

CPAT Report No. 1475

Moat Farm, Bishops Moat, Powys

Archaeological Watching Brief



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Client name: Mr and Mrs B Jones
 CPAT Project No: 2175
 Project Name: Moat Farm
 Grid Reference: SO 29144 89597
 County/LPA: Powys
 Planning Application:
 CPAT Report No: 1475
 Event PRN: 140152
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Summary

A watching brief conducted in January 2017 at Moat Farm during the excavation of foundations for a new extension revealed the outer edge for the defensive ditch surrounding the bailey associated with the adjacent Bishop's Moat earthwork castle. While the earthworks are protected as a scheduled ancient monument (SAM MG 092), the extension to Moat Farm lies outside the scheduled area. Owing to the restricted depth of the foundations only the uppermost fills of the ditch were identified, none of which produced any evidence for dating.

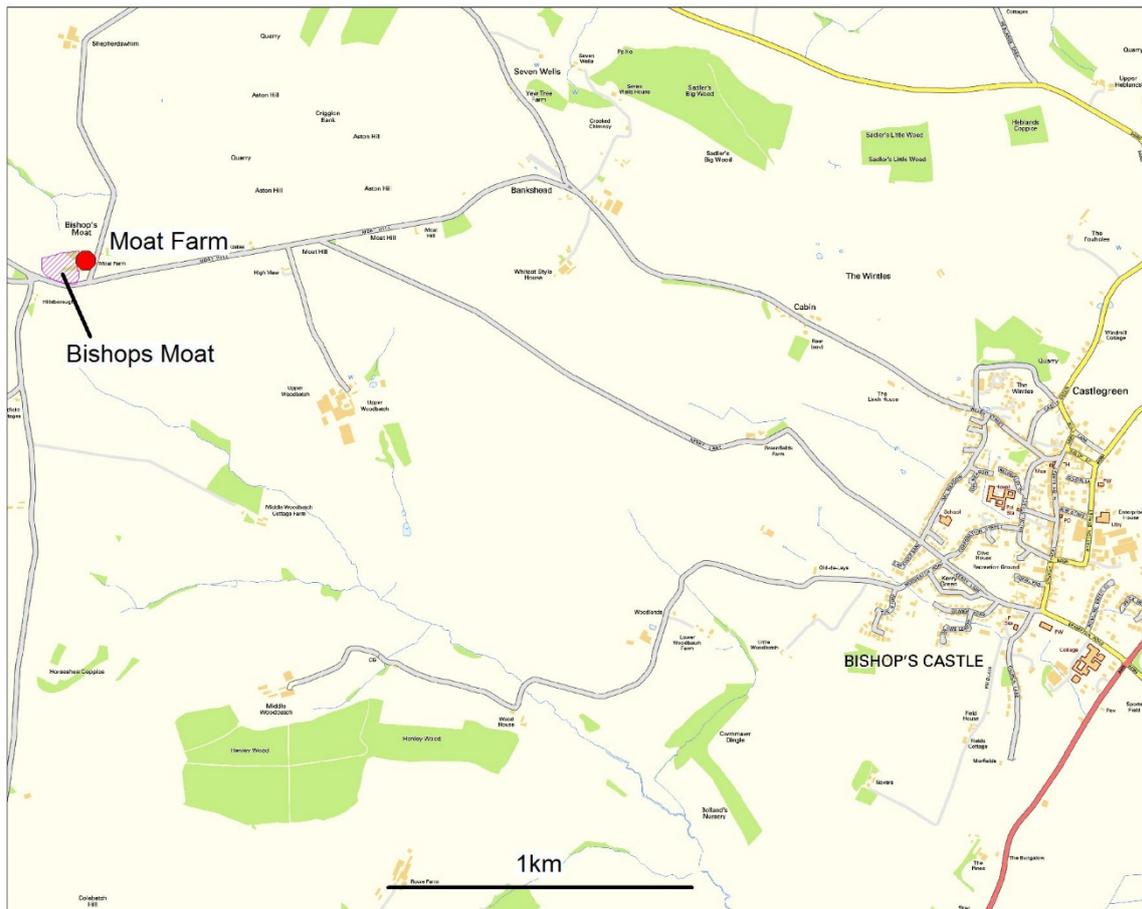
1 Introduction

1.1. The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) conducted a watching brief during the construction of a new extension to Moat Farm, Bishops Moat, Bishops Castle (SO 29144 89597) planning application P/2015/0821). The development is located immediately east of the scheduled monument known as Bishops Moat Motte and Bailey Castle (SAM MG 092).

