

# 21 RUSHEN ABBEY EXCAVATION ARCHIVE 1998-2008

*Peter Davey*

## INTRODUCTION

Following the experience of the 1998 trial excavations a system for recording the paper archive was discussed and agreed with Roger Sims the MNH archivist early in 1999. This consisted of ten numbered categories which were then sub-divided according to need:

- 1. DRAWINGS**
- 2. PHOTOGRAPHS**
- 3. CONTEXT SHEETS**
- 4. PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEETS**
- 5. ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLE SHEETS**
- 6. REPORTS**
- 7. EXCAVATION NOTES/SKETCHES**
- 8. FINDS RECORDING SHEETS**
- 9. CORRESPONDENCE**
- 10. MAPS AND PLANS (NOT DRAWINGS DONE BY CMS)**

Each separate sheet of paper, permatrace or photograph was given a unique number written on it in pencil. The unique numbers begin with one of the ten category numbers and are then sub-divided using oblique strokes. For example, the finds recording sheet for test-pit J with the MNH accession number 1988-0511, was given the number 8/22, where 8 is the code for finds recording sheets and this single sheet was for the 22<sup>nd</sup> out of 29 test-pits and trenches. A greater degree of sub-division was used for more complex groups such as photographs. For example, the 33<sup>rd</sup> monochrome 35mm image within film 28, taken in 1998 has the unique number 2/1/28/33, where 2 is the code for photographs and 2/1 for 35mm monochrome.

This system was maintained throughout the excavations but became less significant as digital recording became the norm as the excavations progressed. For ease of access some of the categories, though maintained in principle, have been stored differently. For example, the correspondence, coded 9, has been stored in three sets: excavation administration, teaching excavation administration and research correspondence. The first two are physically organised by year of excavation and the third by author and then by date.

The paper archive catalogue that follows lists all the major elements it contains and gives details of any amendments or diversion from the agreed archiving system.

The archive has been deposited in the Manx Museum in two forms: paper and digital.

### **The paper archive**

This consists of eight archive boxes:

1. Drawings: site plans and sections
2. Photographs: monochrome 35mm, monochrome prints, colour prints 35mm, videos
3. Photographs: colour diapositives, films 1-52, 35mm
4. Photographs: colour diapositives, films 54-85, 35mm
5. Recording sheets: contexts, photographs and environmental samples
6. Reports, excavation notes, diaries and sketches, earlier administrative correspondence
7. Correspondence: administrative, research and *Borassus* project
8. Working master plans

The contents of the boxes are listed in the catalogue that follows. It was originally produced in March 2017 and revised in January 2022. Although the original ten archiving categories have been maintained the contents of the eight boxes do not correspond directly with them in all cases.

### **The digital archive**

This involves the same categories as the paper archive and is held as Word, Excel, JPEG or TIFF files, some with multiple folders:

1. Drawings
2. Photographs
3. Context records
4. Photographic records
5. Environmental sample records
6. Reports
7. Excavation notes/diaries and sketches
8. Finds records
9. Correspondence
10. Maps, plans and miscellaneous

### **The post-excavation archive**

This is mostly digital and is in the process of re-organisation. It will be presented to MNH in due course.

# **Rushen Abbey Excavations**

**1998 to 2008**

## **Post-Excavation Report: Archive Catalogue**



**to**

**Manx National Heritage**

**1st March 2017; revised 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022**



Manx National Heritage  
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# RUSHEN ABBEY EXCAVATIONS 1998 TO 2008

## POST-EXCAVATION REPORT: ARCHIVE CATALOGUE

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Dr P J Davey, 2017; 2022

### FOREWORD

The following catalogue is provided in accordance with the requirements of Stage 3 of *Manx National Heritage: Rushen Abbey excavations, post-excavation report brief* (Allison Fox, March 2015, revised by her 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016).

During the excavations, the finds were transferred to MNH following completion of each year of excavation. The remainder of the archive was held in the CMS offices in 6 Kingswood Grove and then in the Stable Block at the Nunnery. It was contained in ring-binders, in hanging files in a four-drawer filing cabinet and in large archive boxes (plans). Following his retirement as Director of the Centre in 2007 the archive was progressively transferred to Peter Davey's home at Close e Corvalley, Ballaugh. It has now been transferred to MNH.

The production of this catalogue has involved a number of processes. First, multiple copies of, for example, teaching aids, recording systems, reports and circular letters have been removed together with photocopies of ancillary material, such as general archaeological statements about health and safety legislation or excavation method which are widely available elsewhere. Secondly, the materials have been removed from the ring binders and hanging files that contained them, with special attention being paid to the retention of any explanatory material or unique information contained in them or on them. Thirdly, catalogue lists of each element have been created as Word files; some of these, such as for the drawings, already existed in Excel, others such as for the correspondence had to be created anew. All of the existing lists have been checked, corrected, amended and added to where necessary. Fourthly, the individual filing sets have been re-packaged following detailed advice provided by Wendy Thirkettle of MNH and using the storage material she has provided. Fifthly, box numbers have been allocated and added to the catalogue before being transferred to MNH.

The catalogue has been prepared in tandem with the preparation for the transfer, later in 2022, of all the CMS archive from 1992 to 2007 to MNH. The introductory summary overview of the Rushen Abbey archive follows the format agreed with MNH for the submission of each separate CMS project to MNH.

This catalogue should be read in conjunction with *Rushen Abbey Excavations 1998 to 2008 Post-Excavation Report* delivered to MNH on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

P J Davey  
Close e Corvalley  
Ballaugh  
1<sup>st</sup> March 2017; 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022

# RUSHEN ABBEY EXCAVATIONS 1998 TO 2008

## POST-EXCAVATION REPORT: ARCHIVE CATALOGUE

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## SUMMARY

### CENTRE FOR MANX STUDIES/MANX NATIONAL HERITAGE

**TITLE: RUSHEN ABBEY EXCAVATIONS ARCHIVE: MS 14749**

**ARCHIVE BOX NUMBERS: RA01 TO RA 08**

**DATE: 1998 TO 2008 [but the archive contains records of Rushen Abbey fieldwork and correspondence from 1984 onwards]**

### MANX MUSEUM ACCESSION NUMBERS FOR FINDS:

1998-0500, 1998-0501, 1998-0502, 1998-0503, 1998-0504, 1998-0505, 1998-0506, 1998-0507, 1998-0508, 1998-0509, 1998-0510, 1998-0511, 1998-0512, 1998-0513, 1998-0514, 1998-0515, 1998-0516, 1998-0517, 1998-0518, 1998-0519, 1998-0520, 1998-0521, 1999-0100, 1999-0101, 1999-0102, 1999-0103, 1999-0204, 1999-0205, 1999-0206, 1999-0207, 1999-0208, 2000-0011, 2001-0078, 2001-0079, 2002-0040, 2003-0103, 2004-0042, 2004-0043, 2004-0103, 2005-0173, 2006-0228, 2007-0098, 2008-0117, 2008-0171.

### PEOPLE

A large number of people were involved in the excavations, including many students and local volunteers whose names can be found within the annual administrative papers (see below). Within the archive the principal players in the project - staff of CMS and MNH - are often referred to by their initials, especially on forms and lists. The individuals most commonly concerned are listed below in alphabetical order:

#### Centre for Manx Studies

Clare Corkill (CEC); site supervisor; finds assistant  
Rachel Crellin (RJC); site supervisor  
Peter Davey (PJD); site director  
Andrew Hartley (AH); research assistant  
David Higgins (DAH); academic consultant and site supervisor  
Andrew Jamieson (AJ); site supervisor  
Nick Johnson (NCJ); assistant site director  
Ray Moore (RHM); site supervisor  
David Radcliffe (DJR); site supervisor  
Hazel Simons (HS); finds assistant  
Philippa Tomlinson (PRT); site environmentalist  
Jane Westfold (EJW); site supervisor  
Susie White (SDW); site draughtsperson  
Jenny Woodcock (JJW); site supervisor

#### Manx National Heritage

Allison Fox; curator of archaeology  
Andrew Foxon; head of professional services  
Stephen Harrison; director  
Andrew Johnson (ACCJ); inspector of ancient monuments  
Sue Palmer; curator of archaeology  
Roger Sims; archivist  
Wendy Thirkettle; archivist

### **Other**

John Ashcroft (JA); academic consultant (University of Bournemouth)  
Glyn Coppack (GC); academic consultant (English Heritage)

### **NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT**

The project was carried out on behalf of Manx National Heritage (MNH) by the Centre for Manx Studies, University of Liverpool (CMS). In 1998, following the government's acquisition of the site in May of that year, test-pits and trial trenches were opened in order to assess the survival and potential of archaeological evidence (Davey 1999). In 1999 an extended season focussed on revealing the abbey plan sufficient for MNH to create a meaningful presentation for the public opening in April 2000. Between 2000 and 2008 excavations were carried out for 10 or 12 weeks each summer as a learning opportunity for university undergraduates and as an integral part of MNH's public display.

### **SUMMARY RESULTS**

A broad outline of the results of the excavations forms the core of the report delivered to Manx National Heritage on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017: *Rushen Abbey Excavations 1998 to 2008 Post-Excavation Report*, pages 5-21. Detailed narratives and stratigraphic diagrams for each of the separate excavations are contained in the digital archive. The excavations established the plan of the church and principal monastic buildings around the cloister which now forms the core of the public display. They also explored a Christian cemetery in the southern part of the site that had been greatly disturbed in the 1920s and 1930s. A number of additional buildings were identified whose function remains unclear. Where sufficient of the stratigraphy was investigated, a complex sequence was in evidence. For most of the site only the upper most medieval levels were excavated. The excavations produced the largest and most varied assemblage of artefacts, human, animal, bird and fish bones that has ever been recovered from a Manx site.

### **PUBLICATION**

The results of the main series of excavations have not yet been published.

An interim report was produced for the 1998 excavations (Davey 1999) and an overview was published after the last year of work on the site (Davey 2008):

Davey P J (ed) 1999, *Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla, Isle of Man: first archaeological report*, Douglas: Centre for Manx Studies, Research Report 7.

Davey P J 2008, 'Eleven years of archaeological research at Rushen Abbey, 1998 to 2008', *Monastic Research Bulletin*, 14, 1-23.

A much fuller list of publications, unpublished theses and reports relating to the site is given in *Rushen Abbey Excavations 1998 to 2008 Post-Excavation Report*, pages 42-47.

### **PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS OF THE ARCHIVE**

The archive listed below consists of all the physical products of the excavations with the exception of the finds which are already held in the Manx Museum.

In 1999 a structure for the archive was agreed with Roger Sims, then the head of the library and archives at MNH. This assigned a number series to different parts of the primary and secondary archive:



- A PRIMARY ARCHIVE - THAT IS RECORDS MADE ON SITE DURING THE EXCAVATIONS
- 1 Drawings**
  - 2 Photographs**
  - 3 Context sheets**
  - 4 Photographic record sheets**
  - 5 Environmental sample sheets**
  - 6 Reports**
  - 7 Excavators' diaries, notes and sketches**
  - 8 Finds recording sheets**
- B SECONDARY ARCHIVE INCLUDING ADMINISTRATIVE MATERIAL, CORRESPONDENCE AND RESEARCH ACTIVITY
- 9 Administration and Correspondence**
  - 10 Maps, plans and copies of other material not derived from the excavations**

Each of these numbers was then subdivided, using oblique strokes, in order to create numbered subsets within the overall designation. So, for example within 'photographs' there were four main subsets:

- 2/1 Black and white (35mm monochrome)
- 2/2 Colour slides (35mm diapositives)
- 2/3 Colour prints and miscellaneous
- 2/4 Video

Within the subsets and sub-subsets so created each item (sheet of paper/photograph etc) was given its own unique number which, where possible, is written in pencil on the top right-hand corner. In broad terms this system was maintained throughout the eleven years of excavation. In dealing with the administrative papers and correspondence, however, it was found to be overly complex and was too subtle for the average user/designator to maintain without duplication and unnecessary ambiguity. The system used here to organize and store these papers is explained in Section 9 below.

### **Relationship between the 'paper' and digital archive**

As the excavations progressed increasing use was made of digital forms of recording. At the start, in 1998, all of the processes were carried out using physical forms of record. The site plans, photographs together with photographic, context, finds, levelling and sampling forms were all carried out by hand and notebooks and site description were handwritten. Late on in 1998 the finds records began to be entered direct onto computer and, thereafter, many of the other forms were transferred into digital formats. By 2008 only the site plans and section drawings were still being carried out by hand. When using this catalogue and the archive itself this fact must be born in mind. For most purposes it will be necessary to consult the digital as well as the paper record. The computer records can be found in the Digital Appendix to *Rushen Abbey Excavations 1998 to 2008 Post-Excavation Report* delivered to MNH on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

**DATE SUBMITTED TO MNH 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

**SUBMITTED BY P J DAVEY**

## THE ARCHIVE

### 1 DRAWINGS [BOX NUMBER RA 01]

#### **Introduction**

The collection includes two main elements: scale drawings made on site as part of the primary record of the excavations and a range of sketches, plans and reconstruction drawings that formed part of the thinking process during the excavations. A number of the latter provide an overview of progress at specific dates.

#### ***Site plans and sections***

Together with the recording of contexts and photograph the plans and section drawings provide the primary record of the excavations and were intended to record all of the main stratigraphic elements encountered.

The plans were normally drawn in pencil on A3 permatrace, using a one-meter square drawing frame. They are usually at 1:20 scale, though in some cases such as in the recording of skeletons, they may be at 1:10. In addition to the archaeological features lying within the area being recorded a number of additional pieces of information are marked. These include a north sign, an indication of where the plan or section lies on the site grid, usually shown as a series of crosses, and a number of levelling points created as a single number series unique to that plan or section. The level readings themselves are also usually listed on the plan.

Each plan or section should contain at the least the following information:

*Area:* the alphabetical code to distinguish separate areas of the excavations

*Description:* a phrase or sentence that described the main subject of the plan or section

*Orientation:* there should be a north sign

*Site grid:* the site grid is marked on the plans as a series of pencil crosses, usually on an intersection of even numbers of meters which are noted as eastings and northings along the grid. For example, the cross marked N13.0 E9.0 (shown on plan number 1/2/4/74) is 13m north of zero on the grid and 9m east of it.

*Date:* note that plans and sections are sometimes drawn over a number of days

*Scale:* usually 1:20, but sometimes 1:10 (for example for skeletons)

*Drawn by:* draughtsperson's name or initials

*Contexts:* a list of contexts that are recorded on the plan or section

*Levels:* a list of level readings for points on the plan or section; in addition, there should be a statement of the value of the temporary bench mark (TBM) used and the back site (BS) employed for the readings. If the plan is very dense, this list may be contained on a separate sheet of film attached to it. The corrected levels - that is a calculation of the height of each point above sea level using the Site Datum - is separately entered into the levels recording system and is not usually written on the plan or section drawing.

