



# Garden Structure, Castle Hill Blaise Castle Estate, Bristol

Archaeological Monitoring, Recording and Photogrammetric Survey



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## **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Bristol City Council's Parks Project Team to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring, recording and photogrammetric survey during and after the clearance of vegetation from a ruined garden structure. The clearance work works, undertaken by volunteers from Friends of Blaise in conjunction with staff from Bristol City Council's Parks Service, covered a 20 m<sup>2</sup> area on Castle Hill, Blaise Castle Estate, Bristol BS9 2RH, centred on NGR 355923 178424.

The monitored works uncovered the remains of an oval 18th-century Gothick style garden building built of roughly squared Carboniferous limestone, with brick and ornate Bath Stone details. The building, which is likely to have been single storey, was divided into two rooms. The larger room, which is circular and of uncertain function, is likely to have originally had a suspended wooden floor and timber- or lathe and plaster-lined walls. A Pennant flagstone floor in the western half of the room is interpreted as a later replacement for the inferred timber floor. The smaller semi-circular room, which had plastered walls, a brick floor, and a subterranean stone-lined cesspit, was used as a privy. During the late 19th-century, two ceramic 'servant's basin' type water closets were installed above the 18th-century cesspit: these drained into a new external brick-lined cesspit. Documentary evidence indicates that the building was abandoned sometime after 1918. It was surveyed in 1997, by which time it had been ruinous for many years.

## **Acknowledgements**

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Bristol City Council for commissioning the archaeological work, and we are grateful for the advice of the Principal Historic Environment Officer, who monitored the project for Bristol City Council. We would also like to thank the volunteers from Friends of Blaise and staff of the Parks Service who undertook the clearance work, and the Senior Conservation Architect for his advice.



# **Garden Structure, Castle Hill Blaise Castle Estate, Bristol**

## **Archaeological Monitoring, Recording and Photogrammetric Survey**

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Project background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Bristol City Council's Parks Project Team to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring, recording and photogrammetric survey during and after the clearing of vegetation from a ruined garden structure by volunteers from Friends of Blaise and staff from the Parks Service. The clearance work encompassed a 20 m<sup>2</sup> area on the north side of Castle Hill, Blaise Castle Estate, Bristol BS9 2RH, centred on NGR 355923 178424 (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The clearing of vegetation is not covered by planning condition or Scheduled Monument Consent. The proposed methodology was discussed and agreed with the Principal Historic Environment Officer for Bristol City Council.
- 1.1.3 The archaeological work was undertaken on the 6, 13, 20 and 27 March 2024.

#### **1.2 Scope of the report**

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the archaeological work, to interpret the results within their local or regional context (or otherwise), and to assess their potential to address the aims outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI: Wessex Archaeology 2024), thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

#### **1.3 Location, topography and geology**

- 1.3.1 The site comprises an oval stone structure measuring 5.5 x 4 m, which is sited just below the north brow of Castle Hill, in the centre of Blaise Castle Estate. The structure is located with a scheduled Iron Age hillfort that contains remains of a Romano-British settlement, a medieval chapel and associated burial ground, and an 18th-century sham castle known as Blaise Castle.
- 1.3.2 Blaise Castle Estate is a Grade II\* Registered Park and Garden, situated between the suburbs of Lawrence Weston, Henbury, Westbury-on-Trym and Coombe Dingle, 6 km to the north-west of Bristol city centre.
- 1.3.3 The stone structure is situated on a north facing slope at approximately 92 m OD.
- 1.3.4 The bedrock geology is mapped as Carboniferous Limestone of the Clifton Down Limestone Formation (British Geological Survey 2024).



## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The stone structure is an unlisted ruin, situated within Blaise Castle Scheduled Monument (List Entry No. 1004530), Blaise Castle and Hamlet Grade II\* Registered Park and Garden (List Entry No. 1001426) and Kingsweston and Trym Valley Conservation Area.

### 2.2 Previous investigations on Castle Hill

#### *Antiquarian observations (1707)*

- 2.2.1 Aytkins (1768) mentions a chapel of St Blaise and notes that its foundations 'were dug up in 1707, when many modern coins, and ancient Roman coins, and other Roman antiquities were found; and a vault ten yards long and six yards broad, supposed to have been in the church, many human bodies were discovered, whose skulls were white entire and firm' (Rahtz and Clevedon Brown 1958, 149).

#### *Antiquarian observations (1766)*

- 2.2.2 Rudder (1779) notes that many Roman coins were found during 'digging the foundations of a pleasure house on top of the hill' (Rahtz and Clevedon Brown 1958, 149).

#### *Antiquarian observations (1768)*

- 2.2.3 Further coins were found during the construction of Blaise Castle (Sayer 1821; Rahtz and Clevedon Brown 1958, 149).

#### *Find (1819)*

- 2.2.4 An Anglo-Saxon strap end was purported found on Castle Hill in 1819. This is now held by Bristol Museum and Art Gallery (Grinsell 1958, 168).