1.2. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local authority, had determined that the watching brief was required to ensure the preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be disturbed by the development. Accordingly, planning permission was granted with the inclusion of the following condition relating to the historic environment:

3. The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeological contractor is present during the undertaking of any ground works in the development area so that an archaeological watching brief can be conducted. The archaeological watching brief must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs. The Local Planning Authority will be informed in writing, at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the development, of the name of the said archaeological contractor. A copy of the resulting report should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Development Control Archaeologist, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (41 Broad Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7RR Email: markwalters@cpat.org.uk Tel: 01938 553670). After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the report and resulting archive should also be sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record.

Reason: To secure preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be revealed during ground excavations for the consented development in accordance with UDP Policy ENV18.



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Fig. 1 Location of Moat Farm

2 Background

- 2.1. The new extension lies immediately east of the scheduled monument known as Bishops Moat Motte and Bailey Castle (SAM MG 092; PRN 237). The motte is 37m diameter at the base, 5.5m high and is 5.5m diameter on the summit. There is an oval bailey to the east, measuring around 80m by 54m, defined by a bank with a substantial ditch. The original eastern defences extended out beyond the scheduled area and may have included the original entrance in through the defences. The outer bank and ditch have been partially cut away by the construction of the outbuildings and farmhouse in the past.



Fig. 2 The earthworks of Bishops Moat viewed from the south, with Moat Farm to the left of the view. Photo CPAT 84-c-0469

3 Watching Brief

- 3.1. The watching brief was conducted by Ian Davies on 11-12 January 2017 during the excavation of foundations for the new extension (Fig. 4). The foundations were generally around 0.8m wide and up to 1.0m deep, cutting to the natural subsoil.
- 3.2. The southern part of the extension had previously been occupied by a garage, a levelling layer for which was observed in section, consisting of shaley, imported material (2) which, at the southernmost end, directly overlay the natural subsoil (3). A modern post-hole (4) and narrow service trench (6) were identified cutting through these deposits.
- 3.3. The outer edge of the bailey ditch (8) was clearly visible in section (Fig. 4), the sloping cut being apparent in section A-B (Fig. 6), while section B-C (Fig. 7) contained a longitudinal section, the northern end of which exposed the underlying bedrock (17).
- 3.4. The foundation trench exposed a sequence of upper fills within the ditch, some of which contained obvious iron panning, but none produced any dating evidence.

