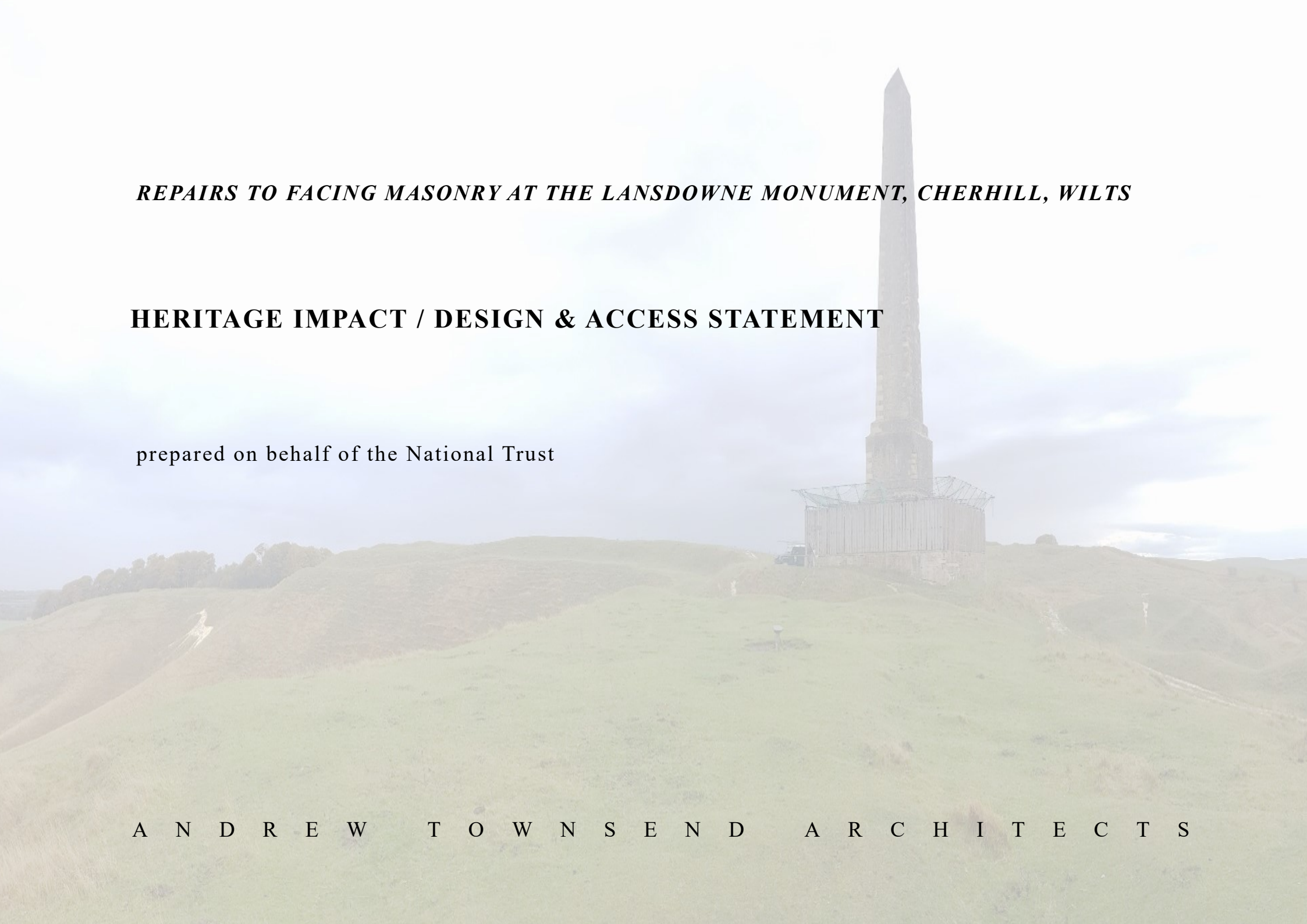




REPAIRS TO FACING MASONRY AT THE LANSDOWNE MONUMENT, CHERHILL, WILTS

HERITAGE IMPACT / DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT

prepared on behalf of the National Trust

A N D R E W T O W N S E N D A R C H I T E C T S

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Job no 1374/A

December 2025

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A N D R E W T O W N S E N D A R C H I T E C T S

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document has been prepared on behalf of the National Trust following the instructions of Senior Building Surveyor for the South West Region, Neil Johnson, in support of an application for planning permission and listed building consent for conservative repair to stonework of the Lansdowne Monument.

This application follows on from the existing consents (ref PL/2025/01471 and PL/2025/01209) granted on 2nd May 2025 for extension of the period by 3 years of protection to the general public as well as livestock from stone fragments falling from the monument afforded by temporary security hoarding and safety netting. The current application has been prepared in light of condition 3 of both these consents that:

Within 1 year of the decision, an application pursuant to listed building consent for the conservative repair of the monument, which shall include a scheme of works to be approved by the Local Planning Authority, will have been submitted to the LPA.

This current application is for the full conservative repair of the monument stonework to enable the existing hoarding to be removed and for the restoration of safe access for the public to the foot of the monument.

- 1.2 The Lansdowne Monument was taken on by the National Trust in 1988 as part of the purchase of a portion of Oldbury Castle Iron Age hillfort to complete their ownership of the hillfort site adding to a portion acquired in 1979. At the time of the construction of the monument in 1845, Oldbury Castle was owned by the 3rd Marquess of Lansdowne, located near the eastern boundary of his Bowood Estate. The site was sold by the Estate Company, as part of ‘East Farm’, to G R Maundrell in 1955, although the estate reserved a right of access to the monument for its maintenance and repair. The National Trust purchased 47 acres of land – including the monument – in 1988 from Bonar Sykes of East Farm, Calstone.
- 1.3 This statement has been prepared by Andrew Townsend Architects (ATA), historic building consultants. ATA has extensive experience of working with significant historic buildings – including many grade I and II* listed structures – and our clients include Historic England, the Society for the Protection of Ancient

Buildings, and the Churches Conservation Trust. ATA has been assisted in the preparation of this Heritage Impact / Design and Access Statement by buildings historian, Jane Root (see Appendix C) whose work forms the basis of section 4.0 below.

- 1.4 Lansdowne Monument is a 38m high stone obelisk situated on the summit of Calstone Down at the western corner of the iron-age Oldbury Castle hillfort. Although the hillfort is a scheduled ancient monument, the Lansdowne Monument is specifically excluded from the scheduling but benefits otherwise from statutory protection by virtue of being listed grade II*.

The site is located approximately 2.5 km west of the boundary of the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site and forms part of its setting, the Lansdowne Monument being a prominent landmark visible for miles around including from the A4 London to Bath road, which runs east-west approximately 1 km to the north of the monument. A short distance to the east of the site lies the Cherhill White Horse, a chalk hill figure thought to have been created in the 18th century. Calstone and Cherhill Downs is a biological Site of Special Scientific Interest, providing one of the best examples of unimproved downland in Wiltshire. The site also

forms part of the North Wessex Downs *Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty*.

- 1.5 The Lansdowne Monument was first listed in July 1986, entry number 1253569. The listing description is as follows:

*SU 06 NW CALNE WITHOUT CHERHILL DOWN
6/39 The Lansdowne Monument
II**

Obelisk, 1845 by Sir Charles Barry for 3rd Marquess of Lansdowne in memory of Sir William Petty (1623-87), statistician and economist, ancestor of the Petty-Fitzmaurice family. Rubble stone with ashlar dressings, monumental scale. Three high steps, mostly collapsed, plinth, pedestal and main shaft with moulded base splayed in from pedestal. 125' over-all, erected at a cost of £1,359. No inscription. A landmark for miles around.

Listing NGR: SU0477469309

- 1.6 With the support of grant aid from Historic England, the Trust commissioned ATA and other consultants in 2022 to undertake a feasibility study/options appraisal *to assess the Monument's current condition, make an appraisal of its significance based on research available and to consider a range of options for future action to address current problems and subsequently guide maintenance/management of the monument in the future.*

Of a range of options set out and costed in ATA's March 2023 report, the National Trust instructed ATA at the end of 2023 to develop proposals for repairs to the facing masonry of the obelisk (and stepped plinth) utilising rope access methods.

- 1.7 During 2024-25, the following tasks were undertaken:

- Detailed survey of the condition of the monument by rope access contractor
- Scheduling/measurement of areas of stone replacement
- Obtaining samples of stone types and mortars used in the construction and subsequent repair of the monument

- Geological analysis of samples of existing stone used in the original construction and subsequent repairs with corresponding documentary research to identify likely quarry sources for stones.
- Chemical analysis of mortar samples taken from the monument
- Research into available/suitable replacement stones (including quarry visits)
- Design of range of trials for replacement mortar
- Further documentary research aiding a deeper understanding of the history/development of the monument
- Design of alterations to existing scaffolding hoarding/netting structure to facilitate trials and, in due course, remedial conservation works
- Installation of a number of trial replacement stones for quoins at the corner of the main shaft; including design, fabrication and installation of lifting rig to aid with fixing

of stones weighing up to 200kg and using rope-access techniques

- Installation of a number of trial samples of replacement mortar pointing using a range of aggregates and lime-based binders
- Installation of sample tile repair to partially-decayed quoin stone
- Liaison with interested parties – local community (via Cherhill Parish Council), Wiltshire Council (building conservation), Historic England

1.8 As well as testing the durability – at least in the short term – of a range of mortar mixes and stone types on the monument itself, the trials were also intended to demonstrate the feasibility of using rope access methods as opposed to conventional access scaffolding to carry out the repair work required to make the structure safe. Although this was demonstrated logistically, some doubt was cast on the financial benefit of using rope-access techniques as against the works being carried out from a conventional access scaffold. The latter would also provide less

challenging working conditions and consequently higher standards of quality control.

Balanced against this, from the experience of work to the monument in 1990 and elsewhere, it is anticipated that transporting access scaffold equipment to and from the monument may be logistically extremely challenging as well as potentially more damaging to the flora/fauna and archaeological significance of the SSSI and SAM surrounding the monument.

The performance of trial stone types and mortar mixes will be monitored over the period to early 2026 and will inform final selection/specification of materials/methods for a phase of full repair work with the aim of commencing in Spring 2026.

In the meantime, falls of masonry continue to occur and protection, in the form of existing hoarding/netting, will be maintained until the monument has been made safe.

2.0 CONSULTATION

2.1 Informal consultation has taken place as follows:

- Between ATA and Wiltshire Council's Senior Conservation officer, Guy Bentham-Hill, during 2024/25 on the progress of the project with ATA forwarding information on proposed trial repair works and the draft specifications for the proposed works.
- Between NT/ATA and Historic England during the preparation of the options appraisal and development of proposals for remedial works
- NT/ATA presentation to local community/Cherhill Parish Council in May 2024
- Site meeting in September 2025 attended by representatives of Historic England (Sasha Chapman, Mel Barge, Nick Croxson), Wiltshire Council (Guy Bentham-Hill), NT (Neil Johnson) and ATA.

It was agreed at the latter meeting that no formal pre-application is required due to the relatively straightforward nature of the proposals.

Copies of relevant email correspondence relating to the above are included in Appendix D.

3.0 PLANNING HISTORY

3.1 Information on the planning history of the Lansdown Monument taken from the LPA website is as follows:

1. Application reference 19/01028/FUL
To obtain permission for existing palisade and net umbrella at the base of the Lansdowne Monument to protect the public from falling stonework and to prevent access to the base of the monument on a temporary basis for 5 years
Decision: planning permission granted with conditions
Date: 2.4.2020

2. Application reference 19/01068/LBC
To obtain permission for existing palisade and net umbrella at the base of the Lansdowne Monument to protect the public from falling stonework and to prevent access to the base of the monument on a temporary basis for 5 years
Decision: listed building consent granted with conditions
Date: 2.4.2020

3. Application reference PL/2025/01209
Renewal of temporary permission for security hoarding and safety netting for 3 years
Decision: planning permission granted with conditions
Date: 2.5.2025

4. Application reference PL/2025/01471
Renewal of temporary permission for security hoarding and safety netting for 3 years
Decision: listed building consent granted with conditions
Date: 2.2.2025

- 3.2 Applications 1 and 2 summarised above were retrospective, submitted to regularise erection/alteration of protective equipment

in several stages, progressively more robust, during the period 2009-13.

- 3.3 There are no earlier applications on the Wilshire Council planning portal.

4.0 SUMMARY OF HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE

- 4.1 The Lansdowne Monument is sited at the west end of Oldbury Camp hillfort, also known as Oldbury Castle (NHLE UID 1018611). According to the scheduling description, *this multivallate Iron Age...hillfort, bowl barrow and the cross dyke to the west survive well as important components of the prehistoric landscape in the Avebury area. Partial excavation of the hillfort has shown that it contains archaeological and environmental evidence in relation to its construction, the economy of its inhabitants and the landscape in which they lived.*

- 4.2 The Monument was designed by Sir Charles Barry for the 3rd Marquess of Lansdowne with work commencing in May 1845 after an earlier false start.

- 4.3 Barry was an eminent Victorian architect whose masterpiece was the neo-Gothic Palace of Westminster/Houses of Parliament. The 3rd Marquess of Lansdowne met Barry in Rome c 1820 and sat on the Royal Commission appointed in 1841 to guide the selection of art works for the new Palace of Westminster. Barry was also employed by the Marquess to design other buildings on his Bowood estate including the Golden Gates, the main entrance to the park at Derry Hill.
- 4.4 The monument was built by brothers, Daniel and Charles Jones of Bradford on Avon who had an impressive portfolio of clients and commissions during the mid-19th century period. As well as working at Bowood (including building the Golden Gates/Lodge in 1841), they were employed at the Pembroke Estates of Wilton, The Beaufort Badminton estates, at Longleat, and at Tottenham Park as well as constructing/restoring many parish churches and civic buildings in Wiltshire and beyond, working both with prominent architects and providing design services themselves. Examples of their masonry work/skills were exhibited nationally and they had quarrying interests in and around Bradford on Avon.
- 4.5 According to Barry's specification (and supported by recent geological/petrographical analysis), the monument was built with

a facing of 'rough Hall stone from Bradford' with quoins and other architectural dressings formed of 'Bath Stone from the Box or Lodge Stile Quarries'. The internal body of the walls was built using 'Calne Stone' and paving to the stepped base was formed with 'Chippenham flags'. Lime for mortar was dug from a pit nearby and burnt on site.

- 4.6 Evidence suggests the intention of the 3rd Marquess was to dedicate the monument to the memory of his ancestor, Sir William Petty, who in the mid-17th century had amassed a fortune allowing for the purchase of the Bowood estate. This intention was never carried through in the form of an inscription and since its construction the site has been known either as the *Lansdowne Monument* or the *Cherhill Monument*.
- 4.7 By 1908, the condition of the monument had become a concern and repairs appear to have been carried out not long after (anecdotally, in 1915); high level areas (the top one-third of the main shaft) of the monument appear to have been partially re-faced at this time and a series of horizontal iron straps were introduced just above the middle of the (bulging) obelisk; various reports commissioned during the 20th century generally described the monument as in a perilous condition and schemes for repairs

or in one case complete dismantling/re-building were put forward but never acted upon.

- 4.8 Shortly after purchase of the site by the National Trust in 1988, major repair works commenced, part funded by a grant from English Heritage. These works were undertaken by contractors, St Blaise Ltd, and overseen by civil engineer, Rex Browne of T Ward Whitfield and Son, and are understood to have included: re-setting of extensive areas of the facing stone to the needle; full re-pointing; replacement of approximately 25% of the quoins and other dressings (moulded plinth stones, etc) with new stone; pinning/re-fixing of detached/delaminating faces of the existing stones; stabilisation of the structure using low-pressure grouting of voids and insertion of horizontal tie-bars within the stonework, replacing the iron straps on the face which were removed; re-building the stepped plinth terracing.

5.0 PROPOSALS / JUSTIFICATION

- 5.1 Following concern about the monument in the mid-1990s, a report was commissioned from building surveyor, Richard Glover, in 1996 which noted *surprisingly poor condition* [of stonework]

given the extent of the restoration work carried out so recently.

Large fragments of masonry were found to be spalling and falling from the monument with extensive failure of pointing, open joints and fractured stones.

- 5.2 Further inspections, including using rope access, were carried out between the mid-1990s and 2018 with reports produced on these. Structural engineers, Mann Williams, were appointed by the National Trust in 2009 and following their advice temporary ‘Heras’ security fencing was installed as a protective measure to be replaced by progressively more robust scaffolding, timber hoarding and catch netting, during the period up to 2013. Since that time, the hoarding/netting has been maintained by the Trust with repairs to damaged boarding required from time-to-time.
- 5.3 As part of the appraisal exercise carried out by ATA in 2022, a detailed survey of the condition of the monument was carried out from ground level. This was supplemented by a rope access survey by Vitruvius Conservation in Spring 2024 which generally supported/verified the findings of ATA’s condition report, summarised as follows:

- Quoins and other dressed stonework, first identified in the 1996 Glover report as starting to fail, have continued to decay progressively becoming severe in places; almost all the affected stones are those replaced as part of the 1990 campaign of repair; the worst decay occurs to the lower third of the shaft on the weather-facing south-west elevation and is thus thought to be due to the excessive wetting on this face followed by periods of frost during the winter causing the stone to fracture and ‘blow’
- Pointing mortar, replaced to all areas of masonry in 1990, has largely failed leaving deep open joints, most severe on the south-west face; in due course, this will lead to structural instability with individual stones working loose and falling
- Areas of plain facing squared rubblework are generally in satisfactory condition; this applies to original facing material as well as stonework replaced in c 1915 and in 1990
- Structural movement has occurred in the monument since its construction, particular evident in areas where the

facing masonry has bulged; the outward movement of the central section of the needle – which led to the fitting of iron bands in c 1915 and the subsequent installation of horizontal stainless steel within the masonry by St Blaise – appears to have been stabilised in 1990.

- 5.4 As noted in 1.7 above, project development including various preliminary trials, has been undertaken by the Trust with a view to commencing works on site in 2026. Monitoring of the success (or otherwise) of trial stone replacement and re-pointing has taken place at intervals during 2025. The current application for statutory consents for the works includes a design/specification for the full remedial works, to be further reviewed/refined in early 2026 in light of the results of the trials.
- 5.5 The following sets out a scope of works broken down element-by-element with an assessment of the effects of the proposals on the significance of the building fabric and, where appropriate, setting out measures to be taken to mitigate these effects:

<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Effect on significance</i>	<i>Justification/mitigation</i>
5.5.1 Replacement of whole quoins and Sections of moulded horizontal coursing with new limestone	Minimal; all stones being replaced date from 1990 phase of repairs	Removal of frost-damaged stone is required to prevent a) further falls of stone fragments endangering life and limb and b) structural instability of the monument; all replacement limestone is geologically/petrographically similar to the stone used in the original construction of 1845
5.5.2 Re-pointing of all areas of stonework	Minimal; all areas were re-pointed in 1990	Prevention of water ingress and thus structural instability and further damage from frost action; recipe for new mortar to be based on current trials using lime/aggregate mix
5.5.3 Tile repairs to partially-decayed quoins, walling rubble and moulded horizontal courses	Minimal	Repair technique retains maximum amount of (sound) existing materials; hand-made buff-coloured Gault tiles to be used to blend in with colour of existing cream limestone; tile repairs used in 1990 on stepped plinth masonry
5.5.4 Re-building unstable facing stone to stepped plinth re-using existing stone supplemented with new matching stones/tile repairs	No effect on significance	Areas of unstable facing stone are limited to masonry re-built in 1990; re-building using existing material supplemented with stonework to match

6.0 ACCESS

- 6.1 Access to the external area of the monument will be improved as a consequence of the current proposal. With the completion of the remedial works, access to the stepped plinth will be re-established and visual amenity in terms of views of the monument will be enhanced.