#### *Excavation (1918)*

- 2.2.5 In 1918, J. A. Bartlett excavated the remains of a buttressed building measuring 28 x 14 ft (8.53 x 4.27 m), which was surrounded by an extensive burial ground. The building, which was located 20 ft (6.1 m) to the east of Blaise Castle, was interpreted as the remains of a small medieval chapel dedicated to St Blasius. Possible remains of other structures and numerous Romano-British artefacts were noted in the surrounding soil (Bartlett 1919).

#### *Excavation (1956–7)*

- 2.2.6 Further excavations, comprising sixteen 4 ft (1.22 m) square test pits across the hillfort, were undertaken in 1956–7. This revealed evidence that hillfort was intensively occupied in the Iron Age and throughout the Romano-British period. Late medieval occupation and the presence of a burial ground and associated chapel was also confirmed (Allen *et al.* 2018; Rahtz and Clevedon Brown 1958).

### 2.3 Previous investigations of the garden structure

#### *Notes (1918)*

- 2.3.1 In 1918, Bartlett (1919, 164) noted a 'little building known to be Lady Astley's summer house', which 'shows some good examples of Queen Anne Gothic of that date, viz. 1708.' Bartlett's description suggest that the garden structure was an intact building in 1918 (Russell 2003, 14).



### *Survey (1997)*

- 2.3.2 In 1997, a survey of the ruined garden structure on the north slope of Castle Hill was undertaken by J. Russell (*ibid.*, 13–14). The building, which is clearly the same building that Bartlett described as ‘Lady Astley’s summer house’, was briefly exposed following a 1997 programme of scrub clearance. It comprised a 6 x 4.5 m oval structure, built of Carboniferous Limestone, with interior brick lining and Bath Stone details. The building, which survived to a height of 1.8 m, was divided into two unequal cells, the smaller of which was interpreted as a privy. It was also suggested that the building was constructed for Thomas Farr and was likely to be contemporary with Blaise Castle (i.e., c. 1766), rather than c. 1708 date proposed by Bartlett.

## **2.4 Historical context**

### *Blaise Castle*

- 2.4.1 Blaise Castle is a Grade II\* listed Gothick sham castle situated to the south-west of the ruined garden structure. The sham castle was built in 1766 by Robert Mylne for Thomas Farr. It is a circular two-storey building, constructed of Lias ashlar with Bath Stone details, with three turrets with slightly overhanging crenelated parapets. The castle has a symmetrical front elevation with a central two-centred arched doorway below a large cross window with Y-tracery and cinquefoil heads. Three windows to each turret have shallow arched cinquefoil heads in rectangular frames. The building has blind cross arrow slits to the ground and top floors and pierced quatrefoils to the turrets and a shield above the door. The sham castle was gutted by fire in 1956 and was fully renovated in 1957.

### *Garden structure*

- 2.4.2 The garden structure is likely to have formed part of a designed route to the castle. Previous groundwork at the site has revealed the remains of two chambers within the structure; one circular brick lined room and a second ‘D’ shaped space that Russell (2003, 14) interpreted as a privy.

## **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **3.1 Aims**

- 3.1.1 The aims of the archaeological work, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2024), were to:
- allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of the development or other works;
  - provide an opportunity, if needed, to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the allocated resources are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard; and
  - guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

### **3.2 General objectives**

- 3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the watching brief, also defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2024), were to:



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

### **3.3 Site-specific objectives**

3.3.1 The site-specific objectives of the investigation as set out in the brief (Bristol City Council 2023) and repeated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2024) were to:

- supervise volunteers clearing rubble and vegetation within and around the garden structure;
- work with the volunteers to record and develop interpretations of the structure and broaden the understanding of its significance within the historic landscape;
- where practical, to assess any subsurface features/deposits and their significance without excavating them;
- ensure community involvement where possible; and
- produce a report on the work that defines the significance of the structure within its landscape context.

## **4 METHODS**

### **4.1 Introduction**

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2024) and in general compliance with ClfA standards and guidance (ClfA 2023a–b).

4.1.2 The monitored works comprised volunteers working with the Parks Service clearing vegetation and modern debris from a ruined garden structure in the woods below Blaise Castle. The methods employed are summarised below.

### **4.2 Fieldwork**

4.2.1 The archaeological monitoring, recording and photogrammetric survey was undertaken by two archaeologists working in conjunction with volunteers and Parks Service staff.

4.2.2 Where necessary, the surface of archaeological deposits was be cleaned by hand. No intrusive excavation was undertaken. Unstratified surface finds were collected.

