

Land Adjacent to The Wantage, 1
Castle Hill, Kenilworth

An Archaeological Evaluation
2005

Project No.1334

**Land Adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth
An Archaeological Evaluation 2005**

By

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Land Adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2005.

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SUMMARY

Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned by Mrs A Farmer and Mr N H Spencer to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth prior to the construction of a residential dwelling. The proposed development area is located in an area considered to be archaeologically sensitive.

No structures were located during the trial trenching and the only man made deposits were of post-medieval date. The nature of a large feature filled with 17th and 18th century pottery was difficult to determine within the evaluation trench, but this may have been a ditch, quarry pit or natural hollow. Five sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from a layer below the topsoil but most of the assemblage from this context was post-medieval in date.

Land adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth.

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2005.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the project

Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned by Mrs A Farmer and Mr N H Spencer to undertake a programme of trial trenching ahead of a residential development at The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth (hereinafter referred to as the site).

This report outlines the results of a field evaluation carried out in August 2005, and has been prepared in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (IFA 1994).

The evaluation conformed to a brief produced by Warwickshire County Council (Appendix 3), and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2005) which was approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to implementation, in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990).

1.2 Location

The site is located at land adjacent to 1 Castle Hill, The Wantage, 1 mile north east of Kenilworth town centre and is centred on NGR 428167, 272411 (Fig. 1).

The present character of the site is a garden with a bank rising to the south that is topped by a holly hedge aligned east west. This gives the impression of a bank and ditch arrangement. The garden also has mature trees to the west and a high wall to the north. The site is located to the north of the former Kenilworth Abbey and fields, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 35115).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, on Castle Hill, Kenilworth (Fig. 2). Kenilworth Castle is located to the west of the site. The proposed property plot lies on the probable site of a section of the precinct boundary wall to Kenilworth Abbey (WMA 3201). The remains of Kenilworth Abbey are located to the east of the site, to the south of the present Church of St Nicholas. Immediately to the south of the site is Abbey Fields.

Kenilworth Abbey began as a Priory of Austin canons, and was founded in 1122 by Godfrey de Clinton about the same time as the castle. It became an Abbey in 1447, and was dissolved in April 1538.

The remains of the Abbey mainly survive as turf-covered foundations, though parts still stand to original height. Substantial proportions remain of the gatehouse (WMA 6007), built of red

sandstone, and of the guest house (WMA 6008). Excavation has revealed part of the ground plan, including the Church and Church Tower (WMA 5384), the chapter house and cloisters (WMA 5385). During the excavation of a cable trench for floodlighting of St. Nicholas's Church (WMA 3219), a sandstone wall was revealed, possibly part of the monastic precinct boundary, constructed around the time that the parish church of St. Nicholas was built. To the west of the site a row of detached cottages are thought to date to the early seventeenth century. When they were renovated in the 1970's a wall was uncovered and dated to the thirteenth century (WMA 3268). This was aligned roughly east west, curved to the south and is thought to represent the north east corner of the Abbey precinct.

Archaeological observation at Abbey Fields play area revealed evidence of red sandstone walls, possibly from a complex associated with the Abbey (WMA 8404). Other parts of the boundary wall have been protected under the 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act as a Scheduled Ancient Monument, reflecting the national importance of the remains. In parts of the site the wall was adapted in the later medieval period to act as part of domestic houses and other buildings, as mentioned above. A number of these structures survive on Castle Hill today (Warwickshire Museum 2005). Earthworks on the site of the proposed dwelling indicated the probable survival of archaeological remains associated with the precinct boundary wall and a possible hollow way immediately to its north (ibid.).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The principle aim of the evaluation was to determine the character, state of preservation and the potential significance of any buried remains.

More specific aims were to:

- Determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving deposits liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- To further understand the earthworks identified within the site, and confirm whether or not they relate to the Abbey.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Fieldwork

The proposed development area covers approximately an area 20m x 15m. One trench was excavated across the site measuring 19m x 1.60m (Fig.3).

The trench was located on a north south alignment through the earthworks in the garden so that a profile of the possible bank and ditch could be obtained.

All topsoil and modern overburden was removed using a mini digger mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under direct archaeological supervision, down to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon or the subsoil. Subsequent cleaning and excavation was by hand.

All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no archaeology was present. Features were planned at a scale of 1:20, and sections were drawn through all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:20. A comprehensive written record was maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* context and feature cards. Written records and scale plans were supplemented by photographs using monochrome and colour print photography.

The environmental sampling policy followed the guidelines contained in the Birmingham Archaeology Guide to On-Site Environmental Sampling. Recovered finds were cleaned, marked and remedial conservation work was undertaken as necessary. Treatment of all finds conformed to guidance contained within 'A strategy for the care and investigation of finds' published by English Heritage.

The full site archive includes all artefactual and/or ecofactual remains recovered from the site. The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990) and Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (Museum and Art Galleries Commission, 1992). Finds and the paper archive will be deposited with Warwickshire museum subject to permission from the landowner.

5 RESULTS (Fig. 4)

5.1 Introduction

Full details of the trench are available in the project archive. In the following sections both feature (cut) and context numbers are highlighted in bold. The trench was dug on a north south alignment across the possible bank and ditch within the proposed development area. The topsoil and subsoil were removed down to the natural at the southern end of the trench and at the northern end of the trench they were machined down to a dark grey layer of silty sand.

5.2 Natural

The natural subsoil, **1002**, was reached at a height of 86.95m AOD at the southern extent of the trench and at 87.40m towards the middle of the trench. This was an orange-red silty sand with bands of gravel throughout. Towards the middle of the trench it became redder with a greater proportion of silt.

5.3 Summary of archaeological features and deposits.

The principle dated features and deposits were as follows:

No archaeological features were found within the southern half of the trench, which was excavated to the level of the natural geology (**1002**). At the southern extent of the trench the natural geology was sealed by light orange brown silty sand subsoil (**1001**) which produced medieval and post-medieval pottery.

Towards the middle of the trench a sondage was excavated through what appeared to be an east-west linear, however this was proven to be a result of changes within the natural drift geology (**1002**).

The northern extent of the trench was machined down to a layer of dark brown mixed silty clay with frequent coal and clay inclusions (86.11m AOD). A hand dug sondage was excavated (Fig 4) into the layer (**1003**) to a depth of 85.72m below the level of the current ground but it was not bottomed. This layer (**1003**) produced pottery dated to the late 17th and early 18th centuries and was overlain by layer of sterile, compact red clay (**1007**) measuring approximately 0.4m in depth, that produced no finds.

In the middle of the trench the natural was sealed by a light orange, silty sand (**1004**) which measured approximately 0.4m in depth. This was sterile and appeared to be redeposited natural. This was sealed by a layer of dark brown mixed silty clay (**1008**) measuring 0.51m in depth.

Layers **1001** and **1004** were cut by a pit, **1005**, which was filled by loose brick and sandstone rubble **1006**, but produced no finds. The pit measured 1.94m wide and 0.64m deep. In view of the fact the pit cut layer **1001** it is likely to be a relatively modern feature.

5.4 Overburden and topsoil

Overlying all the features was a dark brown silty sand topsoil (**1000**), measuring 0.08-0.24m in depth.

6 THE FINDS

6.1 The pottery

Six sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the subsoil (**1001**), all from the body of a single cooking pot. Three sherds of post-medieval pottery were also recovered: one sherd of white glazed ware, one sherd of drain pipe and one sherd of blackware from the subsoil (**1001**).

The majority of the finds came from layer **1003**, and date from the mid-seventeenth century to the eighteenth century. These comprised five sherds of Staffordshire slipware (two rim and three body sherds from three separate vessels), eight sherds of blackware and one base sherd of mottled brown glazed ware.

6.2 Other finds

Also recovered from the subsoil, **1001**, were a piece of slag and a corroded iron object.

From the layer **1003** were five pieces of pipe stem, one decorated, and a pipe bowl. Also recovered were two pieces of bottle glass and a piece of slag.

7 DISCUSSION

The trench was positioned within the area of the proposed development, perpendicular to what appeared to be possible east-west aligned earthworks. It was thought that these earthworks may relate to the former boundary wall of the abbey. A small portion of this wall had been discovered in a service trench near to St. Nicholas, church to the east of the site and it was thought that evidence for this may be present within the site. However, the bank was found to comprise of mostly natural deposits overlain by a mixed subsoil (1001). The subsoil contained occasional sherds of pottery, some dating to the medieval period, but the majority of the sherds from 1001 were late post-medieval. No evidence for any structures was recorded within the evaluation trench, and it seems likely that if the Abbey boundary wall was formerly located within the development area then any trace of its construction has been entirely removed by later activity. The presence of residual medieval sherds in context 1001 is not unusual given the level of medieval activity in the locality. Clearly some element of the bank relates to the contours of the natural geology, while the deposits sealing this comprise possible redeposited natural deposits (1004) on the northern side of the bank, and deposits of fairly recent origin (1001) on the southern side.