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 It is understood the proposal is a development which falls below the threshold for Biodiversity Net Gain to apply as defined in government guidance
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversitynet-gain>
The monument is already in place and therefore the proposed works will not impact on the surrounding grassland habitat.

8.0 ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 An inspection of the structure, including internal voids, was carried out by Greena Ecological Consultancy in October 2025.

See Greena's report in Appendix E which confirms that no protected species will be affected by the proposed works.

9.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 The proposed works are likely to have minimal impact on the archaeological significance of the site. Temporary works, including the provision of a site compound and temporary trackway across the hillfort, will form the basis of a separate application for scheduled monument consent.

10.0 CONCLUSION

- 10.1 The National Trust is committed to carrying out remedial conservation work to the Lansdowne Monument, following assessment of the results of trial works.

APPENDIX A

Photographs



Figure 1 Distant view of the monument from the north east

Figure 2 View of the north-west elevation with section of timber hoarding removed for inspection purposes in 2023

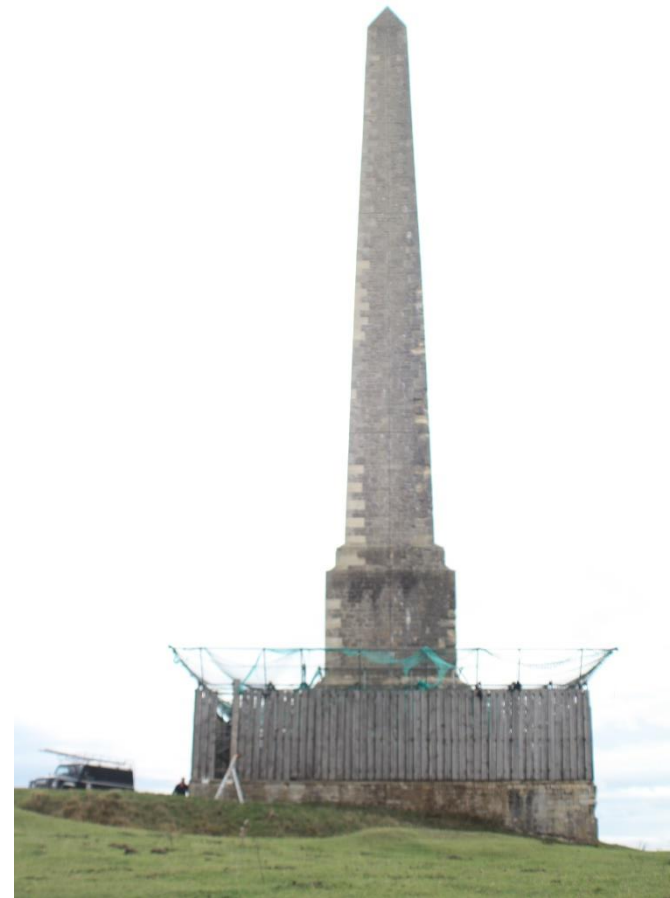




Figure 3 View from the south east



Figure 4 View of temporary scaffold structure from within the timber hoarding



Figure 5 Detail of the damage to masonry on the south-west face of the main shaft of the monument



Figure 6 View of monument in the mid-20th century with iron bands around the main shaft



Figure 7 Installation of new trial quoin stones to the west corner of the monument using purpose-made working platform (2024)

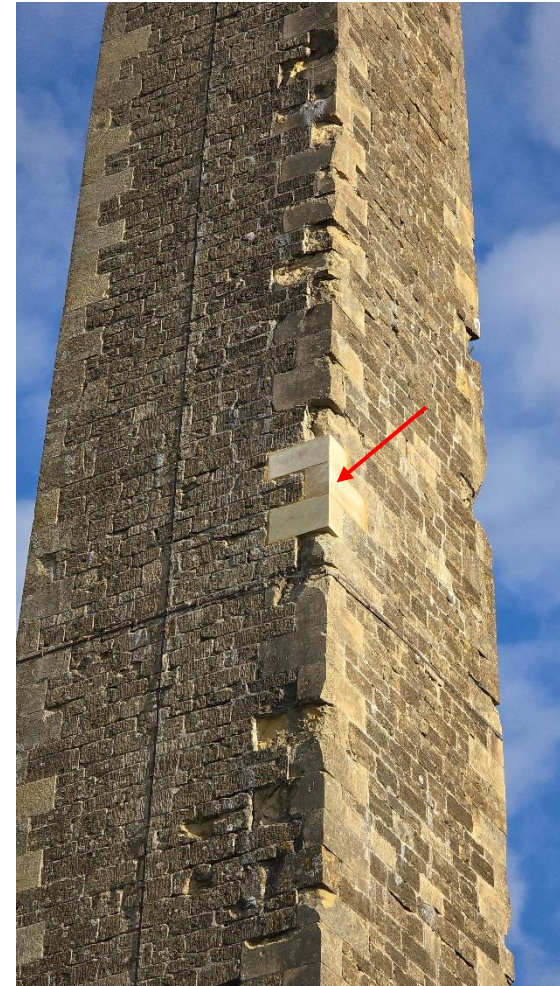


Figure 8 New trial quoin stones in place (2024)



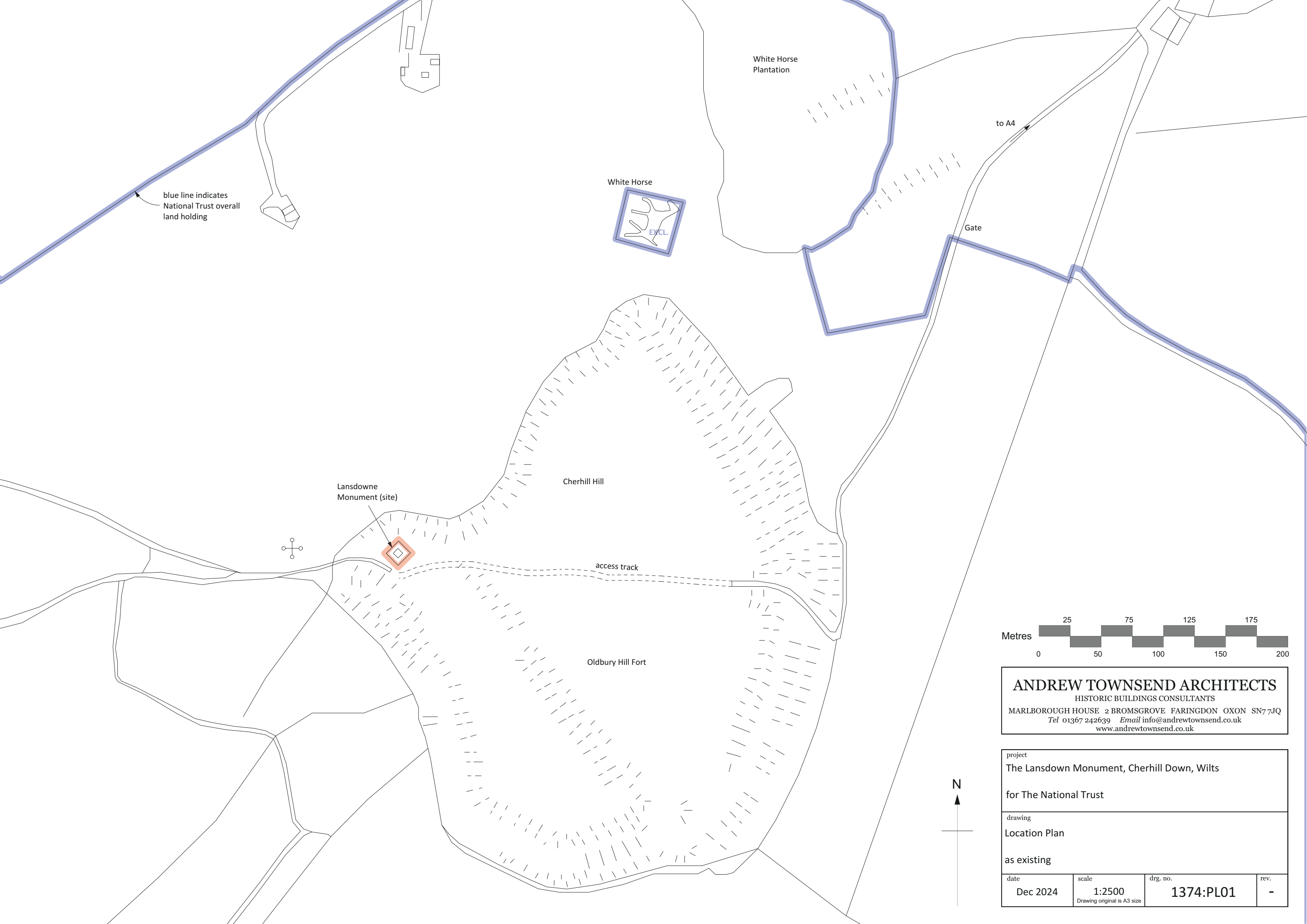
Figure 9 Re-pointing trials to south-west face of the main shaft (with temporary protective sheeting rolled up at the head)



Figure 10 Sample tile repair to a partially-decayed quoin at the south corner of the main shaft

APPENDIX B

ATA Drawings



blue line indicates
National Trust overall
land holding

White Horse

White Horse
Plantation

to A4

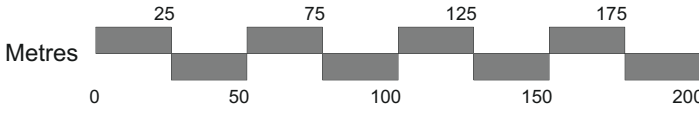
Gate

Lansdowne
Monument (site)

Cherhill Hill

access track

Oldbury Hill Fort



ANDREW TOWNSEND ARCHITECTS

HISTORIC BUILDINGS CONSULTANTS

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE 2 BROMSGROVE FARINGDON OXON SN7 7JQ
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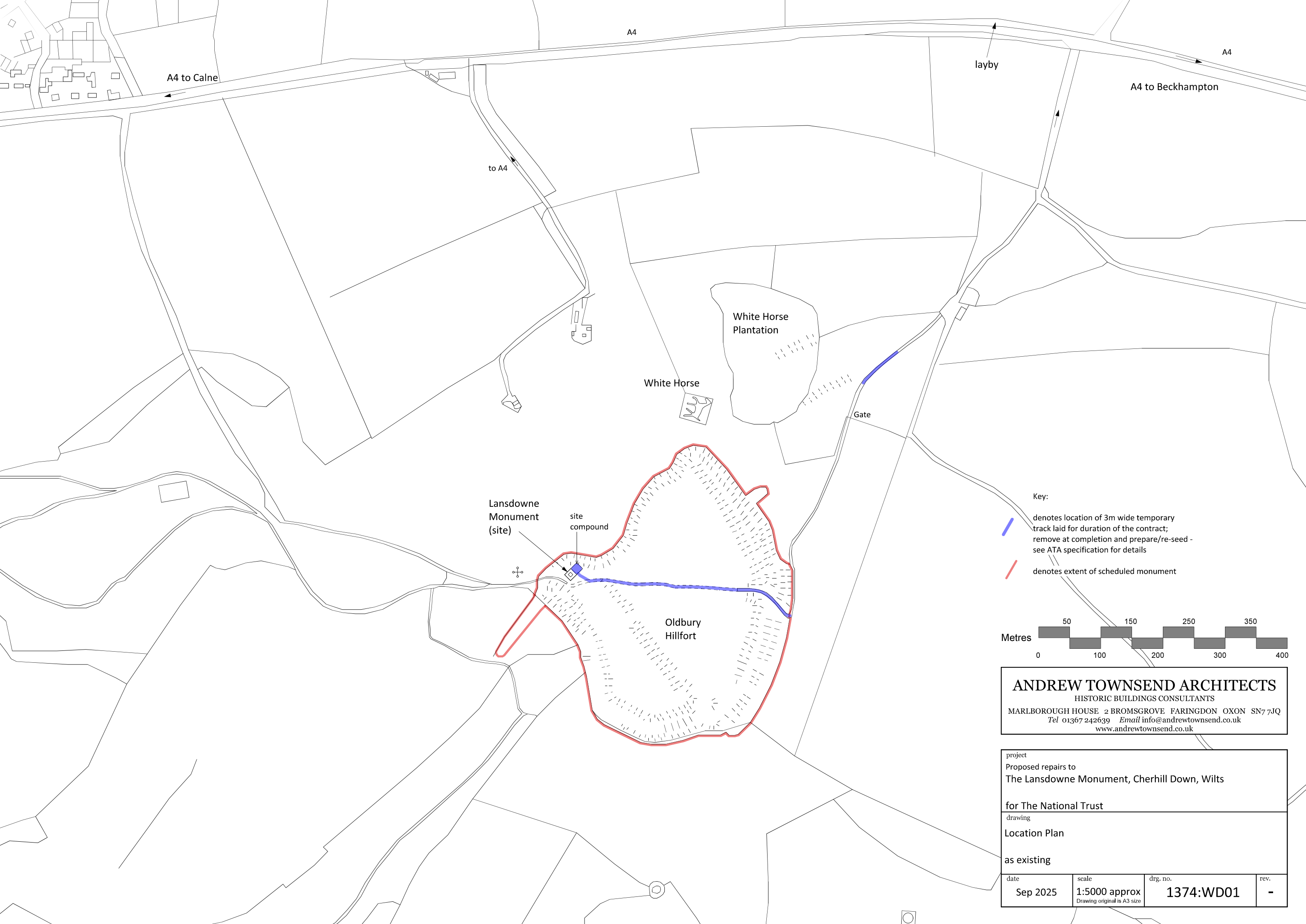
project
The Lansdown Monument, Cherhill Down, Wilts

for The National Trust

drawing
Location Plan

as existing

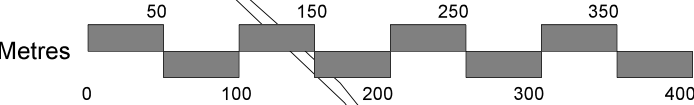
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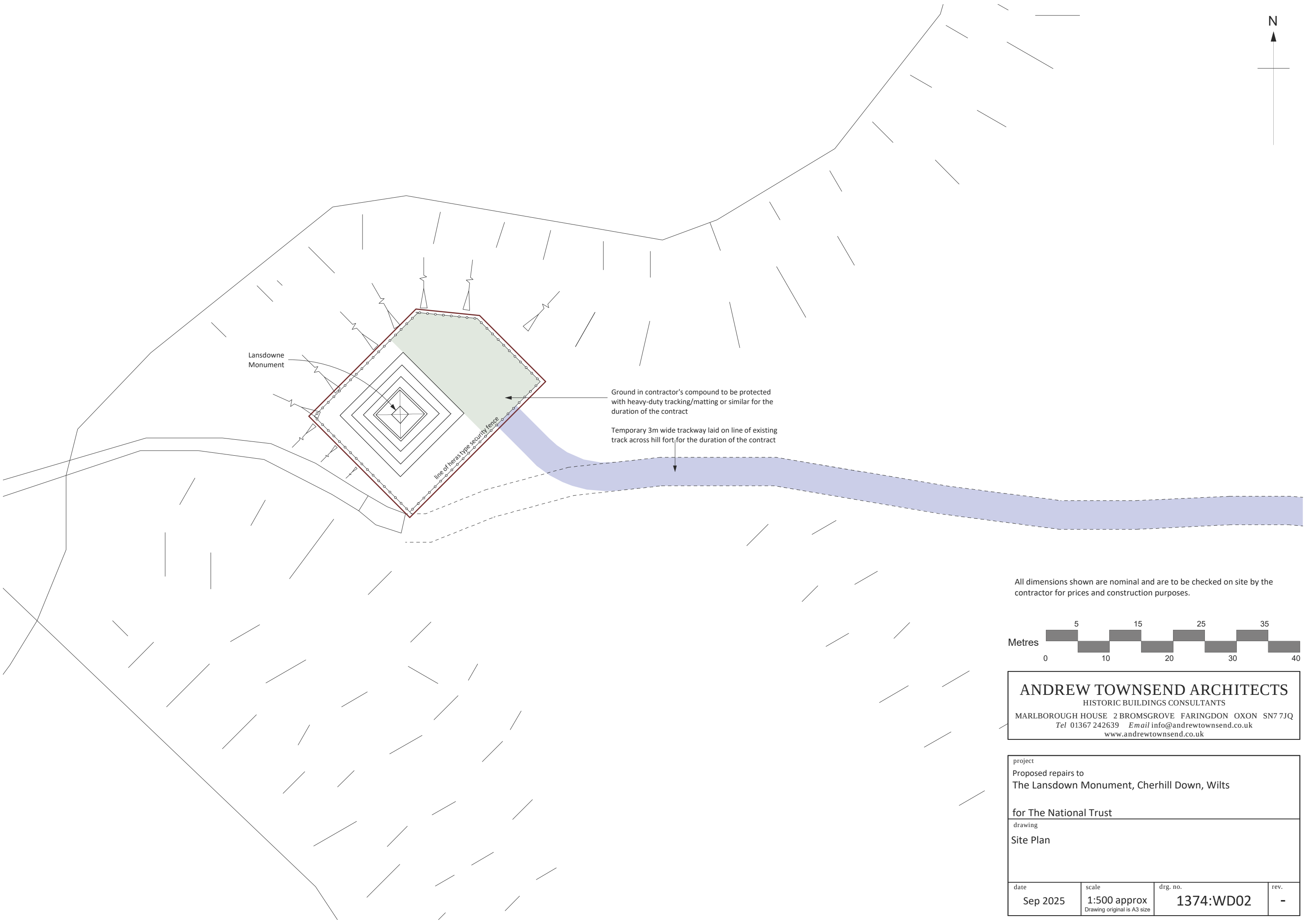
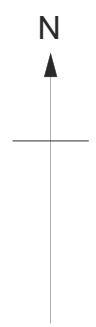
 denotes location of 3m wide temporary track laid for duration of the contract; remove at completion and prepare/re-seed - see ATA specification for details

 denotes extent of scheduled monument



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project Proposed repairs to The Lansdowne Monument, Cherhill Down, Wilts			
for The National Trust			
drawing Location Plan			
as existing			
date Sep 2025	scale 1:5000 approx Drawing original is A3 size	drg. no. 1374:WD01	rev. -



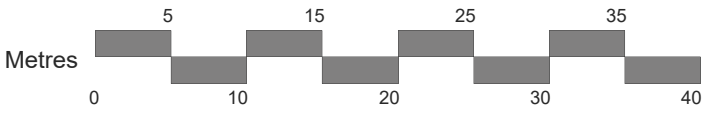
Lansdowne Monument

line of heras type security fence

Ground in contractor's compound to be protected with heavy-duty tracking/matting or similar for the duration of the contract

Temporary 3m wide trackway laid on line of existing track across hill fort for the duration of the contract

All dimensions shown are nominal and are to be checked on site by the contractor for prices and construction purposes.



