



# Pricaston Farm, Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire

Archaeological Building Recording



Ref: 53179

July 2003

# Pricaston Farm, ATE Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire

# **Archaeological Building Recording**

# Prepared for:

Defence Estates
Environment Support Team
Gough Road
Catterick Garrison
North Yorkshire
DL9 3EJ

# By:

Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

Reference: 53179.2

**July 2003** 

# Pricaston Farm, ATE Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire

# **Archaeological Building Recording**

# **CONTENTS**

1 INTRODUCTION......6

1.1 Pro	ject Backgr	ound6						
2 METH	ODS	6						
2.2 Arc								
2.3 On	-site recordi	ng7						
3 BUILD	ING DESC	RIPTION7						
3.1 Inti	roduction	7						
3.2 The	e Earliest Ph	nase (Medieval Floor-Plan)8						
3.3 The	E Later Hou	se12						
		ngs						
		14						
6 BIBLIO	OGRAPHY							
		AND PLATES						
Figure 1	Location p							
Figure 2	Plate 1	South-east elevation						
	Plate 2	The solar from the south						
	Plate 3	South-west elevation						
	Plate 4	North-west elevation						
	Plate 5	North-east elevation						
Figure 3		icaston Farmhouse						
Figure 4	Plate 6	The cross passage						
	Plate 7	Two centred arch						
	Plate 8	The modified hall doorway						
Figure 5	Plate 9	Collapsed vaulting in the south-east service room						
	Plate 10	Blocked opening between the two service rooms						
	Plate 11	Padstone or column base used as infill						
	Plate 12	The north-west vault with a window for sharing light						
		between the two service rooms						
Figure 6	Plate 13	The blocked openings in the north-west service room						
	Plate 14	Original external door to the north-west service room						
Plate 15 Inserted opening in west corner of the n		Inserted opening in west corner of the north-west service						
		room						
Figure 7	Plate 16	The south-west wall of the hall						
	Plate 17	Openings in the south-east wall of the hall						
	Plate 18	A rough corbel in the south-east wall of the hall						
Figure 8	Plate 19	The north-east wall of the hall						
	Plate 20	Disturbed masonry adjacent to the possible winding stair						

Figure 9	Plate 21	The north-west wall of the hall
	Plate 22	Stair turret
_	Plate 23	Concave stair to the Solar
	Plate 24	Stone steps in the stair turret
Figure 10	Plate 25	The Solar
	Plate 26	North-west wall of the Solar – external
	Plate 27	North-west wall of the Solar – internal
	Plate 28	Cast iron fireplace in north-east wall of the Solar
	Plate 29	Privy closet doorway
Figure 11	Plate 30	The Tower
	Plate 31	Tower fireplace
	Plate 32	Bread oven in Tower fireplace
	Plate 33	Chimney stack of Tower
	Plate 34	Detail of masonry surrounding inserted chimney
Figure 12	Plate 35	North-west room of the north-east range, looking south
	Plate 36	North-west room of the north-east range, looking north
	Plate 37	South-east room of the north-east range, looking south-east
	Plate 38	The north-east range
Figure 13	Plate 39	The Dining Room chimney stack
	Plate 40	Door leading from the Dining Room to the courtyard
Figure 14	Plate 41	The kitchen building
	Plate 42	The large chimney
	Plate 43	Fireplace and remains of bread oven in the kitchen range
	Plate 44	Blocked doorway to the Tower
Figure 15	Plate 45	The entrance porch
Figure 16	Plate 46	Aerial photograph of Pricaston Farm
Figure 17	Plate 47	Drum pillar with cushion capital
	Plate 48	The large barn, its slit window blocked by the external stair
	Plate 49	Barn with rounded gables

## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Defence Estates Environment Support Team to carry out building recording at Pricaston Farmhouse, ATE Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire, centred on 191760 196590. The purpose of the survey was to provide a record of the building prior to planned consolidation and repair work. This work was undertaken between 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> April 2003.

Pricaston Farmhouse is situated on the Castlemartin Training Area, approximately 2km to the south of the village of Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire. The farmhouse is listed Grade II\* because it incorporates 'a very interesting and substantial fragment of a medieval hall house with vaulted service rooms, and is also valuable as an eighteenth century house of good architectural appearance'. It is a Scheduled Monument (PE451) and it also lies within the boundaries of the Pembrokeshire Coast PRN 6976 National Park.

The earliest reference to a farmhouse at Pricaston dates from 1325. The earliest phase of the farmhouse comprises a vaulted cross-passage with solar over, service rooms to the south-west and a hall to the north-east. The cross passage and vaulting is very well preserved, despite alterations to the house c.1783

The farmhouse was acquired by the Army in 1939 and has been disused ever since. All floors, roofs and joinery have been removed and the buildings have been reduced to a stable ruin.

## Acknowledgements

The building recording was commissioned by Defence Estates Environment Support Team, and the assistance of Niall Hammond, the Environmental Advisor (Archaeology), of that organisation is acknowledged. The work was funded by the Castlemartin ATE. The staff at Castlemartin Range Office are also thanked for their assistance.