The nature of layer 1003 is difficult to determine within the evaluation trench. On the basis of the pottery evidence the layer dates to the mid-seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The layer may fill a natural hollow or quarry pit. It is also possible that layer 1003 is part of the fill of a large linear feature aligned east-west. In either case it seems likely (from the contours of the ground) that this negative feature may extend as far as the northern boundaries of the site.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project was commissioned by Mrs A Farmer. Thanks are due to Mr N.H Spencer and Richard Baily for their assistance throughout the project. Anna Stocks monitored the project on behalf of Warwickshire County Council. Work on site was supervised by Kristina Krawiec with the assistance of Philip Mann. Kristina Krawiec produced the written report, which was illustrated by Nigel Dodds, and edited by Richard Cuttler who also managed the project for Birmingham Archaeology.

9 REFERENCES

Birmingham Archaeology 2005 *Written scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation on Land Adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth. Birmingham Archaeology*

Department of the Environment (DoE) 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning*

Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) 1994 *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations*

Warwickshire County Council 2005 *Brief for Archaeological Field Evaluation on Land Adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth*

APPENDIX 1

**Land adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth
Written Scheme of Investigation for Evaluation Works
Planning Application No.
Location from NGR 428167, 272411
Developer: Mrs A Farmer and Mr H N Spencer
Archaeological Contractor: Birmingham Archaeology**

THE UNIVERSITY
OF BIRMINGHAM



INTRODUCTION

This document outlines a proposed programme of work required to undertake archaeological investigation in advance of a proposed erection of a new detached dwelling adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth. There is potential for archaeological deposits associated with medieval activity to be encountered by the development.

The extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains on the site is, at present, unclear. Warwickshire Museum have advised that the archaeological implications of the proposals cannot be adequately assessed on the basis of the available information.

It has therefore been recommended that an archaeological evaluation should be carried out before any decision on the planning application is taken, and a brief has been issued by Warwickshire Museum for an archaeological field evaluation for the area (shown on the attached plan).

This document was prepared in accordance with government advice contained in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16. Any variation in the scope of work would be agreed in advance with the Planning Archaeologist

BACKGROUND AND WORK TO DATE

The proposals lie in an area of archaeological potential, on Castle Hill, Kenilworth. Kenilworth Castle is located to the west of the site.

The proposed property plot lies on the probable site of a section of the precinct boundary wall to Kenilworth Abbey. Kenilworth Abbey itself is located to the east of the site, behind the present Church of St Nicholas, and to the south is Abbey Fields.

Kenilworth Abbey began as a Priory of Austin canons, and was founded in 1122 by Godfrey de Clinton about the same time as the castle. It became an Abbey in 1447, and was dissolved in April 1538.

The remains of the Abbey mainly survive as turf-covered foundations, though parts still stand to original height. Substantial proportions remain of the gatehouse (PRN 6007), built of red sandstone, and of the guest house (PRN 6008).

Excavation has revealed part of the ground plan, including the Church and Church Tower (PRN 5384), the chapter house and cloisters (PRN 5385).

During the excavation of a cable trench for floodlighting of St. Nicholas's Church, a sandstone wall was revealed, possibly part of the monastic precinct boundary, constructed around the time that the parish church of St. Nicholas was built.

Archaeological observation at Abbey Fields play area revealed evidence of red sandstone walls, possibly from a complex associated with the Abbey.

Other parts of the boundary wall have been protected under the 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act as a Scheduled Ancient Monument, reflecting the national importance of the remains. In parts of the site the wall was adapted in the later medieval period to act as part of domestic houses and other buildings. A number of these structures survive on Castle Hill today (Warwickshire Museum 2005).

Earthworks on the site of the proposed dwelling indicate the probable survival of archaeological remains associated with the precinct boundary wall and a possible hollow way immediately to its north (ibid.).

Information was obtained from the Warwickshire Sites and Monuments Record Online Service at <http://timetrail.warwickshire.gov.uk/>

PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER WORK AND METHODOLOGY

It is proposed that a trench measuring 15m x 1.6m is excavated as shown on the attached plan (Fig. 1).

The location of the trench is designed to provide an adequate evaluation of the area affected by the development in order to obtain information on the presence and preservation of any archaeological deposits within the area before any decision is reached as to whether planning consent should be granted.

The trench may be subject to alteration due to the presence of modern services or safety considerations. Any alteration to this specification will only be made after consultation with the planning archaeologist, Warwickshire Museum.

Methodology

A site inspection will be conducted prior to any excavation in order to assess risk and access. A visual inspection of the site will be conducted during the evaluation, which will include examination of any available exposures (e.g. flower beds).

Excavation of topsoil/subsoil/overburden will be carried out using a mini-digger excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket down to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon, or to the subsoil level where no archaeological deposits are encountered. Subsequent cleaning and excavation will be by hand as appropriate. Spoil from machine excavation and hand-excavation would be temporarily stored on-site.

The machine excavation will be carried out under the direct supervision of a qualified archaeologist. Recording will be by means of pre-printed pro-forma record cards for contexts and features, supplemented by plans (at 1:20 and 1:50), sections (at 1:10 and 1:20), and monochrome print and colour slide photography.

All stratified finds will be collected by context and, where appropriate, individually recorded in 3 dimensions. Unstratified finds will only be collected where they contribute to the project objectives or are of particular intrinsic interest. On-site conservation advice will be provided by the appropriate specialist in the event of artefacts requiring conservation and 'lifting'. Finds of treasure will be reported to the Coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act procedures. The artefact content of the overburden would be assessed by sampling as appropriate.

Human remains disturbed by the works will be recorded *in-situ* in accordance with Home Office and IFA guidelines (*Guidance to Standards for Recording Human Skeletal Remains* Brickley &

McKinley 2004, and *Human Bones From Archaeological Sites. Guidelines for Producing Assessment Documents and Analytical Reports*. Mays, Brickley, M. and Dodwell, 2002).

Spot levels will be taken where appropriate and all levels will be recorded relative to an Ordnance Survey datum level.

The trench will be backfilled 'as dug' with the excavated soil, but no allowance is made for specialist reinstatement or compaction of backfilled deposits.

The following strategy for sample hand excavation of archaeological deposits will be adopted

A representative samples of the features, or feature types present in the trench would be hand-excavated to provide data concerning the survival and complexity of the features and their fills, and to recover artefactual and ecofactual samples for analysis.

Features believed to be of no archaeological potential may remain unexcavated in agreement with The County Archaeologist.

Environmental sampling

Appropriate sampling would be undertaken to assess any archaeological deposits that may have an environmental potential. Particular attention would be paid to any charred remains or waterlogged deposits.

Specific Aims

The specific aims of the evaluation will be to:

Determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving deposits liable to be threatened by the proposed development

To further understand the earthworks identified within the site, and confirm whether or not they relate to the Abbey

Monitoring

The Warwickshire Museum will be responsible for monitoring the evaluation. Sufficient notice will be provided prior to the commencement of fieldwork so that arrangements for on-site monitoring can be made.

Site inspections will be arranged so that the general site stratigraphy can be assessed in the initial stages of trial trenching, and/or so that the site can be inspected when fieldwork is near to completion but before any trenches have been backfilled.

The County Archaeological Service will be informed of any unexpected discoveries at the earliest opportunity.

Health and safety

Health and safety requirements will take priority over archaeological requirements. A detailed Risk Assessment will be prepared and submitted to Warwickshire Museum prior to the commencement of excavation works, which all staff will be made aware of. If the requirements of the brief are altered due to the interests of health and safety, this will be done in prior consultation with Warwickshire Museum.

REPORTING

An illustrated report on the findings of the evaluation will contain the following:

Summary

Description of the archaeological background

Methodology

Results, including a description and interpretation of the deposits identified, supported by appropriate plans and sections, including a trench location plan, a feature location plan and a long section throughout the trench

Summary of the finds and environmental evidence

A discussion of the archaeological evidence recovered

Three copies of the evaluation report will be available for the client and one will be available for the Local Planning Authority. A further three copies will be deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record, on the understanding that it will be made available as a public document after an appropriate period. A further copy will be sent to the relevant Local Authority Planning Officer. The results of the work will be published in an appropriate journal or other publication, and will include an account of any structures located and full details of significant finds, illustrated as appropriate. Details of the place and date of publication will be notified to the County Sites and Monuments Record.

A summary account of the work will be submitted to the editor of *West Midland Archaeology* and any relevant period journals no later than March 31st of the year following the completion of fieldwork.

STAFFING

The excavation will be managed for Birmingham Archaeology by Richard Cuttler BA MIFA following the procedures for project management set out in the Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP II). The Finds Manager will be Erica Macey and the evaluation will be directed by Kristina Krawiec and assisted by one experienced site assistant. Specialist staff will be consulted as appropriate. CVs for all members of staff involved in the project can be provided upon instruction.

Specialist staff, where appropriate:

Environmental

Dr James Barratt (University of York) - Fishbones

Dr David Smith (University of Birmingham) – Insect faunas

Wendy Smith (University of Birmingham) - Charred, desiccated and waterlogged plant macrofossils

James Grieg (University of Birmingham) - Pollen

Professor David Keen (University of Birmingham) - Molluscs

Artefact

Erica Macey-Bracken (University of Birmingham) - Small finds.