*Archive number:* usually placed top right

*Related plans:* the archive numbers of contiguous or overlapping plans

## CATALOGUE

The following list is in archive number order and provides an overview of the whole collection. The drawings are contained in sets within plastic A3 envelopes which are numbered 1 to 9. The envelope number is given in square brackets after each entry below.

1996/1 and 2	Section drawings of 3 trenches in the car park (May 1996)	[1]
1/1/1 to 35	Miscellaneous plans, drawings and sketches	[9]
1/2/1/1 to 6	Plans and section of test-pits A to G (1998)	[1]
1/2/2/1 to 4	Plans and sections of Area K (1998)	[1]
1/2/3/1 to 8	Plans and sections of Area L (1998)	[1]
1/2/4/1 to 99	Plans and sections of Area M (1998, 2004 to 2008)	[1]
1/2/5/1	Plans and sections of Area N (1998)	[1]
1/2/6/1	Plans and section of Area P (1998)	[1]
1/2/7/1	Plans and section of Area Q (1998)	[1]
1/2/8/1 to 5	Plans and sections of Area R (1998)	[1]
1/2/9/1 to 89	Plans and sections of Area S (1998)	[1]
1/2/10/1 to 3	Plans and section of Area T (1998)	[1]
1/2/11/1 to 3	Plans of Area U (1998)	[1]
1/2/12/1 to 2	Plans of Area V (1998)	[1]
1/2/13/1	Plan of Area W (1998)	[1]
1/2/14/1 to 15	Plans and section of East Range (1999)	[4]
1/2/15/1 to 7	Plans of the South Transept (1999)	[4]
1/2/16/1 to 17	Plans of the South Range (1999)	[4]
1/2/17/1 to 7	Plans of the West Range (1999)	[4]
1/2/18/1 to 6	Plans of the cloister arcade (1999)	[4]
1/2/19/1 to 4	Plans and section of Trench AA/AB (1999)	[1]
1/2/20/1	Plan of Trench AC (1999)	[1]
1/2/21/1 to 2	Plans to show extension of Area X to include parts of 1998 Areas M and P (1999)	[9]
1/2/22/1 to 5	Section drawings of the Chapter House before concrete pouring (1999)	[9]
1/2/23/1 to 2	Plans of Area X (1999)	[9]
1/3/1 to 21	Artefact drawings in pencil by S D White (1998, 1999, 2001)	[6]
1/4/1 to 5	Artefact drawings by S D White in preparation for Davey & Roscow 2010, Fig. 25	[7]
1/5/1 to 17	Inked up drawings by S D White; for Davey <i>et al</i> , 1999 (1998)	[8]
AH08 1/2/1 to 3	Plans and section of trenches A, B and C at the Abbey Hotel 2008	[5]

## **2      PHOTOGRAPHS [BOX NUMBERS RA 02, RA03 AND RA 04]**

The photographs are physically held in four series:

- 2/1 Black and white 35mm (monochrome) [RA 02]
- 2/2 Colour slides (diapositives) 35mm [RA 03, RA 04]
- 2/3 Colour prints 35mm and miscellaneous photographs [RA 02]
- 2/4 Videos [RA 02]

With the exception of the videos each photograph was listed initially under the series to which it belonged and then its film number, followed by an individual image number. So, for example, a photograph of a drain in the passageway between the East and South Ranges is listed as 2/1/33/01. That is: it is a photograph (2); it is black and white (1); it is on film number 33 (33) and it is the first frame on that film (01). In the digital filing the photographic records are listed in archive number order.

The individual images are numbered according to what is on the negative. In some cases, on 36 framed colour slides for example, the number on the film may start with zero and/or finish with 37 or 38. Gaps in the numbering are usually the result of the same film being used to record something away from Rushen Abbey and so do not form part of this archive.

In the early years of the excavation pro-formas were completed for a majority of the photographs; see below Section 4. As the excavations progressed increasing reliance was placed on digital photography. There are no colour prints after 2004 and no black and white, or colour slides, after 2006.

### **2/1 Black and white 35mm (monochrome) [RA 02]**

There are 994 black and white images. These are present in a number of different combinations. The negatives are held in specially manufactured A4 pockets, usually two to a film, with the film number written on the top. In many cases contact sheets printed at 1:1 were produced. In some instances, contact sheets of much reduced sized icons were made. These contact sheets are filed with the negatives. For a minority of films, no contact prints were provided. Very few prints were made.

#### CATALOGUE

2/1/02/00 to 36 1998  
2/1/04/00 to 36 1998  
2/1/07/00 to 36 1998  
2/1/08/00 to 36 1998  
2/1/09/00 to 36 1998  
2/1/10/07        1998  
2/1/12/00 to 36 1998  
2/1/18/30        1998  
2/1/21/00 to 36 1998  
2/1/22/00 to 35 1998  
2/1/25/00 to 36 1998  
2/1/28/01 to 37 1998  
2/1/29/01 to 06 1998  
2/1/31/01 to 24 1999  
2/1/33/01 to 06 1999  
2/1/41/01 to 04 2000  
2/1/42/05 to 36 2000  
2/1/44/01 to 36 2000

2/1/45/01 to 36 2000  
2/1/48/01 to 20 2000  
2/1/50/01 to 34 2001  
2/1/53/01 to 05 2001  
2/1/60/01 to 30 2003  
2/1/62/01 to 36 2004  
2/1/65/01 to 37 2004  
2/1/68/01 to 36 2004  
2/1/71/01 to 35 2005  
2/1/76/01 to 36 2005  
2/1/77/01 to 34 2005  
2/1/78/01 to 37 2006  
2/1/79/01 to 37 2006  
2/1/80/01 to 37 2006  
2/1/81/01 to 36 2006  
2/1/misc/01 to 16

## **2/2 Colour slides (diapositives) 35mm [RA 03, RA 04]**

There 1754 colour slides. They have all been glass mounted and stored in hanging files each containing 24 slides. For the purposes of archiving the hanging metal bar has been removed. The film number is written on the top of each file. Many of the slides have individual image numbers and explanatory text written on the frame. Colour slide films numbers 1 to 52 are contained in box number RA03; film numbers 54 to 85 and miscellaneous are contained in box number RA04.

The first 1513 slides are of the excavations, ordered by film number. They were made between 1998 and 2005; from 2006 to 2008 all colour images were taken using digital cameras. The site excavation slides are followed by a miscellaneous collection of 241 that include the following subsets:

Images of the site in 1997 and 1994 before excavation [2/2/misc/01-07; 195-201]  
Images of the abbey demesne survey carried out in 2000 [2/2/misc/08-38; 92-128]  
Images of pottery and other artefacts from the site [2/2/misc/41-91; 191-194; 228-231]  
Images taken by Peter Davey on occasional visits to the site [2/2/misc/129-190; 195-227]  
Miscellaneous images taken by an unknown photographer [2/2/misc/232-241]

## **CATALOGUE**

2/2/01/05 to 36 1998  
2/2/03/01 to 36 1998  
2/2/05/01 to 36 1998  
2/2/06/00 to 37 1998  
2/2/10/01 to 35 1998  
2/2/11/00 to 38 1998  
2/2/13/00 to 37 1998  
2/2/14/32 to 37 1998  
2/2/15/00 to 35 1998  
2/2/16/01 to 37 1998  
2/2/17/00 to 37 1998  
2/2/18/00 to 37 1998  
2/2/19/01 to 37 1998  
2/2/20/00 to 17 1998

2/2/23/01 to 10 1998  
2/2/24/01 to 36 1998  
2/2/26/01 to 37 1998  
2/2/27/01 to 04 1998  
2/2/30/01 to 38 1999  
2/2/32/01 to 29 1999  
2/2/33/01 to 34 1999  
2/2/35/01 to 35 1999  
2/2/36/01 to 30 1999  
2/2/37/01 to 19 2000  
2/2/38/01 to 22 1999  
2/2/39/01 to 36 2000  
2/2/40/00 to 32 2000  
2/2/43/01 to 37 2000  
2/2/46/01 to 36 2000  
2/2/47/01 to 16 2000  
2/2/49.01 to 36 2001  
2/2/51/01 to 36 2001  
2/2/52/01 to 30 2001  
2/2/54/01 to 37 2002  
2/2/55/01 to 37 2002  
2/2/56/01 to 36 2002  
2/2/57/01 to 15 2002  
2/2/58/01 to 08 2003  
2/2/63/01 to 37 2004  
2/2/66/01 to 36 2004  
2/2/69/01 to 36 2004  
2/2/72/01 to 37 2005  
2/2/73/01 to 32 2005  
2/2/74/01 to 37 2005  
2/2/75/01 to 36 2005  
2/2/82/01 to 36 2006  
2/2/83/01 to 37 2006  
2/2/84/01 to 37 2006  
2/2/85/03 to 29 2006  
2/2/misc/001 to 241

### **2/3 Colour prints 35mm and miscellaneous photographs [RA 02]**

There are 182 colour prints which have normally been kept with the 'negatives' in their original packaging from the processing firm. The film number, where relevant, and the archive number have been written on the outside of the packaging. In addition to three numbered films with 57 images there are the following sets of miscellaneous colour prints:

Excavation photographs by other individuals in 1978 and 1998 [2/3/misc/01-15]

Building survey in 1997 [2/3/misc/16-36]

Area S under excavation, but not part of the 'official' record [2/3/misc/37-68]

General views of the site [2/3/misc/69-73; 98-122]

Artefacts [2/3/misc/74-97]

CATALOGUE

2/3/64/01 to 25 2004  
2/3/67/01 to 24 2004  
2/3/70/01 to 08 2004  
2/3/misc/01 to 122

## **2/4 Videos**

There are four video tapes used to record site activity in 2000. They are held with the site diaries in Box Number RA 06 (see Section 7 below).

### 3 CONTEXT RECORD SHEETS [BOX NUMBER RA 05]

The context is the primary element in the site recording system. Each feature, layer or structure found on site is given a unique number. This number is then used in the recording of finds, drawings, photographs, levels, environmental samples and in any notes or discussion of the site. A separate number series was used for each of the excavated areas, themselves designated by letter codes. Every context is defined by a combination of its letter code and a number. Thus, for example, Test Pit C had four identified layers which are coded C01 to C04. In contrast, Area M had some 463 contexts which are numbered M01 to M54; M101 to M348 and M400 to M574.

Areas S and X were excavated as distinct sub-areas which were themselves given separate numbers. There were nine sub-areas in Area S and nine in Area X. The contexts within the separate areas in Area S were coded S1001, S2001 and so on to S9001 and those in Area X were coded X000, X100 and so on to X800. In 1998, in Area S, two and three letter codes were used to indicate the position of groups of human bones found lying on the site after clearance; context sheets were filled in for a small number of these.

The context sheets are in a form that is widely used on British archaeological sites and involves 34 numbered sections. Many of these are needed when multiple sites are being investigated by the same body and have not been completed for Rushen Abbey. The key elements in the recording system as used in the 1998 to 2008 excavations are as follows:

- 04 Context No (top right): the number itself, together with its area code
- 05 Category: whether the context is a layer, pit, ditch, structure or cut
- 06 to 08 length, width, diameter: this is usually entered for discrete features, but not for layers
- 10 to 13 Soil matrix colour, texture, consistency and components: described using the *Munsell Colour Charts* and standard soil science terms
- 14 and 15 Structural matrix and constituents: mainly used for building foundations
- 16 Description: an 'objective' account of what has been observed about the context
- 17 to 26 Relationships: details of other contexts which are either earlier, later or contemporary
- 28 Interpretative comments: a discussion about the nature of the context
- 29 to 34 Cross-references: the numbers of plans, sections, photographs, and samples involving this context are recorded.

At the bottom of the form are boxes to be ticked for the presence of pottery, building materials, industrial waste, bones etc in the context and for the method of artefact collection.

The basic information contained on the context record sheets was transferred to computer during the excavations. In 1999 and some later years the use of the sheets was abandoned in favour of direct entry to computer. Thus, in Area M, the last existing sheet is for Context 231. There are no sheets for Areas AA, AB, AC, AF, R, T, U, Y, Z and most of Area X.

Retention of the sheets themselves is important for two reasons. First, the reverse side of the sheets was often used to continue discussion and interpretation, sometimes with alternative ideas being presented. Secondly, the supervisors who were using the sheets drew tentative matrix diagrams and site sketches which are very valuable to anyone else trying to understand the excavations. These elements have not been digitised.



The contexts sheets are stored in folders in area sets as follows (each folder separated by a line space):

A 1 to 3  
B 1 to 2  
C 1 to 4  
D 1 to 17  
E 1 to 3  
F 1 to 8  
G 1 to 12  
H 1 to 4  
J 1 to 5  
K 1 to 29\*

L 1 to 78  
N 1 to 15\*  
P 1 to 25\*  
Q 1 to 11\*

V 1 to 28\*  
W 1 to 14\*  
X 600 to 613

S 1001 to 1091\*; 2001 to 2100\*; 2130 to 2179\*;

S 3001 to 3007; 4001 to 4028; 5001 to 5028; 6001 to 6008; 7001 to 7011\*; 8001 to 8066\*; 9001 to 9015\*

M 1 to 54; 101 to 231

Site sketches, matrix diagrams and other notes made by the director and supervisors during the excavations are held, by area, at the end of each set of contexts sheets. The presence of such material is noted by the use of a star at the end of relevant entries above.

#### 4 PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEETS [BOX NUMBER RA 05]

There are 129 photographic record sheets, A4 proformas, containing 2,125 entries. They were in use mainly between 1998 and 2004. Normally a fresh form was started for each new film. The sheets are held in film number order. Gaps in the series of film numbers or image numbers within the films are normally due the same camera having been used on a site or sites other than Rushen Abbey.

The sheets record the following information:

*Archive number:* that is of the image itself ie 2/n/n/n

*Camera use:* this is usually written in pencil top right

*Type of film:* this is usually written at the top of the form and coded in the digital version

*Film number:* this is a continuous sequence irrespective of type of film; the films are, therefore, in more or less chronological order. This might not precisely be the case where more than one camera, using a different type of film, was in use at the same time.

*Direction:* this is the direction **towards** which the photographer is pointing the camera

*Weather:* a general statement of weather and light condition at the time

*Trench:* the area code is given eg S2d

*Aperture/speed:* in f-numbers and fractions of a second

*Taken by:* the initials of the photographer. See PEOPLE above for a list of the individuals involved. A few images will have been taken by students as part of the teaching excavation. Their initials are not on the list.

*Date:* in the form DD/MM/YYYY

*Description:* a verbal description of the main subject of the photograph

*ID:* in some case the unique number generated by the camera is given

*Finds number:* some of the records of artefact images include the MM accession number

In the latter years of the excavation only digital photographs were taken.

