

**The Tudor Mansion,
Neath Abbey,
Neath, Swansea, Glamorgan
(Phase 1).**

Standing Building Investigation & Recording
and Watching Brief



By

Richard Scott Jones (*BA, MA, MCIfA*)

July 2017

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Report No: 188

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING
INVESTIGATION & RECORDING AND
WATCHING BRIEF**

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Non Technical Summary

The following report presents the results of a programme of archaeological works (standing building investigation and recording, a series of small archaeological watching briefs and an excavation), prior to and during Phase 1 of the Conservation works on the western end of the Tudor Mansion House, Neath Abbey, Neath, Glamorgan.

The archaeological investigation and recording of this part of the Tudor Mansion, which included all of the external elevations of the dormitory and the undercroft, the former internal elevations of the first floor and the external walls of the vaulted bridge joining the dormitory to the reredorter, prior to and during Phase 1 works has managed to create a lasting record of the standing remains of the dormitory and the undercroft. This work has also managed to separate much of the fabric into its phases of construction, its original 13th century phase, its 14th - 15th century phases and its 16th century phase following the Dissolution.

Although the late 16th century construction has caused irreversible damage to the early dormitory, there are many original 13th – 14th century features remaining. Apart from standing fabric itself, particularly at the northern ends of the building, several significant 13th century features remain. These early features include the remains of the day stair, the slype, doorways in the east wall, the remains of buttresses in the east, west and south walls, a former doorway at the far southern end of the undercroft, and the remains of at least three, possibly four, 13th century dormitory windows. It also includes the remains of three 13th century tall lancet windows in the undercroft in both the east and west walls, one of which is complete although blocked up. Another original feature sits in the east wall between the slype doorway and the doorway into the Novice Room. This is the remains of a spring for an arched doorway that would have given access to the area leading to the undercroft. This doorway here also suggests that there was once an east to west wall continuing a walkway to the east. A wall is marked on one of the ground plans in this position. All of these original 13th century features along with parallel examples of Cistercian dormitories across Britain and Europe allow a fairly accurate reconstruction of the dormitory block to be created.

With regards to the 15th- 16th century, this period marks a period of construction on the building, particularly the conversion of the southern end of the dormitory and the construction of the east and west wings of the abbot's lodging, which also included the creation of the Abbot's Stairwell. Investigation of the standing fabric has shown that as well as these large elements, there may also have been other areas in the building that were improved. This includes the fireplace and ashlar quoin chamfered chimney in the east wall and the ashlar quoin chimney that sits atop part of the day stairs. The fabric and build quality of these features is entirely different from the rest of the early fabric, but also very different from the later 16th century fabric. This would suggest that these features may mark an intermediary period of improvements on the building.

With regards to the chimney breast in the west wall that sits upon part of the day stairs, there is a line of ashlar quoins that abut the edge of the large oriel window on its northern side. These quoin stones of Sutton stone mark the southern side of the chimney breast and may suggest that this chimney and fireplace within the apparent Novice Room may well pre-date the construction of the oriel window in the late 16th century, and as such may well be 15th or early 16th century in date and associated with one of the abbots during a

period of construction, possibly done at the same time as the construction of the abbot's new lodgings and the reduction of the size of the dormitory.

With regards to the Abbot's House and the Abbot's Stairwell, the investigation and recording of the southern end of the building has revealed several interesting features in the standing fabric associated with the early 16th century period. As well as former fireplaces, a tall window in the east wall and doorways that linked the east and west wings with the dormitory and the stairwell, the investigation of the standing fabric also revealed the possibility that what appears to be the remains of a former roof line in the chimney stack in the west wall at the southern end, may instead be an abbot's mitre symbol, which has been incorporated into the fabric rather than being a residual feature from a former roof line.

Although not part of this programme of work, the next phases of investigation on the Abbot's House, to the east and west will be able to reconstruct a fairly accurate idea of both the form and character of the exterior and the interior of the Abbot's House. A rapid investigation of the Abbot's House west wing has revealed a large number of significant feature in the fabric, associated with both the Abbot's House, but also the former 13th century Refectory which was incorporated into the later building.

Investigation and recording of the late 16th century fabric of the house has managed to separate the earlier features from the later conversion work. It has also added to the description and interpretive work undertaken by the Royal Commission in 1981. Having had better access to the building during this programme of work, several new interesting features have come to light. Particularly interesting was the presence of three apotropaic or protection marks scored into the side jamb and mullion of two of the windows in the east and west wall. The presence of these in these locations is very suggestive of the superstitious 16th – 17th centuries.

The next phases of work on the Tudor mansion house, particularly the northwest wing will be very informative and may even throw some light on the original position of the 13th century infirmary.

The excavation of the drainage trench alongside the south wall revealed that the area south of the undercroft appears to have been covered in approximately 0.50m of re-deposited material likely associated with the excavations undertaken by Glen Taylor's team in the 1930s. Although the majority of the datable finds recovered from this excavation were 17th – 19th century, the excavation did manage to recover three fragments of medieval floor tile which have been identified as being slip-on-impression tiles with the shield arms of both the Clares and the Verdon families. Also recovered was a complete king mullion, possibly a fallen part of masonry from one of the windows in the south wall.

The watching brief during the coring of the barrel vaulting in the potential Novice Room for the drainage pipes revealed that the historic fabric of the barrel vault in these areas was only approximately 0.20m thick. Work in the 1950s by the MoW had covered this historic fabric in approximately 0.15m of concrete. These bore holes also revealed that in order to concrete the modern flat roof, sheets of corrugated steel, now

rusting, had been used to cover the roof area. This was probably done to retain the concrete to the required depth.

The watching brief during clearance of vegetation and debris from the area of the Abbot's House alongside the Abbot's Stairwell exposed the same dark soil that was exposed in the excavated trench alongside the south wall, suggesting that this room had been filled with re-deposited material and probably reached a depth of at least 0.45m. Dateable material recovered included only 19th century glass and pottery fragments.

Clearance of the vegetation and debris in the courtyard area north, south and beneath the bridge exposed no significant material, deposits or features other than slightly revealing further the edges of features along the wall of the Reredorter and the pier bases underneath the vaulted bridge.

The watching brief during the removal and replacement of rotten oak timbers above the windows in the south wall revealed that once the timber s had been removed, it became apparent that the exposed stonework in the back wall above the square headed window and below the lintel had recently been rebuilt in modern times as the mortar used was a modern grey cement. The plaster covering this stonework was a mixture of lime and cement.

1 Introduction

1.1 The following report presents the results of a program of archaeological works (standing building investigation and recording, a series of small archaeological watching briefs and an excavation), prior to and during Phase 1 of the Conservation works on the western end of the Tudor Mansion House, Neath Abbey, Neath, Glamorgan.

1.2 The specific objectives of this work were to:

- Undertake a program of archaeological standing building investigation and recording on a number of external and formerly internal elevations of the building prior to and during conservation works.
- Undertake a series of small archaeological watching brief during all intrusive works at the building as a result of conservation works, such as ground floor clearance, timber lintel repairs and hole boring through standing fabric.
- Undertake a small excavation for a drainage trench alongside the south wall of the building.

1.3 The Technical Appendices for this report contains the following information:

- *Appendix I: Figures;*
- *Appendix II: Photographs*
- *Appendix III: Context Register*
- *Appendix IV: Archive Cover Sheet*

Site Location & Description (*Figures 1-4*)

1.4 Neath Abbey was a former Cistercian Monastery, located near the present day town of Neath, near Swansea, in South Wales. The Abbey is centred on NGR: SS 738 974. It is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM Ref: GM006) and is managed and cared for by Cadw.

1.5 The Tudor Mansion House is located at the southern end of the Abbey complex. The conservation work in 2017 affects the western range of the Tudor Mansion House and specifically the elevations to which the roof over the vaulted novice monks day room attaches.

Development Proposals (*Figures 5 – 7*)

1.6 Purcell UK were commissioned by Cadw to deliver conservation works on the Tudor Mansion at Neath Abbey. The work will place in a series of phases, of which 2017 is the first year.

1.7 The conservation work in 2017 affects the western range of the Tudor Mansion House located on the south side of the Abbey complex, and specifically the elevations to which the roof over the vaulted novice monks day room attaches. The conservation works are intended to conserve the building by addressing areas of active deterioration including water ingress to the vault, vegetation growth, failing mortar, cracks in masonry and windows. This work included:

1. Alterations to the roof over the Monk's Day Room – create new sloping roof by installing a timber framework above existing 20th century flat roof; direct water towards south elevation; install box gutters;

2. Ventilate void between vaulting and flat roof by drilling through modern roof cover;
 3. Install drain from flat roof at north end of Abbot's house by coring through barrel vault and installing internal gutter;
 4. Cap chimneys with stone slab;
 5. Cap wall tops to prevent water ingress into wall core using stone slabs and/or mortar (extent as indicated on elevations);
 6. Point and pin walls;
 7. Point and pin ashlar stone of openings and quoins;
 8. Insert chamfered stones into putlog holes;
 9. Remove vegetation and make good;
 10. Clear vegetation from courtyard (area immediately east of Abbot's Stairwell)
 11. Excavate gravel pits to south of Abbot's House for drainage;
 12. Analyse plaster on interior walls within vault;
 13. Install low wall abutment wall above barrel vault;
- 1.8 In addition to the above proposed works for Phase 1, following further inspection of the existing timber lintels above the windows in the internal south wall of the Monks Day Room (Undercroft), these timbers were found to be rotten from continued water ingress through the vaulted ceiling. As a consequence these timbers were replaced under archaeological supervision.
- 14). Replace existing rotten timbers with new timbers above the windows in the south wall of the Monks Day Room.

Mitigation

- 1.9 In order to mitigate against any potential negative effects as a result of the conservation proposals, the proposed archaeological works, in accordance with a design brief supplied by Cadw, consisted of three elements.
- 1) Archaeological Building Investigation and Recording (ABIR) (in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014) - Prior to and during all conservation work on the Tudor Mansion House, the building underwent a programme of building recording equivalent to English Heritage level 3. This was an analytical record, which involved three parts:

Level 3 Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings

- i) An introductory written account of the building, an analytical description followed by a systematic account of the building's origins, development and use. Use of readily available documentary sources, such as early Ordnance Survey maps and published sources, to include any useful antiquarian drawings or engravings.
- ii) A full high resolution photographic record of the building of all internal and external elevations as well as detail photographs of any other significant internal or external features such as former doorways, windows etc.
- iii) A drawn measured record of all specific elevations affected by the conservation works and significant features associated with the building. This will include the annotation of baseline elevations with all architectural features. This work included:
 - Corners and profiles of all structures;
 - Window details;
 - Doorway details;
 - Stone string courses showing individual stones;
 - Corbels;
 - Corbel strings showing individual corbel stones and the corbel string supporting corbel stones;
 - Stone arches and key stones;
 - Putlog holes and beam sockets;
 - The profile of exposed core work including recessed core work;
 - Quoin stones, lintels and voussoirs including recessed details;
 - Cracks and fissures;
 - Projecting stones and strings;
 - Spaces where individual stones or groups of stones are missing;
 - The profile of all laterally connecting walls;
 - All other relevant architectural details.

In addition, measured moulding profiles to be drawn for all accessible windows and doors at a scale appropriate to illustrate variations and/or changes in masonry used. Particular attention will be given to identifying evidence for stone re-use and re-cutting.

The reasons for the standing building recording are:

- To seek a better understanding, compile a lasting record, analyse the findings/record, and then disseminate the results.

2) Archaeological Watching brief – As well as the programme of standing building recording, a strict archaeological watching brief was undertaken whilst works were undertaken by contractors at ground floor level during conservation element No's. 3, 10 and 14 i.e. the installation of drainage down-pipes through a small part of the barrel vaulted ceiling at the northern end of the monks' dormitory, clearance of vegetation from within the courtyard, the area between the dormitory and the monks Reredorter, and the replacement of timber lintels above the windows in the south wall of the Monk's Day Room.

Reasons for this watching brief 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 development or other potentially disruptive works.
- to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

The watching brief was not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and was intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The objective of the watching brief was to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.

3) Archaeological Excavation – Excavation of a trench to manage drainage from the roof above, which is to emerge via two existing drainage chutes. The area to be excavated comprised a channel measuring 12m x 450mm and 450mm in depth and is shown in Figure 7. There is no record of a previous excavation in this location. It was noted that there is a slight bank measuring c. 1m in width running towards and perpendicular with the building from the direction of the canal and entering into the area proposed for the excavation.

The aim of the work here was to :-

- excavate the drainage channel
- investigate the nature of the bank,

Wherever possible archaeological remains were to be left *in situ*. Depending on the nature of the earthwork bank, a decision was to be taken whether to adjust the proposed location of the drainage channel / pits to avoid this feature entirely. The final location of the trench was to be agreed on site with the Regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments (Cadw).

In the event that significant archaeological remains were to become exposed, work was to cease until the Cadw Inspectorate had an opportunity to visit the site and assess the significance of the archaeological remains and review the proposed construction methodology, in order to mitigate any adverse archaeological impact.

Historical & Archaeological Background

- 1.10 The Cistercian Order represented one of the most successful new monastic groups to emerge out of a religious and intellectual fever that was spreading across Europe at the end of the 11th and throughout the 12th century. The movement is believed to have begun with the foundation of the Citeaux monastery in Burgundy in 1098. The Cistercians, or White Monks as they were also known, observed a primitive life following the Rule of St. Benedict. This rule formed the basis of all western monasticism. In 1113 the Citeaux monastery established its first daughter house and it wasn't long before other daughter houses, not just from the monastery at Citeaux, began to spread rapidly throughout western Europe. By 1153 the Cistercian order numbered around 350 monasteries (Burton 2015).
- 1.11 In medieval Wales there were a total of 15 houses established, of which Basingwerk and Neath were founded in the early 1130s as members of the reforming congregation of Savigny, which emerged with the Cistercians in 1147. Traditionally the chronology of Cistercian settlement in Wales is split into two phases, one dominated by Anglo-Norman settlers of the south and the marches, and the other by the native Welsh princes. Tintern, Margam and Neath were founded in marcher lands and their placement here was strategic. Neath was positioned near to the founder's castle on the west bank of the river Neath and as such this religious foundation was seen by its founder as a marker of conquest and colonization (Burton 2015).
- 1.12 Neath Abbey is ranked as one of the most important monastic remains in south-east Wales. It was established in 1129 AD, when Richard I de Granville, the constable of Robert Consul, lord of Glamorgan and earl of Gloucester, gave 8,000 acres of his estate in Glamorgan, to the congregation at Savigny. The first monks arrived in 1130. Following the assumption of the Savigniac congregation into the Cistercian order in 1147, Neath Abbey also became a Cistercian House. The Abbey was laid out to the standard Cistercian plan.
- 1.13 In the late 13th-early 14th century the Abbot Adam (1266-89) initiated the rebuilding of the church at Neath. This new church was to replace the existing modest Romanesque church that had already been

built following the abbey's foundation. The new church was cruciform in design and over 60 meters in length. Stone use included yellow and red Pennant sandstone and Sutton Stone for quoin stones and voussoirs, with other poorer quality Oolitic limestone also used in a number of areas. Using these freshly cut stones as masonry would have created an abbey of bright yellow/gold/pale red coloured buildings highlighted and punctuated with lines of bright cream. As was usual with Cistercian monasteries, the layout of Neath abbey followed the same usual template design, with the church to the north and all other claustral buildings surrounding an area of open cloister. All of the claustral buildings are generally believed to have been completed by 1250. The east range abutted the church and began with the Sacristy where the vestments and holy vessels were kept. A doorway in the south transept of the church gave direct access to the Sacristy. Next to the Sacristy was the Chapter House where meetings and debates were held. After the church, this building was generally regarded as one of the most important buildings in the monastery. Next to the Chapter House was the Parlour Room. Little remains of these two rooms today. Attached to the southern wall of the Parlour was a narrow passage or Slype that allowed movement from the cloister to the easternmost claustral buildings, the Reredorter and the Infirmary. Attached to the slype passage to the south was a probable Novice Room, as at Roche Abbey, South Yorkshire, England. This room is divided into two small rooms, one holding a vault or cell in the floor and the other a fireplace in west wall. The probable Novice Room is barrel vaulted. Attached to this room to the south is the Day Room or Undercroft. This room is rib vaulted with 5 bays with columns of Sutton stone, each with moulded bases and capitals. Directly above the Day Room was the Monks Dormitory, now unroofed. This building as a whole is regarded as one of the most interesting and impressive medieval buildings in Wales (Robinson 1996). This building range was joined to the monks latrine block, the Reredorter by a first floor rib vaulted bridge. Attached to the northwestern corner of the Day Room are the remains of the Monks Day Stair which formerly gave access to the Dormitory. Unfortunately only the base of these stairs and a handrail remain having been compromised by the insertion of a large Tudor oriel window in the late 16th century.

- 1.14 The south range of the abbey includes the remains of the Kitchen, the Warming House and the Refectory. Little remains of the Kitchen and Warming House today apart from some foundation remains. Although there are substantial standing remains of the Refectory today, this building was incorporated into the west wing of the Abbot's House in c. 1500. As a consequence of this there is still considerable investigation and recording work to be done on this building in order to separate the building phases.
- 1.15 The western range consists of the Lay Brothers' range of buildings. The Lay Brothers' Refectory was on the ground floor with the Dormitory above. Attached to this Refectory to the north was the Lay Brothers' Common Room. The western building range was used for copper smelting and as an iron foundry in the 18th and 19th century. As such there has been considerable alteration to the building over these centuries, with the insertion of chimney flues through former windows and walls.
- 1.16 In the 13th century the abbey properties suffered from repeat Welsh attacks. Later in 1316 Neath again suffered during the uprisings of Llywelyn Bren and also later in the early 15th century.

- 1.17 In the mid 15th century the abbey again suffered during warfare between the men of Carmarthenshire and the lordship of Glamorgan. Between 1450-51 the abbot of Neath was Abbot John ap Hywel, not to be confused with the later Abbot John ap Hywel who governed the house from 1502 - 1507. At around 1500, one of the abbots of Neath carved a private house for himself out of the southern end of the refectory and monks dormitory and also to the east linking the dormitory to the southern end of the Reredorter. Access to each of the upper parts of the house was gained by a hexagonal stairwell built at the southeastern corner of the Undercroft/Dormitory. The fabric of the Abbot's House is fairly hard to discern now as it was overlain by the late 16th Century house.
- 1.18 During the Dissolution of the Monasteries by King Henry VIII, the last abbot, Lleison ap Thomas, managed to buy time through payment of a large fine in 1536, but the abbey was eventually dissolved in 1539. At this time, the abbey was then turned into a large estate.
- 1.19 Following the Dissolution, the abbey buildings were sold by the Crown to Sir Richard Williams (aka Sir Richard Cromwell). The Tudor house is thought to have been commissioned by either Sir Richard Williams, or his son Henry, by converting the existing standing remains of the eastern claustral buildings,, thereby replacing the early 13th – mid 16th Century architecture with the late Tudor style that is seen today (RCAHMW 1981). The late 16th Century rebuilding is clearly distinguishable by its distinctive mullioned windows. As well as several alterations, a new wing was also built at the far northeast corner, parts of which may have utilized the remains of the former Cistercian Infirmary. In the later 16th Century Sir John Herbert purchased the property and undoubtedly also left his mark and probably altered a number of the buildings further.
- 1.20 On the death of Sir John Herbert in 1617 the abbey property passed to his only child Mary, who had only recently married Sir William Dodington of Hampshire, and to his son Edward. On Mary and Edward's death the house then passed onto Philip Hoby, whose widow was reputedly the last family to occupy the house (RCAHMW 1981). Following Mrs Hoby's passing, the ownership of the house passed onto her daughters and their descendants. By the middle of the 18th Century the site had come into the hands of the Rice family of Dynevor and parts of the abbey grounds were soon being used for industrial processes, Copper smelting and an iron foundry established themselves in the far western abbey range, the Lay Brothers Dormitory particularly, containing forges. These foundries were owned by the Price, Fox and Tregelles families. Also at this time the northeastern part of the mansion house became occupied by workmen and their families, which very likely prompted a number of alterations to the building. Due to this extreme change of use, the abbey buildings soon suffered further degradation.
- 1.21 Decay continued throughout the 19th century with the increased encroachment of industry and urbanism. This environment inevitably led to the area being used by children as a play ground and a hideaway for vagrants and gangs of youths who deliberately demolished walls and vandalized features. The open access to the site over the centuries also allowed the robbing and re-use of stone, particularly quoin stones from most of the buildings. The absence of quoin stones from many of the elevations, particularly buttresses from around the site is very clear to see. It wasn't until the 20th century that the ruins were truly rediscovered.

- 1.22 In 1924, the then 9th Lord Dynevor permitted Glen A Taylor and his team of assistants to undertake the huge task of excavating and researching the complex. Over a period of more than 10 years Glen Taylor, along with other founding members, C Stanley Thomas, Frank Taylor, Lewis Thomas and a team of enthusiasts including members of the Neath Antiquarian Society, cleared a total of 7,000 tons of fallen detritus from the site, consisting of earth, fallen masonry. The greatest depth of material reached in excess of 5.3 meters. Following the death of Glen Taylor in 1935, C Stanley Thomas took over the management of the project until work ceased as a result of the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939.
- 1.23 In 1944, the preservation and protection of the abbey and its buildings passed onto the Ministry of Works (MoW).
- 1.24 In the 1950s the MoW undertook a programme of consolidation work on the abbey site as a whole. With regards to the remains of the Tudor Mansion, the remaining standing remains, especially the former monks Day Room and Dormitory, have been party to extensive consolidation including re-pointing and the rebuilding of a number of walls. Early photos of the Tudor Mansion House, some in the RCAHMW archive, show the condition of the site before these works took place. Unfortunately since these photos, probably the greatest loss has been the collapse of a number of significant walls. A great loss was the former standing remains of the Warming House and a series of internal cross walls within the area of the former dormitory itself.
- 1.25 Other than these works cited above, very little other archaeological work has been undertaken on the site other than research and building surveys. In 2014 Glamorgan and Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) undertook a survey at Neath Abbey with volunteers from the Neath Antiquarian Society and students from Swansea and Cardiff Universities. A wall by wall survey was made of the church, cloister and western range using hand drawn records and EDM survey. One other significant research project was undertaken by the RCAHMW in 1980 as part of their Glamorgan Inventory project. This research investigated the standing remains of the Tudor Mansion and recorded a number of significant window features, focusing more on the late 16th Century House rather than its earlier 12th – 15th Century history (RCAHMW 1981). For the purpose of interpretation of the standing fabric, one of the most useful elements of the RCAHMW inventory entry on the Tudor Mansion, has been their interpretative ground plans and the reconstruction drawing of the mansion house in the 16th Century (see Figures 11 and 12).

Geology

- 1.26 The geology of the area belongs to the South Wales Upper Coal Measures Formation laid down in the Bolsovian (Westphalian C) period (311,000,000 – 306,000,000 years ago). This formation consists of Mudstone, Siltstone, Sandstone, Coal, Ironstone and Ferricrete.

2 Aims & Objectives

- 2.1 The aims of the archaeological building investigation & recording (ABIR) by the ClfA (2014) were:

- to examine the outbuilding complex, and its setting, in order to inform the formulation of a strategy for the alteration, demolition, repair of any of the buildings, or structures within the complex and its setting, or
- to seek a better understanding, compile a lasting record, analyse the findings/record, and then disseminate the results.

2.2 The aims of the watching brief, as defined by the ClfA (2014) were to:

- 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 development or other potentially disruptive works.
- to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

3 Methodology

3.1 Both the building investigation and recording work, the archaeological watching brief and the excavation work was undertaken by HRS Wales staff using current best practice from 24th March – 3rd July 2017.

3.2 All work was carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist with relevant level membership of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA) and followed ClfA Standard and Guidance notes (ClfA 2014).

Building Investigation and Recording

3.3 In accordance with the design brief set by Cadw, prior to and during conservation works, the building was to undergo a program of building recording equivalent to Historic England **Level 3** building recording. This is an analytical record, which involved three key elements of work:

- i) An introductory written account of the building, an analytical description followed by a systematic account of the buildings origins, development and use. Use of readily available documentary sources, such early Ordnance Survey maps and published sources.
- ii) A full high resolution photographic record of the building of internal and external elevations as well as detail photographs of any other significant internal or external features,
- iii) A drawn measured record of all elevations affected by the consolidation and repair work and significant features associated with the building.

3.4 To aid the building investigation and recording a series of comprehensive high resolution laser scans of all of the external and internal elevations of the building. These scans were used to locate and interpret features and each were then annotated and used later to inform the digitizing of the elevations off site.

3.5 Profiles of all significant features were made appropriately using 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales. All profiles of mouldings, including door and window jambs, mullions and transoms were made at 1:1 scale using a

moulding profile gauge and the results transcribed onto graph paper. These drawings were subsequently scanned, digitized and scaled appropriately.

Watching Brief and Excavation

- 3.6 All proposed groundwork undertaken by contractors was done under close and constant archaeological supervision. All groundwork by the contractor was undertaken using a mechanical digger with a toothless grading bucket. During the watching brief, occasionally a manual shovel and rake was also used to clear debris away from the edges of historic fabric and masonry.
- 3.7 The excavated drainage trench was undertaken manually using a shovel, mattock and trowel.
- 3.8 All archaeological deposits or features when encountered were cleaned, recorded and partially excavated. All finds recovered during the watching brief were bagged and a grid coordinate was taken using a handheld GPS device in order to locate the findspot with the OS national grid.
- 3.9 Recording was carried out using HRS Wales recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc), using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.
- 3.10 Where considered necessary plans and sections were drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.
- 3.11 All features identified were tied in to the both the OS National Grid and all local site and ground plans.
- 3.12 Photographs were appropriated in digital format, using an 18 mega-pixel DSLR camera, with photographs stored in RAW format, exported later in TIFF format in accordance with RCAHMW digital Archive guidelines.

4. Cartographic Sources (see Figure 8)

Tithe Map and apportionment of the parish of Cadoxton-juxta-Neath (1844)

- 4.1 The 1844 tithe map for the Cadoxton-juxta-Neath parish shows very little of the remains of the abbey itself. However, it does clearly show the outline of the Tudor Mansion House and parts of the western abbey including the Lay Brothers Dormitory.

Ordnance Survey First Edition Map (1884)

- 4.2 On this early OS series the remains of the abbey and Tudor Mansion are both clearly marked, with the Monks Day Room and Dormitory shown as being roofed, as you would expect.

Ordnance Survey First Edition Map (1900)

- 4.3 No great change from the earlier first edition map.

Ordnance Survey First Edition Map (1921)

- 4.4 No great change from the earlier second edition of 1900.

Ordnance Survey First Edition Map (1953)

- 4.5 No great change from the earlier second edition of 1900.

5. Antiquarian Image Sources (see Figures 9a, 9b, 9c and 9d)

- 5.1 Given that Neath Abbey has a rich Cistercian history and was in a ruinous state, it naturally attracted visitors and touring antiquarians enchanted by the ideas of ruination and romanticism. As a consequence, there are numerous antiquarian images of the abbey and the abbey grounds. Notable antiquarians and artists who have created imagery of Neath Abbey include Henry Gastineau, Henrik Frans de Cort, John Leland, John Britton and Huw Hughes amongst others.
- 5.2 All of these images have been a great source of information in aiding interpretation of the fabric of the Tudor Mansion House, with the greatest source being the drawings by Henry Gastineau, particularly those showing the west facing and south facing elevations of the Tudor Mansion House, as well as the drawing of the interior of the undercroft showing it partly flooded and occupied by grazing cattle taking shelter. However, although these images are a great source of information, they have to be viewed with caution as the artist would often have the freehand to offer their own romantic view of the remains in order to create a pleasing romantic image.

6 Results of Standing Building Investigation and Recording (See Figures 13a - 38)

General Description of Site

- 6.1 In the late 16th century, when the building of the mansion house was commissioned, the abbey site would already have had over 50 years to deteriorate naturally. As well as this, looting of stone, timbers and roofing materials would also have already taken its toll on the church and claustral buildings, the masonry being used elsewhere for construction in the vale of Neath. Given these conditions, the state of the church and claustral buildings would already have been in a poor state in the late 16th century. However, given the huge quantity of stone still available on site and substantial remains still standing, there was the opportunity to construct a large house on the site with a little ingenuity by using existing standing remains and re-cutting existing Sutton and Oolitic limestone dressed stones.
- 6.2 In order to construct the mansion house, the commissioned architects and builders adapted the remains of the eastern range of claustral buildings and linked them all together with lateral walls. Already in c. 1500, one of the abbots of Neath, possibly Abbot John ap Hywel, had commissioned a private residence for himself in the abbey grounds. In the 12th – 13th century, Cistercian abbots had usually slept in the dormitory with the rest of the community, as was customary of the order. However, it soon became common for abbots to have their own separate room or rooms adjoining or adjacent to the dormitory. By the 14th century this 'separate room' requirement had evolved into a separate lodging. This seems to have become a common occurrence throughout Cistercian monasteries in the 14th century, with 'modest abbot's houses' being developed, altered and extended continually in this century in order to provide greater privacy and comfort.

- 6.3 The Abbot's House at Neath is positioned on both the eastern and western ends of the southern wall of the Monk's Dormitory, and architectural features within the fabric of the east and west walls at the southern end of the Dormitory, suggest that the southern end of the dormitory itself was also altered to accommodate the abbot in the early 16th century.
- 6.4 So, by the late 16th century the foundations for a large house had already been firmly laid down by the early 16th century abbots. As well as adapting the day room, the existing abbot's house and the dormitory, late 16th century architects and engineers also joined and altered the remains of the Reredorter, the former monk's latrine block, to the eastern range of buildings. Also constructed was a new wing on the northeast side of the Reredorter. However, examination of the ground plan of this area of the mansion house, which displays a slightly slanted wall line at its far eastern end, suggests that here to there may already have been the remains of a former claustral building, possibly part of the Infirmary, whose original position hasn't yet been disclosed.
- 6.5 Following the death of Sir John Herbert in 1617, it is inevitable that further changes or alterations will have been made to the mansion house throughout the 17th century and onwards until its complete abandonment in the 18th century.
- 6.6 At the time of the investigation and recording, scaffolding had already been fully erected around the building apart from the northern end of the eastern elevation, the southern elevation and the elevations either side of the bridge on the east side of the building. As part of this phase of work, no consolidation work was to be undertaken on the Abbot's stairwell, which is attached to the south-eastern corner of the Dormitory and the Undercroft. As such, no scaffolding was erected around the external elevations of the stairwell. However, given that there was considerable ivy growth within the stairwells interior itself, scaffolding was eventually erected within the stairwell in order to remove ivy growth. This allowed full access to the inside of the stairwell for investigation and recording. Given that investigation and recording of the Abbot's Stairwell was not originally part of this phase of work, no laser scan survey was undertaken of its interior. As such recording was limited to drawings and profiles of the main internal features and the stairwell's architectural relationship with the east facing elevation of the east wall only.
- 6.7 With regards to the Day Room or the Undercroft as it is otherwise known, as with the Abbot's stairwell, comprehensive investigation and recording of this room was not part of this phase of work. This said however, in order to fully understand and interpret the building as a whole, investigation of internal features within the fabric of the walls in the Undercroft was necessary in order to fully understand the features recorded in the external elevations. As such, in order to make sense graphically of the features revealed and recorded in the external elevations, the outlines of the main features present in the internal elevations have also been presented in the final elevation drawings.

External Elevations

General Description:

- 6.8 The West facing external elevation of the West Wall of the Tudor Mansion House is one of the first elevations confronted by the visitor when entering the abbey complex from the modern visitor's

entrance. This elevation is dominated by the opening of the large late 16th Century Oriel window, inserted at first floor level toward the centre northern end of the elevation, which formally gave light to the long east to west running hall. Today little remains of this window but for a few remnants of dressed window jambs of Sutton Stone type along its southern side, a few other moulding remnants at its upper northern end and its wide spanning shallow upper arch. This oriel window has seen significant repair and consolidation work over the decades since the 1950s when the Ministry of Works (MoW) undertook a long program of repairs on the building as a whole. Three other contemporary but smaller fully mullioned Windows exist at both the first floor and ground floor levels, with two other fragmentary window remains immediately north of the large oriel window and another at second floor height. All of these windows are of mid – late 16th century style, having been rebated for glazing, and in the use of recut Sutton stone. Externally all chamfers of the jambs, mullions and transoms are plain. However, internally the window fittings of the more important main rooms show a sunk chamfer, apparently its earliest occurrence in the county (RCAHMW 1981).

- 6.9 Immediately south of these late 16th Century windows, attached to the west wall, is the west wing of the former Abbot's House, built in around 1500, which inevitably screens any initial views of any feature details in the southern end of the west facing elevation, apart from the appearance of a tall single stone built chimney that climbs above the upper floor level.
- 6.10 Of special importance in the northern and central part of the west facing external elevation, is the foundation remains of the 13th Century Monks Day Stairs to the Dormitory (Dorter) complete with a partial section of decorative handrail made from Sutton stone, similar in style to that in the Night Stairs. This handrail is set into the main sandstone fabric at the northern end of this elevation at ground level. The start of these stairs, as with all Cistercian monastery sites, is positioned at the southeastern corner of the main Cloister, alongside the Slype passage between the Novice Room and the Parlour, that would have given access to the area of an infirmary, a building that is now absent from the site. Apart from the handrail remains and the Day Stair foundation, little else remains of these stairs, having been cut through and partly destroyed by the insertion of the late 16th Century bay windows. Another likely contemporary feature that abuts the Day Stair foundation is the chimney breast of another tall single chimney that serves the fireplace in the Novice Room. This fireplace appears to have once had some kind of working relationship with the now absent Warming House, which was formerly attached to the northern end of the west wall of the Dormitory block in the 13th - 15th Century, given that there is evidence of a narrow blocked in opening just below the relieving arch of the Day Stairs.
- 6.11 Access to the west wing of the Abbot's House can be gained from the southern end of the building, through an opening adjoining the south wall of the Day Room (Undercroft). This part of the Abbot's House was formed by the erection of three lateral walls attaching the Monks Day Room and Dormitory to the remains of the former Refectory building's north to south orientated east wall.

Results of Investigation and Recording:

i) WEST WALL - West Facing External Elevation (see Figures 14 – 15, 33 - 38)

- 6.12 All numbers in () refer to archaeological features or contexts encountered during the investigation and recording.
- 6.13 Several features were recorded within the fabric of the west facing external elevation. This included not only main features, such as windows and chimneys, but also profiles of existing mullions, jambs, transoms, corbels, buttresses, exposed areas of wall core, string courses, fissures and other smaller but significant features. Investigation and recording of each of these features has allowed a clearer understanding of the chronology and development of this elevation from the 13th - 17th Century and to a certain degree up to the eventual abandonment of the building in the mid 18th Century, as well as later consolidation work in both the 19th and 20th centuries.
- 6.14 In general, the construction and insertion of the square headed mullioned windows in the northern and central parts of the west facing external elevation, removed a significant part of the original 13th - 14th century standing fabric, so much so that the only original features in this elevation remaining today are those at the far northern end, the day stairs foundation (17), the hand rail (14) and most of the fabric above these features, except for an area immediately north of the day stairs, where Ministry of Works (MoW) photographs of the 1950s (RCAHMW Coflein) show a very large hole in the west wall of the Novices Room. This hole was evidently filled in by the MoW and the outline of the repair is clearly visible today (13). Whether the upper part of this hole was originally the remains of a former window is uncertain and inspection of the fabric in the potential Novice Room in the west wall isn't offering up any conclusive evidence to support this possibility. However, given the fact that a large hole did exist in this position prior to the 1950s, it seems not unreasonable that this hole may actually have once held a window of some form, as well as sections of hand rail mouldings.
- 6.15 Further inspection and recording of the fabric at the north end of this external elevation has revealed that the existing chimney breast (1) immediately above the day stair remains appears to pre-date the insertion of the late 16th Century window (6), given that the north end of the bay of the window abuts what seems to be the original southern side of the chimney breast, as is evident from the presence of a series of vertical running ashlar quoins of Sutton stone (11). This would suggest that the chimney breast is at least pre-dissolution, so may well be 15th Century in date. Given that the projection of the chimney hinders the continuation of the 13th Century handrail and the day stair, and may therefore have compromised the former entrance to the monks dormitory, it is possible that this chimney is in fact no earlier than the 15th Century and as such its construction *may* represent a period of improvements under, perhaps, Abbot John ap Hywel, when part of the southern end of the dormitory was turned into part of the Abbot's accommodation. The vertical line of ashlar quoins (11) at the far southern side of the chimney breast very likely also marks the northern side of the former opening that would have given access from the day stairs to the dormitory, so it may be that this doorway would have still been present at this time, but just the stairs were narrowed slightly to accommodate the new chimney breast.