Stephanie Ratkai - (University of Birmingham) - Medieval and post-medieval ceramics.

Jane Timby/Jane Evans - Roman ceramics

Sarah Paynter (English Heritage)- Smelting slag (SEM and EDS analysis)

Dr Megan Brickley (University of Birmingham) - Human Bone

Robert Howard – (University of Nottingham) Wood and dendrochronology

Ann Woodward (University of Birmingham) – Prehistoric ceramics

Lawrence Barfield (University of Birmingham) – Lithics
Rob Ixer (University of Birmingham) – Stone artefacts

Conservation

Helen Wilmot – (The Conservation Centre, Salsbury) or as appropriate

ARCHIVING

The site archive will conform to the guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects. The written, drawn and photographic archive, together with artefacts recovered, will be deposited with a museum registered with the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council. The preferred museum is Warwickshire Museum, whereby the procedures and requirements of the museum will be followed for the deposition of archaeological archives.

TIMETABLE

At the moment it is anticipated that works will commence on the 8th August 2005. The fieldwork would be undertaken over three days. A draft evaluation report will be provided within two weeks of the completion of fieldwork with bound copies of the report provided when approved.

Insurances

Birmingham Archaeology as part of Birmingham University holds Liability Insurance to a limit of 50,000,000.

Quality control

Birmingham Archaeology is a Registered Archaeological Organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeology. All project staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The project will follow the requirements set down in the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological field evaluations* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999).

Birmingham Archaeology, 11th April 2005

APPENDIX 2

Warwickshire: Historic Buildings, Sites and Monuments Record

(Full

16/08/2005

SMR Number

MWA10096

Site Name

Kenilworth Abbey Monastic Precinct

Record Type

Monument

The presumed area and boundary to Kenilworth Abbey during the medieval period. The site forms most of Abbey Fields and the park around the Abbey.

Classification and Scoring

Type and Date

MONASTIC Medieval - 1123 AD to 1538 AD

Materials/Evidence

PRECINCT

Class

Rating and Scoring

Location

National Grid Reference

Area

Administrative

Civil Parish Kenilworth, Warwick, Warwickshire

Address

Kenilworth Abbey Kenilworth Warwickshire

Historic Names

Status and other

Sites & Monuments Record - 10096

Scheduled Monument

Description

<1> The boundary of this precinct is mostly conjectural although some historic map evidence suggests it follows particular historic and modern boundary lines.

<2> A 12th/13th century wall was exposed during excavation of the Little Virginia area in the northwestern most part of the precinct. The wall ran approximately east to west with a distinct turn of the wall towards the south, forming the north west corner of the precinct.

Sources

- (1) Monograph: Kenilworth: The Story of the Abbey, , Sunley, H and Stevens, N, 1995, p37 fig 7
- (2) Excavation Report: An Account of Observations and Work Carried Out at Little Virginia, Kenilworth, During Spring 1973, , Sunley H L G, 1977, P18-19
Photograph: Kenilworth Abbey digital pictures, colour print, Daniel Brock, ,
Correspondence: Kenilworth Abbey Fields, notes about historic culverts, , David Brock, 2004,

Associated Finds

Associated Events/Activities

WA6159 Part Excavation: Observations and work carried out at Little Virginia, Kenilworth, BET 01/04/1973

-
31/12/1973

Associated Individuals

SMR Number MWA3201 **Site Name** St Mary's Abbey, Kenilworth

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
MWA3201	St Mary's Abbey, Kenilworth	Monument

The remains of St Mary's Abbey, Kenilworth. Founded as a Priory in the Medieval period, it was promoted to an Abbey in

the middle of the fifteenth century. It was dissolved in 1538. The site is in the north east part of Abbey Fields.

Classification and Scoring

Type and Date

MONASTERY	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD
CHURCH	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD
CLOISTER	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD
CHAPTER HOUSE	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD

Materials/Evidence

BELL TOWER	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD
HOSPITAL	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD
GATEHOUSE	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD

Class

Rating and Scoring

Condition	Poor	-
MPP Processed	Yes	-

Location

National Grid Reference

SP28547239	Area	0
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Administrative

Civil Parish	Kenilworth, Warwick, Warwickshire
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Address

Historic Names

Status and other

Listed Building (I)	
Scheduled Monument - 35115	05/08/1983
Sites & Monuments Record - 3201	

Description

<1> Priory of Austin canons, afterwards an Abbey, was founded in 1122 by Godfrey de Clinton about the same time as the Castle. The Abbey was dissolved in April 1538.

<2> S of the High Street, behind the Church of St Nicholas, lie the scant remains of the Augustinian Monastery, founded in 1122 as a priory but raised to the rank of abbey about 1450. The only buildings of which substantial proportions remain are the gatehouse (PRN 6007) and, S of it, a building identified as the Guest House (PRN 6008). Of the other buildings only a few shapeless blocks of rubble rise above ground level. Excavation has revealed part of the ground plan, including the church and a church tower (PRN 5384), a chapter house and cloisters (PRN 5385) and the infirmary (PRN 5386).

<7> Gateway: a 14th century red sandstone building in fair condition but very overgrown. Domestic building: 14th century in red sandstone, originally with an upper floor approx 8ft from the ground. Gable ends, one of timber filled in with brick-work. The two buildings form a small part of this large complex.

<8> 1951: The remains of the Abbey consist mainly of turf-covered foundations, although parts still stand to original height. 1968: All foundations E of the path which bisects the site have been levelled and grassed over.

<9> Resistivity survey carried out by the University of Warwick in 1996 gave disappointing results over part of the Abbey

SMR Number MWA3201

Site Name St Mary's Abbey, Kenilworth

Sources

- (4) Plan: TBAS, , Carey-Hill E, 1927, Volume - 52:1
(3) Excavation Report: TBAS, , Carey-Hill E, 1927, Volume - 52:1, Page Ref - 184-227
(2) Bibliographic reference: VCH vol 6, Warwickshire, Salzman L F (ed), 1951, Volume - 6, Page Ref - 133
- (9) Evaluation Report: Evaluation Report, , Ireland, S, 1996,
(8) Bibliographic reference: OS Card 25NE6, , Ordnance Survey, 1968, Volume - 27SE1
(1) Bibliographic reference: VCH vol 2, Warwickshire, Page W (ed), 1908, Volume - 2, Page Ref - 86-9
(6) Bibliographic reference: LBL, , DoE, , Volume - Warwick
(5) Bibliographic reference: AM7, , DoE, ,
(7) Bibliographic reference: SAM List, , DoE, ,
(10) Archaeological Report: Archaeological Recording at St. Nicholas's Church, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, , Palmer S & Jones R, 2001,
(11) Observation Report: Archaeological Observation at Abbey Fields Play Area, Kenilworth, , C Coutts & R Newman, 2001,
(12) Observation Report: Further Archaeological Observation at Abbey Fields Play Area, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, , Newman R, 2002,
(13) Scheduling record: Kenilworth Abbey, 35115, English Heritage, 2003,
Monograph: Kenilworth: The Story of the Abbey, , Sunley, H and Stevens, N, 1995,

AreaAssociated Finds

Associated Events/Activities

- WA1010 Excavation: , -
WA5956 Field Observation: , 01/01/1987 -
WA6405 Geophysical Survey: , 01/01/1996 -
WA6995 Salvage Record: Archaeological Recording at St. Nicholas's Church, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, BET
01/02/2001 - 28/02/2001

references

- WA7017 Archaeological Observation: Archaeological Observation at Abbey Fields Play Area, Kenilworth, BET
01/01/2001 - 31/01/2001
WA7102 Archaeological Observation: Further Archaeological Observation at Abbey Fields Play Area, Kenilworth,
Warwickshire, AST 01/12/2001 - 31/12/2001

Associated Individuals

- Baker Heather - Warwickshire Museum Study By
church, but suggested the site of a possible building or quarry just outside the gatehouse (see also WA 8404).
Jones Rob - Warwickshire Museum<10> During excavation of a cable trench for floodlighting of St. Nicholas's Church, a sandstone wall was revealed, Excavator
Newman R - Warwickshire Museumpossibly part of the monastic precinct boundary, constructed around the time that the parish church of St. Nicholas was built. Excavator
Palmer Stuart - Warwickshire Museum<11> The observation of the removal and replacement of play equipment (SP28507227) revealed medieval roof tile Author
Jones Rob - Warwickshire Museumand some glazed floor tile. Author
<12> Further observation of the removal of play equipment and excavation of trenches for new equipment (SP28477229) revealed evidence of red sandstone walls, possibly from a complex associated with the abbey. The walls Contractor
were overlaid by a layer of sandstone rubble brick and tile, from which a single sherd of 14th/15th century green glazed

Associated Organisations

jug was recovered, suggesting a medieval date for the walls.