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project Proposed repairs to The Lansdown Monument, Cherhill Down, Wilts			
for The National Trust			
drawing Site Plan			
date Sep 2025	scale 1:500 approx Drawing original is A3 size	drg. no. 1374:WD02	rev. -

ANDREW TOWNSEND ARCHITECTS

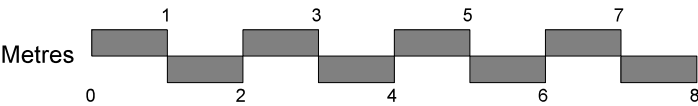
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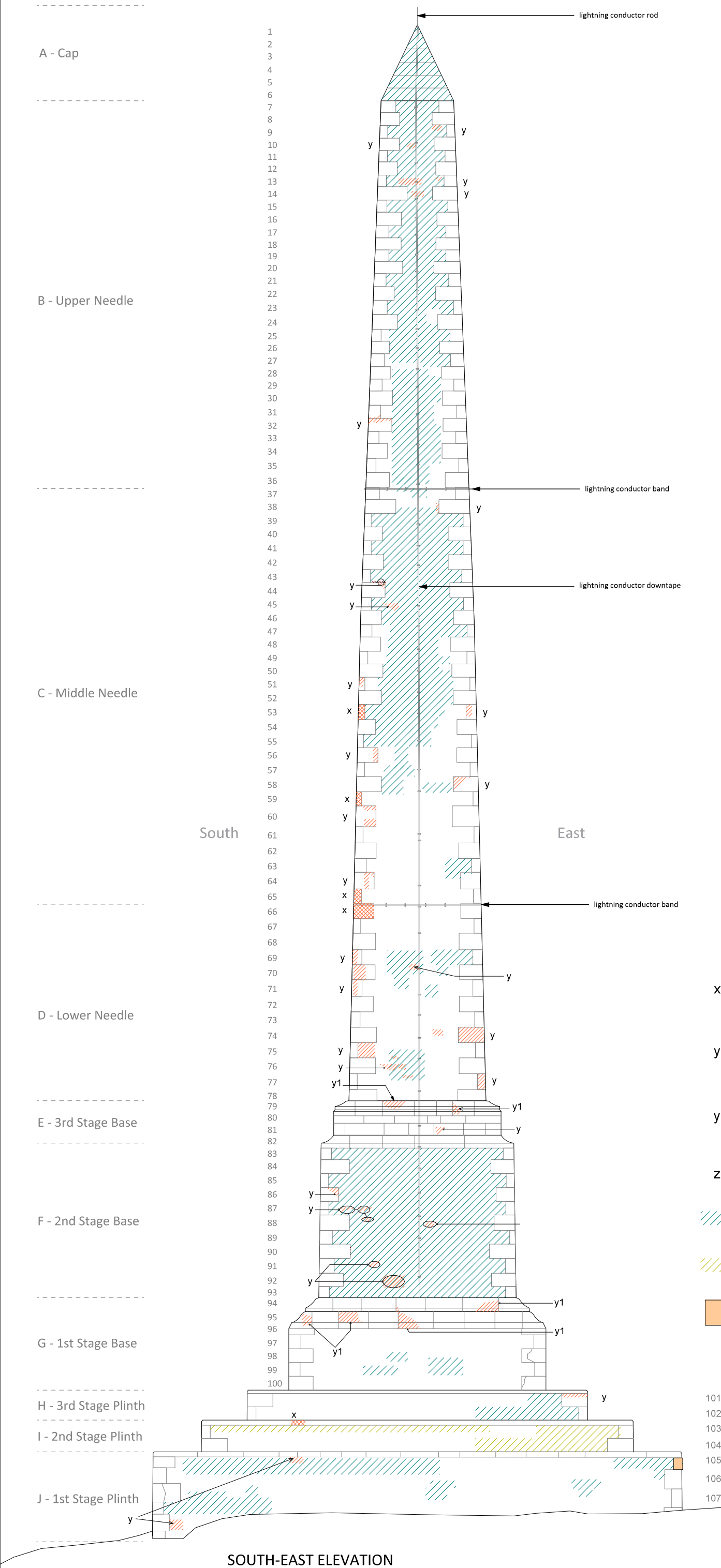
Tel 01367 242639 Email info@andrewtownsend.co.uk

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project			
Proposed repairs to The Lansdowne Monument, Cherhill Down, Wilts			
for The National Trust			
drawing			
Elevations			
as proposed			
date	scale	drg. no.	rev.
Sep 2025	1:100 Drawing original is A3 size	1374:WD03	-



All dimensions shown are nominal and are to be checked on site by the contractor for prices and construction purposes.



Key

- x replace dressed stone ashlar quoins/mouldings
- y repair to partially-decayed stone using gault clay tiles laid horizontally in lime-based mortar
- y1 repair to partially-decayed stone using gault clay tile laid vertically (on edge)
- z replaced stone quoin (2024)
- rake out and re-point facing masonry
- take down and re-build facing masonry
- re-set existing stone



ANDREW TOWNSEND ARCHITECTS

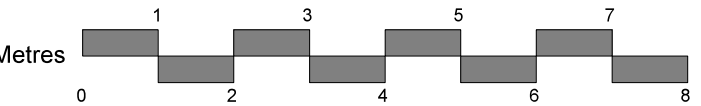
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project			
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Elevations			
as proposed			
date	scale	drg. no.	rev.
Sep 2025	1:100 Drawing original is A3 size	1374:WD04	-



All dimensions shown are nominal and are to be checked on site by the contractor for prices and construction purposes.

Key

- x replace dressed stone ashlar quoins/mouldings
- y repair to partially-decayed stone using gault clay tiles laid horizontally in lime-based mortar
- y1 repair to partially-decayed stone using gault clay tile laid vertically (on edge)
- z replaced stone quoin (2024)
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ANDREW TOWNSEND ARCHITECTS

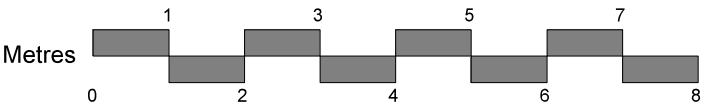
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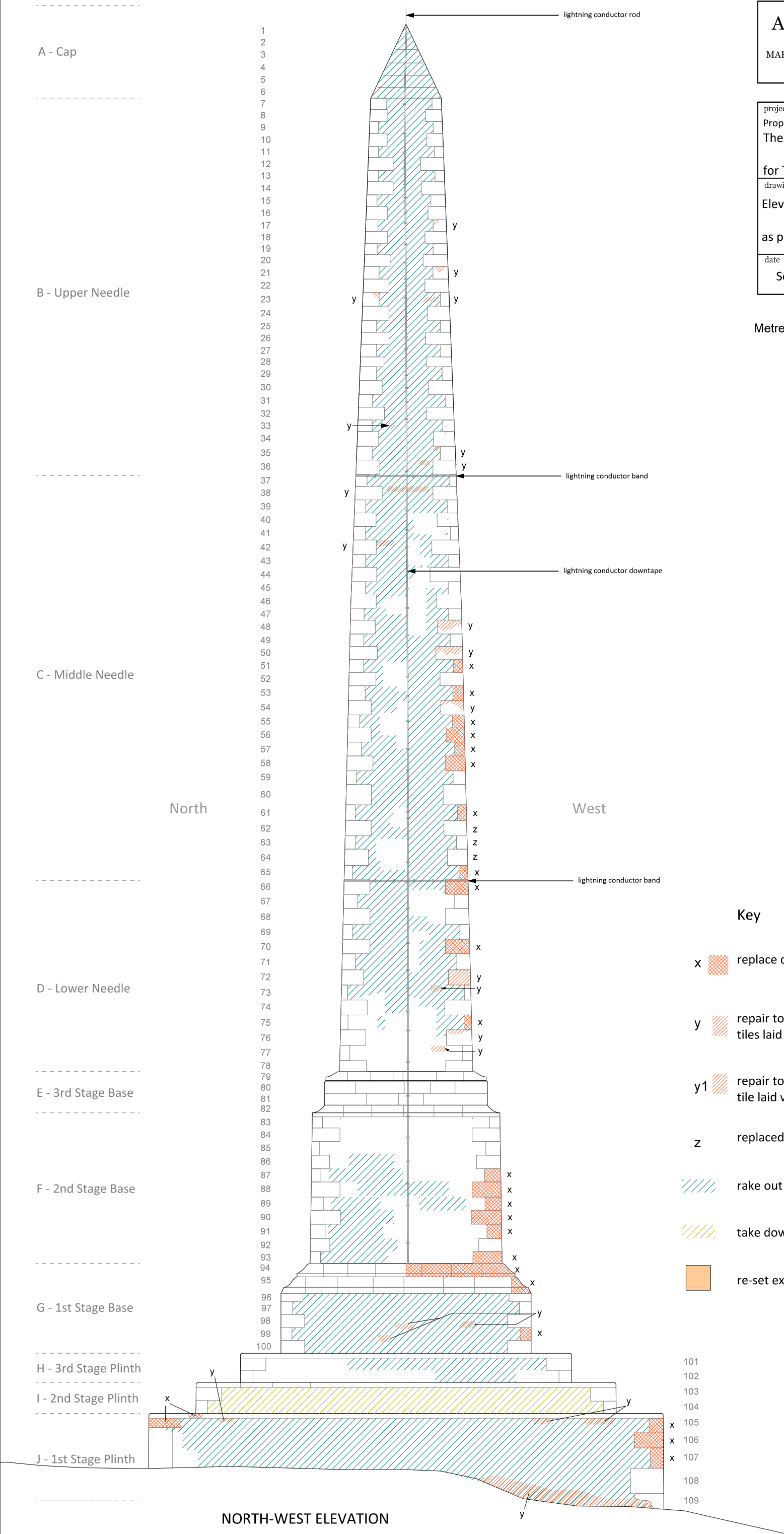
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drawing			
Elevations			
as proposed			
date	scale	drg. no.	rev.
Sep 2025	1:100 Drawing original is A3 size	1374:WD05	-



All dimensions shown are nominal and are to be checked on site by the contractor for prices and construction purposes.



Key

x replace dressed stone ashlar quoins/mouldings

y repair to partially-decayed stone using gault clay tiles laid horizontally in lime-based mortar

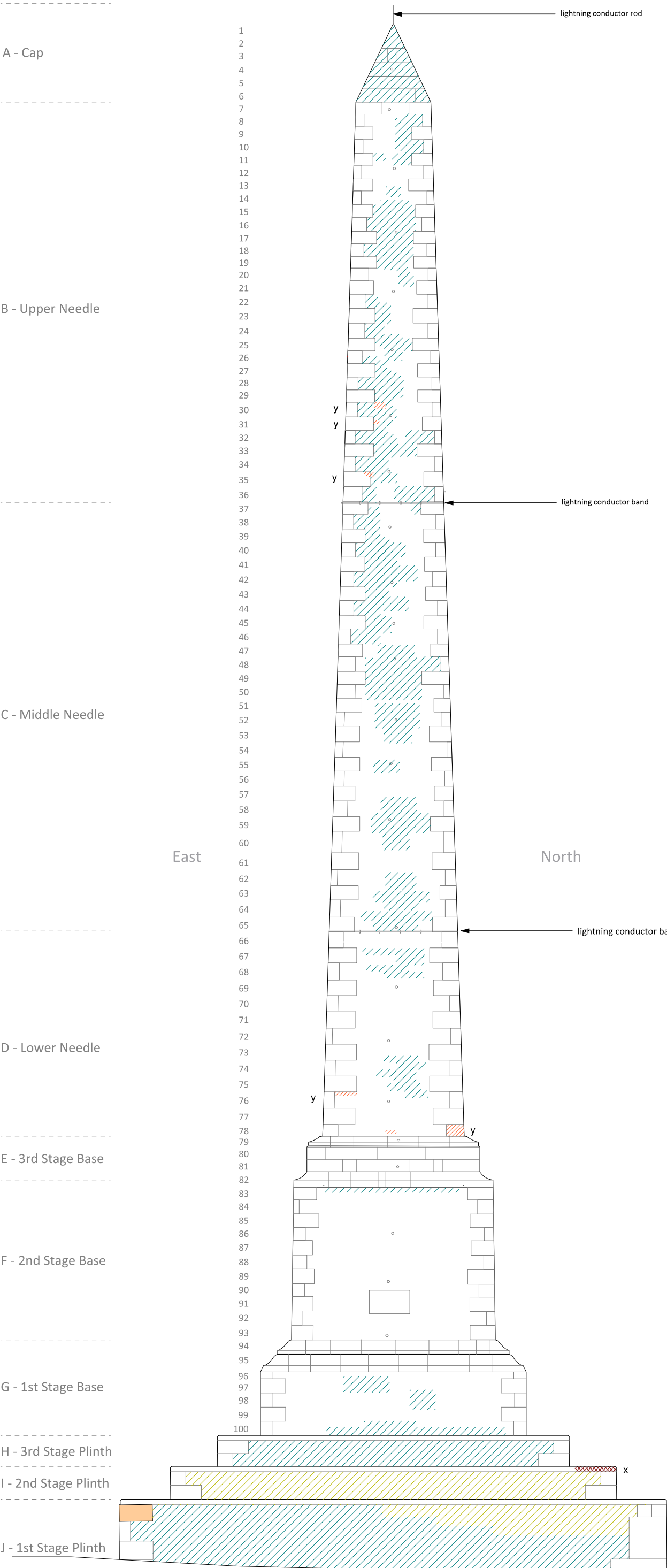
y1 repair to partially-decayed stone using gault clay tile laid vertically (on edge)

z replaced stone quoin (2024)

rake out and re-point facing masonry

take down and re-build facing masonry

re-set existing stone



ANDREW TOWNSEND ARCHITECTS

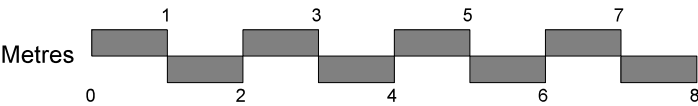
HISTORIC BUILDINGS CONSULTANTS

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE 2 BROMSGROVE FARINGDON OXON SN7 7JQ

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project			
Proposed repairs to			
The Lansdowne Monument, Cherhill Down, Wilts			
for The National Trust			
drawing			
Elevations			
as proposed			
date	scale	drg. no.	rev.
Sep 2025	1:100 Drawing original is A3 size	1374: WD06	-

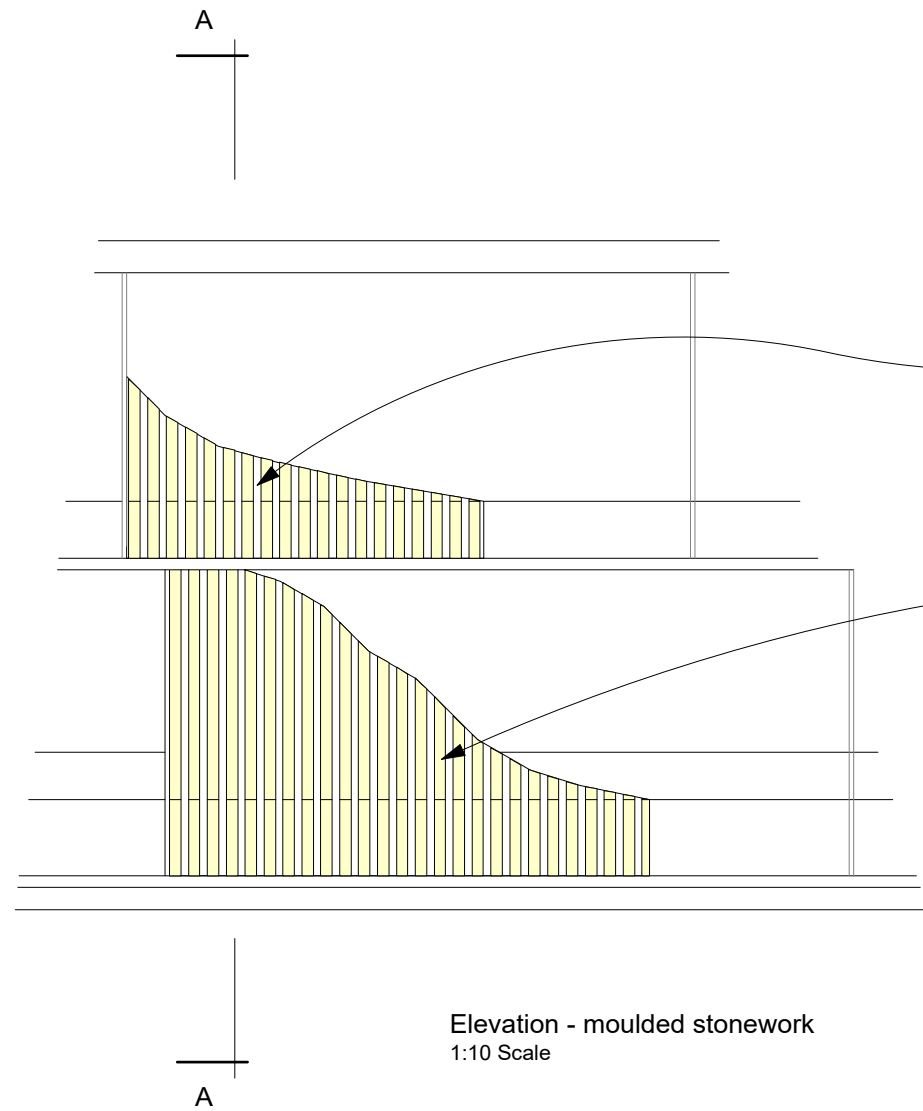


All dimensions shown are nominal and are to be checked on site by the contractor for prices and construction purposes.