### 4.3 Photogrammetric survey

- 4.3.1 The survey was carried out in line with the standards established in Metric Survey Specifications for Cultural Heritage (Historic England 2015) and Photogrammetric Applications for Cultural Heritage (Historic England 2017).
- 4.3.2 The survey, which captured the full extent of the garden structure, was conducted using a Canon EOS 5D MkIII full frame DSLR camera with 21-megapixel capability. The photography was controlled using a temporary 1 m scale.
- 4.3.3 The number of photographs, photograph overlap, lens focal length and distance to subject were adjusted with the aim of achieving a sub-2mm per pixel ground sampling distance (GSD). This is commensurate with a 1:20 photogrammetric survey as defined by Historic England (2015).
- 4.3.4 Data processing was carried out using Agisoft Metashape software to produce a 3D point cloud and high-resolution mesh model. From this, orthomosaic plan and elevation images were generated for use in this report.
- 4.3.5 A reduced, optimised version of the model has been hosted on Sketchfab for online viewing, and the point cloud or mesh can be made available on request (typical formats .e57 and .obj respectively).

### 4.4 Recording

- 4.4.1 In addition to the photogrammetric survey, a full photographic record of the structure was made using a Canon EOS 5D MkIII full frame DSLR camera with 21-megapixel capability. This recorded the detail and general context of the principal features and the site. Digital images will be subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which will embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.
- 4.4.2 There were numerous pieces of loose *ex-situ* architectural stonework in and around the garden structure. These included window and door surrounds and pieces of external cornice. Selected examples of all forms were photographed with a suitable sized scale and hand drawn at a scale of 1:5.

### 4.5 Finds and environmental strategies

- 4.5.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2024). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014a), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and ClfA's (n.d. a) *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 1: Description).

### 4.6 Monitoring

- 4.6.1 The Principal Historic Environment Officer monitored the archaeological work on behalf of Bristol City Council.



## 5 BUILDING DESCRIPTION

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Removal of vegetation and modern detritus showed that the garden structure is an oval building measuring 18 x 13 ft (5.5 x 4 m), with the long axis aligned east–west and an offset foundation. The walls, which are 1 ½ ft (0.46 m) thick, survive to a height of between 0.3 m and 1.8 m. The building is divided into two rooms: the larger (west) room is circular; the smaller east room is semi-circular, with a straight west wall and curved corners. The larger room has an internal diameter of 10 ft (3.05 m); the smaller room has internal diameter of 8 ⅓ ft (2.54 m). The doorways are 3 ft (0.91 m) wide.
- 5.1.2 Extensive spreads of rubble from the collapsed parts of the building were evident around the building and were most prominent on the downslope to the north–east of the structure. The distance of the rubble from the building suggest that it was deliberately cleared during the 20th century, perhaps to create a ‘scenic ruin’.
- 5.1.3 The walls are constructed of roughly squared Carboniferous Limestone rubble bonded with copious quantities of grey lime mortar. The interior of the west room is lined with handmade bricks (230 x 110 x 70 mm); the interior of the east room was faced with rubble, though there was a small area of brickwork at the narrowest part of the west wall.
- 5.1.4 There were doorways at the east and west ends of the building, both of which have simple square section Bath Stone surrounds. The eastern doorway has a semicircular Pennant Sandstone threshold; the threshold of the western door was missing.
- 5.1.5 The eastern part of the east room was paved with bricks (230 x 110 x 70 mm). Most of the west side of the room was occupied by a large, partially infilled, stone-lined pit. The lining of this pit, which was built of the same Carboniferous Limestone rubble as the rest of the building, is part of the building’s foundations, indicating that it is an original feature of the building. Although it was not possible to examine the lower parts of the pit in detail, the top of what appeared to be the archway of a drain leading away from the building was visible on the east side of the pit. The top of the pit is partially capped with masonry that supported two Bristol-glazed stoneware water traps and associated (smashed) water closet basins and 9-inch drainage pipes. The pipe joints are bonded with Portland cement and are linked to a contemporary subterranean brick-lined and stone-capped cesspit (visible through a small opening in the ground to the north of the building). The internal walls of the east room are plastered with white lime render. The lower 0.5 m of the western half of the room is not plastered: this area would have been fitted with a timber enclosure that served as a lavatory seat and support for the water closet basins. There is no evidence of a partition between the two water closets.
- 5.1.6 The western room was lined with brickwork with numerous regularly spaced holes: these are interpreted as sockets for short timbers, used as fixings timber panelling, wainscotting, or battens for lathe and plaster. There is a stone foundation running north–south across the room. The area to the east of this foundation was infilled with rubble derived from the collapse of the building. The area to the west of the foundation was paved with rectangular Pennant Sandstone flagstones laid in an irregular pattern. The flagstones had a pronounced slump towards the centre of the floor. Tapping on the floor produced a hollow sound, which suggest that it has partially subsided into a void or poorly consolidated infill material below. There were several timber socket holes in the external wall, just above the level of the flagstones floor and below the level where the brick lining begins. The function of these sockets is uncertain, but the most plausible interpretation is that they are for joist sockets for a suspended timber floor: the flagstone floor being a later replacement for decayed



timbers in the western half of the room (the area closest to the door which would have been more susceptible to damp).