Warwickshire Museum<13> The site is within the Scheduled area of the SAM of Kenilworth Abbey (Monument Number 35115). Contractor

Number	MWA3204	Site Name	Medieval Quarry by Berkeley Road, 300m NW of
SMR Number		Site Name	
MWA3204		Medieval Quarry by Berkeley Road, 300m NW of Abbey	Record Type
			Monument

The site of a quarry dating to the Medieval period. It is believed to have been in use during the building of Kenilworth Abbey. It is still visible as an earthwork and is located 300m north west of the Abbey.

Classification and Scoring

Type and Date

QUARRY Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD

Class

Materials/Evidence

Rating and Scoring

MPP Processed Yes -

Location

National Grid Reference

SP28307260 Area 0

Administrative

Civil Parish Kenilworth, Warwick, Warwickshire

Address

Historic Names

Status and other

Sites & Monuments Record - 3204

Description

<1> The red sandstone quarry of Kenilworth Abbey lay to the N, W of Fieldgate Lane.

<2> There appear to be two quarries centred at SP3872 and SP3872.

<3> The floors of both quarries are tree and shrub-covered and the W quarry has an average depth of 2m.

<4> This quarry was presumably used at the time when the Abbey was constructed. The quarry is still quite evident, despite being almost entirely covered in trees. It is up 6m deep. It is surrounded by a modern housing estate.

Sources

(1) Bibliographic reference: VCH vol 6, Warwickshire, Salzman L F (ed), 1951, Volume - 6, Page Ref - 133

(2) Bibliographic reference: OS Card 26NE2, , Ordnance Survey, 1961, Volume - 27SE18

(3) Plan: OS Card, , Ordnance Survey, 1961, Volume - 27SE18

(4) Bibliographic reference: SMR Card, , Thomson D J, 1983, Volume - PRN 3204

Associated Finds

Associated Events/Activities

WA1701 Field Observation: , 01/01/1961 -
 WA5958 Field Observation: , 01/01/1983 -

Associated Individuals

OS - Ordnance Survey Study By

SMR Number MWA3204 **Site Name** Medieval Quarry by Berkeley Road, 300m NW of

Thomson David - Warwickshire Museum Study By

Associated Organisations

SMR Number MWA3207 **Site Name** Possible Site of Priory Mill

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
MWA3207	Possible Site of Priory Mill	Monument

The possible site of Kenilworth Priory watermill, for which there is documentary evidence from the Medieval period. The site was in the area of the Swimming Pool at Abbey Fields.

Classification and Scoring

Type and Date

Type and Date	Materials/Evidence
WATERMILL Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD	
MILL Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD	

Materials/Evidence

Class

Rating and Scoring

MPP Processed	Yes	-
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Location

National Grid Reference

SP28507219	Area	0
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Administrative

Civil Parish	Kenilworth, Warwick, Warwickshire
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Address

Historic Names

Status and other

Sites & Monuments Record - 3207
 Scheduled Monument - 35115

Description

<2> The Abbey (or rather Priory) had two mills which were valued at 6s 8d in 1291.
 <3> The site of one of these is marked on the OS 6" map of 1886, though it is thought to have been demolished many years previously. Kenilworth Mill (PRN 3206) probably stood on the site of the second mill owned by the Priory.

Description

<1> Chancel, nave, N and S aisles, S chapel, S transept, N porch, vestry, and W tower. Mid 14th century; S arcade added about the end of the 14th century; the S chapel, vestry and S transept are modern. Of red sandstone ashlar. Ground floor of tower forms a W porch and the doorway, which is a later insertion, is an elaborate one of the late 12th century and probably came from the adjacent St Mary's Abbey (PRN 3201). It is probable that for a century or more after the establishment of the priory (1122) the inhabitants of the neighbourhood used the nave of the monastic church, and that a separate parish church was not built until the middle of the 13th century.

<4> Mostly Perpendicular, but with the most sumptuous Norman doorway in the county. It is reset and may well have been the principal laymen's entrance to the priory church. The tower higher up is Decorated, turns octagonal, and has a short spire. Nave S wall all of the drastic restoration of 1864. Font of 1664. Many architectural fragments, some very fine, from the adjoining priory. Tiles also.

<5> Listed Building Description.

<6> OS card.

<7> Recent observations on west doorway.

<8> During excavation of cable trenches for floodlighting, a sandstone wall was revealed. This may have formed part of the monastic precinct boundary, constructed around the time that the church was built.

Sources

- (4) Bibliographic reference: The Buildings of England: Warwickshire, , Pevsner N, Wedgwood A, 1966, Volume - Warwicks, Page Ref - 317-8
- (7) Bibliographic reference: TBAS, , Sunley H, 1990, Volume - 95, Page Ref - 73-79
- (5) Bibliographic reference: LBL, , DoE, ,
- (3) Photograph: VCH, , Salzman L F (ed), 1951, Volume - 6, Page Ref - opp p139

SMR Number MWA3219 **Site Name** Church of St Nicholas, Kenilworth

- (2) Plan: VCH, , Salzman L F (ed), 1951, Volume - 6, Page Ref - 140
- (6) Unpublished document: OS Card, , Ordnance Survey, , Volume - 27SE33
- (1) Bibliographic reference: VCH vol 6, Warwickshire, Salzman L F (ed), 1951, Volume - 6, Page Ref - 139-142
- (8) Archaeological Report: Archaeological Recording at St. Nicholas's Church, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, , Palmer S & Jones R, 2001, Monograph: Kenilworth: The Story of the Abbey, , Sunley, H and Stevens, N, 1995,

Associated Finds

Associated Events/Activities

WA6995 Salvage Record: Archaeological Recording at St. Nicholas's Church, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, BET
01/02/2001 - 28/02/2001

Associated Individuals

Jones Rob - Warwickshire Museum Contractor	Excavator
Palmer Stuart - Warwickshire Museum	Author
Jones Rob - Warwickshire Museum	Author

Associated Organisations

Warwickshire MuseumArea	Contractor
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Associated Finds

Associated Events/Activities

SMR Number MWA3220 **Site Name** Abbey Pool

WA2589 Full Survey: , 01/01/1994 -

Associated Individuals

Hartell Janet

Study By

Associated OrganisationsArea

SMR Number MWA3244 **Site Name** Site of Horn Works at Stone House, High St

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
MWA3244	Site of Horn Works at Stone House, High St	Monument

The site of a horn comb factory at the Stone House in the High Street, Kenilworth. The factory would have been operating during the Imperial period. This information was given in a newspaper article in 1894.

Classification and Scoring

Type and Date

FACTORY	Imperial - 1751 AD to 1914 AD
HORN WORKING	Imperial - 1751 AD to 1914 AD
SITE	

Materials/Evidence

Class

Rating and Scoring

Location

National Grid Reference

SP28497250 Area 0

Administrative

Civil Parish Kenilworth, Warwick, Warwickshire

Address

Historic Names

Status and other

Sites & Monuments Record - 3244

Description

<1> Kenilworth was a centre of the horn comb industry. Mr Heynes in the Coventry Standard for 24:08:1894 mentions a large factory situated by the Stone House. The Stone House still stands (1965) in the High Street.

<2> The Stone House still stands, now converted into a Midlands Bank, but no trace of the horn-making factory remains.

Sources

- (1) Bibliographic reference: TBAS, , Drew J H, 1965, Volume - 82, Page Ref - 22
- (2) Bibliographic reference: SMR Card, , Thomson D J, 1983, Volume - PRN 3244

Associated Finds

Associated Events/Activities

WA1713 Field Observation: , 01/01/1983 -

Associated Individuals

Thomson David - Warwickshire Museum

Study By

Associated Organisations

SMR Number MWA3268

Site Name Little Virginia, Castle Hill, Kenilworth

SMR Number

Site Name

Record Type

MWA3268

Little Virginia, Castle Hill, Kenilworth

Building

A group of eight detached cottages, 15 buildings in total, which are believed to have been built during the Post Medieval period. They were renovated in the late 20th century and archaeological investigation dated several walls to the 17th century. They are situated on Castle Hill.

Classification and Scoring

Type and Date

HOUSE Post Medieval to Modern - 1540 AD to 2050 AD

Materials/Evidence

Class

Rating and Scoring

Location

National Grid Reference

SZ28250005 Area 1

Administrative

Civil Parish Kenilworth, Warwick, Warwickshire

Address

Historic Names

Status and other

Sites & Monuments Record - 3268

Scheduled Monument - 35115

Description

<1> The group of cottages known as Little Virginia lies immediately to the E of Kenilworth Castle: traditionally the buildings are Elizabethan (said to have been put up by the masons carrying out Robert Dudley's works at the Castle - but there is no evidence to support this) and in 1973 the 8 detached groups of 15 buildings were lying delapidated. Work began to completely renovate them (within the context of keeping up the original character) and at the same time the Kenilworth History and Archaeological Society did some work recording features of most of the original cottages and doing limited excavation. The latter revealed a wall possibly dated (by the pottery) to 13th century (probably part of the precinct wall for Kenilworth Abbey), several 17th century walls (again dated by pottery), and evidence of stone working between these times.