Key

- x replace dressed stone ashlar quoins/mouldings
- y repair to partially-decayed stone using gault clay tiles laid horizontally in lime-based mortar
- y1 repair to partially-decayed stone using gault clay tile laid vertically (on edge)
- z replaced stone quoin (2024)
- rake out and re-point facing masonry
- take down and re-build facing masonry
- re-set existing stone

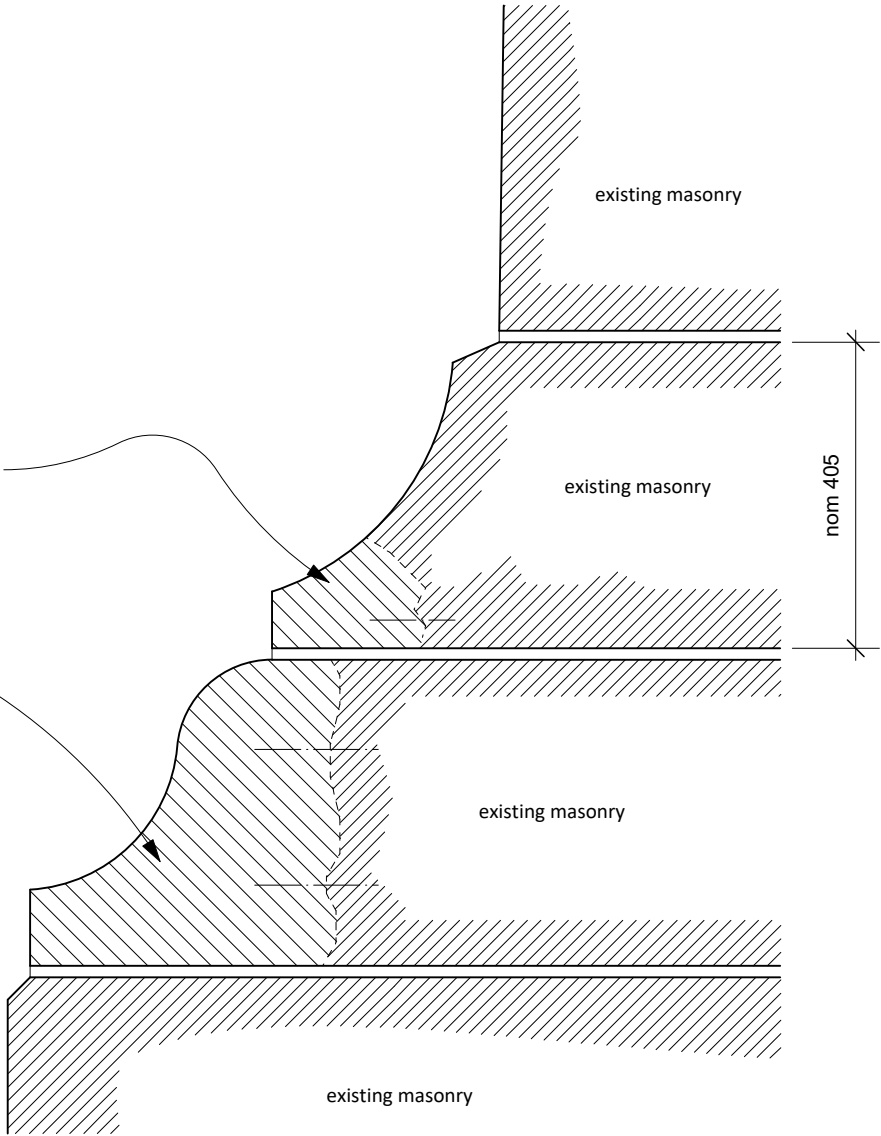
NORTH-EAST ELEVATION



Elevation - moulded stonework
1:10 Scale

Allow for undercutting existing stonework to accommodate tile repair

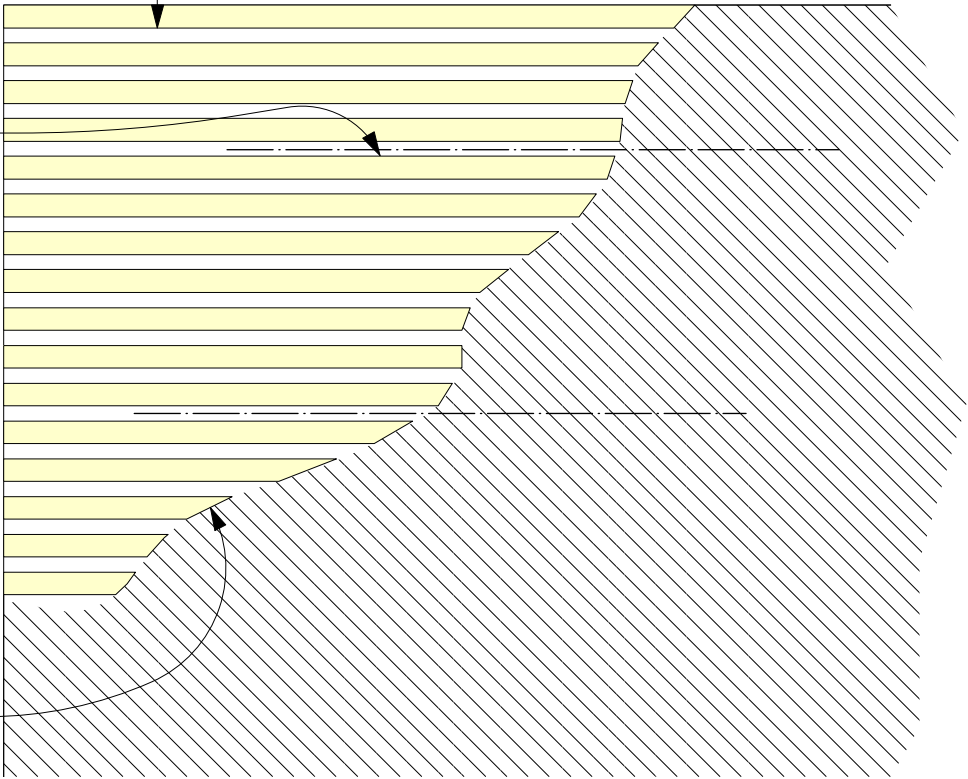
Gault clay creasing tiles with outer edge nibbled to correspond with profile of stone mouldings vertically bedded in lime-based mortar; allow to provide 2mm dia stainless steel wire armatures drilled and resin-fixed into existing masonry.



Detail Section A
1:10 Scale

Gault clay tiles bedded in lime-based mortar (as agreed pointing mix)

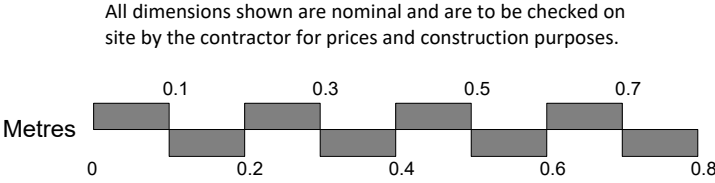
Provide 2mm dia stainless steel wire armatures drilled and resin fixed into existing masonry



Detail Section - quoin
1:5 Scale

Nominal line of decayed stone cut horizontal ledge at base of tile repair min. 50mm deep

Elevation - quoin
1:5 Scale



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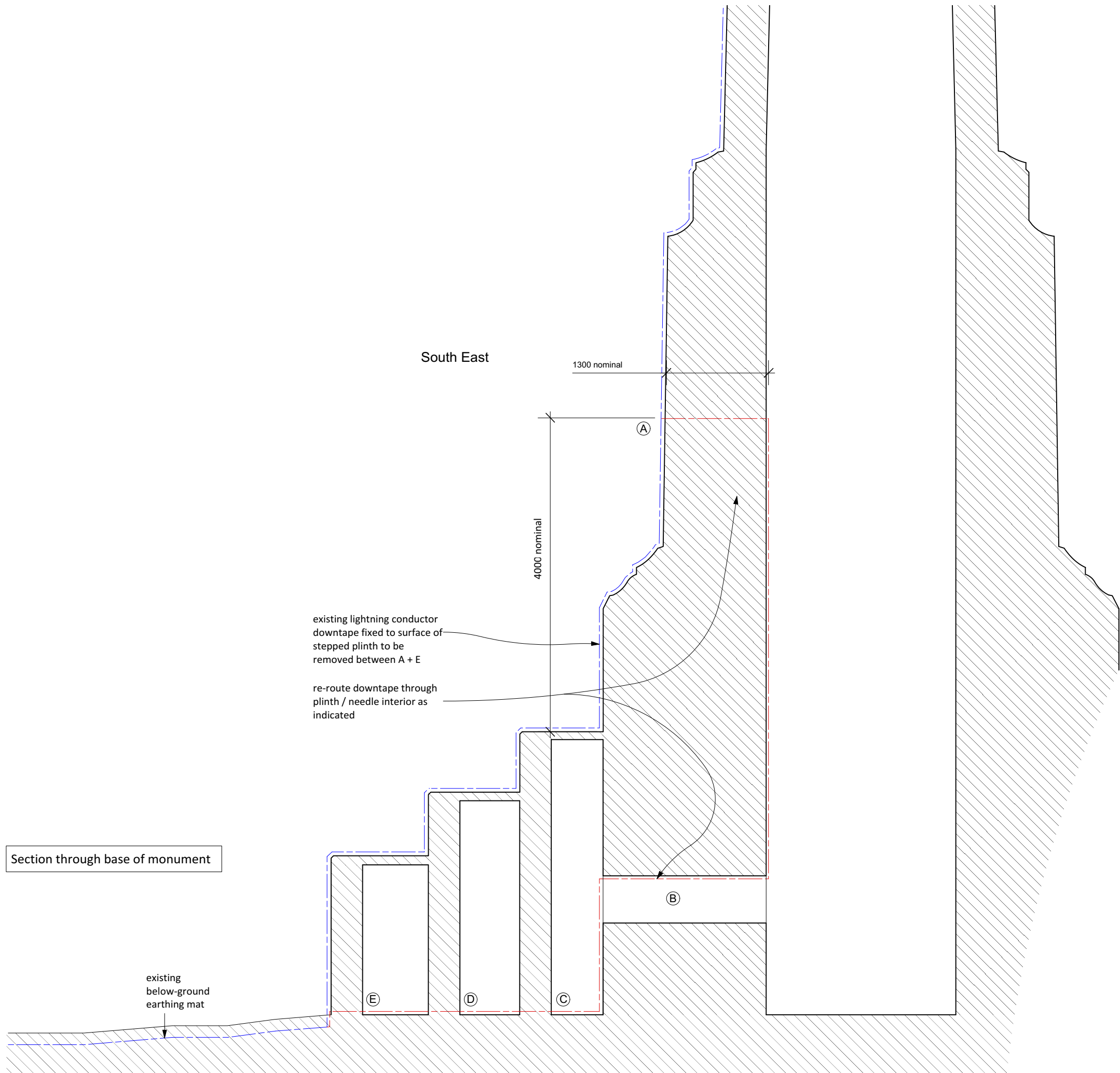
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project
Options Appraisal for
The Lansdowne Monument, Cherhill Down, Wilts

for The National Trust
drawing
Tile Repair Detail

as proposed

date	scale	drg. no.	rev.
Sep 2025	1:10 ; 1:5 Drawing original is A3 size	1374:WD07	-



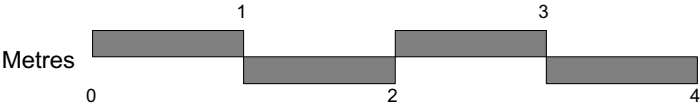
North West

South East

- Key
- (A) Drill though wall of central shaft
 - (B) Clip lightning conductor tape to one side of existing access hole
 - (C) Drill through plinth wall
 - (D) Drill through plinth wall
 - (E) Drill through plinth wall

Archaeological consultant to dig pit at base of monument to pick up tape connecting to existing earthing mat; provide test clamp just above ground level

All dimensions shown are nominal and are to be checked on site by the contractor for prices and construction purposes.



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project
Options Appraisal for
The Lansdowne Monument, Cherhill Down, Wilts

for The National Trust

drawing
Detail for re-routing of lightning conductor downtape

date	scale	drg. no.	rev.
Sep 2025	1:50 Drawing original is A3 size	1374:WD09	-

APPENDIX C

Lansdowne Monument Stone Sources

Jane Root, Buildings Historian

Lansdowne Monument Stone Sources Revised October 2024

Introduction

This report was researched and written by Jane Root. It should be read in conjunction with existing reports including Geckoella's 2024 stone analysis report. This text is based on extended documentary research and current online resources including Historic England's Building Stones Database published in May 2023. New information has been found which supersedes some earlier research, for example in relation to the identity of the quarryman Thomas Strong. The primary purpose of this report is to investigate the sources of the stone used in the construction of the Lansdowne Monument within the wider historical context. Its author has no expert knowledge of building stones and this is not a technical report.

Grid references and postcodes in this report are approximate.

Historical Introduction

Additional research for this report has extended our knowledge not only of the construction of the monument but also of the historical, cultural and social context in which it was built. This new information places the structure firmly within the local and regional history of stone quarrying and the building trade, demonstrates the expert knowledge and skill which informed its construction and sheds light on a human story of industry and enterprise. It provides new evidence for a reappraisal of the significance of the monument.

The Jones Brothers

The Lansdowne Monument was built by the brothers Daniel and Charles Jones of Bradford on Avon (BA). Daniel, the eldest, outlived his brothers Charles and Bryant (or Bryan) and was the sole director of the family firm from 1852. His 'honourable career' is well documented (*The Builder* Vol XXV 16 March 1867, 193).

Daniel and Lavinia Jones

Daniel Jones, a 'talented and much respected architect and builder' was born c1796 and died in Bradford on Avon on 27 November 1866 aged 70 (*Bath Chronicle* 29 November 1866 p3 col 3). He was a remarkable man and his wife, Lavinia Elizabeth Chapman Kemp, whom he married in 1821, was an equally remarkable woman. Early in the marriage Jones 'then a builder in humble circumstances' became a bankrupt but Lavinia, being a

... person of taste and education earned a comfortable living as a governess, and afterwards as an artist. (*Western Daily Press* 3 July 1868 p3 col 6; *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette* 9 July 1868 p3 col 5)

Mrs Jones was the daughter of a Mr Kemp, a glass merchant, and

... had a taste for painting, and in order to better their circumstances she resolved on turning her taste in that respect to account by prosecuting the calling of an artist, which she did for several years with much success. About the year 1833 [Daniel

Jones'] circumstances having, by his wife's exertions, been improved, he went to Bradford, where he commenced working a quarry in conjunction with one of his brothers, his wife in the meantime remaining in London prosecuting her profession. She, however, some years afterwards, joined him at Bradford, and lived with him up to his death. (*Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette* 9 July 1868 p3 col 5)

In later life, Lavinia Jones exhibited a miniature printing press designed for use by women at the 1862 International Exhibition in London ([Cassell's illustrated exhibitor, illustrations with descriptions of the International exhibition of 1862 : Cassell, Ltd : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive](#)). She produced specimens of her printing 'in about forty-six different languages' with a key in English presenting a prayer for universal peace. Her work was given a very favourable whole-page entry in the published catalogue (Cassell Ltd 1862, 223).

List of Works

Immediately after Daniel Jones' death, his widow wrote to *The Builder*:

I consider it my duty to ask you to permit me to record in your ever-valued journal the close of a firm which has for the last forty years stood quietly and without ostentation, and has received the patronage of our noble families in Wiltshire and elsewhere.

The beautiful estates of Lord Lansdowne at Bowood, the Pembroke estates at Wilton; the Beaufort Badminton estates; Mr. Walter Long's at Longleat; Savernake and Tottenham Parks, all contain monuments of the skill and industry of these three brothers, Messrs. Daniel, Charles, & Bryant Jones, who were men eminent for their strict integrity and good taste. Mr. Daniel Jones survived his two younger brothers, and the works, from after 1852 were wholly performed under his direction. November 27th, 1866, was the day of his departure from the scene of his labours, deeply regretted by all his workmen and all who intimately knew him.

1837. At Dorking, for Mr. Hope, his mansion at Deepdene.

1839. For the Marquis of Lansdowne, Derry Hill Church, Mr. T. H. Wyatt, architect; Churchill Obelisk; Calne Church; Studley Church; Wilton (Wyatt); Tetbury; Newnton; Bridgwater, for the Rev. Mr. Capes; Winsley Church restoration.

1841. Wooton Church (Wyatt); Infirmary, Salisbury.

1842. Christ Church, Bradford Wilts, Messrs. Manners & Gill, architects; Lansdowne Tower; Derry Hill Parsonage; Tarrent [*sic*] Hinton Church; Tarrant Gunville Church (Wyatt); Burbage Church (Wyatt).

1843. Newton Toney Church (Wyatt).

1844. Horningsham Church (Wyatt), for Lady Bath; Chittoe, Spye Park; Keevil Church; Rood Ashton, for Mr. W. Long; Steeple Ashton Church.

- 1845. Coombe Church, near Salisbury.
- 1846. Hilpertton Church (Wyatt); Wilsford (Wyatt).
- 1847. Melksham Market-place and Town-hall.
- 1848. Mansion at Frankleigh, for the Misses Bailward, Mr. Clutton, architect; Upton Scudamore Rectory (Wyatt).
- 1850. Freshford Schools, Penally, near Tenby, Wales; Thatcham, Manners & Gill, architects, Bath.
- 1851. Savernake Church, for Lord Bruce, called Christ Church (Wyatt).
- 1853. Chippenham Church, Mr. Scott, architect.
- 1856. Mansion at Orchardleigh, near Frome, for Mr. Duckworth (Wyatt).
- 1859. Memorial Church, Tottenham Park, for Lady Ailesbury (Wyatt).
- 1861. Woodborough Church, for the Rev. Mr. Wylde (Wyatt); Lullington Church, Orchardleigh, for Mr. Duckworth (Wyatt).
- 1862. Longleat; Leigh House, Bradford-on-Avon, for Miss Poynder.

Appealing to Mr. Wyatt as to the correctness of parts of this list, that gentleman writes, - "I should be gratified if you would allow me to add my tribute to the worth of these brothers, as they worked for me for twenty-five years, without one misunderstanding, on the estates of the Duke of Beaufort, Lords Lansdowne, Ailesbury, Bath, and Pembroke, and built or restored eighteen churches for me."

We are glad to have the opportunity of recording such an honourable career. (*The Builder* Vol XXV 16 March 1867, 193)

This list does not appear to be complete and there are discrepancies between it and information from other sources. For example, there is evidence that the Jones brothers built the 'Golden Gates' lodge at Bowood to Charles Barry's design in the 1830s (BA; NHLE UID 1253792). The Lansdowne Monument is not included and other structures have not been identified, for example the 1839 Churchill Obelisk.