- 6.16 Investigation of the remains of the day stairs to the dorter or monks dormitory, has reinforced the interpretation that beneath the relieving arch (19), adjacent to the mullioned window at ground level, there is a narrow slanted opening that has been blocked up. Although this feature has been re-mortared in modern times, this blocking in is probably late 16th century in date as a result of the later Tudor rebuilding. Investigation of this former opening suggests that this opening may originally have allowed communication of some kind to the potential Novice Room from the Warming House in the 12th - 15th Century. Given the size of this feature, it may be that this communication was of a domestic or industrial nature, perhaps passing water or other sundries to the room, given that it is on a lower level than the Warming House. As a comparison, a similar relieving arch with a space below exists directly below the Night Stairs in the south transept of the church. This bridged space was apparently formerly used as a Book Store.
- 6.17 Investigation of the remains of the large oriel window (6) has revealed that the wide spanning arch (2) appears to have had considerable work undertaken on it, probably by the MoW in the 1950s. Whether this arch was dismantled and rebuilt in the 1950s is uncertain. However, given the large amount of calcification that has built up underneath it and the fact that the remaining window jambs at both the north and south ends of the arch have been repositioned somewhat haphazardly, would suggest that this arch has at the very least been heavily re-mortared, perhaps after having had temporary support underneath it of some kind whilst consolidation work was being undertaken. Whatever work has been done on this arch post 1944 when the MoW took charge of the abbey site, the architecture of this arch is extremely shallow in its form and really only just deserves the word arch to describe it. Although early antiquarian engravings and early photos of the west wall do show this arch as being very shallow in form, it does appear to have dropped slightly at the point of its key stone.
- 6.18 Another probable 13th - 14th century remnant in the northern end of the west wall's external face at first floor level, is the remains of a sandstone corbel (148) projecting some 0.20m from the wall. This corbel could well be a remnant of an earlier 12th - 15th Century roof line or else a corbel for a roof support beam that may have once covered the Day Stair. A further recessed stone (209), probably the remains of another corbel sits immediately south of the first floor mullioned window. Another Oolitic limestone corbel (32) also still survives at the far southern end of the west facing elevation at first floor level in the Abbot's House west wing.
- 6.19 Investigation of the fabric of the central part of the west facing external elevation has revealed that the remains of the buttress (22 and 7), now robbed of quoin stones, once continued further up the elevation, almost to the top of the earlier 13th century roof line, suggesting that the base of this buttress is a surviving 13th century remnant. This buttress was likely reduced in height in the late 16th century as a consequence of the insertion of the two flanking first floor mullioned windows. Reasons for its reduction were probably to allow unhindered views from the windows as well as allowing further light into the first floor rooms.
- 6.20 Flanking this buttress on its southern side is another shorter buttress (25) which is offering support for a relieving arch (12) positioned directly below the first floor mullioned window (8). The space between these two buttresses appears to have once been a tall opening, blocked and filled in the late 16th

century by a mullioned window (24). However, inspection of this apparent opening and the buttress (25) and its associated feature (210) suggest that the buttress is not an original 13th – 14th Century feature, but appears to be later in date, serving a purpose to solely act as a supporting pier for the above relieving arch for the projecting late 16th century square headed mullioned window.. Examination of the fabric within the internal wall of the Undercroft in the position of this opening suggests that this opening has indeed been adapted and altered significantly over the centuries, but probably only in the 16th century. Contemporary examples of Cistercian Dormitories and Day Rooms in the 13th - 14th century would not have had an opening in this position, but a tall lancet window, similar in style to the blocked one clearly visible in the Undercroft in the west wall. As such, it would seem possible that this feature is clearly late 16th century in date and as such associated with the late 16th century building programme.

- 6.21 Close examination of one of the mullions of the first floor window (8) revealed the presence of two apotropaic marks or protection marks (9), each consisting of three intersecting straight lines cut into the mullion. These marks are generally believed to be representative of either the Virgin Mary or else represent the Holy Trinity. Being carved into the stonework, probably by one of the stonemasons working on the site in the late 16th century, these marks were thought to offer protection from Witches entering the house. A further protection mark was also noted on one of the window jambs at the far north east end of the east wall.
- 6.22 Directly above this window is a string course of Oolitic limestone (208), all of late 16th century style. Directly above this string course, at the southern end is the remains of another small window (3) that once had only a single King mullion at its centre. This window is late 16th century in style and only a small section of the side jambs and the base jambs are still in place. Immediately to the south of this small window, in the corner of the wall abutting the lateral east to west wall of the Abbot's House is the remains of a discrete or 'hidden' window slit (4), hardly discernible from the ground by the observer. Clearer views of this feature can be gained from within the Abbot's House or the southwest wing of the Tudor Mansion itself. This feature was originally accessed via a small flight of stone steps (29) cutting through the core of the west wall, from the upper most floor of the building and would have allowed access to the roof space. Given the discrete and hidden character and position of this feature and the fact that it occupies the uppermost fabric of the west wall, this feature is probably late 16th century in date and its mere existence is probably representative of anxious times.
- 6.23 The southern end of the west wall's external west facing elevation has numerous interesting and significant features within its fabric. Starting from the top of the elevation, the chimney (27) is the first feature that needs some discussion. When looking at the top of the chimney from ground level, apart from the string course that forms a collar around the chimney, a feature that stands out is the remains of an apparent former roof line, discernible by two sandstone ridge tiles, each set at an angle and intersecting to a point with a small rounded *lump* of capping stone at the apex (28). At first glance this feature does indeed appear to be the remains of a former roof-line, as it has been generally understood. When following the likely continuing line of these ridge tiles, they both do appear to probably line up with the two lateral walls to the west. Interestingly, the same feature is also reflected on the alternate side of the chimney, but at a slightly steeper angle. As well as being uncomfortably close to the top of the

chimney, close examination of both of these intersecting features on both sides of the chimney show that the apparent ridge tiles are not *residual* roof remains, but appear to have been incorporated and designed into the chimney fabric itself. This chimney serves a fireplace (30) in the west facing elevation of the west wall at upper second floor level, and as such it is generally believed to be an original part of the west wing of the Abbot's House. The character and style of this fireplace (30) would seem to confirm this interpretation. If these two intersecting features on both sides of the stack faces are not remnants of former roof lines, then an alternative suggestion is that they could be deliberately placed symbols to represent an abbots 'mitre'.

- 6.24 The *mitre* was a type of headgear worn by bishops and certain abbots in the western church in the middle ages. One of the most important visual manifestation of the status of the abbatial office was the use of 'pontificals' i.e the vestments and insignia symbolizing Episcopal status. Having privilege of pontifical was very desirable by abbots, but it was supposedly expensive to obtain. In 1359 Cistercian abbots received a general privilege to use pontifical vestments. This privilege was confirmed in 1483, but generally permission was necessary, which entailed a large obligatory payment. Visually, the pontifical worn by the abbot included a *mitre* on the head, a crosier, a pectoral and a seal ring. Of all of these vestments, the most important was the *mitre*, which served as a shorthand symbol for the pontifical privilege (Jamroziak 2015).
- 6.25 Directly below the 15th century fireplace (30) is an area of scarring from the position of a former 13th century buttress (34). This scarring continues nearly all the way to ground level, stopping only at the base of the buttress, a feature still remaining. On the north side of this buttress at second floor level is the remains of a 15th century opening (33) that once gave access to the converted southern end of the dormitory. This opening is now blocked and this probably occurred in the late 16th or later 17th century to form a recess on the west facing side.
- 6.26 Directly below this blocked opening (33) is the remains of an original 13th century window (41) that would have once given light to the Day Room along with a series of other identical windows in this wall at ground floor level. This window was probably blocked up in c.1500 as part of the abbot's building programme.
- 6.27 On the southern side of the buttress (34) at first floor level is the remains of a doorway opening (35) in the east to west lateral cross wall. As well as the exposed core work (31) from a former cross arch and a door jamb (35), little else remains of this former doorway. Directly below this former opening on the northern side of the cross wall, is what appears to be a shallow recess from a former flight of stairs (37). As this recessed feature is sheltered slightly by its design itself, there is the remains of historic plaster still surviving here. Evidence for the top of this former staircase is evident from the scarring in the lateral cross wall (38). On the other side of the cross wall directly opposite this feature, is the remains of a late 15th century window or doorway jamb (40) surviving in the lateral cross wall, which has been keyed into the fabric of the west wall. This feature is undoubtedly a remnant of an earlier abbot's house. Directly below this feature, at ground level is another doorway (46) in the cross wall, complete with vestiges of door jambs on both sides of the opening. The jambs are of dressed Sutton stone with decorative bases of late 15th century style similar in type to others that decorate the east entrance to the potential Novice

Room in the east wall. Directly above this doorway is an area of exposed wall core (47) with a series of joints and fissures on its southern side. This area may be further evidence of another former 13th century window that served the undercroft.

- 6.28 On the southern side of the east to west cross wall that divides the west wing of the Abbot's House there are only two easily apparent features in the west facing elevation. The first of these is the remains of another 13th century window (42), with only a few remaining quoin stones visible. This feature is blocked in and a re-used moulded Sutton stone (43) has been used here. Little remains of this former window. Interestingly, the drawing by Henry Gastineau in 1836 of the undercroft, shows an opening in this area with light pouring in and an area of rubble at its base. If this drawing can be believed, then this would suggest that this window was re-blocked up post 1836. Another drawing by John Britton also shows this window as having been open in 1801 (see Figure 10). At what would have been the original base of this window there is a projecting stone (4). This stone may have been deliberately placed here in this position in the late 19th or early 20th century, when the opening was blocked up again, to mark the position of the former window. Directly below this blocked in window is also what appears to be the remains of a former doorway (49). This doorway is likely a late 16th century insertion that has since been blocked up, again possibly within the last 100 years or so, given that this area appears to still have been partly open in the mid 19th century as is evident from the Gastineau drawings.
- 6.29 Immediately north of this blocked in doorway, is a large area of historic plaster still in good condition.
- 6.30 Lastly, at the uppermost point of this elevation, at the far southern end at former roof level, are what appear to be the remains of a former roof walkway opening (53).

ii) South Wall – South Facing External Elevation (See Figures 16, 33 - 38)

General Description

- 6.31 The south facing external elevation of the south wall of the undercroft is positioned between the west and east wings of the Abbot's House and overlooks the canal. Attached to the south eastern corner of the elevation is the Abbot's stairwell. This elevation is characterised by a group of three shouldered buttresses with ashlar quoins, the central one being lower in height than the two flanking ones at each corner of the elevation. Set equally between the three buttresses are a pair of square headed windows, each of four transomed lights with relieving arches and hood mouldings of Tudor style.
- 6.32 Directly above this window pair is the remains of the south wall of the dormitory, now almost completely absent but for the remains of dressed window jambs set against the ends of both the east and west walls, suggesting that this section of walling once also held a pair of large mullioned windows. In the space between these former windows is the remains of a section of sloped walling, created in the late 16th century from the original back of the south wall of the undercroft, in order to allow the creation of the two bayed windows.

Results of Investigation and Recording

- 6.33 Starting from the chimney, as well as the remains of a continual string course (56) that wraps around its top, directly below this is the remains of a re-used Sutton stone (57) with evidence of moulding. This moulding is too fragmentary to offer any further information as to its original position in the abbey.
- 6.34 The next two features to mention are the remains of the dressed window jambs (53 and 60) at both ends of the east and west walls, which run the length of the walls. These are both late Tudor in style and each probably once forming a pair of large square headed Windows with double transomed lights. Unfortunately there are no remains of any hood mouldings on either of the side jambs. However, given the type and form of the dressed jambs of Sutton stone, it is probably safe to say that the hood mouldings, mullions and transoms would have been identical to those used in the surviving mullioned windows that exist in the west facing elevation of the west wall.
- 6.35 Immediately to the east of the eastern course of window jambs, is a small discrete window (58) that has been cut and set into the core of the east wall, positioned between the dormitory and the Abbot's stairwell. This small window is well hidden and appears to have offered light to a hidden vice passage (81) at the far southern end of the east wall. This small window is discussed further in the later section on the Abbot's Stairwell.
- 6.36 Immediately west of the western window jambs, is what appears to be the remains of the upper section of a former 13th century corner buttress (54) incorporated into the lateral cross wall of the Abbot's House. This buttress is only discernible from a short length of ashlar quoins of Sutton stone and the remains of a shoulder to the east of the first floor window of the house.
- 6.37 In the centre of the south wall at first floor level, is a small section of sloped walling (55) that was created in the Tudor period to help create the pair of bayed Windows and therefore allow light to enter the room more freely. This section of walling is complete with a run of string coursing of dressed Sutton stone.
- 6.38 Accepting that the three buttresses (51, 63 and 67) with ashlar quoins of Sutton stone are original 13th century features, the south facing wall of the undercroft appears to have been brought forward a certain amount (61) so as to be flush with the tops of the buttresses. The extreme base of this rebuilt wall has been battered slightly. This work was probably done in the late 16th century, to help create the upper bayed windows. Fortunately, two drawings by Henry Gastineau of 1836, one of the undercroft and the other of the south elevation, reveal that the eastern ground floor window (64) was formerly a tall doorway that once gave access to the undercroft. The remains of a pair of mouldings (66) of Sutton stone, with alternating coma recta, a fillet and an astragal between fasciae, appear to have been left deliberately on display at the foot of each jamb in this former opening when it was blocked up. Given that this feature is shown in the Gastineau drawing as an opening in the mid 19th century, would suggest that the existing square headed Tudor style window was inserted in either the late 19th century to stop access to the undercroft, or else post 1944 and the work of the MoW. Interestingly, when looking more closely at the Gastineau drawing of the undercroft, the adjacent window (62) is also shown as

having not a Tudor style window but a Gothic style one with tracery. It also shows this window as having been a four headed arch, reaching the apex of the arch of the vaulted ceiling itself. However, there is some concern here, as contemporary drawing of the same period show a square headed window in this position. This would suggest that Gastineau's drawing has been romanticized slightly. Interestingly, close examination of the fabric above these two square headed windows during the watching brief for the timber lintel repair in both of these windows, from within the interior of the undercroft, noted all of the exposed stonework in this area had been bonded using a modern cement.

iii) East Wall - East Facing External Elevation (See Figures 17 – 18, 33 - 38)

General Description:

- 6.39 The east wall of the dormitory block, as with the west wall, is over 40 meters in length and is constructed from pennant sandstone with ashlar quoins of Sutton stone. As with the west wall, the earlier 13th century fabric is clearly distinguishable from the later Tudor fabric, given that the earlier stonework, although sandstone, is very rounded and weather worn, with a predominance of brown and dark yellow/orange sandstone with occasional stones having natural iron staining, whereas the later Tudor fabric has used a more irregular and angular stonework. Before the Dissolution, the Monks Dormitory block would have been of two-storey, the Day Room being at ground floor level and the dormitory at upper floor level. As with all Cistercian monasteries, the dormitory would originally have continued further northwards over the Slype, the Parlour and the Chapter House, where the monks would have traveled down the Night Stairs to their night vigil in the church. Unfortunately, little remains of the Parlour Room and the Chapter House today, but fortunately a significant part of the Slype passage does survive along with a significant amount of the original 13th century east wall, at both ground and first floor levels. What does remain of this original fabric however has been very disturbed and much altered through the insertion of Tudor windows in both the early and late 16th century and the creation of a second floor in the late 16th century. Later consolidation work by the MoW in the 1950s and subsequent decades has also altered many areas of the original fabric in this elevation.
- 6.40 Significant features in this elevation at ground floor level include the main doorway into the undercroft beneath the vaulted bridge joining the Reredorter; the main doorway with twin lights and a circular light above it that leads into the two-celled or vaulted Novice Room; the eastern doorway into the Slype passage; two Tudor mullioned windows either side of the bridge; two 13th century buttresses either side of the bridge; the chimney that serves the fireplace in the undercroft; a blocked in 13th century window south of the chimney and at the far southern end the Abbot's Stairwell.
- 6.41 Significant features at first floor level include two late 16th century Tudor windows north of the bridge with the remains of a 13th century window between them; a late 16th century Tudor window immediately south of the bridge; a continuation of the 13th century buttress south of the bridge; the continuation of the chimney that serves the fireplace in the undercroft; the remains of an early 16th century window above the 13th century blocked window at ground level; and the continuation of the Abbots Stairwell.

- 6.42 At second floor level, the only significant features that still remain are two small single mullioned two lighted late 16th century Tudor windows at gable ends, one on either side of the bridge, and; four chimney stacks with moulded bases and quoins of Sutton stone, the far northern stack is a dummy or decorative chimney constructed purely for the sake of architectural symmetry.
- 6.43 The internal west facing elevation of the east wall stands well preserved within the undercroft and offers invaluable information to interpret the external east facing elevation, including the outlines and remains of a former 13th century lancet window, a blocked in doorway, former openings, a Tudor fireplace and several fissures marking the insertions of the late 16th century windows.

Results of Investigation and Recording:

- 6.44 The east opening to the Slype (131) in the east facing elevation is positioned at the far northern end of the east wall. This opening has only the partial remains of plain chamfered jambs of Sutton stone surviving along its southern jamb. At the base of this opening is a relieving arch that supports the ceiling for a small cell or vault that can only be accessed in the floor from within the first cell of the potential Novice Room (134). Once accessed, via a short passage, this cell or sub vault measures approximately 3m X 4m in area and has been hewn from the natural bedrock and given a barrel vaulted ceiling sitting on a short spring of built walling to the north and south. The relieving arch, visible from outside, forms part of the vaulted ceiling and sits proud of the present ground level. Directly below the eastern edge of the arch there is an area of blocked in walling that appears to be fairly recent. The top of this blocking in does not quite reach the ceiling and as such light and water manages to creep into this space. At the time of the brief investigation, the floor was covered in fallen stone, modern rubbish and was heavily silted and partially flooded. Probing this floor in the future would be a worthwhile exercise. Given that the area below the bridge was once covered in approximately 1 meter of silt in the early 20th century, before it was cleared in the last few decades, it is very likely the depth of the silt in this room is also fairly significant. The original function for this space is uncertain. However, there are a number of possibilities, such as a storage vault, a penance cell, an association with the latrine to the east, or it may have served some other unknown function.
- 6.45 The main doorway into the apparent Novice Room is through a plain-chamfered doorway (136) with a segmental head. The bottom orders of each jamb or the stops are each dressed with a collar over a chamfered corner. Above the doorway is a pair of dressed plain chamfered two-light windows of Sutton stone with two-centred heads above it, and above them a further circular or *oculus* top light. This circular window is also formed with plain chamfered Sutton stone. Above these lights is a pointed relieving arch. Close inspection of the central mullion of the two-light window reveals that its central mullion segment has an incorporated fluted and rolled moulding on its internal side that originally served as a locking mechanism to bolt and bar the window shut. Investigation of the fabric in the internal West facing elevation of this doorway revealed that this doorway is a later insertion, having probably replaced an earlier 13th century lancet window or else an earlier doorway. The present doorway was probably inserted at some time in the 14th - 15th century.
- 6.46 Directly between the Slype doorway and the doorway into the Novice Room, the investigation noted the

remains of a former arch spring (135), probably 13th century, that would have once held a cross arch for a doorway running west to east. The existence of a doorway in this location suggests that a walkway once continued to the east from the slype. This walkway probably once led to the Infirmary building.

- 6.47 Directly above and to the south slightly of the doorway into the Novice Room, at first floor level, is the remains of an original 13th century dormitory window (125) complete with the partial weathered remains of three dressed Sutton stone window jambs, one being the northern shoulder of the former arch. Either side of this window at first floor level are two complete three-light transomed Tudor windows (120 and 129) with hood mouldings and relieving arches. The insertion of these Windows in the late 16th century has left its mark in the fabric in the form of a number of fissure lines (127, 138 and 124). Examination of the northern upper jamb of the northernmost window revealed the remains of another apotropaic mark, or protection mark (177). As with the two apotropaic marks already mentioned in the earlier west wall section, this protection mark also consists of three intersecting lines. Immediately south of this window, is a put-log hole (128) that has been filled with the remains of a former dressed Sutton stone, consisting of one large rolled edge, possibly once part of a former hand rail.
- 6.48 Directly above these two mullioned windows is a string course (123) of Sutton stone, consisting of a rolled edge with half fillet. This string course marks the beginning of the second floor extension constructed in the late 16th century. The only features remaining of this attic room is half a two-light window (121) with only the side and base jambs of Sutton stone remaining. Immediately north of this window is a dummy chimney stack complete with a string course of Sutton stone (122).
- 6.49 Back at ground and first floor level, approximately 8 meters south of the edge of the Slype opening is the rib vaulted bridge that leads from the first floor dormitory to the former Reredorter, or the monk's latrine block. As well as offering passage for the monks in the 13th - 16th century to move to and from the Reredorter, this bridge in the late 16th century onwards carried the eastern part of the first floor long gallery.
- 6.50 The lower rib vaulted storey beneath the bridge served as both, a porch for entry into the undercroft through a doorway (114), as well as offering shelter when traveling to and from the Reredorter. The undercroft doorway has a semi circular head with a continuous order of plain chamfered Sutton stones. The base orders of both door jambs are chamfered pyramidal stops. Unfortunately the southernmost one has severely eroded. An interesting feature of the existing doorway into the undercroft is the fact that it is not central to the bridge itself, but is set too far to the south to be symmetrical to the bridge. Examination of the external and internal fabric surrounding this doorway displays a number of fissures and repairs (113 and 115), which suggests that this doorway may well be a later insertion, which may have replaced an earlier smaller doorway. If this is the case then this may have occurred at some time in the 14th - 15th century.
- 6.51 Flanking the doorway into the undercroft are two pairs of moulded corbels (110 and 116), supporting the ribbed vaulting for the bridge. These corbels have been dressed with mouldings of ovolo, baton, cavetto and cyma. Between and at the ends of each of these corbels is a course of alternating ovolo moulding.

- 6.52 Either side of the bridge in the east wall, at ground floor level, are two square headed mullioned Windows in Tudor style, the one on the south (104) has four transomed lights and the one to the north having three transomed lights (118). Both these windows have been inserted in earlier window openings and the northern one appears to be a replacement or reconstruction given that its bases are not original and the mullions have been reconstructed poorly. Immediately north of the northern window (118) is an original 13th century buttress (126) with a shoulder and ashlar quoins of Sutton stone. This buttress extends up towards the first floor level, but its upper section has been reduced following the insertion of a first floor mullioned window (120) in the late 16th century. The lower section of the southern corner of this buttress has been chamfered, which would have helped light the window immediately south alongside the bridge.
- 6.53 Another similar buttress (97) is positioned south of the bridge, alongside a pair of Tudor mullioned windows at both ground and first floor level (104 and 107). Although this buttress is complete all the way to the start of the second floor, marking the original 13th century roof line, it's base has suffered somewhat, so much so that the base is completely absent and instead a dressed Sutton stone with twin column mouldings has been placed within its southern side (102). An identical moulded stone is positioned directly opposite this one, forming the remains of a doorway jamb running laterally from the buttress. Both these stones look to be original 13th century masonry fragments, but their presence in this location is somewhat of an anomaly and suggests that they have been reused from elsewhere in the abbey. Given that the buttress is original and is 13th century, then the positioning of the reused stones must have occurred much later. To further confound this problem, the exposed stonework beneath the buttress has also been faced. This faced stonework appears to be an extension to the battered base (96) of the back of the fireplace in the undercroft.
- 6.54 Directly above the top of this buttress at second floor level is a single late 16th century mullioned window (99) that served light to an attic room.
- 6.55 Immediately south of the buttress (101) is a projecting chimney breast (97) with a section of battered walling (96), which marks the extent of the fireplace in the undercroft. The area of this battered walling and at least three meters above it, is marked by a different stone fabric, which rather than being a consistent sandstone, as with the rest of the fabric in the east wall, it is in fact a very compacted slate. The use of this different stone type in this area may suggest that the chimney and fireplace is not an original 13th century feature, but is in fact a later insertion, possibly 14th or 15th century. The fabric of the complete chimney (97) breast itself is of pennant sandstone with ashlar quoins of chamfered Sutton stone with dressed pyramidal stops towards its base. The chamfered edges stop at the position of the start of the second floor.
- 6.56 South of this chimney is a short section of walling that marks the position of a former tall lancet window of the 13th century (91), which has since been blocked in and a relieving arch (93) inserted above it to support a tall projecting Tudor window (92) in the second floor. The remains of this tall window are confined now to only the dressed jambs, a base jamb fragment, a fragment of the upper jamb and hood moulding on the northern side only. Indications from the side and upper jamb, which has a spandrel, suggest that this window was once a double transomed window with four-centred heads to the lights

above and below the transoms. This would suggest that this window is probably early 16th century and as such probably pre-Dissolution and associated with the last abbot at Neath. Evidence for the blocked in lancet window (91) below this first floor window, as well as the blocking in itself and its outline in the internal elevation of the undercroft, is also suggested by a small section of dressed window moulding (91) for the southern jamb of this early window, which is clearly visible at the point where a lateral cross wall of the Tudor Mansion partly covers it.

- 6.57 Within the fabric of the wall, at the southern end of the external east facing elevation, are several significant and interesting features. Starting at ground level, apart from the Abbot's Stairwell, which is discussed in a later section, there are two main features. The first of these is an area of exposed wall core (86) which averages approximately 4 meters in length. This exposed core starts approximately 0.30m from the existing ground level and given its character it is probably the remains of a former buttress which has since been robbed or else deliberately removed. Although there does not appear to be any easily discernible line in the fabric to show that this buttress continued further up the wall, it very likely did and any remains of it have been re-pointed over in modern times by the MoW. This wall has been repointed completely in recent times.
- 6.58 Immediately south of this exposed core are a two vertical fissures (86) marking the edges of a former doorway. Although not easily discernible in the external elevation, the character and form of this doorway is very clearly defined within the fabric of the internal elevation of the undercroft. Here a semi-circular doorway is plainly evident complete with an arch of voisoirs. The style, dimension and form of this opening are very similar to the main doorway into the undercroft. As a possibility, given that the existing main doorway into the undercroft appears to be a later insertion replacing a smaller doorway, possibly inserted after the bridge was constructed, it is possible that this blocked opening is in fact an earlier doorway that once led to the Reredorter, but was blocked up following the construction of the east wing of the Abbot's House.
- 6.59 Directly above this blocked in opening at first floor level is a large opening (81) in the wall core, which appears to be the remains of a narrow vice passage that once had stone steps leading up to the roof. This feature is discussed further in the later section on the Abbot's Stairwell. This feature is likely late 16th to early 17th century in date. Another interesting discrete feature in the northern end of this elevation is a diamond shaped 'niche' (85) positioned at ceiling height immediately to the north of the exposed wall core (86), This niche is approximately 0.30m in depth. A small feature apparently associated with this niche, is a further much smaller niche cut into the wall just above the larger niche on its southern side. The character and form of this small recess suggests that it may have been a 'keep-safe' hole, which may suggest that the larger diamond shaped niche may also have had a similar purpose.
- 6.60 At the second floor level, at the northern end of this elevation, the only remaining significant features are an area of projecting wall (78) that forms the back of the fireplace in the first floor internal east wall, a series of former roof lines (77, 75 and 74), clearly evident from the residual remains of former roofing tiles and scarring, and a pair of chimney stacks with rolled stringcourse (56 and 73). These two chimney stacks both served the same fireplace in the first floor room of the internal west facing elevation.

- 6.61 Other than a few structural cracks and fissures and the interior of the Abbot's Stairwell discussed in a later section, there are no further easily discernible features in this elevation.

iv) North Wall (A) - North Facing External elevation (The Parlour) (see Figures 19, 33 - 38)

General Description:

- 6.62 The northernmost wall of this phase of recording is the north facing internal wall of the former Parlour. This wall and the sparse remains of return walls to the east and west are all that remains standing of the Parlour room. Both the remains of these cross walls may well have been utilised as a support buttresses in the later 16th - 18th centuries. The northern wall of the Parlour is incorporated into the Slype passage which itself is keyed into the dormitory block. The remains of a late 16th century false chimney stack still remain above the second floor level. At its lowest point, this wall stands only approximately 0.75m in height.

Results of Investigation and Recording:

- 6.63 Given that there is very little remaining of this elevation, investigation and recording was limited to only a few significant features. Other than the false chimney stack (122) and its upper stringcourse that wraps itself around the chimney, the only other features in this elevation are two further stringcourses (139 and 123) with drip fronts, a reused dressed Sutton stone (140) with a chamfered edge and a cut square slot in its exposed face, and in the corner of the wall is a repaired area (141), where there was once probably once a decorative corbel spring for the former ribbed vaulting within the Parlour. This area and indeed the elevation as a whole has been completely consolidated and re-pointed by MoW in the 1950s and subsequent decades.

v) North Wall (B) - South Facing Internal Elevation (Slype) (see Figures 20, 33 - 38)

General Description:

- 6.64 This elevation is the south facing internal elevation of the Slype passage. Its far western end is characterised by the remains of Sutton stones jambs on the northern side of the Slype doorway (15). Only the base orders now remain of these jambs, which are made up of a series of repeating angular columns with heavily eroded alternating ovolo, cyma recta and fillet moulded pedestals. To the east of this elevation is the remains of a section of the barrel vaulted arch of the Slype.
- 6.65 At first floor level are the remains of the side jambs of the late 16th century mullioned window in the east wall (129) and the remains of the side embrasure of the former window in the north wall. At second floor level and above is the same dummy chimney stack.

Results of Investigation and Recording:

- 6.66 The chimney stack (122) in this elevation, as already mentioned in the previous section, is a false chimney built for architectural symmetry and aesthetic reasons. Encircling the top of this chimney stack is a band of string course of Sutton stone. Below this are the remains of the northern side jambs of the

northern late 16th century mullioned window (129). The upper jamb above the transom is scored with an apotropaic mark (142) or protection mark of three incised lines, as already mentioned in the previous section. Directly opposite this window in the remains of the north wall, is the slanted faced side of a former late 16th century window, now completely absent. As shown in antiquarian drawings, this window would have been identical in character and form as the existing windows in the east wall. Unfortunately all of the jambs are missing from this window's sides and all that is left is exposed wall core.

- 6.67 Directly below this window embrasure is the arch for the Slype passage. No significant features were noted beneath this arch.

vi) North Wall (C) - North Facing Internal Elevation (Slype) (see Figures 21, 33 - 38)

General Description:

- 6.68 This elevation is the north facing internal elevation of the Slype passage. It is characterised by having a rounded arch doorway (146) at ground level toward the west end that gives access to the northern unit of the Novice Room. At its far western end are the remains of the southern jamb of the Slype doorway. To the east is the remains of the Slype barrel vaulted arch and the eastern opening to the Slype. Where the barrel vaulting is missing, along two thirds of the elevation, are the remains of the spring ledge (144) and a course of projecting stones above (145) that once helped key in the vaulting to the north wall. At first floor level is the splayed side and jambs of the northern mullioned window (129) in the east wall and at the west end the remains of the opposing window (10), consisting of only the lower side jambs and the partial remains of a base jamb. This elevation has been fully consolidated and re-pointed by the MoW in the 1950s.

Results of Investigation and Recording:

- 6.69 Investigation of this elevation revealed no new significant features. The elevation was consolidated in the 1950s and re-pointed heavily with a mixture of lime and cement. A drawing by John Preston in 1813 gives us a good representation of the northeastern side of the house at this time, with the north wall itself having already tumbled and collapsed on top of the barrel vaulting of the Slype, which seems to still have been intact at this time.
- 6.70 The doorway into the northern unit of the Novice Room (146) has unfortunately lost all of its ashlar quoin jambs and all that remains today is exposed wall core where the jambs once were. The far east end of the Slype is the eastern doorway (3) with only its southern base jambs surviving. Immediately south of this doorway in the north wall is a section of shaped masonry that runs the height of the wall. This angular shaped stonework helped spread light into the passage. A similar splayed section of walling is also evident at the far west end of the passage immediately east of the opening and just before the remains of the door jambs.

v) North Wall (Bridge) - North Facing External Elevation (see Figures 22, 33 - 38)

General Description:

- 6.71 This elevation is the north facing external elevation of the rib vaulted bridge attached to the east wall of the dormitory block and the west wall of the Reredorter. The bridge in its entirety has a set of four pointed arches, a pair on either elevation. The springs of these arches are supported by two central piers, one each side of each elevation, each with corner column mouldings set on moulded pedestals. These piers also support the decorative corbels for rib vaulting (154, 155, 156 and 157). The west side of the vaulting is supported only by moulded corbels, but the east side is supported on piers that form part of an arcade of pointed arches that form the lateral cross wall of the Reredorter. Above the vaulting, the north facing elevation has unfortunately almost completely gone, the walling only continuing to the edge of the original two cills that once formed the base of a pair of large square headed mullioned windows. At the east and west ends of this elevation, both cross walls still survive with their side jambs, with only the partial remains of a transom in the eastern window.

Results of Investigation and Recording:

- 6.72 As well as recording all of the profiles and the elevation itself, the investigation of the window jambs (149 and 119) and the remaining transom, has shown that the two windows that once threw light into the long hall across the bridge would probably have had four-light transoms each. The investigation of this elevation has also revealed that the walling above the pointed arches of the bridge has been consolidated and re-pointed probably in the 1950s. The area of re-pointing is clearly discernible (153).
- 6.73 The central bridge pier of this elevation has suffered fairly badly over the years, not only from the fact that it was buried up to half of its height for a long time from river silt, but also from successive years of a fire having been lit up against, which has 'pinked' and heat damaged much of the sandstone and Oolitic limestone of the ashlar quoins, especially on its southern side. The supporting pier is dressed with moulded columns of Sutton stone, with returning squared edges at each corner, each column is resting on a pedestal of alternating torus, cyma reversa, fillet and torus.

vi) South Wall (Bridge) - South Facing External Elevation (see Figures 23, 33 - 38)

General Description:

- 6.74 This wall is the south facing external elevation of the bridge that joins the dormitory block to the Reredorter. The bridge in its entirety has a set of four pointed arches, a pair on either elevation. The springs of these arches are supported by two central piers, one each side of each elevation, each with corner column mouldings set on moulded pedestals. These piers also support the decorative corbels for rib vaulting (167, 166, 164 and 163). The west side of the vaulting is supported only by moulded corbels, but the east side is supported on piers that form part of an arcade of pointed arches that form the lateral cross wall of the Reredorter. This external elevation still retains both its first and second floors and its chimney stack with stringcourse. As well as the pair of pointed arches and the central vaulting support pier, this elevation also has a pair of late 16th century mullioned windows at first floor

level and a false mullioned window at the second floor level with chimney stack with string coursing just above.

Results of Investigation and Recording:

- 6.75 As well as the lower storey porch area beneath the vaulted bridge, this elevation's other main features include a pair of late 16th century mullioned windows (161 and 162) at first floor level. The window on the western side (161) retains all of its side and upper jambs and its hood moulding of Sutton stone, all of which are consistent in style with all of the other late 16th century windows in the rest of the elevations of the mansion house. However, the base jambs are missing and the existing central mullion is not authentic and is a modern replacement which has been fitted slightly off centre. Also, a number of the jambs appear to have been repositioned, which suggests that these too are likely part of a modern reconstruction. The three-light transomed window (162) to the east however does appear to be original and has retained all of its Sutton stone fittings, including its hood moulding. Directly above each of these windows are relieving arches. Directly above these at second floor level is a single mullioned false window (160) with Sutton stone jambs and hood moulding. Inspection of this false window shows that a number of the lower side jambs and base jambs are re-used mouldings from another source. Given that the purpose of this false window was primarily to be an aesthetic feature only, to visually break up this bare section of walling, the masons haven't even bothered to re-cut and shape the stones appropriately.
- 6.76 Below the bridge, as with the north wall of the bridge, the central vaulting support pier is a square pier with moulded columns of Sutton stone at each corner, each with square returning edges, resting on a pedestal of alternating torus, cyma reversa, fillet and torus. On one of its upper sandstone ashlars, this pier has the letters 'TD 1907' scratched into its face (165).

Internal Elevations (First and Second Floors)

j) North Wall (Bridge and Hall) – South Facing Internal Elevations of the Bridge and Hall

(See Figures 25. 33 - 38)

General Description

- 6.77 This elevation includes the south facing internal elevation of the bridge and the cross wall elevation running east to west through the long hall at first and second floor levels. Unfortunately little remains of the second floor following its demise in the last few decades. Photographs from the 1950s and before, show that this cross wall (174) was in existence up to second floor level, which also included a smaller north to south dividing cross wall with a fireplace and chimney. This wall must have been considered unsafe and either fell or was dismantled manually by the MoW.

Results of Investigation and Recording

- 6.78 At the east end, the internal elevation above the bridge hardly remains, other than a low section of walling that spans the length of the bridge, and from the remains of a window jamb at the far east end,

the height of this wall extends to former cill height. At both the east and west ends the wall remains, having been supported by their cross walls, have retained both of their side window jambs of Sutton stone (119 and 149), with partial remains of their transoms. These jambs are all late 16th century in style and design and the partial transom remains suggest that these two windows were each probably four-light windows with two transoms in each.

- 6.79 Examination of the fabric around the windows revealed that within the fabric are two reused moulded Sutton stones (172 and 173), which are virtually unidentifiable, but with some research their original locations from within the abbey could probably be found.
- 6.80 West of these window remains is the low remains of the east to west internal wall that ran the length of the former long hall. Today only the foundations of the two doorways and one of the jambs, at the east and west ends are still visible (152). Both these openings probably had ashlar quoins. A remnant of one of these, which is a re-used Sutton stone (171), is positioned at the bottom of the east side of the eastern doorway.
- 6.81 At the far west end of this elevation are the partial remains of the upper window jamb of the large oriel window directly below the long spanning arch (2).
- 6.82 The central bridge pier of this elevation has as already stated, suffered fairly badly over the years, from the fact that it was buried up to half of its height for a long time from river silt, and also from successive years of a fire having been lit up against, which has 'pinked' and heat damaged much of the sandstone and Oolitic limestone of the ashlar quoins, especially on its southern side. At its upper level, scored into one of the ashlar quoins are the letters 'Sd' (175). Below this, scratched into another quoin is the letter 'E' (176). This supporting pier is dressed with moulded columns of Sutton stone, with returning squared edges at each corner, each column resting on a pedestal of alternating torus, cyma reversa, fillet and torus.

ii) South Wall (Bridge) – North Facing Internal Elevation of Bridge (See Figures 24, 33 - 38)

General Description

- 6.83 This elevation is the internal north facing elevation above the vaulted bridge that joins the dormitory block to the reredorter. As with its external elevation, it is characterised by a chimney stack at second floor level and the remains of two late 16th century mullioned windows at first floor level. Between these two windows are the remains of a 16th century fireplace. These features all rest on the southern side of the vaulted bridge supported by a pair of pointed arches and a central vaulting support pier.