<2> Nothing conclusive concerning dating the buildings was discovered, however, and now the houses are renovated in

Sources

- (2) Unpublished document: SMR Card, , Thompson D J, 1983, Volume - PRN 3268
 (1) Excavation Report: An Account of Observations and Work Carried Out at Little Virginia, Kenilworth, During Spring 1973, , Sunley H L G, 1977,
 Monograph: Kenilworth: The Story of the Abbey, , Sunley, H and Stevens, N, 1995,

Associated Finds

UNIDENTIFIED Post Medieval to Modern - 1540 AD to 2050 AD POTTERY
 OBJECT

Associated Events/Activities

WA2513 Field Observation: , 01/01/1983 -

SMR Number MWA3268 **Site Name** Little Virginia, Castle Hill, Kenilworth

WA6159 Part Excavation: Observations and work carried out at Little Virginia, Kenilworth, BET 01/04/1973 - 31/12/1973

WA7528 Building Survey: Little Virginia Buildings, Kenilworth, BET 01/04/1973 - 31/12/1973

Associated Individuals

Thomson David - Warwickshire Museum Study By
 KHAS Study By

Associated Organisations

SMR Number MWA3273 **Site Name** Smithy on Castle Hill, Kenilworth

SMR Number MWA3273 **Site Name** Smithy on Castle Hill, Kenilworth **Record Type** Building

The site of a forge which was in use during the Imperial period and is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1886. A building still stands on the site though there is no obvious evidence that it was once a forge. It is located on Castle Hill.

Classification and Scoring

Type and Date	Materials/Evidence
FORGE Imperial - 1751 AD to 1914 AD	
Class	

Rating and Scoring

MPP Processed Yes -

Location

National Grid Reference

SP28207245 Point 1

Administrative

Civil Parish Kenilworth, Warwick, Warwickshire

Address

Historic Names

Status and other

Sites & Monuments Record - 3273

Description

<1> 'Smithy' marked.

<2> The building is still standing as a domestic dwelling, but there is no sign of it having been a smithy.

Sources

- (1) Map: 6" OS Sht 22SW CRO, , Ordnance Survey, 1886,
- (2) Bibliographic reference: SMR Card, , Thomson D J, 1983, Volume - PRN 3273

Associated Finds

Associated Events/Activities

WA1722 Field Observation: , 01/01/1983 -

Associated Individuals

Thomson David - Warwickshire Museum

Study By

Associated Organisations

SMR Number MWA6007 **Site Name** Kenilworth Abbey Gatehouse

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
MWA6007	Kenilworth Abbey Gatehouse	Building

Kenilworth Abbey Gatehouse was built during the Medieval period and is constructed of red sandstone. It consists of two compartments and the gateway runs between them with a single large arch. The remains still stand and are situated in Abbey Fields.

Classification and Scoring

Type and Date

GATEHOUSE Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD

Class

Materials/Evidence

Rating and Scoring

Condition Medium -

Location

National Grid Reference

SP28477236 Point 0

Administrative

Civil Parish Kenilworth, Warwick, Warwickshire

Address

Historic Names

Status and other

Listed Building (I)
Scheduled Monument - 35115
Sites & Monuments Record - 6007

05/08/1983

Description

<1> A 14th century gatehouse near the NW corner of Kenilworth Abbey precincts facing N. It is of local red sandstone and consists of two vaulted compartments - the inner now in ruins - opening to the N by a four-centred arch. Between the two compartments is the gateway, with a large segmental arch, flanked on the W by a small doorway, with pointed arch, for foot passengers. In the E wall of each compartment is an arched recess with a stone seat and in the W wall of the inner is a doorway into the porter's lodge. This lodge is divided into two halves. There are traces of a wall running S from the W side of the lodge and another running E.

<4> Scheduled as Warwickshire Monument No 10.

<6> In fair condition but very overgrown with vegetation at the top.

<7> 1977: An excavation was conducted when the building was restored. The excavation revealed several stone walls joining the gatehouse.

<8> The site is within the Scheduled area of the SAM of Kenilworth Abbey (Monument Number 35115).

Sources

- (7) Unpublished document: Unpublished document, , RGL, 1977,
(6) Bibliographic reference: SAM List, , DoE, ,
(5) Bibliographic reference: LBL, , DoE, , Volume - Warwick
(4) Bibliographic reference: AM7, , DoE, ,
(3) Photograph: TBAS, , Carey-Hill E, 1927, Volume - 52:1, Page Ref - Plate 1
(1) Bibliographic reference: VCH vol 6, Warwickshire, Salzman L F (ed), 1951, Volume - 6, Page Ref - 133
- (2) Bibliographic reference: TBAS, , Carey-Hill E, 1927, Volume - 52:1, Page Ref - 184-227
- (3) **SMR Number** MWA6007 **Site Name** Kenilworth Abbey Gatehouse
- (8) Scheduling record: Kenilworth Abbey, 35115, English Heritage, 2003,
Monograph: Kenilworth: The Story of the Abbey, , Sunley, H and Stevens, N, 1995,

Associated Finds

Associated Events/Activities

WA2091 Field Observation: , 01/01/1987 -

Associated Individuals

Baker Heather - Warwickshire Museum

Study By

Associated Organisations

SMR Number MWA6008 **Site Name** Kenilworth Abbey Guesthouse

SMR Number	Site Name	Record Type
MWA6008	Kenilworth Abbey Guesthouse	Building

Kenilworth Abbey Guesthouse was built as a two storey building during the Medieval period. It has not been definitely proved to have been the guest house. In its later history it was used as a cowshed. It is situated in Abbey Fields.

Classification and Scoring

Type and Date

BUILDING Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD
 GUEST HOUSE Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD

Materials/Evidence

Class

Rating and Scoring

Condition Good -

Location

National Grid Reference

SP28487232 Point 0

Administrative

Civil Parish Kenilworth, Warwick, Warwickshire

Address

Historic Names

Status and other

Listed Building (I)
 Scheduled Monument - 35115 05/08/1983
 Sites & Monuments Record - 6008

Description

- <1> The Guest House is a building of two stories, which formerly had an outside stair and a porch over the S door. The upper storey has two-light ogee-headed windows. This building is tentatively identified as the Guest House.
- <2> The 'Barn' or Guest House was erected at about the same time as the Gate House (ie 14th century). The interior has been used as cow sheds and is now a storehouse for carved stonework and tiles found during the excavations.
- <3> Scheduled as Warwickshire Monument No 10.
- <4> Listed Building Description.
- <5> A domestic building of 14th century date of sandstone originally with an upper floor 2.4m from the ground. One of the gable ends is of timber filled with brickwork. The building is in need of repair.
- <6> Excavation of test pit in June 1994 revealed stone flooring and masonry associated with the gatehouse. The small size of the test pits meant that no firm conclusions could be drawn.
- <7> Description by Kenilworth Historical and Archaeological Society.
- <8> Ref <7> unlocatable, CHS 08/04/97.
- <9> Field Survey Form.
- <10> Ref <9> unlocatable, CHS 08/04/97.
- <11> Constructional and architectural details of the timbers of the roof suggest that present roof is not original but a later replacement of reused beams. There is a suggestion that the roof was lost in the civil war. Tree ring dating suggests that the roof is made from up of timber reused from two different sources. Dates: fist site chronology 1427 to 1573, second site chronology 1409 to 1560. Felling dates 1578-1603 and 1569-1594 respectively
- <12> A report on a metal detecting survey at the Barn states that its south face, in particular, is peppered by weapon fire.
- <13> The site is within the Scheduled area of the SAM of Kenilworth Abbey (Monument Number 35115).
- <14> Ground probing radar survey within and around the Abbey Barn identified probable subsurface structures which may have been of archaeological significance. The survey aimed to determine any anomalies which may have indicated the cause of subsidence observed within the floor of the Abbey Barn. Buried horizons outside the Abbey Barn indicated possible former ground surfaces and inside the barn a possible former floor. High activity areas observed in the

SMR Number MWA6008

Site Name Kenilworth Abbey Guesthouse

Sources

- (6) Observation Report: Kenilworth Abbey Barn, , Jones GC, 1994,
(7) Bibliographic reference: Abbey of St.Mary's, , Kenilworth Historical & Archaeological Society, 1971,
(9) Bibliographic reference: WM, , Baker H D, 1987, Volume - Field Survey Form
(10) Unpublished document: Unpublished document, , Stevens C, 1997,
(1) Bibliographic reference: VCH vol 6, Warwickshire, Salzman L F (ed), 1951, Volume - 6, Page Ref - 133
- (3) Bibliographic reference: AM7, , DoE, ,
(4) Bibliographic reference: LBL, , DoE, , Volume - Warwick
(5) Bibliographic reference: SAM List, , DoE, ,
(2) Bibliographic reference: TBAS, , Carey-Hill E, 1927, Volume - 52:1, Page Ref - 184-227
(8) Unpublished document: Unpublished document, , Stevens C, 1997,
(11) Unpublished document: Tree-Ring Analysis of Timbers from The Barn, Abbey Fields, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, , R E Howard, 2002,
Geophysical Survey Report: Kenilworth Abbey. Metal detecting at the 'Barn' South Face., , Mr H Sunley, 2003,
(12) Geophysical Survey Report: Kenilworth Abbey. Metal detecting at the 'Barn' South Face., , Mr H Sunley, 2003,
(13) **Area** Scheduling record: Kenilworth Abbey, 35115, English Heritage, 2003,
(14) Geophysical Survey Report: A Report for Kenilworth History and Archaeology Society on a Geophysical Survey Carried out at Kenilworth Abbey Barn, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, , Stratascan, 2001,
Monograph: Kenilworth: The Story of the Abbey, , Sunley, H and Stevens, N, 1995,

Associated Finds

references

Associated Events/Activities

- WA2092 Field Observation: , 01/01/1987 -
WA6009 Field Observation: , 01/01/1994 -
WA7264 Metal Detector: Kenilworth Abbey Barn, BET 11/03/2003 - 30/06/2003
WA7371 Geophysical Survey: A Report for Kenilworth History and Archaeology Society on a Geophysical Survey
timeslice plots formed patterns which suggested possible subsurface structures. An area of subsidence observed at the rear of Abbey Barn was characterised by broad crested anomalies and moderate activity in the time slice plots. There was no apparent evidence for the cause of the subsidence such as voiding.