1	c/s	5-36	2 sheets	1998
2	b/w	10-36	2 sheets	1998
3	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	1998
4	b/w	1-36	2 sheets	1998
6	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	1998
7	b/w	1-36	2 sheets	1998
8	b/w	1-36	2 sheets	1998
9	b/w	1-37	2 sheets	1998
10	c/s	1-35	2 sheets	1998
11	c/s	1-38	2 sheets	1998
12	b/w	1-36	2 sheets	1998
13	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	1998
15	c/s	1-14	1 sheets	1998
17	c/s	0-37	2 sheets	1998
18	c/s	0-37	2 sheets	1998
19	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	1998
21	b/w	0-36	2 sheets	1998
22	b/w	0-37	2 sheets	1998
24	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	1998
25	b/w	0-36	2 sheets	1998
26	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	1998
27	c/s	1-4	1 sheet	1998

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28	b/w	1-37	2 sheets	1998		
29	b/w	1-6	1 sheet	1998		
40	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2000		
42	b/w	1-36	3 sheets	2000		
43	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2000		
44	b/w	1-36	2 sheets	2000		
45	b/w	1-20	2 sheets	2000		
46	c/s	1-27	2 sheets	2000		
49	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	2001		
50	b/w	1-36	2 sheets	2001		
51	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	2001		
52	c/s	1-31	2 sheets	2001		
53	b/w	1-6	1 sheets	2001		
54	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2002		
55	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2002		
56	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	2002		
57	c/s	1-15	1 sheet	2002		
58	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2003		
59	c/s	1-19	1 sheets	2003		
60	b/w	1-30	2 sheets	2003		
61	c/p	1-36	2 sheets	2002		
62	b/w	1-36	2 sheets	2004		
63	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2004		
64	c/p	1-24	2 sheets	2004		
65	b/w	1-37	2 sheets	2004		
66	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	2004		
67	c/p	1-24	2 sheets	2004		
68	b/w	1-36	2 sheets	2004		
69	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	2004		
70	c/p	1-5	1 sheet	2004		
71	b/w	1-26	2 sheets	2004		
72	c/s	1-26	2 sheets	2004		
72	c/s	27-37 and 73	c/s 1-34	2 sheets	2005	
73	c/s	35 and 74	c/s 1-37	2 sheets	2005	
75	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2005		
71	b/w	27-36 and 76	b/w 1-28	2 sheets	2005	
76	b/w	29-36 and 77	b/w 1-34	3 sheets	2005	
78	b/w	1-37	2 sheets	2006		
79	b/w	1-37	2 sheets	2006		
80	b/w	1-37	2 sheets	2006		
81	b/w	1-36	2 sheets	2006		
82	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2006		
83	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2006		
84	c/s	1-37	2 sheets	2006		
85	c/s	1-36	2 sheets	2006		
Digital	670-1497	36 sheets	2007			
Digital	2322-2481	10 sheets	2008			
Abbey Hotel	digital	1759-1828	4 sheets	2008		

## 5 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLE SHEETS [BOX NUMBER RA 05]

The site had relatively poor preservation of organic materials, with few water-logged deposits or organic layers. Sampling was carried out most extensively in 1998, the result of which are published in 1999 in the *Rushen Abbey first archaeological report*. In particular reference should be made to 'Results of the radiocarbon dating for 1998' by P R Tomlinson (pp 64-66), 'Biological evidence from the 1998 excavations at Rushen Abbey' by P R Tomlinson (pp 72-74), 'A palynological assessment of sediments from archaeological contexts at Rushen Abbey' by J B Innes and P R Tomlinson (pp 75-76) and 'Micromorphology assessment from excavations at Rushen Abbey' by K Milek (pp 77-93).

Although four different recording forms were employed at different stages of the excavation the information they contain is broadly parallel. The key elements are as follows:

*Context:* the area code plus the individual context number

*Sample size:* this is measured in litres, or standard white tubs or buckets

*Collection method:* whether by trowelling, shovelling etc

*Material removed:* were stones, artefact, or nothing, removed before processing

*Purpose:* part of a wet sieving programme or other site sampling system

*Contamination:* estimate degree and type of contamination if present

*Comments:*

*Date sampled:*

*Sample taken by:*

### 1998 samples

There are records of 43 samples taken from a number of the test-pits and trenches. The details of the samples, in most cases, were entered onto a 'Rushen Abbey 98 – Site Sampling Form'. The following list gives details of the contexts sampled and whether there is a mss description (mss) and/or whether the proforma was employed (pf):

- 1 L24 brown soil with stones; mss
- 2 N11 brown soil with stones; mss
- 3 K11 brown soil with stones; mss
- 4 G9 soil with charcoal flecks; mss; pf
- 5 L35 fill of box drain; mss; pf
- 6 L31 demolition rubble feature; mss; pf
- 7 M9 fill of probable drain; mss; pf
- 8 L32 gritty medieval clay; mss; pf
- 9 R12 ditch fill; mss; pf
- 10 M12 demolition layer; mss; pf
- 11 M11 lower levels of drain; mss; pf
- 12 L33 fine silty layer; mss; pf
- 13 L37 feature with loose stones; mss; pf
- 14 F6 (upper) residual fine gravel; mss; pf
- 15 F6 (lower) residual fine gravel; mss; pf
- 16 F7 (lower) brown soil layer; mss; pf
- 17 F7 (bottom) brown soil layer; mss; pf
- 18 P14 mixed demolition within West Range; mss; pf
- 19 M13 discoloured layer with coal below; mss; pf
- 20 L50 floor level; mss; pf
- 21 R25 hollow fill with medieval pottery; mss; pf

- 22 V19 dark soil with no gravel; mss; pf
- 23 V6 dark organic soil filling shallow feature; mss; pf
- 24 K33 river gravel with clay matrix; mss; pf
- 25 L39 layer of clay and stones, probably medieval; mss; pf
- 26 L54 medieval silty soil; mss; pf
- 27 L30 trampled layer within medieval building; mss; pf
- 28 L41 construction trench fill for medieval building; mss; pf
- 29 L48 possible natural silty layer; mss; pf
- 30 V26 upper fill of medieval drain; mss; pf
- 31 V27 secondary fill of medieval drain; mss; pf
- 32 R27 ditch fill; mss; pf
- 33 W4 brown soil with bone fragments; mss; pf
- 34 L60 deposit within medieval building; mss; pf
- 35 L55 possibly a well fill; mss; pf
- 36 L65 basal floor surface; mss; pf
- 37 L67 silty gravel, possibly natural; mss; pf
- 38 L73 silty gravel, possibly natural; mss; pf
- 39 T19 possible layer within building; mss; pf
- 40 T21 ditch fill; mss; pf
- 41 T26 kitchen accumulation; mss; pf
- 42 T27 ash layers/waste from kitchen; mss; pf
- 43 S(AV) charnel pit-spoil around human bones; mss

### **2001 samples**

Two samples were collected and are describes on a single sheets of lines A4 paper:

- 57 S6008 coloured sand layer; mss
- 58 S7008 lower gravel sample; mss

### **2004 and 2005 samples**

14 samples were taken from Area S in the final years of the excavation of that area. Details were recorded on a new 'Rushen Abbey 2005: site sampling form'. This was used to process samples taken in 2005 as well as those from the previous year.

- 44 S2d 2174 fill of linear channel; pf
- 45 S2e 2144 soil sample from orange clay ridge; pf
- 46 S8a 8061 dark, sticky fill of well; pf
- 47 S8a 8061 dark, sticky fill of well; pf
- 48 S9 9015 basal ditch fill; pf
- 49 S9 9007 'olive' sand across whole site; pf
- 50 S2 2177 ashy layer on top of S2140; pf
- 51 S2 2140 red layer with bone and charcoal flecks; pf
- 53 S2 2174 lower deposit, mottled grey; pf
- 54 S2 2174 upper layer, ditch fill near the base; pf
- 54 S2 2174 upper layer, ditch fill near the base; pf
- 55 S2 2178 lower ditch fill of S2147; pf
- 56 S2d 2148 earliest fill of S2147

### **2007 samples**

11 samples were collected from Area M in 2007. Their details were written onto a new, revised, 'Environmental Recording Sheet'. Note that the numbers allocated to the samples overlap with those used in 2004 and 2005.

- 48 M432 lower fill of garderobe shaft; pf
- 49 M451 brown soil beneath stony patch M322; pf
- 50 M296 fill within almost circular burnt area; pf
- 51 M419 post-hole fill within sandstone room; pf
- 52 M442 clay fill of post-hole in sandstone room; pf
- 53 M420 post-hole fill ion NW corner of sandstone room; pf
- 54 M450 foundation deposit for wall M129; pf
- 55 M454 rubble demolition deposit; pf
- 56 M430 upper fill of garderobe shaft; pf
- 57 M464 sandy, red fill of post-hole; pf
- 58 M198 elongated soil area; part of oven? pf

### **2008 samples**

20 samples were collected and recorded on a new 'Environmental Sample Processing Sheet: Rushen Abbey 2008'. This form recorded the processing system and not the results. There are two A4 sheets with the information recorded in rows:

Sheet No 1 samples from contexts M454, M508, M497, M500, M507, M501, M522, M524, M198, M497 and M501

Sheet No 2 samples from contexts M180, M523, M501, M524, M523, M497, M520/535, M527 and M500

### **Plant list**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> June 1999 a list was made (by PJD) of the plants that had colonized the Old Academy and Gymnasium buildings following their demolition in 1998. The list is handwritten in the order in which the plants were seen. On the right of each entry is a code letter: F = flowering; B = basal rosette only present.

## 6 REPORTS [BOX NUMBER RA 06]

The Archive contains copies of both published and unpublished reports on the abbey and the excavations. A full list of the recent, post-1980, literature is contained in Manx National Heritage on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017: *Rushen Abbey Excavations 1998 to 2008 Post-Excavation Report*, pages 42 to 47. Some of the unpublished annual sets of proposals and reports from CMS to MNH have been retained within the administrative correspondence (see Section 9 below), some survive only within the digital archive. There is also a set of copies of newspaper and periodical reports on the excavations.

### Texts of published and unpublished reports

Adam C R, Ovenden-Wilson S M, Shields A and Stephens C 1996, *Report on geophysical survey: Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man, Survey No. 96/41*, unpublished report commissioned by the University of Liverpool, Geophysical Surveys of Bradford.

Adam C R and Ovenden-Wilson S M 1997, *Report on geophysical survey: Rushen Abbey GPR survey, Survey No. 97/98*, unpublished report commissioned by Manx National Heritage, Geophysical Surveys of Bradford.

CMS and MNH 1998 (September) *The agreement: relating to cost and project management works in relation to the Rushen Abbey project 1998-1999*.

Davey P J (ed) 1999a, *Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla, Isle of Man: first archaeological report*, Douglas: Centre for Manx Studies, Research Report 7.

Davey P J 2017, *Rushen Abbey Excavations 1998 to 2008 Post-Excavation Report*, Centre for Manx Studies report to Manx National Heritage 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017.

Gaffney C F 1997, *Report on geophysical survey: Rushen Abbey, Survey No. 97/81*, unpublished report commissioned by Manx National Heritage, Geophysical Surveys of Bradford.

Hartley C A 1997, *Desk-based research and assessment*, unpublished report by CMS for MNH now bound within Johnson 1998.

Johnson N C 1998, *Rushen Abbey: preliminary site assessment. Synthesis*, unpublished report by CMS for MNH.

Johnson N C and Coppack G 2000 *The architectural fragments*. Unpublished report to CMS.

Kniveton G N 1989, *Rushen Abbey*, Douglas: The Manx Experience.

MNH 1998 (April) *Rushen Abbey for the Nation: For members of Tynwald. An appraisal of the importance and potential of Rushen Abbey for the Nation*.

MNH no date but probably 2000, *Rushen Abbey souvenir booklet and site guide*, Douglas: Manx National Heritage.

### Newspaper and periodical reports

19/04/1988 illustrated article: 'Excavations go hand in hand with developments', *Isle of Man Examiner*.

December 1998 illustrated article: 'Uncovering the secrets of Rushen Abbey', *Manx Tails*, 11-14.

March or early April 1989 article: 'Rushen Abbey excavation', *Manx Independent*.

18/04/1989 photograph entitled: 'Dr Lawrence Butler, leader of the annual excavation at Rushen Abbey, shows visitors the work being carried out on the remains of the Parlour, during the Open day', *Isle of Man Examiner*.

14/07/1998 article: 'Abbey dig begins', *Isle of Man Examiner*. [photocopy]

06/08/1998 illustrated article: 'Your support is needed to help uncover Abbey's treasured past', *Isle of Man Courier*.

16/03/2000 illustrated article: 'Rushen Abbey gives up secrets from the past', *Isle of Man Courier*.

25/07/2006 cartoon showing excavations in progress and with the punch line: 'It's a poisoned arrow the type used by some M.H.K.s', *Isle of Man Examiner*.

27/07/2006 illustrated article: 'Abbey dig reveals a courtyard surprise', *Isle of Man Courier*.

24/07/2007 full-page illustrated article: 'Now ear this Abbey dig reveals historical scoop', *Isle of Man Examiner*.



## **7 EXCAVATION NOTES & SKETCHES [BOX NUMBER RA 06, 08]**

In the original archiving system this section included original field sketches, diagrams and notes made by the director and supervisors during the excavation (see Appendix 1). With one exception, in the Centre's own filing system these papers have always been held in the same ring-files that contain all of the contexts sheets for the area concerned. In order to maintain the integrity of the archive this system has been maintained and this group of papers is held within the packets of contexts sheets. See Section 3 above. The single exception was for Area M where a ring binder was used to contain sketches, diagrams and lists made by the supervisors.

A catalogue of the contents of this ring binder is given first and is followed by an account of the supervisors' notebooks and diaries which were always separately stored.

### **Area M notes and sketches**

These consist of four distinct elements: sketch plans to show new or problematic contexts, draft matrix diagrams, context lists and working master plans. With the exception of the working master plans which, because of their size, are held in box number RA 08, the remainder of these notes and sketches are in RA 06.

#### ***Sketch plans***

These are the means by which the excavators could record their strategic thinking about the site as a whole. In particular, they include details of extensions to the area and the relationships of key contexts. They are listed below, as far as possible, in chronological order.

