby Church Street a group of 18th century cloth workshops survive to the rear of Ivy House (**WE029**). In Alfred Street another group of 18th century workshops survive to the rear of 'Ferndale' (**WE030**) – now the conservative club. Some distance to the south-west of this concentration of activity, within Eden Vale, was the large public dye-house in Indigo Lane (**WE031**), sadly demolished in the 1970s.

- 5.7.3. Eden Vale was the location of the Westbury Union Workhouse **(WE032)**, established in the early 19th century, and which replaced an earlier, 18th century, institution on the same site. To the north of the workhouse a large brick and tile works **(WE035)**, was active for much of the 19th century.
- 5.7.4. The road from the town centre to The Ham was renamed Station Road following the construction of the railway in 1841 (WE039), which lies largely beyond the northern edge of the study area. A gloving industry arose in Westbury in the early 19th century, largely conducted within former cloth factories and workshops. However, a purpose built factory was opened in Station Road in 1908 (WE033). This closed in 1960 and has since been converted into flats.
- 5.7.5. Westbury had a thriving malt trade, which burgeoned in the 16th century and was active until the 20th century. The known sites all date to the latter part of this period. In Warminster Road, to the rear of The Oak public house (**WE036**), are buildings relating to a maltings active in the mid to late 19th century. Also in Warminster Road, towards its north end, is the former site (**WE037**) of a brewery active in the late 19th century, but which closed in the 1920s. The building was demolished in the 1960s. Another brewery was located in West End (**WE038**), where the building survives to the rear of houses no.s 28 & 30, themselves a former public house. Near the junction of West End and Edward Street is the site of a 19th century mineral water bottling factory (**WE041**) which was demolished in the late 20th century.
- 5.7.6. At the north end of Fore Street is the site of the former gasworks **(WE042)**, established in the first half of the 19th century, but now completely destroyed.

5.8. Built Heritage

5.8.1. This section of the report is intended to provide an introduction to the surviving built heritage of Westbury, and as such is not designed to be a comprehensive account of the town's notable structures, but is a selection of the salient architectural features and buildings within the Study Area, including, if present,

- significant unlisted structures. This data has been compiled by Wiltshire Buildings Record.
- 5.8.2. Detailed lists of historic buildings and architectural detail are included as Appendices 3, 4 & 5. Although individual Grade II listed buildings may be (where relevant) discussed in this section, they are not included as a comprehensive list in the Appendices, due to the very large quantities of additional data this would involve. Researchers seeking information on Grade II structures are directed to the appropriate Department of Environment or Department of National Heritage schedule lists.
- 5.8.3. Though Westbury is an ancient settlement, the few Medieval timber buildings identified are not thought to date further back than the 15th century. Like Warminster, Westbury emerged from obscurity towards the end of the Medieval period to take its place as a substantial centre for the cloth industry, resulting in a number of good stone clothiers' houses, with at least one timber-framed one at an early date. The predominant material used from the 18th century onwards was brick with or without stone dressings. Many of the 19th century brick artisan houses are distinctive for their typical plat bands.
- 5.8.4. The town went into decline during the early 19th century due to mechanisation and the shift of the hand-loom weaving industry to Dilton Marsh. There was a revival of the industry later in the century, in which the Laverton family played a main part. Their legacy remains in the prominent buildings and almshouses of that time.
- 5.8.5. **Fifteenth Century.** Peacehouse, No.s 6 & 8 Bratton Road (grade II) is a 15th and 16th century altered timber framed house on a rubblestone plinth. The older origins of the house are suggested by an internal wall said to be 8' thick and the now roofed over hip visible from the roofspace of no.6.
- 5.8.6. No.s 14 & 15 Doggetts Lane (grade II) are also said to be of 15th century origin, though no obvious features are discernable; it has been suggested that the timber framing has been encased in brick. More often fragments are retained in an otherwise later house; no. 48 Edward Street has been refaced in the late 19th century but has a windbraced roof and the remains of a Medieval or early Tudor timber framed hall.
- 5.8.7. No.s 14 & 16 Warminster Road are said to be (DoE 1978) largely 17th century built on a 15th century timber-framed core. No.s 8, 10 & 10a Alfred Street are a late 16th or early 17th century conversion of a single late 15th century hall house, with surviving original features within the roof.
- 5.8.8. The large cruciform parish Church of All Saints, Churchyard (grade B) probably dates from 1437, from the dedication of the north aisle chantry chapel reusing some earlier masonry in parts. It was renewed and restored in 1847 and was stabilised later in the 20th century. The church is set in an enclosed yard and except for the tower is hidden from the surrounding streets.

- 5.8.9. **Eighteenth Century.** Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (grade II*) is a good but altered brick house of the early 18th century retaining good contemporary features. It has four Palladian (Venetian) windows and interior features include an original stair with moulded handrail. Likewise, Bank House, Market Place (grade II*) formerly known as Marlborough House is a good example of the local style using brick with stone dressings and a tile roof. Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (grade II*) is very similar to Byne House and The Chantry, Warminster, and presumably by the same architect (thought to have been surveyor to the Longleat Estate). Dated 1763, it is also a fine example, as Bank House, of a building in the local style of brick and stone dressing.
- 5.8.10. Bitham Mill, Alfred Street (grade II) is an excellent group of industrial buildings dating possibly from the later 18th century to 1868.
- 5.8.11. A good many buildings date from this time, including earlier houses, which have been remodelled such as Edgar House, 2 Church Street and possibly 6 & 6A Church Street. No.s 1 & 3, and 5 Maristow Street date from the late 17th century or early 18th century and was once the residence of the Lopes family (lords of the manor between 1810 and 1904). The building has since been divided into three and the ground floors used as shops. Also thought to have been altered at this time is Verger's Cottage in the churchyard.
- 5.8.12. **Nineteenth Century.** Houses remodelled at this time include 35 Church Street (grade II), formerly the premises of Pinniger, Finch and Company; To the rear is a three-gabled section possibly once part of a house used by the precentors of Salisbury who held the rectory. Inside is a 2-bay arch braced collar-beam roofed room called 'The Chapel'.
- 5.8.13. The Angel Mill, Edward Street is probably the earliest Wiltshire factory built to be driven by a steam engine in 1806. The projecting wing to the north was built in 1856.
- 5.8.14. The Town Hall, Market Place (grade II*) was built by Sir Massey Lopes, Baronet in 1815. It is a distinctive ashlar colonnaded building with arched upper windows. It was restored in 1972-3 when modern shops were inserted behind the columns.
- 5.8.15. On high ground looking north towards Trowbridge is Prospect Square on the Bratton Road (grade II). It was designed 1869-1870 by WJ Stent of Warminster for William Henry Laverton. Each of the three sides adopts a different vernacular style executed in a mixture of brick and snecked rubble. At the top of the square is a linking block of seven almshouses to the reflected sides.
- 5.8.16. The Phipps Mausoleum in Westbury Cemetery (grade II*) is the largest and most impressive of the structures in the cemetery, dating from c.1871, when John Lewis Phipps was buried there. It is ashlar and in the form of a Gothic-inspired chapel.