The assistance given by Richard Jones at Cambria Archaeology and staff at the Pembrokeshire Record Office, Haverfordwest, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, Aberystwyth and the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth is gratefully acknowledged.

The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Paul Falcini. The building recording was undertaken by Bob Davis and Charlotte Cutland. Elaine Wakefield carried out the photographic survey with assistance from Philip Young. This report was compiled by Charlotte Cutland and the illustrations produced by Kitty Brandon.

# Pricaston Farm, ATE Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire

# **Archaeological Building Recording**

# 1 INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Defence Estates Environment Support Team (hereafter DE) to carry out building recording at Pricaston Farmhouse, ATE Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire, centred on 191760 196590. The purpose of the survey was to provide a record of the building prior to planned consolidation and repair work.
- 1.1.2 Pricaston Farmhouse is situated on the Castlemartin Training Area, approximately 2km to the south of the village of Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire (Figure 1). It is listed Grade II\* and is a Scheduled Monument (PE451). The farmhouse lies within the boundaries of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.
- 1.1.3 The building recording was undertaken in accordance with a project design (Wessex Archaeology 2003), which was agreed in advance of the start of the project by DE and Cambria Archaeology.

### 2 METHODS

### 2.1 Aim

2.1.1 The aim of the building recording work was to provide a documented baseline to inform future consolidation and repair works. The baseline will also be used as a basis for future study and research.

#### 2.2 Archive Consultation

- 2.2.1 The National Monuments Record held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW), Aberystwyth, was consulted for and reference material and archaeological records. The aerial photographs held by this establishment were also viewed.
- 2.2.2 The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, was visited for reference information and in order to consult their collection of historic maps. In addition the Pembrokeshire Record Office at Haverfordwest was visited.

2.2.3 The Pembrokeshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) held by Cambria Archaeology, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire was also consulted for this report.

# 2.3 On-site recording

- 2.3.1 The building recording was carried out between 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> April 2003. Existing unmeasured architect's plans were used as an aid to describing the building, no new drawn record was required by the brief. The buildings were inspected from ground level internally and externally. No first floors remain apart from the solar above the vaulted passage. The main record was created using photography.
- 2.3.2 Written notes were made on the following:
  - Materials and methods of construction
  - Evidence for changes, additions and alterations
  - Evidence for phasing or development of the building
  - Condition of the building
- 2.3.3 General views of the building, external and internal elevations and interesting architectural features were photographed. In total 349 colour slides were taken, along with 77 digital images.
- 2.3.4 A representative selection of photographs and digital images are shown in this report (Plates1-49). The full photographic archive will be deposited at an appropriate museum.
- 2.3.5 This methodology is broadly in line with level 2/3 as expressed in the document *Recording Historic Buildings: A Descriptive Specification* (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, RCHME 1996).

# 3 BUILDING DESCRIPTION

### 3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The ruins of Pricaston Farmhouse (Figure 2: Plates 1-5) lie in a slight hollow and consist of a large stone-built farmhouse with additional stone outbuildings to the north. The main elevation of the Farmhouse faces southeast.
- 3.1.2 The house runs along a north-east/south-west axis with one wing projecting forward (south-east) at the north-east end. Numerous farm buildings lie in a courtyard formation to the north of the main house.
- 3.1.3 In plan (**Figure 3**), Pricaston Farmhouse presents itself as a typical medieval hall-house with later rear additions. It consists of a main entrance (now

concealed by a later porch) and cross-passage, leading to service rooms on the south-west side and the hall to the north-east. A stair turret is located at the rear of the building, just off centre, to the north-east of the cross passage. A small square building contemporary with the main house lies to the northwest of the service rooms.

- 3.1.4 The medieval core of the house was extensively altered in the eighteenth century. Pricaston Farmhouse is Listed Grade II\* because it 'incorporates a very interesting and substantial fragment of a medieval hall house with vaulted service rooms, and is also valuable as an eighteenth century house of good architectural appearance'. It is also a Scheduled Monument (PE451).
- 3.1.5 The building is currently in a ruinous state. All joinery has been removed and some masonry has become unstable as a result.
- 3.1.6 Vegetation growth is being controlled by grazing sheep. Consequently the ground level inside the medieval part of the building is covered with approximately 30cm of rubble and earth/sheep droppings.

# 3.2 The Earliest Phase (Medieval Floor-Plan)

- 3.2.1 The medieval architecture of Pembrokeshire makes use of stone as the principal building material and is characterised by general ruggedness and a lack of sophisticated detail (Walker 2002, 549). Medieval details such as arched stone doorways and stone vaults (often used to provide substructures for first floor halls or solars) may have continued in use into the sixteenth century. The use of stone vaulting has as much to do with the lack of adequate timber in Pembrokeshire as any desire for fireproofing or defence.
- 3.2.2 Walker (2002, 552) states that the houses of the gentry 'were designed on the classic medieval pattern of a complex of more or less separate buildings', and that Pricaston is a small scale example of this, with the main house separated from a tower to the north-west and outbuildings to the north. Pricaston can also be defined as an 'end-hall' house, with the solar above the service rooms (Walker 2002, 559). Typically, Welsh hall-houses were T-shaped or rectangular (Hilling1976, 98); Pricaston was L-shaped with a projecting stair turret to the rear.