Mrs Jones' list of the brothers' works includes buildings of national and international significance designed by prominent architects, and others which they designed themselves. For example, on 16 September 1847 the *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette* reported on the opening of the new Market Hall (now the Town Hall) at Melksham:

The foundation-stone of the building, the whole of which is composed of Bath stone, and now forms so noble an ornament to the town, was laid in March last; and the satisfactory manner in which the undertaking has been conducted and completed reflects the greatest credit on the energy and talent of Messrs. D. and C. Jones of Bradford, who have been both the architects and contractors. The Hall (which occupies an area of 50 square feet) is in the Italian style, having pilastres [*sic*], frieze

and cornice in the centre compartment, surmounted with a pediment, and bell turret. (p3 col 3: NHLE UID 1194263)

The Deepdene (including Chart Park) near Dorking is a Grade II* Registered Park and Garden (NHLE UID 1000143). The designed landscape was first developed in the seventeenth century and was extended and remodelled by Thomas Hope (1769-1831) an influential figure who had wide interests in archaeology, art, gardening and interior design (NHLE UID 1000143). The 'mansion' on Mrs Jones' list was remodelled for his son Henry Thomas Hope between 1835 and 1840 and has been demolished, but the register entry notes that

Hope, a Tory MP, entertained Benjamin Disraeli at the Deepdene and it was here that Disraeli wrote part of his novel 'Coningsby'; it was subsequently dedicated to his host. (NHLE UID 1000143)

Confusingly, the register entry gives further contradictory dates for the remodelling of the house:

The house was substantially altered by William Atkinson (c 1773-1839) for Thomas Hope in the early C19 and was possibly the earliest example in England of a villa house in Italianate style. In c 1843 it was enlarged and largely rebuilt, still in the Italianate style, for Hope's son. The architect was probably W H Ashpitel (1776-1852) (Lees-Milne 1982).

The parish church of St Paul, Chippenham, built 1853-61, was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott and is Grade II* listed (NHLE UID 1268096). The listing description gives the following reasons for the designation:

* ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST: the overall design and architectural detailing of this Victorian church designed in the Early English style is of a very high quality. * INTERIOR: Its internal layout and features are equally of a very high quality and have survived remarkably intact. * HISTORIC INTEREST: It is a particularly good example of a church designed by the nationally important architect Sir George Gilbert Scott. (NHLE UID 1268096)

As the *Builder* article shows, Daniel Jones also worked extensively for T H Wyatt, for example at the parish church of St Katherine Great Bedwyn (NHLE UID 1183857). This was built in a florid Decorated style for the 2nd Marchioness of Ailesbury in 1861 and is Grade II* listed despite having been reconstructed after damage in an explosion in 1952.

The parish church of St Mary and St Nicholas, Wilton, designed by Wyatt and his partner David Brandon and built c1841-44, is Grade I listed (NHLE UID 1365914). It has been described by Julian Orbach as

... one of the grandest estate churches in the country ... built for Sidney Herbert, Secretary at War and Florence Nightingale's supporter during the Crimean War. The church is a North Italian Romanesque basilica translated to England and filled with genuine Italian marbles and Cosmati work as well as exceptionally good carving of c.1845 (Orbach 1987, 446)

Knowledge and Innovation

Personal experience, including the churches he built for nationally prominent architects, may have inspired Daniel Jones to develop new ways of working. In 1862 he exhibited a pulpit carved in White Bed Farleigh Stone at the International Exhibition – the ‘Great London Exposition’ – which was sponsored by the Royal Society of Arts, Manufactures and Trade ([London International Exhibition \(1862\) | Organisations | RA Collection | Royal Academy of Arts](#)). This exhibition ran from 1 May to 1 November of that year and featured more than 28000 exhibitors from 36 countries. Like his wife’s printing press, Jones’ pulpit was one of only around 300 objects selected for illustration in the published catalogue (Cassell Ltd 1862, 156).

The pulpit was explicitly intended to demonstrate the adaptability of Bath stone ‘to Gothic tracery, as well at other styles of ornamentation, dressings to windows, doors, cornices, &c’ (Cassell Ltd 1862, 155-6). An extended description in the illustrated catalogue demonstrates Jones’ expert knowledge of his local building stones:

The twisted columns are productions by mechanical contrivances, which may be applied in various departments of buildings, both in interiors and exteriors, to enrich the several parts of churches or private dwellings. This adaptation of terra-cotta has been lately introduced to the building trade, and is strongly recommended by the exhibitor to architects. Perhaps in no part of England is there a more suitable material than the Bath stone for building purposes, when the cost of material and labour are considered. The different quarries produce shades of difference in the colour and quality of the stone; and from all the quarries the Farleigh Down may be selected as the most agreeable in colour, in soundness, and in adaptability to mouldings and Gothic tracery.

At Mr. Daniel Jones's place of business there are interesting varieties of beautifully executed columns in this stone, as well as substantial and elegantly designed chimney-pieces, &c, all offered at moderate prices.

This firm has been established for nearly a century, and has erected some of the best buildings in England. The far-famed church of Wilton was erected for the late Lord Herbert, under the superintendence of Mr. Daniel Jones.

... an examination of the pulpit executed by Mr. Jones cannot but command considerable attention. It will be found near the Canadian Court, among various objects of interest in the building trade, exhibited for their architectural beauty. Here will be found stones and earths of various kinds both in their natural and manufactured states. The capability of terra-cotta and the softer kinds of stones for various useful and ornamental works has never before been so completely demonstrated. (Cassell Ltd 1862, 156)

Jones’ stock-in-trade was auctioned on his premises at Tory in Bradford on Avon after his death. An advertisement for the sale on 4 September 1868 provides further evidence for the scale of the operation and his inventiveness, listing a

... Capital 8-horse-power high pressure Steam Engine, with excellent Boiler, Steam Guage, &c., complete; valuable iron-frame Turning Machine, a clever invention for turning spiral columns, open, twisted, and other intricate work in stone or wood; 2 powerful and 1 portable iron-frame Turning Lathes, Sawing Benches, with circular Saws; 3 iron Lifting Crabs and Chains; iron and wood Pulley Blocks and Ropes, 2 large cast-iron Bearers, 3 heavy Fly Wheels and Cranks, part of a heavy cast-iron Lifting Pump, wrought and cast-iron Shafting, and quantity of old Iron, Lead Pump, Embossing Press, iron Deed Safe, 6 powerful Quarry Bars.

A large quantity of Builders' Materials, comprising about 150 Scaffold Poles and Planks, numerous Quartering, Scaffold Ropes, 14 Window Sashes, Door Frames, iron Cramp, Flooring Dogs, quantity of wood, iron, and stone Patterns, Old Doors, &c. A quantity of Building Stone and Ashlar, ornamental Stonework to form a Pulpit, and a large number of spiral, open work, fluted, & worked Stone Columns; glazed Pipes, Ladders, Steps, Trucks, Wheelbarrows, 2-knife Chaff Machine, Bean Gritler, Chaff Box, and numerous Effects.

Also 4 Photographic Cameras, Slides, Chemicals, Glass Plates, Ware Baths, &c. A brass-bound mahogany Writing Desk, Phrenological Bust, Plaster Figures, Writing Case, &c. &c. (*Trowbridge Chronicle* 29 August 1868 p4 col 2)

A large quantity of books included bound volumes of *The Builder* and the *Architectural Magazine* and 'Bloxham's Gothic Architecture'. The pulpit Jones exhibited in 1862 was subsequently offered for sale again by a Mr C Long, a builder in Bradford on Avon (*Bath Chronicle* 23 September 1869 p4 col 4).

The Construction of the Lansdowne Monument

Charles Barry and Thomas Strong

There is an undated estimate for the construction of the Lansdowne Monument in the Bowood Archive produced by Thomas Strong. A note signed by Strong states:

Having Seen Mr Barrys Sketch of the Oblisk I consider the above Estimate to be as near as Possible the full cost of it (BA).

Strong's price was £1241.0.8 and it is not clear why it was not accepted, but in May 1845 the job was awarded to Daniel and Charles Jones. What is now clear is that Strong, a quarryman at Box, had been known to Charles Barry by repute, and possibly in person, since at least 1838 and had supplied stone used at Bowood before that date (Barry 1839, Table A).

Charles Barry led a national enquiry into suitable sources of stone for the New Palace of Westminster which toured the country in August, September and October of that year visiting quarries and inspecting buildings (Barry 1839, 1). Specimens were collected, and petrographic analysis undertaken by Professors Daniell and Wheatstone at King's College, London (Barry 1839, 2). It is not clear how the quarries and buildings were initially identified, but Thomas Strong is listed in the table of quarries as both the freeholder and

quarryman at Baynton Quarry in Box (Barry 1839, Table A). The stone he produced was a cream coloured Oolite described as

Chiefly Carbonate of Lime in moderately fine oolitic Grains, with Fragments of Shells (Weather Bed). (Barry 1839, Table A)

The table records the density of the stone, the entire depth of workable stone, gives a description of the beds, the size of blocks that could be procured and lists the prices of block stone at the quarry per cubic foot (Barry 1839, Table A). It also describes the route and cost of carriage to the Pool of London, the delivered price in London and analyses the cost of plain rubbed work in comparison with that of Portland stone. The entry in the column headed 'Where known or reported to have been employed' states that Strong's stone had been used at

Laycock Abbey, Longleat, Bowood, South Front of Wilton House, Windsor Castle, &c. (Barry 1839, Table A)

Under 'General Remarks' it states in the table:

The Weather Stone is generally used for Plinths, Strings, Cornices, &c.; the Corn Grit for Dressings; the Scallet, which is the finest in Grain, is used for Ashlar. Eight Quarries on the Box Escarpment; many of great Antiquity (Barry 1839, Table A)

The Jones Brothers

The contract between the Marquis of Lansdowne and the Jones brothers dated 14 May 1845 provides significant information about the construction of the monument (BA). It should be noted that the original has not been seen and there may be transcription errors in this report as a result. The contract explains that the Marquis had commissioned the design from Charles Barry, who had produced a drawing and specification on which the Jones' estimate was based. The figure of £1324 originally written into the contract was subsequently amended to £1359 but the reason for this is not known. It is evident that there had already been a false start on the monument, since the Jones' undertook to

... take down such part of the said Obelisk as has been already erected before the signing of this Contract and rebuild the same according to the Terms of this Agreement... (BA)

It is possible that this work had been undertaken by another contractor, perhaps Thomas Strong or an associate, and it is not certain that it was on the same site. However, it is clear from the known extent of the Marquis's land ownership that the choice of sites for the monument was limited.

A copy of a drawing attached to the contract which is said to have been seen in the Bowood Archive has not been identified (Follies 2004, 22). This reportedly had a note on it dating it 1 April 1842. Another drawing entitled 'Proposed Monument near Bowood' is not dated but a note dates this 1845-6 (BA). This drawing shows the obelisk in elevation, section and plan,

crowned by a globe and finial. There is no evidence the latter were built, possibly because there were concerns about the exposed position of the monument from the outset. Lord Lansdowne agreed to pay 75% of the contracted sum as the work progressed, withholding the balance until

... the expiration of twelve Calendar months next after the said Monument or Obelisk shall be finally and perfectly erected and completed according to the said plan and specification and the terms of this agreement; provided that at the expiration of twelve Calendar months the said Monument or Obelisk shall be reported to the said Marquis by the said Charles Barry or such other person or persons as the said Marquis shall ... appoint, to be substantially and in all respects properly built and completed and weather proof. (BA)

The contract included a detailed specification:

To excavate the Ground to the depths shewn on the Section put in a Foundation Concrete as shewn on the Drawings composed of six measures of clean gravel and one equal measure of fresh ground stone lime mixed dry and afterward well worked together with water and in that state teemed and thrown into the work from a height of at least ten feet. The surface to be made perfectly level for the stone Foundation.

The Foundations to be composed of rough wall stone from the neighbourhood of Calne well bedded and laid in good mortar and so flushed up and grouted as to leave no vacuities therein.

The Quoins of the Walls under the steps and at the end of the Angles of the Pedestal and shaft the Plinth and Quoins of the Obelisk the apex globe and Terminal to be of Bath Stone from the Box or Lodge Stile Quarries properly bedded and jointed and worked with a fine random tooled face each stone to hold its face dimensions from back to front to be truly worked on the beds and to be properly bonded with the rough wall stone adjoining and the back – The rest of the work to be constructed of rough [?Hall] stone from Bradford in courses about 6 inches thick, hammer dressed or rough chopped to a true and even surface on the face to all the external facings and backed up with the Calne Stone, and to be well bedded and flushed up with mortar as before described so as to have no vacuities therein.

To fix a Chippenham landing at the top of the shaft two feet square and six inches thick

To provide and fix a copper rod half inch in diameter and 126 feet long as a lightening conductor to be properly insulated at the fixings and to be made perfect to the earth.

The tops of the steps to be formed of Chippenham [?Flags] of large size at least 3 inches thick laid to a proper fall for the delivery of Water. (BA)

The contractors undertook to supply all materials, transport, labour, scaffolding and tools, but were allowed to burn lime from chalk dug on the Marquis's land near the site of the obelisk.

Some amendments to the text of the contract in a different hand may be significant. The stone originally specified for the foundations was 'rough wall stone from Bradford', amended to read 'from the neighbourhood of Calne' (BA). The coursing of the rough Hall stone from Bradford has been altered from 'about 4 inches thick' to six inches and the section 'to all the external facings and backed up with the Calne Stone' is an addition.

Work seems to have started in the summer of 1845 and on 7 November Charles Jones acknowledged receipt of £500 on account 'for Building an Oblisk at Cherhill' (BA). Charles Barry billed Lord Lansdowne £92.0.0 on 29 May 1846 for

The Design, Specification and Estimate of the works in a monument erected on the Cherhill Downs, arranging and adjusting the accounts &c (BA).

The Building Stones

The building contract lists four different types of stone and specifies how each was to be used in the construction of the monument. Evidence discussed in this report demonstrates that Barry had detailed knowledge of the Bath stone specified for the quoins and dressings but the Jones' probably influenced the final choice of others. They were allowed to burn lime, presumably for mortar, from Lord Lansdowne's land but were otherwise responsible for supplying all the materials. It is likely that they produced the stone for the main structure of the obelisk from their own quarry at Bradford on Avon.

Research Methodology

Documentary research for this report is based on primary and secondary resources. Key online resources are the Historic England Building Stones Database map, *Know Your Place*, the National Library of Scotland Ordnance Survey map images, *Ancestry* and *Find My Past* (links in Bibliography). Other resources such as the HER have not been fully investigated for this report and the potential to use the 1910 'Domesday' survey to identify quarry sites active at around the time the Lansdowne Monument was repaired with Atworth stone has not been pursued.

Find My Past has a Wiltshire Tithe Award Register 1813-1882 which is searchable by the keyword 'quarry' and should therefore identify all the working quarries in Wiltshire during the period of the tithe survey which peaked in the early 1840s. This is a transcript and includes a known error relating to the property occupied by Bryan Jones in Bradford on Avon in 1841. It is however a very valuable resource producing more than 550 results across the county representing about half that number of quarry sites (owners and occupiers are listed separately so each site appears twice). These results can be checked against the original awards in the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre.

The tithe maps themselves do not consistently record quarry sites. For example, the Bradford on Avon tithe map does not mark quarries (meaning that these can only be identified from the award) but other tithe maps, for example for the parish of Box, do identify quarry sites. The 25" Ordnance Survey maps surveyed around 40 years after the tithe maps also identify quarry sites but these are not necessarily in the same locations. Evidence discussed in this report relating to the quarry occupied by Bryan Jones in Bradford on Avon in 1841 demonstrates the shifting nature of quarrying and the huge advantage that the coincidence of the construction of the Lansdowne Monument with the national tithe survey provides for research into the sources of the stone used. It also confirms that the quarry sites identified on the HE Building Stones Database are only a small proportion of those that have been active in the past.

Ways of working with Geckkoella have been tested to establish how quarries which were open at the time the monument was built can be matched with geological information to identify specific sources of stone. The HE Building Stones Database map is overlaid on current mapping only, meaning that geological information cannot be correlated directly with historic maps, and it is suggested that enhancements should be considered. Historic quarry locations are identified in this report using OS Grid References and Postcodes generated by visual comparison, which is slow and laborious. The findings of this report may have significant potential for other projects.

Stone Sources Specified in the Contract

1 Rough wall stone from the neighbourhood of Calne (for the foundations):

Historic England's Building Stones Database map marks a single quarry in the centre of present day Calne (HE stone source ID 6200). Calne Quarries only supplied Calne Freestone and this is the only quarry on the map shown as a source of this stone. Other quarries immediately west and north of the town supplied Corallian Ragstone, and south west of the town Lower Greensand (HE Building Stones Database map). The Historic England guide to the building stones of Wiltshire describes:

Coral Rag, Calne Stone, Corallian limestones

This group includes many different rock types used locally for building: sandstones, sandy limestones and shelly limestones, often with peloids or ooids, and coral fragments. They are generally not very regularly bedded, but they do provide durable building stones.

The white Calne stone is a cross-bedded peloidal limestone with small shell fragments. It was quarried around Lyneham and Calne.

Freestones are exceptional in this group, however, and the Corallian limestone areas typically show a variety of hardstone blocks and rubblestone in the buildings. The wide variety of textures and tones of cream, grey and brown imparts a particular charm to the villages and towns along its outcrop, including at Highworth and Wootton Bassett. Dressings are often of local brick or freestone, as can be seen at Highworth. The Coral Rag Formation is a fine-grained, coralline, rubbly limestone,

formed around the reefs as detrital build-ups. It can make good quality, durable, building stone. (Historic England 2023, 11-12)

The sample of internal walling stone supplied to Geckoella (IW01), which is assumed to be part of the original construction, is a coarse grained peloidal limestone (Geckoella 2024, 3.5.1). The source of this stone is difficult to pinpoint geologically but Geckoella have supplied marked up extracts from the BGS Geology Viewer geological bedrock map identifying an appropriate search area in the Calne neighbourhood.

The HE Database map overlays geological information on current mapping only, meaning that a search of the tithe awards for the corresponding area has been judged by eye using multiple map sources. The tithe apportionments for Calne, Lyneham, Hilmarton, Tockenham, Wootton Bassett, Bremhill, the Liberty of Bowood, Brinkworth, Grittenham, Highway, Clyffe Pypard and Blackland have been searched for the word 'quarry'. This produced only five results, suggesting little quarrying activity.

There was one working quarry in the parish of Calne in 1844, at Conigre Farm (KYP: T/A ref 142; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 97992 71521; Post Code SN11 0LT). This was not on the same site as the Conigre Farm Quarry marked on the HE Database map (Stone Source ID 56102: Corallian Ragstone). In 1838 there was one quarry in the parish of Tockenham, at Tockenham Wick, which appears to have supplied road stone since it was occupied by the Surveyor of Roads (KYP: T/A ref 38; approximate OS Grid Ref SU 03778 80600; Post Code SN4 7PF). A search of the 1840 Clyffe Pypard apportionment produces three results relating to two quarry sites. An arable field owned by D E Broome Esq and occupied by William Beak is described as 'Twelve Acres by Quarry' but it is not clear where the quarry itself was (KYP: T/A ref 597; approximate OS Grid Ref SU 07099 76225; Post Code SN4 9NP). Another site was an active quarry, owned jointly by William Grosvenor and E D Sanbridge and occupied by Hugh Spencer (KYP: T/A ref 76; approximate OS Grid Ref SU 09048 79394; Post Code SN4 7RA).