5.8.17. The Laverton Institute in Bratton Road dates from 1873, designed by W.J. Stent. It was praised by Pevsner as a fine example of Venetian Gothic.

6. PLAN FORM ANALYSIS

6.1. Introduction

- 6.1.1. The town has been divided into components, each representing blocks of activity, and sub-divided by period. Westbury, in common with all existing Wiltshire towns, has no foundation in the prehistoric or Romano-British periods, although unrelated archaeological remains belonging to both periods are present within and nearby to the study area. Historical and documentary archives have clearly identified the presence of a settlement from at least the 11th century, although the sparse archaeological evidence and lack of detailed historical records for the Saxon period has meant that a conjectural reconstruction has been necessary. Otherwise, the town has been divided into different plan components (settlement areas, church, market place, etc.) for each relevant period, and these are illustrated in the stated figures.
- 6.1.2. Defining the extent of the components of Westbury presents a number of difficulties. Table1 above records twelve archaeological events carried out between 1990 and 2004, comprising evaluation trenching and watching briefs relating to development proposals. Little of significance has resulted from this work. There is little recorded by passing antiquaries who were prone to note historic features in towns, and nothing helpful in the way of early maps. The Andrews & Dury Map of Wiltshire (1773) together with the early editions issued by the Ordnance Survey indicate a small urban core, mostly to the north of the church, and 'ribbon development along the principal roads. In view of the wealth and prosperity indicated by the development of the cloth industry, the fact that Westbury returned two representatives to Parliament from the 15th century until 1832, and the clustering of burgages in 1835 in three separate locations in the town (Crittall 1965, 139) all suggest that the town has lost much of its original substance. The Medieval Plan Form set out below is thus based largely on a backwards extrapolation from trends in the mapped and surviving layout of the town
- 6.1.3. The author is indebted to local historian Francis Morland for his views on this matter, derived from much research on the development of Westbury.

Table 2: Plan form components

COMPONENT	PERIOD OF ORIGIN	COMPONENT TYPE	FIGURE No.
COM 1	Saxon	Church	7
COM 2	Saxon	Possible Royal Manor Site	7
COM 3	Saxon	Settlement Area	7
COM 4	Saxon	Roads	7
COM5	Saxon	Probable Mill Site - Edward Street	7
COM 6	Saxon	Probable Mill Site - Bitham	7

COM 7	Medieval	Parish Church	8
COM8	Medieval	Rectory Manor & Farm	8
COM9	Medieval	Market Place	8
COM10	Medieval	Core Settlement Area	8
COM11	Medieval	Late Medieval Suburb	8
COM12	Medieval	Mill Site – Edward Street	8
COM13	Medieval	Mill Site - Bitham	8
COM14	Medieval	Mill Site – East of Fore Street	8
COM15	Medieval	Roads	8
COM16	Industrial	Town Mill	9
COM17	Industrial	Bitham Mill	9
COM18	Industrial	Angel Mill	9
COM19	Industrial	Clothier's Workshops – Edward Street	9
COM20	Industrial	Cloth Factory – High Street	9
COM21	Industrial	Home Mill	9
COM22	Industrial	Clothier's Workshops – Church Street	9
COM23	Industrial	Clothier's Workshops – Alfred Street	9
COM24	Industrial	Indigo Mill	9
COM25	Industrial	Union Workhouse	9
COM26	Industrial	Eden Vale Brick & Tile Works	9
COM27	Industrial	Railway	9
COM28	Industrial	Glove Factory – Station Road	9
COM29	Industrial	Maltings – Warminster Road	9
COM30	Industrial	Brewery – Warminster Road	9
COM31	Industrial	Brewery – West End	9
COM32	Industrial	Mineral Water Bottling Plant – Edward Street	9
COM33	Industrial	Gasworks	9
COM34	Industrial	Settlement Area by c.1900	9

6.2. Saxon (Fig. 7)

- 6.2.1. **COM1 Church.** A church is known in Westbury from at least the late Saxon period, although little is known in detail. The site occupied by the present 14th century parish church right in the heart of the historic core of the town is likely to been that of the earlier church. It is often the case that Norman and later Medieval churches were built on top of the site of earlier churches (see Addyman & Morris 1976, Rodwell 1989 for excavated examples). Unfortunately, extensive groundworks within the church, associated with underpinning operations in 1969, may have substantially removed any preexisting archaeological evidence for a Saxon church at Westbury. The area of the Saxon churchyard is unknown, and in the absence of further information the existing churchyard has been highlighted.
- 6.2.2. COM2 Possible Royal Manor Site. Westbury is known to have been the centre of a large royal manor before the Conquest, but the site of the manorial complex is uncertain. A potential site may be represented by a rectangular area immediately north of the churchyard, which fronts onto Maristow Street and Market Place. At the centre of this area is a large building thought to be of later 17th century origin, called The Manor House. It is possible that this building lies upon or near to the site of the capital manor of Westbury, and preserves in name the memory of this site. Examination of the topography of mid to late Saxon manorial settlements (ie. Haslam 1984, Reynolds 1999) suggests that the manor and the church would have lain adjacent to one another, and as the