### The Cross Passage and Service Rooms

3.2.3 The main entrance leads into a medieval cross passage containing four of the original six doorways. The stone-roofed cross passage is described by Parkinson (RCAHMW) as being 'one of the finest preserved examples in the county'. Three of the arches (Figure 4: Plate 6) lead to the service-rooms to the south-west, the fourth is a rear door set at a slight diagonal to the main passage. These arches are all two-centred (Figure 4: Plate 7). A flat stone arch is visible in the centre of the north-east side, leading into the hall (Figure 4: Plate 8). This opening has been reduced in width. The cross passage probably originally had an additional four-centred arch forming the main (south-east) entrance, but this has been lost.

- Two parallel service rooms to the south-west of the cross passage are stone-vaulted. The vaults have a flattened-semicircular profile. The front (south-east) vault is partly collapsed (Figure 5: Plate 9), but that in the rear (north-west) room is very well preserved. The two rooms were probably interconnecting; a blocked doorway is visible in the partition wall between the two rooms immediately next to the central arch (Figure 5: Plate 10). Interestingly, the infill here includes a large stone column base or padstone (Figure 5: Plate 11). A single square opening remains in the partition wall, probably for the purpose of sharing light between the two rooms (Figure 5: Plate 12). Just to the right (south-west) of this opening is possibly another blocked opening, long vertical stones indicating the jambs.
- 3.2.5 The rear (north-west) service room has a blocked external window with a vault which intersects the main vault (**Figure 6: Plate 13**). There is a smaller blocked opening to the right (north-east). In the north corner is a contemporary doorway with stone voussoirs (**Figure 6: Plate 14**). At the west corner is an inserted opening broken diagonally through the external wall, indicating it was made after the range behind was constructed (**Figure 6: Plate 15**). To the left (south) of this opening is a large structure of unknown purpose.
- 3.2.6 The front (south-east) service room is partly collapsed but retains evidence of former openings, particularly a slim opening with splayed reveals in the centre of the south-east wall.

### The Hall

- 3.2.7 To the north-east of the cross passage lies the hall. As stated in para. 4.2.3 the door to this room from the cross passage has been narrowed, and the hall itself is much altered. Above the door in the south-west wall (Figure 7: Plate 16) is a small fireplace, which shares a flue with that in the solar behind. To the right (west) of this is the scar of a cupboard.
- 3.2.8 The south-east wall (**Figure 7: Plate 17**) contains three openings at ground floor level, three at first floor level and a further two on the second floor. The central ground floor window is now a doorway, and the two flanking windows are blocked but show evidence of originally being square in shape. The south-east wall is considered to have been remodelled in a Georgian style c.1783 as a reply to the newly-built Brownslade House approximately 1km distant. It was at this time that a second floor was added to the house
- 3.2.9 It is not clear whether the medieval hall was open or had a first floor. Rough corbels in the south-east wall corresponding with beam-slots in the opposite wall indicate that there was a first floor, possibly accessed by a winding stair in the eastern corner of the room (Figure 7: Plate 18).
- 3.2.10 The eastern corner is difficult to interpret (Figure 8: Plate 19). A large amount of infill material is visible, above which is a small vault of similar construction to that above the service rooms but with additional slate packing. Lath and plaster (probably eighteenth or nineteenth century) is seen to disappear behind the infill material. To the left (north) of the infill is a possible blocked ground floor opening which, when viewed from the other

- side (north-east), may have had a two-centred arch (Figure 8: Plate 20). When viewed externally, the eastern corner of the hall has an angled joint to the north-east wing, perhaps confirming the location of a winding stair turret.
- 3.2.11 The north-east wall of the hall has a brick fireplace on the ground floor and a smaller stone fireplace at second floor level. On the first floor to the left (west) of the fireplaces is the scar of a cupboard.
- 3.2.12 At ground floor level the north-west wall (Figure 9: Plate 21) has a later opening through to the Dining Room, above which is a small stone fireplace of a style contemporary with the rest of the medieval masonry further evidence that the hall probably had a first floor. In the west corner is a stair turret (Figure 9: Plate 22), the exact layout and development of the stairs within is not fully understood, especially as the stair turret appears to be of one construction and is contemporary with the rest of the medieval part of the farmhouse.
- 3.2.13 The left side of the stair was the original access to the solar, the concave stone steps curving to the left (**Figure 9: Plate 23**) and forming part of the cross passage roof. These steps also later gave access to the first floor of the Kitchen Range.
- 3.2.14 There is also evidence for a stone stair on the right side of the turret, giving access to the first floor of the hall (further indication that the hall was on two levels). This staircase re-uses a stone formerly in use as a threshold or step, its worn lip now forming the vertical face of a newel post (Figure 9: Plate 24). The re-used stone might suggest that this right hand stair is a later addition, however the width of the stair turret would indicate the contrary.
- 3.2.15 The possibility of there being a 'forked' staircase in the western corner of the hall draws into question the function of the winding stair turret in the eastern corner (as previously described). However, if the right hand stair were a later addition, there would have been a large amount of wasted space inside the stair turret, which (as previously stated) shows no sign of alteration.
- 3.2.16 When the house was improved c.1783, the stairs were also upgraded. The stair turret received a new timber staircase, the joist holes for which are visible in the north-west wall. This stair rose to the second storey, as holes above the first flight indicate. The roof of the stair turret was raised accordingly, externally this line is visible and projecting stones indicate that the turret had a lean-to roof.
- 3.2.17 The pattern of a timber 'Chinese' balustrade against the south-west wall is visible in photographs accompanying the RCAHMW survey of 1975. Parkinson states in correspondence to McNamara (PSA 1988) that this is the only 'quirky' detail in an otherwise very ordinary 'Georgian' house.