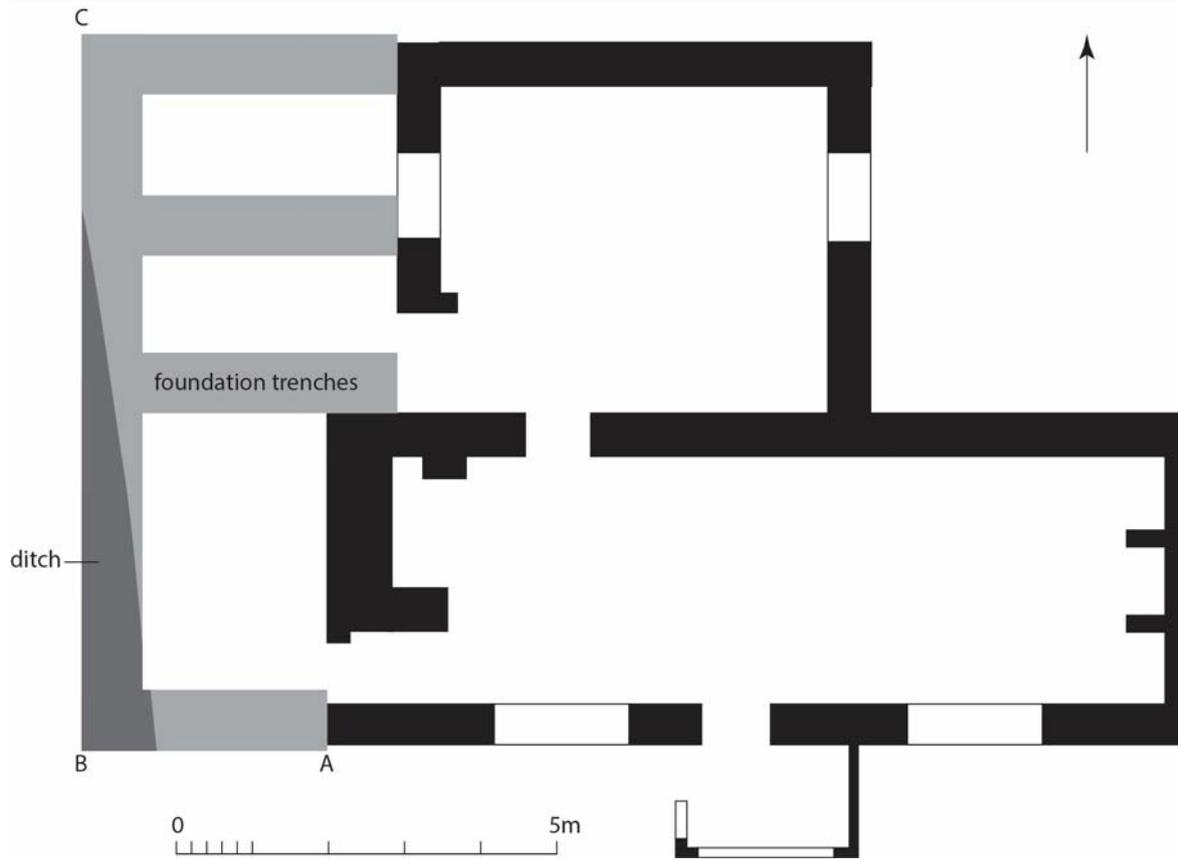


Fig. 3 Plan of the foundation trenches and the location of the bailey ditch

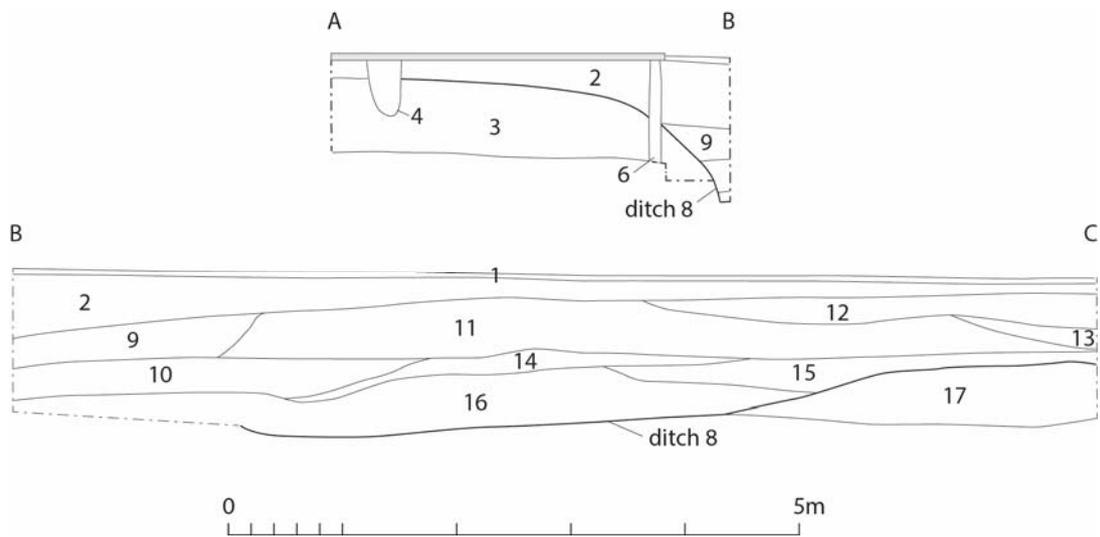


Fig. 4 Section A-B and B-C



Fig. 5 General view of the foundation trenches. Photo CPAT 4287-0002



Fig. 6 The upper fills of the bailey ditch viewed from the north. Photo CPAT 4287-0005



Fig. 7 The upper fills of the bailey ditch viewed from the south-east. Photo CPAT 4287-0008

4 Conclusions

- 4.1. A watching brief conducted at Moat Farm during the excavation of foundations for a new extension has revealed the outer edge for the defensive ditch surrounding the bailey associated with the adjacent Bishop's Moat earthwork castle. While the earthworks are protected as a scheduled ancient monument (SAM MG 092), the extension to Moat Farm lies outside the scheduled area (Fig. 8).
- 4.2. Owing to the restricted depth of the foundations only the uppermost fills of the ditch were identified, none of which produced any evidence for dating.