Results of Investigation and Recording

- 6.84 Above the two windows in the first floor is an area that must have been a small attic room given that the gable end still survives which gives an idea of the size of the former upper level. Directly below this space were the two mullioned windows with splayed openings. The window at the eastern end (162), as already described in the previous section on the external elevation of this wall, is complete and still retains its two mullions, its single transom and its jambs all of Sutton stone. Inspection of one of these jambs at the west end revealed a recent mason's mark, with the letters 'CD' cut into the stone. The other opposing window on at the west end (161) is missing its transom and its mullion is not original but

a modern replacement that has been fitted off centre.

- 6.85 Between these two windows are the remains of a 16th century fireplace (169) with its stone arch. This fireplace has had its ashlar quoins removed from both sides and all that is left now is exposed wall core. The back of the fireplace is occupied by a small projecting stone ledge and two put-log holes. When looking up the chimney from below, the chimney has been closed with a pair of modern timber lintels at second floor height.
- 6.86 Below the bridge the central supporting pier is dressed with moulded columns of Sutton stone, with returning squared edges at each corner. Each column is resting on a pedestal of alternating torus, cyma reversa, fillet and torus. As with the northern supporting pier, this pier has also been party to graffiti, with the letters 'WG' scratched into one of the upper ashlar.

iii) East Wall – West Facing Internal Elevation (See Figures 26 -27; 33 - 38)

General Description

- 6.87 This west facing internal elevation includes both of the west facing elevations that flank the former long hall. The far northern end includes the false chimney stack (122), the Slype opening (131), the partial remains of the attic room window at second floor level (121), a pair of late 16th century square headed three light transomed windows with modern timber lintels (120 and 129) and between these the remains of an unblocked former 13th century dormitory window (125). The central and southern end of this elevation includes one late 16th century square headed four light double transomed window at first floor level (107) with modern timber lintels, the remains of a late 16th century mullioned window at second floor attic room level (99), the partial remains of a 15th – 16th century tall window (92), three chimney stacks (98, 73 and 56), a 15th – 16th century fireplace (186) and the window jambs of the former east to west Tudor windows in the south wall.

Results of Investigation and Recording

- 6.88 The false chimney stack (122) at the northern end of this west facing internal elevation has a late 16th century Oolitic limestone stringcourse around its upper neck. Approximately 2 meters below this the chimney shoulders outwards, indicating the former roof line. To the south of the chimney is the interior face of the remains of the former late 16th century two light window (121). This window opening has splayed sides and a sloping base. As mentioned in the previous section, only part of the side jambs remain and the base jamb is only visible from this internal side, both base jambs are heavily weathered. As well as a series of put-log holes, immediately below this window at the start of the second floor level is a projecting stone ledge (178). This ledge marks the position and height of the original 13th century east wall and the later 16th century build.
- 6.89 Below this ledge are the two 16th century mullioned windows (129 and 120). Each of these windows is complete with all Sutton stone fittings making each a three-light single transomed window. An interesting feature of these two windows, which is not easily observable from the external elevation, is the fact that both have been inserted into the east wall at different heights, the one at the far southern end (120) continuing all the way up to the projecting ledge (178) and the other at the northern end sitting at least 0.30m lower. The reason for this irregularity may be for the simple reason that the floor

level rises at the southern end of the dormitory block access gained through the opening to the long hall via a step up of approximately 0.25m. Architecturally, this caused the pair of mullioned windows in the north wall of the bridge to be positioned higher than the window in the east wall at the northern end. To accommodate this irregularity and to create some visual symmetry with the windows in the east wall and those in his bridge elevation, the southern window was therefore raised in to create more of a flowing visual line when looking at the external elevation of the bridge and the corner of the east wall,

- 6.90 As already mentioned in the previous section on the east facing external elevation of the east wall, an apotropaic or protection mark (177) was noted to exist in one of the upper jambs of the northern window (129).
- 6.91 Between these two windows are the remains of a former 13th century dormitory window (125) with the partial remains of jambs and the shoulder of an arch of Sutton stone at the northern end against the external elevation. It is odd that this window survives here unblocked as it is unlikely that it would have been when Sir John Herbert commissioned the construction of the Tudor mansion, especially as none of the other windows have been preserved. It may be that this window was unblocked by the MoW in the 1950s.
- 6.92 As well recording the profile of the arch of the Slype directly below the northern mullioned window, the readily apparent features in the fabric of the internal west facing wall of the Novice Room were also recorded and are shown in the appropriate figure drawing.
- 6.93 Immediately south of the standing remains at the northern end, is an open area marking the position of the long hall with was divided by two cross wall, now absent. South of the former southern cross wall is a complete late 16th century mullioned window (107). This window has four lights with a single transom. The king mullion of this window has a sunk chamfered internal spine, whereas the side mullions have shallow sunk chamfered edges. Above this window and above the modern timber lintel is a relieving arch exposed within the wall core. Within the voisoirs of this arch is the remains of a sandstone perforated roof tile. At second floor level is the remains of a late 16th century two light mullioned window (99). Although this window appears complete with side, top and bottom jambs, close examination of this window suggests that the jambs have been repositioned. Immediately to the south of this window is a chimney stack (98) with string course. One of the stones in this stack is a re-used moulded Sutton stone serving as a quoin shoulder stone for the former roof. Immediately below the chimney stack is the remains of a former roof line (180) that once covered the second floor attic room.
- 6.94 Immediately below this roof line is an area of exposed wall core (181) that marks the position of a former relieving arch for the tall 15th – 16th century window (92). Unfortunately all that remains of this window in terms of fittings are the northern side jambs, the shoulder of the top jamb complete with spandrel and part of the base jamb. This window was probably inserted in the early 16th century for either Abbot John ap Hywel or else the Abbot Lleison ap Thomas.
- 6.95 Scratched within the southern splayed face of this window is some graffiti. Marking the letters 'CD' (188). Immediately next to this graffiti on the west facing internal elevation is a further graffiti mark, presumably made by the same person, 'C DORE' (187).
- 6.96 South of this graffiti is the opening of 15th – 16th century fireplace with stone arch (186), complete with

original moulded Sutton stone side jambs and the shoulders of the upper jambs, each with sunken spandrels. Unfortunately the top jambs of this fireplace have since gone. The internal part of the fireplace has sunken or recessed sides for storing firewood and there is a narrow projecting ledge halfway up the back. When looking up the flue of this chimney, it is apparent that the pair of chimney stacks above the second floor both served this fireplace. Interestingly, this fireplace does not appear to have been used a great deal as there is no burning or pinking of stones anywhere within the hearth area.

- 6.97 Both chimney stacks (73 and 56) have a string course of Oolitic limestone wrapping around the top of the chimney complete with drip fronts. Also noted was the re-use of a moulded Sutton stone in the corner of the southernmost chimney (183). Directly below this chimney pair is the remains of a course of sandstone, marking the point of the former 15th – 16th century roofline (184).
- 6.98 South of the fireplace (186) there are several fissures (189 and 190) in the wall fabric, but none of these are offering any definite outline of any conclusive features. However, given that in the east facing external elevation at this point there is the remains of a vice passage (81) and there was formerly an opening into the Abbot's Stairwell in this wall, it is likely that these fissures mark the area where this walling was rebuilt when the vice passage was inserted and when the opening to the Abbot's Stairwell was blocked up. As a point of interest for reconstruction purposes, the position of the northernmost fissure (189) and the vice passage (81) would probably in the 13th century have been the position of one of a series of former dormitory windows in the east wall.
- 6.99 At the far southern end of this elevation are the Sutton stone side jambs of one of the former south wall mullioned windows (60).

iv) West Wall – East Facing Internal Elevation (*See Figures 28 – 29; 33 - 38*)

General Description

- 6.100 From the northern end, this internal east facing first floor elevation includes a single chimney stack (1) that serves the fireplace in the Novice Room, the large late 16th century oriel window (6) with spanning arch (2), missing its lights, and a further late 16th century six-light transomed and mullioned window (8) to the south. Directly above this mullioned window are the remains of a single late 16th century window (3), with only its side jambs and bases remaining. Immediately south of here at upper floor level are the remains of a narrow passage (29) through the west wall leading to the former Abbot's House complete with slit (4). Below this at ground floor level is a blocked in 15th – 16th century doorway (197) that once gave access to the west wing of the Abbot's House. Immediately south of this blocked doorway are the remains of two blocked former 13th century dormitory windows (198 and 200), with a potential third window between these two (199). At the far southern end are the remains of the Sutton stone side jambs of the western window that once occupied the south wall (53). At the highest point of this elevation is the remains of a former chimney stack complete with what appears to be either a former roof line or else a mitre symbol constructed into the face of the stack (28). As well as these features, this internal elevation is also punctuated by a significant number of put-log holes.
- 6.101 The east facing internal elevation of the undercroft is characterised by the outlines of three blocked

openings. Although two of these openings have also been adapted and altered in the 16th century, all three of these outlines most probably mark the positions of former 13th century tall lancet windows. At the far northern end of the undercroft, what would have been the positions of a further two tall 13th century lancet windows are now occupied by two late 16th century mullioned windows.

Results of Investigation and Recording

- 6.102 The chimney stack at the far northern end of this elevation has no stringcourse around its top on this elevation. Approximately 2 meters down from the top of the stack is what appears to be a residual mark from a former gabled roof (191). The first three meters or so of this chimney stack are most probably late 16th century in date. However, from here downwards, the chimney breast could well be earlier and may be early 16th century in date and associated with a rebuilding programme at the abbey under either Abbot John ap Hywel or else Abbot Lleision ap Thomas. Toward the base of the elevation below the chimney stack are two fairly wide fissures (192). The purpose of these fissures is unknown, but at a guess they may be as a result of repair work to the chimney at some time. Immediately south of these fissures is the position of the former doorway jambs and the arch for the former doorway that led into the long hall (152). These jambs and arch are now only marked by exposed wall core (174). South of here is the large oriel window and its wide spanning arch (2 and 6). As mentioned in the previous section on the west facing external elevation, the only remnants of this window are the Sutton stone jambs and transoms at the southern side along with a fragment of base jamb and the remains of a side jamb and the partial remains of a top jamb in the upper corner of the northern jamb. This window, its arch and its jambs have been consolidated by the MoW in the 1950s. Investigation of one of the Sutton stone side jambs in the southern side of the window, noted the scoring of an inverted letter 'R' in the stone. This could well be a mason's mark rather than general graffiti.
- 6.103 Immediately south of the oriel window is a further six-light transomed window (8). This window has already been described in the previous section on the west facing external elevation. Investigation of the mullions and jambs of this window noted the scoring of two apotropaic or protection marks in the side of southernmost mullion (9). Each of the king mullions in this window have sunk chamfered spines and each mullion has sunk chamfered edges. Directly above this window are the remains of a single late 16th century window (3), with only its lower side jambs and base jambs remaining. These are all Sutton stone. Immediately south of this window is a narrow stone stepped passage (29) that would have once allowed access to the roof area from the former Abbot's House. A small hidden window slit (4) also exists at the corner to the north of the passage, where the east wall meets the lateral cross wall of the former Abbot's House. Immediately below these stone steps is a vertical line of exposed wall core (196). This line most probably marks the extent of the former Abbot's lodging in the dormitory when the southern end of the dormitory was converted for his private residence.
- 6.104 On the southern side of this partition feature, are the remains of a former 15th – 16th century doorway with a flat arch (196). This opening is now blocked and faced, which probably occurred in the late 16th century. This doorway has ashlar quoins of Sutton stone, dressed upper jambs with a hood moulding of Sutton stone. Each of the arched corner shoulder jambs project from the wall face slightly and each have sunken spandrels. Above the chamfered upper jambs is a hood of Sutton stone. There is no relieving arch above this doorway. One of the stone towards the base of the blocking in of this doorway

has a mason's mark on it, a leaning 'V'.

- 6.105 Immediately along the southern edge of this doorway is an area of exposed wall core (197). What has caused this wall core to be become exposed is uncertain. However, it may be that this area marks an attempt at removing the ashlar quoins from the 15th – 16th century doorway.
- 6.106 South of this blocked doorway opening are a series of outlines in the fabric, two of them (200 and 198) appearing to be the positions of former 13th century dormitory windows given that they also have the remains of ashlar quoins of Sutton stone along one edge. The southernmost blocked window has been blocked in with rough corework and it may be that this window was unblocked by the MoW in the 1950s and then reblocked. The opposing face in the west facing elevation however is faced, and it may be that this window was purely blocked in 15th or 16th century and used as a recess and perhaps boarded at one time. Between these two blocked windows is another area of fissures (199) that do not have any conclusive features to interpret their original form. However, given the position of the fissures, between the two definite former 13th century dormitory windows, this too may be a remnant of another early window.
- 6.107 At the far southern end of this elevation are the remains of the Sutton stone side jambs of the former west window that occupied the south wall (53).
- 6.108 Lastly, the east facing face of the chimney stack (27) has a collar of Oolitic limestone stringcourse around its top the same unusual feature directly below it that is also present in the western face. This feature consists of two intersecting sandstone tiles with a round capping stone at their apex (28). Again, at first this feature has the appearance of a former roof line. The angle of this feature is slightly steeper than the opposing face, and again appears to be integral to the stack rather than residual. Given its position on this east face, its presence wouldn't tie in with any former roof line, as this area of the roof would not have had any gables running in this direction from this area of the roof, so this may well suggest that this feature may well be an abbot's mitre symbol incorporated into the fabric rather than a former roof line.

v) South Wall – North Facing Internal Elevation (See Figures 30, 33 - 38)

General Description

- 6.109 This internal elevation is characterised by the low wall that once held a pair of mullioned windows that once overlooked the river Neath.

Results of Investigation and Recording

- 6.110 There is very little to discuss regarding this low elevation, The remaining wall stands only 0.80m high and its central section marks the original extent of the 13th century dormitory wall given that the other sections that held mullioned windows were extended outwards in the late 16th century. Given that this southern part of the dormitory was once converted for use by one of the abbots in the 15th – 16th century, the windows were very probably at this time similar to the remaining 15th – 16th century window in the east wall (92), the lights having had arched heads with decorative sunken spandrels in the shoulders made from Sutton stone.

vi) The Abbot's Stairwell (see *Figures 31 and 32*)

- 6.111 The Abbot's Stairwell or turret is a half octagonal two storey structure with a series of window openings, positioned at the far southeast corner of the eastern range between the dormitory block and the Reredorter. It was built around 1500 for one of the abbots at Neath, possibly Abbot John ap Hywel, as an essential element to serve his new private lodging. The stairwell, which once contained a newel stair, was used to easily access both the undercroft and the upper levels. The structure is built from local red, brown and yellow sandstone with Sutton stone ashlar quoins and a Bath type stone for its window dressings. Although the structure no longer has a roof, it probably originally had a conical one and may have also had crenellations encircling it, in keeping with the apparent crenellated remains at the top of the south wall of the west wing of the Abbot's House.
- 6.112 Externally, the standing fabric of the stairwell is in remarkable condition for a structure that is well over 500 years old. Its good condition may in part be due to the fact that it was probably used in the 16th - 17th centuries as part of the mansion house. The southernmost external elevation of the stairwell is characterised by a damaged window (69) opening halfway up the stairwell, with no window jambs present, the jambs probably having been robbed in the last century or so. Above this opening is an identical pair of double arched windows with four-centred heads made from Bath stone. These Windows each stand side by side but in adjacent elevations, the other window set into the southeast side facing elevation. Although the central mullion is missing from both these windows, the window jambs and their arched heads are in good condition. Each headed arch has sunk spandrels either side in a squared frame.
- 6.113 At the uppermost level in the east facing elevation of the tower is the remains of a small dressed loop window (202) with jambs and arch still in place and overall in good condition. Although once allowing some visibility to the outside world from within the stairwell, this small window would have primarily served as a window to offer light into the stairwell. Between the east and south facing side elevations of the stairwell, just above ground level there is also evidence for a blocked in window (206), evident externally only from its arch. This window has been blocked using the same sandstone as used in the rest of the fabric of the stairwell, which may suggest that this opening was blocked in not long after its construction or perhaps even in the late 16th century.
- 6.114 The north facing side elevation of the stairwell marks the side that formerly gave access to the ground and first floor levels of the east wing of the abbot's house. As such this north facing elevation has the remains of two doorways, one at ground floor level and the other at the first floor. The ground floor doorway (204) has been partly blocked up rather poorly and a square window put in its place complete with window jambs that are in fact reused window base jambs and mullions. Given the character and poor build of this blocking in, this work was probably only undertaken in the last fifty years or so, possibly by the MoW, to deter amateur explorers and visitors from accessing the stairwell for safety reasons. The other opening (205) at first floor level has unfortunately had all of its quoin stones and jambs robbed or else removed at some time and as such all that remains is the opening itself and its

complete upper arch.

- 6.115 Internally, the condition of the newel stair is a very different story. Unfortunately other than its lowest steps and foundation, the stone steps that once spiraled up in a circular fashion to the uppermost level have since collapsed and all that remains of them now is scarring from their original locations in the elevations. Even so, this scarring does nonetheless inform the dimensions of the steps and the form and angle of their original incline. Almost all, perhaps 70% or so of the internal elevation is covered in well preserved historic plaster and lime-wash, which probably dates to the both late 16th and 17th centuries.
- 6.116 At ground floor level at the base of the steps and at the far west end of the stairwell interior is a small passage and a blocked in doorway (88), that once gave access to the undercroft or day room. Although the face of this blocking in is flat on the undercroft side, the other side within the stairwell is rough and unfaced, which would suggest that the prime purpose of the blocking-in was to close the access to the undercroft first with little concern regarding the finish in the stairwell. This may suggest that this opening was blocked up only recently, perhaps in the late 19th century or else blocked by the MoW in the 20th century.
- 6.117 At first floor level, the remains of the landing area from the newel stair still remain, but there is now no doorway as such, only an opening which has had its dressings robbed. Presumably this landing also led into the dormitory area, but there is now no obvious evidence of this opening remaining in the elevation. An interesting feature at this first floor level is the remains of an apparent narrow passage (81) or vice cut into the main core of the east wall and visible from the stairwell, complete with cut limestone blocks (79) offering support to the ceiling of the passage. This narrow passage appears to have been originally accessed from a slightly higher level from an opening in the east facing elevation, which formerly led up a flight of stone steps up toward the roof. Although these steps are now absent, the scarring for them is still clearly evident in the passages east facing wall. These steps (80) appear to have been originally supported underneath by the relieving arch (82) of the first floor stairwell doorway, now absent. Directly opposite this small passage and cut into the core of the east wall at its southernmost end is a small discrete window slit (58) that gives light to the passage. This window slit appears to have been deliberately positioned so as to be hidden, much like the window slit (4) in the west facing elevation, so much so that the slit itself has even been reduced in size with the addition of another course of stones at top and bottom of the fenestration.
- 6.118 At the uppermost level of the stairwell is the remains of another doorway relieving arch (71), which must also have given access to the second floor, although as with the floor below, there is no surviving evidence for any doorway in the east wall in this position in either the east facing or west facing elevations. One last feature within the interior of the stairwell is a series of beam slots at the uppermost section of the stairwell, each filled with blocks of Sutton stone. These beam slots will have been to have support the former roofing beams.

7 Results of Excavation (see Figures 39 and 40; Photo plates 102 – 118)

- 7.1 All numbers marked in () refer to archaeological contexts encountered during the ground work.
- 7.2 The drainage trench at the base of the south wall of the undercroft was to act as a soak-away as well as to keep excess water pooling against the south wall once the new roof had been fully installed.
- 7.3 The trench was to measure 1200m in length x 450mm in width x 450mm in depth and positioned 400mm from the main fabric of the external wall. At the time of the excavation the area in front of the south wall was turf covered. Prior to the excavation it was noted that there was evidence for a slight bank measuring c. 1m in width and 0.30m in height at its highest point, running towards and perpendicular with the building from the direction of the canal and possibly entering into the area of the proposed for the excavation.
- 7.4 Once the turf (100) had been fully removed and retained, a thin top soil of only approximately 0.05m was exposed (101). Within this dark top soil was 19th century material including a few fragments of pottery and glass. Directly below this deposit was a deposit of irregular stones (102) varying size and shape, from approximately 0.02m to 0.20m. These stones were predominantly fragments of grey sandstone. This stone spread covered the entire trench apart from a 1 meter section of mortar spread (103) at the far western end directly in front of the western buttress. This mortar spread (103) was pale cream in colour and was a mixture of sand and lime and reached a depth of approximately 0.10m. During removal of the stone spread deposit which had a varying depth of between 0.10m – 0.30m, several fragments of 17th – 18th century pottery were recovered, which included fragments of 17th century slipware and glazed and unglazed Dyfed Gravel Tempered Ware and 18th century hand-painted glazed white ware. Also recovered from this stone spread were three fragments of medieval monastic floor tile (see Figure 41). All three of these tile fragments had slip-on-impression designs and are dated to the 14th century. One of these fragments (Ref 105A) has been identified as a fragment of a shield of arms set diagonally belonging to the Clares family. The other two fragments (Ref 176) have been identified as a fragment of a shield of arms set diagonally probably belonging to the Verdon family (Lewis 1999). The presence of these tiles along with later 17th – 18th century material suggested that this deposit was all re-deposited material and likely associated with the Glen Taylor excavations of the abbey in the 1930s.
- 7.5 With this stone and mortar spread completely removed from the trench, a dark fairly loose soil (104) became exposed. This soil covered the entire length and depth of the trench and was made up of soil intermixed with soil, soot, ash, stone and occasional flecks of lime. Recovered from this deposit were several fragments of 17th – 18th century pottery, including four fragments of late 17th century glass from an 'onion' bottle or bottles. These fragments included part of the base, neck and body. Also recovered were 12 fragments of 17th century slipware pottery. Within this deposit one small strip of clear thin plastic of 20th century date was also recovered. Also exposed from this deposit were several small fragments of medieval dark grey/green roof ridge tile. Also at the far east end of the trench was recovered a complete section of a Tudor window's king mullion with a sunk chamfered spine, suggesting this may once have belonged to the oriel window or else is a remnant from one of the

windows in the south wall. Although this deposit extended across the entire length of the trench, at both the east and west ends were the partial remains of deliberately laid dry stone walling (105 and 106). Both these features were cleaned back and recorded and left in situ. In section it was apparent that directly below these sections of walling was the same dark earth (104) already removed from the trench. This suggested that these features were contemporary with the re-deposited material and may have been positioned in order to create a small retaining enclosure when the material was being dumped and it may be that these wall features are in fact associated with the apparent earth banks to the south and west.

- 7.6 Two further large stones were also left in the trenches (107) which were exposed directly opposite the central buttress. Each of these stones was half buried in the section, but appeared to be lying directly on the base of the trench at 0.45m. Whereas the dark soil deposit (104) appeared to be continuing to a greater depth across the whole trench, toward the eastern end of the trench at the 0.45m depth the patch of an historic deposit was beginning to become exposed. This appeared to be a dark beige coloured deposit.

8 Results of Watching Briefs (see Photo plates 102 – 118)

- 8.1 All numbers marked in () refer to archaeological contexts encountered during the ground work.

- 8.2 Archaeological Watching Brief supervision was required on site during:

- A) The Installation of a drain from the flat roof at the north end of Dormitory by coring through barrel vault and installing internal gutter;
- B) Clearance of vegetation from the southeastern end of the Tudor Mansion House, in the area immediately northeast of the Abbot's Stairwell.
- C) Removal and replacement of timber lintels above windows in south wall of the Undercroft.

A) Installation of drainage pipe through barrel vaulting from roof

- 8.3 In order to drain water from the northern end of the roof there was a requirement to core two holes through the roof and through the historic fabric of the barrel vaulting of the first unit of the Novice Room, one at the northwest and the other at the northeast corner of the room. Rather than dismantling sections of wall from the roof to accommodate the drainage pipes, the work was undertaken using diamond tipped boring drills with water as a lubricant. These allowed a precise core of historic fabric to be removed and results in less potential damage to the historic fabric.
- 8.4 With both cores completed. It was revealed that the historic fabric of the barrel vault in these areas was only approximately 0.20m thick. Work in the 1950s by the MoW had covered this historic fabric in approximately 0.15m of concrete. These bore holes also revealed that in order to concrete the modern flat roof, sheets of corrugated steel, now rusting, had been used to cover the roof area. This was probably done to retain the concrete to the required depth.

B) Clearance of vegetation from the south-eastern end of the Tudor Mansion

- 8.5 Following consolidation and re-pointing work on the external face of the east wall, there was a requirement to clear the ground surface of debris and vegetation immediately east of the Abbot's Stairwell and the courtyard area north, beneath and south of the vaulted bridge joining the dormitory block to the reredorter. This work was to be undertaken using a mechanical excavator with a grading non-toothed bucket and manually using a hand shovel in the areas close to the historic fabric in order to avoid any accidental damage to the walling and any features that may become exposed as well as to remove any deeper root systems from vegetation. Only approximately 0.05m of material was to be removed and once completed the area was to be raked then covered in a poly-textile and the area subsequently covered in a suitable grit and then compacted.
- 8.6 The watching brief during this work revealed little of any significance. The clearance of vegetation in the area of the Abbot's House alongside the Abbot's Stairwell exposed the same dark soil that was exposed in the excavated trench alongside the south wall, suggesting that this room had been filled with redeposited material and probably reached a depth of at least 0.45m. Dateable material recovered included only 19th century glass and pottery fragments.
- 8.7 Clearance of the vegetation and debris in the courtyard area north, south and beneath the bridge exposed no significant material, deposits or features other than slightly revealing further the edges of features along the wall of the Reredorter and the pier bases underneath the vaulted bridge.

C) Removal and replacement of timber lintels above windows in south wall of the Undercroft

(See Photos)

- 8.8 As part of the programme to improve the roof covering the undercroft for the purpose of stopping water ingress, examination of the oak timber lintels above the windows within the interior of the south wall revealed that the existing timbers were rotten from damp and therefore needed complete replacement. All of these timbers were modern ones probably inserted in the last few decades when the ceiling in the undercroft had been re-plastered using lime and cement, which was causing algae to build up in undercroft.
- 8.9 Prior to the watching brief during removal of these timbers, all of the antiquities being stored in the undercroft were carefully moved in order to clear a working area and to erect scaffolding in front of each window.
- 8.10 With the scaffolding erected, work to remove the existing oak timber lintels, three above each window, began with the careful removal of a section of modern wall plaster from the internal north facing wall and the side walls above and to the side of the timber lintels. Removal of this plaster revealed that it was made up of a mixture of cement and lime. Once this plaster had been removed, one of the timber lintels in each window had to be cut at its end in order to make room for the other timbers to be removed. Once the first timber was removed above each window, it became clear that each timber had originally only been inserted following quantities of wet cement having been put into the timber slots.

This meant that this hardened cement had to be removed using hammer and chisel. Examination of these slots and the exposed fabric immediately above each lintel revealed that the stonework here had been recently rebuilt in modern times as the mortar used was modern grey cement.

- 8.11 Following complete removal of the timber lintels, the exposed slots were cleaned of hardened cement and the slots prepared for the new timbers.

9. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 9.1 The archaeological investigation and recording of this part of the Tudor Mansion, which included all of the external elevations of the dormitory and the undercroft, the former internal elevations of the first floor and the external walls of the vaulted bridge joining the dormitory to the reredorter, prior to and during Phase 1 works has managed to create a lasting record of the standing remains of the dormitory and the undercroft. This work has also managed to separate much of the fabric into its phases of construction, its original 13th century phase, its 14th - 15th century phases and its 16th century phase following the Dissolution.
- 9.2 Although the late 16th century construction has caused irreversible damage to the early dormitory, there are many original 13th – 14th century features remaining. Apart from standing fabric itself, particularly at the northern ends of the building, several significant 13th century features remain. These early features include the remains of the day stair, the slype, doorways in the east wall, the remains of buttresses in the east, west and south walls, a former doorway at the far southern end of the undercroft, and the remains of at least three possibly four 13th century dormitory windows. It also includes the remains of three 13th century tall lancet windows in the undercroft in both the east and west walls, one of which is complete although blocked up. Another original feature sits in the east wall between the slype doorway and the doorway into the potential Novice Room. This is the remains of a spring for an arched doorway that would have given access to the area leading to the undercroft. This doorway here also suggests that there was once an east to west wall continuing a walkway to the east. A wall is marked on one of the ground plans in this position. All of these original 13th century features along with parallel examples of Cistercian dormitories across Britain and Europe will allow a fairly accurate reconstruction of the dormitory block to be created.
- 9.3 With regards to the 15th- 16th century, this period marks a period of construction on the building, particularly the conversion of the southern end of the dormitory and the construction of the east and west wings of the abbot's lodging, which also included the creation of the Abbot's Stairwell. Investigation of the standing fabric has shown that as well as these large elements, there may also have been other areas in the building that were improved. This includes the fireplace and ashlar quoin chamfered chimney in the east wall and the ashlar quoin chimney that sits atop part of the day stairs. The fabric and build quality of these features is entirely different from the rest of the early fabric, but also very different from the later 16th century fabric. This would suggest that these features may mark an intermediary period of improvements on the building.

- 9.4 With regards to the chimney breast in the west wall that sits upon part of the day stairs, there is a line of ashlar quoins that abut the edge of the large oriel window on its northern side. These quoin stones of Sutton stone mark the southern side of the chimney breast and may suggest that this chimney and fireplace within the Novice Room may well pre-date the construction of the oriel window in the late 16th century, and as such may well be 15th – early 16th century in date and associated with one of the abbots during a period of improvements, possibly done at the same time as the construction of the abbot's new lodgings and the reduction of the size of the dormitory.
- 9.5 With regards to the Abbot's House and the Abbot's Stairwell, the investigation and recording of the southern end of the building has revealed several interesting features in the standing fabric associated with this early 16th century period. As well as former fireplaces, a tall window and doorways that linked the east and west wings with the dormitory and the stairwell, the investigation of the standing fabric also revealed the possibility that what appears to be the remains of a former roof line in the chimney stack in the west wall at the southern end, may instead be an abbot's mitre symbol, which has been incorporated into the fabric rather than being a residual feature from a former roof line.
- 9.6 Although not part of this programme of work, the next phases of investigation on the Abbot's House, to the east and west will be able to reconstruct a fairly accurate idea of both the form and character of the exterior and the interior of the Abbot's House. A rapid investigation of the Abbot's House west wing has revealed a large number of significant feature in the fabric, associated with both the Abbot's House but also the former 13th century Refectory which was incorporated into the later building.
- 9.7 Investigation and recording of the late 16th century fabric of the house has managed to separate the earlier features from the later conversion work. It has also added to the description and interpretive work undertaken by the Royal Commission in 1981. Having had better access to the building during this programme of work, several new interesting features have come to light. Particularly interesting was the presence of three apotropaic or protection marks scored into the side jamb and mullion of two of the windows in the east and west wall. The presence of these in these locations is very suggestive of the superstitious 16th – 17th centuries.
- 9.8 The next phases of work on the Tudor mansion house, particularly the northwest wing will be very informative and may even throw some light on the original position of the 13th century infirmary.
- 9.9 The excavation of the drainage trench alongside the south wall revealed that the area south of the undercroft appears to have been covered in approximately 0.50m of re-deposited material likely associated with the excavations undertaken by Glen Taylor's team in the 1930s. Although the majority of the datable finds recovered from this excavation were 17th – 19th century, the excavation did manage to recover fragments of glazed medieval roof ridge tiles and three fragments of medieval floor tile, which have been identified as being slip-on-impression tiles with the shield arms of both the Clares and the Verdon families. Also recovered was a complete king mullion, possibly a fallen part of masonry from one of the windows in the south wall.

- 9.10 The watching brief during the coring of the barrel vaulting in the Novice Room for the drainage pipes revealed that the historic fabric of the barrel vault in these areas was only approximately 0.20m thick. Work in the 1950s by the MoW had covered this historic fabric in approximately 0.15m of concrete. These bore holes also revealed that in order to concrete the modern flat roof, sheets of corrugated steel, now rusting, had been used to cover the roof area. This was probably done to retain the concrete to the required depth.
- 9.11 The watching brief during clearance of vegetation and debris from the area of the Abbot's House alongside the Abbot's Stairwell exposed the same dark soil that was exposed in the excavated trench alongside the south wall, suggesting that this room had been filled with re-deposited material and probably reached a depth of at least 0.45m. Dateable material recovered included only 19th century glass and pottery fragments.
- 9.12 Clearance of the vegetation and debris in the courtyard area north, south and beneath the bridge exposed no significant material, deposits or features other than slightly revealing further the edges of features along the wall of the Reredorter and the pier bases underneath the vaulted bridge.
- 9.13 The watching brief during the removal and replacement of rotten oak timbers above the windows in the south wall revealed that once the timber s had been removed, it became apparent that the exposed stonework in the back wall above the square headed window and below the lintel had recently been rebuilt in modern times as the mortar used was a modern grey cement. The plaster covering this stonework was a mixture of lime and cement.

10 Acknowledgements

Thanks to; Jonathan Berry, Chris Wilson, Laurence Toole and Kate Roberts of Cadw for allowing access to the site for investigation and recording work and during the groundwork. Also thanks to Amanda Needham acting on behalf of Purcell UK and to Nick Sharland and Dan Segura on behalf on Sally Strachley Historic Conservation for their help and advice throughout the project.

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Other References

Soils of England and Wales 1983. Sheet 2: Wales, 1:25000

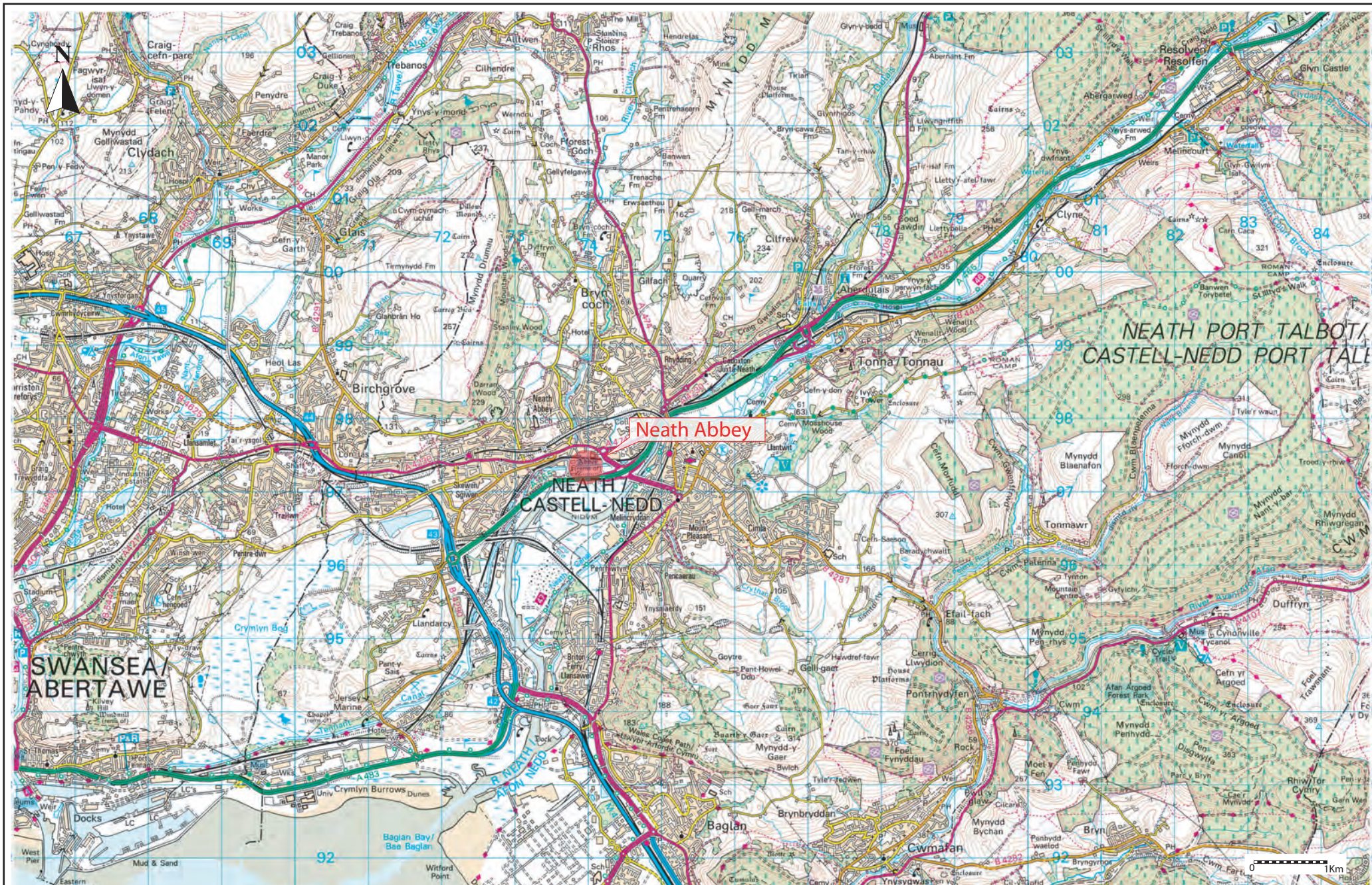
Cartographic Sources

- Tithe Map and apportionment of the parish of Cadoxton-juxta-Neath (1844)
- Ordnance Survey First Edition Map (1884)
- Ordnance Survey Second Edition Map (1900)
- Ordnance Survey 1921 Edition Map
- Ordnance Survey 1953 Edition Map
- Ordnance Survey Landranger Edition 1:50,000 (2016)
- Ordnance Survey Explorer Edition 1:25,000(2016)

Image References

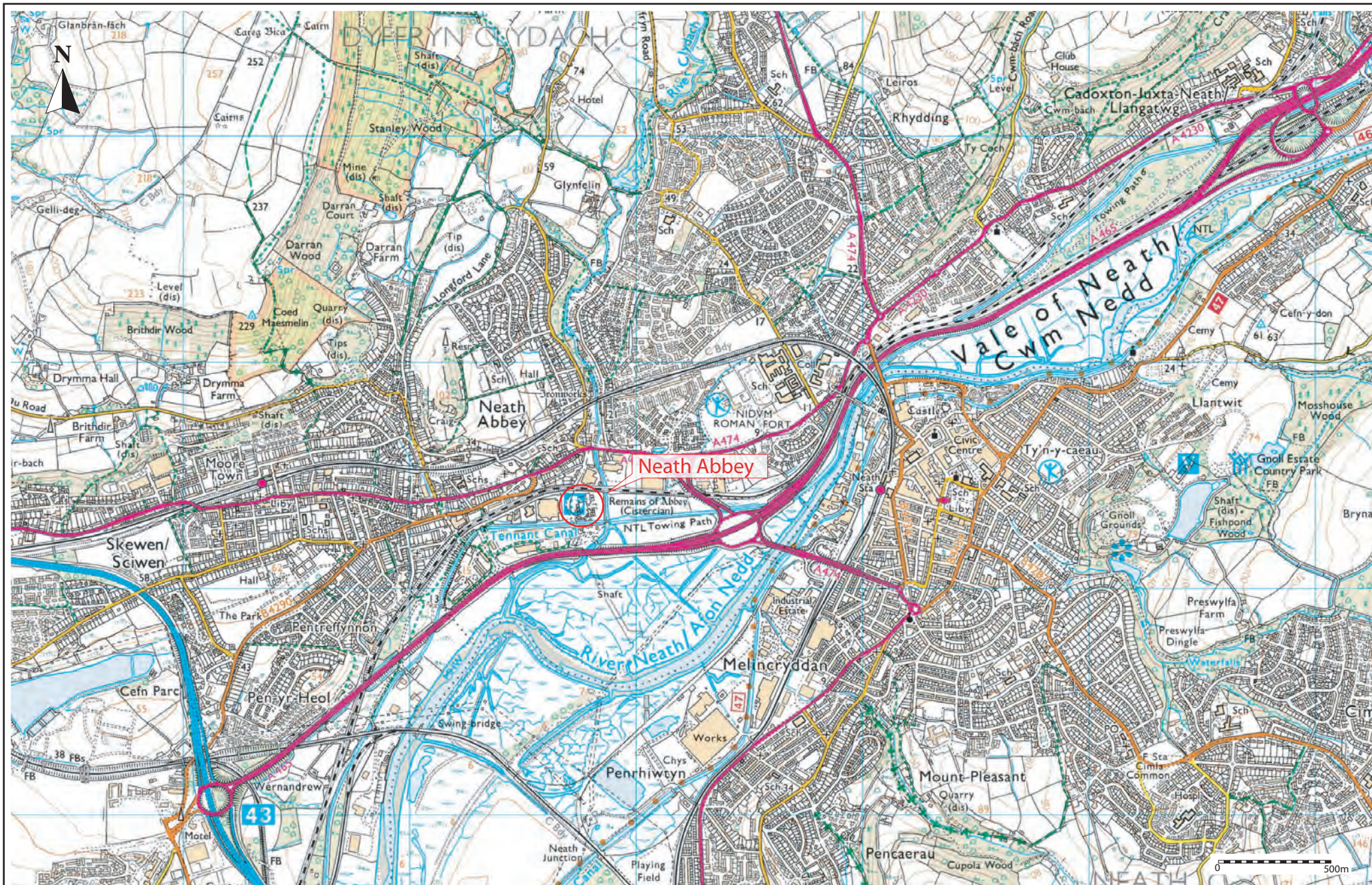
Images of Neath Abbey from the Welsh Landscapes Collection in the National Library of Wales

APPENDIX I:
Figures & Illustrations



Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Date: July 2017	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by: Richard Scott Jones	Drawing No.:

Figure 1. Location Map (OS 1:50,000 Landranger)



Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Date: July 2017	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by:	Drawing No.:

Figure 2. Location Map (OS 1:25,000 Explorer)



Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Date: July 2017	Drawing No.:
Drawn by:	

Figure 3. OS Aerial Photo (Area of Investigation - Phase 1).



Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date: July 2017

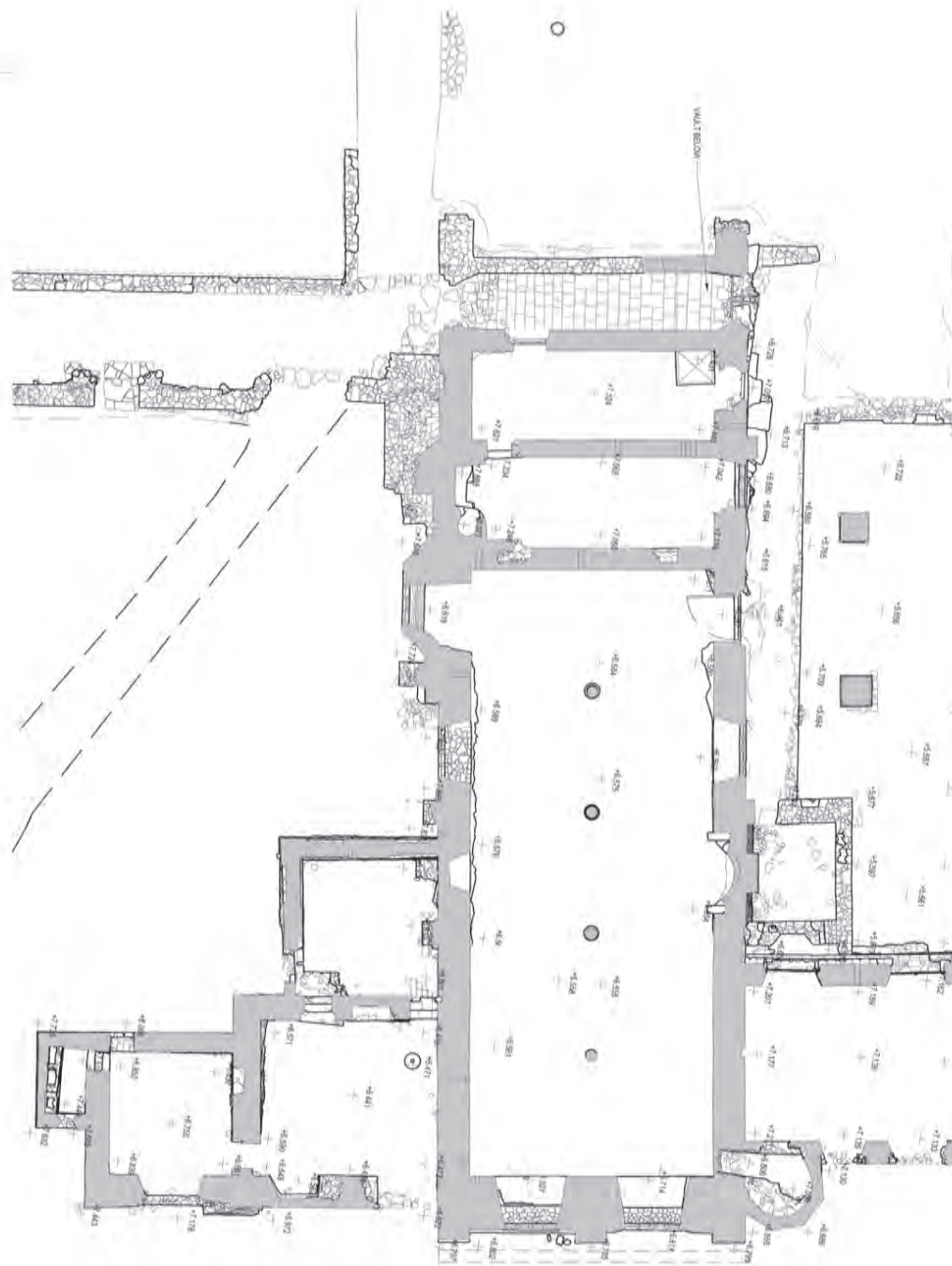
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Drawn by:

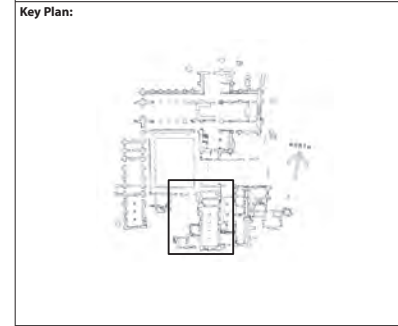
Drawing No.:

Figure 4.

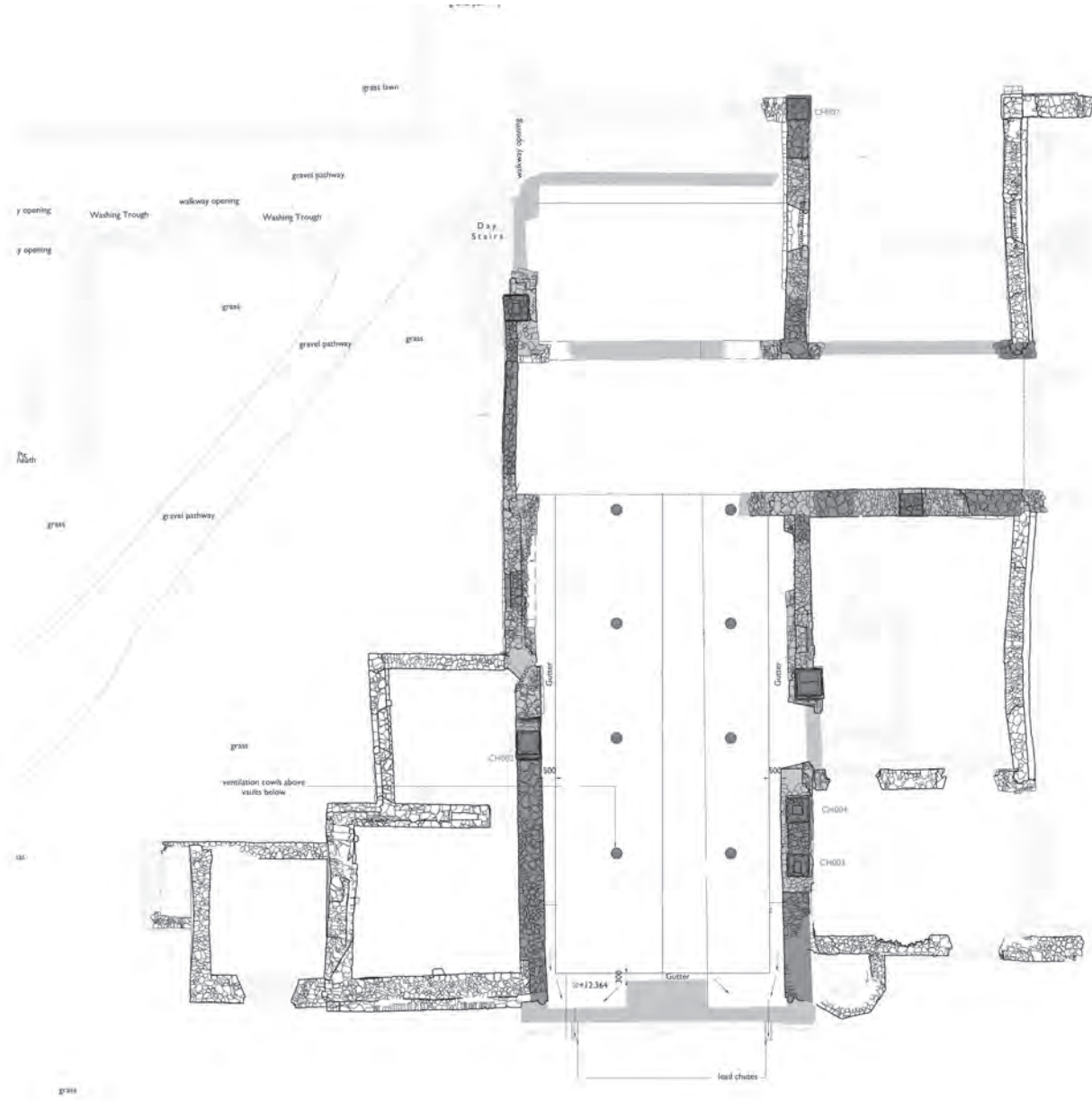
Ground Plan of Neath Abbey
(from Cadw's *Guide to Ancient and Historic Wales: Glamorgan and Gwent* - 1992)



Notes:
 * All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.

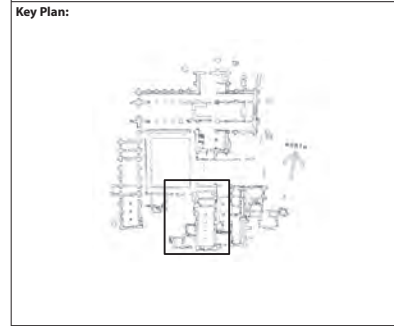


Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:100
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By: Heritage Recording Services Wales	Drawn By: (Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: Ground Floor Plan of Tudor Mansion (adapted from Integral ground plan)	Figure No. 5

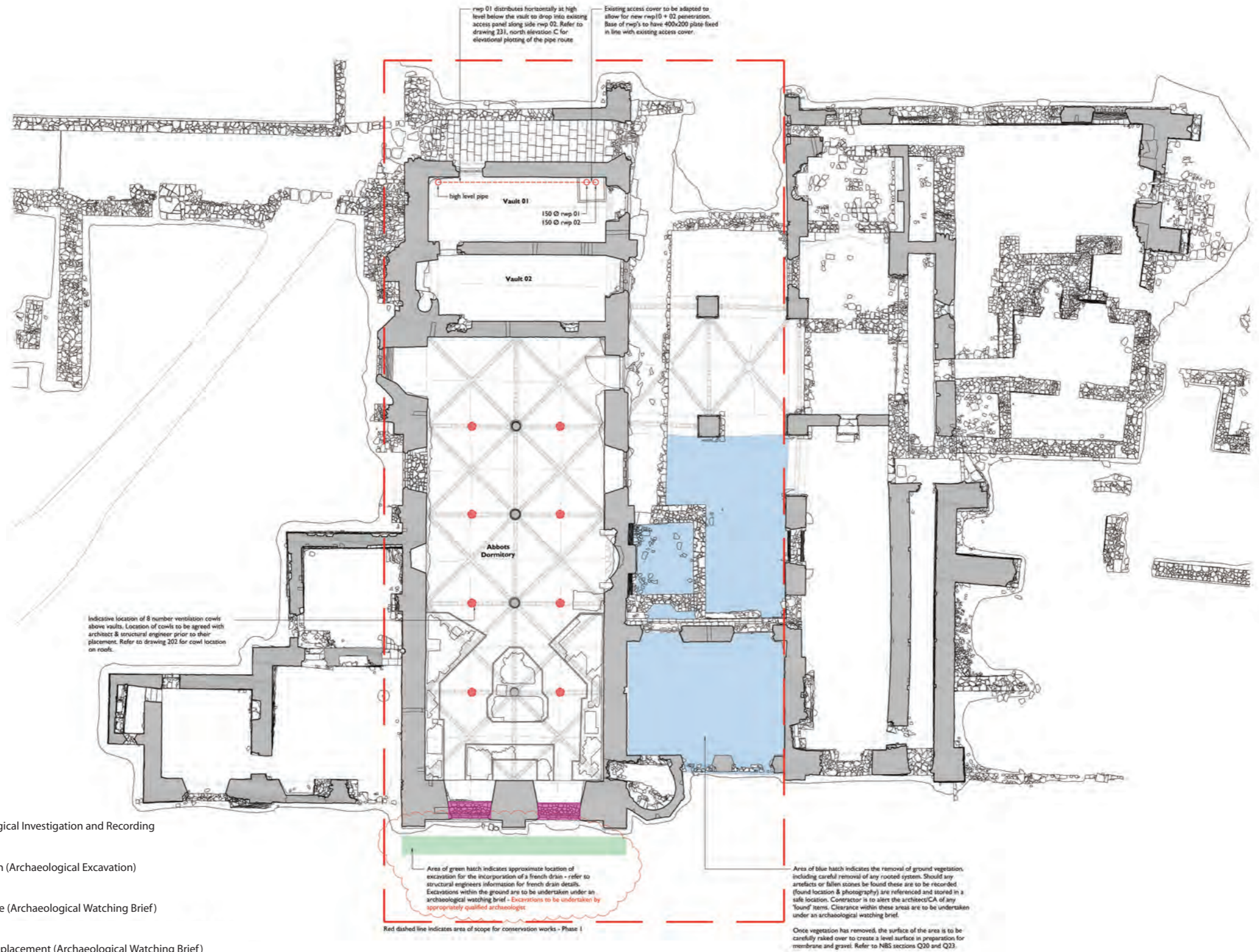


I
202 **ROOF PLAN**
1:100

Notes:
 * All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.



Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:100
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By: (Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: Roof Plan of Tudor Mansion (adapted from Integral ground plan)	Figure No. 6



Legend

- Area covering Archaeological Investigation and Recording
- Proposed drainage trench (Archaeological Excavation)
- Area of proposed clearance (Archaeological Watching Brief)
- Area of proposed lintel replacement (Archaeological Watching Brief)
- Proposed bore holes for drainage pipe at North end (Archaeological Watching Brief)



Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Date: July 2017	Approx. Scale (@ A3):
Drawn by: Richard Scott Jones	Drawing No.:

Figure 7.
Ground plan of Tudor Mansion showing areas under archaeological investigation, supervision and recording.





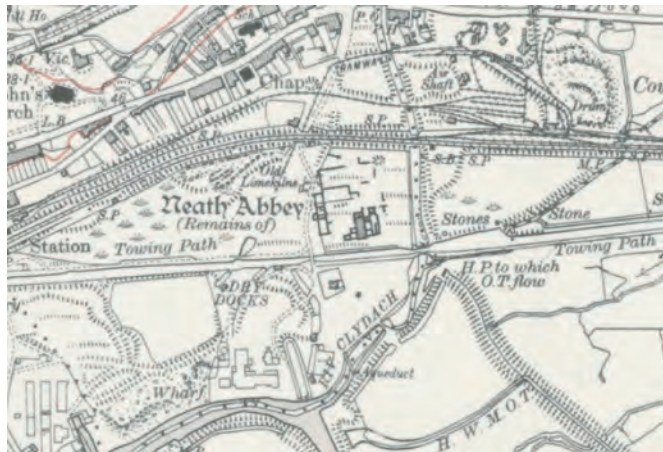
a) Tithe Map for Cadoxton Parish (1844)



b) OS First Edition Map (1884)



b) OS Second Edition Map (1900)



d) OS 1921 Edition



e) OS 1953 Edition

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date: July 2017

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

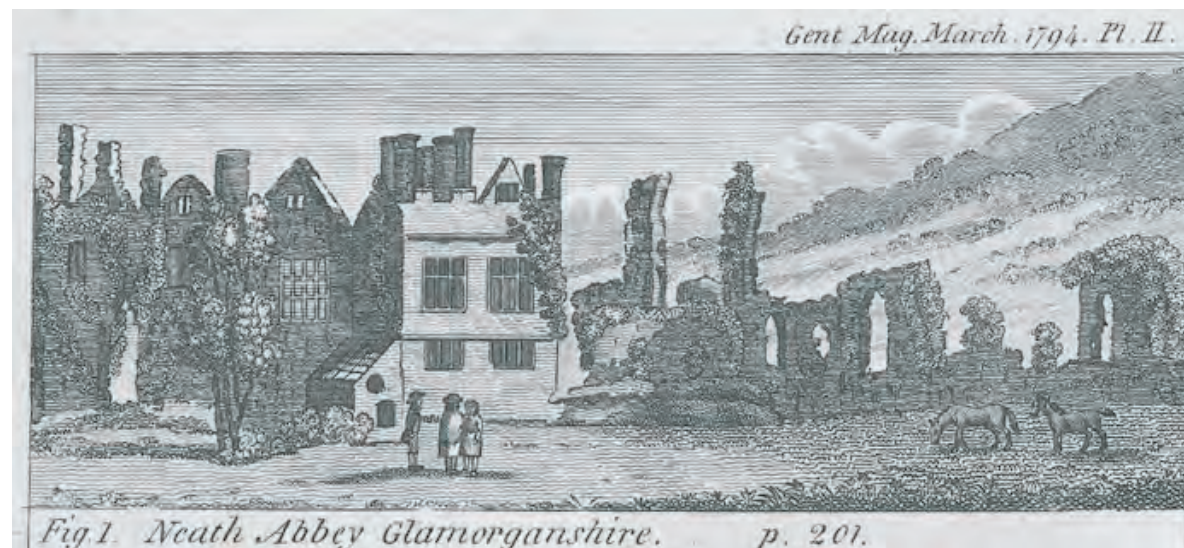
Drawing No.

Figure 8.

Historic Maps - 1844 - 1953



a) Neath Abbey and Tudor Mansion from the northeast. By Samuel Buck - 1741.



a) Neath Abbey and Tudor Mansion from the northeast. From the Gentleman's Magazine, dated 1794.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Date: July 2017	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by:	Drawing No.:

Figure 9(a).
Antiquarian images of Neath Abbey and the Tudor Mansion 1741 - 1794



c) A view of Neath Abbey c. 1800 (Oil by Henrik Frans de Cort)



Neath Abbey, Glamorganshire.

d) A view of the Tudor Mansion - Artist unknown - c. 1810



e) Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, 1813 (Neale, John Preston).



f) Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, 1823 (by Huw Hughes)

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Date: July 2017	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by:	Drawing No.:

Figure 9(b).

Antiquarian images of Neath Abbey and the Tudor Mansion 1800 - 1823.



g) Neath Abbey and Tudor Mansion, 1836 (by Henry Gastineau)



h) Neath Abbey, Undercroft, 1836 (by Henry Gastineau)



i) Neath Abbey, Undercroft 1813, by Neale, John Preston.



j) Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, 1849, by John Leland

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	Figure 9(c). Antiquarian images of Neath Abbey and the Tudor Mansion 1813 - 1849
Date: July 2017	
Drawn by:	
Approx. Scale (@ A4):	
Drawing No.	



k) Neath Abbey and Tudor Mansion, (Artist unknown, c. 1850).



l) Neath Abbey and Tudor Mansion, 1836 (by John Syer Snr, c. 1850)



m) A view of Neath Abbey with possible coalworks in foreground (Artist unknow, c. 1805)

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date: July 2017

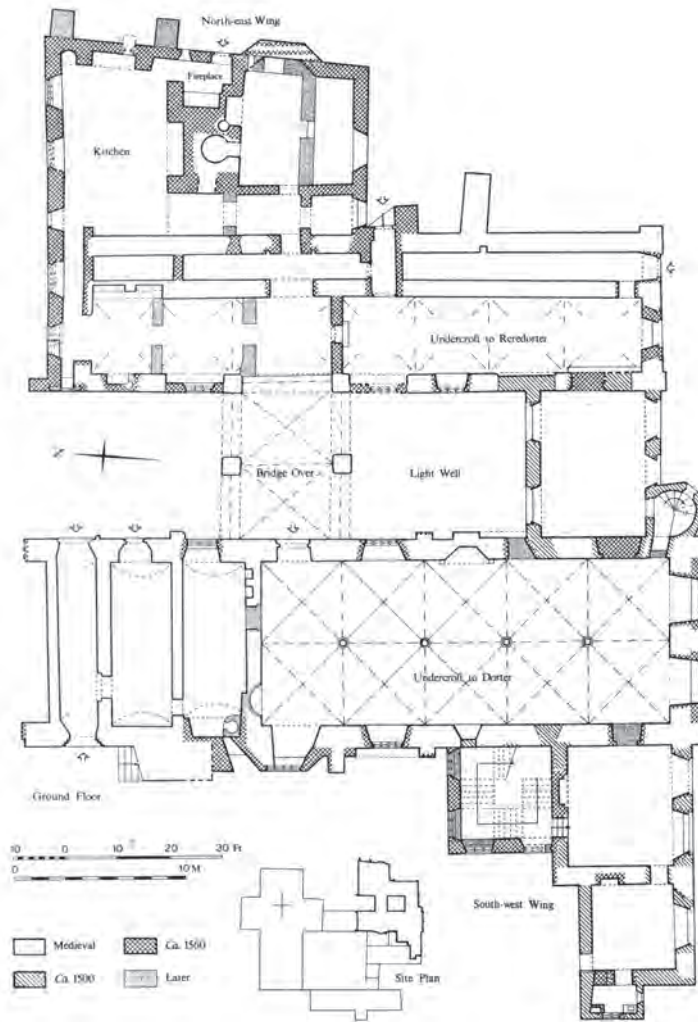
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 9 (d)

Antiquarian images of Neath Abbey and the Tudor Mansion 1805 - 1850.



Ground Plan of Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion showing Interpretative phasing
(RCAHMW Inventory 1981)

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date: July 2017

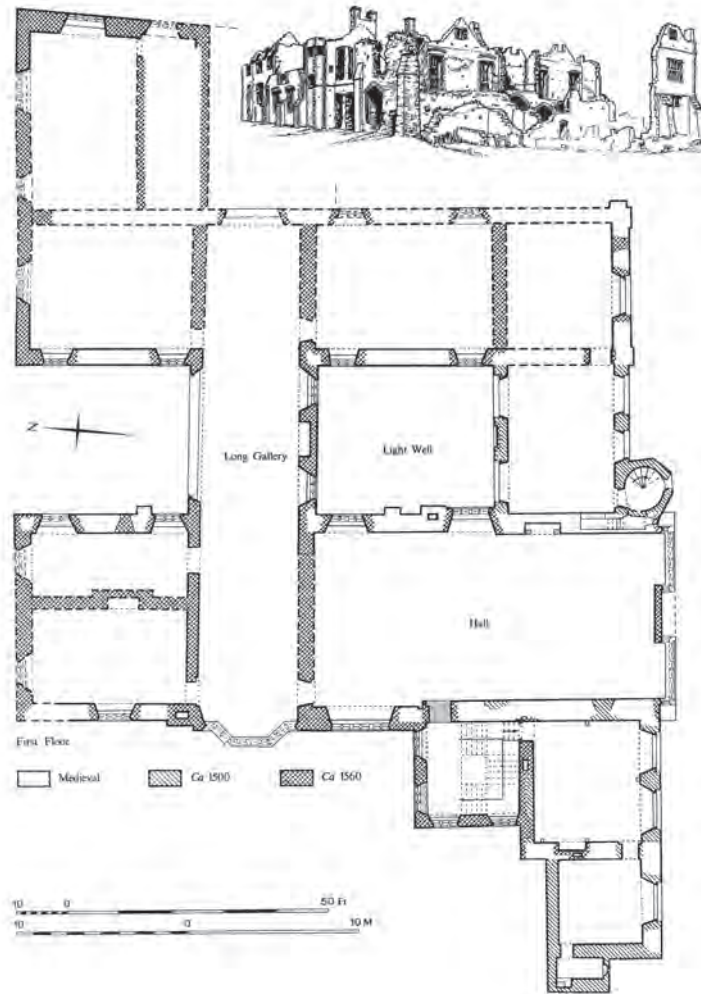
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.:

Figure 10.

Interpretative Ground Plan from RCAHMW Glamorgan Inventory (1981)



Roof Plan of Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion showing Interpretative phasing (RCAHMW Inventory 1981)

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date: July 2017

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 11.

Interpretative Roof Plan from RCAHMW Glamorgan Inventory (1981)



15 (above) Neath Abbey (3) from N.W. showing its probable appearance at the end of the 16th century after the secular mansion had been raised on the vaulted undercrofts of the former Cistercian abbey.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date: July 2017

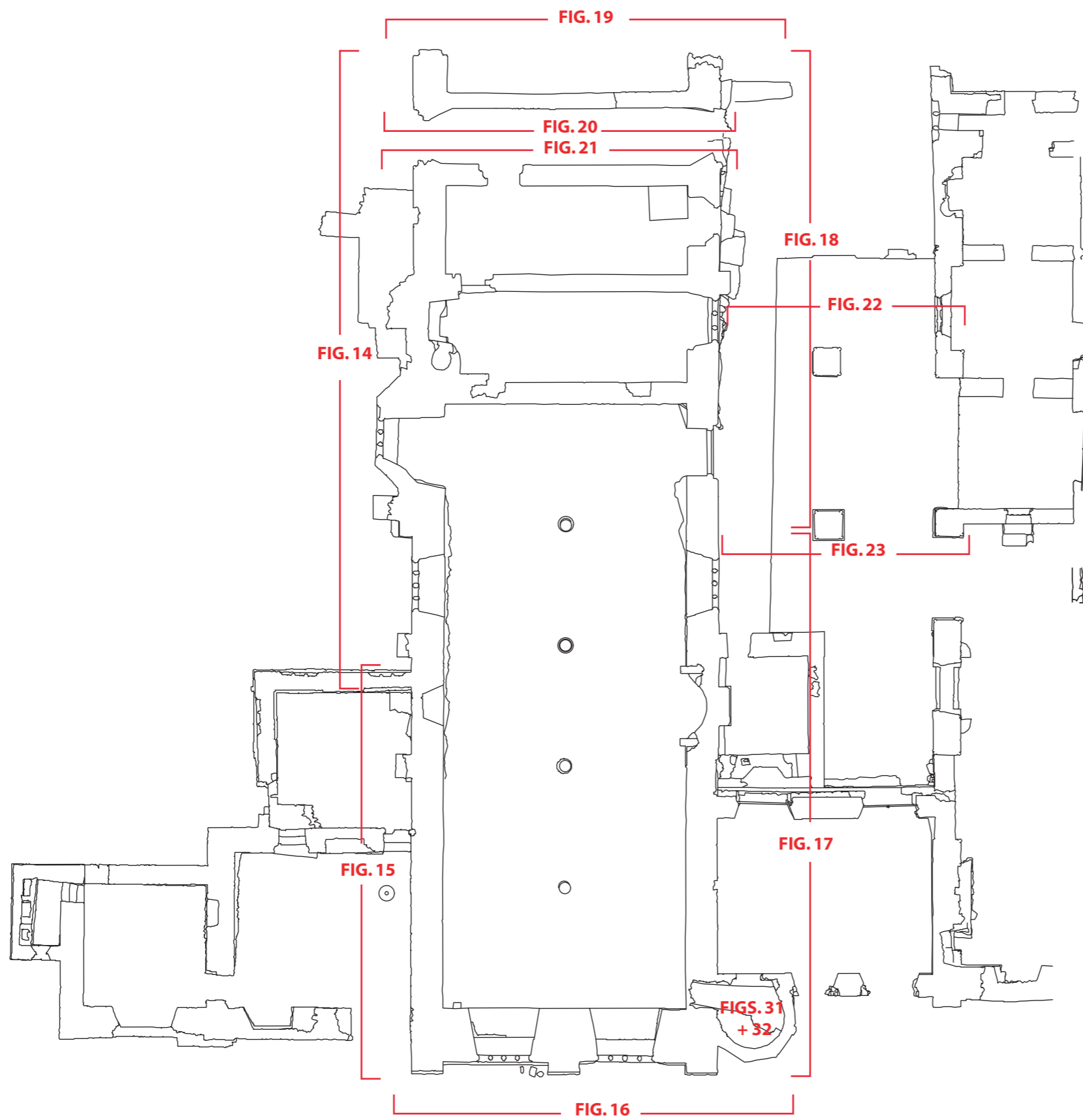
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 12.

Interpretative reconstruction of the Tudor Mansion at Neath Abbey. From the RCAHMW Glamorgan Inventory (1981)




Notes:

Key Plan:



No Scale



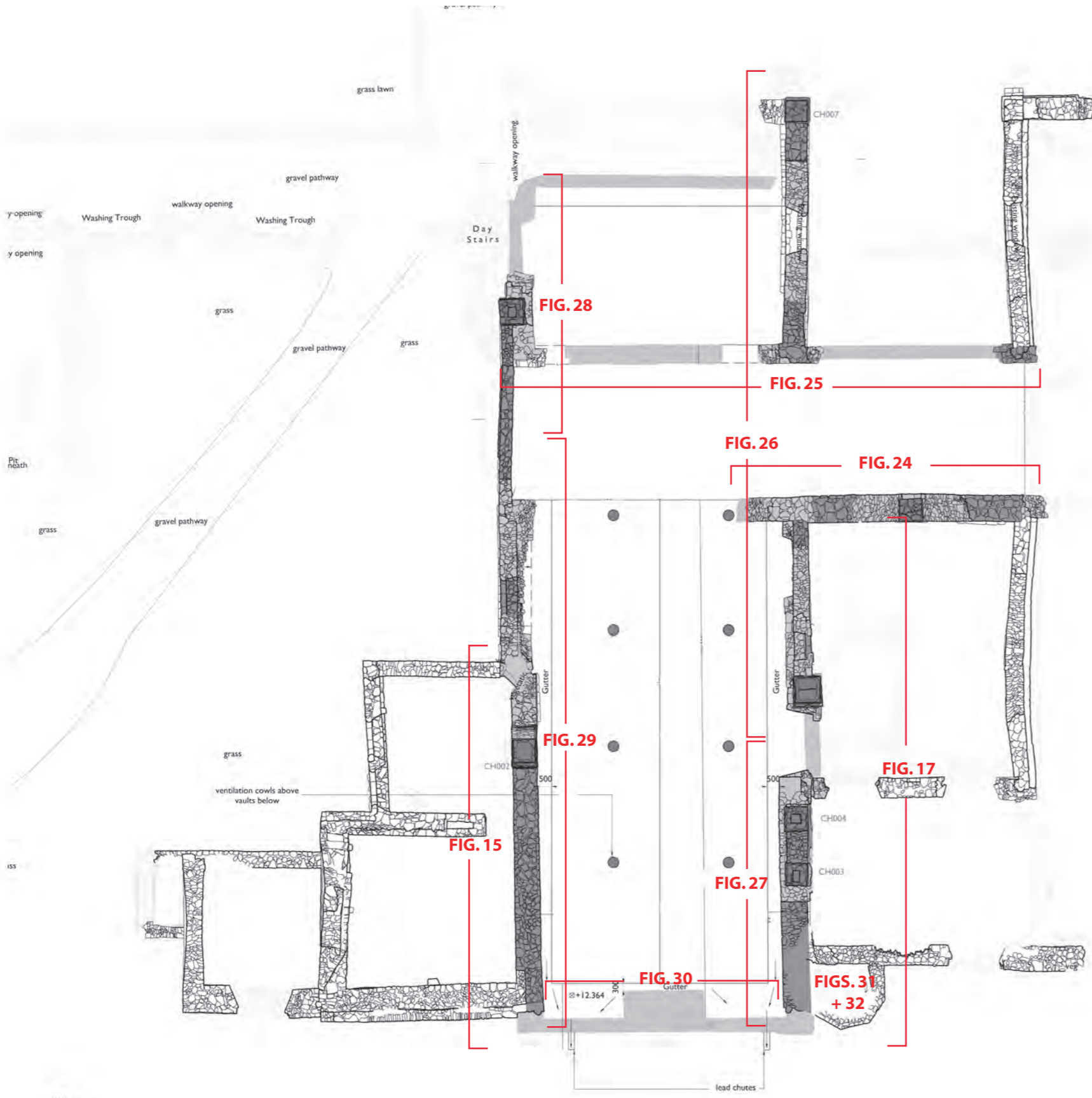
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Client:	Cadw		
Prepared By:			Drawn By (Initials) RSJ
Project Ref:	NATM/2017/SBR		
Project Title:	Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan		
Figure Title:	EXTERNAL Elevation Drawings - Figure Index Plan		Figure No. 13(a)

Notes:

Key Plan:



No Scale



Date: 01/07/2017 Scale (@A1): 1:100

Client: Cadw

Prepared By: Heritage Recording Services Wales

Drawn By (Initials) RSJ

Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR

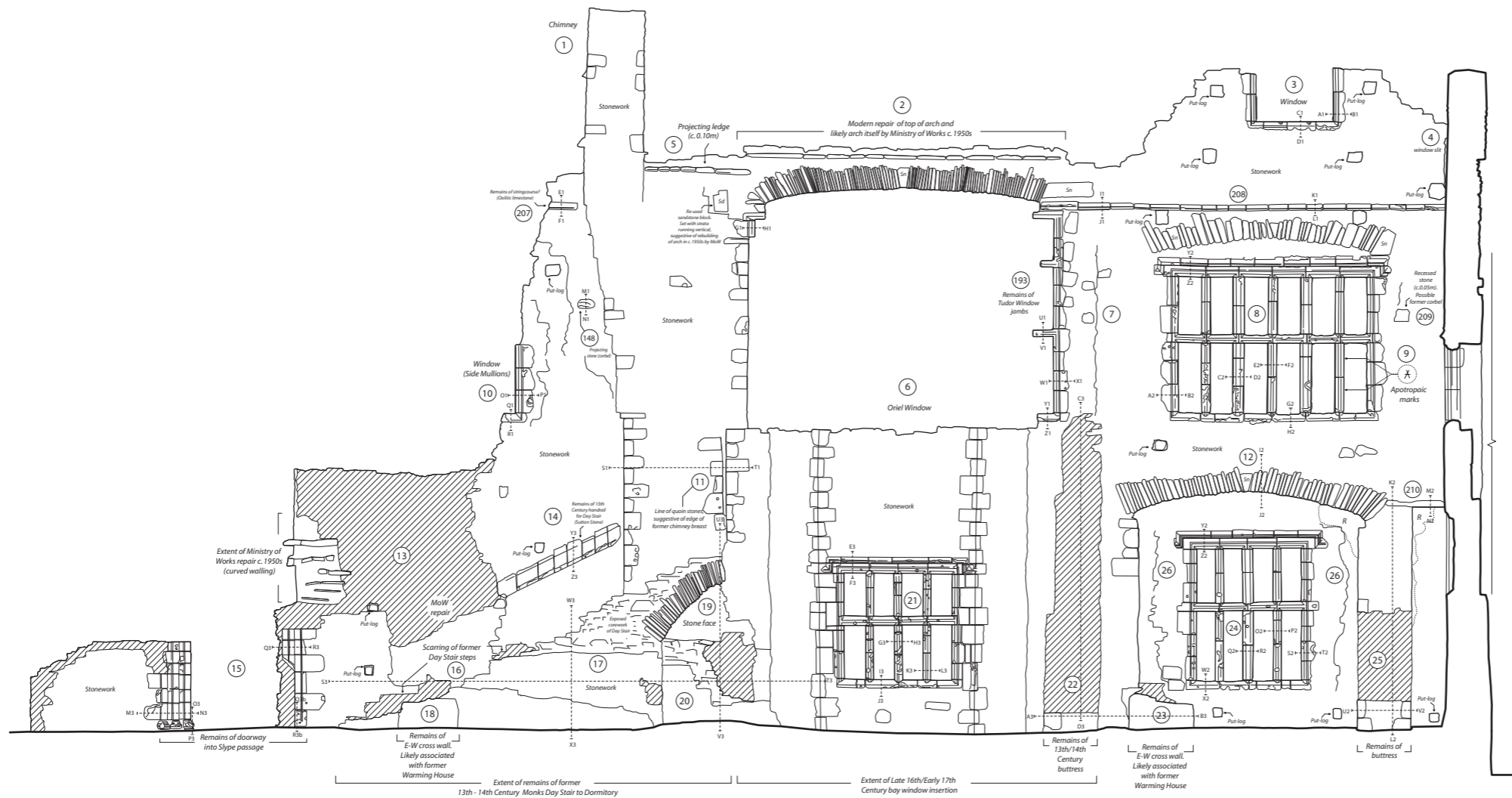
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Figure Title: INTERNAL Elevation Drawings - Figure Index Plan

Figure No. 13(b)

I ROOF PLAN 202 1:100

Meters



WEST WALL
West Facing External Elevation (North End)

Notes:

* All quoins stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.

** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.

Key Plan:



Legend

- Cross wall
- Exposed wall core
- Context/Feature No's.
- Profile Reference Lines
- Hachures
- Sutton Stone
- Sandstone
- Ministry of Works (Post 1944)
- Render

0 2 meters

Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: West Wall - West Facing External Elevation (North End)	Figure No.: 14

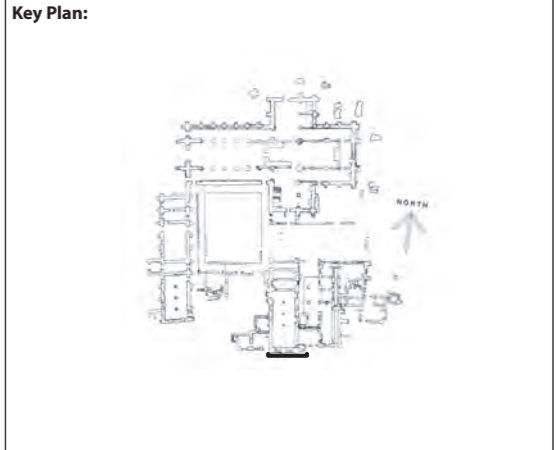
Meters

Meters



SOUTH WALL
South Facing External Elevation

Notes:
 * All quoins depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.



- Legend**
- Exposed wall core
 - Context/Feature No's.
 - A-----B Profile Index Lines
 - | Hachures
 - R Remains of Render (Historic)



Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: South Wall - South Facing External Elevation	Figure No.: 16

Meters

Meters



EAST WALL
East Facing External Elevation (Southern End)

Notes:
 * All quoins stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.



- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Exposed wall core
 - Context/Feature No's
 - Profile Reference Lines
 - Hachures
 - Sutton Stone

Date: 01/07/2017 Scale (@A1): 1:50

Client: Cadw

Prepared By: **Heritage**
Recording Services Wales

Drawn By (Initials): RSJ

Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Figure Title: East Wall - East Facing External Elevation - Southern End

Figure No. 17

Meters

Meters



EAST WALL
East Facing External Elevation - Northern End

Notes:








* All quoins stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.

** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.


Key Plan:



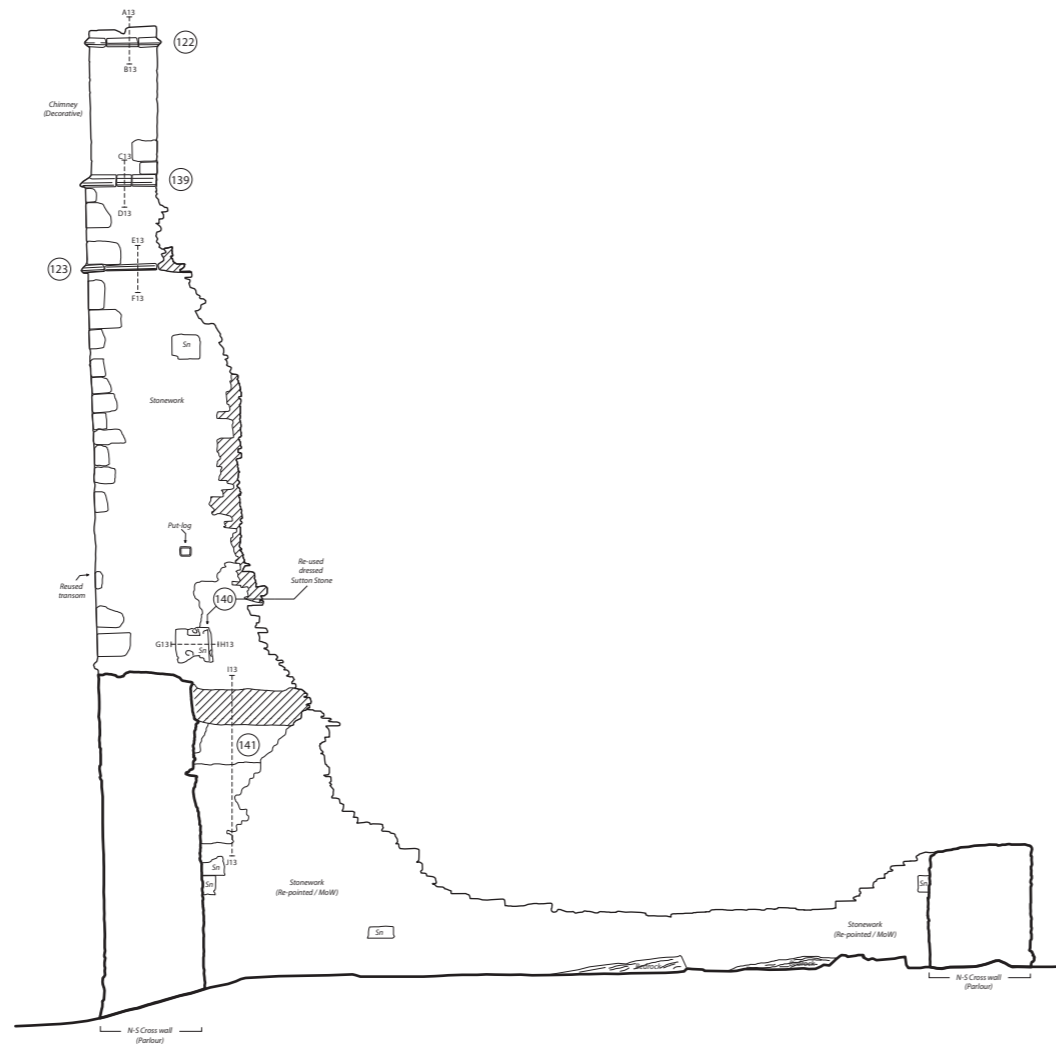
Legend

-  Cross wall
-  Exposed wall core
-  Context/Feature No's.
-  Profile Index Lines
-  Hachures
-  Sutton Stone
-  Mortar Sample

0 2 meters

Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
	
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: East Facing External Elevation of Monks Dormitory and Day Room - Northern end.	Figure No.: 18

Meters



NORTH WALL (A)
North Facing Internal Elevation (Parlour)

Notes:

* All quoins stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.

** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.

Key Plan:



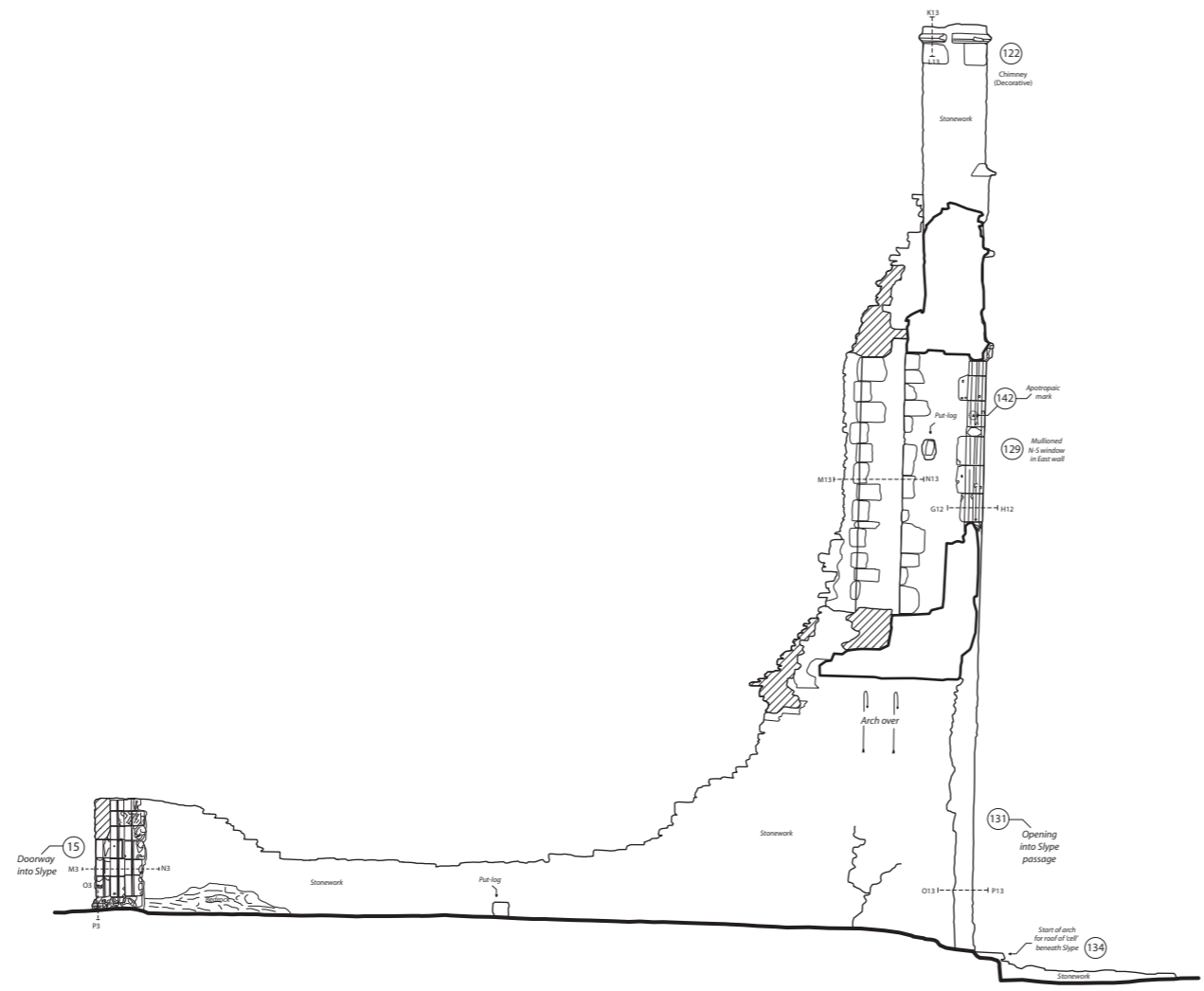
Legend

- Cross wall
- Exposed wall core
- Context/Feature No's.
- Profile Reference Lines
- Sutton Stone
- Ministry of Works (Post 1944)

0 2 meters

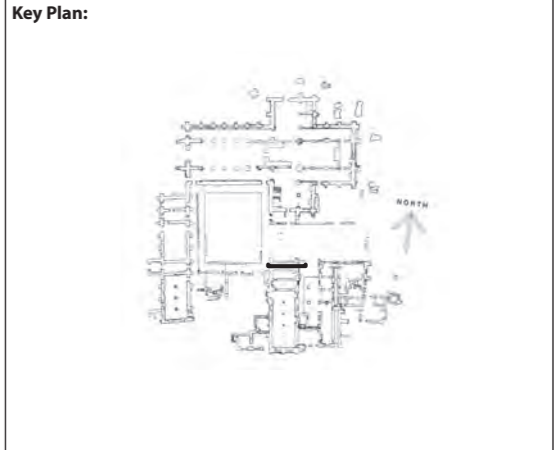
Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By: Heritage Recording Services Wales	Drawn By: (Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: North Wall (A) - North Facing Internal Elevation (Parlour)	Figure No.: 19

Meters



NORTH WALL (B)
South Facing Internal Elevation (Slype Passage)

Notes:
 * All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.



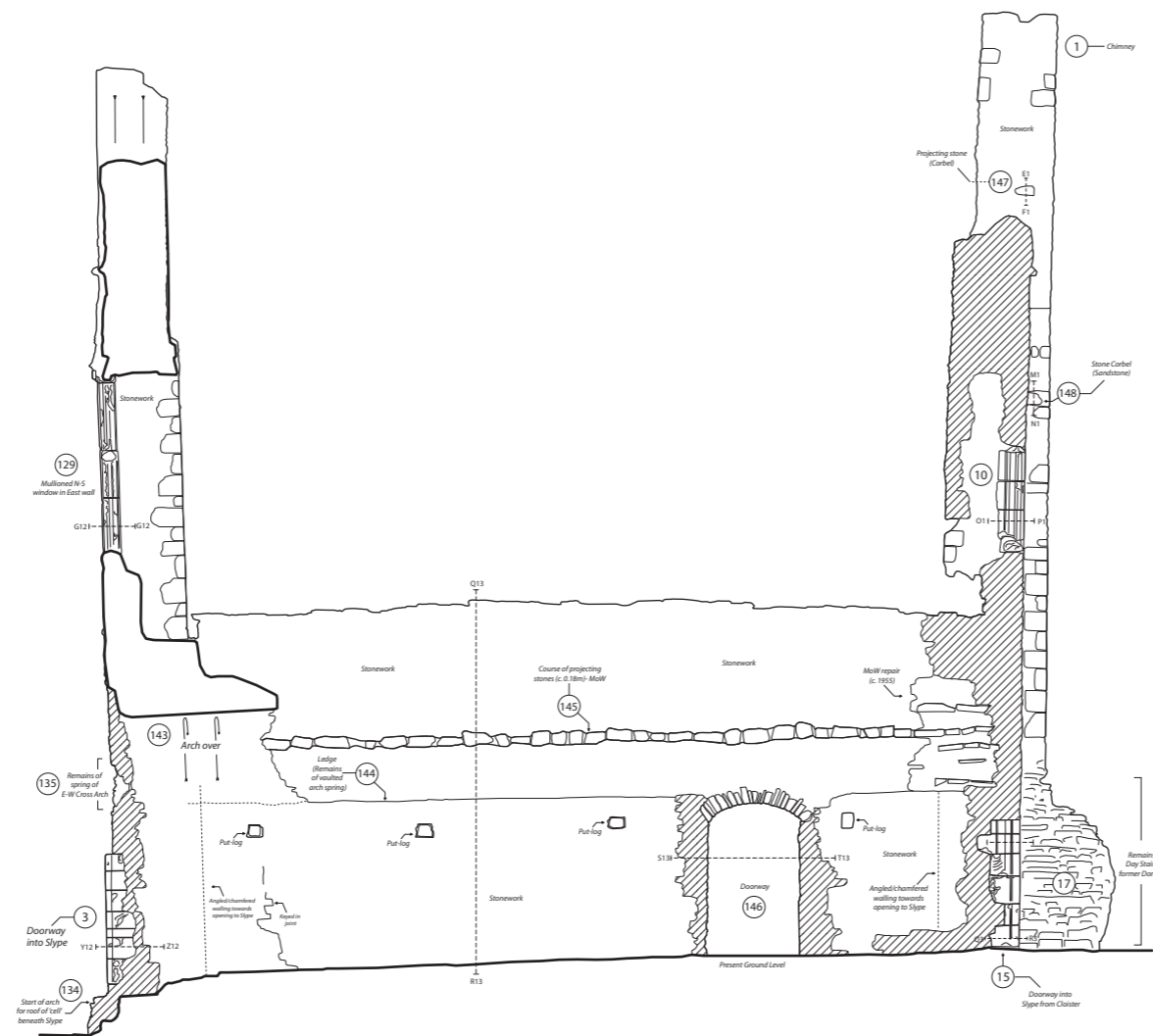
- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Exposed wall core
 - Context/Feature No's.
 - Profile Index Lines



Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: North Wall (B) - South Facing Internal Elevation (Slype Passage)	Figure No.: 20

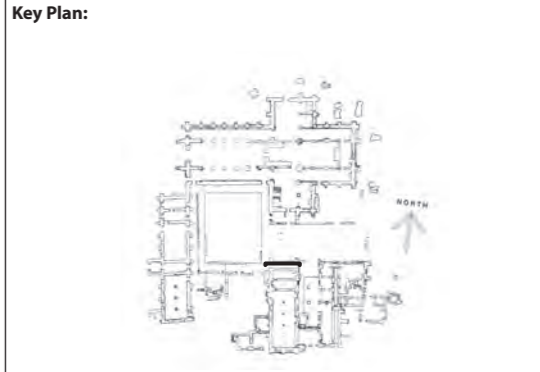
Meters

Meters



NORTH WALL (C)
North Facing Internal Elevation (Slupe Passage)

Notes:
 * All quoins depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.



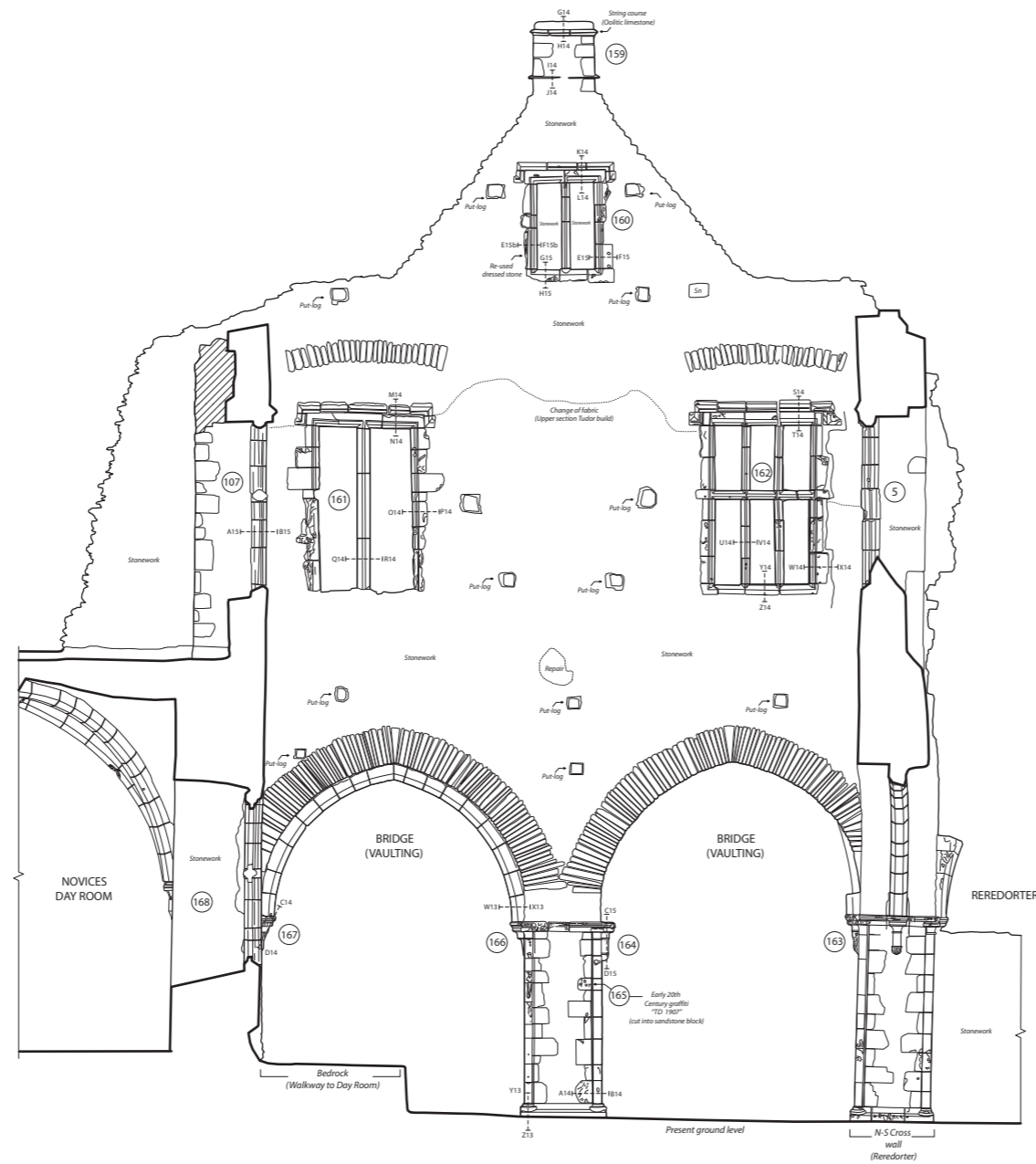
- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Exposed wall core
 - Context/Feature No's.
 - Profile Index Lines
 - Hachures
 - MoW Ministry of Works



Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: North Wall - North Facing Internal Elevation (Slupe Passage)	Figure No.: 21

Meters

Meters



South Wall (Bridge)
South Facing External Elevation

Notes:
 *All Quoin stones shown on drawing are either Sutton Stone or Oolitic limestone, unless otherwise stated.

*The majority of Put-log holes are closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless otherwise stated. Others are simply unclosed.

Key Plan:



Legend

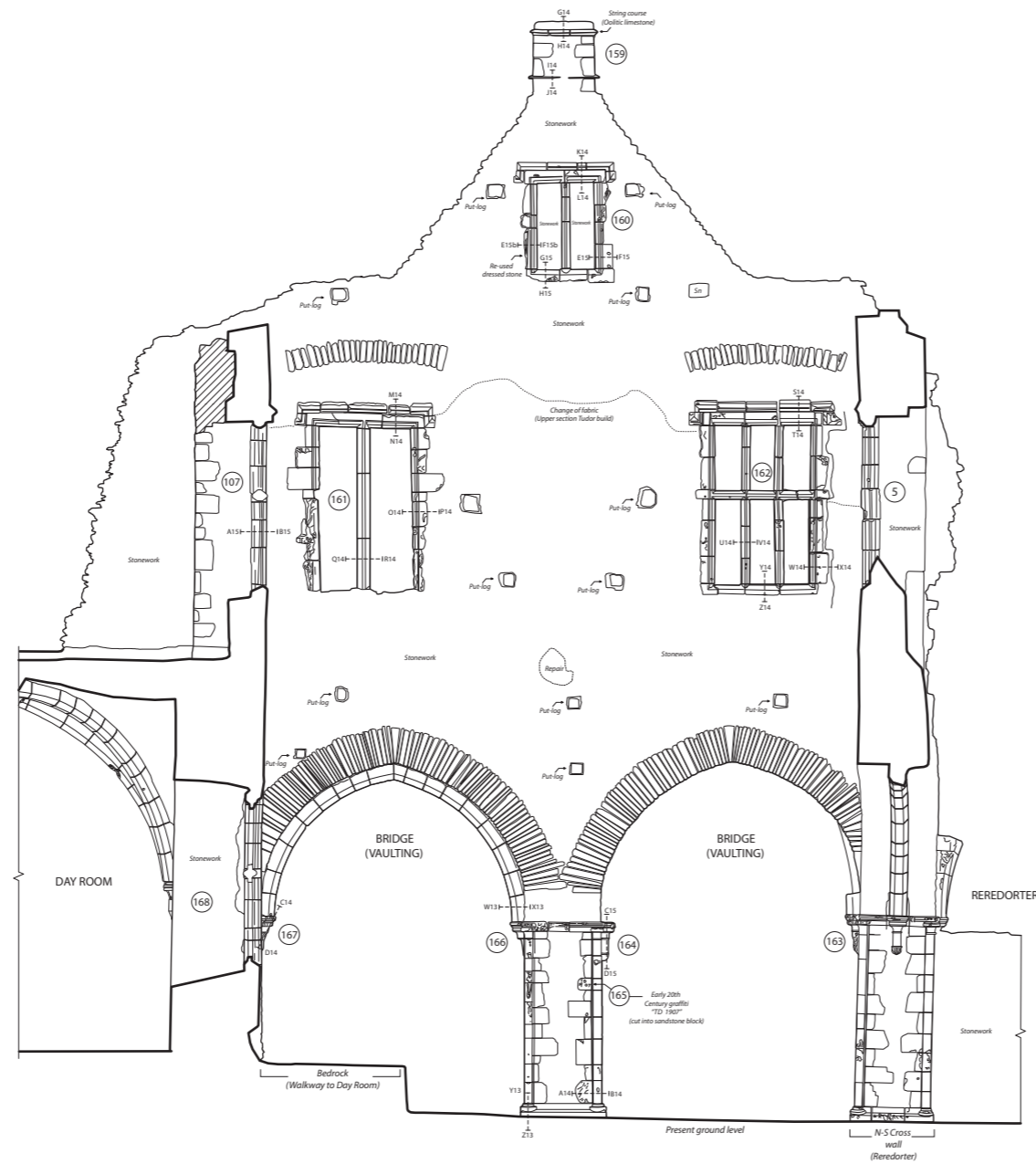
- Cross wall
- Exposed wall core
- Context/Feature No's.
- Profile Reference Lines
- Sutton Stone

0 2 meters

Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: South Wall (Bridge) - South Facing External Elevation	Figure No.: 23

Meters

Meters



South Wall (Bridge)
South Facing External Elevation






Notes:
 *All Quoin stones shown on drawing are either Sutton Stone or Oolitic limestone, unless otherwise stated.

*The majority of Put-log holes are closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless otherwise stated. Others are simply unclosed.


Key Plan:



Legend

-  Cross wall
-  Exposed wall core
-  Context/Feature No's.
-  Profile Reference Lines
-  Sutton Stone

0 2 meters

Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
	
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: South Wall (Bridge) - South Facing External Elevation	Figure No.: 23

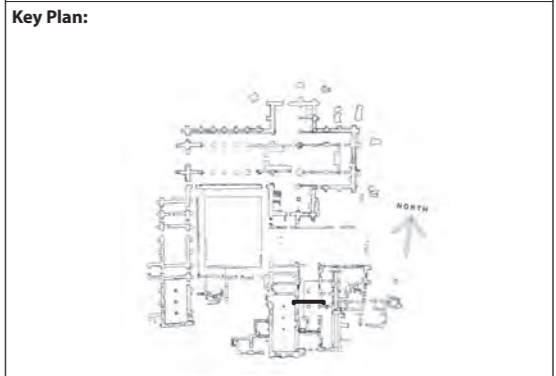
Meters

Meters



South Wall (Bridge and Hall)
North Facing Internal Elevation

Notes:
 * All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.



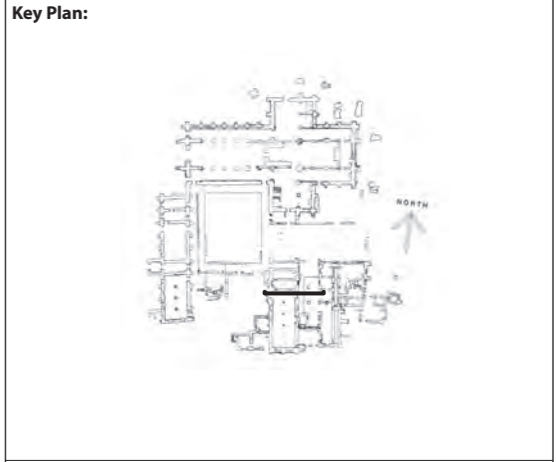
- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Exposed wall core
 - Context/Feature No's.
 - Profile Reference Lines
 - Sutton Stone
 - Pennant Sandstone
 - Ministry of Works



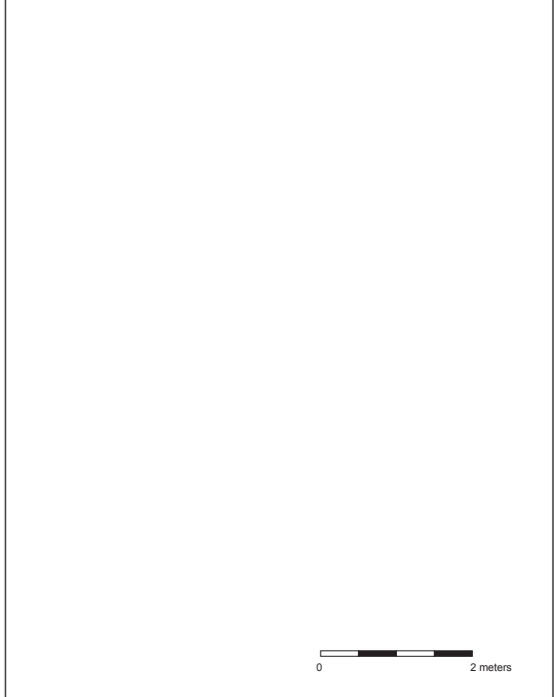
Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By: Heritage Recording Services Wales	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: South Wall (Bridge and Hall) -North Facing Internal Elevation	Figure No.: 24

Meters

Notes:
 * All quoins stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.



- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Exposed wall core
 - Context/Feature No's.
 - A1-----48 Profile Index Lines
 - Sn Sutton Stone
 - Sd Pennant Sandstone
 - MW Ministry of Works



NORTH WALL (Bridge and Long Hall)
South Facing Internal Elevations

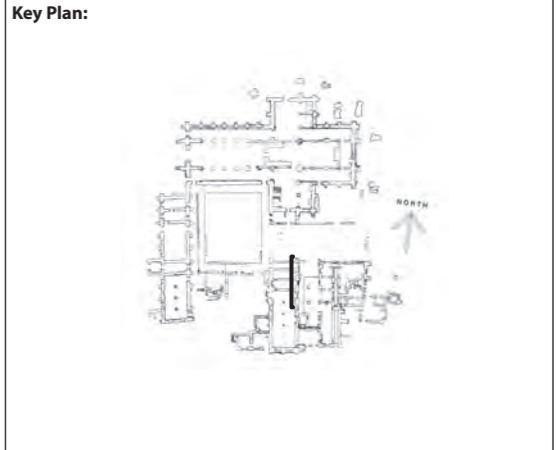
Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By:
	(Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title:	Figure No.:
North Wall (Bridge and Long Hall) South Facing Internal Elevations	25

Meters



EAST WALL
West Facing Elevation (Internal) - Northern end.

Notes:
 * All quoins depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, or else left unfilled.

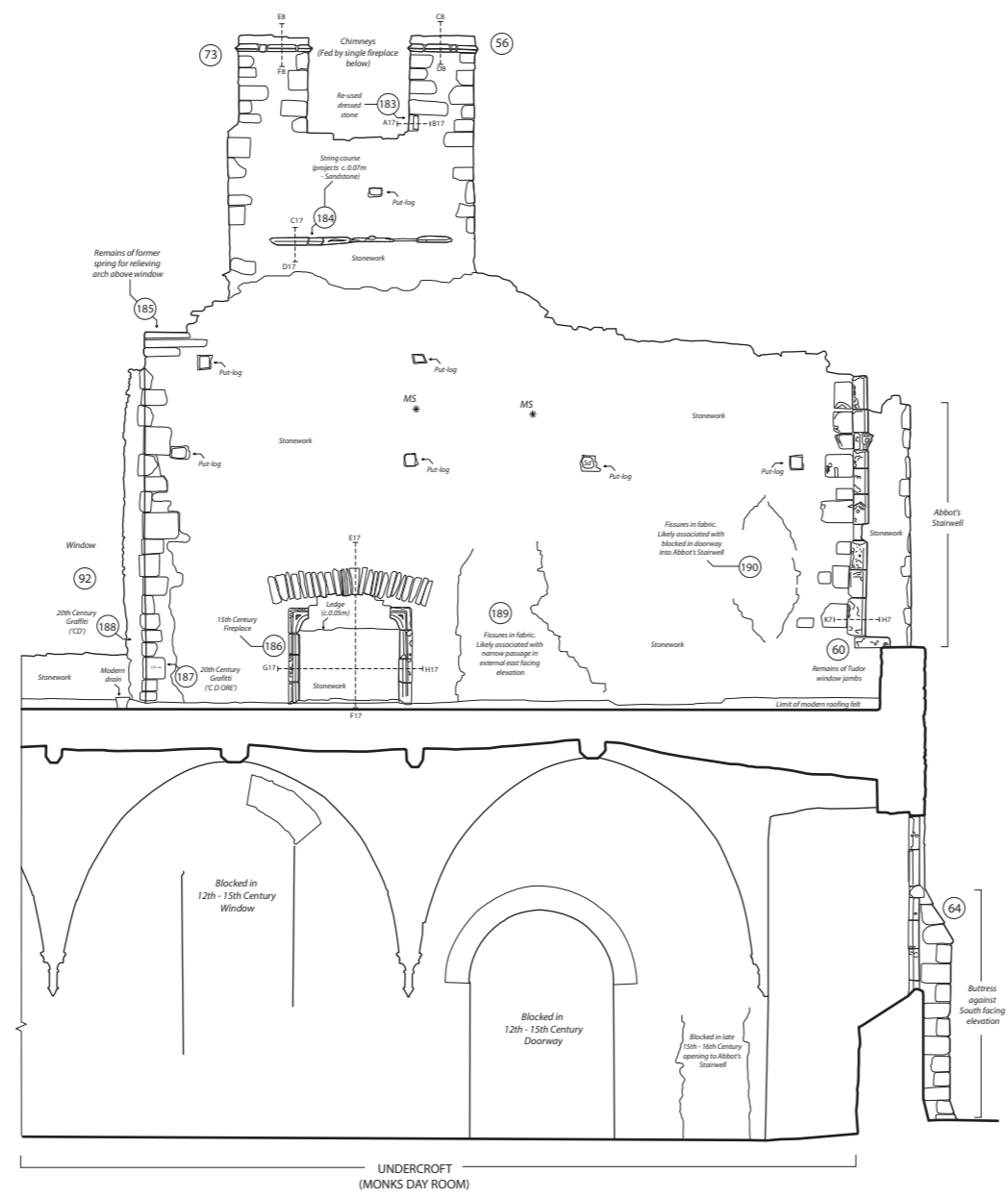


- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Exposed wall core
 - Context/Feature No's.
 - Profile Reference Lines
 - Hachures
 - Sn Sutton Stone
 - MS Mortar Sample

Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By: (Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: East Wall - West Facing Elevation (Internal) - Northern end.	Figure No.: 26

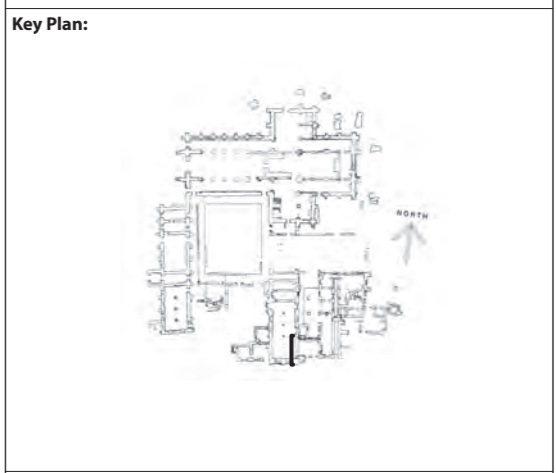
Meters

Meters



EAST WALL
West Facing Internal Elevation - Southern end.

Notes:
 * All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise.