- twin pillars of Saxon authority would have formed the nucleus of the community.
- 6.2.3. COM3 Settlement Area. The extent of settlement shown in Fig. 6 is conjectural, and is based largely upon the area suggested by Haslam (1976, 65), who postulates a rectangular settlement area whose boundary or stockade has been fossilised in the layout of Maristow Street, Market Street, the north end of Edward Street and West End. It must be stressed that there is no archaeological or documentary evidence for such a site, beyond the 'bury' element of the place-name, which may not necessarily relate to a defended settlement on the present town site.
- 6.2.4. We know that Westbury had no burgesses listed in Domesday, indicating it to be a fairly insignificant settlement and probably only proto-urban in the later Saxon period. The area depicted is focussed upon the church and manor (COM's 1 & 2), and is of sufficient size to accommodate the houses, barns and pennings of a rural Saxon manorial community, possibly comparable to the examples investigated at Faccombe Netherton, Hampshire (Fairbrother 1990), and Goltho, Lincolnshire (Beresford 1987).
- 6.2.5. COM4 Roads. Two routes may tentatively be identified as being in use during the Saxon period. The first is part of an ancient north-south route which diverges from the major road running along the base of the Salisbury Plain escarpment (VCH 8 1965). This passes along what is now Edward Street, moving through the settlement area (COM3) and past the possible manor site (COM2) along Maristow Street, exiting the settlement in the area of the present Market Place and continuing north towards Chippenham. The second route is generally aligned north-west/south-east, and is a continuation of a well-established track descending from Salisbury Plain, which bisects the base-of-escarpment road and proceeds along what is now Alfred Street, to join the north-south route in the Market Place area.
- 6.2.6. **COM5 Probable Mill Site, Edward Street.** Archaeological evidence (see para. 5.4.1, above) has determined the presence of a revetted stream on the later Angel Mill site, the earliest phase of which is of 10th century date, suggesting that a water-powered mill lay in the vicinity. The area highlighted in Fig. 7 is conjectural and is designed to encompass the full extent of any possible site. However, the recent topography of the area may mitigate against the preservation of early archaeological remains, lying within a built-up area which has been subject to past, large-scale industrial activity (the 18th and 19th century Angel Mill factory **(COM17)**) and recent redevelopment.
- 6.2.7. COM6 Probable Mill Site, Bitham. This site lies adjacent to one of the strongest and most reliable springs in the area (VCH 8 1965), and it is likely that the run-off from that spring (the Bitham Brook) would have been utilised as indeed it was in the later Medieval period (COM12) for milling purposes. Unfortunately the large Post-medieval mill pond and 19th century cloth mill

which later occupied the site may well have truncated any early evidence. The site is currently under redevelopment for housing.

6.3. Medieval (Fig. 8)

- 6.3.1. **COM7 Parish Church.** The present church of All Saints dates architecturally to the 14th and 15th centuries, but almost certainly stands on the site of an earlier structure **(COM1)** (VCH 8 1965). The church was renovated in the 19th century, and substantially repaired in 1969 (par. 6.2.1, above).
- 6.3.2. **COM8 Rectory Manor and Farm.** In the later 12th century the Westbury church passed into the hands of Salisbury Cathedral. Included in this conveyance was a messuage, which became Rectory Manor, and a unit of farmland (later known as Church, Parsonage or Town Farm) which extended as far south as Bratton Road (the ancient route along the foot of Salisbury Plain). The farm was encroached upon by the growing town from the 19th century onwards, and is now subsumed within the urban area.
- 6.3.3. **COM9 Market Place.** This probably dates to the mid 12th century and the first market grant (par. 4.5). The fairly restricted size of the modern Market Place is in part due to the encroachment of Post-medieval and later buildings, but also reflects the modest original size of this component, which was described as small by Leland in c.1540 (VCH 8 1965), and which points to the relatively insignificant nature of the town prior to the rise of the woollen industry. Markets ceased to be held in the mid 19th century, and the remaining open space is now given over to car parking. Architecturally, the Market Place is a mixture of 18th and 19th century buildings, unspoilt by modern developments.
- 6.3.4. COM10 Core Settlement Area. The area depicted on Fig. 8 is the conjectured extent of settlement within the historic core of the town by the end of the 15th century. This is a considerably smaller area than that suggested by Haslam (1976, 95), but excludes the late Medieval suburban growth at the junction of Edward Street and Church Street (COM11), and the area known to have been occupied by Rectory Manor Farm (COM8). The 1835 Royal Commission Report on Corporations' Boundaries (Wiltshire & Swindon Record Office) shows that the boundaries of the Medieval borough extended north from the Market Place (COM9) along Fore Street as far as, and including, the mill to the east of Fore Street (COM14) and some of Frogmore Road. This area is likely to have been at least partially built up in the later Medieval period. Additionally, recent archaeological work (par.5.5.4) has demonstrated that areas of the town to the south-west of the parish church and to the west of Edward Street which were previously thought to have been in settlement in the Medieval period were actually either open spaces or under cultivation at this time. The Andrews & Dury 1773 map of the town would appear to support this evidence, showing little growth beyond those areas highlighted in this report as Medieval components. See however the problems of interpretation set out in 6.1.2.

- 6.3.5. **COM11 Late Medieval Suburb.** There is evidence for the growth of a suburb away from the core settlement area in the late Medieval period. This activity was centred on the junction of Church Street and Edward Street, and the evidence comprises both documentary records and standing building surveys. The VCH (Vol 8, 1965) mentions burgages between Church Street and Warminster Road. Although these plots cannot now be traced on the ground, the 1839 tithe map indicates this area to be part of the ancient borough. In the 18th century the town crier was housed in a building on the east side of Edward Street, south of the junction with Church Street (Wood 2000). This property would have been held by the borough, and it most likely occupied one of the town's burgage plots. Peacehouse, situated near the junction of Edward Street and Bratton Road is of 15th century origin (par. 5.8.1.1) as are No.s 12 & 14 Warminster Road, and survey work at No. 50 Edward Street (Wessex Archaeology 1997) has identified the probable former presence of late Medieval buildings to the west of the Church Street/Edward Street junction. In addition, the Angel Hotel on the north-east side of the Church Street/Edward Street junction is known to be of 16th century date (Department of the Environment 1978), and probably lies on the site of an earlier building.
- 6.3.6. **COM12 Mill Site, Edward Street.** Archaeological evidence (para. 5.4.1) indicates that a revetted stream was maintained in this location until the later 14th century, and it is therefore likely that a water-powered mill stood in the vicinity of the present Angel Mill building.
- 6.3.7. **COM13 Mill Site, Bitham.** Architectural and documentary evidence (para. 5.5.3) suggests that a late Medieval mill stood on this site, part of the foundations of which may survive in the basement of a former factory building on the site (Harris 1996).
- 6.3.8. COM14 Mill Site, East of Fore Street. It has been suggested (VCH 8 1965) that this mill, the final phase of which was demolished in the 1950s, is the one described in an early 15th century conveyance. Its geographical location on the Bitham Brook c.0.8km north of Bitham Mill is consistent with the given location of the 15th century mill. The site of this mill now lies beneath a 1980s housing development.
- 6.3.9. COM15 Roads. Although no street names are recorded within the historical sources, a number of roads can be identified as probably in existence during the Medieval period. The principal routes into the town were along Warminster Road and Edward Street to the south-west, Duck Street (now Alfred Street) to the east, Fore Street to the north and Cheap Street (now West End) to the north-east. The internal roads within the town centre all appear to have been well-established by the Post-medieval period.

