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Castrum Merlebergae

**A note on some further digging in the Wilderness,
with a chronological list of relevant extracts from
published and unpublished records.**

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ACTIVE interest in Marlborough Castle has doubtless manifested itself at intervals since the foundation of the College: in particular a lecture delivered by the future Bishop Cotton before the foundation of this Society should be mentioned, which has long remained the principal source of information upon the subject. Stray notes on casual discoveries are scattered through the volumes of our N. H. S. Reports awaiting, with countless other matters of equal interest, the light which a competent index to the whole series would shed upon them. (Here is a piece of work which some member or members might profitably undertake and reap the gratitude of succeeding generations. Volunteers may be assured that if they will produce a proper index, the Committee will find the means of publishing it). I believe, however, that actual excavation anywhere upon the site was never undertaken by members of the School until the summer of 1915 when the Mitre Society of O.3, under the auspices of Mr. J. R. Taylor, then Bursar, opened an area in the Wilderness beside the path leading to the Bathing-place and was fortunate enough to strike the foundations of a medieval building. An account of the operations and their results will be found in the 64th N.H.S. Report. Inspired by their example the Archaeological Section obtained in the Summer Term of this year the Bursar's permission to make further excavations, and two areas were attacked. One party devoted itself to opening up the foundations disclosed in 1915, while another ran a trench E.S.E. of the same spot on the other side of the path for some 50 feet in the hope of lighting upon further foundations. The first party, again directed and actively assisted by Mr. Taylor, succeeded in exposing the greater part of the flint work discovered in 1915. Their task, however, was more difficult than that of their predecessors, for the original digging had been filled with many cartloads of rubbish, mainly brickbats, tins and discarded iron-ware, which offered a disheartening resistance to the picks and shovels of the workers. Whoever was responsible for this filling had evidently small respect for what are probably the

foundations of the earliest building yet known in Marlborough. The bulk of this material has now been removed, and the foundations have been left in somewhat precarious view as a guidance and encouragement to future workers. Little, however, was added to our knowledge by the term's operations. A layer of yellowish earth was exposed to the S.E. of the flint footings on a slightly higher level, some 3 feet below the surface, which suggested a decayed floor or packing of oolite rubble; but its condition was too rotten to allow of any conclusions being drawn as to its purpose. On top of this a loose flint wall, 2 feet wide and rising about 6 inches above the platform, was traceable- for several feet in a S.W. direction, till it made a S.E. turn and lost itself among the roots of a large tree. This flint work lay some 6 feet from the footings originally discovered and suggested in the portion exposed no obvious relations to them. Since the fact is not recorded in connection with the work of 1915, it should here be added that the footings unearthed in that year are 4½ feet wide and rise to an average height of about a foot from a depth of about 4½ feet below the surface of the ground. As the whole of the original area has not yet been fully recovered it is not possible to record the length of the footings so far traced. A few sherds of medieval pottery, fragments of coloured plaster and lumps of lime silicate (slag from the royal lime-kilns) such as were discovered on the former occasion and possibly relics of the same find, were practically all of interest that this year's digging yielded. It was felt however that the work had by no means been wasted if it cleared the ground, as in the most literal sense of the words it did, for further examination.

The south eastern trench proved almost entirely barren, unless a pronounced accumulation of flint about 12 feet from its northern end, where it abutted on the path, represented the remains of a wall running N.E. and S.W. These vestiges were followed a short distance in side cuttings which yielded nothing striking enough to warrant further investigation. The section of the ground, however, exposed in the main trench was not without interest. It revealed some four feet of accumulated chalk rubble and light coloured earth overlying a dark band of mould from four to six inches in thickness. Beneath this the solid chalk was struck, of a consistency which suggested the presence of the same chalk rock which occurs, for instance, four feet below the lawn in front of Sick House. It seems probable that the dark band of soil represents the level of the original mould or of medieval occupation, and the hard chalk beneath it the bed on which the foundations- of ancient buildings in the Wilderness were presumably laid. It corresponds in depth from the surface to the stratum on which the flint footings of the earlier excavation lie on the other side of the footpath, and it indicates how far we must go down in any further attempts we make to recover the ground plan of the Castle Bailey.