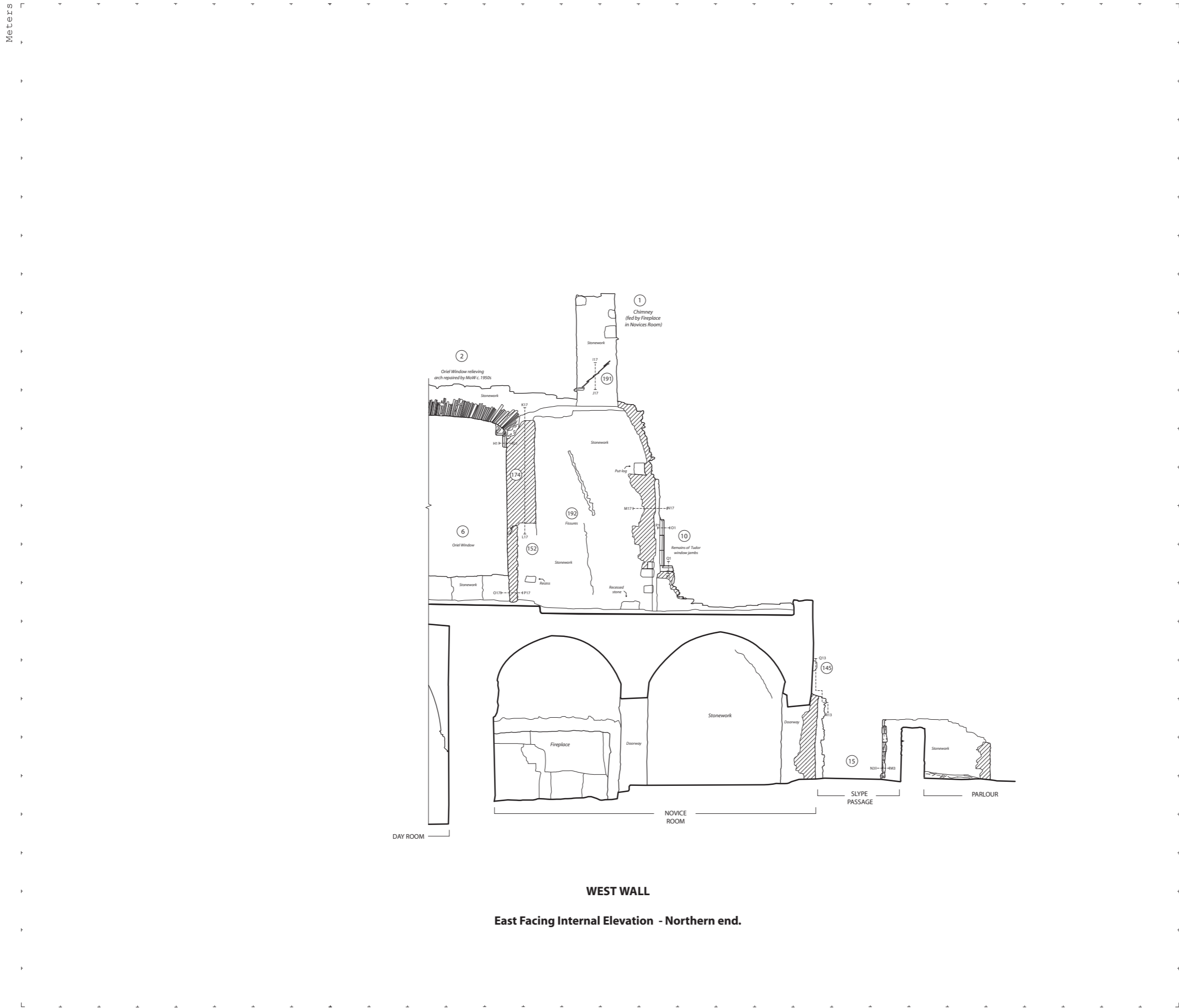
Legend

- Cross wall
- ▨ Exposed wall core
- Ⓢ Context/Feature No's.
- Profile Index Lines
- | Hachures
- Sn Sutton Stone
- Sd Pennant Sandstone
- * Mortar Sample

0 2 meters

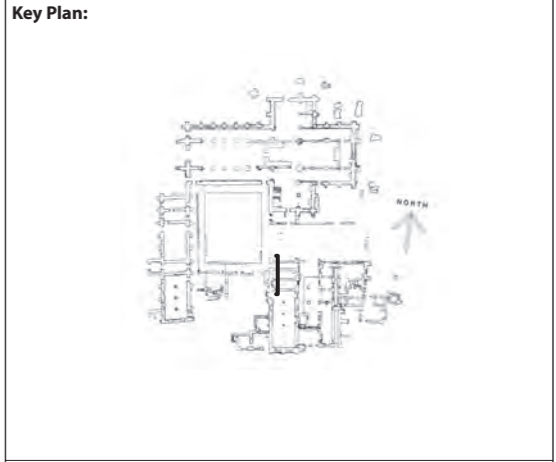
Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: East Wall - West Facing Internal Elevation (Southern end).	Figure No.: 27

Meters



WEST WALL
East Facing Internal Elevation - Northern end.

Notes:
 * All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise.



- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Exposed wall core
 - Context/Feature No's.
 - Profile Index Lines
 - Hachures
 - Sutton Stone
 - Pennant Sandstone
 - Ministry of Works



Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: West Wall - East Facing Internal Elevation (Northern End)	Figure No.: 28

Meters



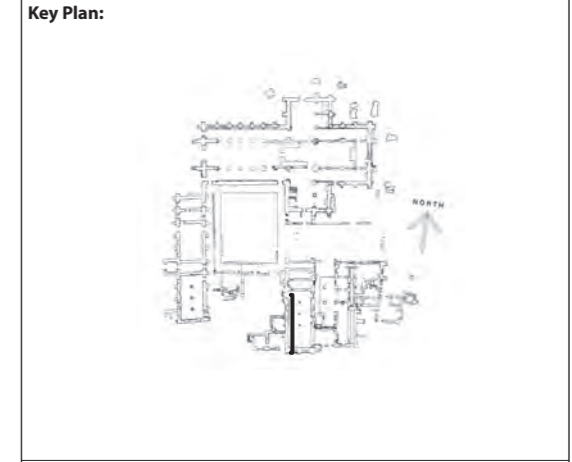
MONKS DAY ROOM
(UNDERCROFT)

WEST WALL

East Facing Internal Elevation - Southern end.

Notes:

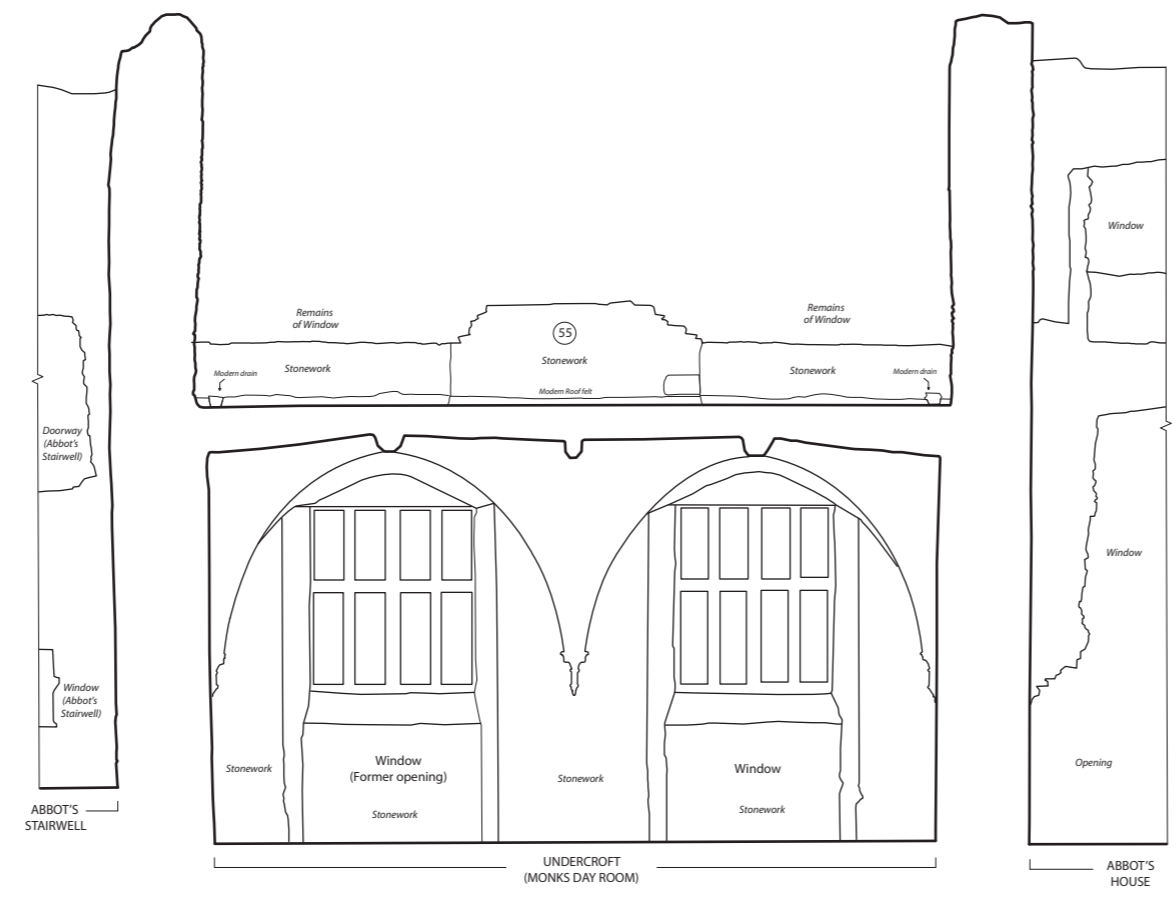
- * All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone unless marked otherwise.
- ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise.



- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Exposed wall core
 - Context/Feature No.'s
 - Profile Index Lines
 - Hachures
 - Sutton Stone
 - Pennant Sandstone
 - Ministry of Works

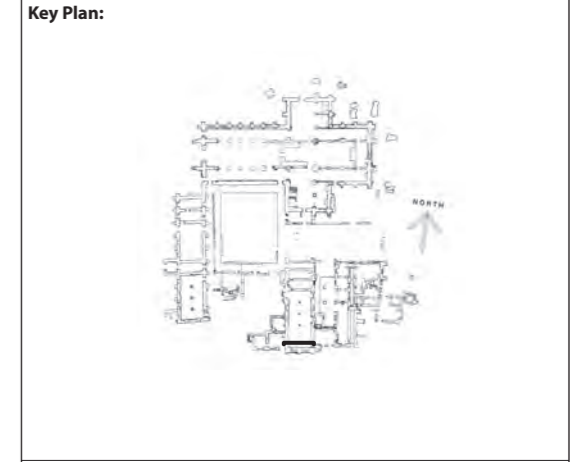
Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By:
	(Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title:	Figure No.:
West Wall - East Facing Internal Elevation (Southern end).	29

Meters



South Wall
North Facing Internal Elevation

Notes:
 * All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.



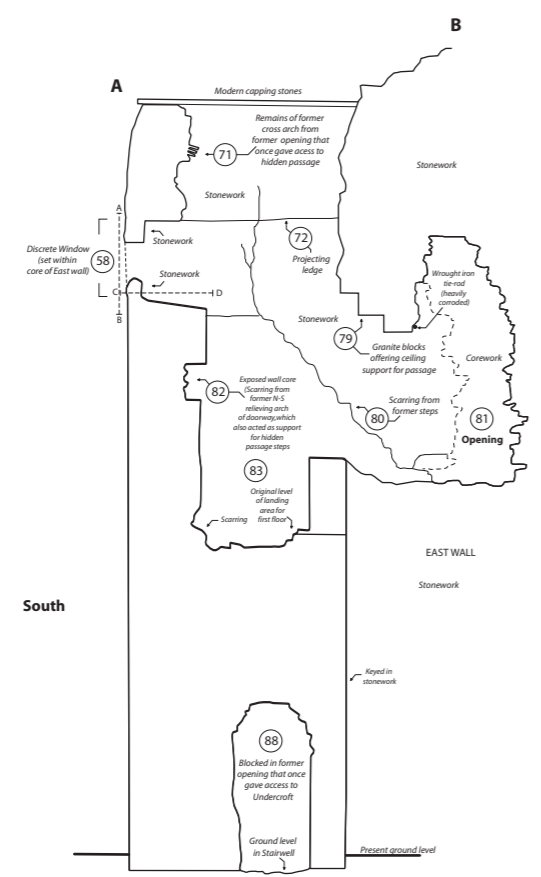
Legend

- Cross wall
- 5 Context/Feature No's.

0 2 meters

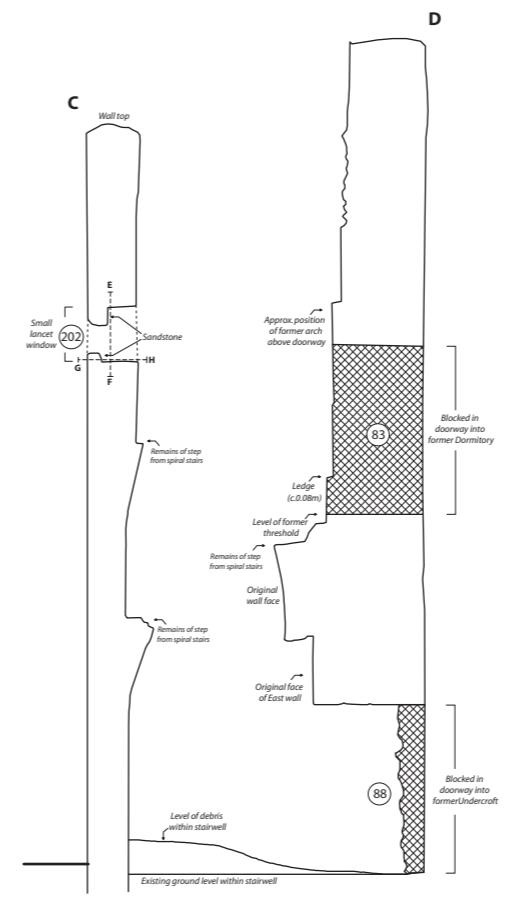
Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50		
Client: Cadw			
Prepared By:		Drawn By:	
		<i>(Initials)</i> RSJ	
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR			
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan			
Figure Title:			Figure No.:
South Wall - North Facing Internal Elevation			30

Meters



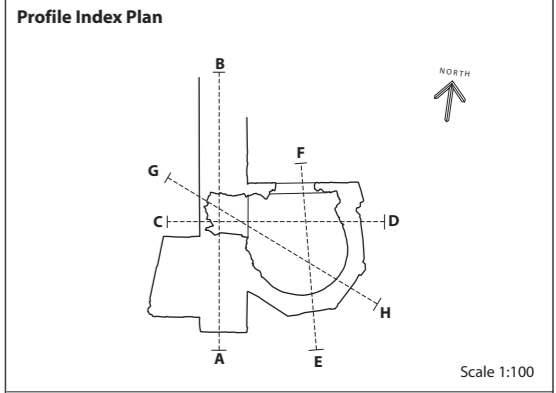
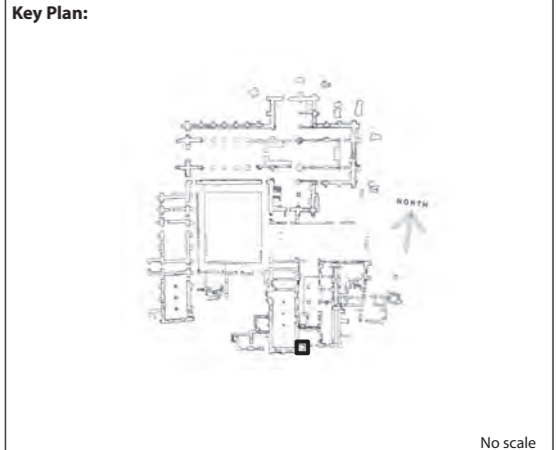
PROFILE A - B

THE ABBOT'S STAIRWELL Profile Plans (A - B and C - D)



PROFILE C - D

Notes:
* All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.

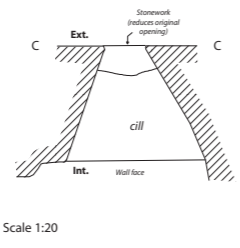
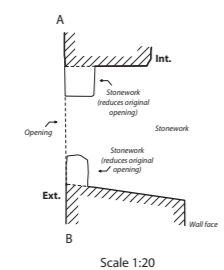


- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Blocked opening
 - Context/Feature No's.
 - Profile Index Lines

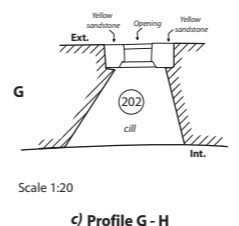
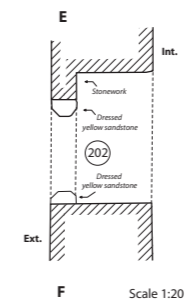
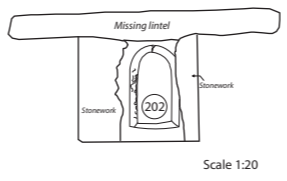


FEATURE PROFILES

ii) Feature No. 58



iii) Feature No. 202



Date: 01/07/2017 Scale (@A1): 1:50

Client: Cadw

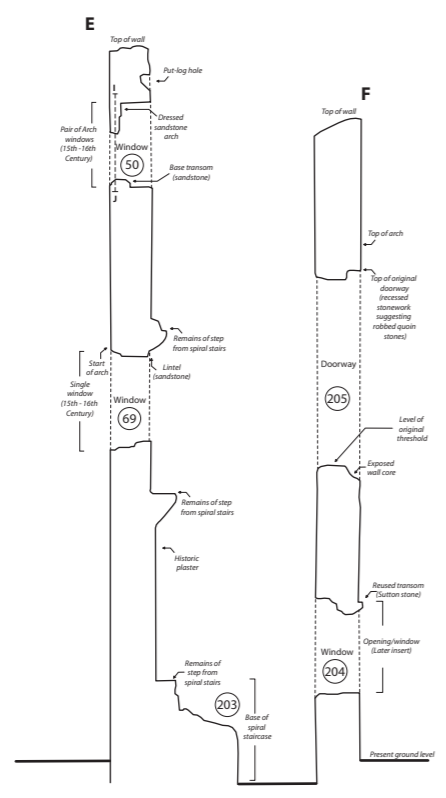
Prepared By: Drawn By: (Initials) RSJ

Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Figure Title: The Abbot's Stairwell - Profiles plans (1 of 2) Figure No. 31

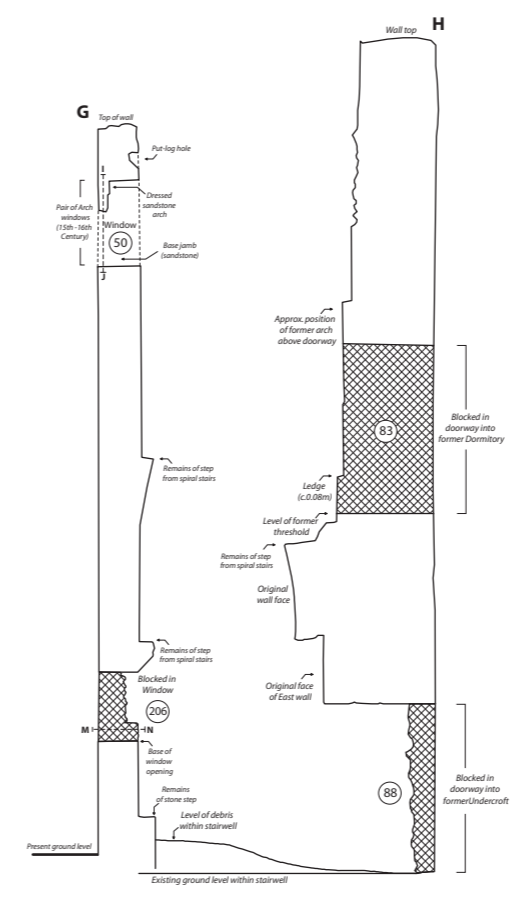
Meters



PROFILE E - F

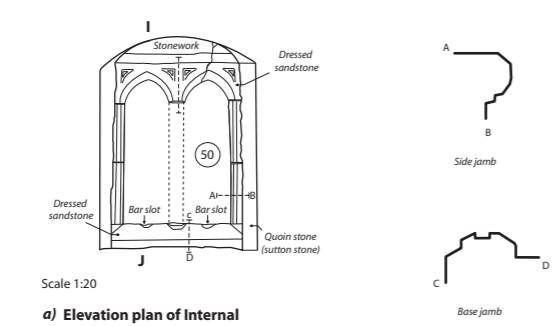
THE ABBOT'S STAIRWELL

Profile Plans (E - F and G - H)



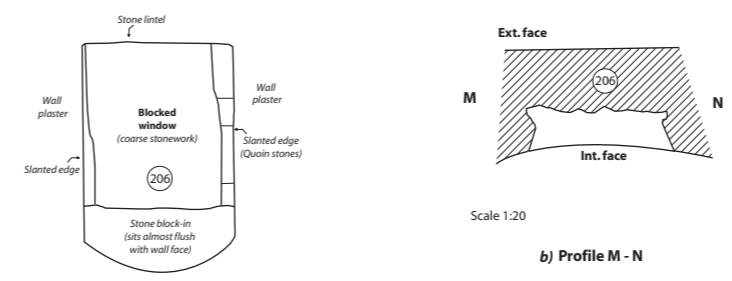
PROFILE G-H

ii) Feature No. 50

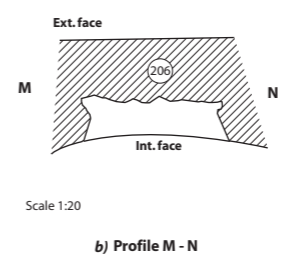


a) Elevation plan of Internal view of 15th - 16th Century window. One of a pair side by side.

iii) Feature No. 206

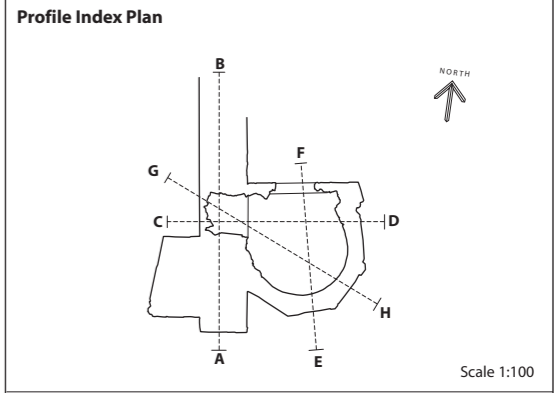
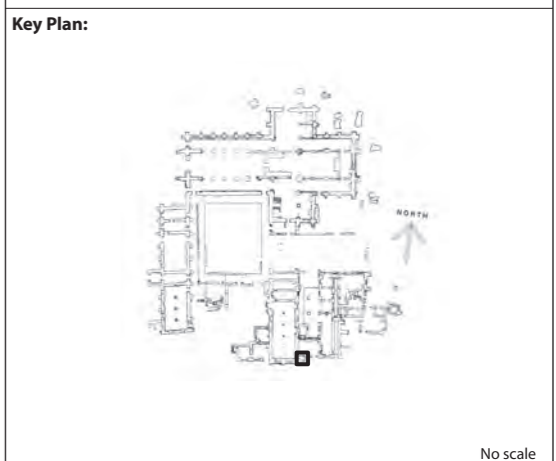


a) Elevation plan of Internal view of blocked window



b) Profile M - N

Notes:
 * All quoin stones depicted are of Sutton Stone or Oolitic Limestone type unless marked otherwise.
 ** The majority of put-log holes have been closed with blocks of Sutton Stone, unless marked otherwise, or else left unfilled.



- Legend**
- Cross wall
 - Blocked opening
 - Context/Feature No.'s.
 - Profile Index Lines



Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By:
	(Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title:	Figure No.:
The Abbot's Stairwell - Profiles plans (2 of 2)	32

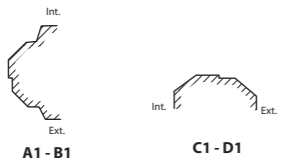
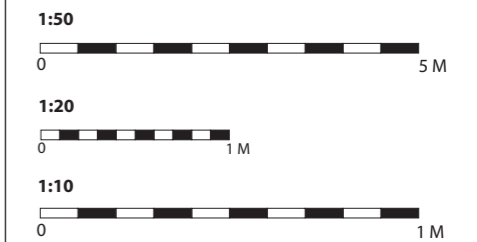
Notes:
 * All profiles of window jambs, mullions, transoms and other mouldings are presented at a 1:10 scale, unless otherwise specified. All other illustrations are represented at either 1:50 or 1:20 scales.

Key Plan:



No scale

Scales



Feature 3
 Profiles through window mouldings



Feature 207
 Profile through probable stringcourse remains



Feature 6
 Profile through window jamb.



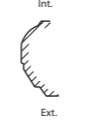
Feature 208
 Profile through stringcourse



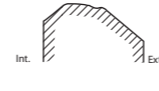
Feature 208
 Profile through stringcourse



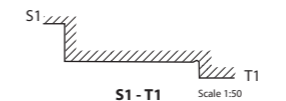
Feature 148
 Profile through corbel



Feature 10
 Profiles through window mouldings



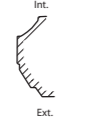
Feature 10
 Profiles through window mouldings



Feature 11
 Horizontal profile through chimney



U1 - V1

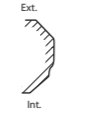


W1 - X1

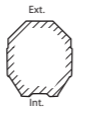


Y1 - Z1

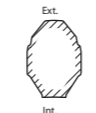
Feature 6
 Profiles through window mouldings



A2 - B2



C2 - D2

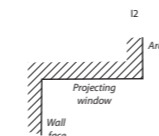


E2 - F2

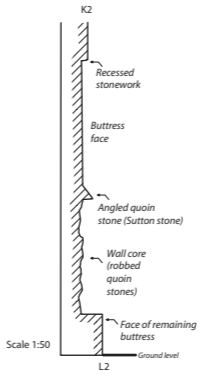


G2 - H2

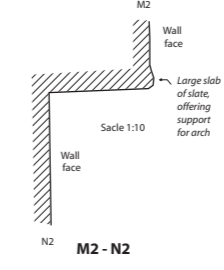
Feature 8
 Profiles through window mouldings



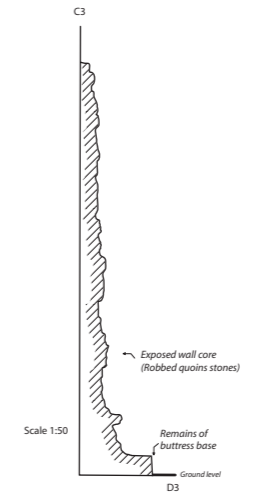
Feature 12
 Vertical profile through projecting arch below window.



K 2 - L2
Feature 25
 Profile through buttress.



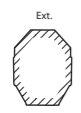
Feature 12
 Vertical profile through walling at side of buttress.



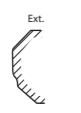
C3 - D3
Feature 22
 Vertical profile through buttress.



O2 - P2

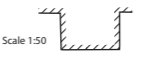


Q2 - R2



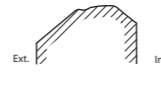
S2 - T2

Feature 24
 Profiles through window mouldings.

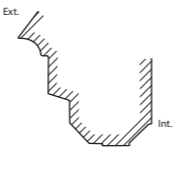


U2 - V2

Feature 25
 Profile through base of buttress.

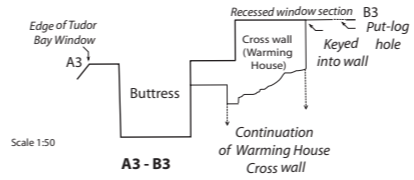


W2 - X2

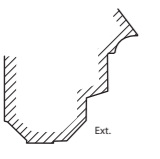


Y2 - Z2

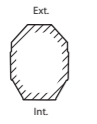
Feature 24
 Profiles through window mouldings.



A3 - B3
Feature 22
 Profile through buttress and cross wall of warming house.



E3 - F3



G3 - H3

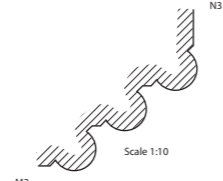


I3 - J3



K3 - L3

Feature 21
 Profile through window mouldings.

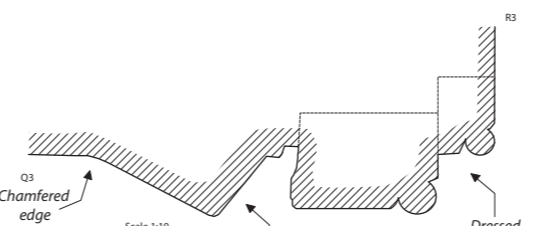


M3 - N3
Feature 15
 Profile plan through Slype Doorway at Northern side.



O3 - P3

Feature 15
 Vertical profile of foot of columned quoins at northern side of Slype doorway.

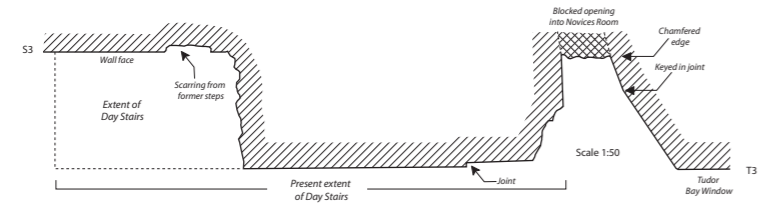


Q3 - R3
Feature 15.
 Profile plan through Slype Doorway at southern side.

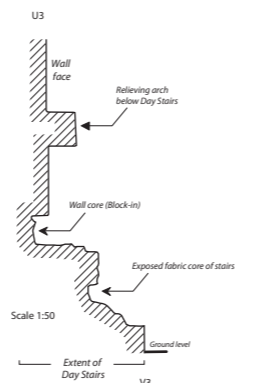


Q3b - R3b

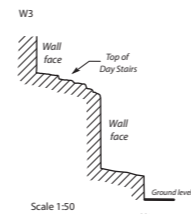
Feature 15
 Vertical profile of foot of columned quoins at southern side of Slype doorway.



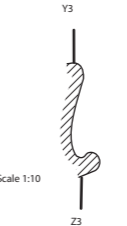
S3 - T3
Feature 17
 Horizontal profile through foundation base of Day Stairs.



U3 - V3
Feature 17
 Vertical profile through Day Stairs.

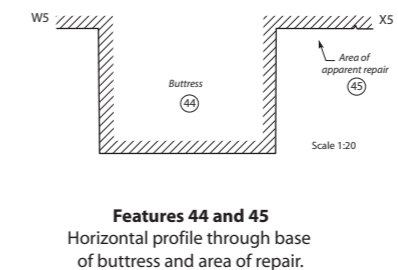
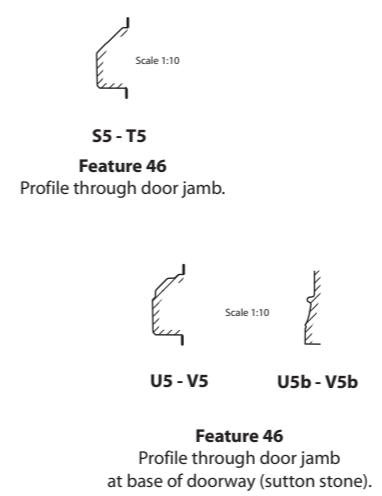
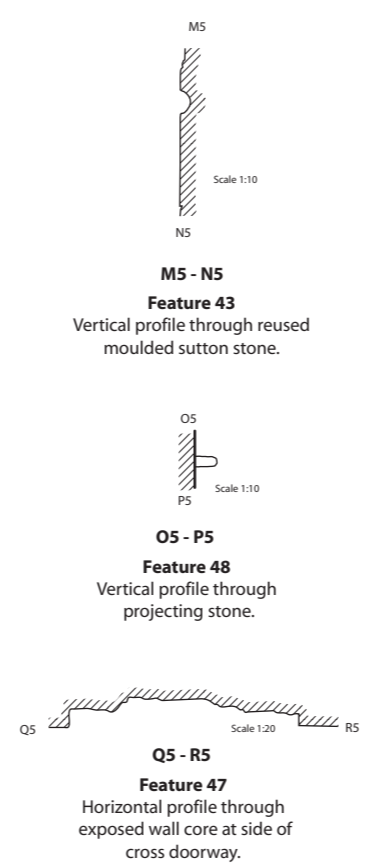
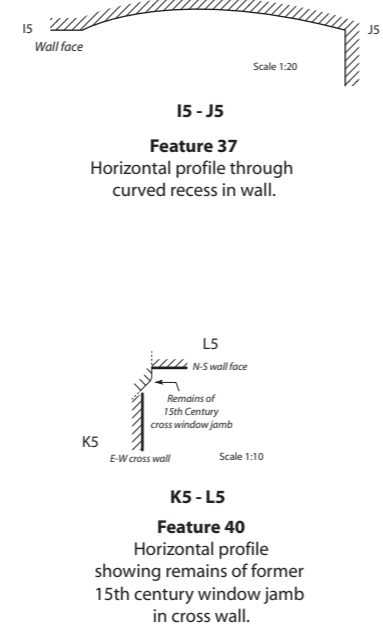
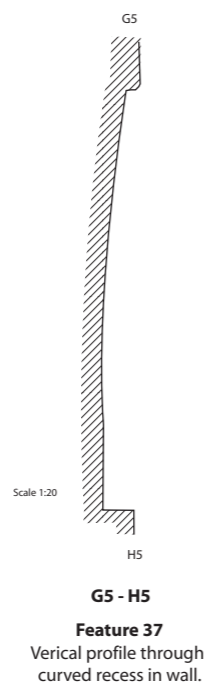
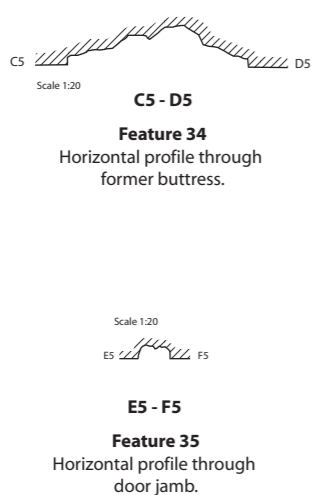
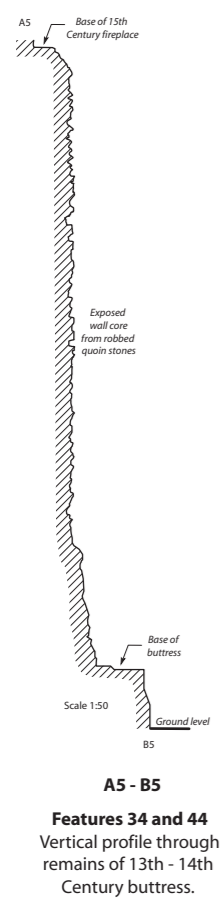
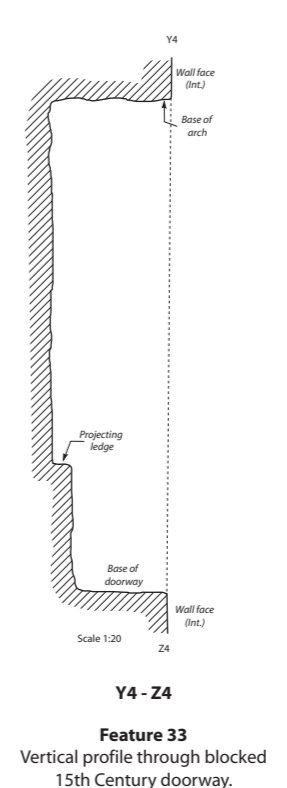
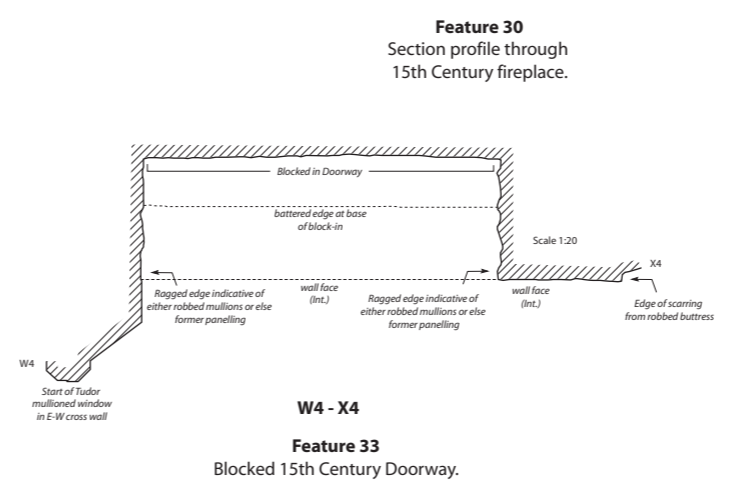
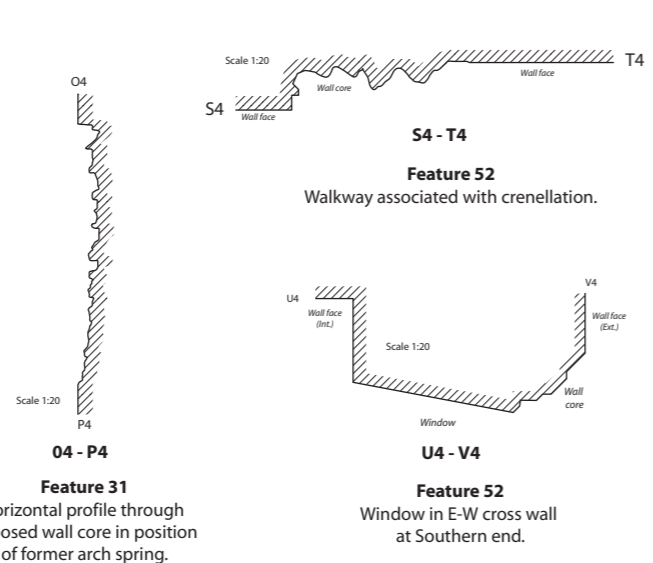
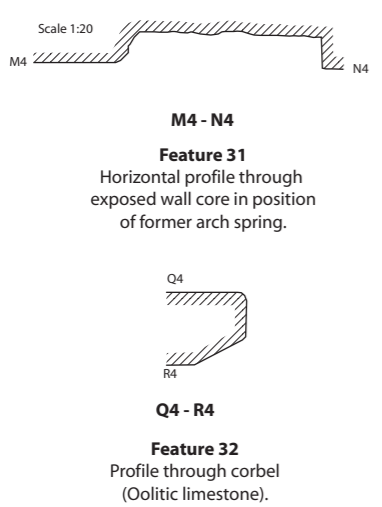
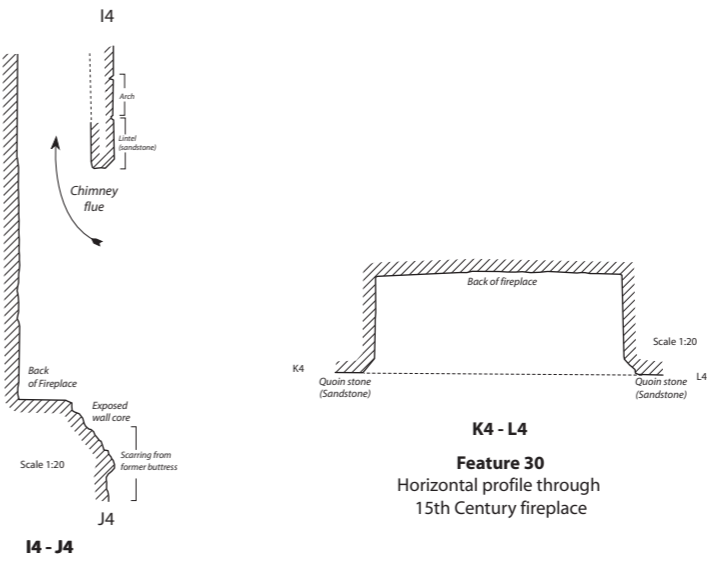
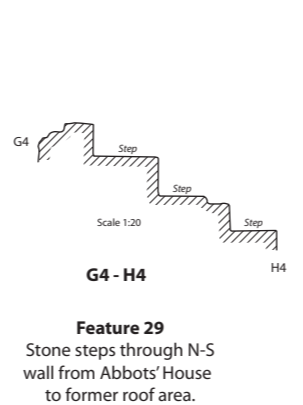
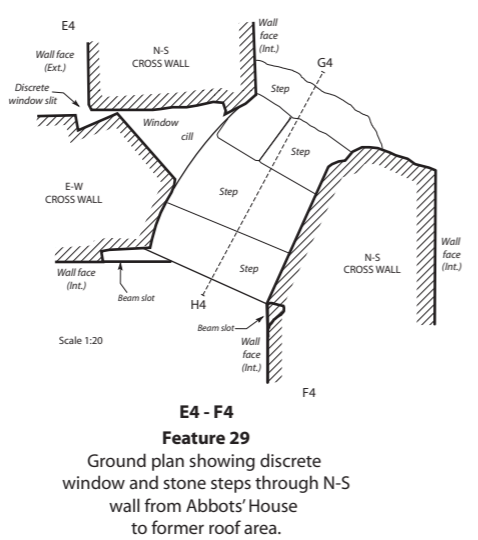
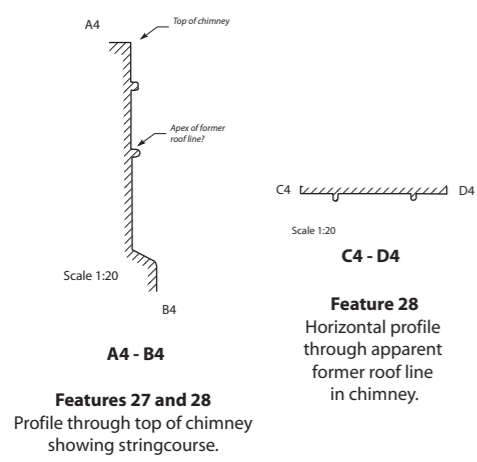


W3 - X3
Feature 17
 Vertical profile through Day Stairs.