6.4. Post-medieval

6.4.1. Westbury appears to have grown little in the Post-medieval period, as discussed in para. 6.3.4, above. Although the cloth industry was ascendant, it

was at this time predominantly a cottage-based industry (Rogers 1976), and did suffer significant temporary setbacks, such as plague (1603-4) and economic recession (ie. 1730s). It is likely that any development within the town during this period would have taken place within the pre-existing settlement area, and as such would not have substantially altered the form of the town. A figure has not, therefore, been prepared for this period.

6.5. Industrial (Fig. 9)

- 6.5.1. **COM16 Town Mill.** In existence since at least the 16th century (par. 5.6.1), Town Mill was by the early 19th century a three-storey cloth factory (Wood 2000). This was destroyed by fire in 1861 and never rebuilt. The former mill pond has been converted into a sunken public park Victoria Gardens.
- 6.5.2. COM17 Bitham Mill. A large industrial cloth mill was constructed on the site of the pre-existing mill in c.1803 (Rogers 1976). This quickly expanded in the following three decades to become a substantial complex of factory buildings. Bitham Mill was the last cloth factory to close in Westbury (par. 5.7.2), and the site is currently being redeveloped for housing, although the historic early 19th century ranges have been preserved.
- 6.5.3. **COM18 Angel Mill.** This was the second largest cloth mill in the town, and the second last to close, in the late 1960s. The Industrial period buildings on the site date from the early 19th century (Rogers 1976), and do not relate to any earlier use of the site as a mill. These have now been extended and converted into flats.
- 6.5.4. **COM19 Clothier's Workshops, Edward Street.** The former post office was the home of a clothier in the early 19th century, with a group of large workshops attached (*ibid.*). One of these industrial buildings survives today.
- 6.5.5. **COM20 Cloth Factory, High Street.** A factory stood towards the north-east end of High Street in the late 18th and early 19th centuries (*ibid.*), of which little else is known. The site was redeveloped in the mid 19th century, and again in the 1960s, leaving no trace of the former factory.
- 6.5.6. **COM21 Home Mill.** This is a two-storey cloth factory which still stands today at the junction of Church Lane and Edward Street. Built c.1800, it was active until the early 20th century. Later used for the manufacture of umbrellas, it is now a restaurant (Wood 2000). The factory building standing on the site dates to the later 19th century, the original mill building having been demolished.
- 6.5.7. **COM22 Clothier's Workshops, Church Street**. A group of 18th century clothier's workshops survive to the rear of Ivy House, although little is known of their active history.
- 6.5.8. **COM23 Clothier's Workshops, Alfred Street.** A substantial group of 18th century former cloth workshops survive to the rear of Ferndale (Rogers 1976), now the conservative club (par. 5.8.4.1).

- 6.5.9. **COM24 Indigo Mill.** Of at least 18th century origin were these large public dye-houses in Eden Vale. Dyeing ceased in the early 20th century, after which Indigo Mill was used as a warehouse, finally being demolished in the 1970s (Randall 1988).
- 6.5.10. **COM25 Union Workhouse.** A workhouse existed on this Eden Vale site since the 18th century, although the present building is of early 19th century date (VCH 8 1965). The workhouse closed in the early 20th century.
- 6.5.11. **COM26 Eden Vale Brick & Tile Works.** This was a substantial enterprise sited on Eden Vale Road (VCH 8 1965), although all trace of it has now vanished, and post-war housing developments cover the site.
- 6.5.12. **COM27 Railway.** Although the railway was a significant contributor to the industrial development of Westbury, it lies almost totally outside the study area, and as such is a relatively minor factor in the topography of the historic core area of the town.
- 6.5.13. **COM28 Glove Factory, Station Road.** This was the only purpose-built factory for the town's gloving industry, most of the gloving concerns occupying former cloth mills or malt houses. Built in 1908, the Station Road factory was active until 1960 (Randall 1988). It has now been converted into flats.
- 6.5.14. **COM29 Maltings, Warminster Road.** Although Westbury is known to have had a thriving malt trade since the Post-medieval period, little remains to be seen today. The maltings to the rear of The Oak public house (VCH 8 1965), now converted to flats, are the only significant reminder of that trade.
- 6.5.15. **COM30 Brewery, Warminster Road.** The brewing industry was closely associated with the malt trade, and a large brewery stood towards the northeast end of warminster Road from the later 19th century (*ibid.*). It closed after WWI, and building was demolished in the 1960s.
- 6.5.16. **COM31 Brewery, West End.** This was active in the late 19th century. The small brewery building survives to the rear of No.s 28-30, formerly The Wheatsheaf public house (*ibid.*).
- 6.5.17. **COM32 Mineral Water Bottling Plant.** Active in the later 19th century, this factory had disappeared by the late 20th century (Randall 1988), and housing now covers the site.
- 6.5.18. **COM33 Gasworks.** Westbury's gasworks opened in the early 19th century, and the site expanded as demand grew. The former corn mill on the Bitham Brook **(COM14)** was at this time taken over by the gas company and converted to pump gas (VCH 8 1965).
- 6.5.19. **COM34 Settlement Area by c.1900.** This component, derived from the 1st edition 6" Ordnance Survey Map, has been included to provide a context for the sites of the Industrial period and is not discussed at length here.

7. ASSESSMENT

7.1. Summary of Research

- 7.1.1. The historical record for Westbury is virtually non-existent before Domesday. Thereafter, a gradually increasing body of documentary accounts, court records and conveyances gives some idea of the Medieval town, but the picture is hazy and the suggested areas of Medieval activity represented in the Plan Form maps are largely based upon later information. The rise of the cloth and malt industries can be traced through the Post-medieval period, although detailed information only begins in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The Industrial Revolution spurred expansion in the town, and general information on the various industries is good, although detailed information especially with regard to the smaller cloth concerns and the malt trade is patchy. It seems to be the case that a good deal of local historical research remains to be done in Westbury.
- 7.1.2. The archaeological record is extremely limited, with a small number of investigations in the Edward Street area producing largely negative results (with the exception of the work at Angel Mill) and shedding little light on the Saxon or Medieval town. Paradoxically, archaeological work in the periphery of the study area and beyond has revealed a great deal of information on the Prehistoric, Romano-British and Saxon periods, and has identified settlement sites which may have been precursors of the town of Westbury. Examination of the published historical data has identified several sites of archaeological interest, and also some examples of missed opportunities, for instance where modern development has occurred within an area of potential without an archaeological input.