A notable step towards scientific field work was made this year in the taking of accurate notes of all digging and finds and the making of a careful map of the whole area. The work done in this most important direction by G. W. Daughlish deserves particular recognition. A case in the Museum preserves his records together with a collection of the more interesting objects discovered both in 1915 and 1922.

As it is very desirable that further excavation should be attempted, so far as the trees and the growth of the Bursar's Timbertown permit, I take this opportunity of collecting all that is yet known of the fabric of the Castle in the form of a Calendar of Records. References to events, such as royal visits and sieges, are sometimes included as supplying evidence of the importance of the place at different periods, but minor entries of unspecified building operations are omitted unless the sums involved suggest unusual activity in this direction. It may be of interest to have the information, now for the first time brought together, in a form convenient for reference. The chief liberty I have taken with the items is to translate them out of the medieval Latin where that has not already been done by others. It would be a pity to corrupt the Latinity of any reader of this calendar by the example of Anglo-Norman clerks.

1070. Ethelric, Bishop of Selsey, is uncanonically deposed and shortly for no fault placed in ward by the King at *Meorlesberge*.

Walter of Coventry (Rolls Series) p. 87.

1106. Henry I. dates a letter to Anselm from the Castle

History of M.C. 1st ed. p. 13;
authority not given.

1110. To Eostra [cyng Henri] was at *Maerlebeorge*

Anglo-Saxon Chron. Vol. I. p.
369.

1138. The Empress [Matilda] summoned to her aid her brother Robert, Earl of Gloucester, ... to whom King Henry had assigned ... the *very strong* (munitissima) *castles* of Bristol and *Marlebege* (*sic*) ...

Annales Monastici (Rolls Series) vol. iv. p.
22. *Chronicon Thomae Wykes*.

1139. In those days [Stephen] was besieging the castle of *Merleberge*, but hearing a report of the landing of the Empress and being greatly perturbed, he raised the siege and made all speed towards Arundel

Gervase of Canterbury (Rolls Series).

1175-6. For 700 *planks* and fetching the same to M. for the making of the KINGS CHAMBER. 32s. 2d. Further sums expended on the same, 140 marks (= £93 6s. 8d.). John Marshal accounts for sums expended in *work on the castle*, £20 13s. 4d.; and for *freestone* for the same, 64s. 4d.

Pipe Roll: 22 Henry II.

1170-7. For fetching 400 square-headed *bolts* to complete the *work at M.* – 29s. 4d.

Pipe Roll: 23 Henry II.

1179-80. And for 100 thousand *shingles* and the cost of fetching them to *the King's work at M.*, £29 4s.; and for 20 *picks* for the said work, 4s. 10d.; and for 40 thousand lath-nails for the same, 20s. 6d. And for fetching 76 thousand and 200 *shingles* from Southampton to M.

Pipe Roll: 25 Henry II.

1185-6. And for carting 50 *planks* of sap-wood from Wallingford to M.

Pipe Roll: 32 Henry II.

1194, Feb. Archbishop Hubert [Walter] of Canterbury with a great army besieged M., which was surrendered to him in the space of a few days without hurt to the lives and limbs of those shut up there. But M. castle [with 2 others] was restored [to John] before the landing of the King [Richard].

Walter of Coventry (Rolls Series).

1205. The King to the Constable of M. You shall cause a new Kitchen to be built at M. wherein there shall be a fireplace for the roasting of two or three oxen.

Close Rolls

1205, The King to Hugh de Neville. Furnish to Peter of the Ballistae a HOUSE in the castle of M. *for the construction of ballistae.*

"Rolls" (unspecified), quoted by Waylen,
Inst. of M. p.32.

1200. And on the repair of the Castle of M., £17 18s. 6d.

Pipe Roll: 7 John.