#### The Solar

3.2.18 Above the vaulted service rooms and extending over the cross passage is the solar, the private chamber of the master of the house. The south-east and

- much of the south-west walls have unfortunately collapsed with the vault below (Figure 10: Plate 25). Joist holes are visible in the north-west wall.
- 3.2.19 The north-west wall contained a fireplace, the corbelled stack for which is visible in the outside wall (**Figure 10: Plate 26**). The fireplace was later blocked, given a semicircular head and used as a china cupboard/niche. To the left (south-west) of the china cupboard is a medieval lancet window with splayed jambs (**Figure 10: Plate 27**).
- 3.2.20 In the north-east wall is a small cast iron fireplace (**Figure 10: Plate 28**) with brick surround, which backs on to the fireplace above the main entrance to the hall.
- 3.2.21 In what remains of the south-west wall there is a large stone lintel above a blocked doorway (Figure 10: Plate 29). The barley-drying kiln below (now destroyed by the collapse of the gable above) was deemed by RCAHMW to be an eighteenth century addition, and it is possible that this doorway originally led to a privy closet, enlarged to a small room when the kiln was constructed.

#### The Tower

- 3.2.22 Beyond the rear door of the cross passage is further early masonry. This leads to a small, square, two storey building of the same stonework (Figure 11: Plate 30). Walker (2002, 556) suggests this was a tower which acted as a temporary retreat from the indefensible farmhouse. An alternative function for this building would be as a kitchen range, detached from the main house to minimise the risk of fire.
- 3.2.23 If the building was indeed a retreat, it draws into question the location of the kitchen range in the main house. Perhaps the ground floor was in daily use as a kitchen, and the upper floors only used in times of unrest.
- 3.2.24 In the south-west wall at ground floor level is a blocked doorway, the stone voussoirs for which are visible from the outside. This doorway would have created a weak point in the tower, and Walker (2002, 557) states that the main doorway led into the first floor, which poses even more security questions.
- 3.2.25 Above and to the right (east) of the doorway are three corbels, probably from a corbelled chimney stack like that visible in the north-west wall of the Solar. To the left (west) of the corbels is a slit window, now blocked.
- 3.2.26 The ground floor has a large fireplace with bread oven in the north-west side (Figure 11: Plates 31-32). The chimney remains, but perhaps in a truncated form, as it does not project very far above the scar of the pitched roofline (Figure 11: Plate 33).
- 3.2.27 The south-east side of the building is formed by a large chimney stack which dominates the ruin of Pricaston Farmhouse. In correspondence to McNamara (PSA 1988), Parkinson states that this stack was inserted into the gable; an opinion confirmed on visual inspection.

3.2.28 To the left (north-east) of the above stack are two (?three) large stones of unknown function (possibly a window- or door-jamb) placed vertically in the wall, alongside the remains of a slate roof (**Figure 11: Plate 34**).

# The North-East Range

- 3.2.29 A phase plan of Pricaston Farmhouse (PSA 1988 Historic Appendix attachment 9) depicts part of the north-east range as being medieval in date. Much of the masonry is obscured by plaster internally, hence is difficult to identify, but inspection suggests that the whole building is of one construction and is contemporary with the other medieval elements (Figure 12: Plates 35-38).
- 3.2.30 The building is divided in two by a central wall. The north-west end has an entrance door (adjacent to that in the later Dining Room), above which is a blocked window. There are two small square windows at ground floor level in the north-east wall, either side of a stone staircase which leads to a door in the centre of this elevation. Two similar windows are at first floor level. On the outer side of this wall, between the door and the northernmost window is an apparent blocked opening, although this does not align with disturbed masonry on the inner face.
- 3.2.31 The south-east end has windows in the south-east and south-west elevations at both ground and first floor levels.