7.2. The Growth of the Town (Fig. 10)

7.2.1. <u>Saxon</u>

- 7.2.1.1. It is clear that a manorial settlement existed at Westbury from at least late Saxon times. The Domesday Survey also lists a church, but the status of this (ie. minster, manorial chapel, etc) is unknown. It has been demonstrated archaeologically that significant Romano-British settlements existed to both north and south of the present town site (both unfortunately outside the study area), and that at one these Wellhead mid Saxon pottery has been identified (Fowler 1966). However, there is no evidence to suggest that either of these settlements were the direct antecedents of the later Saxon manorial settlement at Westbury, which by 1086 appears to have developed some urban characteristics, but had no burgesses, did not qualify for 'third penny' taxation, and had no known obligation to host the royal retinue on a regular basis all of which were factors in the importance of a 10th/11th century urban community.
- 7.2.1.2. The location of the Saxon settlement conforms to some of the common preferences (Haslam 1984) for such sites: avoiding exposed highland

locations (such as the easily defensible Bratton Camp hillfort, some 3km away) in favour of a sheltered lowland site with easy access to more fertile soil, fresh water and on an established communications route. Defence does not appear (on the present evidence) to have been a primary concern, as there is no sign of earthwork defences, such as at the *burh* towns, and the immediate landscape does not provide the natural defences of marshland (as at Warminster), meandering river channels (as at Wilton) or promontory (as at Chippenham or Malmesbury) exploited by the founders of several other Wiltshire Saxon towns.

7.2.2. <u>Late Medieval</u>

7.2.2.1. Westbury became a town proper in the period after the Conquest, with the granting of market and fair rights. The Market Place was probably laid out in the mid 13th century, and occupation would have been concentrated in the streets leading away from it. This may have been contemporary with the expansion of the churchyard and the development of Rectory Manor Farm. By the end of the period the cloth industry was becoming successful, and settlement is likely to have expanded along Edward Street, Church Street and Alfred Street, forming the urban topography which largely pertained until the advent of the Industrial Revolution.

7.2.3. Post Medieval

7.2.3.1. Little visible growth occurred in this period. The former Town Mill is thought to be of 16th century origin, and a small number of 17th century houses have been identified in the study area (Wiltshire Buildings Record). The main development of this time was the emparkment associated with Leigh House (now Leighton Park), which enclosed a large area on the southern edge of the study area.

7.2.4. Recent

- 7.2.4.1. Westbury seriously started to expand from the early 19th century onwards, with the advent of the Industrial Revolution, first seen in the rise of water-powered cloth factories, and later in large steam-powered factories and the arrival of the railway. With the cloth industry rose other crafts and trades, which in turn grew up to take the place of cloth following the slump of the cloth trade in the 1840s. Attendant upon this industrial growth was the construction of new housing, which was principally concentrated within the historic core area of the town, although ribbon development occurred along Warminster Road, Bratton Road and Fore Street. The period between c.1900 and 1945 saw the development of large-scale social housing at Eden Vale and the construction of houses off Haynes Road and Station Road, along The Butts, Newtown Road and Lower Road.
- 7.2.4.2. The geographical position of the town and its location on a major railway junction have ensured that it has remained an industrial centre, although by the mid 20th century much of this activity was taking place beyond the study area. The first half of the 20th century also saw more housing growth, although nothing on the scale of the post-war housing boom, which has filled almost

every available space in the town and which is now creating pressures on the archaeological resource with urban infill developments and the regeneration of 'brownfield' sites, often close to or within the historic core of the town.

7.3. The Archaeological Potential

- 7.3.1. One of the principal aims of this phase of the Extensive Urban Survey is to examine the archaeological potential of the town to assist with the development of a management strategy in the later phase of the project. Whilst all of the core town may be considered reasonably important archaeologically, it is necessary to try to highlight those areas of greater interest, either because of the importance of the remains or because better than average preservation is expected there.
- 7.3.2. The primary concern of future archaeological work in Westbury must be to define the nature and extent of Saxon and early post-Conquest occupation. which is poorly understood at present. Specific issues include the exact site, status and date of foundation of the early church (an excellent opportunity to investigate beneath the present church was missed – see para. 6.2.1); the site and character of the Saxon manor and whether it lay within an enclosure; the exact area of domestic settlement, of which there is no archaeological evidence at present, and whether any form of defences existed. Work in Edward Street has shown the presence of a managed stream since at least the 10th century – a mill must lie to the south or north of this point. At Bitham a Saxon mill is likely on topographical grounds, although subsequent use of the site by industrial concerns may have destroyed any evidence for this. It is acknowledged that the opportunities for large-scale archaeological investigation within the putative area of Saxon Westbury are limited. However, some small-scale infill development may occur within this part of the town, and even limited evidence would be an improvement on the present situation, and may throw some light on these issues of local importance.
- 7.3.3. By the late Medieval period Westbury had become a thriving town, greatly expanded from the Saxon manorial settlement. Areas for archaeological investigation include the chronology of the disuse or downgrading of the capital manor, the date of development of the Market Place and the chronology of any encroachment. Also worthy of research is the development of the church and churchyard into its present form, and the expansion and density of the settlement area throughout the period. Also of interest is the continued use of the Saxon mill site in Edward Street and the possible Medieval mill site recorded in a factory basement at Bitham Mill (para. 5.5.3). These issues are all of local importance.
- 7.3.4. Westbury became a significant manufacturing centre from the late 18th century onwards. Many of the early industrial sites have been demolished or redeveloped, and may only survive as archaeological remains. Although not of the same significance as Saxon and Medieval sites they may still be worthy of recording, and would enhance the local record. Of greater importance are the

surviving buildings of the Industrial Revolution. In Westbury many of these have been converted into accommodation or other uses, and are not at risk of destruction, but where this is not the case it may be appropriate to review the level of protection accorded to such buildings or sites, or at least to undertake an adequate survey prior to redevelopment.

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9. MAPS

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- **1839.** Tithe Map
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- **1900.** Ordnance Survey, 2nd Edition, 1:2500 Series. **1923.** Ordnance Survey, 3rd Edition, 1:2500 Series.
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10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Towns included in the Extensive Urban Survey of Wiltshire, with reference to urban criteria defined by Heighway (1972).