2 Bath Stone from the Box or Lodge Stile Quarries (quoins and dressings):

research for this report identified the Lodge Stile Quarry without difficulty, before addressing the evidence for Box. The Building Stones Database map shows three quarries on Combe Down in Bath in the area immediately around the present house named Lodge Style which produced Combe Down Stone (HE stone source ID 219, 154677, 154678). Other quarries on Combe Down produced what is described as Bath Stone. Most of the total number of 44 quarries identified on the Building Stones Database map producing Combe Down Stone are clustered south and east of the village of Box, and Box Ground and Combe Down Oolite are interchangeable names for this stone. The Historic England building stones guide explains what lay behind the choice of this material for the most exposed parts of the monument:

The strength of Bath Stone comes from the crystalline (spar) calcite cement between the grains, rather than from the ooids. The cement prevents water being absorbed into the rock by the softer porous ooids. This cement is, in part, derived from carbonate leached from shell fragments mixed in with the ooids, which recrystallised

after burial. Thus, it is no coincidence that the best weatherstone in the area, Box Ground (Combe Down Oolite), contains the highest proportion of shell debris. The same level was extensively worked in the hills around Bath, and it is still quarried there on Combe Down. It was probably these lower beds of the formation that gave Bath Stone its reputation. (Historic England 2023, 8)

The 1851 Monkton Combe tithe award identifies the site of the 1909 Voysey house known as Lodge Stile on Combe Down as a quarry owned by William Vaughan Jenkins and occupied by Isaac and Giles Sumsion and others ([LODGE STYLE, Non Civil Parish - 1394909 | Historic England](#); T/A ref 184: BRO Tithe Apportionment transcript *cf* KYP; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 76822 62611; Post Code BA2 7HP). The Sumsions owned other property in the parish and occupied other quarry sites. Oxford Archaeology's monograph on the archaeology of the Combe Down stone mines notes the prominent role of the Sumsion family in what ultimately became The Bath and Portland Stone Firms (Willies, Redvers-Higgins, Wain 2011, 63). The name Lodge Stile is not used in the tithe apportionment, but Oxford Archaeology have identified a site immediately opposite the Sumsions' quarry on the other (west) side of Shaft Road as Lodge Stile or Lawns Quarry (Willies, Redvers-Higgins, Wain 2011, Fig 4.9). According to the tithe apportionment, this site was also owned by William Vaughan Jenkins but was occupied with other enclosures by William Harding and was in arable cultivation. The quarries at Lodge Stile were still in production in 2011 and remain so in 2024, now known as Upper Lawn Quarry and worked by John Hancock & Sons (Bath) Ltd (Willies, Redvers-Higgins, Wain 2011, 66; [JOHN HANCOCK & SONS \(BATH\) LIMITED overview - Find and update company information - GOV.UK](#)).

The 1839 Houses of Parliament report identifies Lodge Hill Quarry at Combe Down as a source of cream coloured Oolite (Barry 1839, Table A). This quarry was owned by W V Jenkins and worked by Isaac Sumsion. In 1851, the quarry at Lodge Stile was apparently the only one owned by Jenkins and occupied by Isaac Sumsion and it seems very likely that Lodge Hill Quarry was on or adjoining the Lodge Stile site and producing the same material. A note on Table A in the 1839 report that 'Ridges and Troughs are made of this Stone' shows that Barry was aware of its durability. Given the exposed position of the Monument it is reasonable to suggest that Barry would specify materials which he knew had already been rigorously tested.

The same argument applies to the first source of Oolite specified by Barry. A search of the Wiltshire Tithe Award Register for Box produces more than 140 results, representing around 70 quarry sites in the parish active at the time of the tithe survey in 1840 (KYP). This is a credible source for the original stone used at the Monument but there is no realistic method of pinpointing the quarry from which it was taken using geological information (information from Dr Andy King, Geckoella). However, Barry's 1839 report identifies only one quarry in Box. This was Baynton Quarry, which was owned and worked by Thomas Strong. We know that Strong had supplied stone used at Bowood before 1839 and produced an alternative estimate for the Lansdowne Monument (Barry 1839, Table A; BA). The site of Baynton Quarry can be identified from the Box tithe apportionment dated 31 December 1840 (KYP). This shows that Thomas Strong owned and occupied parts of Box Quarry on enclosures 388,

388a and 389 (approximately centred on OS Grid Ref ST 83577 69293; Postcode SN13 8HQ). Strong did not own or occupy any other quarry sites in the parish. In 1840, another part of Box Quarry was owned and occupied by Sir Andrew Bayntun, and this is presumably why Barry referred to the site as Baynton Quarry (KYP; Barry 1839, Table A). It seems reasonable to identify this as the first source of Oolite specified by Barry, which may have been preferred because it had already been used at Bowood and was closer to the Monument site.

The Oxford Archaeology monograph on the Combe Down stone mines discusses the interrelationship between the two sources of stone specified for the quoins and dressings of the Lansdowne Monument. The date of construction coincided with significant developments in availability:

Two new major transport developments affected Combe Down in the first 40 years of the century, though they hardly affected the landscape of the Down itself. First was the opening of the Kennet and Avon Canal and its branch the Somersetshire Coal Canal in 1810. This led to wharves being built in Bath near the old Dolemead site, another near the Dundas Aqueduct at the bottom of Brassknocker Hill and others at Tuckermill and near Midford, which opened up markets to the east. The Nowell family opened a wharf in London at Pimlico (Irving 2005, 68). This was to be a golden age for Combe Down, with perhaps its highest levels of production, probably for underground quarries, but certainly for the outputs of numerous surface quarries which came to dominate. The canal also linked quarries in Wiltshire to Bath, a competitive threat more fully realized in about 1840 when Brunel's Great Western Railway came via Box Tunnel, actually cutting through the Wiltshire freestones on route to Bath and Bristol. The huge reserves there of thick, massive and easily worked freestone became marketed as 'Bath Stone'. Its production on a much larger scale opened a new era of fairly cheap and abundant stone for the building industry, and it thus became a massive and ultimately overwhelming competing source. Combe Down went quickly into relative decline and, after about 1860, absolute decline. (Willies, Redvers-Higgins, Wain 2011, 53)

Note that in 1839 the suggested method of transporting either type of Bath Oolite to London was by land to the Dundas Aqueduct from Combe Down or to Lacock from Box and thence *via* the Kennet and Avon Canal, which passes within four miles of the site of the Lansdowne Monument near Bishops Cannings (Barry 1839, Table A).

3 Rough Hall stone from Bradford (facing the obelisk and base walls, backed with Calne stone): the Building Stones Database map identifies the Hall Mine at Bradford on Avon, also known as Kingston Quarry or Combe Quarry (HE stone source ID 10366). The coincidence of names provided a starting point for research and according to the database the Hall Mine produced only Bradford Ground stone. The map identifies a total of four other quarries producing this stone on the south side of the town (HE stone source ID 8307, 9107, 9108, 20214). Two of these sites are identified as 'Jones's Quarry' and have accordingly also been investigated.

We know that the Jones brothers were quarrymen as well as builders and Bradford on Avon Museum records

... a large open quarry called Grip Wood Quarry or Jones' Quarry after the firm of quarriers and builders who worked there. It has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Importance because of the sequence of rocks that is exposed there. Daniel and Isaac [*sic*] Jones built many buildings in Bradford and beyond. ([Bradford Quarries](#) | [Bradford on Avon Museum](#))

Jones Hill Quarry is recorded on the Wiltshire HER:

Freestone surface and underground stone quarry, possibly worked in the Medieval period. The site is thought to be the source of stone for Shaftesbury Abbey and is documented in the early 17th century. The surface workings gave access to underground mines, which were until recently, used for growing mushrooms. The site was still active as a quarry in 1901, with two cranes in the interior. On the south side is a brick shelter with a pair of doors at one end, apparently leading to an underground space, possibly an old working. The west end of the quarry is relatively undisturbed and the ground level steps up. The sides and floor are very overgrown but vertical drill marks are visible in several places. There are apparently other entrances to underground workings here but these could not be located. (HER ref ST86SW468)

It is important to note that none of these quarries (including the Hall Mine) was apparently operational at the time of the Bradford on Avon tithe survey in 1841. The tithe apportionment does identify Bryan Jones as the occupier of a parcel of land described as a garden, paddock and quarry on the north side of the town (WSHC T/A Bradford on Avon: ref 58). The land was owned by John Jones, who was evidently not his father who had died in 1814 ([Brian B. Jones \(1802-1843\) - Find a Grave Memorial](#)). This quarry was on the same Bradford Ground or Ancliff Oolite as the Hall Mine and the other four quarries on the south side of the town (HE Map Building Stones Database map). The tithe award does not identify any other quarry sites owned or occupied by Daniel, Charles or Bryan Jones but the extended Jones family has not been investigated for this report.

The Bradford on Avon tithe map does not distinguish quarries, but the site occupied by Bryan Jones is marked as a quarry on the 1887 25" Ordnance Survey map, which also shows two other quarries in the immediate vicinity (Wiltshire XXXII.14, surveyed 1884-5). Neither of these was a quarry in 1841 (WSHC T/A Bradford on Avon: refs 27, 47, both described as gardens). Significantly, none of these three sites is identified as a quarry on the HE Building Stones Database map.

Bradford Ground is otherwise known as Bath Stone or Ancliff Oolite and is described as 'shelly and oolitic with prominent cross-bedded shelly layers, making it less homogenous and a less durable freestone' (HE Wiltshire building examples and stone sources spreadsheet). However, the

... freestone from the Bradford on Avon area, the Ancliff Oolite, occurs locally in the lower part of the Forest Marble. It is quite distinctive, characterised by strongly developed cross-bedding, with layers of well sorted shell fragments that are picked out by weathering. It was widely used from the 18th to the 20th century in Bradford and Trowbridge, but it is no longer worked. Hall's Almshouses in Bradford on Avon are constructed of Ancliff Oolite. (Historic England 2023, 10)

Given a reasonable assumption that the Jones' brothers used stone from their own quarry, it is likely that the stone used for the monument came from T/A ref 58 (WSHC T/A Bradford on Avon; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 82182 60988; Post Code BA15 1QG). This conclusion is consistent with the geological evidence.

4 Chippenham (slabs used for paving the plinth steps): the text of the contract is confusing on this point, but the original has not been seen. It could say 'Hays' or 'Flags' but the latter would make more sense. The Building Stones Database map shows many quarries in the vicinity of Chippenham but none close in to the town itself. There are clusters around Calne in the east and others west and south west of the town which are largely on the Bath Stone belt. However, a total of 78 quarries within twenty miles of Chippenham on the west side yielded Forest Marble Ragstone. The Historic England building stones guide describes:

Ragstone

In the Forest Marble Formation, generally, the bedding is more irregular and there are clays separating the limestones. The limestones, known as ragstone, are typically yellow-brown with a blue 'heart'. They are made up of broken shell debris and are less thickly bedded than the ooidal limestones. Cross-bedding is typical and the matrix is crystalline calcite. This makes the limestones a good weatherstone, but they are too intractable to be used for dressings. They have been employed extensively for cottages, farm buildings and as a walling stone. Thinly bedded, fissile, shelly limestones provided the stone roof slates typical of the older Cotswold buildings, as well as cobbles and larger paving slabs. Small pits in fields around Bradford on Avon, Atworth, Gastard and Malmesbury were excavated for this purpose. (Historic England 2023, 9-10)

A keyword search of the Wiltshire Tithe Award Register for 'quarry' at Chippenham produces 90 results within a five-mile radius (*ie* 45 sites). An exact search for Chippenham identifies two sites (KYP: T/A refs 173, 729), neither of which is marked as a quarry on the HE Building Stones Database map.

Geckoella have supplied marked up extracts from the BGS Geology Viewer geological bedrock map identifying an appropriate search area in the Chippenham neighbourhood. The BGS map is overlaid on a satellite view and the HE Database map overlays geological information on current mapping only, meaning that a search of the tithe awards for the corresponding area has been judged by eye using multiple map sources. Five tithe awards south and west of Chippenham have been searched for the word 'quarry': Lacock, Easton, Corsham, Biddestone and Slaughterford and Yatton Keynell (KYP).

The only reference to a quarry in the 1840 Lacock apportionment is an 8a arable enclosure known as 'Quarry Ground', owned by W H Fox Talbot and occupied by William Curnick (KYP: T/A ref 526; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 90139 68825; Post Code SN13 9QJ).

There are nine sites associated with the word 'quarry' in the 1839 Corsham tithe apportionment. A cluster of sites on the south east side of the town of Corsham within four miles of Chippenham probably produced Forest Marble Ragstone. Note that these are at or in the vicinity of Gastard, identified by Historic England as a source of fissile limestone used for stone roofing slates (Historic England 2023, 9-10). A 13a arable field owned by Ezekiel Harman and occupied by Philip Gregory is described as 'Quarry Ground' (KYP: T/A ref 615; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 87199 67965; Post Code SN13 9PL). This site is adjacent to the Ridge Quarry and Ridge Mine, both sources of Forest Marble Ragstone (HE Building Stones Database map Stone Source ID 56021, 8330). A 10a pasture known as 'Quarry Leaze' also owned by Ezekiel Harman and occupied by Jacob Hayward is adjacent to Velley or Aust's Quarry, another source of Forest Marble Ragstone (KYP: T/A ref 700; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 88338 68120; Post Code SN13 9PU; HE Building Stones Database map Stone Source ID 8329).

A 10a pasture owned and occupied by John Taylor is named 'Quarry Ground' (KYP: T/A ref 837; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 88932 68359; Post Code SN13 9QR). The HE Building Stones Database map marks Gastard Quarry, producing Forest Marble Ragstone, on this enclosure (Stone Source ID 120947). A 6a arable enclosure owned by Sir Harry Neale and occupied by John Hulbert was also known as 'Quarry Ground' (KYP: T/A ref 889; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 88133 69475; Post Code SN13 9PF). The HE Building Stones Database map does not identify any quarries in the immediate vicinity of this site.

North of Corsham, a site named 'The Great Buckrell' which was owned and occupied by Paul Methuen was apparently an active quarry in 1839 (KYP: T/A ref 1272; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 87271 72020; Post Code SN13 0QE). Methuen owned and occupied another quarry in an enclosure named 'Larkstones' (KYP: T/A ref 1296a; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 87050 71403; Post Code SN13 0DT). The HE Building Stones Database map marks Brickers Barn Quarry, producing Forest Marble Ragstone, on this site (Stone Source ID 55983).

Another site north of Corsham was a small garden and quarry owned by Mary Woodman and occupied by William Woodman (KYP: T/A ref 1366; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 85552 70452; Post Code SN13 0PP). The HE Building Stones Database map identifies four quarries in the vicinity producing Bath Stone/Combe Down Oolite (Stone Source ID 6385, 9109, 55984, 55999). A house, quarry and garden owned and occupied by William Brewer is on the site of Hartham Park Quarry, otherwise known as Brewer's Yard, producing Bath Stone (KYP: T/A ref 1377; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 84623 70381; Post Code SN13 0ER; HE Building Stones Database map, Stone Source ID 245130, 8399). Another site nearby, owned by Henry Hall Joy Esq and occupied jointly by Robert and William Hulbert was also an active quarry in 1839 (KYP: T/A ref 1382; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 84865 70854; Post Code SN13 0PF). The HE Building Stones Database map marks Seven Acres Mine, which produced Bath Stone, on this enclosure (Stone Source ID 14364).

The 1840 Biddestone and Slaughterford tithe apportionment identifies quarry sites west of Chippenham producing both Bath Stone and Forest Marble Ragstone. A pasture named 'Quarry Piece' owned by the Earl of Egremont and occupied by John Gibbs is at approximately the same location as Pew's Hill Quarries, which produced Forest Marble Ragstone (KYP: T/A ref 200; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 85120 74345; Post Code SN14 8RD; HE Building Stones Database map, Stone Source ID 55857). Of two areas described as quarry and waste, a piece at the west end of Biddestone village was a pasture known as 'Butts' (KYP: T/A ref 337; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 86002 73368; Post Code SN14 7DY). The other was an apparently active quarry in 'Great Dry Field' (KYP: T/A ref 344; OS Grid Ref ST 85277 73586; adjacent Post Code SN14 7DT). Immediately adjoining this were sites named Standhill or Standhills Quarry which were apparently no longer worked since they were under cultivation as pasture and arable (KYP: T/A refs 345, 346 (two pieces, 347). The largest of these enclosures was owned by Lord Methuen and occupied by Ann and William Blake (T/A ref 345; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 85223 73551; adjacent Post Code SN14 7DT). Two small enclosures also owned by Lord Methuen were occupied by Thomas Hulbert (T/A ref 346; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 85179 73602, ST 85123 73564; adjacent Post Code SN14 7DT). Another small enclosure also occupied by Thomas Hulbert was owned by Thomas Little (T/A ref 347; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 85150 73583; adjacent Post Code SN14 7DT). The HE Building Stones Database map identifies Biddlestone [*sic*] St Nicholas Quarry producing Bath Stone at the site of T/A refs 346 and 347 (Stone Source ID 55868).

A 14a arable enclosure described as 'Colletts Leaze, Quarry and Georges Ground' owned and occupied by Henry Hall Joy Esq is close to the site of Collett's Bottom Woods Quarry, which produced Bath Stone (KYP: T/A ref 424; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 84773 71829; adjacent Post Code SN13 0PF; HE Building Stones Database map, Stone Source ID 55997).

The 1842 Yatton Keynell tithe apportionment identifies clusters of quarry sites in this parish north west of Chippenham. There were three active quarries in very close proximity at Giddeahall (KYP: T/A refs 280, 281, 429; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 85682 74805; Post Code SN14 7ES). Two active quarries west of the village of Yatton Keynell were on the site of Manor Farm Quarry, which produced Bath Stone (KYP: T/A refs 317, 318; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 86124 76268; adjacent Post Code SN14 7EL; HE Building Stones Database map, Stone Source ID 8338). Other quarry sites in Yatton Keynell were not in active use. Some quarrying may have continued at a cluster of sites north of Long Dean around an area described on current mapping as Grains Quarry Plantation (KYP: T/A refs 376, 378, 379; centred on approximate OS Grid Ref ST 84783 76165; adjacent Post Code SN14 7EX). Two other sites nearby are described as 'Old Quarry' (KYP: T/A refs 445, 446; approximate OS Grid Ref ST 85160 75638; adjacent Post Code SN14 7EX). These are close to Long Dean Quarry, which produced Bath Stone (HE Building Stones Database map, Stone Source ID 55861).