### 3.3 The Later House

- 3.3.1 Pricaston Farmhouse was remodelled in a Georgian style c.1783, probably in response to Brownslade House, newly-built approximately 1km away. The owner of Pricaston, John Lort, had the house refaced rather than building afresh, and added a third storey and Georgian style windows to the main building.
- 3.3.2 As previously noted, changes were made to windows in the south-east wall of the hall, and the new second floor received a fireplace in the north-east gable. The main stone staircase was probably also upgraded at this time to the timber stair previously described.
- 3.3.3 In addition to these works, a doorway was broken through to a newly constructed (?)Dining Room behind the north end of the hall and abutting the main stair turret. The Dining Room has a large brick fireplace in the northwest wall (Figure 13: Plate 39), the stack for which still remains. A door in the north-east wall led to the farmyard to the north (Figure 13: Plate 40), while a second door leads to a later lean-to brick extension at the rear of the stair turret. The Dining Room extension was of two storeys, the first floor having a window in the north-west wall.
- 3.3.4 A kitchen was constructed, linking the main house to the tower described previously (**Figure 14: Plate 41**). Built of rubble stone, the large chimney in the north-west wall (**Figure 14: Plate 42**) was inserted into the existing masonry of the tower. The corresponding fireplace is built of brick and had a bread oven to one side, now largely collapsed (**Figure 14: Plate 43**).

- 3.3.5 To the right (north) of the fireplace is a timber lintel (**Figure 14: Plate 44**). RCAHMW survey photographs from 1973 show this as an opening into the tower, although it is now blocked. This opening possibly linked the tower to the main house via the door in the north corner of the north-west service room. In the north-east wall (seemingly medieval stonework) is a small recess, possibly a hearth. The door to the right (east) of this recess has a timber lintel. Above it is an opening, apparently once a door, now partially infilled to form a window. There are two smaller blocked openings, also possibly windows, to the left (north-west) of this window.
- 3.3.6 In the nineteenth century a stone porch was added to the front of the house (Figure 15: Plate 45). Its addition probably caused the loss of the original arched entrance. The porch is one storey with a pitched roof and flat arched entrance. Inside there are two lamp niches.

# 3.4 The Outbuildings

- 3.4.1 The remains of numerous stone farm buildings lie to the north of the farmhouse itself. The buildings formed a courtyard and were attached to the farmhouse at the north-east corner; this can be seen clearly in aerial photographs (Figure 16: Plate 46). The buildings along the north-east side of the courtyard retain evidence of feed and water troughs. One structure here has a large drum pillar with cushion capital (Figure 17: Plate 47), and was possibly a cart shed or for larger animals such as cattle.
- 3.4.2 A large two-storey barn (**Figure 17: Plate 48**) at the north-east corner of the courtyard is probably the earliest of the group. A narrow slit opening in the west wall bears a striking resemblance to that in the Solar of the house, but is now blocked by an external stone dogleg stair built against this wall and giving access to the first floor of the barn. The barn has been extended to the south-east.
- 3.4.3 A further barn to the north-west has rounded gables, probably indicating the use of a corrugated iron roof (Figure 17: Plate 49).

#### 4 HISTORY

- 4.1.1 Pricaston Farmhouse lies in the parish of Castlemartin, a name possibly derived from the name of a nearby earth mound castle 'Castell-mor-dyn'. The parish forms a promontory on the coast, with Freshwater East and St George's Channel to the north and the Bristol Channel to the south and west
- 4.1.2 Pricaston is first mentioned in 1592, but was probably the home of John le Prikker, a tenant of the Earl of Pembroke in 1325. Parkinson of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) states that 'parts of the present farmhouse may be pre-sixteenth century', and Walker (2002, 559) writes that 'although much altered by later tenants, [Pricaston] still contains at least part of the house probably occupied by John le Prikker and his family in 1325'.

- 4.1.3 In 1687 'Prickaston' (sic) is mentioned in an indenture between George Lort (of Pricaston) and Henry Lort, late of Stackpools (Stackpole) Court. From c.1600 to c.1800 it was owned by the Lort family (Lloyd 1989) who were probably responsible for the remodelling of the house in a Georgian style c.1783.
- 4.1.4 Little else is documented about Pricaston. The 1910 Finance Act Record of valuations records the occupier of Pricaston as Hywel Thomas, and the owner as Earl Cawdor. The land and house covered 249 acres; the house was valued at £39 and the land at £257.
- 4.1.5 In September 1939, the Parish of Castlemartin was chosen by the Army (in spite of strong protest) to become the 'Headquarters of the Armoured Fighting Vehicle Range'. Pricaston was among eleven farms and cottages taken over by the Army in October that year, and further land was taken to the east in 1940.
- 4.1.6 Pricaston has been abandoned since 1939. The RCAHMW surveyed the property in 1973 and described it as 'derelict, in parts ruinous'. The condition of the building has deteriorated since the 1973 survey, with all joinery being removed for safety and maintenance reasons. As a result the walls lack structural integrity and several areas of masonry have collapsed. A large area of the medieval vaulting has been damaged by falling masonry, and the exposed chimney stacks are also unsafe.