1 2 3 4	Town Amesbury Bradford-on-Avon Calne Chippenham	Criteria iii, xi iii,vi viii, xi ii, iii, ix i, iii, iv, viii, ix, x, xii i, ii, v, xii
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Cricklade CUNETIO Devizes Downton DUROCORNOVIUM EASTON GREY Great Bedwyn Heytesbury Highworth Hindon Lacock Ludgershall Malmesbury Market Lavington Marlborough Melksham Mere Ramsbury	i, ii, vi i, ii, iii, v ii, iii, v, ix, xi i,, ii vi i, vi iii, iv, v, ix ii, iii, ix ii, iv iii, vi, ix ii, iii, xi v i, iii, iv, xi iiii, ix iii, ix iiii, ix iiii, ix iiii, ix iiii, ix iiiii, ix iiii, iii,
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34	Salisbury Sherston SORVIODUNUM Swindon Tilshead Tisbury Trowbridge Warminster Westbury Wilton Wootton Bassett VERLUCIO	ix, x, xi, ii, iii, ix i, vi iii, viii iii, v i, vi, xi ii, iii, viii ii, iii, iv, vii iii, viii i, iv, v, vi, vii, ii, iii, v, ix, xi ii, vi

Appendix 2: Urban Criteria set out in Heighway (1972)

- Urban Defences: A town, at some time in its history, might have a wall, or bank and ditch with wooden defences.
- ii) Internal Street plan: A town may be planned at any moment in its history; part of its street pattern may display evidence of deliberate planning, such as a grid lay-out. A street plan with provision for a market place will also distinguish a town.
- iii) Market: Perhaps the only indispensable criterion, although a market alone does not distinguish a town. The date of a market charter is usually taken in this study as indicating the date by which the place had become a town.
- iv) *Mint*: The existence of a mint often denotes a town.
- v) Legal existence: This aspect of the town was one of the first to be studied and formed the basis of most of the early studies of towns. It has long been evident that legal history, once a favoured method of study, does not provide the only clue to urban origins, in which economic causes play an important part. However, the date of a borough charter or the dates of taxation at borough rates or of the town's parliamentary franchise may provide a date from which the place may be called a town.
- vi) Position: A town may have a central position in a network of communications and this can be a clue to its importance. This can be a difficult criterion to assess as it involves knowledge of the age of the road system in relation to the town itself, the past navigability of rivers, and other related problems.
- vii) Population: A town will often have or have had a high density and size of population compared with surrounding places.
- viii) Diversified economic base: Archaeological or documentary evidence might suggest a diversified economic base, particularly a concentration of various crafts in one area, and evidence of long distance trade. For earlier periods, only archaeological evidence can determine this; it is a reflection on the state of urban archaeology that so little is known of this aspect.
- ix) House plot and house type: The town-plan may show long, narrow 'burgage-type' plots; surviving houses will be urban rather than rural in form.
- x) Social differentiation: A town should contain a wide range of social classes and especially possess a middle class. House types, demonstrated in the earlier periods by archaeology, again form part of the evidence.
- xi) The presence of a *complex religious organisation* may also denote a town; i.e. the possession of more than one parish church or the existence of other institutions, especially monastic.
- xii) Judicial centre: A town may be a centre for courts of national or local status.

Appendix 3: Listed Buildings by Schedule Category (Refer to DoE schedule for Grade II buildings)

Grade II*

Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C)

Bank House, Market Place (early 18C)

Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763)

The Town Hall, Market Place (early 19C)

Phipps Mausoleum in Westbury Cemetery (c1871)

В

Parish Church of All Saints, Churchyard (prob. c1437, 1847)

Appendix 4: Buildings Survival by Century

15th Century

Peacehouse, 6 & 8 Bratton Road (& 16C)

14 & 15 Doggetts Lane (poss. 15C, 18C)

Parish Church of All Saints, Churchyard (prob. c1437, 1847)

12 & 14 Witches Cauldron 16, Warminster Road (?15C, ?17C)

16th Century

The Angel Inn, 3 Church Steet (& late 18C or early 19C)

8 (Old Alfred House) & 10 Alfred Street (& 17C, 18C/19C)

10A Alfred Street (late 16C/early 17C, 19C)

2 Westbourne Road (late 16C/early 17C)

17th Century

15 Ivy House & 15A, Church Street

48. 50 Edward Street

12-18 West End

16, 18 & 18A Church Street (late 17C/early 18C)

Church View, Churchyard (17C or early 18C)

2-5 (cons) Fatts Passage, 28 & 30, West End (late 17C/early 18C)

18th Century

1-3 (cons) Cannon Green

14, Little Chantry 30 & 32, Stable to s of 15, Church Street

Brookhaven & 1A, Churchyard

2 & 4, 6-12 (evens), 14-18 (even), Fore Street

68, 70, 72, Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road

4, The Lopes Arms Hotel, 22, 23, 24, 25, Market Place

19, 24, 26 West End

Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C)

Edgar House 2, 4, 6 & 6A, Church Street (early)

1 & 3 Maristow Street (early)

Bank House, 20 & 21, Market Place (early)

The Bell Inn, 21 & 23, Warminster Road, Chalford (early)

Brook Farmhouse, Brook Lane (early-mid)

90 Leigh Road (mid-late)

22-26 (evens) Maristow Street (mid-late)

Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763)

14 & 16 Edward Street (c1774)

The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late)

Bitham Mill, Alfred Street (late, early 19C, 1868)

10, 12 Church Street (late)

Westbury House, Edward Street (late)

7 Maristow Street (late)

Albion House, Swansdown House, The Crown Inn, The White Lion Public House, Market Place (late)

79-83 (odds), The Cedars Country Club Hotel 114, Warminster Road (late)

Courtleigh Nursery School, Stable building to n of Vicarage, Alfred Street (late 18C/early 19C)

16-18 (cons) Dogetts Lane; Eden Vale House, Eden Vale Road (late 18C/early 19C) Premises of Holdoway & Sons (former Union Workhouse), Eden Vale Road (late 18C/early 19C)

12 Edward Street (late 18C/early 19C)

9 11 15 & 15A Fore Street (late 18C/early 19C)

27 Leigh Road (late 18C/early 19C)

7, The Ludlow Arms, Market Place (late 18C/early 19C)

73 Warminster Road (late 18C/early 19C)

The Hollies 55, Applegarth 97, The Manse

1 Fatts Passage, 3 & 5, 6 & 8, 13-17 (odd), West End (late 18C/early 19C)

19th Century

Leighton House, Stable block to Leighton House, Gatepiers & side gates to Leighton House, Warminster Road (c1800)

The Angel Mill, Edward Street (1801)

The Little House, Alfred Street (early)

Garden wall to se of Boyer's House, Black Horse Lane (early)

Former stable adjoining 10, 20 & 22, Church Street (early)

23-33 (odds), Church Street (early)

35 Church Street (early, on earlier core)

Verger's Cottage, Churchyard (early, on earlier core)

Church Croft, Churchyard (early)

18, 20, 26 (Westbury Post Office), Edward Street (early)

98 & 100 Leigh Road (early)

The Town Hall, Market Place (early)

Greengates, 9 Redland Lane (early)

24, Furniture Warehouse (Upper Meeting), 75 & 77, 85, Tymhouse 123, 127-137

(odd), Warminster Road (early)

Sandilands Villa 110, 112, Warminster Road (early)