1215, May 14. The King sends *additional artillery* to M.: 11 *ballistae* (1 standard and 3 swivel pattern), 3 *helmets* and 1 *iron head-piece* with a supply of *stones*.

"Rolls" (unspecified), Waylen p. 33.

1216. Hugh de Neville came to Louis at Winchester, surrendered to him the *castle* of M. and did homage [therefor]

Matthew Paris: Chron. majora.

1217, March. When therefore, before the middle of Lent, Louis had crossed again to France, the royal party took heart and distributing their forces besieged several castles at the same time, recovering the castle of M. [among others].

Walter of Coventry.

1220. "As to your news that the Castle of *Malesbergia* is being fortified, we charge you that you cause as strict a letter as you can devise to be sent forthwith to the Marshall in the King's name, forbidding him expressly to fortify the said castle in any degree and bidding him desist from the work that he has begun thereon ...

Pandulph, Papal Legate, to Hubert de Burgh, Justiciar. *Shirley, Royal Letters No.* 85.

1220. Henry III. at M. on Christmas Day.

Matthew Paris: Hist. Anglorum.

1222. £10 for "repairs to our HOUSES within our castle of M." Frequent orders for drafts on the Treasury for work done at M. Damon de Tufel, Andrew Pampeluna, Peter d'Azay and Peter de Barenny, who wrought at the *ballistae*, to have 30s. each over and above their pay.

"Rolls" (unspecified), *Waylen* p. 47.

1223. Mandate to the constable of Devizes castle that, under the supervision of the verderers of Chippenham Forest and two trusty men of Chippenham town, he have made 40 thousand shingles to be delivered to the constable of M. to aid in the construction of the HOUSES there building.

"Rolls," *Waylen* p. 47.

1227 (previous to) a NEW MILL under the castle of M. built.

Liberate Rolls, Feb. 8.

1227. Credit Robert de Meysey, Constable of M., with £100 3s. 6½d. spent on TWO KITCHENS roofed in stone made in the castle of M. and a TURRET near the KING'S HALL; on repairing and whitening the KING'S GREAT CHAMBER, and repairing the windows of the KING'S CHAPEL as also other HOUSES in the castle and for roofing a CHAMBER in stone which was previously covered with lead.

Liberate Rolls, Feb. 19.

The same to have 10 marks (£6 13s. 4d.) out of the farm of the town for the repair of the WALLS and BATTLEMENTS of the TOWER and BAILEY of the castle and the TURRET behind the KING'S HALL in the castle [already?]

Liberate Rolls, Aug. 6.

1229. Counterpart of writ to the bailiffs of M. to cause Simon Horn to have out of the farm of the town 100s. for the works of the KING'S CHAPEL in the castle.

Liberate Rolls, April 4.

Fifteen thousand *shingles* to roof the same from Chippenham Forest.

Liberate Rolls, May 13.

Counterpart of writ to the bailiffs of M. to cause John de Eston, constable of M., to have 6 marks (£4) to roof the CHAPEL of M. castle.

Liberate Rolls, July 3.

300 stones from Devizes for the enlargement of the KING'S CHAPEL at M. More repairs to the castle and Tower: a false roof against the coming winter.

Close Rolls, June 25 et alibi.

1230. Credit John de Eston constable of M. castle, with, 13s. 6d. expended in completing the CHANCEL, of the King's Chapel in the castle.

Liberate Rolls, April 15.

1233. Sums amounting to £32 13s. 4½d. credited to, Roger de Wascilin for expenses of repairs to the KING'S HOUSES in the castle and for seed corn and a new sheep cot in the Barton.

Liberate Rolls.

1234. Timber supplied for repairing the BRIDGE and BARBICAN of the castle towards the DOVECOT.

Close Rolls, Aug. 22.

1237. A MILL to be built within the KING'S GARDEN at M.

Liberate Rolls.

1238. Repairs to HOUSES, WALLS and BATTLEMENTS and to the QUEEN'S CHAMBER in the castle of M.

Liberate Rolls, March 24.