08/07/2004 Northern part of Area M below M108 [PJD]  
23/07/2004 Southern part of Area M after removal of M125 [PJD]  
16/06/2005 Trench M showing chronology of extensions; 1: 100 [DJR] plus a draft  
22/06/2005 Photocopy of 16/06 plan showing contexts M117-M120, M126, M158  
23/06/2005 Photocopy of 16/06 plan showing context M163 [DJR]; This plan has been further annotated on 20/07/2005 to show new site datum and levelling data [PJD]  
25/06/2005 Photocopy of 16/06 plan showing position of axe find and M165 [DJR]  
15/07/2005 Photocopy of 16/06 plan showing de-turfing on 25/06, 28, 06 and 15/07 [DJR]  
30/07/2005 Photocopy of 16/06 plan showing new layers; also added to 05/08 2005 [PJD]  
05/08/2005 Plan (+ photocopy) of SW area to show contexts before backfilling [PJD]  
25/07/2006 Plan of 2006 NW extension showing linear features M168/9, M261/2 [PJD]  
19/06/2007 Plan of Area M to show position of individual drawn site plans [DAH]

#### ***Matrix diagrams***

These show the progress of thinking about the site stratigraphy. The final versions for many areas were only completed in 2015 and 2016 as part of the post-excavation project. They can now be found in the Digital Appendix to *Rushen Abbey Excavations 1998 to 2008 Post-Excavation Report* delivered to MNH on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

06/10/1998 Matrix for Area M, plus preparatory sketch [PJD]  
29/11/1998 Matrix for Area M with revised phasing [PJD]  
29/11/1998 Typed-up matrix for Area M on two A4 sheets (landscape)  
29/11/1998 Final typed-up version of Area M matrix on single A4 sheet  
26/06/2004 Apparent relationships between new contexts and old (ie 1998) [PJD]  
31/07/2004 Area M south side matrix [PJD]  
31/07/2004 Area M north side matrix [PJD]

26/06/2006 Area M north side matrix up to context M234  
27/06/2006 Area M south side matrix up to context M232 and draft, same date [PJD]  
2006 Area M west and south of M127, with some finds' annotations [PJD]  
2016 Area M OW (that is outside the courtyard) draft matrix [PJD]

### ***Contexts lists***

These were generally posted onto the site office walls to provide the supervisors with an easy check list of where the context numbering system had got to and which was the next to be allocated. They are sometimes annotated to show related finds information.

List of context number bands by year of excavation

Trench M 1998-512; summary of finds by context A4 notepad page [PJD]

31/07/2004 Area M (northern area) list of contexts up to M157 [PJD]

31/07/2004 Area M (southern area) list of contexts up to M162 [PJD]

2004 Master list of all contexts M101 to M162 (2 A4 sheets) [RM]

20/06/2006 Area M (northern area continued) list of contexts M163 to M210 [PJD]

20/06/2006 Area M (southern area continued) list of contexts from M164 to M232 [PJD]

17/07/2006 New contexts (whole of M) M225 to M289 (2 A4 lined sheets)

2006 New contexts in Area M M290 to M348 (2 A4 lined sheets) [RM and PJD]

2006 New contexts for Area M 2006 extension (NN) M225 to M307 (3 A4 lined sheets) [RM and PJD]

2006 Three shorthand notebook sheets with context list in various hands M225 to M3-7

2007 Site M context list M430 top M480 [RM]

### ***Site supervisors' notebooks and diaries***

During the excavation the site supervisors, who were normally given their own areas to manage, kept diaries that contained a mixture of information such as:

Management and comment on the workforce

Site weather conditions

Site excavation conditions

Practical issues of context excavation

Interpretative discussion and notes as ideas evolved

Any external events impacting the site

Visitors

Depending on the supervisor they were often hand-written in shorthand notebooks or in A4 notepads. In some cases, these manuscript texts have been typed up and copies are included in the archive. Shorthand notebooks were also used in the early stages of the excavation to record attendance and levels. Some of the diaries were written directly to computer on site; printed versions of a number of them are also included on the archive. In 1999 and 2000 audio diaries were created as an experiment. These texts provide many insights into the day to day running of the excavations and into their better understanding.

This part of the archive is held in four groupings: mss notebooks, mss A4 notes, typed-up diaries and audio diaries:

### ***Notebooks***

These are ring bound shorthand notebooks 210mm x 127mm:

7/1/01 1998 Attendance book

7/1/02 1998 Nick Johnson site diary

7/1/03 1998 Levels book

7/1/04 1999 Nick Johnson site diary  
7/1/05 2000 Ray Moore site diary  
7/1/06 2000 Jane Westfold site diary 1  
7/1/07 2000 Jane Westfold site diary 2, with loose correspondence with Ray Moore  
7/1/08 2001 Jenny Woodcock site diary  
7/1/09 2002 Jane Westfold site diary

***MSS diaries***

7/1/10 1998 Peter Davey 'temporary log'  
7/1/11 1998 David Higgins miscellaneous notes  
7/1/12 1998 Jenny Woodcock site diary Area M  
7/1/13 1998 Jenny Woodcock site diary 'West Range Excavations' (Areas P and Q)  
7/1/14 1998 Jenny Woodcock site diary Area K  
7/1/15 1999 Jenny Woodcock site diary Area X  
7/1/14 2002 Jenny Woodcock site diary Area S

***Typed-up diaries***

7/1/15 1998 Jenny Woodcock site diary  
7/1/16 1998 David Higgins site diary Area S (including Mss list of 'contexts')  
7/1/17 1998 David Higgins site diary Area T  
7/1/18 1999 Jenny Woodcock site diary Area X600  
7/1/19 1999 Jenny Woodcock diary of teaching excavation; plus summary report  
7/1/20 1999 Video diary paper concordance  
7/1/21 2002 Nick Johnson's observations on JJW's' *Commentary and Interim Interpretation*  
7/1/22 2003 Jenny Woodcock's site diary (Area S)

***Video diaries***

There four Panasonic DV Cassettes (71mm x 26mm x 14mm):

7/1/23 1999-2000  
7/1/24 2000 marked 'END 06/00'  
7/1/25 2000 marked 'START12/06/00 END 12/08/00'  
7/1/26 2000 MARKED 'RE-DISPLAY OF SITE & MUSEUM'

***Working master plans [Box Number RA 08]***

In 2005 it was decided to produce a single master plan of the whole of Area M at a scale of 1:20. This involved photocopying a set of the most recent A3 site plans and joining them together using masking tape. This created a plan measuring at least 890mm by 770mm overall. Initially two such plans were made, one to hold in the site hut and the other with the finds processing team.

These plans gave the director and supervisors an immediate overview of the whole excavation on which they could identify the contexts already recorded and on which they could add the locations and numbers of new contexts as they were defined. It also helped the finds assistants to locate on site the origin of new materials that they were processing. The annotations are in red ink. New plans were created in 2006 and 2007.

Although this set of seven large master plans is in a fragile condition, it provides valuable - and easy to read - evidence for the progress of work on the site and for the location of most of the most important contexts. Because of their size, even when folded, they are held in a separate, outsized, archive box.

## 8 FINDS RECORDING SHEETS [BOX NUMBER RA 06]

During the first part of the 1998 excavations, for Test-pits and Trenches A to L, A4 pro-forma sheets were used to record the finds. These were listed in accession number order and a new sheet was started for each separate area of the excavation. The sheets include the following sets of information in columns:

*Object name:* such as body sherd, handle, flake, slag etc.

*Material:* such as glass, ceramic, stone, bone, iron etc.

*Trench:* using the letter code A to L

*Context number:* a number series following the trench code letter for each area

*Description:* a longer account of the individual find, including ceramic codes

*Box number:* not actually used

*Display Y/N:* not actually used

*Drawing number:* not actually used

*Photograph number:* not actually used

*Location:* whether retained by the Manx Museum or disposed of

From Area L onwards in 1998, and in all the following seasons of excavation finds' information was entered directly onto computer. Full listings of all the finds can be found in the Digital appendix to *Rushen Abbey Excavations 1998 to 2008 Post-Excavation Report* delivered to MNH on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

### CATALOGUE

There are 29 sheets in all. They are listed below in the following order: site letter code; accession number; number of entries; number of sheets

8/01 to 02	Test-pit A; 1998-500; 26 entries; 2 sheets
8/03	Test-pit B; 1998-501; 16 entries; 1 sheet
8/04 to 06	Test-pit C; 1998-502; 39 entries; 3 sheets
8/07 to 10	Test-pit D; 1988-503; 58 entries; 4 sheets
8/11 to 13	Test-pit E; 1998-504; 43 entries; 3 sheets
8/14 to 15	Test-pit F; 1998-505; 36 entries; 2 sheets
8/16 to 19	Test-pit G; 1998-506; 58 entries; 4 sheets
8/20 to 21	Test-pit H; 1998-507; 25 entries; 2 sheets
8/22	Test-pit J; 1998-511; 7 entries; 1 sheet
8/23 to 27	Area K; 1998-508; 89 entries; 5 sheets
8/28	Area L; 1998-509; 15 entries; 1 sheet
8/29	Old Academy; 1998-510; 1 find; 1 sheet

## 9 CORRESPONDENCE [BOX NUMBER RA 06 AND 07]

The administrative papers and correspondence includes elements that pre-date the start of the CMS excavations in 1998, including with Larch Garrad in 1984 on the subject of her excavation of the charnel pit and with Lawrence Butler in 1986 to 1990 relating to a Liverpool University, Extension Studies teaching excavation that was organized alongside his excavations at the site. In 1994 the Centre carried out a site assessment for Ellis Brown on behalf of the then owner and in 1996 trial trenching was undertaken as a planning condition on a proposed housing development on the car park to the north-west of the site. In 1997 the Centre carried out a series of desk-top assessments and field surveys for MNH. From 1998 the papers contain sets of proposals and reports on each year of excavation, together with the correspondence relating to them.

During the excavations this set of 494 letters and papers was held in year and subject groups within a four-drawer filing cabinet. It has now been transferred to paper envelopes and boxed in the same basic system. The papers are in two series. First, administration and correspondence directly associated with the running of the excavation and secondly, correspondence on research matters relating to Rushen Abbey.

### **Administration correspondence**

The administrative papers are themselves divided into two groups: papers directly concerned with the organization and management of the excavations itself and papers relating to the teaching excavations. The papers relating to each separate year of excavation are stored by year, and within each year chronologically. The excavation papers form a first series in each year, followed by the teaching excavation materials. Both sub-sets are in chronological order within each year group.

### **Research archive**

The research correspondence is also held in two sets. The first relates to academic issues involved in the understanding of the abbey and its environment. This was mostly carried out through a joint MNH/CMS research committee, established in 1997, that was particularly active until 2000. The second is the product of a specific research activity, the *Borussus* project, that used the excavations at the abbey to field test the efficacy of a plant fibre as an alternative to geotextile when backfilling. This was an international, EU-funded, project looking at the economic viability of the production of plant fibre materials grown locally to benefit the inhabitants of regions within developing countries, in this case in the Amazon delta.

The main research correspondence is held in alphabetical order of author and then chronologically within each author. The *Borussus* project is ordered chronologically.

Some of the papers retain pencil numbers in a series deriving from the original archiving system structure, that no longer applies.

In contrast to the main excavation records such as drawings, photographs and contexts sheets the administrative correspondence contains a wide variety of information the nature of which will be completely opaque to a future user of the archive. In this case, therefore, it was decided to produce a fuller listing so that the nature of each paper would be clear. The following catalogue provides a simple list of the correspondence in the sets described above.

The entries are in the following order separated by a semi-colon:

*Date:* in the form DD/MM/YYYY;

*Author:* first names and surnames are used throughout, whatever form is in the papers;

*Recipient:* on occasions multiple such as to Centre staff or research committee;

*Subject matter:* an attempt is made to summarize the main elements of the letter;

*Details of enclosures:* these are generally held along with the letters that explain them;

*Comments:* this section includes lists of multiple recipients

## **Administration correspondence pre-1998 [Box RA 06]**

### CATALOGUE

#### **1984 Excavation**

20/07/1984; Larch Garrad; David Freke; human bones from recent rescue dig at RA; rescue excavations at Rushen Abbey Hotel'; request to Freke to include with Peel Castle bones for processing.

#### **1986 Teaching excavation**

08/02/1986; Peter Davey; Lawrence Butler; plans for excavations 7-27 Sept 1986.

14/02/1986; Lawrence Butler; Peter Davey; arrangements for 1986 excavations; copies of 1978 and 1979 finds notebook; Buckley and clay pipe entries.

13/03/1986; Jenny Lawton; Peter Davey; confirmation of teaching excavation.

08/04/1986; Lawrence Butler; Peter Davey; advertising leaflet for excavation.

#### **1988 Teaching excavation**

12/05/1988; Lawrence Butler; Geoff Woodcock; report on teaching excavation 3-22 April '88; leaflet; list of attenders; report.

23/05/1988; Geoff Woodcock; Lawrence Butler; thank you letter.

#### **1989 Teaching excavation**

27/02/1989; Lawrence Butler; Peter Davey; tour of Manx schools.

08/03/1989; Peter Davey; Lawrence Butler; equipment for teaching excavation.

20/04/1989; Lawrence Butler; Peter Davey; report on excavation.

24/04/1989; Wendy Horne; Peter Davey; possible programme for next year.

? Mar 1989; Peter Davey; Students; confirm enrolment on course; application form; leaflet;

26/03/1989 to 14/04/1989

#### **1990 Teaching excavation**

26/01/1990; Jennifer Lewis; Wendy Horne; reasons for no excavation in 1990.

26/01/1990; Jennifer Lewis; Lawrence Butler; reasons for no excavation in 1990 (different).

#### **1994 Excavation**

01/06/1994; Ellis Brown; Peter Davey; advice re residential development at RA.

13/06/1994; Peter Davey; Ellis Brown; proposal and quotation.

14/06/1994; Ellis Brown; Peter Davey; proposal accepted.

27/06/1994; Peter Davey; Ellis Brown; copies of report and stage 2 assessment; Stage 1 Report (dated 24/06/1994).

12/07/1994; Peter Davey; Ellis Brown; letter with invoice; invoice (Field Archaeology Unit).

#### **1996 Excavation**

15/02/1996; Andrew Johnson; Peter Davey; would FAU wish to be involved in assessment of car park housing scheme?



16/02/1996; Peter Davey; Andrew Johnson; agreement to be involved.  
22/03/1996; Andrew Johnson; Peter Davey; request for costing re car park proposal at RA; brief; plan of affected area.  
27/03/1996; David Jordan; Nick Johnson; quotation for geophysics.  
26/04/1996; Jenny Woodcock; Eric Bradshaw; request for university insurance cover.  
01/05/1996; Nick Johnson; Andrew Johnson; quotations for geophysics.  
09/05/1996; Nick Johnson; H Kennaugh; Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Report; sketch plan; list of photographs.