Associated Individuals

Baker Heather - Warwickshire Museum
WM - Warwickshire Museum
Hartell Janet
Tomkinson K - Stratascan
Barker P P - Stratascan
Contractor

Study By
Study By
Study By
Author
Author

Associated Organisations

Stratascan

Contractor

APPENDIX 3

Brief for Archaeological Field Evaluation

Location: Land adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth.
Proposed: Erection of a new detached dwelling.

Summary

A planning application is to be submitted to Warwick District Council for the erection of a detached dwelling adjacent to The Wantage, 1 Castle Hill, Kenilworth. There is strong potential for archaeological deposits associated with medieval activity to be encountered by the development.

The extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains on the site is, at present, unclear. Warwickshire Museum have advised that the archaeological implications of the proposals cannot be adequately assessed on the basis of the available information. It has therefore been recommended that an archaeological field evaluation should be carried out before any decision on the planning application is taken, in order to obtain and supply to the applicant, the planning authority and Warwickshire Museum further information on the nature, extent and significance of archaeological evidence on the site.

The resulting information will be used to inform any further applications for planning permission and may inform the development.

This recommendation is in line with government advice as set out in the DoE Planning Policy Guidance on Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16) and Policy ENV22 of the Adopted Warwick District Council Local Plan 1995.

1. Location.

1.1 The site is centred around national grid reference 428167, 272411 in the parish of Kenilworth. The area of the proposal is currently garden.

2. Archaeological Background

2.1 The proposals lie in an area of considerable archaeological potential, on Castle Hill, Kenilworth. The proposed property plot lies on the probable site of a section of the precinct boundary wall to Kenilworth Abbey. Kenilworth Abbey was founded in 1122 and became an Abbey in 1447. The site of the abbey precinct includes substantial upstanding masonry remains, excellent earthwork survival and other significant buried deposits. Other parts of the boundary wall have been protected under the 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act as a Scheduled Ancient Monument, reflecting the national importance of the remains. In parts of the site the wall was adapted in the later medieval period to act as part of domestic houses and other buildings. A number of these structures survive on Castle Hill today.

2.2 Earthworks on the site of the proposed dwelling indicate the probable survival of archaeological remains associated with the precinct boundary wall and a possible hollow way immediately to its north.

Further details of these sites can be obtained from the County Sites and Monuments Record, Warwickshire Museum Field Services Office, The Butts, Warwick, CV34 4SS.

3. Requirement for an Evaluation

3.1 The proposed development would severely damage or destroy archaeological remains which may be present on the site. It has therefore been recommended that an archaeological evaluation should take place to obtain further information on the presence and preservation of any archaeological deposits before any decision is reached as to whether planning consent should be granted.

3.2 The objectives of the evaluation should be to gather sufficient information to establish presence / absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of proposed development.

3.3 The evaluation should investigate the whole of the area to be disturbed by the development.

3.4 The project is to comply with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* and all relevant IFA Standards and Guidance documents.

4. Evaluation Techniques

4.1 Land use at the time fieldwork is carried out will influence the methods used. The techniques chosen should be selected to cause the minimum amount of destruction and should comply with all relevant health and safety regulations. It is envisaged that the following work would be required:

4.2 Examination of any available maps (printed and manuscript), aerial photographs and other relevant background material;

4.3 Visual inspection of the entire site. This should include examination of any available exposures (e.g. flower beds etc);

4.4 A programme of trial trenching; the locations and proportions of trenches should be influenced by existing information and by the results of preliminary field investigation but should not neglect areas of no known archaeology; the positions of trenches must be agreed with the County Archaeologist or Planning Archaeologist. A proposed trenching layout has been included.

4.5 A programme of sampling of appropriate materials for environmental and/or other scientific analysis. Special attention should be paid to any waterlogged deposits encountered;

4.6 Any other investigative techniques as appropriate.

5. Excavation Guidelines

Where trenches are to be opened by machine the following guidelines should be observed:

5.1 The health and safety implications of any use of earth-moving machinery on the site should be taken into account;

5.2 An appropriate machine should be used. The choice should be influenced by the prevailing site conditions, and the machine must be able to carry out a clean and safe job;

5.3 An appropriate bucket should be used. In most cases this will be a wide, toothless ditching bucket;

5.4 All machining should be carried out under the direct supervision of an archaeologist and should be halted if archaeological deposits are encountered;

5.5 All topsoil or recent overburden should be removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon in successive, level spits. Machining of archaeological deposits can on occasion be justified **but under no circumstances should the machine be used to cut arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits;**

5.6 When determining the level to which machine excavation can be carried out, it should not be assumed that the most recent archaeological remains on the site are the least important;

5.7 The first significant archaeological horizon may be cleaned using the machine, but must be subsequently cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological features;

5.8 A representative sample of any archaeological features or deposits which are identified must be excavated by hand. No archaeological deposits should be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable. It is not necessarily expected that all trial trenches will be fully excavated to natural stratigraphy, but the depth of archaeological deposits across the entire site must be assessed. The stratigraphy of all trial trenches should be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified;

5.9 All excavation, both by machine and by hand, must be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be worthy of preservation in situ;

5.10 Any human remains which are encountered must initially be left in situ. If removal is necessary this must comply with the relevant Home Office regulations.

5.11 Particular attention should be paid to how machine access will be made to the site (currently the only access to the application area is restricted in width and crosses terraced lawn.)

5.12 Contractors may find it convenient to produce digital photographs for ease of dissemination; however, conventional (silver halide) photography should be undertaken for inclusion within the project archive.

6. Evaluation Proposal

A **detailed** evaluation proposal, including the following, should be prepared by potential contractors and submitted to the County Archaeologist or Planning Archaeologist for approval on behalf of the planning authority:

6.1 A consideration of the whole range of investigative techniques and a statement justifying the proposed omission of any technique;

6.2 An explanation of the sampling strategies to be used;

6.3 A description of the proposed methods of survey and excavation, and recording system;

6.4 A projected timetable for work on site, including machine hire time and staff structure and numbers;

6.5 A projected timetable for all post excavation work, including staff numbers and specialist sub-contractors;

6.6 Any significant variations to the proposal must be agreed by the County Archaeologist or Planning Archaeologist in advance.

7. Site Monitoring

7.1 The Warwickshire Museum will be responsible for monitoring the evaluation. A minimum of one week's notice of the commencement of fieldwork must be given by the archaeological contractor to the Museum so that arrangements for monitoring can be made;

7.2 Site inspections will be arranged so that the general site stratigraphy can be assessed in the initial stages of trial trenching, and/or so that the site can be inspected when fieldwork is near to completion but before any trenches have been backfilled.

8. Reporting Requirements

8.1 The evaluation should result in a report including a description of the methodology employed; plans showing survey areas; plans and sections at an appropriate scale showing location and position of trenches dug and features located; upon completion of each evaluation trench at least one long section will be drawn; section drawing should include heights OD; plans should include OD spot heights for all principal strata and features; a list of and spot date for any significant finds recovered and a description and interpretation of the deposits identified.

8.2 The objective account of the archaeological evidence recovered should be clearly distinguished from the interpretation of those features. The methodology used should be critically reviewed.

8.3 Three copies of the evaluation report should be deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record, on the understanding that it will be made available as a public document after an appropriate period (not exceeding 6 months from the completion of fieldwork); a further copy to be sent to the relevant Local Planning Authority Planning Officer.

8.4 The results of the work should be published in an appropriate journal or other publication and should include an account of any structures located and full details of significant finds, illustrated as appropriate. Details of the place and date of publication must be notified to the County Sites and Monuments Record.

8.5 A summary account of the work should be submitted to the editor of *West Midland Archaeology* and any relevant period journals (eg *Medieval Archaeology*) no later than March 31st of the year following completion of fieldwork.

8.4 The results of the work should be published in an appropriate journal (*West Midlands Archaeology*) or other publication and should include an account of any structures located and full details of significant finds, illustrated as appropriate. Details of the place and date of publication must be notified to the County Sites and Monuments Record.