The TOWER of M. castle to be completed and a LIME-KILN made for the purpose.

Counterpart of writ to G. Esturmy to supply the Constable with underwood (and oak timber) for the same.

Liberate Rolls, Nov. 13.

Material from Savernake Forest for two windows for the QUEEN'S CHAMBER and for repairs to the King's HOUSES in the castle of M.

Close Rolls.

1241. *Timber* from Savernake Forest for building an ALMONRY in the castle at M. and for a certain GARDE-ROBE and an ORIOL (*gallery or portico?*) in the castle.

Close Rolls.

1243. *Timber* supplied for making a certain HOUSE and an UPPER STORY (*stagium*) in the castle of M.

Close Rolls.

1244. The Constable of M. castle to build the QUEEN'S CHAMBER at M. with an *upper story*, with a *chimney* below and above; so that the same chamber, contain 24ft. in

width within the walls: and 4 great well-sitting *windows* with *pillars* in the said chamber, to wit one in each *gable* and other two on the two sides of the chamber: and an ALLEY (*oriolum*) of two stories between the King's Chamber and the Queen's.

Liberate Rolls, Jan. 18.

Robert de Mucegros (Constable of the castle) to make a KITCHEN in M. castle for the King's use, a PORCH before the KING'S HALL, a covered ALLEY from the door of the said hall to the kitchen, one WINDOW in the hall, and one CHAMBER for the use of the chaplains, also one SALSARY.

Liberate Rolls; March 18.

Shingles supplied to roof the QUEEN'S CHAMBER.

Close Rolls.

1249. The Constable of M. castle to construct a NEW BARBICAN outside the castle of M. behind the KING'S CHAMBER and at the same time repair the BRIDGE towards the DOVECOT. He is also to lengthen the CHAMBER behind the CHAPEL of St. Nicholas towards the PRIEST'S CHAMBER with an ORIOL; and rebuild the CHAMBER between the OLD GARDEROBE and the aforementioned chamber with a PRIVY CHAMBER over the MOAT of the TOWER; and repair the HOUSES and Walls of the castle and TOWER where necessary, and make a KITCHEN within the NEW TOWER and likewise a KILN ... Also to erect in the QUEEN'S CHAPEL there a crucifix with Mary and John and the Virgin Mary with her child.

Liberate Rolls.

1250. The constable of M. castle is ordered to scour the GREAT DITCH round the castle and to repair it with NEW BAYS; also to make a BELL-TURRET on the western end of St. Nicholas' CHAPEL, and NEW LISTS between the said Chapel and the King's KITCHEN; and a great ROUND WINDOW over the King's seat in the GREAT HALL; and to crenellate that part of the WALL of the castle extending from the KING'S CHAMBER to the GREAT TOWER.

Liberate Rolls, July 3.

1251. Avicis, de Columbariis (warden of Chute Forest) to supply the constable of M. with underwood to make two KILNS for the King's works.

Mandate to Robert de Muscegros, constable of M., that he cause the tithes of two fulling mills and one DOVECOT constructed anew and standing in the King's manor of M. within the limits of the parish of Preshute to be paid each year to Master Robert de la Grove, parson of the church of Preshute as belonging of right to the said church.

Close Rolls.

1259. The Constable of M. castle to build a NEW STABLE where the old one stood: to place two large *glass windows* in the two windows of the KING'S CHAMBER looking west; a *glass window* in the QUEEN'S SMALL WARDROBE and *glass windows* in the CHAMBER next the KING'S HALL; to remove the *shingles* from the roof of the KING'S GREAT KITCHEN and to cover it with *stone*; to make over the said kitchen a LOUVRE and cover it with *lead*; to unthatch the OUTER CHAMBER in the HIGH TOWER and cover it with the *shingles* from the kitchen and to *crest* it with lead; to *cap* the *angles* and *crests* of the roof on the HIGH TOWER with lead, and to *crest* the TRESANCE (*passage, cloister*) between the KING'S CHAPEL and the STAIR of his CHAMBER.