# 5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1.1 Pricaston Farm has an extensive medieval core which, despite rebuilding works in the late eighteenth century, has survived well. The removal of joinery has left many parts of the building in an unstable condition, leading to the failure of some masonry; the south-west gable collapsed onto the solar and vault below some time ago.
- 5.1.2 The stability of the building is a prime concern if the important medieval elements are to survive. The reinstatement of structural ties at key points would afford the building some resistance against the elements and help to ensure its survival.
- 5.1.3 More could be learned of the development and history of Pricaston Farm through a full archaeological building survey, which could be aided by archaeological investigations in specific areas, notably the service rooms and hall. Archive research carried out to date is by no means exhaustive and could yield further understanding of Pricaston's history.

### 6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hilling, J. B., 1976, *The Historic Architecture of Wales: An Introduction*. Cardiff: University of Wales Press.

Howells, B. (Editor), 1987, *Pembrokeshire County History Volume III: Early Modern Pembrokeshire 1536-1815*. Haverfordwest: The Pembrokeshire Historical Society.

Holden, P., 1996, Pricaston Farmhouse: Quadrennial Survey. Unpublished Report.

Lloyd, T., 1989, The lost houses of Wales. A survey of country houses in Wales demolished since c.1900. London: SAVE Britain's Heritage.

McNamara, J., 1988, *Pricaston Farmhouse, Castlemartin: Historic Buildings Inspection.* Unpublished Report for PSA Wales.

RCAHMW, 1973, Pricaston. Unpublished RCAHMW Survey Report.

Walker, R.F. (Editor), 2002, *Pembrokeshire County History Volume II: Medieval Pembrokeshire*. Haverfordwest: The Pembrokeshire Historical Society

Wessex Archaeology 2002 Brownslade and Pricaston Farms, Castlemartin ATE, Pembrokeshire: Proposal for Building Recording. Unpublished Report, Ref T7904