- 5.1.7 There were numerous pieces of *ex-situ* masonry (Figs 12–19) in and around the building. These include examples of curving external cornice with a plain concave profile; window/door surrounds with roll moulding; a small quatrefoil opening (an unglazed window or vent); a rectangular door or window head with a curving planform and concave mouldings with spandrels; and a specially shaped windowsill with a tapered and curved planform that matches the north-west side of the building. The windowsill incorporated the lower parts of the side jambs; the latter have complex reveal mouldings that do not match those of the window/door head, which suggest that they are from different openings.
- 5.1.8 Red earthenware pantiles were also evident in and around the building, indicating that the building's roof was originally tiled, though this may be a replacement for an earlier thatched roof.

## 6 FINDS EVIDENCE

### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 A small quantity of unstratified post-medieval/modern finds were collected from the ground surface. The finds, which have been quantified by material type and context, comprise 70 fragments (6,769 g) from two stoneware water closets; 2 sherds of post-medieval redware pottery (245g); and a large door hinge (1,074g).

### 6.2 Sanitary ceramics

- 6.2.1 Seventy unstratified fragments derived from two smashed ceramic water closets were found in and around the eastern room of the garden structure. The *in-situ* bases of these water closets were mortared to associated pipework on the west side of the east room.
- 6.2.2 The water closets (Fig. 20) are made from 'improved' or 'Bristol' stoneware, which was invented c. 1835 at Powell's Temple Gate Pottery in the Redcliffe suburb of Bristol. This hard-wearing feldspathic glaze was widely used for utilitarian wares such as bottles, jars and sanitary wares.
- 6.2.3 Stoneware water closets were being marketed by Doulton & Co. from at least 1850, and by 1851 other manufacturers, such as the Port Dundas Pottery Company of Glasgow, were advertising improved stoneware water closets for sale (*Birmingham Journal*, 2 February 1850, 2; *Glasgow Herald*, 7 July 1851, 1).
- 6.2.4 The water closets from the garden structure at Blaise Castle are 'servant's' or 'cottage' type basins with flushing rims. The first patent for a flushing rim was issued to Edmund Sharpe in 1855: this arrangement subsequently became standard for later 19th-century water closets. Servant's closets were conical with an inlet at the top that projected water sideways around the rim. There was a vertical outlet in the base, which was normally (as was the case at Blaise Castle) connected to a separate water trap. A wooden enclosure was required to support the basin and seat. This arrangement was superseded by the development free standing ceramic water closets in the 1880s (Eveleigh 2008, 36–7, 46). A parallel for the water closets from Blaise Castle can be found in an 1879 advert for Thomas Twyford's 'servant's basin' (*ibid.*, 54).
- 6.2.5 There are no manufacturer's marks on the water closets from Blaise Castle. They may have been made by a large national company, such as Twyford or Doulton, or by one of the local

manufacturers that specialised in sanitary ware. The latter include: an unnamed pottery at 131 Temple Street, operated by Jane and Ann Bright (1848–3) and the Price family (1853–69); and Mayer, Boulton & Co.'s short lived Cornwallis Pottery in Easton, which was operational in 1854–8 (Jackson 2019). The water closets at Blaise Castle probably date from c. 1855–1900.

### 6.3 Iron

- 6.3.1 A two-part wrought iron barrel hinge was recovered as an unstratified find (Fig. 21). This is likely to be derived from one of the doors to the garden structure. The butt end is rectangular and measures  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{4}$  in (165 x 121 x 6 mm); the other leaf is 20 in (508 mm) long and tapers from  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in (57 mm) at the hinge end to  $\frac{1}{2}$  in (13 mm) near the tip. There is a 1 in (0.27 mm) circular part at the tip.