Liberate Rolls, May 11.

1263. Allowance of reasonable costs for the munition of the castle of M. to Walerand (the constable) by reason of the disturbance of the realm.

Patent Rolls, June 17.

1264. Mandate to Robert Waleraund (and others), as the King by counsel of the barons of his Council has committed the castles of M. and Ludgershall with the BASTIONS to Robert de l'Isle to keep during pleasure and they lately committed the same to Henry Esturmy to keep until other order.... to order the said Henry to deliver the said castles to the said Robert.

Patent Rolls, Sept. 24.

In the same year, when Roger de Mortimer, Roger de Clifford (and others), who had given hostages and departed from Lewes, came into the Marches, they seized the castles of Gloucester, Bridgnorth, Marleberge and many others and laid waste the country round about desiring rather to break the peace than to make it. — *Annales Monastici*, vol. iii., p. 234. *Annales de Dunstaplia* (? after Oct. 19 of this year. Lewes was fought. on May 14. Cf. also 1266 below).

1260. Mandate to the constable of the castle of M. and Henry Sturmy to go in person to the said castle to enquire by jurors of the county of Wilts what money Roger de Clifford, sometime constable of that castle, laid out on the works thereof and in the maintenance of knights and sergeants-at-arms and the stipends of the chaplains dwelling in the castle from the time when the King committed the keeping thereof to him: as Roger says that he laid out much money in this which the King wishes to be allowed to him at the Exchequer.

Patent Rolls, April 25.

Inquisition by virtue of this writ.

Merleberg. Roger de Clifford spent on the fortification and on repairs at the head of the GREAT FISHPOND £23; and in maintaining 4 Knights with barded horses and 4 sergeants-at-arms with barded horses and 12 sergeants with un-barded horses

and 54 foot-soldiers for 9 weeks and 4 days (March 25 to June 1, 1264) £63 10s. 0d. and on the stipends of the chaplains in the castle 6s. 8d.

Miscellaneous Inquisitions.

1207. And the King held his parliament in the octave of St. Martin at M where on the advice of discreet persons and by the unanimous voice of his great men he made many statutes for the betterment of his realm and the manifestation of common justice which are called the Statutes of Marlborough.

Chronicon Walteri de Hemingburgh.

1280-90. Winter pasture in the BAILEY (in *Ballo* or *Ballio*) and in the GARDEN commonly let for about 2s. 6d.

Ministers' Accounts, Barton of M.

1300. Repairs to the KING'S GREAT CHAPEL and THREE GREAT CHAMBERS within the castle of M. together with the *gutters* and TRESANCES of the same.

Close Rolls.

1304. Oak supplied for the repair of HOUSES within the castle of M.

Close Rolls.

1309. Marlborough (among many other castles) to be diligently guarded.

Close Rolls, Dec. 19.

1322. The garrisons of many castles (including M.) withdrawn, the late disturbances being at an end.

Close Rolls.

1325. Mandate to the constable of M. castle to repair and improve the HOUSES within the said castle of the King.

Close Rolls.

1359. The King assigns to Adam Burgulon, Nicholas the Parson of St. Peter's, M. and Walter Jop underwood in the Forest of Savernake to be sold to the value of £10 the proceeds to be applied to the repair of the Houses, WALLS and other buildings connected with the castle of M.

Abbrev. Rot. Orig. 6.

1359. Adam Burgulon, Nicholas the parson and John atte Mershemulle to sell and cut down in Savernake Forest, now in the hands of Queen Philippa by the King's grant, by the supervision and testimony of Henry Esturmy, forester of that forest, old oaks not bearing leaves to the value of 10/- and underwood to a like value, and out of the money arising therefrom to cause defects in the houses, walls and other

buildings within the Queen's castle of M. to be repaired by the supervision and testimony of Thomas de Hungerford, constable of the said castle, and to hire the necessary carpenters, masons, carters and other labourers for the work.

Patent Rolls, Oct. 20.