***1997 Field survey and assessment***

18/07/1997; Brenda Cannell; Shirley O'Shea; re-Tynwald meeting 15th July; unedited version of questions to Mr Gelling.  
23/07/1997; A J Sayle; Members; re-Lacey proposals for RA to Friends of MNH; the status and archaeological potential of RA.  
30/07/1997; Stephen Harrison; Rushen Abbey Ltd; access for 'authorised persons'; plan of scheduled area.  
08/09/1997; Nick Johnson; MNH; outline project design and costing; CVs for investigators.  
11/09/1997; Andrew Foxon; John Gater; geophysical survey; G S B Prospection  
11/09/1997; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; letter and order for Masonry survey.  
12/09/1997; Bernard Caine; various; license to carry out archaeological investigations at RA.  
12/09/1997; Stephen Harrison; Rushen Abbey Ltd; notice of investigations.  
12/09/1997; Stephen Harrison; Merry Monk; notice of investigations.  
12/09/1997; Stephen Harrison; Rushen Abbey Hotel; notice of investigations.  
13/09/1997; Bernard Caine; whoever; metal detector order re-RA; plan of area of order.  
17/09/1997; J L M Quinn; MNH; Dickinson Cruikshank for Rushen Abbey Properties Ltd.  
18/09/1997; Stephen Harrison; Rushen Abbey Hotel; notice that archaeological investigations will begin on 22 Sept.  
18/09/1997; Stephen Harrison; Merry Monk; notice that archaeological investigations will begin on 22 Sept.  
18/09/1997; Stephen Harrison; Rushen Abbey Ltd; notice that archaeological investigations will begin on 22 Sept.  
20/09/1997; Bernard Caine; Peter Davey *et al*; authorisation to enter RA at 'all reasonable times'; map; copy of 1959 MMNT Act, Section 17; also pencil notes by Nick Johnson about perceived issues 19/9 and 25/9.  
17/10/1997; Jim Davidson; Andrew Hartley; water main at RA; plan; IOM Water Authority.  
20/10/1997; Amber Cordwell; Andrew Hartley; drainage/foul sewers at RA; plan; Dept of Transport.  
27/10/1997; D Jaggard; Andrew Hartley; gas mains at RA; plan; Calor Manx Gas Ltd.  
28/10/1997; R M Quine; Andrew Hartley; previous planning applications; Dept of Local Government and the Environment.  
04/11/1997; L Regan; Andrew Hartley; location of electricity cables and equipment; plans; Manx Electricity Authority.  
05/11/1997; B T Dulson; Andrew Hartley; Manx Telecom apparatus at RA; plan; Manx Telecom.  
18/11/1997; Nick Johnson; Andrew Foxon; delivery of Phase 1 assessment; draft proposed structure.  
? Feb 1997; Graham Ferguson Lacey; viewer; pro-forma for comments on his proposals; Artist's impression of the development.  
? Sept 1997; MNH; CMS; indicative specification for archaeological investigation.

**Administrative archive 1998-2008 [Box RA 07]*****1998 Excavation***

25/02/1998; J F Kissack; Martin Moore; report on meeting with Mr Lacey; photo-copy.  
27/02/1998; Martin Moore; J F Kissack; possibility of Tynwald motion; photo-copy.  
03/03/1998; J F Kissack; Martin Moore; Request for MNH plan for RA; photo-copy.  
16/03/1998; Nick Johnson; MNH; design for research at RA; text of proposal and costing.  
26/05/1998; Peter Davey; Tony Pass; request for accommodation for 1998 excavations.  
26/05/1998; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; revised proposals for 1998.  
27/05/1998; Breesha Maddrell; Peter Davey; ideas for site evaluation at RA; e-mail.  
08/06/1998; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; confirmation of grant.  
10/06/1998; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; confirmation that work will begin on 7 July 1998.  
11/06/1998; P Oliver; Nick Johnson; CBA Insurance certificate; completed application form.  
22/06/1998; Barry Hewitson; Peter Davey; University acceptance of grant.  
02/07/1998; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; agreement to take part in project.  
07/07/1998; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; license for archaeological investigations at RA.  
08/07/1998; Basin Megaw; Peter Davey; proofs of his RA and Castle Rushen paper.  
14/07/1998; Philippa Tomlinson; Andrew Foxon; sieving tank for on-site wet sieving.  
31/07/1998; Sue Palmer; Hazel Simons; receipt for long cross coin found 17th July 1998.  
05/08/1998; Shirley O'Hea; Mary Brett; possible visit of L-G to RA excavations.  
06/08/1998; Nigel Warren Ltd; CMS; plant hire.  
19/08/1998; Brian Whitehead; Peter Davey; details of MNH media coverage releases.  
10/09/1998; Nigel Warren Ltd; CMS; plant hire.  
18/09/1998; Shirley O'Hea; Maria Parsons; visit of his Excellency and Lady Daunt.  
25/09/1998; Sir Timothy Daunt; Peter Davey; thanks for visit to RA excavations; details of arrangements, dress etc.  
01/10/1998; C H K Kerruish; Peter Davey; Shakespeare's warning about digging up bodies.  
05/10/1998; Barry Hewitson; Peter Davey; University acceptance of grant from MNH.  
08/10/1998; Susie White; Peter Davey; telephone bills; details of bills Aug '97 to May '98.  
14/10/1998; Peter Davey; Barry Hewitson; query about exact amount of approved grant.  
14/10/1998; Sue Palmer; Peter Davey; receipt for 67 boxes of finds.  
16/10/1998; David Higgins; Peter Davey; claim fees covering July to October 1998.  
23/10/1998; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; building recording; 1999 and 2000 seasons.  
26/10/1998; Peter Davey; Andrew Johnson; David Higgins' availability; Fax and copy message.  
5/11/1998; Philippa Tomlinson; Steve Prescott; list of suggested medieval plants for RA gardens.  
08/11/1998; Peter Davey; MNH; outline report and draft executive summary; 13-page bound booklet.  
11/11/1998; Lawrence Butler; Andrew Foxon; report on 1988 to 1989 excavations.  
20/11/1998; Sir Timothy Daunt; Peter Davey; gift of 50-year volume on Anatolia.  
01/12/1998; Elaine Smith; Peter Davey; possible RA visit of Bristol Folk House Arch Soc 4-9th May 1999.  
06/12/1998; Mike McCarthy; Peter Davey; Claim for fee and travelling expenses on 4th.  
10/12/1998; Susie White; Peter Davey; order for permatrace; transport of bicycles back to UK.  
14/12/1998; Peter Davey; Sir Timothy Daunt; thanks for Anatolia volume; details of research meeting on 4th.

***1999 Excavation***

19/01/1999; Susie White; Peter Davey; drawings and expenses re RA.  
27/01/1999; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; draft notes on possible work in 1999.



29/01/1999; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; position of north wall of 'infirmarium'.  
04/02/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey *et al*; Haley Sharpe Associates/Britannia 2000 visit 9-10th February.  
12/02/1999; Peter Davey; Melanie Blackmore; info to BBC in London about abbey and finds.  
13/02/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; draft archaeological programme for 1999 to 2000.  
22/02/1999; Peter Davey; Lawrence Butler; arrangements for meeting on 4th March.  
23/02/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; agreed declaration and disclaimer form; copy of blank form.  
23/02/1999; Peter Davey; Stephen Cregeen; overdue, unpaid, invoices.  
26/02/1999; Peter Davey; CMS; notes on lecture at Cathedral on that day; list of slides used.  
11/03/1999; Peter Davey; Stephen Harrison; draft compound proposals and costings for 1999 and 2000; copy of proposals.  
22/03/1999; Peter Davey; Eva Wilson; talk to Castletown Heritage on 15/03/2000.  
14/04/1999; Peter Davey; Hazel Simons; minutes of meeting on 13/04/1999; agenda and drafts.  
19/04/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; arrangements for 1999 excavations.  
22/04/1999; Peter Oliver; Nick Johnson; CBA insurance certificate; completed application form; leaflet.  
23/04/1999; Andrew Johnson; Peter Davey; license to carry out archaeological investigations at RA; plan of area of order.  
23/04/1999; Hazel Simons; Elaine Smith; visit of Folk House Archaeological Society, Bristol on 6th May.  
28/04/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; confirmation of agreement until 14/04/2000; further grant.  
07/05/1999; C Wilson; Philippa Tomlinson; exemption from hosepipe restriction by Ushtey Ellan Vannin.  
07/06/1999; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; additional 5 weeks' excavation.  
09/06/1999; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; costings for additional work; alternative timetables.  
24/06/1999; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; costings for work associated with masonry conservation; 1 sheet of costings (draft); plans etc.  
28/06/1999; Peter Davey; Chris Mee; itinerary for Chris's visit to RA excavations and CMS.  
01/07/1999; Peter Davey; Staff of CMS; notes on meeting of 30/06/1999; practical arrangements.  
06/07/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; list of main issues for meeting.  
09/07/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; agreement to and funding of new work; 9 official orders; 6 plans to show locations.  
14/07/1999; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; confirmation of detailed programme.  
21/07/1999; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; new costings; practical problems in East Range; sheet of costings by area.  
27/07/1999; Nick Johnson; Tony Pass; position of problem trees; plan.  
30/07/1999; Ashley Pettit; Andrew Foxon; consolidation of the 'vaulted structure' details given; copy to PJD.  
16/08/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; revised costing; removal of sycamore; permissions.  
16/08/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; revised area drawings; revised completion dates; 5 annotated plans.  
16/08/1999; Peter Davey; Staff of CMS; new staff and areas/timings of work; 4 pages.  
03/09/1999; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; issues in the definition of areas to be investigated.  
06/09/1999; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; clarification of area details.  
17/09/1999; Stephen Cregeen; Peter Davey; Letter of intent for period up to 14/04/2000.

21/09/1999; Andrew Foxon; Nick Johnson; outstanding items.  
22/09/1999; Peter Davey; Barry Hewitson; confirmation of MNH grant.  
04/10/1999; Barry Hewitson; Peter Davey; University acceptance of grant from MNH.  
09/10/1999; Sue Palmer; Peter Davey; draft text for exhibition for comment; 13 pages; PJD comments in red.  
10/10/1999; Peter Davey; George Scully; request to vire £20,000 from travel to salary costs.  
10/10/1999; Peter Davey; George Scully; request for contract to Susie White 1 Nov for 3 months.  
26/10/1999; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; problems of leaving site open in winter.  
26/10/1999; Sue Palmer; Peter Davey; choice of objects for display?  
27/10/1999; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; confirm request to write up Trenches Q and N.  
01/11/1999; Peter Davey; Nick Johnson; staff changes: new secretary Christine Cullen.  
01/11/1999; Philippa Tomlinson; Sue Palmer; Comments on the graphic specification sheet for environmental displays.  
04/11/1999; Nick Johnson; John Ashurst; draft plan of site and detailed comments on issues.  
26/11/1999; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; stratigraphic 'way-upness'.  
29/11/1999; Peter Davey; Lawrence Butler; proposed visit of Cambrians in September 2000.

### ***1999 Teaching Excavation***

02/04/1999; Peter Davey; Jen Lewis; Proposed CE teaching excavation in August; completed course unit form; advert.  
10/06/1999; Jenny Woodcock; Liverpool students; notice of briefing meeting; student fieldwork placements.  
23/07/1999; Liz Slater; 3 Liverpool students; confirmation of accommodation 16-27 August.  
23/07/1999; Nick Johnson; Britarch; advert for places on excavation.  
26/07/1999; Liz Slater; Barbara Brereton; request for accommodation at Port Erin 16-27 August; Timetable.  
28/09/1999; Helen Skillan; Peter Davey; fieldwork notes of teaching excavation 23-27 August; printout of e-mail.

### ***2000 Excavation***

05/01/2000; Sue Palmer; Philippa Tomlinson; samples recording form for environmental displays.  
14/01/2000; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; various issues; Northern Studies visit on April.  
21/01/2000; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; note on conservation work progress; 2-page report; meeting notes 24/01/2000.  
01/02/2000; Nick Johnson; Andrew Foxon; use of Abbey Hotel during excavation; plan.  
03/02/2000; Andrew Foxon; CMS; official order for excavations.  
18/02/2000; IOM Constabulary; CMS; recovery stolen camera case; exhibit label and details.  
25/02/2000; Peter Davey; Stephen Cregeen; unpaid 1999 invoices.  
03/03/2000; Peter Olver; CMS; CBA Insurance; details of 2000-1 scheme.  
11/03/2000; Davey & Johnson; Andrew Foxon; revised costing for 2000 excavations; 2 pages of detailed breakdowns.  
11/03/2000; Sue Palmer; Peter Davey; needed more display information; annotated object list.  
20/03/2000; Nick Johnson; Andrew Foxon; notes on revised costing; 1-page detailed breakdown of costs; table.  
27/03/2000; Sue Palmer; Peter Davey; license to remove objects from the Isle of Man; list of sherds to go to conference in Oxford.  
31/03/2000; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; letter of intent to support 2000 excavations.

07/04/2000; Stephen Harrison; Philippa Tomlinson; invitation to opening ceremony on Good Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2000.  
10/04/2000; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; comment of Roberts letter about principles re-cemeteries.  
11/04/2000; Peter Olver; Nick Johnson; CBA insurance application form.  
12/04/2000; Andrew Foxon; CMS; official order for work in 2000.  
14/04/2000; Davey & Johnson; Andrew Foxon; outline specification for 2000 excavations; list of objectives dated 05/04/2000.  
16/05/2000; Hazel Simons; Sandra Miller; details of NSPCC 24-hour 'trowlethon'; following Scottish Provident Life Assurance voluntary work on site.  
25/05/2000; Hazel Simons; Jenny Woodcock; request for sponsorship in 'trowlethon' 27th May.  
01/06/2000; Sue Palmer; Hazel Simons; update data-base with objects not used in display; annotated object list.  
20/06/2000; Sue Palmer; CMS; National Archaeology Days 22-23 July; 4 pages of suggested programme.  
13/07/2000; Suzanne Dagger (BBC); Peter Davey; queries over 'initial facts'; copies of emails with Stephen Harrison *et al*.  
Aug-2000; Sue Palmer; CMS; Young Archaeologists 19/08/2000 - details of planning for.  
01/09/2000; Peter Davey; Tim Darvill; RA Demesne Farm and Billown excavations.  
07/09/2000; Tim Darvill; Peter Davey; possible discussion of the Abbey Demesne Farm.  
06/11/2000; Julie Whittaker; Peter Davey; visit of Dr Roger Stalley.  
13/11/2000; Hazel Simons; Andrew Foxon; work space requirements for 2001.  
15/11/2000; Nick Johnson; Andrew Foxon; possible AHRB application; copy of e-mail.  
16/11/2000; Andrew Foxon; Nick Johnson; possible AHRB application; copy of e-mail.  
22/11/2000; Peter Davey; Sue Palmer; list of objects to be drawn by Susie White.  
01/12/2000; Peter Davey; Sue Palmer; query about coin/lead object; revised list of objects to be drawn.  
01/12/2000; Sue Palmer; Peter Davey; possible coin/button/stud; further cleaning?  
07/12/2000; Peter Davey; Helen Skillan; progress of her MA dissertation on RA floor tiles.  
18/12/2000; Sue Palmer; Hazel Simons; sundry donations to MNH, including from RA.