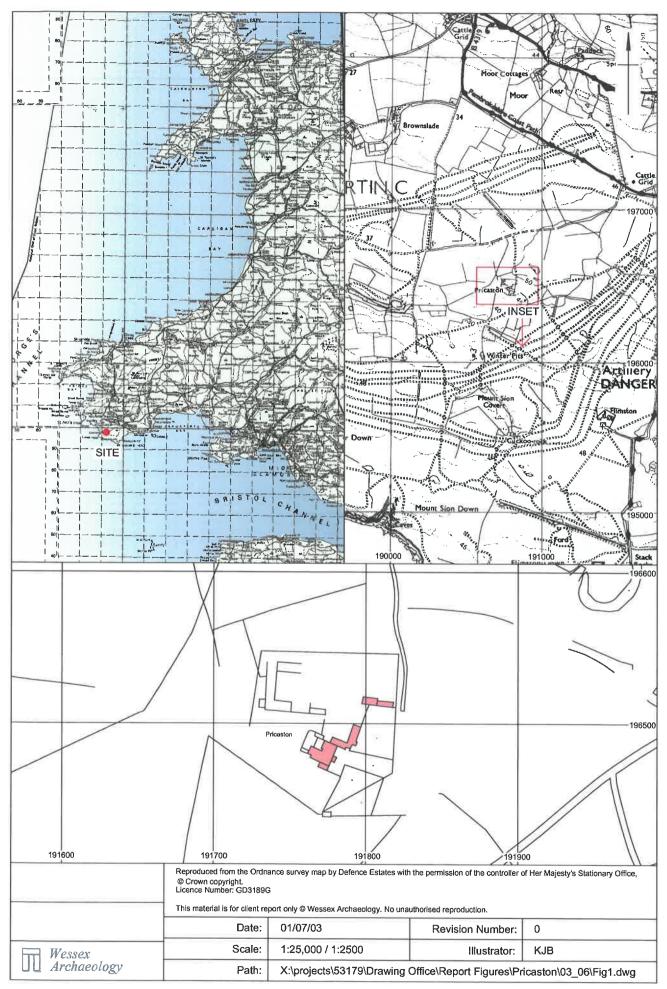




Plate 1. South-east elevation

Kitchen



Plate 3. South-west elevation



Plate 2. The solar from the south

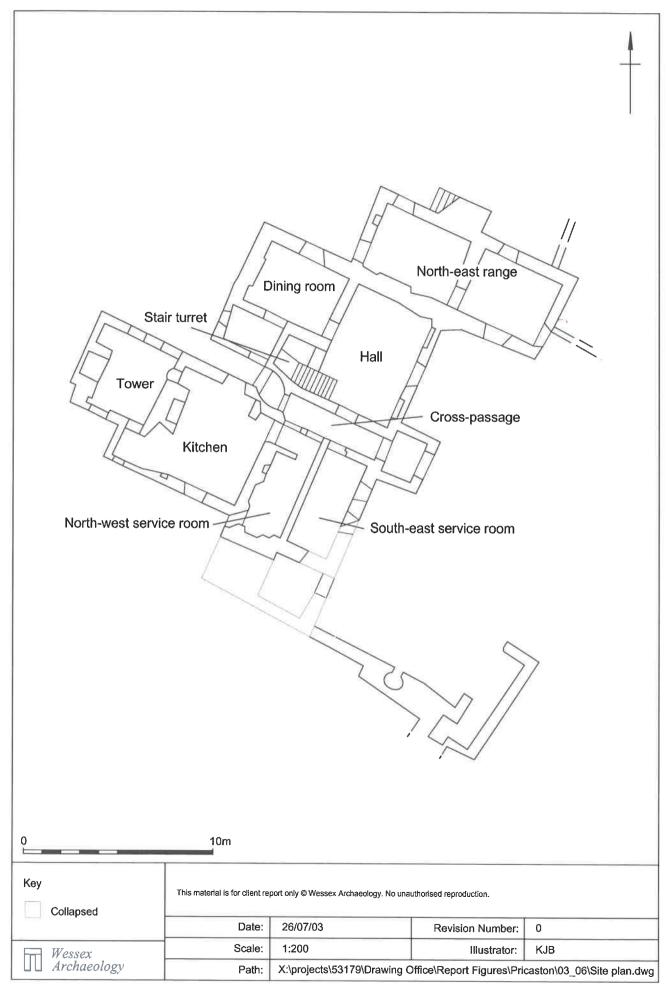
Stair turret



Plate 5. North-east elevation

Vessex Archaeology		Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\A3Figs2.cdr			
	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.	Scale:	N/A	lilustrator:	КЈВ	
		Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0	
			T			

Plate 4. North-west elevation





Collapsed vault

Original width of door

Plate 6. The cross passage

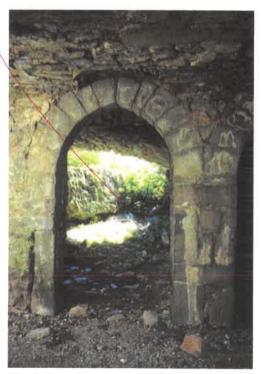


Plate7. Two centred arch



Plate 8. The modified hall doorway

	This material is for client rep	ort anly © Wessex Archaeology. N	o unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0	
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	KJB	
Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig4-5.cdr			



Plate 9. Collapsed vaulting in the south-east service room



Plate 10. Blocked opening between the two service rooms

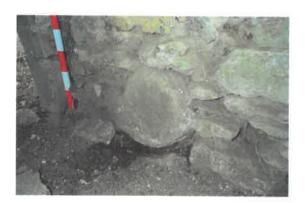


Plate 11. Padstone or column base used as infill

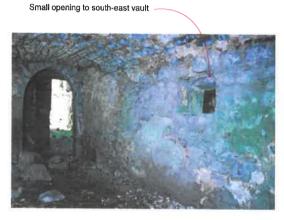


Plate 12. The north-west vault with a window for sharing light between the two service rooms

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.						
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0			
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	КЈВ			
Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig4-5.cdr					



Plate 13. The blocked openings in the north-west service room



Plate 14. Original external door to the north-west service room

Large unknown stone structure



Plate 15. Inserted opening in west corner of the north-west service room

	This material is for client rep	ort only © Wessex Archaeology, No	o unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0	
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	КЈВ	
Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig6-8.cdr			



Plate 16. The south-west wall of the hall

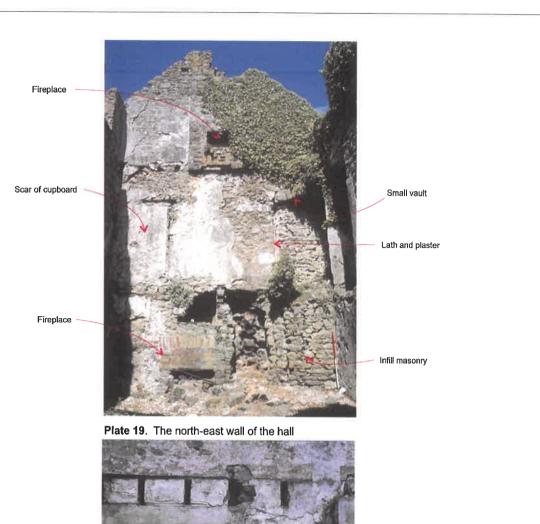


Plate 17. Openings in the south-east wall of the hall



Plate 18. A rough corbel in the south-east wall of the hall

	This material is for client repo	ort only © Wessex Archaeology. No	unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0	
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	KJB	
Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig6-8.cdr			





Rear of ground floor fireplace

**Plate 20**. Disturbed masonry adjacent to the possible winding stair

	This material is for client rep	ort only © Wessex Archaeology. No	o unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0	
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	КЈВ	
Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig6-8.cdr			

### Mediaeval fireplace





Plate 23. Concave stair to the solar



Plate 22. Stair turret

Scar of timber stair

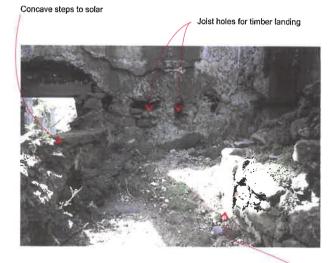


Plate 24. Stone steps in the stair turret

Re-used stone newel post

	This material is for client re	port only @ Wessex Archaeology. N	lo unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0	
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	КЈВ	
Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig9.cdr			