1360. Repairs to houses, walls, and other buildings of the castle of M. under supervision of the parson of St. Peter's and John Atte Mersshemull with dead oak from Savernake Forest.

Patent Rolls.

1360. The King to the Sheriff of Wilts greeting. Whereas our enemies of France, in great multitude of armed men, with their horses, have landed at Winchelsea last Sunday, and are now scouring the country committing homicides and burnings, we command you with all speed to fortify the castles of Old Sarum and M., both with men and with victuals; and contract with persons within your bailiwick for all provisions which shall be required for this service, etc.

Rymer's Foedera (from Close Rolls).

1382. Commission to inquire touching the state of the King's castle of M. and its houses, walls; etc., at the time when John Roches received custody thereof, and at the present time: the cost of repair and the ALTERATION of the course of a STREAM that used to run round it.

Patent Rolls, June 20.

1386. W. de Asthorpe, Kt, to take in the counties of Wilts, Berks, Somerset and Dorset (except in the fee of the Church) masons, carpenters and other artificers, workmen and labourers for the work and repair of the castle of M., and to put them to work at wages to be paid by him or his deputy; and to provide *stone, lime, timber* and carriage therefor, with power to imprison contrarians.

Patent Rolls, Sept. 10.

Appointment of W. Sturmei and the Mayor of M. to examine the condition of M. castle granted to W. de Asthorpe to hold for life, and to inquire of all defects therein, and in its equipment and of the value of all armour, victuals, and other goods therein delivered to the said William.

Patent Rolls, Sept. 11.

1390. A new commission to inquire concerning the defects of the castle of M. as well in walls, gates, turrets, siege-defences (*loupis*), watch-towers, bridges, barriers, ditches as in wastage and destruction of houses, mills and other buildings; and when and by whose default such defects occurred, and to what value they amount; and who may justly be required to repair them; and likewise to inquire into the state of the engines, artillery, victuals and other goods in the said castle.

Inquisition held by virtue of the foregoing writ (Summary).

The jury find that of all the goods of the King in the castle of M. there remain only *lead* in old guttering to the value of £8, old iron in utensils, door-hinges and bolts and window bars to the value of 2s. 1d., and two BELLS in the CHAPEL worth £10: that various persons entrusted with the care of the fabric (and notably Nicholas Halle, late parson St. of Peter's and John atte Mille – see 1359, 1360) have despoiled it or otherwise proved unfaithful to their trust to the wasting and worsening of the said castle; that as to the walls, gates, turrets and other things mentioned in the writ, it is impossible to assess the damage, since only complete reconstruction could-restore them; and that the responsibility for the 'same belongs only to the King. Further that there are no other goods and property, engines or artillery in the said castle which can be valued at all.

Inquisitiones post mortem, etc.

1397: In the plea for the reversal of the attainder on the Despencer family it was shown that 75 years or more before this date the Earl of Hereford and others had entered *vi et armis* the castle of M. and taking thence the goods of Hugh le Despencer, to wit: 36 sacks of cloth, 6 pairs of rich vestments, a library, a golden sword (used in the representation of the Crocifixibn), crosses of gold, ebony and ivory and other ornaments belonging to the CHAPEL, cloth of gold, tapestry, coverlids, the priest's wardrobe, etc.

Waylen p. 59 (authority not given). cf.
W. A. M. vol. III

1402. John Osborne to be warden of the King's free CHAPEL within the castle of M.

Patent Rolls.

1452. *Castle*, manor, town and lordship of M. with the Forest of Savernake granted for life to Queen Margaret.

Patent Rolls, Feb. 29 (compare 1465
below).

1464. The King agreeth to this Act [of. Resumption] Provided that no exception by his Highness above made be in any wise beneficial to any person having anything of his gift grant or lease in [inter alia] the manor, borough and Barton of M.

Act of 4 Edward IV. (*i.e.* the King still
claims the disposal of this demesne.

Waylen p. 59. N. B. There is no reservation
of the Castle of M.)