## 7 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 7.1 Summary and Discussion

- 7.1.1 The archaeological work has created a detailed record of a neglected 18th-century garden building, which probably formed part of Thomas Farr's c. 1766–78 improvements to the Blaise Castle Estate. His other improvements included the construction of Blaise Castle (a Gothick sham castle on Castle Hill designed by Robert Mylne); three 'bastions' (viewing platforms), complete with fake wooden cannons; and the building of a 'Root House'. The latter was a very unusual timber-framed building, built of gnarled tree trunks on a terrace cut into a steep wooded slope overlooking the Henbury Brook (Russell 2003, 11–15).
- 7.1.2 The recorded garden structure is located on the north slope of Castle Hill, a few meters downhill from Blaise Castle and the site of the medieval chapel of St Blasius. The building is an oval structure, built on a small terrace that was presumably cut into the hillside for its construction. The building is divided into two spaces: a circular room and a smaller semi-circular room. The latter incorporates an integral subterranean chamber, which is interpreted as a cesspit: this may have had an associated arched outlet that drained eastwards. In the late 19th century, a pair of improved stoneware water closets and associated pipework and timber box seating were installed over the earlier cesspit, along with a new brick-lined cesspit, which is located to the north of the building. The toilets were 'servant's' or 'cottage' types: the cheapest form of late 19th-century water closet, which had a reputation for being smelly and unsuitable for use indoors (Eveleigh 2008, 36). The use of this type of closet suggests that, by the later 19th century, this privy was intended for use by staff rather than polite visitors to the garden. The presence of water closets is interesting, in that these would have required a water supply. It is possible that they were linked to a piped mains connection, but the distance from the road and other buildings would have made this an expensive option. Another possibility is that the lavatory was supplied using water from a cistern higher up the hill, perhaps using rainwater captured from the roof of the sham castle. Whilst there is no physical evidence for such an arrangement, it would not be unusual for a Georgian builder to install a method of collecting rainwater. In the days before pressurised mains piping, water was a precious resource that few, even the very wealthy, would squander unnecessarily.
- 7.1.3 The larger circular room was divided in two by a foundation, which may have been a support for floor joists. The area to the east and west of this wall were infilled with (unexcavated) loose and poorly consolidated soil and rubble. This material appeared to be filling two voids, the purpose of which is uncertain. The most plausible interpretation of these features is that they are floor voids (i.e., a gap beneath a suspended wooden floor). The western half of the room is paved with Pennant flagstones. These are lower than the entrance threshold and

the room's internal brick lining and are interpreted as a later replacement for a decayed wooden floor. Regularly spaced holes in the internal brickwork are interpreted as fixture holes for wooden panelling, wainscotting or lathe and plaster. The function of this room is uncertain. It lacked heating or any features that might indicate a purpose, and it is perhaps best interpreted as a summer house or shelter from inclement weather.

- 7.1.4 Several *ex-situ* pieces of ornamental Bath Stone stonework, including external cornice and window and door surrounds, were noted in and around the building. These indicate that the building was finished to a high standard. A window head with spandrel appears to be a directly parallel for the square-headed windows in Blaise Castle, as is a quatrefoil opening, though the latter is smaller than the examples in the towers of the sham castle. The windowsill and door surround with roll mouldings from the garden structure are not paralleled in Blaise Castle, which may indicate that the garden structure is not precisely contemporary with it.

## 7.2 Conclusions

- 7.2.1 The garden structure at Blaise Castle is an enigmatic building. The clearance and recording work undertaken in conjunction with Friends of Blaise volunteers and Bristol City Council Parks Service has revealed hitherto unknown features of the building and confirmed that the smaller eastern room is, and always has been, a privy. The function of the larger room remains uncertain. The level of detail on the window and door surrounds and the fact that the room was clearly lined, possibly with lathe and plaster, but potentially with decorative wooden panelling or wainscotting, suggest that the building was intended for polite use and is probably best interpreted as a garden house or shelter for use by guests during inclement weather. The building probably stood for at least 150 years, and it is likely that its function changed over time. By the early 20th-century, Blaise Castle was being used as a residential building. The type of late 19th-century water closet used in the garden structure suggests that in later years the building may have had a more prosaic use: a lavatory and storage shed for staff and residents of the sham castle.

## 8 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

### 8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 The archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Bristol. Bristol Museum and Art Gallery has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code BRSMG 2024/1. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

### 8.2 Preparation of the archive

#### *Physical archive*

- 8.2.1 The physical archive will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014b; SMA 1995).
- 8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site/accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

1 cardboard box of artefacts, ordered by material type

1 file of paper records and A4 graphics

### *Digital archive*

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

## **8.3 Selection strategy**

- 8.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected for retention are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities (i.e., the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving museum).
- 8.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's (n.d. b) *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (e.g., Wessex Archaeology's specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.
- 8.3.3 Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. The proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (e.g., museum, local authority), prior to deposition of the archive. Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

### *Finds*

- 8.3.4 The finds comprise two sherds of post-medieval pottery; 70 pieces of sanitary ceramics derived from two water closets; and two-part 18th-/19th-century strap hinge. The water closets were fitted into the garden structure in the late 19th century, and it is probable that the hinge was also a fixture of this building. Following on-site discussions with the museum service, it was agreed that the sanitary ceramics and iron hinge should be retained.
- 8.3.5 The two unstratified pieces of post-medieval pottery have no research potential and are recommended for discard.

### *Documentary records*

- 8.3.6 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (written scheme of investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

### *Digital data*

- 8.3.7 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others that are not directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.





## **8.4 Security copy**

- 8.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g., Brown 2011), on completion of the project, a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file.