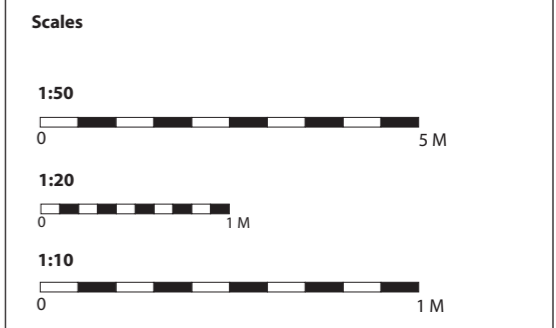
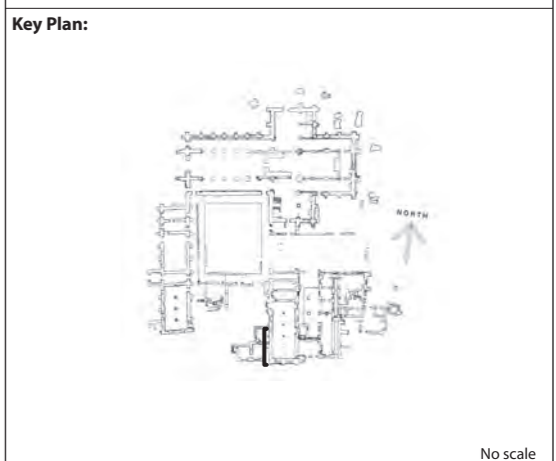


Y3 - Z3
Feature 14
 Vertical profile through Handrail of Day Stairs.

Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50; 1:20 and 1:10
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By: (Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: Profile Drawings - A1 - B1 to Y3 - Z3	Figure No. 33



Notes:
* All profiles of window jambs, mullions, transoms and other mouldings are presented at a 1:10 scale, unless otherwise specified. All other illustrations are represented at either 1:50 or 1:20 scales.



Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50; 1:20 and 1:10
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By:
	(Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: Profile Drawings - A4 - B4 to W5 - X5	Figure No. 34

Notes:

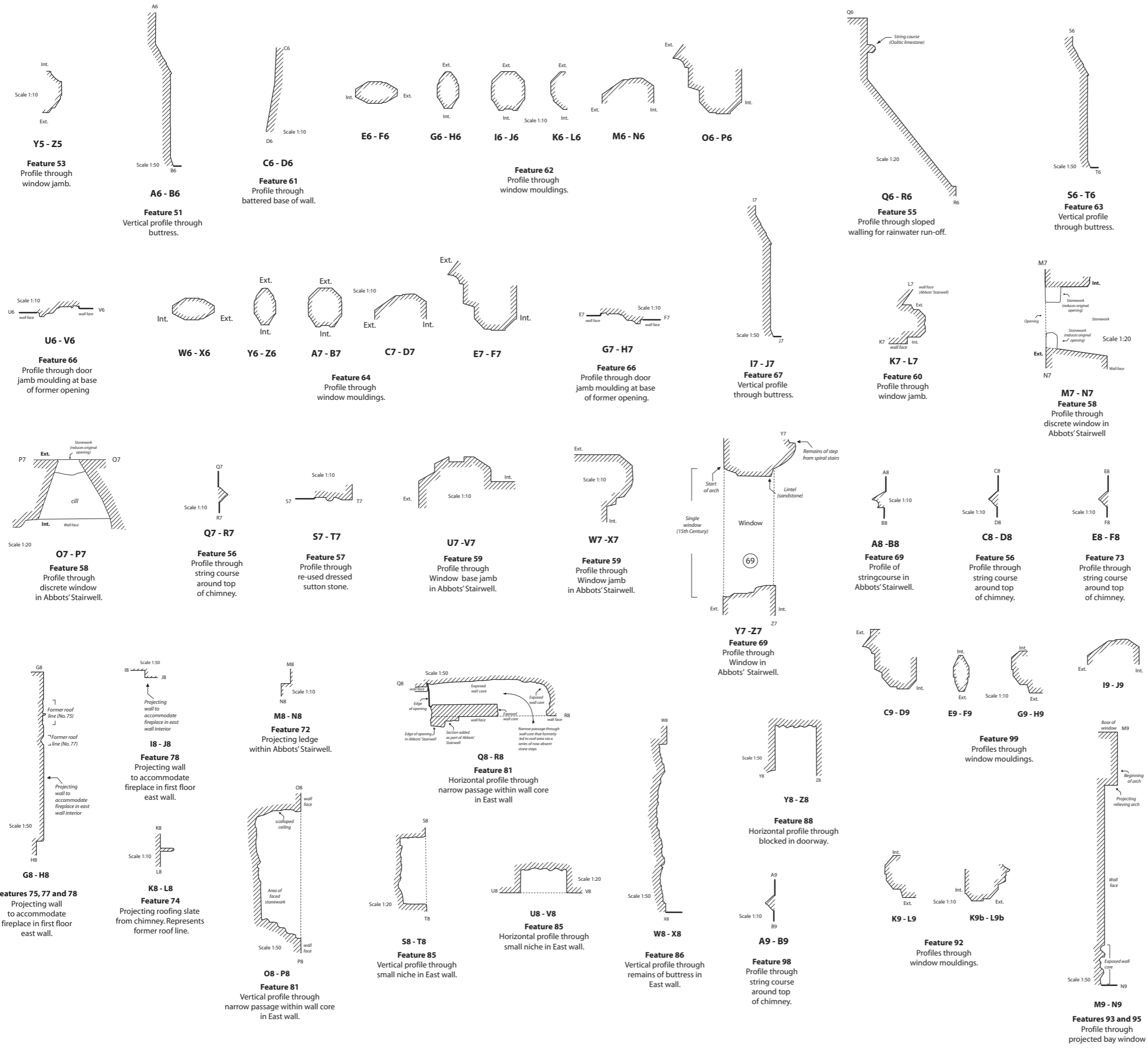
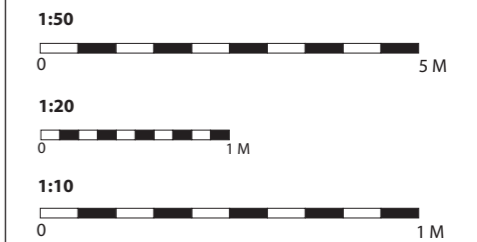
* All profiles of window jambs, mullions, transoms and other mouldings are presented at a 1:10 scale, unless otherwise specified. All other illustrations are presented at either 1:50 or 1:20 scales.

Key Plan:

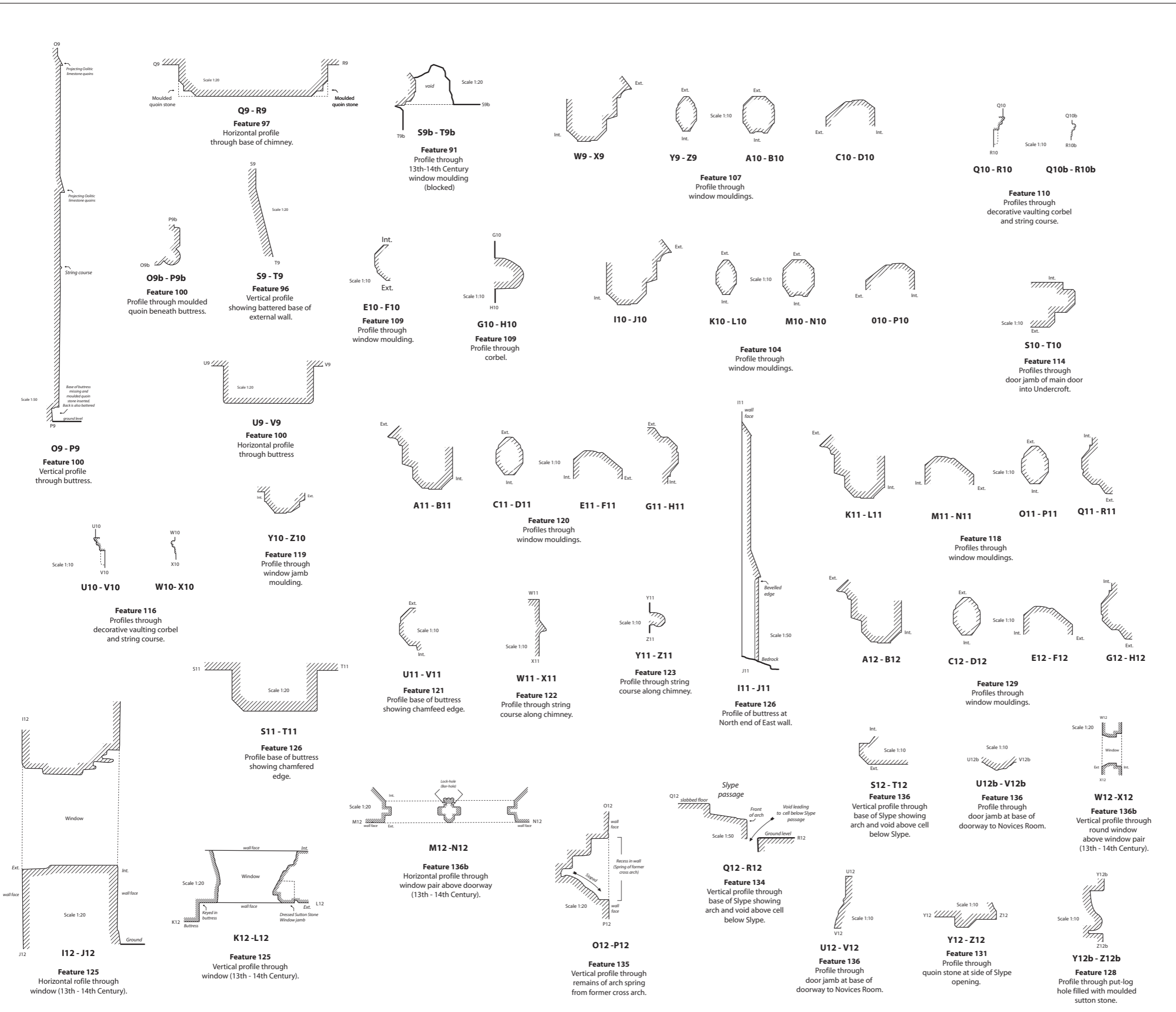


No scale

Scales



Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50; 1:20 and 1:10
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By: (Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: Profile Drawings - Y5 - Z5 to M9 - N9	Figure No. 35



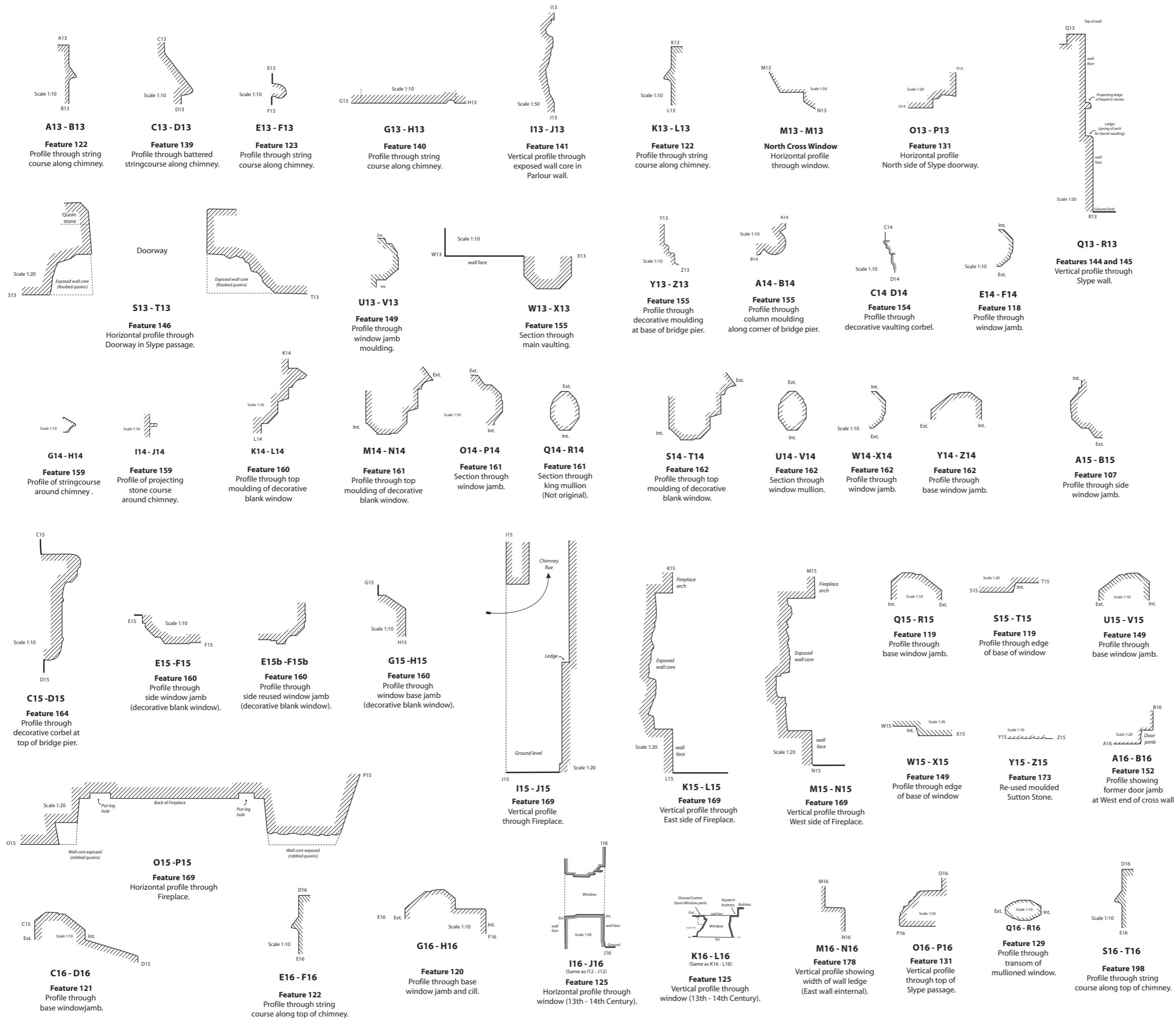
Notes:
* All profiles of window jambs, mullions, transoms and other mouldings are presented at a 1:10 scale, unless otherwise specified. All other illustrations are represented at either 1:50 or 1:20 scales.

Key Plan:

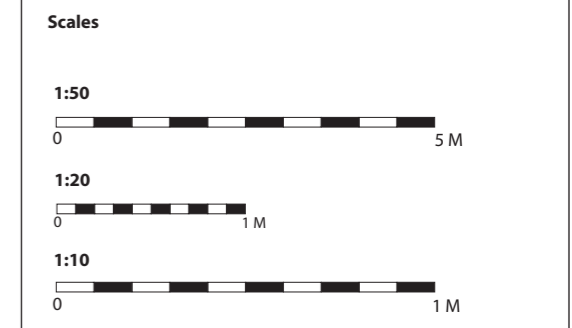
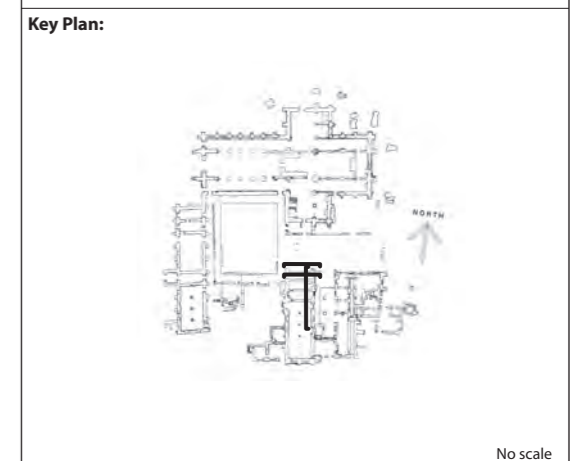
No scale

Scales
1:50
0 5 M
1:20
0 1 M
1:10
0 1 M

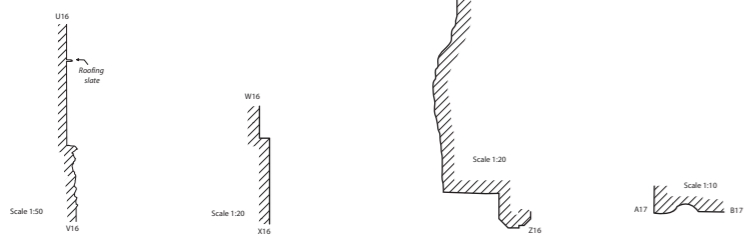
Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50; 1:20 and 1:10
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By (Initials): RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: Profile Drawings - O9 - P9 to Y12b - Z12b	Figure No.: 36



Notes:
* All profiles of window jambs, mullions, transoms and other mouldings are presented at a 1:10 scale, unless otherwise specified. All other illustrations are represented at either 1:50 or 1:20 scales.



Date: 01/07/2017	Scale (@A1): 1:50; 1:20 and 1:10
Client: Cadw	
Prepared By:	Drawn By: (Initials) RSJ
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR	
Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Figure Title: Profile Drawings - A13 - B13 to S16 - T16	Figure No. 37



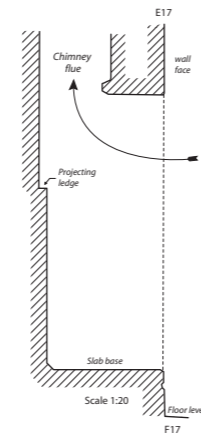
U16 - V16
Feature 180
Vertical profile through former roof line.

W16 - X16
Feature 182
Vertical profile through projecting ledge. Former roof height.

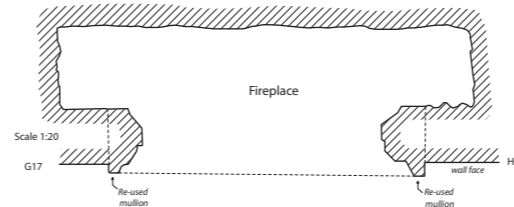
Y16 - Z16
Feature 107
Vertical profile through top of window and relieving arch.

A17 - B17
Feature 183
Profile through re-used moulded Sutton Stone.

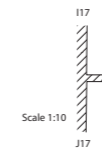
C17 - D17
Feature 184
Profile through projecting stonework.



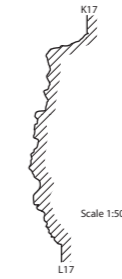
E17 - F17
Feature 186
Vertical profile through 15th Century fireplace in upper floor of East wall.



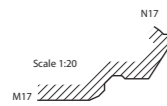
G17 - H17
Feature 186
Horizontal profile through 15th Century fireplace in upper floor of East wall.



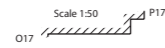
I17 - J17
Feature 191
Vertical profile through former roof line.



K17 - L17
Feature 174
Vertical profile through exposed wall core of E-W cross wall.



M17 - N17
Feature 10
Horizontal profile through side of former mullion window.



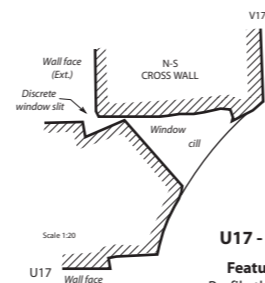
O17 - P17
Feature 74
Horizontal profile through former door jamb in E-W cross wall.



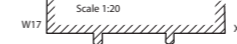
Q17 - R17
Feature 8
Profile through window transom.



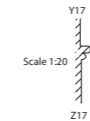
S17 - T17
Feature 8
Profile through top of window arch.



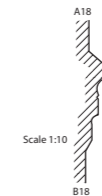
U17 - V17
Feature 4
Profile through top of window arch.



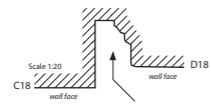
W17 - X17
Feature 28
Profile through apparent former roof line?



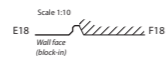
Y17 - Z17
Feature 28
Profile through apparent former roof line?



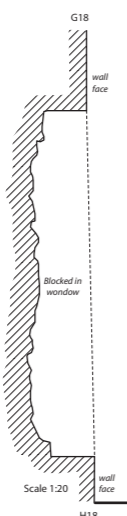
A18 - B18
Feature 197
Profile through moulding at top of blocked 15th Century doorway.



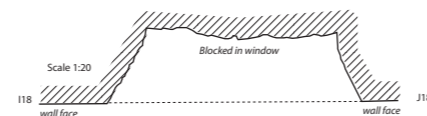
C18 - D18
Feature 196
Profile through core filled slot beside blocked doorway. Possible former partition slot.



E18 - F18
Feature 198
Profile through exposed window jamb quoin stone (former 13th - 14th Century window).



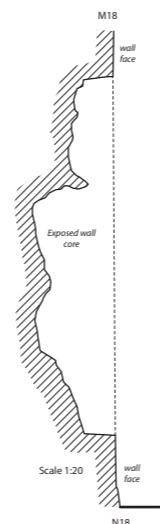
G18 - H18
Feature 197
Vertical profile through blocked in former 13th-14th Century Novice Monks Dormitory window.



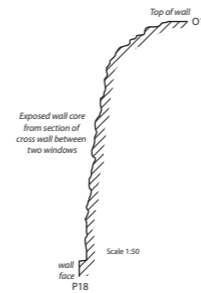
I18 - J18
Feature 197
Profile through blocked in former 13th-14th Century Novice Monks Dormitory window.



K18 - L18
Feature 197
Profile through exposed wall core alongside blocked 15th Century doorway.



M18 - N18
Feature 197
Vertical profile through exposed wall core alongside blocked in 15th Century doorway.



O18 - P18
Feature 195
Vertical profile through exposed wall core of cross wall between mullioned windows.

Notes:

* All profiles of window jambs, mullions, transoms and other mouldings are presented at a 1:10 scale, unless otherwise specified. All other illustrations are represented at either 1:50 or 1:20 scales.

Key Plan:



No scale

Scales



Date: 01/07/2017 **Scale (@A1):** 1:50; 1:20 and 1:10

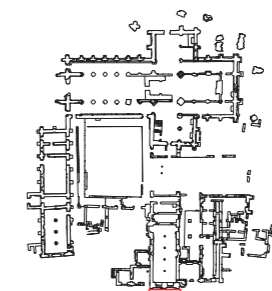
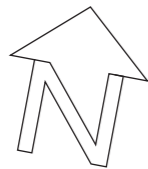
Client: Cadw

Prepared By: **Drawn By:** (Initials) RSJ

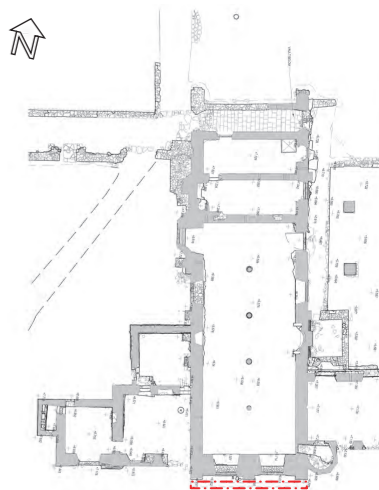
Project Ref: NATM/2017/SBR

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

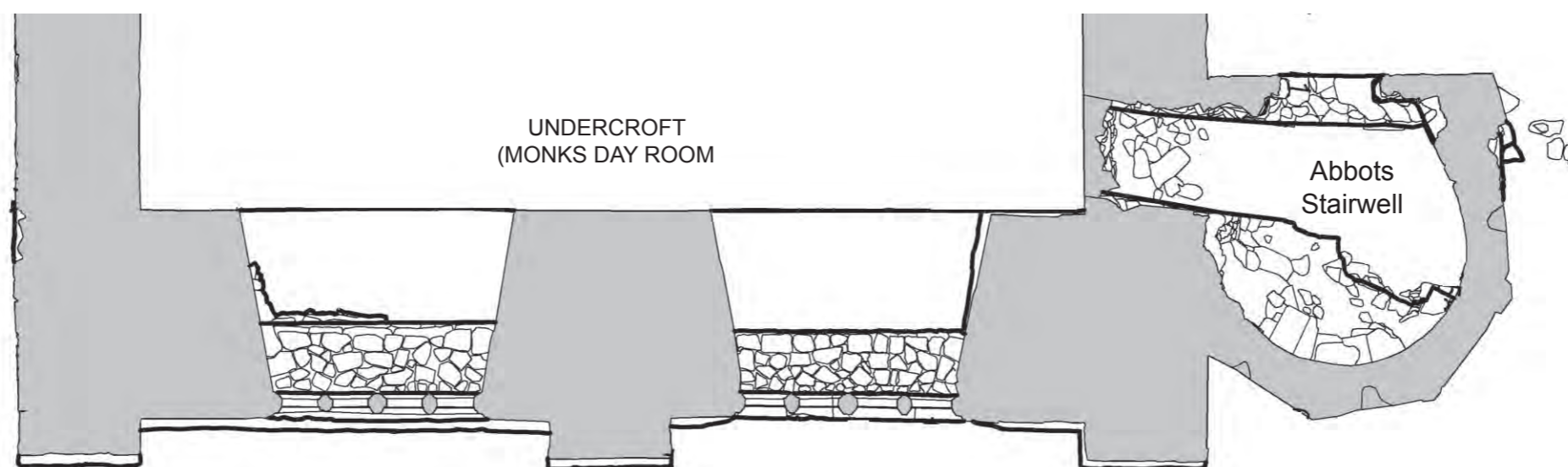
Figure Title: Profile Drawings - U16 - V16 to O18 - P18 **Figure No.** 38



Scale 1:3,200



Scale 1:1,600



Proposed Drainage Trench (1200mm (L) x 450(W) x 450mm(D))



Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date: July 2017

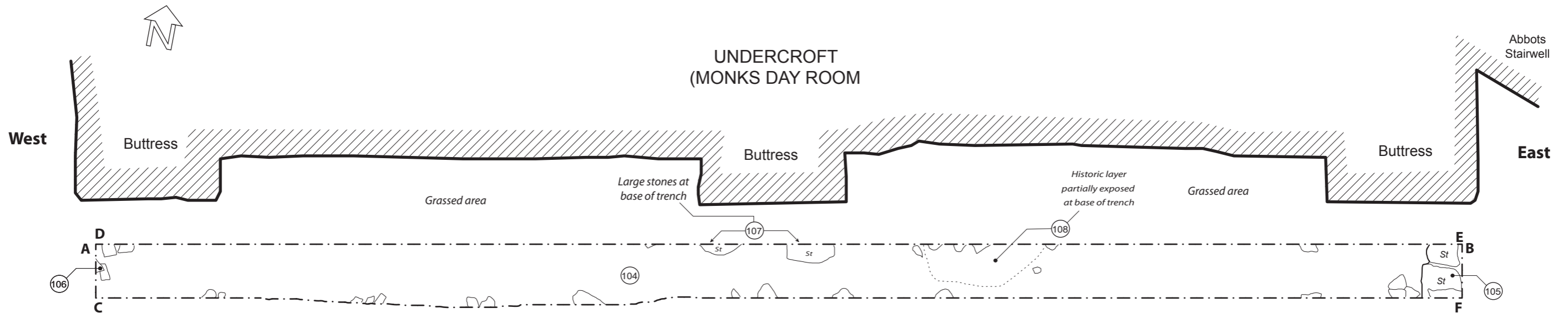
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

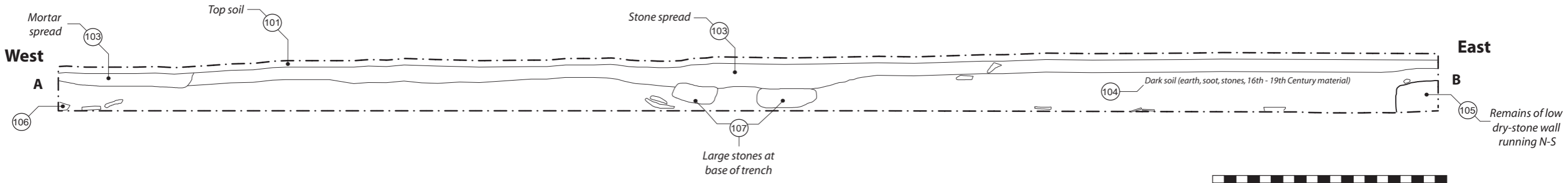
Drawing No.

Figure 39.

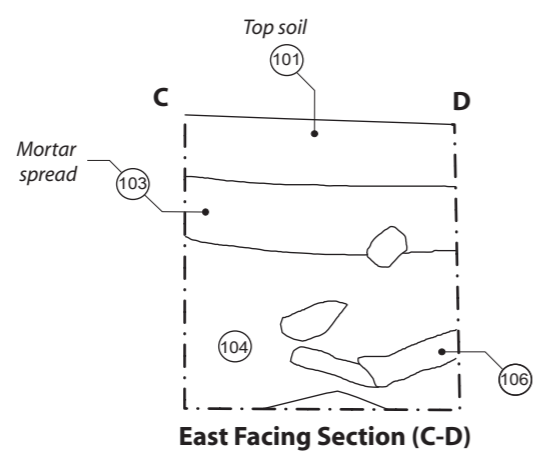
Ground Plan showing location and dimensions of proposed drainage trench alongside the external south wall of Undercroft (Monks Day Room).



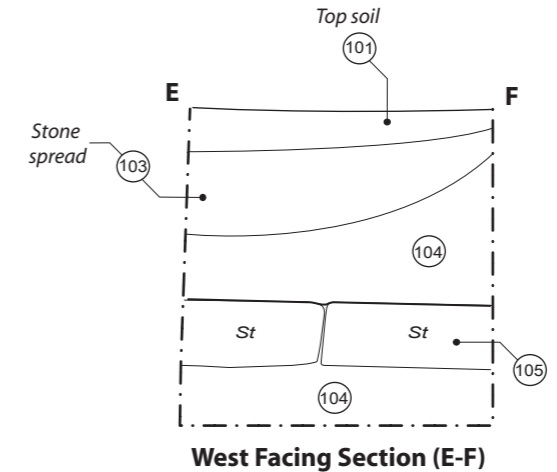
Ground Plan



Section A - B



East Facing Section (C-D)



West Facing Section (E-F)

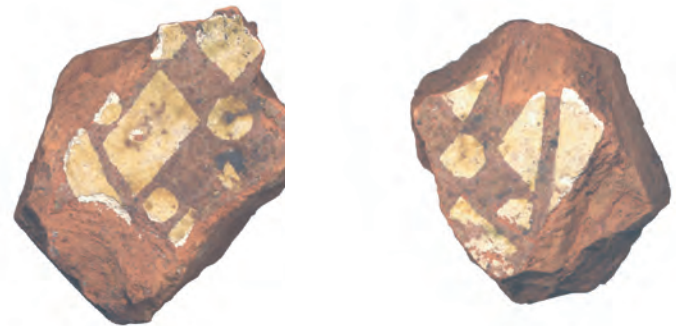


Sections C-D and E-F

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan	
Date: July 2017	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Figure 40.
Ground Plan and Section drawings showing results of excavation for the proposed drainage trench alongside the external south wall of Undercroft (Monks Day Room).





a) **105A** Slip-on-impression. Shield of arms set diagonally: three clarions set 2 and 1 (Clare); formal floral motifs springing from top and sides, and four roundels. This version of their arms, once thought to be the arms of Granville, is derived from a badge of the Clares



b) **176** Slip-on-impression. Shield of arms set diagonally: fretted bezant (probably Verdon); leaves springing from top and sides. Knight's identification of the arms as being those of the family Verdon, for the third husband of Elizabeth de Clares, has been recently questioned on the grounds that their arms lack the bezants, which are present in those of the Trussell family (Jones 1996)

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date: July 2017

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 41.

Photos of 14th century tiles recovered from excavation along with tile fragments overlaying illustrations of existing interpreted tiles from 'Medieval Tiles of Wales' (Lewis 1999).

APPENDIX II:
Photo plates



Plate 1. View of Tudor Mansion during consolidation work. Looking southeast.



Plate 2. View of Tudor Mansion during consolidation work. Looking northwest.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's. 1 and 2

Heritage
Recording Services Wales



Plate 3. View of eastern wing of Tudor Mansion during consolidation work. Looking northwest.



Plate 4. View of northeast range of Tudor Mansion during consolidation work. Looking northeast.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's. 3 and 4

Heritage
Recording Services Wales



Plate 5: View of West facing elevation of Tudor Mansion during consolidation work. Looking east.



Plate 6: View of south facing elevation of Tudor Mansion (Abbot's House - West wing and former Refectory) during consolidation work. Looking north.



Plate 7: View of South facing elevation of Tudor Mansion during consolidation work. Looking north.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.

5 - 7



Plate 8: View of southern side of interior of Reredorter. Looking south,



Plate 9: View of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking northwards.



Plate 10: View of South wall following scaffold removal. Looking westwards.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.

8 - 10

Heritage
Recording Services Wales



Plate 11: View of north facing wall of former Abbot's House in the east wing. Looking south.



Plate 12: View central part of east facing elevation of undercroft following removal of scaffolding. Looking west.



Plate 13: View of south facing elevation of south wall of vaulted bridge. Looking northwards.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.

11 - 13

Heritage
Recording Services Wales



Plate 14: View of remains of Monk's Day Stairs at north end of West wall. Looking south.



Plate 15: View of remains of Sutton stone handrail alongside Day Stairs in West wall. Looking southeast.



Plate 16: Detailed view of remains of Sutton stone handrail alongside Day Stairs in West wall. Looking southeast.



Plate 17: Detailed view of remains of Monk's Day Stairs in West wall. Looking east.



Plate 18: Detail of base order of door jamb into Slype passage at north end of west wall (South side). Looking southeast.



Plate 19: Detail of blocked opening (19) below relieving arch of Day Stair. Looking eastwards.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.

14 - 19

Heritage
Recording Services Wales



Plate 20: Detail showing line of vertical ashlar quoins (11) on north side of oriel window in west wall. Looking southeast.

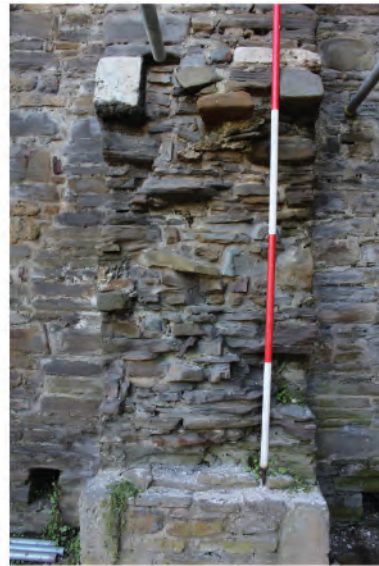


Plate 21: Remains of buttress (25) in central area of west wall. Looking east.



Plate 22: View of buttress (25) and relieving arch (12) in west wall. Looking southwards.



Plate 23: Detail of remains of historic render at side of buttress and below relieving arch (11).



Plate 24: Remains of top and base jamb of oriel window (6) in west wall. Looking southeast.



Plate 25: Remains of top and base jamb of oriel window (6) in west wall. Looking southwest.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.