Leighton Villa 2 Wellhead Lane (early)

20 & 22 West End (early)

Frogmore House, Frogmore Road (early-mid)

17 & 19 Maristow Street (early-mid)

The Lodge, 21 Alfred Street (c1840)

Boyer's House, Black Horse Lane (mid)

50 Bratton Road (mid)

4 Edward Street (mid)

Gate piers to churchyard of parish Church of All Saints, Market Place (mid)

Gates to United Reformed Church, Warminster Road (mid)

Garden walls to north-east of Westbury House, Edward Street (mid-late)

Screen wall to Angel Mill opposite nos 2, 4, 6 & 6A, Church Street (1868)

1 & 2, 3-6 (cons), 7-11 (cons), 12-14 (cons), 15 & 16, 17-23 (cons), 24 & 25, 26-28

(cons), 29-33 (cons), 34-37 (cons), 38 & 39, Prospect Square (1869-70)

Oddfellows Hall (Prince Albert Lodge), Bratton Road (c1870's)

Phipps Mausoleum in Westbury Cemetery (c1871)

The Laverton Institute, Bratton Road (1873)

Ludlow Mausoleum in Westbury Cemetery (between 1889-1900)

20th Century

Lopes mausoleum in Westbury Cemetery (c1910)

Appendix 5: Individual Architectural Details

15th Century

Rubble wall: Peacehouse, 6 & 8 Bratton Road (& 16C)

16th Century

Timber framing: 8 (Old Alfred House) & 10 Alfred Street (& 17C, 18C/19C); 48 Edward Street; 12 & 14 Witches Cauldron 16, Warminster Road (?15C, ?17C).

Box framing: 22, Church Street (early) **Rubblestone:** 16, 18 & 18A Church Street

Moulded beams: 8 (Old Alfred House) & 10 Alfred Street (& 17C, 18C/19C); 8 (Old Alfred House) & 10 Alfred Street (& 17C, 18C/19C); Peacehouse, 6 & 8 Bratton

Road (& 16C); 48 Edward Street

Arch braced collar truss: 8 (Old Alfred House) & 10 Alfred Street (& 17C,

18C/19C); 35 Church Street (early, on earlier core)

Windbraces: 8 (Old Alfred House) & 10 Alfred Street (& 17C, 18C/19C); 22, Church

Street (early); (late 16C/early 17C) Crucks: 22, Church Street (early)

17th Century

Brick: 2-5 (cons) Fatts Passage, West End (late 17C/early 18C)

Timber framing: 12-18 West End

Render: Church View, Churchyard (17C or early 18C); 2-5 (cons) Fatts Passage,

West End (late 17C/early 18C)

Bands/string/plinth: Church View, Churchyard (17C or early 18C)

Tile: Church View, Churchyard (17C or early 18C **Coped:** Church View, Churchyard (17C or early 18C)

Hood on brackets: 2-5 (cons) Fatts Passage, West End (late 17C/early 18C)

Planked double skin door: Peacehouse, 6 & 8 Bratton Road (& 16C)

Mullions: Church View, Churchyard (17C or early 18C); 2-5 (cons) Fatts Passage,

West End (late 17C/early 18C); 21 & 23 Warminster Road, Chalford

Casements: Church View, Churchyard (17C or early 18C); 101 Westbury Leigh (late

17C/early 18C); 2-5 (cons) Fatts Passage, West End (late 17C/early 18C)

Chamfered & stopped: 12-18 West End

Knee principals: 15 lvy House & 15A, Church Street (17C) **Windbraces:** 15 lvy House & 15A, Church Street (17C):

18th Century

Brick: 4 Church Street; The Crown Inn, Market Place (late); 73 Warminster Road (late 18C/early 19C); 13-17 (odd), 3 & 5, West End (late 18C/early 19C)

With stone dressings: Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C); The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late); Brookhaven & 1A, Churchyard; 16-18 (cons) Dogetts Lane (late 18C/early 19C); Westbury House, Edward Street (late); 14 & 16 Edward Street (c1774); 9 11 15 & 15A Fore Street (late 18C/early 19C); 70 Leigh Road; Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road; 1 & 3 Maristow Street (early); Bank House, Market Place (early 18C); Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763); The Bell Inn, Warminster Road, Chalford (early)

Rendered: Brook Farmhouse, Brook Lane (early-mid)

Rendered/stucco: The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late); Eden Vale House, Eden Vale Road (late 18C/early 19C)

With plinth/strings/plat band/cornice: Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C); Eden Vale House, Eden Vale Road (late 18C/early 19C); 14 & 16 Edward Street (c1774); 9 11 15 & 15A Fore Street (late 18C/early 19C); 70 Leigh Road; Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road; 1 & 3 Maristow Street (early); Bank House, Market Place (early 18C)

Dentilled brick string: The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late); Brookhaven & 1A, Churchyard; 70 Leigh Road; Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road; 73 Warminster Road (late 18C/early 19C)

Toothed brick eaves: The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late): 73 Warminster Road (late 18C/early 19C)

Pilasters: Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C); Brookhaven & 1A, Churchyard

Parapet: 14 & 16 Edward Street (c1774)

Tile: The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late); 4 Church Street; Brookhaven & 1A, Churchyard; 14 & 16 Edward Street (c1774); 70 Leigh Road; 1 & 3 Maristow Street (early); The Crown Inn, Market Place (late); Bank House, Market Place (early 18C); 13-17 (odd), West End (late 18C/early 19C); 3 & 5 West End (late 18C/early 19C)

Welsh slate: Westbury House, Edward Street (late); Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road

Pantile: 16-18 (cons) Dogetts Lane (late 18C/early 19C); 3 & 5 West End (late 18C/early 19C)

Stone tile: Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C) **With coped verges:** Westbury House, Edward Street (late); 73 Warminster Road (late 18C/early 19C)

Dormers: 14 & 16 Edward Street (c1774)

Gabled: The Crown Inn, Market Place (late); Bank House, Market Place (early 18C) **Brick stack:** Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C); Brook Farmhouse, Brook Lane (early-mid); The Crown Inn, Market Place (late); Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763); 13-17 (odd), West End (late 18C/early 19C)

Arcade: Eden Vale House, Eden Vale Road (late 18C/early 19C)

Porch: 1 & 3 Maristow Street (early)

Columns & entablature: 1 & 3 Maristow Street (early)

With architraves: The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late)

Keystone:

Plain surround: Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road **Beaded:** Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763)

Brick-dressed:

Fan/overlight: 70 Leigh Road; Bank House, Market Place (early 18C)