### **2000 Teaching Excavation**

06/03/2000; Jenny Woodcock; to whom it may concern; testimonial for Sarah Hardman 12-23 July 1999.  
27/03/2000; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; Port y Candas and RA organisation.  
28/03/2000; Pat Sweetingham; Peter Davey *et al*; request for details of this year's fieldwork.  
28/03/2000; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; details of excavation: first student names; Preliminary Notice; student interest sheet.  
10/04/2000; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; report on Liverpool presentation meeting.  
14/04/2000; Jenny Woodcock; Students; thank you for your interest letter.  
11/05/2000; Sonia Spieler; Jenny Woodcock; confirm place on excavations; e-mail.  
17/05/2000; David Widden; Jenny Woodcock; confirm place on excavations.  
18/05/2000; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; practical issues with arrangements.  
19/05/2000; Paula Hernandez; Jenny Woodcock; confirm place on excavations.  
23/05/2000; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; list of students for Port Erin accommodation.  
30/05/2000; Jenny Woodcock; Hazel Simons; details of information given to students; pro-forma letter to students from JJW.  
06/06/2000; Hazel Simons; Nick Johnson; update on progress re-volunteers/students.  
12/06/2000; Jenny Woodcock; Hazel Simons; more information to give to students; FAX; background info about RA and Port y Candas.

14/06/2000; Hazel Simons; Students; details of accommodation; list of students; info for students.  
14/06/2000; Peter Davey; I A Notman; request to borrow mini bus for Sunday 9th July.  
15/06/2000; Hazel Simons; Jenny Woodcock; copies of everything sent to students for info.  
15/06/2000; Jenny Woodcock; A Fife; possible involvement of 6th-formers; publicity leaflet for Teaching Excavation; copies to all Manx secondary schools  
19/06/2000; I A Notman; Peter Davey; confirmation of mini bus loan and mileage rate.  
22/06/2000; Jenny Woodcock; I A Notman; thanks for mini bus loan.  
23/06/2000; Hazel Simons; Nick Johnson; update on progress re volunteers/students.  
29/06/2000; Sonia Spieler; Jenny Woodcock; not received information sent.  
01/07/2000; Mark White; Peter Davey; thanks for taking Durham students on the excavation.  
05/07/2000; Jenny Woodcock; Pat Sweetingham; copies of medical emergency contact forms.  
06/07/2000; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; list of students for Port Erin accommodation; room allocation; timetable; e-mail  
07/07/2000; Barbara Brereton; University of Liverpool; copy of internal supply form; cost of students at Port Erin; invoice (Field Archaeology Unit).  
18/09/2000; Jan Chesterman; Liz Slater; positive experience at RA.

### **2001 Excavation**

25/01/2001; Nick Johnson; Andrew Foxon; excavation plan and costing; e-mail plus spreadsheet.  
30/04/2001; Andrew Foxon; CMS; official order form for 2001 excavations.  
15/05/2001; Sue Palmer; Hazel Simons; removal of architectural stonework out of Hotel.  
16/05/2001; Sue Palmer; Hazel Simons; new box numbers for bones.  
06/06/2001; Sue Palmer; Hazel Simons; check on items on loan for some while.  
20/06/2001; Hazel Simons; Paul Olver; CBA insurance application form; Invoice.  
29/08/2001; Hazel Simons; to whom it may concern; thanks to everyone involved in excavations.  
11/09/2001; Nick Johnson; MNH; commentary and interim interpretation; plan and section drawings (3) in ink; Figs 1 and 2.  
27/10/2001; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; comments on Butler excavation report (referee); Copy of text of report for BAAJ.

### **2001 Teaching Excavation**

23/01/2001; Anthony Sinclair; Peter Davey *et al*; meeting for students 14/02/2001; how many to IOM; e-mail 24/01/2001; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; numbers of students.  
24/01/2001; Nick Johnson; Anthony Sinclair; likely dates and details dependent on MNH agreement.  
01/02/2001; Yvonne Cresswell; Nick Johnson; re-invoice for Simon Oakley stay.  
14/02/2001; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; details of dates for Port Erin.  
14/02/2001; Yvonne Cresswell; University of Liverpool; invoice for Simon Oakley's accommodation.  
01/03/2001; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; agree average price of rooms for students at Port Erin; e-mail  
05/03/2001; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; costs of Port Erin and travel.  
05/03/2001; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; approximate cost of boat journeys.  
06/03/2001; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; cost of three hours of cleaner on change-over.  
16/03/2001; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; confirm arrival dates for each group of students.

16/03/2001; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; confirm arrival dates for each group of students.

01/05/2001; Nick Johnson; Alex McFee; agreement to her coming as volunteer.

08/05/2001; Chris Ward; Jenny Woodcock; unable to attend meeting, but raring to go.

09/05/2001; Alex McFee; Nick Johnson; would like to do her work placement at RA.

09/05/2001; Hazel Simons; Jenny Woodcock; possible information to send to students; +check list; risk assessment; SACOS projects 2001.

28/05/2001; Jenny Woodcock; Hazel Simons; details of her own travelling to IOM; list of students.

29/05/2001; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; changes to student numbers; info for students; timetables; teaching timetable.

06/12/2001; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; when could we start in 2002?

06/12/2001; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; can we use Port Erin in 2002?

06/12/2001; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; starting talks with MNH about 2002.

07/12/2001; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; can start two days after 16th.

10/12/2001; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; plan to start mid-June.

### ***2002 Excavation***

01/02/2002; Nick Johnson; Andrew Foxon; plans and costing for 2002 excavation.

Dec 2002; Nick Johnson; Andrew Foxon; commentary and interim interpretation; 5-page report, including one site plan.

### ***2002 Teaching Excavation***

17/01/2002; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; date and arrangements for teaching excavation in 2002.

21/01/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; problem of Port Erin term timetable.

21/01/2002; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; new timing for excavations.

22/01/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; arrangements for excavation.

28/01/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; need to put in bid for money for the students.

28/01/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; suggestion that we begin around 18th June.

30/01/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; how to claim from fieldwork account in retrospect.

30/01/2002; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; how to recoup cost of student accommodation.

Feb 2002; Carol Doran; Jenny Woodcock; request to attend excavations as volunteer (MA student).

05/02/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; supervision of students at Port Erin.

08/02/2002; John Gowlett; CMS; allocation of fieldwork expenses £1018; intra departmental journal form.

11/02/2002; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; students can arrive on 18th; £6.85 per night per room.

12/02/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; confirmation of dates 19 June to 1 Aug.

16/02/2002; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; suggested timings.

18/02/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; personal arrangements for staying in IOM for excavation.

18/02/2002; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; need for 5-day week this year; will revise timetable.

21/02/2002; Anthony Sinclair; Jenny Woodcock; idea of VFS bid.

25/02/2002; Nick Johnson; Anthony Sinclair; bid of £2046.50.

14/03/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Carol Doran; arrangements for her coming.

18/03/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; can she fit in an extra student (Doran)?



02/05/2002; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; Staffing; first aid; risk assessment; check list; info for under-graduates.

03/05/2002; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; response to detailed queries; student info and timetable; teaching timetable.

26/06/2002; Wendy Thirkettle; Peter Davey; reference for drawing; ML 16 L (P/6135/1).

20/08/2002; University of Liverpool; Jenny Woodcock; invoice for £3,067.70 for student accommodation.

### **2003 Excavation**

29/05/2003; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; confirmation of grant for 2003.

13/06/2003; Breesha Maddrell; David Radcliffe; advice about *Newsletter* and her editing of No 1.

13/06/2003; Peter Davey; David Radcliffe; copies of *Newsletter* to go to Allison Fox.

16/06/2003; Allison Fox; David Radcliffe; advice about *Newsletter*; suggested text about RA foundation date.

16/06/2003; David Radcliffe; IOM Newspapers; information about *Newsletter*.

23/07/2003; David Radcliffe; CMS; copies of all 6 Newsletters; plan of site showing 2003 excavation area.

12/12/2003; Peter Davey and NCJ; MNH; revised costings for 2004.

31/09/2003; Nick Johnson; MNH; proposals and costing for 2004.

### **2003 Teaching Excavation**

23/01/2003; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; confirmation of MNH money for 2003.

17/02/2003; Anthony Sinclair; Jenny Woodcock; please send a proper bid; ought to be OK.

17/02/2003; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; students can arrive evening of 17th June.

17/02/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; students' dates for 2003.

17/02/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; details of excavation; possible VFS claim.

18/02/2003; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; 4% increase on last.

18/02/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; cost of Port Erin this year?

18/02/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; total cost of £5136.84.

19/02/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; report on briefing meeting; notes; SACOS fieldwork list for 2003.

28/04/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; list of approved students.

02/05/2003; Nick Johnson; Jenny Woodcock; staffing matters.

06/05/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Nick Johnson; request for documentation; briefing for students on 2/3 June; risk assessment.

13/05/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Students; course leaflet.

10/06/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton and NCJ; details of students.

12/06/2003; Charlotte Goulden; Jenny Woodcock; address details.

13/06/2003; E Brittain-Jones; Jenny Woodcock; details of student room allocation at Port Erin.

14/06/2003; Charlotte Goulden; Jenny Woodcock; confirm place?

14/06/2003; Jenny Woodcock; Students; detailed programme; group and teaching timetables.

July 2003; Ritchie McNicholl; CMS; photograph in mayoral parlour; details of people shown.

25/07/2003; Uni of Liverpool; Jenny Woodcock; invoice for £2688.01.

13/11/2003; Christopher Davies; Jenny Woodcock; request to be enrolled for 2004.

22/12/2003; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; no problem with 2004 start date of 22nd June.

### **2004 Excavation**

04/03/2004; Stephen Harrison; Peter Davey; query University of Liverpool taking top slice of MNH grants to CMS.

11/05/2004; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; confirmation of excavation purpose and grant for 2004; official order for £15,835.

11/05/2004; Philippa Tomlinson; Andrew Johnson; sieving tank for RA excavations

14/05/2004; Nick Johnson; Caroline Ball; confirmation to University of Liverpool of MNH grant.

16/6/2004; Philippa Tomlinson; Paula Howell-Evans; practical arrangements for CRH School pupils working at Rushen Abbey in July, including Rachel Crellin.

23/6/2004; Peter Davey; site staff; re Philippa's work with the students on the excavations  
Nov 2004; Davey & Johnson; MNH; commentary and interim interpretation; 5-page report, including one site plan.

### **2004 Teaching Excavation**

19/01/2004; Jenny Woodcock; Peter Davey; arrangements for 2004.

03/03/2004; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; confirm dates for 2004 excavations.

09/03/2004; Justine Lucas *et al*; Jenny Woodcock; request to return to RA in 2004.

13/03/2004; Louise Walker; Jenny Woodcock; request to join excavations (2nd year student).

16/03/2004; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; report on interest from students so far.

30/03/2004; Jenny Woodcock; SACOS; fieldwork assessment form; notes for briefing meeting; draft timetable.

04/05/2004; Patrick Booth; Jenny Woodcock; request to join (MA student).

12/05/2004; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; expecting full complement of students; draft course details; flyer for CE course.

18/05/2004; Jenny Woodcock; SACOS; loan of Russian borer.

18/05/2004; Patrick Booth; Jenny Woodcock; 263 WW2 crash sites on the island.

25/05/2004; Lise Tschudi; Peter Davey; thanks for visit of Norsk Arkeologisk Selskap; copy of itinerary.

25/05/2004; Philippa Tomlinson; Peter Davey; possible involvement of Castletown HS students; copy of e-mail to teacher.

25/05/2004; Susan Colley; Jenny Woodcock; unable to attend.

01/06/2004; Allison Fox; FMNH guides; potted history of RA; 4-page.

01/06/2004; Jenny Woodcock; Davey & Johnson; report on student enrolment so far.

09/06/2004; Alayna Harris; Jenny Woodcock; please send briefing pack by post.

14/06/2004; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; report on students lack of contact; Room allocation; timetables.

23/08/2004; Jenny Woodcock; Pat Sweetingham; corrected invoice for Port Erin Accommodation £2952.

### **2005 Excavation**

06/01/2005; Nick Johnson; Andrew Foxon; revised proposals; backfilling of Area S; proposal and costing (dated 05/01/2005).

10/05/2005; Andrew Foxon; CMS; official order for £18,975.

08/11/2005; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; firm quotation for Stage 1 post-excavation £14,821.

21/11/2005; Peter Davey; Chris Mee; costing forms for projects including RA post-Excavation; internal costing and approval forms.

08/12/2005; Davey & Johnson; Andrew Foxon; outline proposal and costing for 2006.

09/12/2005; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; order on its way; official order for £14,821.

31/09/2005; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; report on 2005 excavations; proposals for post-ex for Area S; 6-pages.

### ***2005 Teaching Excavation***

24/01/2005; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; possible dates for 2005; copies of emails about dates.  
25/01/2005; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; introduction of student response form.  
28/01/2005; Jenny Woodcock; Barbara Brereton; proposed dates for 2005 student groups at Port Erin.  
07/02/2005; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; £8.80 per person per night.  
08/02/2005; Jenny Woodcock; Peter Davey; possible involvement of Lyn Hughes.  
09/02/2005; Jenny Woodcock; Peter Davey; costings for 2005.  
22/02/2005; Andrew Macdonald; Peter Davey; re-possible visit to site in 2005.  
23/02/2005; Peter Davey; Fieldwork Committee; detailed costing for student travel and subsistence.  
25/04/2005; Jenny Woodcock; Peter Davey; information to students; risk assessment; brochure (dated 16/04/2005).  
03/05/2005; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; contact details for Lyn Hughes.  
25/05/2005; Jenny Woodcock; Pat Sweetingham; list of enrolled students.  
25/05/2005; Peter Davey; Hannah Cobb; HE Academy project to interview students.  
15/08/2005; Barbara Brereton; Jenny Woodcock; students who did not turn up.  
15/08/2005; Eileen Thornley; Jenny Woodcock; details of student attendance and absence at Port Erin.  
22/08/2005; Uni of Liverpool; Jenny Woodcock; invoice/credit note for accommodation 23/06 to 26/07.  
Dec 2005; Jenny Woodcock; to whom it may concern; notes of procedures for RA teaching excavation.  
22/12/2005; Jenny Woodcock; Claire Corkill; confirmation of closure of Port Erin; new location needed.