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Online Resources (accessed January- October 2024)

British Newspaper Archive: [Home](#) | [Search the archive](#) | [British Newspaper Archive](#)

Historic England Building Stones Database: [Building Stones of England](#) | [Historic England](#)

Internet Archive: [Internet Archive: Digital Library of Free & Borrowable Books, Movies, Music & Wayback Machine](#)

Know Your Place (KYP): [Know Your Place - Wiltshire \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#); [Know Your Place - BaNES](#)

National Archives Discovery Catalogue: [Discovery](#) | [The National Archives](#)

National Heritage List for England (NHLE): [Search the List - Find listed buildings, monuments, battlefields and more](#) | [Historic England](#)

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford DNB): [Oxford Dictionary of National Biography \(oxforddnb.com\)](#)

Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER): [Historic Environment Records](#) | [Wiltshire Council](#)

APPENDIX D

Correspondence ATA/Wiltshire Council/Historic England

Andrew Townsend

From: Andrew Townsend
Sent: 22 August 2024 16:00
To: developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk
Cc: Neil Johnson (Building Surveyor); Jay, Jonah; Andy King; Vitruvius Conservation; Ball, Sarah; Holland, Jessica
Subject: RE: Lansdowne Monument FAO Guy Bentham-Hill
Attachments: Mortar trials Lansdowne VC0824.pdf

Dear Guy,

Further to my email to you in April, I'm writing to confirm the stage two trial works will be carried out on the Lansdowne Monument in the next few weeks as follows:

- Provision of 12no mortar samples as per the attached schedule and marked-up image of the south-west elevation
- Replacement of 3no quoins using 1no Ancaster weatherbed, 1no Hartham Park T2 basebed, 1no Chicks Grove Pinney bed
- Provision of 2no temporary steel channels fixed to the face of the main shaft (as in the attached marked-up elevation) to provide a fixing point for a purpose-made rig to lift the quoin stones)
- Provision of a temporary scaffold platform at the foot of the main shaft from which the lifting rig will operate

I'd be grateful if you could give me a call on the number below or 07970 429559 to discuss a possible programme for the full phase of repair works in 2025-26 and the requirement for an extension to the consent for the existing temporary works/hoarding.

I look forward to hearing from you

Best wishes
Andrew

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From: Andrew Townsend
Sent: 12 April 2024 14:58
To: developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk
Cc: Neil Johnson (Building Surveyor) <neilp.johnson@nationaltrust.org.uk>; Jay, Jonah <Jonah.Jay@nationaltrust.org.uk>; Andy King <Andy@geckoella.co.uk>; Vitruvius Conservation

<info@vitruviusconservation.com>; Ball, Sarah <Sarah.Ball@HistoricEngland.org.uk>

Subject: Lansdowne Monument

Dear Guy,

Further to our conversation in early February about the Lansdowne Monument, I'm writing as we discussed to set out the works to be undertaken as part of the preliminary contract which the National Trust has entered into with rope access contractors, Vitruvius Building Conservation. The preliminary works are to be carried out in two stages as follows:

Stage one (late April-early May 2024)

- Temporary ladders to be fixed to the obelisk shaft (by Dawsons, steeplejacks) using existing stainless steel socket fixings; as a precaution, the lower lifts of temporary laddering to be removed when no workforce on site
- Rope access inspection of the condition of the monument stonework
- Max 12 no core samples each 38mm dia and 60mm deep taken from stone dressings (quoins, plinth)
- Max 6no core samples (dimensions as above) or 40 x 40 x 40mm chiselled pieces taken from plain facing squared rubble
- Max 12 no samples of mortar pointing each max 150mm length of joint x up to 50mm deep

Stage two (late May-June 2024)

- Preparation of trial areas of repair; specification to be developed following analysis of samples, but provisionally to be...
- Replacement of 1no existing quoin with corresponding new stone in a single block
- Replacement of 1no existing quoin with new stone in several horizontal courses
- Replacement of 6no existing facing stones in corresponding new squared rubble
- Re-pointing of facing stones/dressed stones in max 6no trial areas using different lime-based mixes, each trial area to be nom one square metre

Access to the site will be by four-wheel drive vehicles using the byway running south from the A4 and across the hill fort (see pink highlight on attached plan). Suitable weather conditions for access – to avoid damage to the track/hill fort – will be monitored by the Trust's local ranger and access will only be permitted for the contractor with the ranger's agreement.

As discussed, the above preliminary works will be followed by a full phase of repair works probably taking place in 2025 and we anticipate the latter will be the subject of an application for statutory consents from the Council.

I'd be grateful if you could confirm you are satisfied for the preliminary works to go ahead as described. We will notify you of the detailed specification of the stage two preliminary work well in advance of this being carried out

Best wishes

Andrew

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Andrew Townsend Architects is a limited liability partnership: company no OC446000

Andrew Townsend

From: Andrew Townsend
Sent: 29 September 2025 17:54
To: 'developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk'
Cc: Johnson, Neil (Building Surveyor); Jay, Jonah
Subject: FW: Lansdowne monument FAO Guy Betham-Hill
Attachments: 1374 Spec A.PDF; 1374 Spec B.PDF

Dear Guy,

Please find attached the two specification documents we discussed on site last Friday. If you have any comments/queries at this stage, I'd be grateful to receive these by 20th October.

Best wishes
Andrew

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From: Andrew Townsend
Sent: 29 September 2025 17:50
To: 'Chapman, Sasha' <Sasha.Chapman@HistoricEngland.org.uk>; 'nick.croxson@historicengland.org.uk' <nick.croxson@historicengland.org.uk>; 'Melanie.Barge@HistoricEngland.org.uk' <Melanie.Barge@HistoricEngland.org.uk>; 'developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk' <developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Donna.Bell@nationaltrust.org.uk; Johnson, Neil (Building Surveyor) <neilp.johnson@nationaltrust.org.uk>; Jay, Jonah <Jonah.Jay@nationaltrust.org.uk>; Oliver Wilson <oliver@andrewtownsend.co.uk>
Subject: RE: Lansdowne monument

Dear All,

Many thanks for meeting Neil and me at the Lansdowne Monument on Friday. I hope this provided a good sense of the challenges facing the Trust in arresting decay in the facing masonry and reinstating full public access to the base of the monument. The key items we discussed were:

- NT currently in discussion with HE and the tenant farmer regarding an application for countryside stewardship grant (administered by HE) for repairs to the monument
- SC to forward link to the grant scheme to AT
- AT described the history of the monument including works and subsequent issues since the Trust took on ownership in the late 1980s
- ATA carried out options appraisal/condition survey/report in 2022-3
- Mortar and quoin stone replacement/repair trials carried out in 2024-5 using rope-access contractors

- AT described in broad terms the approach to repair; two separate draft specifications have been produced by ATA which differ broadly in terms of access for the works; option A using rope-access contractors, option B is a hybrid using scaffolding access for the lower half (where proposed stone replacement is concentrated) of the monument and rope access for the top half (largely re-pointing only)
- A draft cost plan has been developed by QS for the NT, Trevor Groom, prior to preparation of the specification documents
- SMC required for the access scaffolding bearers and other temporary works; temporary track laid across the scheduled mon is envisaged
- SC will circulate draft spec documents amongst her relevant colleagues for comment to ATA [by 20.10.25]
- Project to be tendered provisionally in early November to x3 rope-access contractor (option A) and x3 conservation contractors (option B)
- Provisional start date for the works spring 2026
- AT to forward draft copy of spec to GBH; formal pre-app not required
- Application for lbc likely to require accompanying ecological assessment/report

Any omissions/amendments, please let me know

Best wishes

Andrew

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From: Chapman, Sasha [<mailto:Sasha.Chapman@HistoricEngland.org.uk>]

Sent: 27 September 2025 15:34

To: Andrew Townsend <at@andrewtownsend.co.uk>

Cc: Donna.Bell@nationaltrust.org.uk; Johnson, Neil (Building Surveyor) <neilp.johnson@nationaltrust.org.uk>; Jay, Jonah <Jonah.Jay@nationaltrust.org.uk>; Oliver Wilson <oliver@andrewtownsend.co.uk>; Trevor Groom <groom.trevor@yahoo.co.uk>; David Evans <devans@cliveha.co.uk>

Subject: RE: Lansdowne monument

Hi Andrew

I have forwarded the draft specification to Mel Barge (IAM) and Nick Croxson (Partnerships Team) as well as Jessica Holland, for comment but wanted to let you know, due to holiday any comments will be provided on 20 October rather than 13 October.

Best Wishes

Sasha Chapman

Team Leader Countryside Stewardship Heritage Service

Direct Line: 0117 975 1338

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From: Andrew Townsend <at@andrewtownsend.co.uk>

Sent: 17 September 2025 10:58

To: Chapman, Sasha <Sasha.Chapman@HistoricEngland.org.uk>

Cc: Donna.Bell@nationaltrust.org.uk; Johnson, Neil (Building Surveyor) <neilp.johnson@nationaltrust.org.uk>; Jay, Jonah <Jonah.Jay@nationaltrust.org.uk>; Oliver Wilson <oliver@andrewtownsend.co.uk>; Trevor Groom <groom.trevor@yahoo.co.uk>; David Evans <devans@cliveha.co.uk>

Subject: Lansdowne monument

-- WARNING: This is an external message. Please use caution when replying, opening attachments or clicking on any links in this e-mail.--

Dear Sasha,

Please find attached two specification documents for proposed repair works at the above, as follows:

- Specification and drawings option A – all works carried out using rope-access techniques
- Specification and drawings option B – works up to course 51 carried out using conventional access scaffolding; works above this level using rope-access techniques

The rationale behind preparation of two separate specifications is that the 'trial' replacement of three quoins in 2024 using rope-access has cast doubt on the cost benefit of doing all the work using this method which had been put forward as the preferred method in our 2023 options appraisal. As you'll see from the documents, it's envisaged there'll be no replacement of large sections of stone above course 51 and higher level areas can be tackled (we believe) cost-effectively using rope access.

As discussed, the documents are in rough draft form at present as a basis for our discussions when we meet on site.

I look forward to seeing you (meeting in the layby on the A4 at the foot of Cherhill Down) at 10am on Friday 26th September. Please let me know in the meantime if you have any initial queries or require further information at this stage.

Best wishes
Andrew

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APPENDIX E

Greena Ecological Consultancy report on protected species

Greena Ecological Consultancy

**PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL
ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Lansdowne Monument

Cherhill

Calne

SN11 8XY

12th of December 2025

Report compiled by:

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Please note basic biological record information obtained in this report may be shared with record centres; this would not include your personal information

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Brief

An ecological assessment survey was requested to support a listed application for major repairs of the Grade II listed Lansdowne Monument owned and managed by National Trust.

This ecological survey and report are intended to ascertain sufficient information to evaluate the situation adequately in preparation of the above-mentioned works. The information gathered will be necessary to comply with European Regulations, which relate to planning regulations and with The Wildlife and Countryside Directives and Habitat Regulations.

Consultation with the Local Planning Authority, in this case Wiltshire Council, is required for the planning application.

Summary

- Greena Ecological Consultancy was instructed by the National Trust to perform a daytime field survey, desktop survey and following preliminary ecological appraisal report.
- The survey site is comprised of the existing monument. The monument is surrounded by species-rich calcareous grassland and in close proximity to which is part of Calstone and Cherhill Downs Site of Special Scientific Interest. To ensure no harm to existing grassland a Construction Environmental Management Plan is to be produced prior to work commencing and adhered to throughout repair works.
- The site was surveyed on the 8th of October 2025 by inspection only.
- During the daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025 there were no evidence of bats in the monument. The due to the lack of roosting features in the monument the monument was deemed to provide low bat roost potential. The lower half of the monument could not be fully inspected, when access is available through rope access or scaffolding an ecologist is to inspect the lower half of the monument. Depending on the result of the survey the monument may be deemed to provide negligible bat roost potential.

The habitat on and surrounding the site was deemed to provide low potential for foraging and commuting bats due to the exposed location with no hedgerows or trees creating safe flight routes. Bats may still be present in the area and the site is subject to no artificial lighting.

- During the survey on the 8th of October 2025 no obvious bird nests were identified in existing monument and the monument was deemed as unlikely to support nesting birds.
- A walkover survey of the site and areas within 30m of the site was performed to identify any signs (sett, animal path, latrine, hair etc) of *badger (Meles meles)* presence. No setts or signs of *badger (Meles meles)* were identified.
- Other protected species included in the survey were plants species, invertebrates, reptile species and badgers. Calstone and Cherhill Downs SSSI is known to support a range of rare and very rare invertebrates. By following a CEMP produced to ensure minimal damage to existing grassland it is deemed to minimise affect on rare and very rare invertebrates that may be present or supported within the grassland.

As a precaution the site should be kept tidy throughout construction to ensure no animals take refuge in building material and equipment. Furthermore, any excavation deeper than 1m and any pipework with a diameter larger than 120mm should be covered overnight to ensure no animals fall in and get trapped.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Greena Ecological Consultancy was instructed by the National Trust to undertake a survey to support a planning application or repairs of the Grade II listed Lansdowne Monument. The affected site consists of existing monument and surrounding the monument is species rich, lowland calcareous grassland. The daytime survey was carried out on the 8th of October 2025.

Greena have carried out extensive fieldwork for bats in the area where at least 15 bat species have been recorded.

The extended surrounding off site habitat consists of Calstone and Cherhill Downs Site of Special Scientific Interest, consisting of species-rich lowland calcareous grassland. Extended areas grassland and areas of woodland offer suitable roosting, nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for a range of animals including bats, birds, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, invertebrates and other biodiverse subgroups.

1.2 Legislation

1.2.1 National Planning Policy

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment:

- Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
 - Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);
 - Recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;
 - Maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;
 - Minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;
 - Preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and
 - Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.
- Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites; allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value, where consistent with other policies in this Framework; take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.
- Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty which

have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads⁵⁹. The scale and extent of development within all these designated areas should be limited, while development within their setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.

- When considering applications for development within National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest. Consideration of such applications should include an assessment of:
 - The need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy;
 - The cost of, and scope for, developing outside the designated area, or meeting the need for it in some other way; and
 - Any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.
- Within areas defined as Heritage Coast, planning policies and decisions should be consistent with the special character of the area and the importance of its conservation. Major development within a Heritage Coast is unlikely to be appropriate unless it is compatible with its special character.

Habitats and biodiversity:

- To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:
 - Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity⁶¹; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and
 - Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.
- When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:
 - If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;
 - Development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
 - Development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused,

- unless there are wholly exceptional reasons⁶³ and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and
 - Development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.
- The following should be given the same protection as habitats sites:
 - Potential Special Protection Areas and possible Special Areas of Conservation;
 - Listed or proposed Ramsar sites; and
 - Sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on habitats sites, potential Special Protection Areas, possible Special Areas of Conservation, and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.
- The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site.

1.2.2 Bats

All UK bat species and their roosts are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through inclusion in Schedule 5, under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, and under Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). The Regulations designate bats as European Protected Species (EPS).

Taken together, the Acts and Regulations protecting bats make it an offence to:

- Deliberately kill, injure, capture or take bats;
- Deliberately disturb bats. This particularly relates to disturbance that is likely to:
 - Impair their ability to survive, breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young;
 - Impair their ability to hibernate or (for migratory species) migrate; and/or
 - Affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.
- Damage or destroy bat roosts;
- Possess or transport a bat or part of a bat, unless acquired legally; and
- Sell, offer for sale or exchange bats or parts of bats.

A roost is any structure or place used for shelter or protection. Bats need to have access to a number of roosts because they use different roosts depending on season, breeding status and prevailing weather conditions. For this reason roosts are protected whether or not bats are present at the time.

As bats are designated EPS, development and building works that are likely to result in the disturbance of bats, damage to or destruction of their roosts, or require bats to be caught or translocated, usually require an EPS licence to be obtained from Natural England before any works begin. Obtaining a licence involves completing an Application Pack, including a Method Statement that details mitigation appropriate to maintaining the 'favourable conservation status' of the local bat population. Three conditions must be met before a licence can be granted:

- There is no satisfactory alternative;

- The development will not be detrimental to the maintenance of local bat populations at a 'favourable conservation status' in their natural range; and
- The development must be for 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature'.

An EPS licence is required for all development activities if there is a reasonable likelihood that an offence against Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) or Environmental Damage Regulation 2009 (as amended) will be committed.

The following offences could potentially be committed by carrying out the proposed development if any bat species are present during the conversion works:

- Capturing or killing – a wild animal of a European Protected Species (EPS) could be deliberately captured, injured or killed (Reg 41(1)(a));
- Disturbing EPS – a wild animal of an EPS could be deliberately disturbed including in particular a disturbance which is likely to impair its / their ability to survive or hibernate (Reg 41 (1)(b));
- Disturbing EPS whilst occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection – includes intentional and reckless disturbance (s9 (4)(b) WCA); and
- Damage of an EPS breeding site or resting place – (Reg 41 (1)(d)) – strict liability.

The above stated offences can be avoided where works are to take place when bats are not present and bat roost will be maintained unchanged. If roost is going to be available to bats at the time they usually occupy the structure, a continued ecological functionality of the site will be preserved. Suitable mitigation measures must be put in place prior, during and post works to ensure that continued ecological functionality will be maintained.

In case the above listed offences cannot be guaranteed to be avoided throughout the proposed development, an EPS licence to derogate must be sought.

The full EPS licence generally applies if the proposed development is to cause greater than low ecological impact. A simpler and faster way of carrying out development with low ecological impact had been implemented by Natural England under the Bat Mitigation Class Licence (BMCL). It involves BMCL Registered Consultants who can supervise the proposed low impact development under their personal class licence, the need for preparation and processing of an EPS licence is vastly reduced. The development is carried out under a site registration prepared for the works and under the supervision of the licensed ecologist. BMCL only covers low impact development affecting low numbers of "common" bats and providing the site in question does not serve as a maternity or hibernation roost.

1.2.3 Birds

In the UK, with the exception of 13 'pest species' of birds, which may be killed by authorised persons only, wild birds have general protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1984). It is an offence to: kill, injure or take a wild bird; take, damage or destroy nests (in use or being built); and take or destroy eggs. Under Schedule I of the Act, some species (including the barn owl *Tyto alba*) are protected by special penalties at all times.

Birds receive additional protection under the European Communities Council Directives on the Conservation of Wild Birds. This directive relates to the conservation of all species of birds naturally occurring in the wild in European territory of the Member States, as well as their nests and habitats.

If any of the above resulted from a person being reckless, even if they had no intention of committing the offence, their action would still be considered an offence.

1.2.4 Badgers (*Meles meles*)

Badgers (Meles meles) are protected in Britain by the Protection of Badger Act 1992 as well as the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996. The purpose of the Badger Act is to protect the animals from deliberate cruelty and from the incidental effects of lawful activities which could cause harm.

Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- Wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or attempt to do so
- Interfere with a sett by damaging or destroying it
- Obstruct access to, or any entrance of a badger sett
- Disturb a badger when it is occupying a sett

If any of the above resulted from a person being reckless, even if they had no intention of committing the offence, their action would still be considered an offence.