Hood on brackets: The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late); 16-18 (cons) Dogetts Lane (late 18C/early 19C); 9 11 15 & 15A Fore Street (late 18C/early 19C); Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road; Bank House, Market Place (early 18C); Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763); 13-17 (odd), West End (late 18C/early 19C); 3 & 5 West End (late 18C/early 19C)

Panelled: The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late); Brook Farmhouse, Brook Lane (early-mid); 4 Church Street; 70 Leigh Road; Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road; 1 & 3 Maristow Street (early); Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763); 73 Warminster Road (late 18C/early 19C)

French casement: Eden Vale House, Eden Vale Road (late 18C/early 19C)

Plank: Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road; 3 & 5 West End (late 18C/early 19C)

Window:

Blind: Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road

With architraves: Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C); The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late); 4 Church Street; 14 & 16 Edward Street (c1774); Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road; 1 & 3 Maristow Street (early); 73 Warminster Road (late 18C/early 19C); 13-17 (odd), 3 & 5. West End (late 18C/early 19C)

Round headed: 9 11 15 & 15A Fore Street (late 18C/early 19C); Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road

Beaded stone surrounds: 4 Church Street; Bank House, Market Place (early 18C); Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763)

Segmental arch: 9 11 15 & 15A Fore Street (late 18C/early 19C); 70 Leigh Road; 73 Warminster Road (late 18C/early 19C)

Keystones: Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C)

Moulded stone cills: 70 Leigh Road

Venetian: Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C); 48 Edward Street

Tripartite: Brook Farmhouse, Brook Lane (early-mid); The Crown Inn, Market Place (late); Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763)

Sash: The Horse & Groom Inn & adjoining Cottage, Alfred Street (late); 4 Church Street; Brookhaven & 1A, Churchyard; 16-18 (cons) Dogetts Lane (late 18C/early

19C); Eden Vale House, Eden Vale Road (late 18C/early 19C); Westbury House, Edward Street (late); 14 & 16 Edward Street (c1774); 9 11 15 & 15A Fore Street (late 18C/early 19C); 70 Leigh Road; Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road; 1 & 3 Maristow Street (early); Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763); 13-17 (odd), 3 & 5, West End (late 18C/early 19C)

Casement: Brookhaven & 1A, Churchyard; 16-18 (cons) Dogetts Lane (late 18C/early 19C); Eden Vale House, Eden Vale Road (late 18C/early 19C); Westbury House, Edward Street (late); 9 11 15 & 15A Fore Street (late 18C/early 19C); Dilton Vale Farmhouse, 24 Penknap (1763); The Bell Inn, Warminster Road, Chalford (early); 43 Westbury Leigh (early)

Stairs: Westbury Conservative Club (Ferndale House), Alfred Street (early 18C)

Turned & twisted baluster: Bank House, Market Place (early 18C)

In projection: Cradlebridge House, Leigh Road

19th Century

Ashlar:

With brick sides and rear: 24 Warminster Road (early)

Rubblestone:

With stone dressings: 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square

Brick: 7-11 & 29-33 Prospect Square; 22, Church Street (early); Church Croft; Churchyard (early); 98 & 100 Leigh Road (early); Greengates, 9 Redland Lane (early)

With stone dressings: The Lodge, 21 Alfred Street (c1840); 23-33 (odds) Church Street (early); 18 Edward Street (early); 17 & 19 Maristow Street (early-mid)

Rendered: 20 & 22 West End (early)

Tile hanging: 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square; 7-11 & 29-33 Prospect Square **With plinth/strings/plat band/cornice:** The Lodge, 21 Alfred Street (c1840); 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square; 7-11 & 29-33 Prospect Square; 24 Warminster Road (early); 20 & 22 West End (early)

Pilasters: 23-33 (odds) Church Street (early); 24 Warminster Road (early)

Local Gothick: Church Croft, Churchyard (early)

Porch: 7-11 & 29-33 Prospect Square; Westbury House, Edward Street (late)

Loggia: 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square

With stone coping: 22, Church Street (early); 23-33 (odds) Church Street (early); 17 & 19 Maristow Street (early-mid)

Tile: Church Croft, Churchyard (early); 18 Edward Street (early)

& alternating fishscale bands: 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square; 7-11 & 29-33 Prospect Square

Welsh slate: 22, Church Street (early); 23-33 (odds) Church Street (early); 24 Warminster Road (early)

Pantile: 98 & 100 Leigh Road (early); Greengates, 9 Redland Lane (early)

Bargeboards: 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square

Brick stacks: 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square; 22, Church Street (early); 23-33 (odds) Church Street (early); Church Croft, Churchyard (early); 98 & 100 Leigh Road (early); 20 & 22 West End (early)

Dormers:

Gabled: 7-11 & 29-33 Prospect Square

Blind:

With moulded architraves: 22, Church Street (early)

With arched head: 24 Warminster Road (early)

With cambered head: 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square; 23-33 (odds) Church

Street (early); 98 & 100 Leigh Road (early); 24 Warminster Road (early)

With flat head: 17 & 19 Maristow Street (early-mid)

With stone lintel: 18 Edward Street (early)

Shop window: 18 Edward Street (early); 1 & 3 Maristow Street (early); 17 & 19

Maristow Street (early-mid)

Sash: The Lodge, 21 Alfred Street (c1840); 22, Church Street (early); 23-33 (odds) Church Street (early); Church Croft, Churchyard (early); 18 Edward Street (early); 17

& 19 Maristow Street (early-mid); 24 Warminster Road (early)

Tripartite: Westbury House, Edward Street (late); 18 Edward Street (early);

Greengates, 9 Redland Lane (early); 24 Warminster Road (early)

Mullioned: The Lodge, 21 Alfred Street (c1840)

Casement: 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square; 7-11 & 29-33 Prospect Square; 18

Edward Street (early); 98 & 100 Leigh Road (early)

Bay: 1 & 2 and 38 & 39 Prospect Square **Porch:** The Lodge, 21 Alfred Street (c1840)

Round-arched: 22, Church Street (early); 24 Warminster Road (early)

Segmentally-arched: 98 & 100 Leigh Road (early)

Plain stone surround: The Lodge, 21 Alfred Street (c1840); 23-33 (odds) Church

Street (early)

Architrave surround: 22, Church Street (early)

With piers: 20 & 22 West End (early)

Hood on brackets: 22, Church Street (early); 23-33 (odds) Church Street (early);

Church Croft, Churchyard (early); 18 Edward Street (early)

With fan/overlight: 23-33 (odds) Church Street (early); 18 Edward Street (early); 24

Warminster Road (early)

Panelled door: 22, Church Street (early); 23-33 (odds) Church Street (early); 18 Edward Street (early); 98 & 100 Leigh Road (early); 24 Warminster Road (early); 20

& 22 West End (early)

Notes

Churchyard monuments not included.