## **8.5 OASIS**

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

## **9 COPYRIGHT**

### **9.1 Archive and report copyright**

- 9.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
- 9.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER), where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

### **9.2 Third party data copyright**

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

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## 11 APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 OASIS summary

OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-523170
Project Name	Archaeological Monitoring, Recording and Photogrammetric Survey of Garden Structure, Castle Hill, Blaise Castle Estate, Bristol
Sitename	Garden Structure, Castle Hill, Blaise Castle Estate, Bristol
Sitecode	291130
Project Identifier(s)	291130
Activity type	Photogrammetric Survey, Watching Brief
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Community research
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	06-Mar-2024 - 27-Mar-2024
Location	Garden Structure, Castle Hill, Blaise Castle Estate, Bristol NGR : ST 55923 78424 LL : 51.503021480041205, -2.63641712106621 12 Fig : 355923,178424
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Bristol, City of Local Authority District : Bristol, City of Parish : Bristol, City of, unparished area
Project Methodology	Monitoring volunteers clearing vegetation and modern debris
Project Results	The monitored works uncovered the remains of an oval 18th-century 'Gothick' style garden building built of roughly squared Carboniferous limestone, with brick and ornate Bath Stone details. The building, which is likely to have been single storey, was divided into two rooms: the larger room was circular and of uncertain purpose. This room is likely to have originally had a suspended wooden floor and timber- or lathe and plaster-lined walls. The smaller semi-circular room was a privy with a brick floor and a subterranean stone-lined cesspit. During the late 19th-century, two 'servant's basin' type water closets were installed. These were associated with an external brick-lined cesspit. The building was abandoned sometime after 1918. It was surveyed in 1997, by which time it had evidently been ruinous for many years.
Keywords	Privy House - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Garden House - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Sanitary Ware - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Hinge - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
Funder	District, borough or city council Bristol City Council
HER	Bristol City SMR - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Bruce Eaton
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive - to be deposited with British Museum Central Archive; Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;

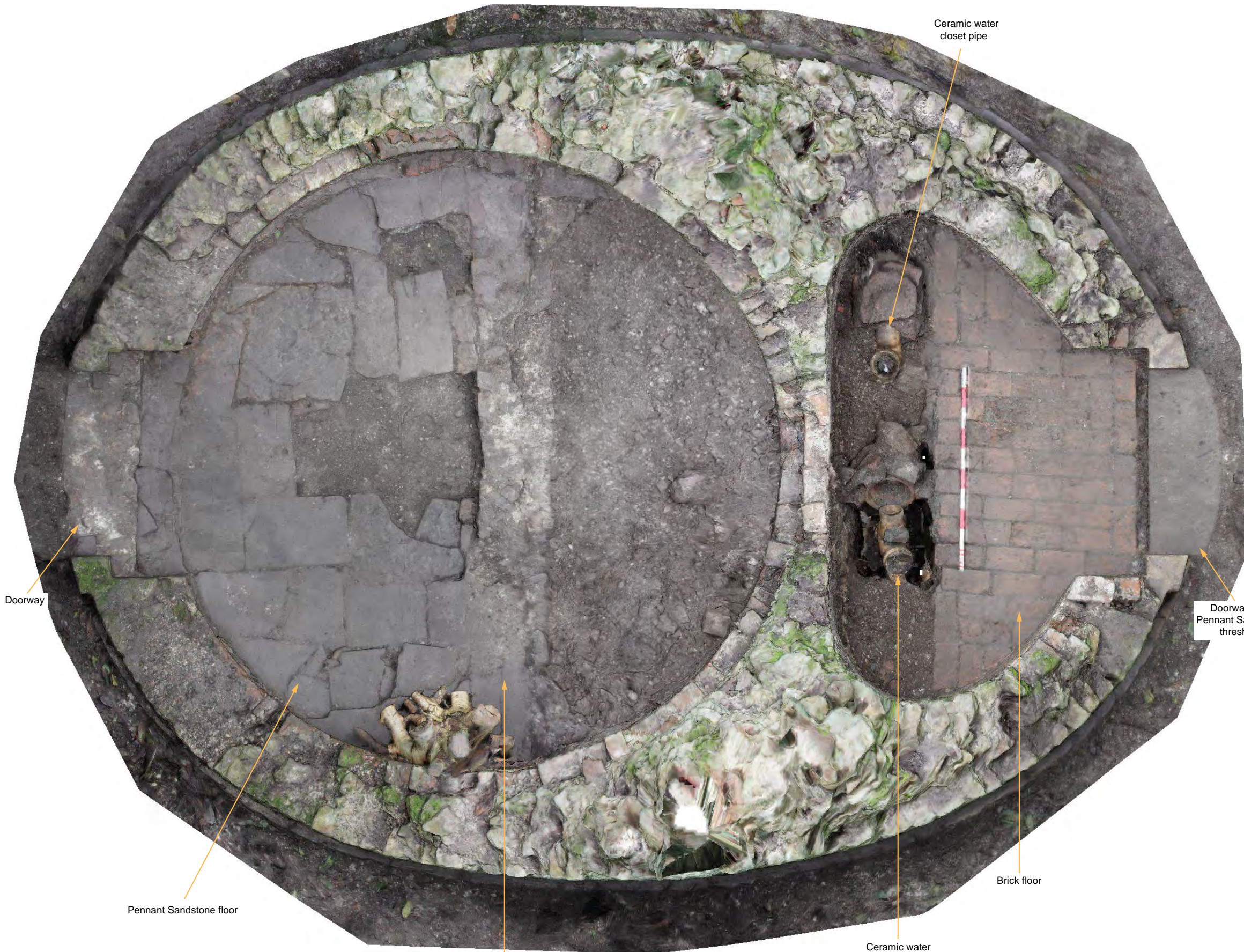


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Figure 1: Site location plan