20 - 25

Heritage
Recording Services Wales



Plate 26: Detail of top and side jamb of oriel window (6). Looking southeast.



Plate 27: Remains of base and side jamb of northern window in west wall (10). Looking southeast.



Plate 28: View of late Tudor window in west wall (24). Looking southwards.



Plate 29: Detail of base jamb in late Tudor window in west wall ground floor (24).



Plate 30: Detail of base jambs and mullions in late Tudor window in west wall ground floor (24).



Plate 31: Detail of hood and return label in late Tudor window in west wall ground floor (24).

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.

26 - 31

Heritage
Recording Services Wales



Plate 32: View of long relieving arch (2) of oriel window in west wall at first floor level. Looking westward from east wall.



Plate 33: Detail of moulding in door jambs of doorway into Slype passage (15) at north end of west wall. Looking east.



Plate 34: Detail of stringcourse in west wall (209). Looking northwards.



Plate 35: View of late Tudor mullioned window (8) in west wall at first floor level. Looking southeast.



Plate 36: Detail shot showing side jambs in oriel window (6) and replaced stringcourse. Looking southeast.



Plate 37: View of remains of top attic window in west wall (3). Looking northwest.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan
Date taken: March - July 2017
Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.
 32 - 37



Plate 38: View of remains of top attic window in west wall (3). Looking southeast.



Plate 39: Detail of side jamb in top attic window (3) in west wall. Looking northwards.



Plate 40: Remains of buttress in west wall (33). Looking northeast.



Plate 41: View of southern end of west facing elevation showing features in area of first floor. Looking eastwards.



Plate 42: Detail showing base of buttress (44) in west wall at southern end and vertical line of ashlar quoins (45). Looking northeast.



Plate 43: View of feature (28) within fabric of west chimney (27) of Abbot's House in west wing.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.

38 - 43

Heritage
Recording Services Wales



Plate 44: Detail of feature in chimney in west wall (28). Looking northwest.



Plate 45: Detail of feature in chimney in west wall (28). Looking east.



Plate 46: Exposed wall core from former buttress in west wall (34). Looking south.



Plate 47: Remains of former late 15th century doorway in lateral cross wall of west wall. Looking north.



Plate 48: Blocked in doorway in west wall at far southern end (49). Looking eastwards.



Plate 49: View of stone steps and passage in west wall at roof level (29). Looking northwards.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.

44 - 49



Plate 50: View of stone steps and passage (29) at roof level in west wall. Looking northwards.



Plate 51: View of remains of 15th century fireplace in west wall at second floor level (30). Looking northwards.



Plate 52: Base of former 15th century doorway in west wall at first floor level (33). Now blocked. Looking northwards.



Plate 53: Detail shot of window slit in corner of west wall and cross wall at roof height alongside stone steps and passage (4). Looking westwards.



Plate 54: Curving feature in west facing elevation of west wall at first floor level. Part of former stair arrangement (37). Looking south.



Plate 55: Detail of top arch of former 13th century lancet window (41) in west wall. Looking north

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 56: View showing curved area of walling at first floor level in west wall (37). Former stair arrangement. Looking southeast.



Plate 57: View of remains of walkway at roof level at corner of west wall and E-W cross wall at southern end (52). Looking south.



Plate 58: View of doorway jamb and stop in west wall at ground level (46). Looking east.



Plate 59: Detail shot of bottom order stop moulding in western jamb of doorway in E-W cross wall (46). Looking south at opposing west side of doorway. Other stop heavily weathered.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 60: Working shot of east facing elevation of west wall during consolidation work. Looking southwest.



Plate 61: Working shot of east facing elevation of west wall during consolidation work. Looking northwest.



Plate 62: View of east facing elevation of west wall following removal of scaffolding. Looking northwest.



Plate 63: View of large oriel window (6) in west wall during consolidation work. Looking west.



Plate 64: View of east facing elevation of west wall following scaffold removal. Looking southwest.



Plate 65: View of square headed late Tudor window in west wall. Looking west.

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Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 66: View of square headed late Tudor window (8) in west wall. Looking west.



Plate 67: Detail shot of base jamb and mullion in window in west wall (8). Looking northeast.



Plate 68: View of square headed late Tudor window (8) in west wall. Looking south-west.



Plate 69: Detail of base jamb in late Tudor window in west wall (8). Looking west.



Plate 70. Apotropaic mark in mullion in late Tudor window (8) in west wall. Looking eastwards.



Plate 71. Fragment of lead and glass found in base mullion of late Tudor window in first floor of west wall (8). Looking eastwards.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 72: Detail shot of side jamb in oriel window (6). Looking southwest from first floor level.



Plate 73: Detail shot showing mason's mark of an inverted letter 'R'. Found in side jamb of large oriel window (6). Looking southwest.



Plate 74: Remains of blocked 15th century doorway (33) in west wall from internal side. Looking west.



Plate 75: Remains of blocked 15th century doorway (33) in west wall from internal side. Looking west following removal of scaffolding.



Plate 76: Remains of blocked in former 13th century dormitory window (200) in west wall internal side. Looking west following scaffold removal.



Plate 77: Remains of blocked in former 13th century dormitory window (200) in west wall internal side. Looking west.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 78: Detail shot showing ashlar quoins of former blocked in 13th century dormitory window (200) in west wall. Looking south.



Plate 79: View of blocked 15th century doorway (197) and blocked in 13th century window in west wall (198). Looking west.



Plate 80: View of blocked late 15th century doorway (197). Looking west.



Plate 81: Detail showing hood and top shoulder of flat arch of blocked late 15th century doorway in west wall. Looking northwest.



Plate 82: Re-used ashlar quoin with mason's mark 'V' used as block in stone of late 15th century doorway in west wall (197). Looking west.

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Plate 83: View of south wall following scaffold removal. Looking north.



Plate 84: View of buttress (51) in south wall. Looking west.



Plate 85: View of sloping section of walling (55) in south wall. Looking northwards.



Plate 86: View of hood moulding in window in south wall (62). Looking northeast.



Plate 87. Detail shot of hood moulding in south wall window (62). Looking south.



Plate 88. Detail shot showing remains of moulded door jambs (66) in south wall below east window in south wall. Looking north.

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Date taken: March - July 2017
Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 89: View of east facing north end of east wall. Looking west.



Plate 90: View of east facing north end of east wall. Looking west.



Plate 91: View of doorway (136) into Novice Room in east wall. Looking west.



Plate 92: Detailed shot of doorway (136) into Novice Room in east wall. Looking west.



Plate 93. Detail shot of oculus window above doorway into Novice Room (136) in east wall. Looking northwest.

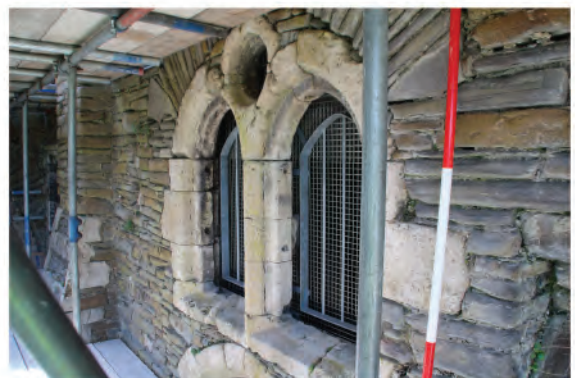


Plate 94. Detail shot of window pair in east wall above doorway into Novice Room (136) in east wall. Looking southwest.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 95: View of top of chimney stack in south wall of bridge. Looking northwards.



Plate 96: View of chimney at north end of east wall (122). Looking northwards.



Plate 97: View of buttress (101) at first floor level in east facing elevation of east wall. Looking southwest.



Plate 98: Detail of drip quoins in buttress (101) in east facing elevation of east wall. Looking northwest.



Plate 99. View of square headed window in east wall at first floor level (107). Looking northwest.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 100: Remains of 13th century dormitory window in east wall (125). Looking northwest.



Plate 101: Remains of 13th century dormitory window in east wall (125). Looking east.



Plate 102: Remains of former spring of arch (135) in east facing external elevation of east wall alongside Slype passage. Looking west.

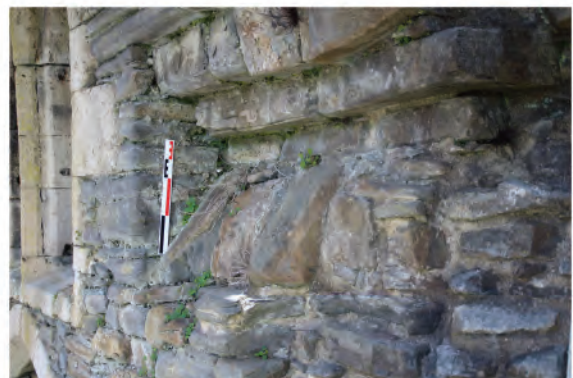


Plate 103: Remains of former spring of arch (135) in east facing external elevation of east wall alongside Slype passage. Looking southwest.



Plate 104. View of hood moulding of late Tudor window in east facing elevation of east wall (120). Looking westwards.

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Plate 105. Remains of former tall 13th century lancet window (91) blocked in east wall. Looking southwest.



Plate 106. Remains of former tall 13th century lancet window (91) blocked in east wall. Looking southwest.



Plate 107. Scarring in east facing external elevation of east wall at far southern end (86). Looking west.



Plate 108. View of southern end of east facing external elevation of east wall, showing projecting back of chimney. Looking northwest.



Plate 109. View of southern end of east facing external elevation of east wall, showing projecting back of chimney and vice passage opening (81). Looking northwest.

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Plate 110. View of side jamb in doorway into Novice Room (136). Looking south.



Plate 111. View of chamfered shoulder of buttress in east wall (126). Looking west.



Plate 112. View of base of projecting chimney breast (97) in east wall. Looking northwest.



Plate 113. Detail of side jamb in doorway into undercroft (114). Looking southwest.



Plate 114. View of area of repair below late Tudor window in east wall (104). Looking west.



Plate 114. View of former opening in lateral cross wall at foot of east wall at base of buttress. Note moulded base orders. Looking north.

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Plate 115. Detail view showing moulded Sutton stone below buttress (102) in east wall. Looking northwest.



Plate 116. Detail view showing moulded Sutton stone below buttress (102) in east wall. Looking northwest.



Plate 117. Detail of corner moulding at base of chimney showing pyramidal stop. Looking south.



Plate 118. Detail shot showing mouldings from former 13th century lancet window in east wall (91). Looking southwest.



Plate 119. Detail of corner moulding at base of chimney showing pyramidal stop. Looking northwest.



Plate 120. Detail of corner moulding at base of chimney showing pyramidal stop. Looking south.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

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Plate 121. Detail of stringcourse with drip in east wall at far north end (121). Looking southwards.



Plate 122. Detail shot of apotropaic mark in side jamb of window in east wall. Looking northeast.



Plate 123. Detail shot showing side jamb in late Tudor window in east wall at north end (129). Looking northeast.



Plate 124. Detail shot showing re-used moulded Sutton stone used to block put-log hole in east wall (128). Looking northwest.

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Plate 125. General view of north end of east wall. Looking northwards.



Plate 126. General view of north end of east wall. Looking northwards.



Plate 127. General view of central part of east wall following scaffold removal. Looking west.



Plate 128. General view of east wall with scaffolding in place. Looking west.



Plate 129. General view of central part of east wall following scaffold removal. Looking south.



Plate 130. Doorway in Undercroft (114). Looking west.

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Date taken: March - July 2017
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Plate 131. View looking up towards chimney pair and vice passage in east wall. Looking westwards.

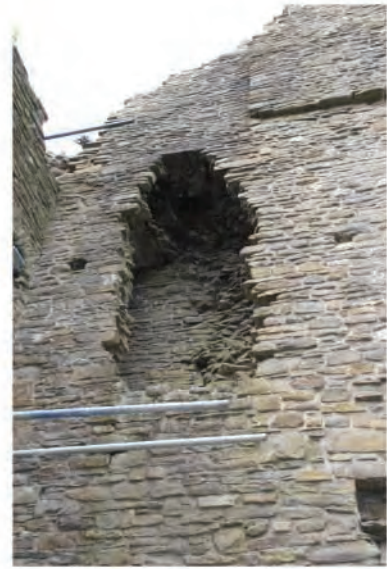


Plate 132. View of opening into vice passage in east wall (81). Looking west.



Plate 133. View of interior of vice passage within east wall (81). Looking south.



Plate 134. Chimney pair at southern end of east wall. Looking northwest.



Plate 135. Small niche or recess in east wall at far southern end (85). Looking west.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 136. View of northern end of west facing internal elevation of east wall. Looking northeast.



Plate 137. View of northern end of west facing internal elevation of east wall. Looking east.



Plate 137. View of northern end of west facing internal elevation of east wall and bridge wall. Looking northeast.



Plate 138. Southern end of west facing internal elevation of east wall. Looking east.



Plate 139. Southern end of west facing internal elevation of east wall showing 15th - 16th century fireplace (186). Looking east.



Plate 140. View of 15th - 16th century fireplace (186) in west facing internal elevation of east wall. Looking east.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

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Plate 141. Detail shot of top corner jamb of 15th - 16th fireplace (186) showing sunken spandrel. Looking east.



Plate 142. View of exposed relieving arch above square headed Tudor window in east wall (107). Looking east.



Plate 143. Detail of graffiti in sandstone block in east wall (188). Looking north.



Plate 144. Detail of graffiti in sandstone block in east wall (188). Looking east.



Plate 145. Detail shot showing chimney pair at southern end of east wall. Looking northwest.



Plate 146. Detail shot of remains of side jambs and hood moulding of tall late 15th - early 16th century window in east wall (92). Looking northwest.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 147. Detail shot of side jambs in tall late 15th - early 16th century window in east wall (92). Looking north.



Plate 149. View of chimney (98) and former roof lines (180) in west facing elevation of east wall. Looking east.



Plate 150. Chimney stack in west wall (1). Looking northwest.



Plate 151. Late Tudor square headed window in east wall (107). Looking east.



Plate 152. General view of west facing internal elevation of east wall. Looking northeast following removal of scaffolding.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 153. View of north facing elevation of northernmost wall (Parlour). Looking south.



Plate 154. Detail shot showing corner of north wall where the former 13th century vault corbel would have once been set. Original ashlar quoins still present. Looking southeast.



Plate 155. Detail shot of remains of moulded side jambs (15) of Slype passage at north end of west wall. Looking east.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 156. View of north facing north wall of vaulted bridge. Looking south.



Plate 157. View of south facing elevation of south wall of vaulted bridge. Looking north.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 158. View of west window of north facing internal elevation of south wall of bridge. Looking southeast.



Plate 159. View of 16th century fireplace (169) set between the two square headed windows in the north facing internal elevation of the south wall of the bridge. Looking south.



Plate 160. View of south facing internal elevation of north wall of bridge. Looking east.



Plate 161. Detail shot of false window (160) in south facing elevation of south wall of bridge. Looking north.



Plate 162. Detail shot of jambs and mullion in false window in south facing elevation of south wall of bridge (160). Looking northwest.

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Date taken: March - July 2017
Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 163. View of central bridge support pier at south side of bridge. Looking southwest.



Plate 164. View of central bridge support pier below north side of bridge. Looking northeast.



Plate 165. View of central bridge support pier at north side of bridge. Looking northwest.



Plate 166. View of central bridge support pier at south side of bridge. Looking south.



Plate 167. View of central bridge support pier on north side of bridge. Looking west.



Plate 168. Detail of bottom mouldings of central bridge support pier on south side of bridge. Looking southwest.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 169. Detail shot showing moulding of base column on bridge central support pier. Looking west.



Plate 170. Detail shot showing decorative moulded corbel at top of bridge central support pier. Looking west.



Plate 171. Detail shot of decorative moulded corbels supporting rib vaulting at west end of bridge alongside entrance to undercroft. Looking southwest.



Plate 172. View of rib vaulting and moulded corbels at top of central bridge support pier. Looking south.



Plate 173. Graffiti in replacement sandstone ashlar quoin in central support pier of bridge. Looking north.



Plate 174. Graffiti in ashlar quoin of central bridge support pier at north end of bridge. Looking north.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 175. General view of Undercroft / Day Room. Looking north.



Plate 176. General view of Undercroft / Day Room. Looking north.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 177. General view of rib vaulted ceiling in Undercroft / Day Room. Looking southwards.



Plate 178. View of main doorway into undercroft. Looking west.



Plate 179. View of inserted late Tudor window in undercroft east wall. Looking west.



Plate 180. View of fireplace in east wall of undercroft. Looking west.



Plate 181. View of blocked round arched doorway at south end of undercroft in east wall. Looking west.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 182. Blocked 13th century lancet window in west wall in undercroft. Looking west.



Plate 182. Blocked 13th century lancet window in west wall in undercroft. Looking west.



Plate 184. Ribbed vaulting and moulded corbels in undercroft. Looking west.



Plate 185. Blocked doorway in north wall of undercroft that once gave access to Novice Room. Looking north.

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Date taken: March - July 2017
Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 186. Entrance into cell or vault in floor of north unit of Novice Room. Looking north.



Plate 187. View of east facing wall of cell / vault beneath Slype passage. Looking west



Plate 188. View of south facing wall of cell / vault beneath Slype passage. Looking north.



Plate 189. View of access area of cell / vault beneath Slype passage. Looking southwest.



Plate 190. View of access area of cell / vault beneath Slype passage. Looking southwest.



Plate 191. View of north facing elevation of cell / vault beneath Slype passage. Looking northeast.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 192. Exterior view of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking northwest.



Plate 193. View of 15th - 16th century upper windows in Abbot's Stairwell. Looking north.



Plate 194. View of 15th - 16th century window in Abbot's Stairwell. Looking north.



Plate 194. View of Abbot's Stairwell showing small loop window in east elevation. Looking west.



Plate 195. View of Abbot's Stairwell showing 15th - 16th century window pair in south elevations. Looking northwards.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan
Date taken: March - July 2017
Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 196. Detail view of small loop window in east elevation of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking west.



Plate 197. Stringcourse in southwest facing elevation of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking north.



Plate 198. View of hidden window in core of east wall abutting Abbot's Stairwell. Looking north.



Plate 199. View of square window opening in northern elevation of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking southwest.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 200. Interior view of double arch window at upper level of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking south.



Plate 201. Upper interior level of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking southeast.



Plate 202. Interior view of spring of arch in Abbot's Stairwell at upper level. Looking west.



Plate 203. Interior view of top of doorway arch in Abbot's Stairwell at upper level. Looking east.



Plate 204. Interior view of Abbot's Stairwell showing remains of steps of newel stairs. Looking east.



Plate 205. Interior view of vice passage showing limestone blocks supporting roof of passage. Looking north from within Abbot's Stairwell.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 206. Interior view of double arch window at upper level of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking southeast.



Plate 207. Interior view of Abbot's Stairwell showing blocked former entrance. Looking west.



Plate 208. View of double arch window at upper level in Abbott's Stairwell. Looking north.



Plate 209. Interior view showing blocked doorway at ground level into undercroft in Abbot's Stairwell. Looking west.



Plate 210. Interior view of blocked window in lower of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking southeast.



Plate 211. Detail view of replacement jamb in square window of Abbot's Stairwell in north facing ground level. Looking eastwards.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 212. View of spring of former doorway arch at upper level of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking southwest.



Plate 213. Interior view of small loop window in east facing elevation of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking east.



Plate 214. View of remains of steps from newel stair in Abbot's Stairwell. Looking eastwards.



Plate 215. Interior view of small discrete hidden window in Abbot's Stairwell. Looking south.



Plate 216. View of remains of spring of arch of former doorway in first floor level of Abbot's Stairwell. Looking southwards.



Plate 217. Detail view of base jamb of top double arched window of Abbot's Stairwell in southeast facing elevation. Looking southeast.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 218. Oblique view of south wall and area of proposed drainage trench. Looking westwards.



Plate 219. Oblique view of south wall and area of proposed drainage trench. Looking eastwards.



Plate 220. Oblique view of south wall and area of proposed drainage trench. Looking westwards.



Plate 221. View of drainage trench with turf removed. Looking west.



Plate 222. View of drainage trench with top soil removed and stone spread exposed. Looking east.



Plate 223. Overhead view of drainage trench showing stone rubble spread.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 224. Overhead view of drainage trench showing stone spread deposit. Looking westwards.



Plate 225. Working shot. Looking east.



Plate 226. Working shot. Looking west.



Plate 227. View of drainage trench following removal of redeposited material to required depth. Looking eastwards.



Plate 228. View of drainage trench following removal of redeposited material to required depth. Looking westwards.



Plate 229. View of drainage trench following removal of redeposited material to required depth. Looking eastwards.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 230. Finished trench. Looking west.



Plate 231. East facing section of trench showing mortar spread and remains of dry stone wall feature. Looking west.



Plate 232. West facing section of trench showing remains of dry stone wall feature. Looking east.



Plate 233. Complete section of Sutton stone mullion recovered from redeposited material in trench.



Plate 234. Shot of profile through mullion.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 235. North-eastern corner of Novice Room where bore-hole was proposed through barrel vaulted ceiling. Looking northeast.



Plate 236. North-western corner of Novice Room where bore-hole was proposed through barrel vaulted ceiling. Looking northwest.



Plate 237. Boring equipment being prepared at point of roof. Looking north.



Plate 238. Boring equipment being prepared at point of roof. Looking north

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 239. Completed bore hole through barrel vaulting at east end of ceiling.



Plate 240. Boring in progress.



Plate 241. Core of bore hole in section.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 242. Working shot during clearance of vegetation in area of east wing of Abbot's House. Looking northwest.



Plate 243. Working shot during clearance of vegetation in area of east wing of Abbot's House. Looking northeast.



Plate 244. Working shot during clearance of vegetation in area of east wing of Abbot's House. Looking northeast.



Plate 245. Area following clearance. Looking northwest.



Plate 246. Area cleared. Looking southwest.



Plate 247. Courtyard area prior to scraping back. Looking south.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 248. Working shot during clearance of vegetation in courtyard area. Looking northeast.



Plate 249. Courtyard area cleared of vegetation. Looking westwards.



Plate 250. Cleared area alongside fireplace in wall of Rredorter. Looking east.

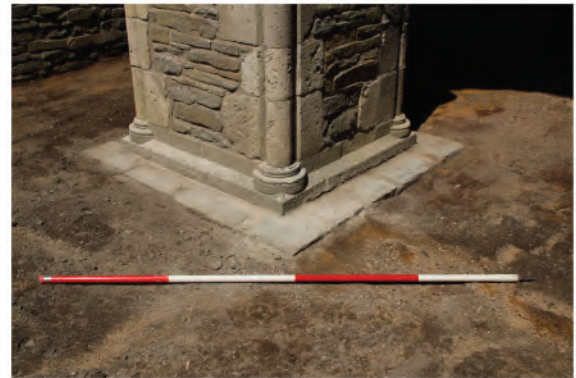


Plate 251. Cleared area around bridge support pier. Looking northwest.



Plate 252. Cleared area around bridge support pier. Looking northeast.



Plate 253. Cleared area around bridge support pier alongside Rredorter. Looking south.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

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Plate 254. Courtyard cleared . Looking north.



Plate 255. Cleared area alongside east wall. Looking north.



Plate 256. Cleared area around base of bridge support pier at Reredorter end. Looking east.



Plate 257. Cleared area adjacent to E-W cross wall by east wall. Looking west.



Plate 258. Cleared area around base of arch pier of Reredorter. Looking northeast.



Plate 259. Cleared area beneath bridge. Looking west.

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Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Plate 260. East window of South wall in undercroft prior to lintel replacement. Looking south



Plate 261. West window of South wall in undercroft prior to lintel replacement. Looking south



Plate 262. Timber lintels in east window prior to removal. Looking southeast.

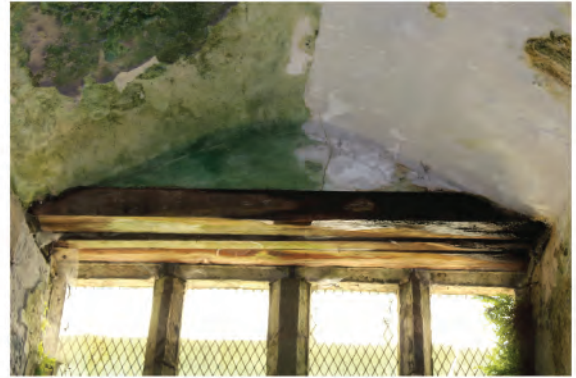


Plate 263. Timber lintels in west window prior to removal. Looking south.



Plate 264. Working shot during timber lintel removal. Looking south.



Plate 265. Working shot during timber lintel removal. Looking south.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

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Recording Services Wales



Plate 266. Working shot during timber lintel removal in undercroft. Looking south.



Plate 267. Timber lintel removed in east window. Looking southwest into beam slot.



Plate 268. Timber lintel removed in west window. Looking southeast into beam slot.

Project Title: Neath Abbey, Tudor Mansion, Neath, Glamorgan

Date taken: March - July 2017

Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Plate No's.

266 - 268

Heritage
Recording Services Wales

APPENDIX III:

Context Register

**The Tudor Mansion,
Neath Abbey.**

APPENDIX III

Context Register

Archaeological Building Investigation & Recording

Context (Feature) No.

1. Chimney
2. Modern repair above arch at top of wall.
3. Top window. Re-used bass mullions.
4. Remains of window slit.
5. Projecting ledge of stones at left of oriel window by arch.
6. Oriel window.
7. Fissure. Possible continuation of former buttress.
8. Mullioned window.
9. Apotropaic mark (17th Century Protection marks). Consists of three intersecting lines.
10. Side mullions. Window at North end.
11. Joint at North end of oriel window. Marked by line of quoin stones. Appears to be southern side of chimney, now compromised by insertion of oriel bay window.
12. Projecting arch for relieving mullion window.
13. Exposed wall core.
14. Hand rail to Day Stair. Consists of run of Moulded Sutton stones.
15. Doorway into Slype from Cloister.
16. Scarring in fabric for former Day Stair stone steps.
17. Remains of 12th - 14th century day stairs.
18. Remains of east to west cross wall of Warming house.
19. Relieving arch below Day Stairs.
20. Wall below archway opening of Day Stair.
21. Mullion window.
22. Remains of 13th to 14th century buttress.
23. East to west cross wall remains of former Warming House.
24. Tudor Mullion window.
25. Remains of buttress.
26. Fissure marking Tudor Mullion window insertion in 13th - 14th century walling.
27. Chimney.
28. Feature in chimney fabric. Top of stack.
29. The stone steps leading to roof area.
30. Fireplace opening.
31. Wall core. Former arch and cross wall.
32. Corbel.
33. Blocked doorway in second floor.
34. Exposed wall core.
35. Fissure.
36. Window in East West Cross wall at southern end.
37. Shallow depressed feature in walling. Possible part of former staircase.
38. Scarring in cross wall. East to west internal area.
39. Exposed wall core. Scarring in side of cross wall from robbed window jambs.
40. Remains of 15th century window in E-W cross wall of former Abbot's House.
41. Blocked in 13th - 14th century window to undercroft/day room.
42. Apparent blocked in 12th - 14th century window to undercroft.
43. Re-used dressed Sutton stone.

44. Base of 13th century buttress.
45. Feature at southern edge of buttress. Has vertical line of ashlar quoin stones. Possibly associated with earlier buttress formation.
46. Doorway opening at ground floor level.
47. Possible remains of doorway (blocked).
48. Projecting stone at base of blocked doorway.
49. Blocked doorway.
50. Former opening in E-W cross wall at ground level which gave access to undercroft.
51. Buttress against south facing south wall.
52. Area of blocking in. Possibly associated with former crenellated walkway at roof level.
53. Window jambs in south wall first floor level in south wall.
54. Remains of 13th century buttress against south wall.
55. Sloping section of wall at first floor level.
56. Chimney stringcourse.
57. Reused moulded Sutton stone in chimney fabric.
58. Small discrete window in N-S cross wall by Abbot's Stairwell.
59. Pair of arched 15th century windows in Abbot's Stairwell.
60. Remains of window jambs in south wall, East end.
61. Battered base of south wall.
62. South facing Tudor mullioned window.
63. Central buttress in south wall.
64. South facing Tudor mullioned window.
65. Fissures in fabric from insertion of Tudor window and former opening.
66. Remains of former doorway opening side jambs at base of wall. Below 64.
67. Remains of former doorway.
68. Stringcourse.
69. Window in Abbot's Stairwell.
70. Blocked in window in Abbot's Stairwell.
71. Spring of former rich for doorway in Abbot's Stairwell.
72. Projecting ledge in east wall within Abbot's Stairwell.
73. Chimney. One of a pair.
74. Former roof line in east wall.
75. Former roof line in east wall.
76. Former roof line in east wall.
77. Former roof line in east wall.
78. Projecting wall from fireplace in west facing internal elevation of east wall.
79. Oolitic limestone blocks for roof support in vice passage in east wall.
80. Scarring from former stone steps within vice passage.
81. Vice passage within east wall.
82. Scarring from former doorway arch in Abbot's Stairwell.
83. Blocked in opening in Abbot's Stairwell.
84. Fissures.
85. Small niche or recess in east wall.
86. Remains of former buttress.
87. Possible position of former 13th century window.
88. Blocked in doorway from Abbot's Stairwell into undercroft.
89. Fissure from former 13th - 14th century opening.
90. Fissure. Possibly associated with 91.
91. Blocked in 13th - 14th century doorway.
92. Tudor window.
93. Relieving arch.
94. Change of fabric.
95. Exposed core work.
96. Battered base of wall.
97. Chimney.
98. Chimney stringcourse.
99. Tudor window.
100. Buttress stringcourse.
101. Buttress.
102. Base of buttress.

103. Fissures from Tudor window insertion.
104. Tudor window.
105. Fissures from window insertion.
106. Corbel.
107. Window.
108. Area of repair.
109. Cross wall (window).
110. Vaulting (string course and Spring).
111. Exposed wall core.
112. Exposed wall core.
113. Area of patched repair. Dark grey mortar (19th - 20th century repair).
114. Dressed doorway into undercroft.
115. Fissure in fabric.
116. Dressed Sutton stone at base of vaulting Spring.
117. Fissures from window insertion.
118. Tudor window.
119. E-W Cross wall.
120. Tudor window.
121. Tudor window.
122. Chimney and stringcourse.
123. Stringcourse.
124. Fissure from former buttress.
125. 12th - 14th century dormitory window in east wall.
126. Buttress.
127. Fissure from Tudor window insertion.
128. Put-log hole filled with moulded Sutton stone.
129. Tudor window.
130. Fissure from rebuilding of north wall and window insertion.
131. Slype passage.
132. Exposed wall core by Slype passage.
133. Exposed wall core at base of wall alongside Slype passage.
134. Barrel vaulting arch of cell below Slype passage.
135. Remains of former spring from former E-W doorway arch.
136. Doorway into Novice Room.
137. Exposed wall core alongside doorway into Novice Room.
138. Fissure.
139. Stringcourse.
140. Re-used moulded Sutton stone.
141. Area of repair and probable area of former vaulting Spring for Parlour Room.
142. Apotropaic mark in North window in east wall at first floor level.
143. Slype arch (barrel vaulting).
144. Projecting ledge in Slype. (Spring of barrel vaulting).
145. Projecting course of stonework above Spring for barrel vaulting in Slype passage.
146. Doorway into Novice Room.
147. Corbel.
148. Corbel.
149. Window jambs in E-W window in north facing elevation of bridge.
150. N-S window in cross wall at north end of bridge.
151. Fissure by N-S window.
152. Doorway remains in E-W internal cross wall of long hall.
153. Rebuilt upper section of walling over bridge.
154. Decorative moulding of vaulting spring.
155. Decorative corbel moulding for supporting pier under bridge.
156. Decorative corbel moulding for supporting pier under bridge.
157. Vaulting Spring at top of pier. Decorative moulding.
158. N-S window in Reredorter.
159. Chimney with stringcourse.
160. False Tudor window at upper floor level in south facing external elevation of bridge.
161. Tudor window.
162. Tudor window.

163. Moulded corbel spring for vaulting below bridge.
164. Moulded corbel spring for vaulting below bridge.
165. Graffiti 'TD 1907' on bridge pier.
166. Moulded corbel spring for vaulting pier.
167. Moulded corbel spring of vaulted roof alongside doorway into undercroft.
168. Tudor window in undercroft N-S cross wall.
169. Late 16th century fireplace in north facing internal elevation of south wall of bridge.
170. Graffiti on bridge supporting pier. Letters 'WG'.
171. Reused moulded Sutton stone in E-W cross wall.
172. Reused moulded Sutton stone in E-W cross wall.
173. Re-used moulded Sutton stone.
174. Remains of E-W lateral cross wall.
175. Graffiti – 'Sd' on bridge support pier.
176. Graffiti – 'E' on bridge support pier.
177. Apotropaic mark - (17th Century Protection marks). Consists of three intersecting lines.
178. Projecting ledge between late 16th century build and 13th century walling.
179. N-S cross wall of Parlour at N end of Slype passage.
180. Former roof line.
181. Scarring from relieving arch from N-S window.
182. Projecting ledge at point of late Tudor extension and original 13th century walling.
183. Re-used moulded Sutton stone.
184. Projecting ledge. Former roof line below chimney pair.
185. Edge of former arch spring for relieving arch above late Tudor window.
186. Fireplace (15th – 16th century).
187. Graffiti – 'C DORE' on east wall internal elevation alongside tall 15th – 16th century window.
188. Graffiti – 'CD' on east wall internal elevation alongside tall 15th – 16th century window.
189. Fissure. Possibly associated with narrow vice passage in east wall at first floor level.
190. Fissures. Possible former opening into Abbot's Stairwell.
191. Former roof line on chimney.
192. Fissures in chimney breast fabric.
193. Late Tudor window jambs (Oriel window) in west wall.
194. Side of former doorway in former E-W cross wall.
195. E-W cross wall (Exposed corework).
196. Slot in walling marking former partition.
197. Blocked in 15th century doorway.
198. Blocked in 13th century dormitory window.
199. Fissures. Possible position of former 13th century dormitory window.
200. Blocked in 13th century dormitory window.
201. Masons mark – (V) – Slanted.
202. Small loop window in Abbot's Stairwell.
203. Base of newel stair in Abbot's Stairwell.
204. E-W window at ground level in Abbot's Stairwell.
205. Doorway in N wall of Abbot's Stairwell.
206. Blocked in window in Abbot's Stairwell.
207. Remains of stringcourse.
208. Remains of Stringcourse.
209. Recessed stone. Probable former corbel.
210. Projecting ledge in west wall.

Drainage Trench Excavation

Context (Feature) No.

100. Deposit - Turf
101. Deposit - Top soil
102. Deposit - Stone spread. Stones of irregular size, ranging from 0.02m – 0.15m. Dateable material included predominantly fragments of 17th, 18th and 19th century pottery and glass. Also recovered were three fragments of 14th century slip-on-impression floor tiles.

103. Deposit - Mortar spread consisting of cream coloured mortar of sand/grit and flecks of lime.
104. Deposit – Dark soil. Re-deposited material. Earth intermixed with soot, ash, coal, flecks of lime. Dateable material included fragments of 17th – 18th century pottery and glass.
105. Feature – Remains of dry-stone built structure at far East end of trench. Appears to be former low dry stone wall, possibly a recent enclosure wall to help retain re deposited material in the 20th century.
106. Feature – Remains of dry-stone built structure at far East end of trench. Appears to be former low dry stone wall, possibly a recent enclosure wall to help retain re-deposited material in the 20th century.
107. Deposit – Large stones at bottom of trench toward base of central buttress. Probably part of re-deposited material.
108. Deposit - Historic deposit partly reached at 450-500mm. Area of dark beige deposit.

APPENDIX IV:
Finds Register

**The Tudor Mansion,
Neath Abbey.**

APPENDIX IV

Finds Register

Drainage Trench Excavation

- Pottery -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight
102	Pottery fragments (body sherds)	5	Glazed white ware (china)	19 th Century	28gm
102	Cistercian floor tile	3	Slip-on-impression Medieval floor tile	14 th century	247gm
104	Pottery fragment (rim and body sherds)	8	Green Glaze Dyfed Gravel Tempered Ware	Late 17 th – Early 18 th century	176gm
104	Pottery fragment (rim and body sherds)	12	Slipware	17 th – Early 18 th century	200gm

- Glass -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight
104	Onion bottle Base, body and neck piece	4	Glass	Late 17 th Century	886gm

- Other Ceramics -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight
104	Clay pipe stems	9	White clay pipe stems	19 th Century	33gm
104	Roof ridge tile fragments	4	Partly glazed roof ridge tile, Grey/green glaze	14 th – 15 th century	455gm

- Other Finds -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight
104	Complete section of king mullion of Sutton stone from Tudor window. Has a sunken chamfered spine.	1	Sutton stone	Late 16 th Century	-

APPENDIX V:
Archive Cover Sheet

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

The Tudor Mansion,
Neath Abbey, Neath, Swansea, Glamorgan

ARCHIVE DESTINATION - Cadw

Site Name:	The Tudor Mansion, Neath Abbey, Glamorgan.
Site Code:	NATM/2017/SBR&WB
PRN:	00585w
NPRN:	133
SAM:	GM006
Other Ref No.	HRSW Rpt No. 188
NGR:	SS 738 974
Site Type:	Cistercian Monastery and Tudor Mansion.
Project Type:	Building Investigation & Recording and Watching Brief.
Project Manager:	Richard Scott Jones
Project Date(s):	March - July 2017 (Phase 1).
Categories Present:	None
Location of Original Archive:	Cadw
Location of Duplicate Archive:	RCAHMW
Number of Find Boxes:	1
Location of Finds:	Neath Abbey
Museum Ref:	N/A
Copyright:	HRS Wales
Restrictions to Access:	None



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