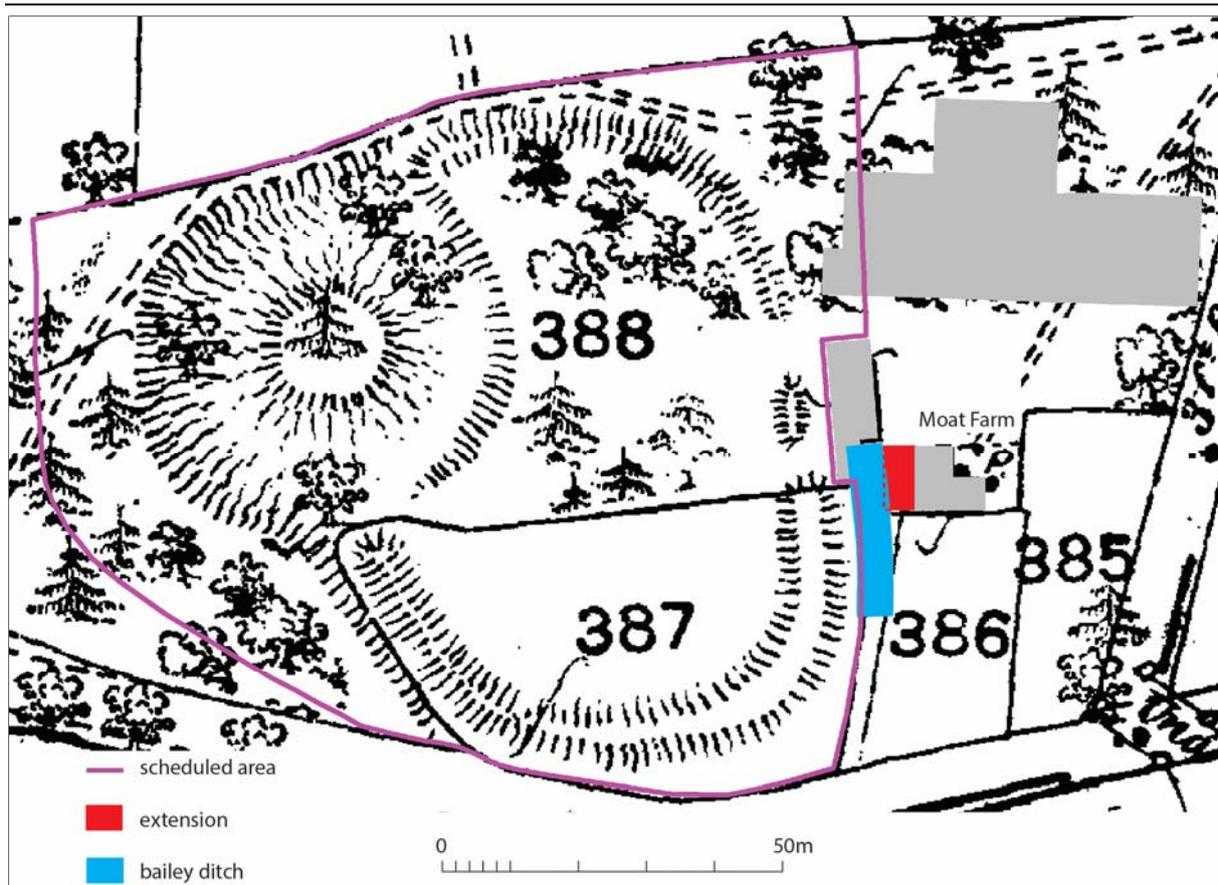


Fig. 8 Plan showing the location of the extension, the bailey ditch and the scheduled area (based on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map of 1884)

5 Archive deposition Statement

- 5.1. The project archive has been prepared according to the CPAT Archive Policy and in line with the CIfA *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives guidance* (2014). The digital archive only will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust and the paper/drawn/digital archive with the National Monuments Record (RCAHMW). A summary of the archive is provided in Appendix 1.

Appendix 1: Site Archive

CPAT Event PRN: 140152

2 watching brief visit forms

1 context register form

1 drawings register form

2 photographic register forms

17 context record forms

3 site drawings

40 digital images, CPAT film no. 4287

Appendix 2: CPAT WSI 1753

1 Introduction

- 1.1. The Field Services Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) have been invited by Rebecca Jones to prepare a specification for undertaking a watching brief during the construction of a new extension to Moat Farm, Bishops Moat, Bishops Castle (planning application P/2015/0821). The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local authority, have determined that the watching brief is required to ensure the preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be disturbed by the development.
- 1.2. Information retained within the regional Historic Environment Record indicates that the development is located immediately east of the scheduled monument known as Bishops Moat Motte and Bailey Castle (SAM MG 092). The original eastern defences extended out beyond the scheduled area and may have included the original entrance in through the defences. The outer bank and ditch have been partially cut away by the construction of the outbuildings and farmhouse in the past, but sub-surface remains of the outer ditch in particular and any access track through the defences may be encountered in the new extension foundations. Accordingly, planning permission was granted with the inclusion of the following condition relating to the historic environment:

3. The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeological contractor is present during the undertaking of any ground works in the development area so that an archaeological watching brief can be conducted. The archaeological watching brief must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs. The Local Planning Authority will be informed in writing, at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the development, of the name of the said archaeological contractor. A copy of the resulting report should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Development Control Archaeologist, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (41 Broad Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 TRR Email: markwalters@cpat.org.uk Tel: 01938 553670). After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the report and resulting archive should also be sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record.

Reason: To secure preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be revealed during ground excavations for the consented development in accordance with UDP Policy ENV18.

2 Methodology

- 2.1. The watching brief will be conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014). The watching brief will be undertaken to monitor groundworks associated with the construction of the new extension. The excavation of any archaeological

features or deposits will be undertaken by hand using the conventional techniques for archaeological excavation:

- The presence or absence of archaeological features encountered during the ground works will be noted.
- Where features of archaeological interest are identified during the ground works they will be systematically investigated by hand with sufficient work being undertaken to determine their date, character and function, using the conventional techniques for archaeological excavation and in accordance with CIfA Standard and Guidance.
- All features will be located as accurately as possible on an overall plan of the development at an appropriate scale, showing boundaries depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping.
- Contexts will be recorded on individual record forms, using a continuous numbering system, and be drawn and photographed as appropriate.
- Plans will be drawn on permatrace to a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate.
- All photography will be taken using a digital SLR camera with a minimum resolution of 8 mega pixels, including a metric scale in each view, with views logged in a photographic register.
- In the event of human burials being discovered the Ministry of Justice will be informed. The remains will initially be left *in situ*, and if removal is required, a MoJ licences will be applied for under the Burial Act 1857.
- In the event of finding any artefacts covered by the provisions of the Treasures Act 1996, the appropriate procedures under this legislation will be followed.

2.2. All artefacts and environmental samples will be treated in a manner appropriate to their composition and a sampling strategy will be developed as appropriate:

- All stratified finds will be collected by context, or where appropriate, individually recorded in three dimensions. Unstratified finds will only be collected where they contribute significantly to the project objectives or are of particular intrinsic interest.
- All finds and samples will be collected, processed, sorted, quantified, recorded, labelled, packed, stored, marked, assessed, analysed and conserved in a manner appropriate to their composition and in line with appropriate guidance.
- arrangements to assess and study any artefacts, assemblages and environment samples.
- Any artefacts recovered during the evaluation will be deposited with an appropriate museum, subject to the permission of the owner.

2.3. Following the on-site work an illustrated report will be prepared containing conventional sections to include:

- Non-technical summary
- Introduction
- Site location
- Topography and Geology

-
- Archaeological Background
 - Watching brief
 - Conclusions
 - References
 - Appropriate appendices on archives and finds
- 2.4. The site archive will be prepared to specifications in English Heritage's Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) system and the Cifa *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2014). The digital archive only will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust and the paper/drawn/digital archive with the National Monuments Record (RCAHMW).

3 Resources and Programming

- 3.1. The watching brief will be undertaken by a skilled archaeologist under the overall supervision of Nigel Jones, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Cifa). CPAT is also a Cifa Registered Organisation (RAO No 6) and as such agrees to abide by their *Code of Conduct* (2014) and the *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (2014).
- 3.2. All report preparation will be completed by or with the assistance of the same field archaeologist(s) who conducted the site work. Copies of the report will be deposited with the client and the regional Historic Environment Record within one month of the completion of on-site works. If appropriate, a short report will be published in *Archaeology in Wales*.
- 3.3. The client should be aware that in the event that significant archaeological remains are revealed there may be a requirement for more detailed excavation and specialist services. Any further work over and above the original watching brief and report would be the subject of a separate WSI and costing. The following figures provide an indication of the types of additional services and indicative costs which might be required, for which the client is advised to make some provision.

Curatorial monitoring	£150 per visit
Finds conservation etc	£285 per day
Radiocarbon dating	£330 each
Finds specialist	£285 per day

- 3.4. Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.
- 3.5. CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance, as well as Professional Indemnity insurance.

N W Jones

20 December 2016