Doorway

Pennant Sandstone floor

Foundation

Ceramic water closet pipe

Brick floor

Doorway with Pennant Sandstone threshold

Ceramic water closet pipe

0 1 m

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Figure 2: Orthographic plan view of garden structure

External East Facing Elevation of Garden Structure



Doorway



External West Facing Elevation of Garden Structure



Doorway

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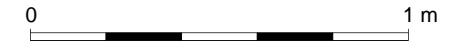


Fig. 3: External east facing and west facing elevation of garden structure

External North Facing Elevation of Garden Structure



External South Facing Elevation of Garden Structure



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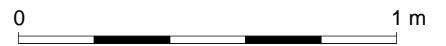
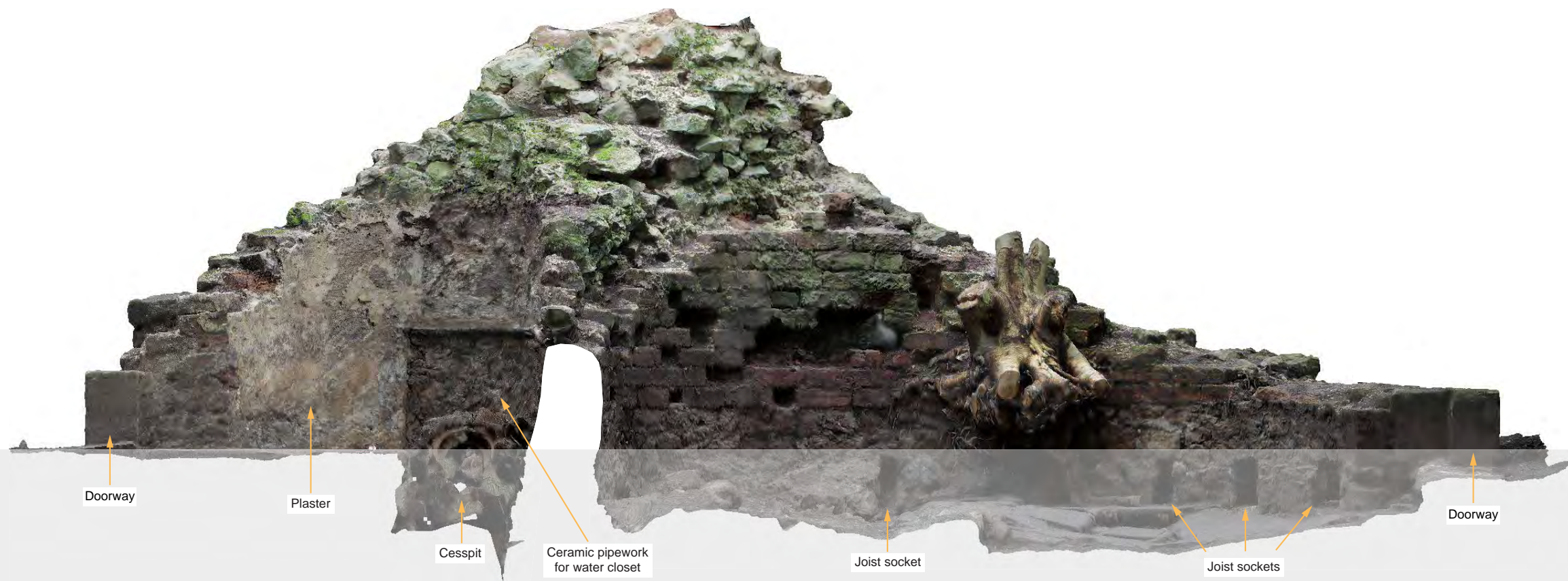
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Fig. 4: External north facing and south facing elevation of garden structure



Internal North Facing Elevation of Garden Feature



Internal South Facing Elevation of Garden Feature




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Fig. 5: Internal north facing and south facing elevation of garden structure