### ***2006 Excavation***

30/01/2006; Jenny Woodcock; Peter Davey; list of files for transfer to IOM.  
20/02/2006; Barbara Brereton; Claire Corkill; Port Erin not prepared to take students, as closing.  
16/03/2006; Allison Fox; Claire Corkill; box numbering.  
20/03/2006; Allison Fox; Claire Corkill; revised box numbering.  
19/04/2006; Nick Johnson; Claire Corkill; Hyda plan of the abbey.  
15/06/2006; Elsie Doyle; Jenny Woodcock; public liability insurance; copy of employers' liability insurance.  
20/06/2006; Allison Fox; CMS; entry form for finds from 2006 season.  
07/07/2006; Allison Fox; CMS; metal detector license for 01/07 to 25/08.  
29/08/2006; Nick Johnson; SACOS; excavation checklist and risk assessment for Watch Tower.  
17/09/2006; Peter Davey; CMS staff; agenda for CMS research meeting; papers by Crellin, Radcliffe, Johnson, Moore, Jamieson.  
06/11/2006; Brandon Ellis; Nick Johnson; further work on Watch Tower; copy of official order to Conservation Stonework; FAX.

### ***2006 Teaching Excavation***

10/01/2006; Jenny Woodcock; Claire Corkill; material needed for Fieldwork Committee.  
11/01/2006; Anthony Sinclair; Claire Corkill; details needed and timing.  
13/02/2006; Jonathan Kewley; Claire Corkill; visit of party to RA in July.



16/02/2006; Claire Corkill; Heads of sixth forms; invitation to students over 16.  
16/03/2006; Pat Sweetingham; Claire Corkill; how to pay for accommodation.  
31/03/2006; Claire Corkill; SACOS; excavation checklist; cost of student accommodation; student handout.  
04/04/2006; Elizabeth Riley; Claire Corkill; work experience (Sheffield High School); letter from school; 2 previous letters from Elizabeth.  
12/04/2006; Phil Freeman; Claire Corkill; enrolment so far; risk assessment OK.  
24/04/2006; Peter Davey; University of Liverpool; risk assessment for teaching excavation.  
31/05/2006; Hannah Strapp; Claire Corkill; confirming her attendance; copy of e-mail sent to all signed-up students.  
01/06/2006; Jenny Woodcock; Anthony Sinclair; summary of student interest and enrolment so far.  
14/06/2006; Shirley Curtis; Claire Corkill; arriving by plane with Elizabeth Jarrett on 18th July.  
18/06/2006; Nicolle Roxborough; Claire Corkill; please send details.  
18/06/2006; Sakiko Sakamoto; Claire Corkill; arriving by plane on 18th July; copies of emails about further information.  
03/07/2006; Anthony Sinclair; Claire Corkill; details of archaeological skills module.  
12/09/2006; Peter Davey; Staff of CMS; possible field school syllabus for 2007.  
19/09/2006; Michael Mc Donough; Claire Corkill; CD with 40 photographs of the excavations.  
01/12/2006; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; invoice order number to use for 2006 excavations.

### ***2007 Excavation***

25/04/2007; Peter Davey; Andrew Foxon; proposal for 2007.  
30/05/2007; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; official order as per proposal of 25/04.  
31/05/2007; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; confirmation of grant of £22,750 for 2007 excavations.  
01/06/2007; Stephen Harrison; Peter Davey; Leisure projects (ie for after PJD's retirement).  
04/06/2007; Andrew Foxon; CMS; metal detecting license 09/06 to 01/08.  
19/07/2007; Nick Johnson; University of Liverpool; complete internal approval form (to receive MNH grant).  
30/07/2007; David Higgins; Peter Davey; completed claim form for fees and expenses; note to Karen Muskett that self-employed.  
30/07/2007; Susie White; Peter Davey; completed claim form for fees and expenses; note to Karen Muskett that self-employed.

### ***2007 Teaching Excavation***

18/01/2007; Claire Corkill; David Radcliffe; possible talk to University Arch Soc in place of PJD.  
23/01/2007; Claire Corkill; David Radcliffe; talk is on 6th February.  
24/01/2007; Claire Corkill; David Radcliffe; possible help with under-graduate presentations on 06/02.  
30/01/2007; Claire Corkill; Students; description of abbey and research project; 6-page.  
15/05/2007; Claire Corkill; Fieldwork Committee; costing for students' travel and accommodation £10,210.  
30/05/2007; Claire Corkill; University of Liverpool; fieldwork risk assessment form; excavation checklist; timetables.  
12/07/2007; Jennifer Mirdamadi; Peter Davey; what to do about unruly students; new CMS *Code of Conduct* dated 14th July 2007.  
27/07/2007; Claire Corkill; Eva Castellucci; certificate of participation 15 to 27 July 2007.

### **2008 Excavation**

28/11/2008; Peter Davey; Stephen Harrison; RA publication proposals and costings; 9-sheets.

### **2008 Teaching Excavation**

May 2008; Peter Davey; Students; Brochure for Chester University experiential learning module; 9-sheets.

22/05/2008; Harold Mytum; Jennifer Mirdamadi; excavation checklist for RA teaching Excavation; risk assessment form; information for students; timetables.

22/05/2008; Harold Mytum; Jennifer Mirdamadi; excavation checklist for RA hotel watching brief; Risk assessment form.

16/06/2008; Allison Fox; Claire Corkill; FMNH guide timetable for 2008.

09/07/2008; Rachel Crellin; Claire Corkill; last stragglers have arrived; postcard.

## **Research archive: academic issues relating to Rushen Abbey [Box RA 07]**

### **CATALOGUE**

#### **Barton**

17/10/1997; Roísín Barton; Nick Johnson; interested in seeing pottery.

11/09/1998; Roísín Barton; Peter Davey; thanks for RA report; query about bronze bells from Peel Castle.

23/10/1998; Peter Davey; Roísín Barton *et al*; notice of research meeting on 4th December; Address list for others; Also to: Burrow, Barton, Coppack, Cowin, Cubbon, Egan, Foxon, Hurst-Vose, McCartan, McCarthy, Milek, Morris, O'Conor, Quirk, Roberts, Roscow, Trench-Jellicoe.

15/02/1999; Roísín Barton; Peter Davey; apologies for missing meeting; still interested.

#### **Bornholdt**

17/12/1999; Kristin Bornholdt; Philippa Tomlinson; corrections to proofs

08/11/2000; Hazel Simons; Kristin Bornholdt; silver and allow coins from RA.

20/11/2000; Kristin Bornholdt; Hazel Simons; how to arrange identification of RA coins.

07/02/2001; Kristin Bornholdt; Hazel Simons; possible further RA identifications.

25/02/2001; Kristin Bornholdt; Hazel Simons; Ronaldsway balance; one more RA coin to identify?

1998 or 1999; Kristin Bornholdt; Peter Davey; Edward penny; cut half of silver short cross, probably King John 1199-1216.

#### **Broderick**

12/09/1999; George Broderick; Peter Davey; possible Irish context for RA size issue.

14/09/1999; Peter Davey; George Broderick; discussion of antecedents of Irish abbeys re-RA.

#### **Brotherton-Radcliffe**

15/07/1998; Betty Brotherton-Radcliffe; Peter Davey; thanks for letter.

#### **Burrow**

02/10/1997; Steve Burrow; Nick Johnson; agreed to look at any Neolithic pottery.

**Butler**

07/06/1988; Lawrence Butler; Peter Davey; post-medieval finds from 1988 excavations; list; clay pipes list from earlier excavations.

27/02/1999; Peter Davey; Lawrence Butler; arrangements for meeting in Chester

04/03/1999.

**Cain**

17/05/1999; Charles Cain; Peter Davey; possible position of Sacristy in South Transept.

**Campbell-Bannerman**

27/07/2005; Campbell-Bannerman; Peter Davey; chronology and technology of Welsh slates.

**Chiverrell**

21/12/1998; Peter Davey; Richard Chiverrell; enclosures from meeting; query over thermoluminescence.

**Cook**

05/02/1999; Cook; Peter Davey; 4 radiocarbon dating certificates; AA-32020 to AA-32023.

09/01/2001; Cook; Philippa Tomlinson; 1 radiocarbon dating certificate; AA-40745.

**Coppack**

30/09/1997; Nick Johnson; Glyn Coppack; invitation to be involved in RA research.

07/10/1997; Glyn Coppack; Nick Johnson; happy to act as advisor.

09/07/1998; Peter Davey; Glyn Coppack *et al*; progress report to Academic Committee; invite next year? also to: Burrow, Barton, Brotherton-Radcliffe, Chiverrell, Cubbon, Egan, Hurst-Vose, McCartan, McCarthy, Morris, O'Coonor, Roberts.

23/07/1998; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; agreed to visit during excavations.

06/08/1998; Peter Davey; Glyn Coppack; agreement to visit and fee.

27/08/1998; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; 4 copies of broad brush recommendations.

09/09/1998; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; visit on 23-25 September; list of visitors to RA 21-25 September 1998.

27/09/1998; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; recommendations for research and presentation; plus suggested plan.

29/09/1998; Peter Davey; Glyn Coppack; thanks for report.

22/12/1998; Peter Davey; Glyn Coppack; additional enclosures from meeting; future involvement.

06/02/1999; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; draft letter to MNH.

13/02/1999; Glyn Coppack; Stephen Harrison; MNH's standing buildings proposals.

06/03/1999; Glyn Coppack; Stephen Harrison; possible interpretative techniques.

09/04/1999; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; re- Butler's elevation of the church.

09/04/1999; Glyn Coppack; Stephen Harrison; model makers; axonometric drawings.

12/04/1999; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; axonometrics; west range detail; Notes on suggested reconstruction of the monastic buildings.

27/04/1999; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; revised drawings.

23/05/1999; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; ground plan.

24/07/1999; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; lay brothers' lane?

13/09/1999; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; slides for lecture on late medieval monastic developments.

06/12/1999; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; invoice for travelling to IOM for meeting 6/7 Dec.

22/12/1999; Glyn Coppack; Peter Davey; ?contribution to report.

### **Cubbon**

30/09/1997; Nick Johnson; Marshall Cubbon *et al*; Invitation to be involved in RA research; Also to: Burrow, Barton, Brotherton-Radcliffe, Egan, Hurst-Vose, McCartan, McCarthy, Morris, O'Connor, Trench-Jellicoe.

03/10/1997; Marshall Cubbon; Nick Johnson; Glad to assist.

22/12/1998; Peter Davey; Marshall Cubbon *et al*; additional enclosures from meeting as attender; Also to: Egan, McCarthy, Christian, Morris, Roscow, Cowin, Higgins.

### **Davey**

04/12/1998; Jenny Woodcock; Peter Davey; notes on agenda items.

19/10/1999; Nick Johnson; Peter Davey; RA99 post-excavation advisory group meeting.

### **Egan**

17/07/1998; Geoff Egan; Peter Davey; agreed to come to December meeting.

11/12/1998; Geoff Egan; Peter Davey; bone styli; plus offprint; plus list of 5/12/98.

### **Fisher**

26/11/1998; Philippa Tomlinson; Clem Fischer; bird bones from the excavations, invitation as bird bone specialist.

### **Foxon**

07/11/1997; Nick Johnson; Andrew Foxon; list of academics interested in being involved.

27/10/1998; Jenny Woodcock; Andrew Foxon; names and addresses of academic consultants; FAX.

27/03/2000; Andrew Foxon; Peter Davey; thanks for copies of C14 dating certificates.

### **Greene**

06/08/1998; Peter Davey; Patrick Greene; invitation to visit.

19/08/1998; Patrick Greene; Peter Davey; willingness to participate.

28/10/1998; Patrick Greene; Jenny Woodcock; possible attendance on 4 December.

### **Higgins**

10/10/1997; David Higgins; Nick Johnson; Re Masonry survey; Field notes and report.

05/12/1998; David Higgins; Peter Davey; comments of meeting, especially building recording.

### **Hurst Vose**

31/07/1998; Ruth Hurst Vose; Peter Davey; glass.

04/09/1998; Ruth Hurst Vose; Peter Davey; planning visit to IOM.

21/12/1998; Peter Davey; Ruth Hurst Vose; enclosures from meeting as a non-attender; also to: Brotherton-Radcliffe, Hall, Quirk, Greene, Trench-Jellicoe, McCartan, Innes, Christian.

19/01/1999; Ruth Hurst Vose; Peter Davey; glass in RA presentation story lines.

02/03/1999; Ruth Hurst Vose; Sue Palmer; medieval glass from RA; plus text of short note.

07/03/1999; Ruth Hurst Vose; Peter Davey; WLHA project.

21/03/1999; Ruth Hurst Vose; Peter Davey; text of report cf Davey1999, 54-61.

09/04/1999; Ruth Hurst Vose; Sue Palmer; glass replicas.

06/07/1999; Ruth Hurst Vose; Sue Palmer; colour of roundel from Trench T.

**Innes**

10/02/1999; Jim Innes; Peter Davey; pollen counts from RA completed.  
15/12/1999; Jim Innes; Philippa Tomlinson; correction to pollen text in Davey 999, 75-76.

**MacGregor**

05/01/2001; MacGregor; Hazel Simons; crossbow tumbler; ?tuning peg; plus offprint.

**Manning**

19/04/1999; Conleth Manning; Jenny Woodcock; 1927 plans of RA held by Duchas in Dublin.  
22/04/1999; Jenny Woodcock; Conleth Manning; 1927 plan of RA; photocopies at 50%.

**Manx Coin Recorder (MCR)**

05/07/2006; MCR; Peter Davey; RA coin finds in 2006.  
12/07/2006; MCR; Peter Davey; no comment until High Bailiff has seen.  
19/02/2009; MCR; Peter Davey; coin accession numbers.  
30/07/2009; MCR; Peter Davey; RA list; PJD to add missing context numbers.  
19/02/2011; MCR; Peter Davey; recent medieval coin finds from IOM.  
23/02/2011; MCR; Peter Davey; ?contribution to *After the Vikings*, note on Roman coins and Dolley.  
18/01/2012; MCR; Peter Davey; antimony vein at Niarbyl/nickel at Glen Chass?  
01/01/2017; MCR; Allison Fox; *Copy of Manx Coin Recorder Issue 8, January 2017*.

**Matthews**

23/02/1999; A G Matthews; Peter Davey; Maluag patron saint of Malew parish  
12/03/1999; Peter Davey; A G Matthews; St Maluag; leaflet of Friends, Isle of Lewis.  
26/03/1999; A G Matthews; Peter Davey; St Maluag; extract from M Barrett 1919; quotes 6 different medieval sources.

**McCarthy**

06/10/1997; Mike McCarthy; Nick Johnson; interested in being involved.  
13/07/1998; Mike McCarthy; Peter Davey; thanks for letter.  
06/12/1998; Mike McCarthy; Peter Davey; thanks and commentary on meeting.