9. Deposition of Archive and Finds

9.1 The archaeological archive arising from the evaluation should be deposited in an appropriate local institution, in a format to be agreed with that institution. The County Sites and Monuments Record must be notified of the arrangements made. Any finds of archaeological interest should be appropriately conserved and deposited in an appropriate institution: any finds which cannot be so deposited should be fully analysed and published.

Warwickshire Museum
July 2005

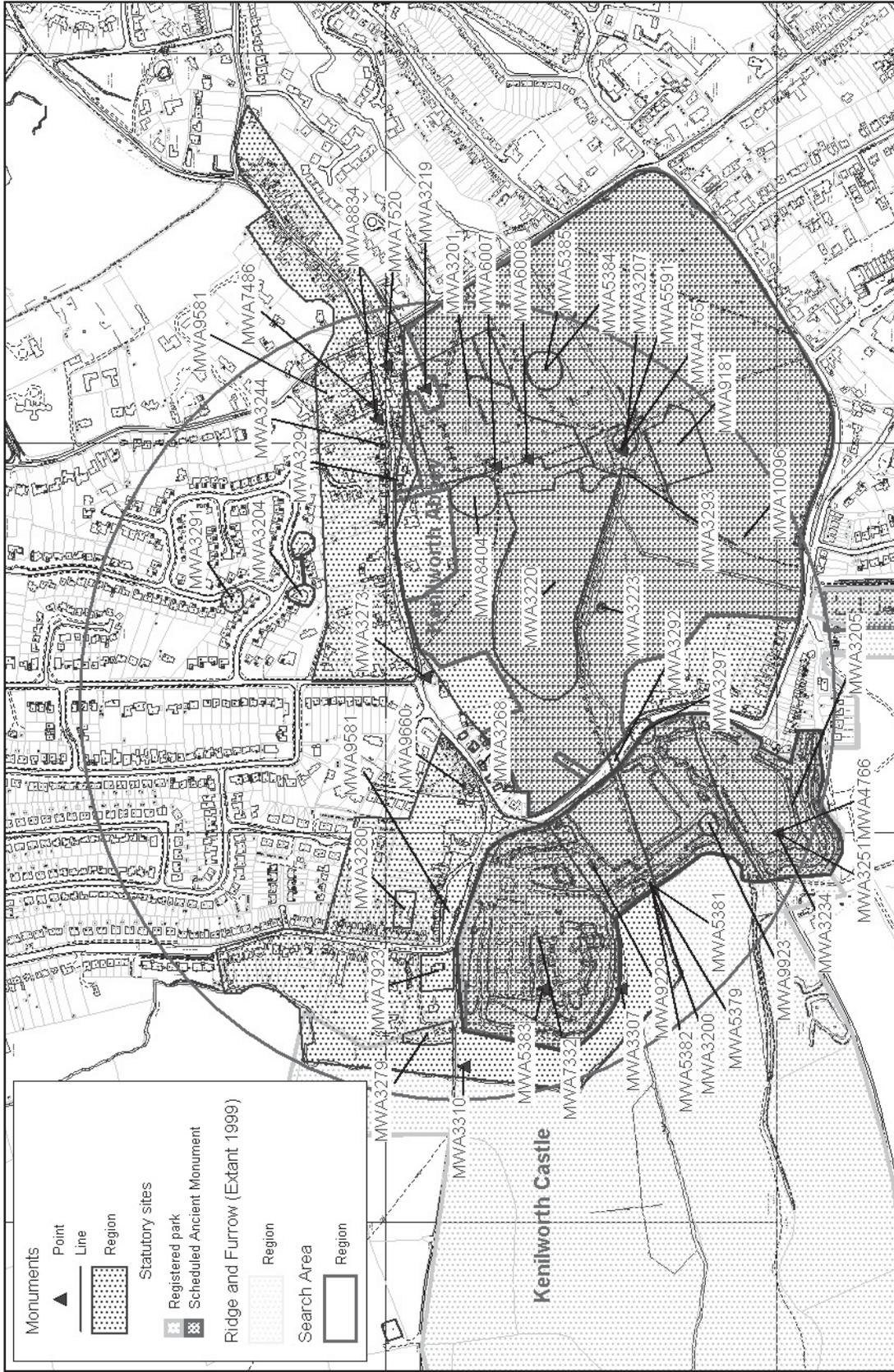


Fig 2

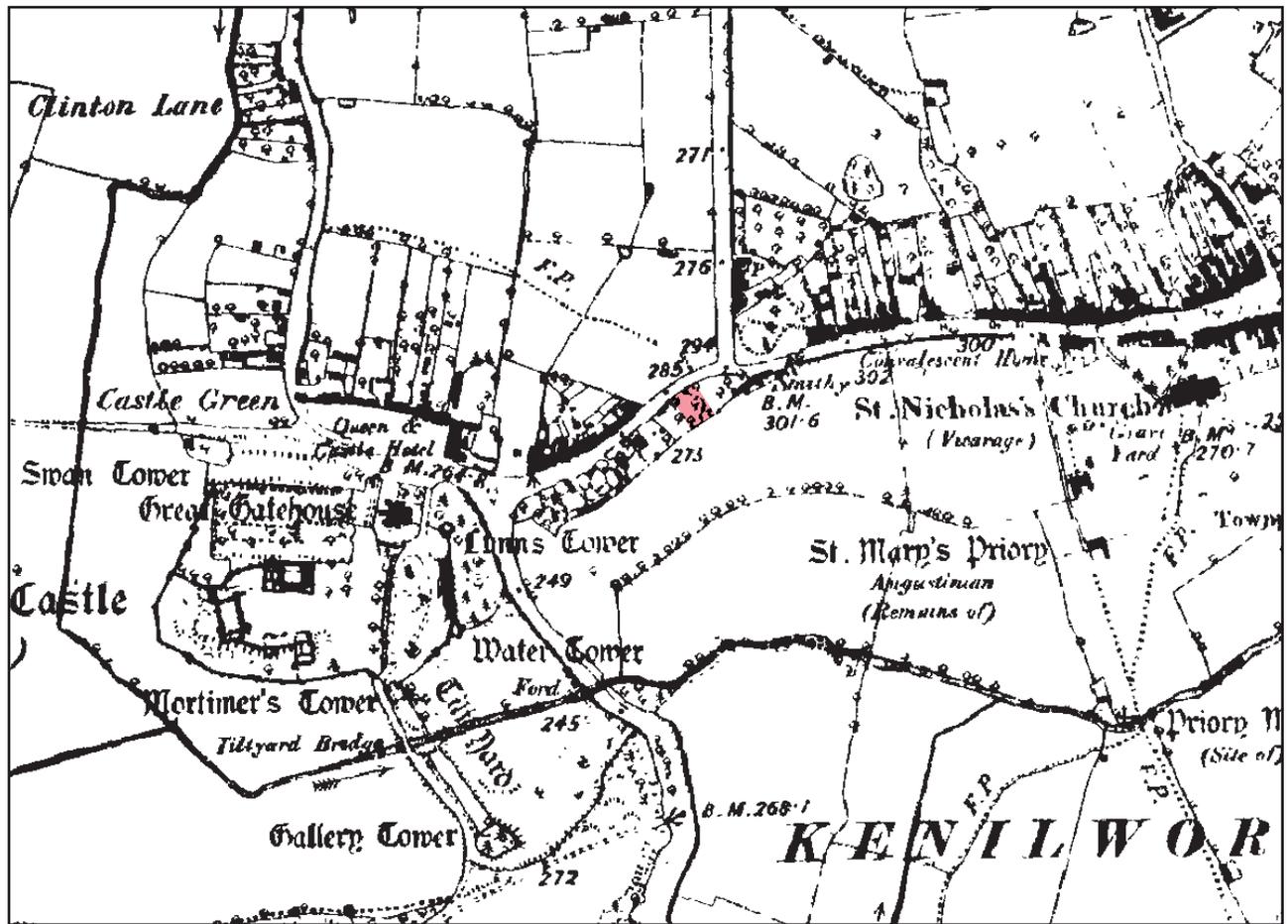


Fig.5

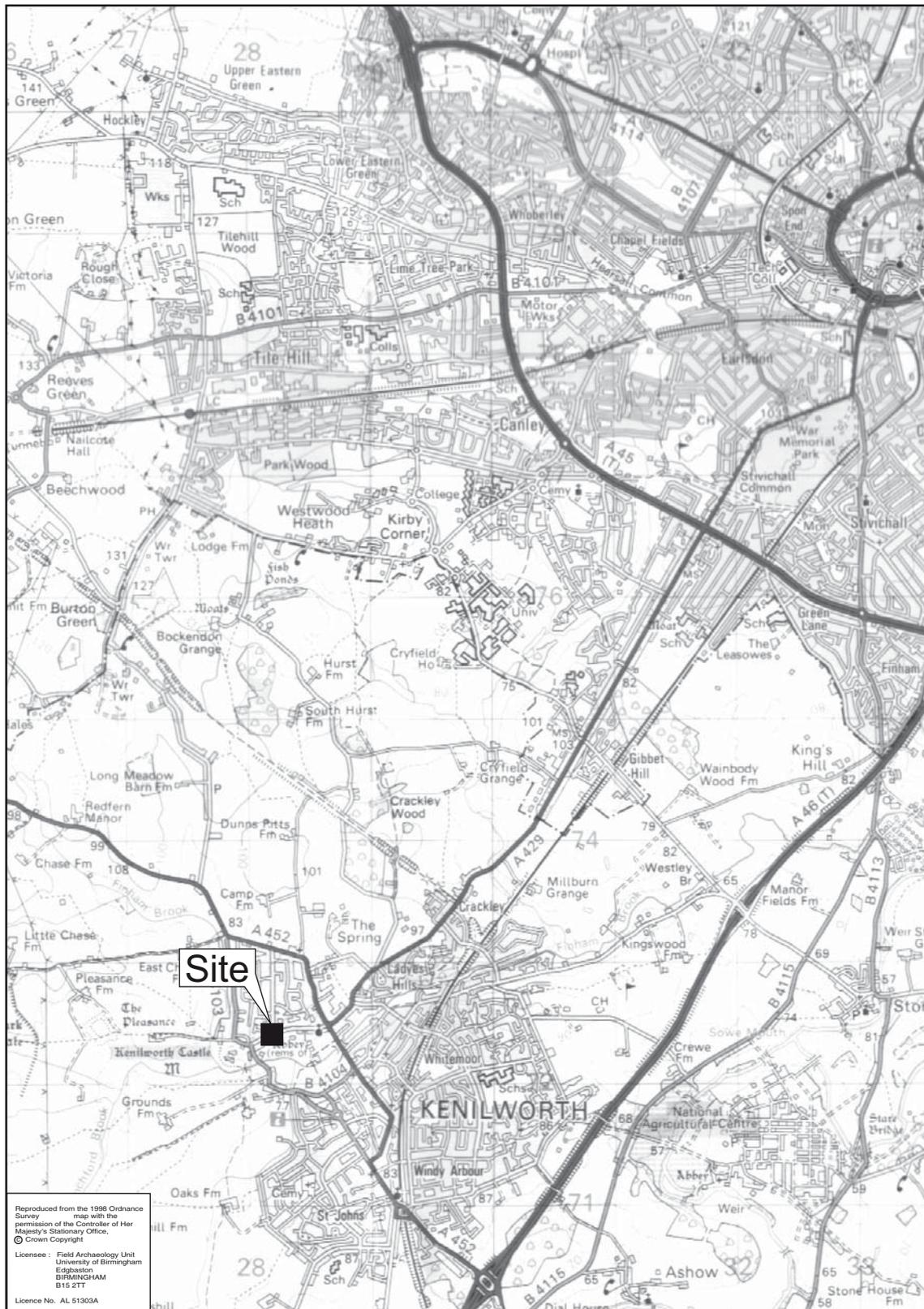


Fig.1

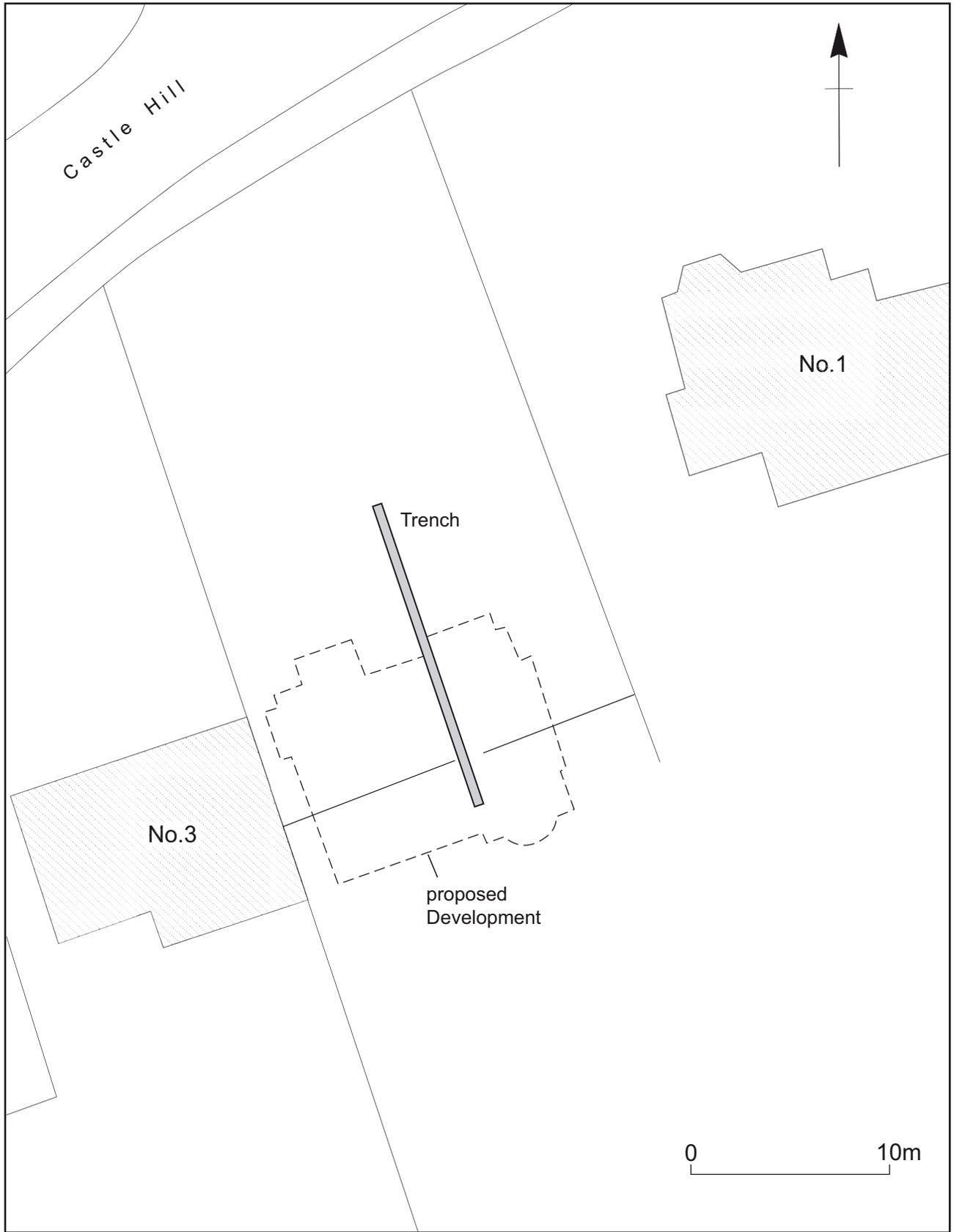
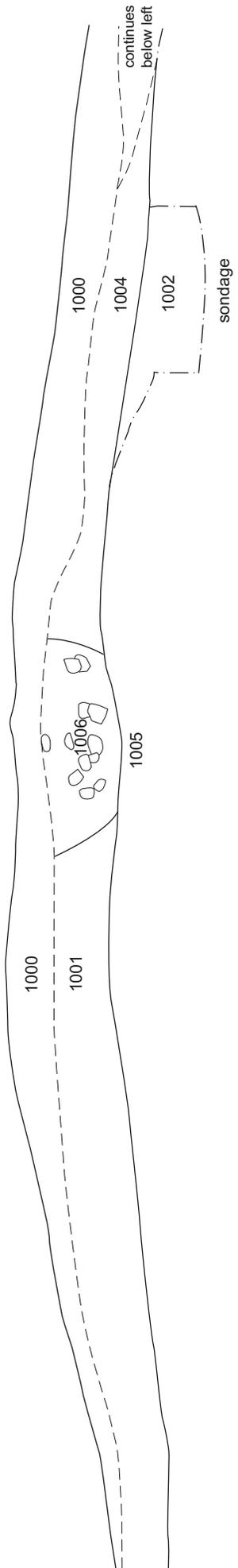


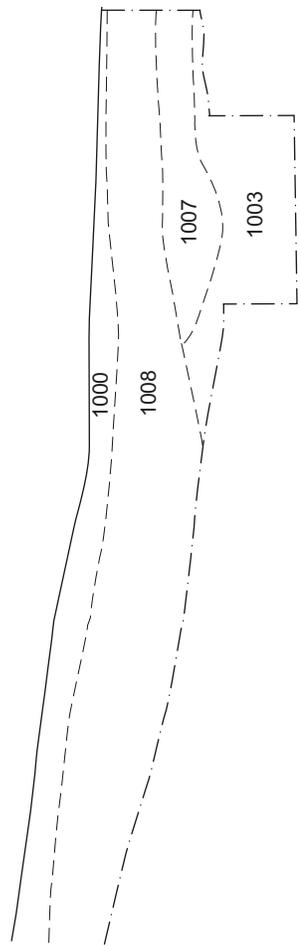
Fig.3

Trench 1

S
87.71m



N



0 2m

Fig.4