The following activities will generally require a licence from Natural England:

- Works undertaken using heavy machinery (generally tracked vehicles) within 30m of an active sett entrance
- Using lighter machinery (generally wheeled vehicles), particularly for any digging operation within 20m of an active sett entrance
- Light work such as hand digging or scrub clearance within 10m.

No offence will be committed if no parts of the sett will be damaged during works and if badgers are not occupying the sett at the time of works.

2. Aims and Objectives

The aim of the survey and supporting desk study is to satisfy the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), identify ecological features within or near the site that could potentially pose a constraint to the proposed development and opportunities for incorporating biodiversity enhancements into the development proposals.

Wiltshire Council is the Local Planning Authority for the affected site. The local planning authority needs consultation prior to planning consent.

The following ecological features were relevant to the survey carried out by Greena Ecological Consultancy:

- Proximity of statutory and non-statutory designed wildlife sites;
- Proximity of Habitats and Species of Principal Importance, or local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats and networks of these habitats;
- Legally protected wildlife species; and
- All other species of wildlife potentially affected by the proposed development.

This report has been produced with reference to current guidelines for preliminary ecological appraisal (CIEEM, 2017).

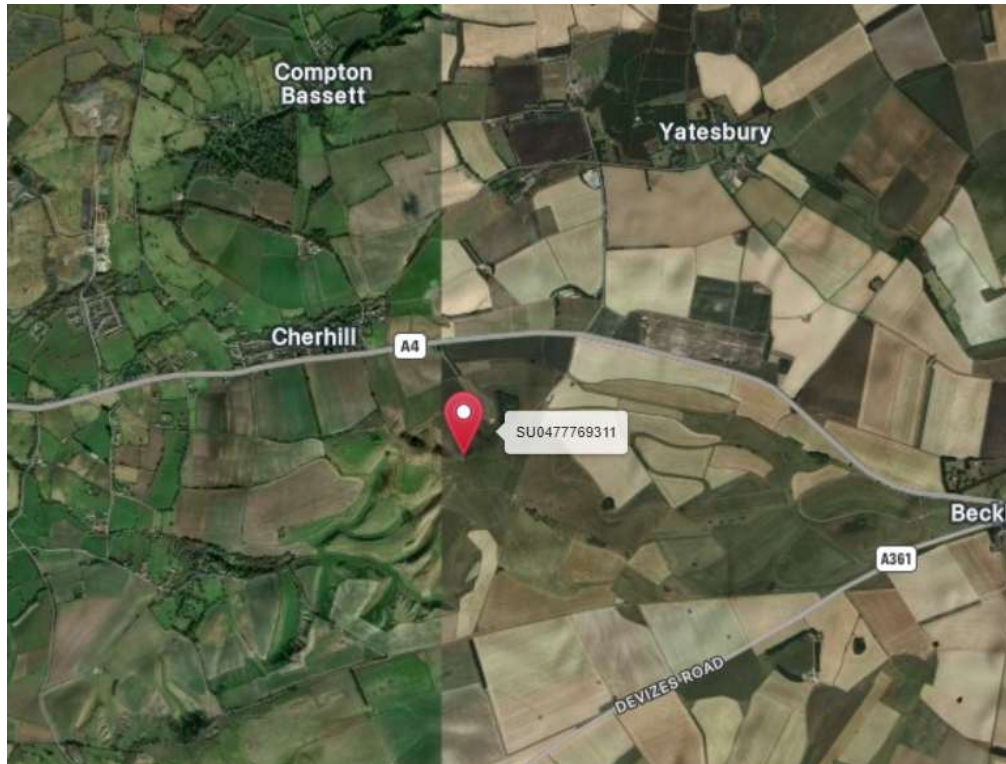
3. Site description

3.1 Surrounding Area

The site is located south of Cherhill and east of Chippenham at OS grid reference SU0477769311, see Figure 1.

Surrounding habitat mainly consist of priority lowland calcareous grassland and Calstone and Cherhill Downs Site of Special Scientific Interest, see **6.1 Designated sites** for more details. The site has grassland surrounding the existing monument at all elevations.

Figure 1: Site Location



3.2 Description of the site

The affected site consist of the existing Lansdowne Monument made by stone. The monument is located on a chalk hill surrounded by species-rich calcareous grassland. Proposed work include major repair works to carry out pointing and replacement of quoin stones. Base plinth require extensive pointing and some flag stones resetting. Internally the monument has a base with 3 concentric square ring tunnels. The tunnels have a hollow core in the centre, small 'window' holes linking between the tunnels, core and exterior via removed flag. The species-rich calcareous grassland surrounding the monument is affected by potential vehicle access.

Figure 3. Site location



4. Methods

Surveyor Geoff Billington MCIEEM, Greena Ecological Consultancy, holder of Natural England class 3 & 4 bat survey licences, undertook a daytime inspection of the site on 8th of October 2025.

Searches were made for the following:

- Past records in this actual site;
- Nearest designated site and habitats; and
- Nearest licences for protected species that has been issued.

No overall desktop search has been carried out for bat records because 15 bat species have already been recorded by Greena and others in the local area including the more common four annex II species, so this assemblage are taken to be the species occurring in the area.

Instruments at hand if needed throughout the field survey were a high-end torch (Glarylight – GL-P70-DK-A), ladder, binoculars and suitable field guides.

4.1 Habitats

A walkover assessment of the site was conducted to assess habitats.

4.2 Bats

The monument on the site was surveyed using the following methodology:

- a) Signs of residency by bat species. This consisted of a slow methodical search for roosting bats and their signs. Droppings can be used to identify species and scratch marks and staining at roosts and exit holes shows the presence of bats. Similarly, the presence of spider webs at a potential roost entry can often indicate an absence of bats; and
- b) An assessment of the potential of a building to provide a roost either in the summer (maternity) or winter (hibernation).

In accordance with Collins (2023) the habitats on-site were assessed for suitability, including roosting, foraging and commuting for bats. Links to known roosts and areas designated to bats were also assessed.

4.3 Birds

The monument on site was inspected during the day time visit on the 8th of October 2025 for bird species, and to locate signs of use such as nests and/or droppings. Habitats were assessed for suitability to support nesting birds.

4.4 Other Protected Species

The site was inspected and assessed for the signs of presence and potential for other European and UK protected species on the 8th of October 2025.

Visual inspection was utilised as a method of search for other protected species.

5. Report Limitations

An ecological survey is limited by factors that affect the presence of plants and animal, this includes time of the year, migration and behaviour. Furthermore, species and features can be missed during the inspection due to the human factor and even though the ecological survey present species present on site, this is not a definite list of all species on-site and evidential

absence of other species is not be taken as conclusive proof that the species is not present or will be present on the affected site.

The result of the desk- and field surveys are deemed to provide significant proof of habitats and species affected by proposed plans. Over time habitats and species supported within habitats can change through natural processes and human interference. Therefore, is this report valid for two years, in line with current guidelines, and thereafter the site will need re-surveying and the report updated accordingly to new findings.

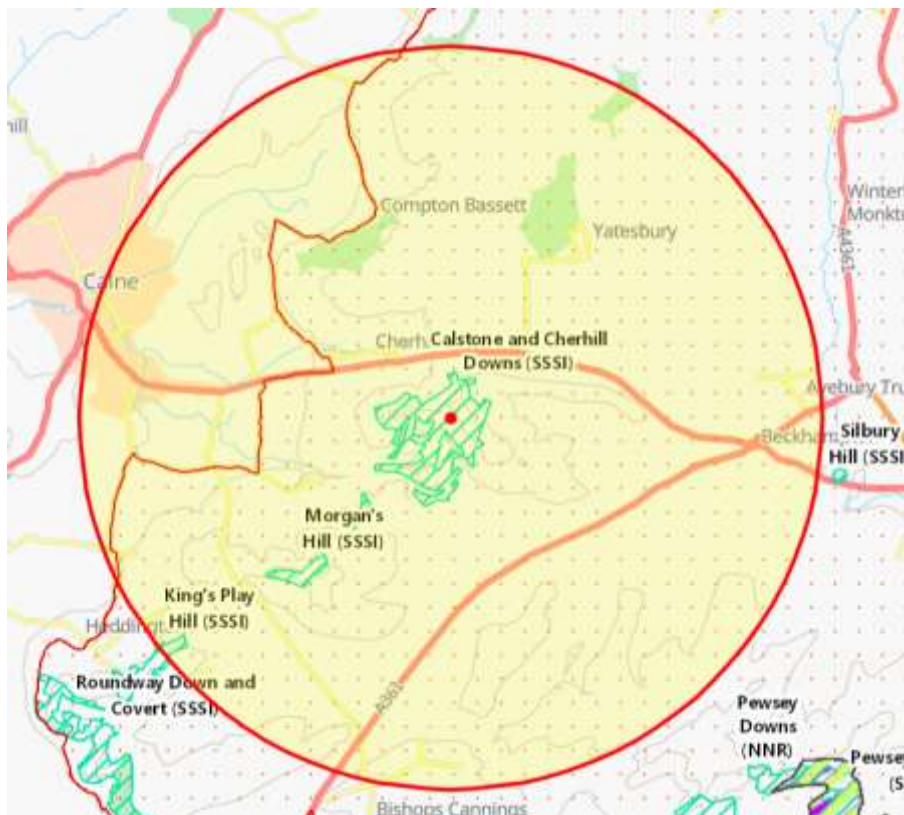
6. Results

Greena Ecological Consultancy conducted a daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025, prior and following the field survey a desktop study was performed and completed.

6.1 Designated sites

There are multiple nationally designated sites within 5km of the site, presented in figure 3. Affected site lies within North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB) and Calstone and Cherhill Downs Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is directly adjacent to affected site. Calstone and Cherhill Downs is an extensive area of herb-rich chalk grassland of exceptional botanical quality. The flora supports a diverse population of invertebrates including a range of butterfly species and a nationally rare cricket. The site comprises one of the best remaining examples in North Wiltshire of unimproved downland, a habitat which has been largely lost due to either neglect or the use of intensive agricultural methods.

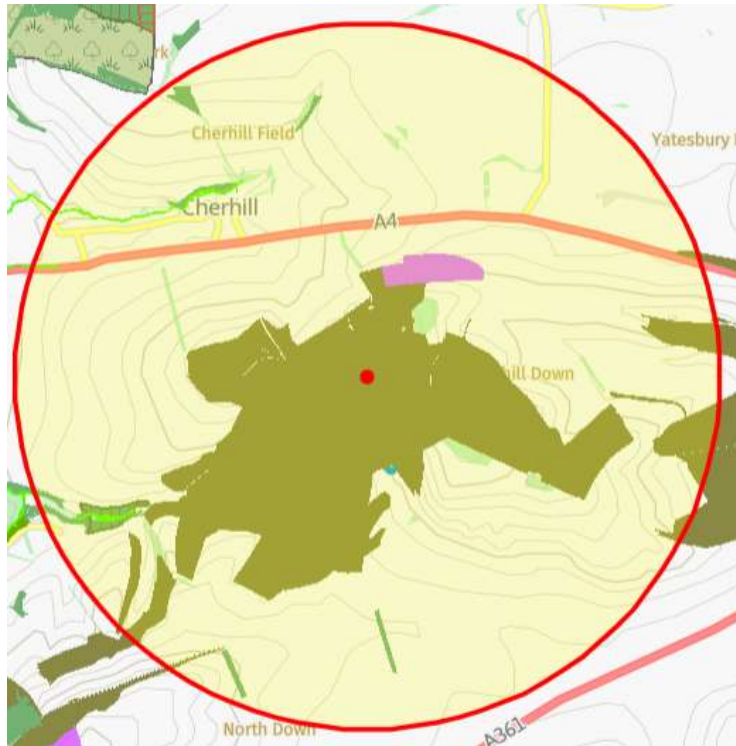
Figure 3: Designated sites



6.2 Habitats

There are multiple areas of priority habitats within 2km of the site. These are presented in figure 4. The site lies within priority habitat lowland calcareous grassland. Priority habitat located further from the affected site include deciduous woodland, wood-pasture & parkland ancient & semi-natural woodland, chalk rivers, good quality semi-improved grassland and a priority pond.

Figure 4: Priority habitat



During the field survey performed on the 8th of October 2025 existing monument and surrounding grassland was inspected. The monument is located on a chalk hill surrounded by species-rich calcareous grassland. Proposed work includes major repair works to carry out pointing and replacement of quoin stones. Base plinth requires extensive pointing and some flag stones resetting. Internally the monument has a base with 3 concentric square ring tunnels. The tunnels have a hollow core in the centre, small 'window' holes linking between the tunnels, core and exterior via removed flag.

Photographs 1-7: External monument





Photographs 8-10: Internal monument



Photograph 11: Species-rich calcareous grassland



6.3 Bats

The results of desk top study for bats are based on local information obtained by Greena Ecological Consultancy and others between 1999 & 2022 of 15 bat species, see table 1.

Table 1: Bat species recorded in the local area

Bat species recorded in the area	Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser horseshoe Bat)
	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum (Greater horseshoe Bat)
	Plecotus auritus (Brown long-eared Bat)
	Plecotus austriacus (Grey long-eared Bat)
	Pipistrellus pipistrellus (Common pipistrelle Bat)
	Pipistrellus pygmaeus (Soprano pipistrelle Bat)
	Pipistrellus nathusii (Nathusius pipistrelle Bat)
	Myotis daubentonii (Daubenton's Bat)
	Myotis bechsteinii (Bechstein's Bat)
	Myotis mystacinus (Whiskered Bat)
	Myotis brandtii (Brandt's Bat)
	Myotis nattererii (Natterer's Bat)
	Eptesicus serotinus (Serotine Bat)
	Barbastella barbastellus (Barbastelle Bat)
	Nyctalus noctule (Noctule Bat)

There were no European Protected Species (EPS) for bat mitigation licence located within 2km radius of the site according to Magic Maps.

During the daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025 no obvious signs (droppings, urine stain etc) were identified within affected monument. No signs of bats were identified when inspecting the tunnels/core and as there were no light getting into the core there is no bat access into it higher up. Furthermore, there is no access into the plinth. The plinth was

inspected with no suitable exterior crevices for bats or birds, it is however possible that there are odd exterior holes higher up above the base.

The lower half of the monument could not be inspected, when access is available through rope access or scaffolding an ecologist is to inspect the lower half of the monument.

The habitat on and surrounding the site was deemed to provide low potential for foraging and commuting bats due to the exposed location with no hedgerows or trees creating safe flight routes. Bats may still be present in the area and the site is subject to no artificial lighting.

6.4 Birds

Affected site lies within a Countryside Stewardship (CS) area for *corn bunting* (*Emberiza calandra*) and *lapwing* (*Vanellus vanellus*). The site also lies within areas for *grey partridge* (*perdix perdix*), *tree sparrow* (*Passer montanus*) and *yellow wagtail* (*Motacilla flava*).

During the daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025 no signs of birds were identified on site. The monument provides negligible potential for nesting birds, the grassland surrounding the monument was deemed as less suitable for ground nesting birds. However, if work takes place during the nesting bird season (March- August) caution is to be taken to ensure no nesting birds are harmed.

6.5 Other protected species

There are no EPS mitigation licences for any other protected species within 2km radius according to Magic Maps. Calstone and Cherhill Downs SSSI complex combustion of flora species has made it a site of multiple rare invertebrates. The site has 25 resident breeding butterfly species with several being relatively uncommon nationally, such as the *small blue* (*Cupido minimus*), *chalkhill blue* (*Lysandra coridon*), *Duke of Burgundy* (*Hamearis Lucina*) and *marsh fritillary* (*Eurodryas Aurinia*). Other invertebrates recorded on site is the very rare and vulnerable *wart-biter bush cricket* (*Decticus verrucivorus*), the particular species is only known from a few other localities in Britain and found in the longer vegetation, the *heath snail* (*Helicella itala*), a local and declining species characteristic of calcareous grassland, and the uncommon *plant bug* (*Sehirus dubius*).

A walkover was performed to identify potential *badger* (*Meles meles*) setts on the affected site and within 30m of the affected site. No *badger* (*Meles meles*) setts or animal paths were identified. In the outer tunnel ring a large amount of cave spiders *Meta menardi* were identified, the species is not protected and does occur widely across Europe but is however sparsely distributed in UK.

7. Conclusions & Mitigation

7.1 Designated sites & Habitats

The proposed plans include vehicle access over priority habitat and SSSI grassland. The grassland is of high importance, species-rich known to support a range of rare and uncommon invertebrates. To ensure minimal harm to the grassland occurs during proposed repair works of the monument a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) is to be in place prior to work commencing. Proposed work is to take place outside of the winter months where the ground is wet and more damage of the grassland will occur. The CEMP is to include details of potential ground mats being used to minimise damage. If a CEMP is produced and followed prior to work commencing proposed plans are deemed to not affect designated sites or priority habitats.

7.2 Bats

During the daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025 no obvious signs of bats were identified within the monument. Due to the lack of roosting features in the monument the monument was deemed to provide low bat roost potential. The lower half of the monument could not be fully inspected, when access is available through rope access or scaffolding an ecologist is to inspect the lower half of the monument. Depending on the result of the survey the monument may be deemed to provide negligible bat roost potential.

The habitat on and surrounding the site was deemed to provide low potential for foraging and commuting bats due to the exposed location with no hedgerows or trees creating safe flight routes. Bats may still be present in the area and the site is subject to no artificial lighting.

7.3 Birds

During the daytime survey 8th of October 2025 no signs of birds were identified and the monument deemed to provide very low potential for nesting birds. The grassland surrounding the monument was deemed as less suitable for ground nesting birds. However, if work takes place during the nesting bird season (March- August) caution is to be taken to ensure no nesting birds are harmed. If nesting birds are identified prior to demolition the nests are to be left until fledged.

Nesting birds are protected under Wildlife and Countryside Act (1984) and have additional protection under the European Communities Council Directives on the Conservation of Wild Birds legislation, birds habitat are however not protected unless under designated protected sites.

7.4 Other protected species

The site had no evidence (sett, animal paths, hair, latrine etc) of other protected species during the survey on the 8th of October 2025. Animals identified to potentially be affected by proposed plans are invertebrates supported within Calstone and Cherhill Downs SSSI. Invertebrates supported by plants growing in calcareous grassland could be affected if grassland surrounding the monument is permanently damaged by vehicle traffic. The CEMP will ensure minimal damage to the grassland will minimise risk of invertebrates and habitats supporting invertebrates being harmed.

Throughout construction a precautionary approach is to be applied, this includes keeping the site tidy with any material stacked on pallets to avoid creating refugia which could be used by protected species. Any excavation deeper than 1m and any pipework with a diameter larger than 120mm should be covered overnight to ensure no animals fall in and get trapped. Furthermore, any animals found should be allowed to disperse naturally.

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