**Milek**

16/06/1998; Karen Milek; Peter Davey; sediment sampling and micromorphology; visit?  
16/07/1998; Peter Davey; Karen Milek; possible visit in 1998.  
17/07/1998; Karen Milek; Peter Davey; arrangements for visit 14-21 September.  
05/11/1998; Karen Milek; Peter Davey; micromorphology assessment sampling report.  
16/12/1998; Karen Milek; Peter Davey; morphology assessment; final report.  
21/12/1998; Peter Davey; Karen Milek; enclosures from meeting; thanks for her report.

**Miller**

09/10/1998; Miller; Peter Davey; receipt of charred grain specimen.  
29/10/1998; Miller; Peter Davey; results of carbon dating of charred grain from G8.  
18/11/1998; Miller; Peter Davey; results of carbon dating of bone sample from 1998-516.  
26/20/1998; Miller; Peter Davey; receipt of bone sample for dating.

**Morris**

17/10/1997; Chris Morris; Nick Johnson; happy to be associated.

***O'Connor***

21/12/1998; Peter Davey; Terry O'Connor; enclosures from meeting; query over animal bones.

***Paynter***

22/06/2001; Paynter; Hazel Simons; XRF of ?brass working debris.

***Radcliffe***

04/09/2005; Fred Radcliffe; Peter Davey; pebbly limestone at RA; plus offprint.

***Roberts C***

28/10/1998; Charlotte Roberts; Peter Davey; apologies for 4th December (in the states).

21/12/1998; Peter Davey; Charlotte Roberts; enclosures from meeting; asking advice about human bones.

29/3/2000; Charlotte Roberts; Philippa Tomlinson; comments on excavations in area s and the value of the skeletal material.

31/3/2000; Nick Johnson; Philippa Tomlinson; on the value of the excavations in area s and comments by Dr Charlotte Roberts

04/04/2000; Charlotte Roberts; Peter Davey; human bones from Rushen Abbey.

***Roberts D***

06/05/1998; David Roberts; Peter Davey; Drumlins at and around RA.

***Rubin***

c2001; Stanley Rubin; Peter Davey; Human bones from Rushen Abbey.

***Stringer***

21/06/2001; Keith Stringer; Peter Davey; thanks for copies of Dissolution monograph.

***Trench-Jellicoe***

08/10/1997; Ross Trench-Jellicoe; Nick Johnson; help in anyway - probably too high medieval.

06/08/1998; Peter Davey; Ross Trench-Jellicoe; Copy of MNH proposals to Tynwald; also to: Burrow, Barton, Brotherton-Radcliffe, Cubbon, Egan, Husrt-Vose, McCartan, McCarthy, Milek, Morris.

***Vince***

09/07/2000; Alan Vince; Peter Davey; assessment of medieval pottery (RA); PJD 'problem of documentation and research' 04/03/2001.

***Wilson***

01/08/2002; Eva Wilson; Nick Johnson; pebbly limestone at RA (tower); plus 9 b & w prints.

04/06/2017; Eva Wilson to Peter Davey; 9 black and white prints and negatives.

***Woodcock***

24/11/1998; Peter Davey; Jenny Woodcock; Details of meeting on 4th December 1998;

Various enclosures; list of consultants; Also to remaining consultants on list

22/12/1998; Peter Davey; Jenny Woodcock; Additional enclosures from meeting as attender; letter to come.



### **Research archive: the Borassus project**

The papers from this projects are held in five groups:

- Correspondence about the setting up of the project
- The organisation of field trials at Rushen Abbey and the data collected
- Reports
- Budapest meeting 10/07/2006 to 14/07/2006
- Brazil meeting 29/01/2007 to 05/02/2007

The lead investigator for CMS was Claire Corkill.

### CATALOGUE

#### ***Setting up the project***

29/11/2005 Philippa Tomlinson to Mike Fullen about possible visit on 10 February  
08/02/2006 Philippa Tomlinson to Mike Fullen; agreed meeting in Centre  
20/04/2002 Mike Fullen to Peter Davey re- possible use of *buruti* mats to protect archaeological sites  
20/04/2006 Peter Davey to Mike Fullen; agreement to be involved CC to prepare suitable images to send to Brazil  
17/05/2006 Claire Corkill to Tony Guerra; practical issues about the use of matts  
20/05/2006 Claire Corkill to Tony Guerra; can the mats be cut on arrival on site?  
24/05/2006 Claire Corkill to Tony Guerra; cutting mats to size on site?  
25/05/2006 Claire Corkill to Mike Fullen; how long to produce mats; need for 25 August  
28/05/2006 Mike Fullen to Claire Corkill; request to write paragraphs for Budapest

#### ***Field trials at Rushen Abbey***

08/08/2006 A4 sketch plan (PJD) of proposed layout of experimental plots in Area M showing location of geotextile, jute, *borassus* and *buruti* matting (12 squares)  
10/08/2006 Claire Corkill to Andrew Foxon; explanation of project and request for permission  
18/08/2006 Andrew Foxon to Claire Corkill giving MNH approval (FAX)  
21/08/2006 Claire Corkill to Allison Fox; detailed response to AF's queries  
October 2006 A4 sketch (CC) plan of actual layout used (25 squares)  
11/06/2007 A4 sketch plan (PJD) showing layout of matting types, percentage vegetation cover and the numbering system for grid records and photographs  
18/06/2007 Summary list of species and cover in each grid area (PJD)  
18/06/2007 A4 list of photographs by grid area (CC)  
18/06/2007 4 x A4 sheets containing a record of the time taken to remove, rocks, spoil and matting for each grid area  
18/06/2007 2 x A4 sheets showing total time taken to remove matting and amount of cover  
June 2007 Typed up results on 6 x A4 sheets

#### ***Reports***

Copies of the following three reports are included in the archive:

Fullen M A 2005, *The environmental and socio-economic contribution of palm geotextiles to sustainable development and soil conservation*, Wolverhampton: School of Applied Sciences, University of Wolverhampton.

Fullen M A, Corkill C and others 2007, 'The potential contribution of palm mat geotextiles to soil conservation and sustainable development' in J.A. Martinez-Casasnovas, I. Pla Sentis, M.C.R. Martin & J.C.B. Solanes (eds), *Soil and Water Conservation under Changing Land Use*, Lleida: University of Leida Press, 303-306.

Corkill, C, Davey P and Tomlinson P 2007, 'Comparison of synthetic geotextiles with palm leaf alternatives for the protection of archaeological surfaces during the wet season at Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man', minutes of the Borassus project, 42-53.

***Budapest meeting 10/07/2006 to 14/07/2006***

18/05/2006 Flight details from British Airways  
12/06/2006 A Kovacs to C Corkill re-accommodation  
19/06/2006 C Corkill to A Kovacs re-accommodation  
20/06/2006 British Airways flight details  
03/07/2006 Notice of meeting and draft programme  
11/07/2006 Hotel bill and expenditure  
14/07/2006 Minutes, including RA matt requirements for next year

***Rio de Janeiro meeting 29/-01/200 to 05/02/2007***

05/12/2006 Draft programme for Rio and Sao Louis field meeting  
07/12/2006 Flight details from Qantas  
20/12/2006 Details of how to get to Sao Louis



## 10 Maps, plans and copies of other material not derived from the excavations [BOX NUMBER RA 07]

During the excavations members of staff collected together existing plans and images of the abbey to use for reference. These were derived from a variety of sources but mainly the library in the Manx Museum. They consist mainly of postcards, other earlier images, photocopies from publications and plans.

### Postcards, colour, originals

- 10/1; *The flower gardens, Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla, Isle of Man.*
- 10/2; *Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla, Isle of Man.*
- 10/3; *Abbot's Walk, Rushen Abbey, I. o. M.*; written and posted, 1d stamp, dated 20 Jun 1925.

### Postcards, colour, photocopies

- 10/4; *Monk's Bridge, Ballasalla, IOM.*
- 10/5; *At Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.; a view of Ye Olde Abbey Hotel from footbridge.*
- 10/6; *Pigeon Tower, Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man.*
- 10/7; *Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man*; ladies playing pitch and putt.
- 10/8; untitled; children playing on the playground.
- 10/9; [*The flower gardens, Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla, Isle of Man*]; cf no. 10/1.
- 10/10; *Church tower, Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man.*
- 10/11; *Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*; view of church tower
- 10/12; *A Corner at Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man*; tea tables and ladies
- 10/13; *Dancing floor and Tea Gardens, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*
- 10/14; *Rushen Abbey Hotel, Isle of Man; Ye Olde Abbey Hotel.*
- 10/15; untitled; peacock.
- 10/16; *Work at Rushen Abbey Fruit Farm, Isle of Man*; stacks of bottled fruit and ladies.
- 10/17; *Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla*; PCABY1.tif; copy of image from page 86 of a book.
- 10/18; *Ye Olde Abbey Hotel (No. 2) Rushen Abbey.*
- 10/19; *Rushen Abbey Ruins, Isle of Man.*
- 10/20; *Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla, Isle of Man*; enlarged view of river and hotel.
- 10/21; *A Corner at Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man*; A4 enlarged copy of 10/12.
- 10/22; *Rushen Abbey Gardens, Church Tower, View from Watch Tower, Rushen Abbey Gardens, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*; four views and a strawberry centre piece, enlarged copy.
- 10/23; *The Gardens, Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man.*
- 10/24; *Interior of the Vinery, Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man*; A4 enlarged copy.
- 10/25; *Dancing Floor and Tea Gardens, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*; A4 enlarged copy.
- 10/26; *Rushen Abbey*; A4 enlarged copy.

### Postcards, monochrome, photocopies

- 10/27; 1. *Rushen Abbey, The Church Tower, Ballasalla*; a pair with 10/21.
- 10/28; 2. *The Dove-Cote, Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla*; a pair with 10/20.
- 10/29; *The Pigeon Tower, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*
- 10/30; *The Ruins, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M., (Founded 1098).*
- 10/31; *Silverburn River, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*
- 20/32; *Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*
- 10/33; *Entrance to Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*
- 10/34; *Silverburn, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*
- 10/35; *Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla, I.O.M.*; A4 enlarged copy.

10/36; *Kings and Lords of Man, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*; two boards mounted on the tower; enlarged copy.

10/37; *Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*; A4 enlarged copy.

10/38; *Entrance to Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man*; Silverburn and hotel; A4 enlarged copy.

10/39; *The Drive, Rushen Abbey Gardens, I.O.M.*; A4 enlarged copy.

10/40; *Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man*; A4 enlarged copy.

10/41; *Rushen Abbey Ruins*; A4 enlarged copy.

10/42; untitled, ladies having tea in the gardens, A4 enlarged copy.

10/43; *The Ruins, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*; A4 enlarged copy.

10/44; *The Tea Gardens, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*; A4 enlarged copy.

### **Miscellaneous images**

10/45; Aerial view of Rushen Abbey; colour glossy print and 2 photocopies

10/46; colour photocopy of 10/45.

10/47; colour photocopy of 10/45.

10/48; *Skeleton of Man Crusader with which was found figure of Egyptian God Osiris*; photocopy of black and white photo.

10/49; *Peacocks at Rushen Abbey*; photocopy; possibly a postcard.

10/50; *Early Christian grave referred to on page 3*; copy image from page eight of book or pamphlet.

10/51; *Bronze Brooches and figure of Osiris referred to on page 16*; copy image of page nine of book or pamphlet.

10/52; *Rushen Abbey, Isle of Man, 1800*; photocopy.

10/53; *Sept 29: 1775, S. Hooper, Sparrows*; copy of mounted copy of print.

10/54; *Visit Rushen Abbey, Manxland's outstanding place of charm*; copy of advertisement, undated.

10/55; *Watch Tower, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.*; black and white print photocopy; possibly from a postcard.

10/56; *The Ford, Rushen Abbey, I.O.M.* and *At Rushen Abbey, IOM*; photocopy of two black and white prints; the latter shows the *Coffin Lid of King Olaf II of Man buried May 21, 1237*.

### **Photocopies from various published sources**

10/57; Four sheets from *Religion Zisterzienser* with bibliographic references.

10/58; Plate 2 from Oswald, Manx Soc V, 1860; showing the Arms of Rushen Abbey.

10/59; Photo of the Abbey taken in 1852; from Paterson, Robert (1863) *Manx Antiquities*. *St Andrews University Magazine*, Cupar-Fife, 42.

10/60; Rushen Abbey for strawberries and cream; a page from *Historic Castletown, Isle of Man*, guide book, pages 15 and 43.

10/61; Photocopies of a set of photos in the Manx Museum copied by Carola Rush with a note from Wendy Thirkettle; including photographs taken by Rev E H Stenning c. 1927.

10/62; Photocopied photos of RA hotel and grounds from MNH Library, ref P6117.

### **Photocopied plans and copies of NMR Sheets**

10/63; Photocopied Plan of RA. MNH Library Ref: ML28M, (P6116).

10/64; Crayoned colour plan of RA holdings in Lezayre on a photocopy of Woods' Atlas.

10/65; *The Abbey of Rushen, plan showing present buildings, excavations, foundations etc*, March 1914, 1:96. Copy of plan held in MNH Library but original not found in 2017 or 2020.

10/66; Copies of NMR record cards from MNH, 3 A3 sheets each with 4 cards.

10/67; Ten overlapping A3 photocopied sheets of an intitled plan of Rushen Abbey. MNH Library ref: ML16L, P6135/1.

## APPENDIX 1

### ARCHIVE REFERENCING SYSTEM AGREED WITH ROGER SIMS EARLY IN 1999

Although this basic system was adhered to throughout the excavation, a number of the categories were not used or re-defined.

#### 1. DRAWINGS

1/1/number = General plans

1/2/number = Test Pits

1/2/01

1/2/02 = Test Pit K

1/2/03 = L

1/2/04 = M

05 = N

06 = P

07 = Q

08 = R

1/2/09 = S

10 = T

11 = U

12 = V

13 = W

14 to 18 = X

19 = AA

20 = AC

21 to 23 = X

1/3/number = Drawings

1/3/01 = Ceramic Finds Drawings

1/3/07 = Roof Slate Drawings

1/4/number = ???

1/5/number = Inked up plans and drawings

1/5/01 = Inked up plans

1/5/02 = Inked up section drawings

1/5/03 = Inked Up Finds Drawings

## **2. PHOTOGRAPHS**

2/1 Black and white (monochrome)

2/2 Colour Slides

2/3 Miscellaneous photographs

2/4 Video

## **3. CONTEXT SHEETS**

3/12 Test Pit "M"

## **4. PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEETS**

## **5. ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLE SHEETS**

## **6. REPORTS**

## **7. EXCAVATION NOTES/SKETCHES**

7/2 SKETCHES (ON THE REVERSE OF CONTEXT SHEETS)

7/2/17-22 trench M

7/3 HARRIS MATRICES

7/4 TYPED NOTES

7/5 MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

## **8. FINDS RECORDING SHEETS**

## **9. CORRESPONDENCE**

## **10. MAPS AND PLANS (NOT DRAWINGS DONE BY US)**

10/3 Levels plans