1465. John Seymour, Knight, warden of Savernake Forest, died holding [inter alia] the pasture called Colinsdowne against Mantonbreach which pasture he held of the King by render of one penny yearly – payable on the festival of St. Michael, Archangel *at the King's castle of M....* and likewise he made suit of court to the same lord the king *in the same place twice yearly.*

Inquisitiones post mortem. 4
Edward IV.

1465. Grant of lordship, borough and barton of M. to Elizabeth Queen of England (The castle omitted for the first time in such a grant).

Patent Rolls.

1467. The demesne of M. with the manor of Berton-cum-M., and the borough of M. in the county of Wilts together with the hamlets, meadows, pastures, woods, underwoods, mills, waters, fisheries, parks, warrens in the Hundred of Selkley, waifs, strays and escheats arising therefrom, and all assarts in the Forest of Savernake with agistments and pannages are confirmed to Queen. Elizabeth. (Again no mention of the *Castle*).

"Rolls" (unspecified) Waylen p. 60.

1483-5. The steward of the Manor of M. accounts for 10s. from the farm of the pasture called BAYLE

Ministers Accounts Bundle 724/11803. (?
The BAILEY (cf. 1280) or Baylea. (cf.
Baymead near Portfield.).

1541. The chief parochie church of the towne standythe at the very weste end of it, beyng dedicate onto Saint Peter. By it there is a *ruine of a great castelle*, hard at the west end of the town, whereof the DOUNGEON TOWRE partly yet standith.

Leland's Itinerary.

1594. This Castle is now by the injuries of time, nothing but ruines; there are indeed some few remains of the wall of the KEEP, and near it is an Alehouse, which has a Castle for the sign.

Camden's Britannia ed. Gibson (1695).

But now being daunted by time there remained an heape of rammell and rubbish witnessing the ruins thereof, and some few reliques of the walles remain within the compasse of a dry ditch. *Id. ibid.* ed. Holland (1610) quoted in *Hist of M.C.* 1st ed. p. 18.

1723. Where now is the seat of my Lord Hartford was the site of the Roman[!] *castrum*, *for they find foundations* and Roman coins...: but towards the river and without my lord's garden-walls, is one angle of it left very manifestly, *the rampart and ditch*

intire: the road going over the bridge [below the present Summerhouse] cuts it off from the limits of the present Castle: the DITCH is still twenty foot broad in some part: it passed originally on the south of the summer house, and so along the garden-wall where it makes the fence, to the turn of the corner: the mark of it is still apparent broader than the ditch, which has been repaired, since, but of narrower dimension.... There is a spring in the ditch, so that the foss of the castrum was always full of water... Roman coins have been found in shaping the mount; which was the keep of the later castle, and now converted into a pretty spiral walk, on the top of which is an octagonal summer-house.

Stukeley, Itinerarium Curiosum. p. 64. (The
“one angle with rampart and ditch *intire*
“ lay in what is now the Master’s
paddock. This and other points in
Stukeley’s description are made plain by
his plate 62 which, with other
Marlborough plates, will be found
following p. 62 of the text in the Adderley
copy of this book).

1731. This Castle is now by the injuries of Time so miserably ruined that there are only within the Ditch some small Remains of the walls; near which there is an Alehouse with a Castle for the sign.

Magna Britannia.

1801. A few remains of the fortifications are yet visible on the outside of the *garden wall*.

Britton, (?) Beauties of England and Wales
(quoted as from the next work in *History*
of M.C., 1st ed. p. 18).

1814. At present even these are entirely gone.

Britton, Beauties of Wiltshire, p. 674.

1833. Some traces of the Castle are still visible.

Gorton Topographical
Dictionary. (Probably copying earlier
authorities).

1922. Several carved stones, which may have come from the Castle, form part of a small rockery in the Lodge garden at the present day.

All the Rolls and Inquisitions quoted above are to be found in the Record Office in Chancery Lane. The majority have been printed and these may be consulted in most good public libraries. The Chronicles are similarly available. A certain number of these and other works quoted are in the Adderley Library or the Bradleian.