Figure 6: Blaise Castle, viewed from the east



Figure 7: Blaise Castle, viewed from the south



Figure 8: Friends of Blaise volunteers undertaking clearance work, looking north



Figure 9: Recording architectural stonework, looking north-east

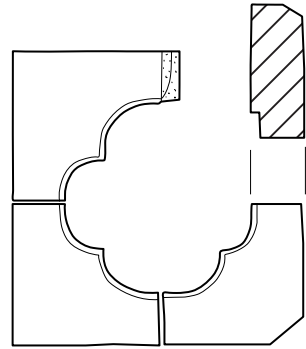


Figure 10: Garden structure, looking east

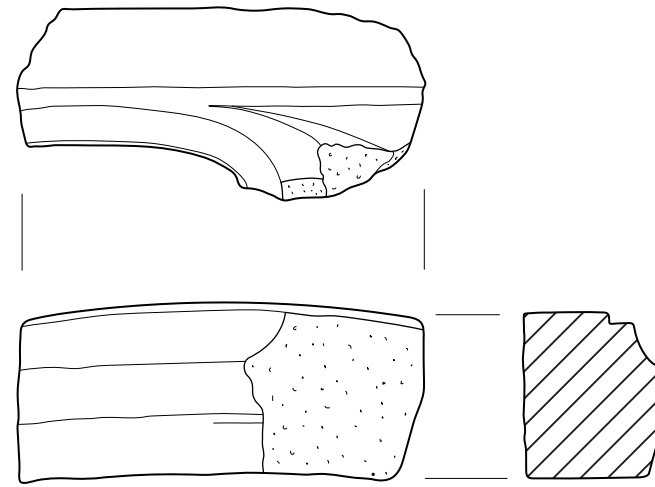


Figure 11: Garden structure, looking west

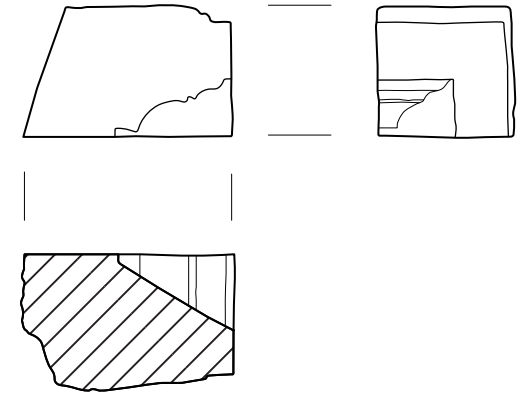
Stone 1, quatrefoil: face and profile



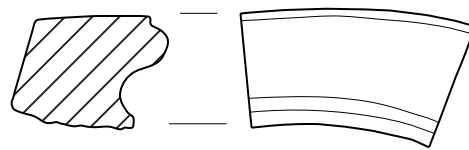
Stone 2, window head: face, underside and profile



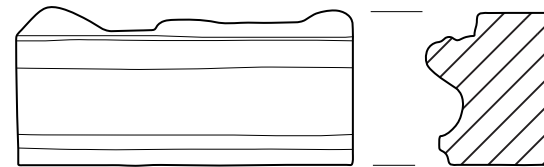
Stone 4, windowsill: top, face and profile



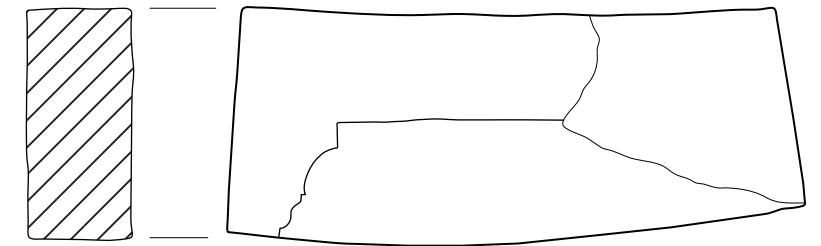
Stone 5, door head: face and profile



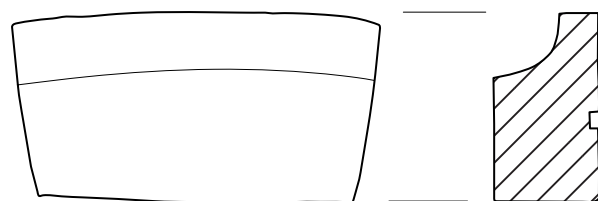
Stone 6, door jam: face and profile



Stone 7, windowsill: top view and end profile



Stone 8, cornice: face and profile



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Figure 12: Architectural stonework: stones 1–2, 4–8





Figure 13: Stone 1: quatrefoil opening. 0.3 m scale



Figure 14: Stone 2: window head. 0.3 m scale



Figure 15: Stone 4: windowsill and reveal. 0.5 m scale



Figure 16: Stone 7: windowsill and reveal. 0.5 m scale



Figure 17: Stones 4 and 7: windowsill and reveal. 0.5 m scale



Figure 18: Stone 6: door surround. 0.5 m scale





Figure 19: Stone 8: external cornice. 0.5 m scale



Figure 20: Part of a late 19th-century 'servant's basin' type water closet



Figure 21: 18th-/19th-century iron door hinge. 0.2 m scale



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