Plate 25. The Solar Collapsed vault



Plate 28. Cast iron fireplace in north-east wall of the Solar



Plate 26. North-west wall of the Solar - external

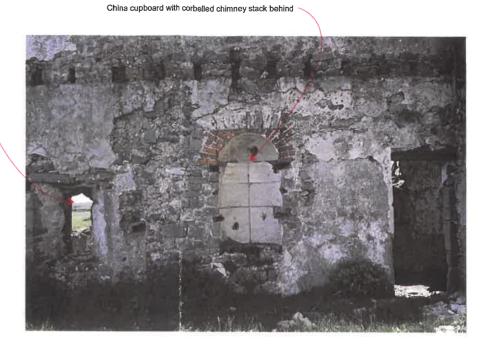


Plate 27. North-west wall of the Solar - internal

Lancet window



Plate 29. Privy closet doorway

Wessex
Archaeology

This material is for client report only @ Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.

 Date:
 26/06/03
 Revision Number:
 0

 Scale:
 N/A
 Illustrator:
 KJB

 Path:
 X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03\_06\A3Figs2.cdr





Plate 31. Tower fireplace

Bread oven



Plate 32. Bread oven in tower fireplace

Possible window or door jam

Inserted chimney

Remains of slate roof

Plate 34. Detail of masonry surrounding inserted chimney

Wessex
Archaeology

Plate 33. Chimney stack of tower

This material is for client report only @ Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.

Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0			
Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	KJB			
Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\A3Flgs11+14.cdr					



Plate 35. North-west room of the north-east range, looking south



**Plate 36**. North-west room of the north-east range, looking north



**Plate 37.** South-east room of the north-east range, looking south-east



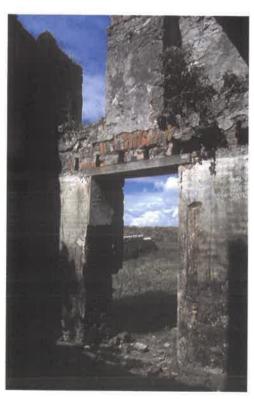
Plate 38. The north-east range

Stone external staircase

	This material is for client re	eport only © Wessex Archaeology.	No unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0	
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	КЈВ	
Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig12-14.cdr			



Plate 39. The Dining Room chimney stack



**Plate 40.** Door leading from the Dining Room to the courtyard

	This material is for client re	eport only © Wessex Archaeology. N	to unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0	
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	KJB	
Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig12-14.cdr			

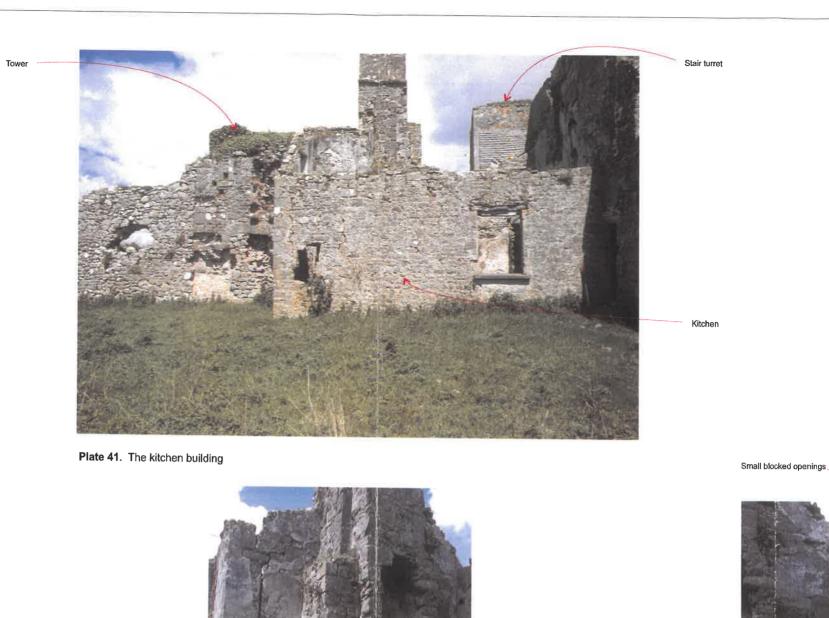
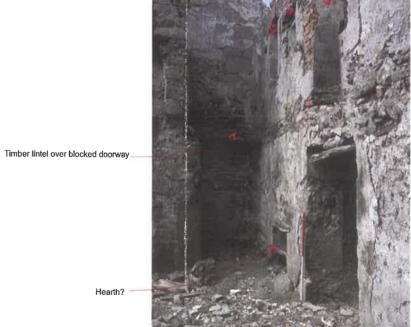




Plate 42. The large chimney



Plate 43. Fireplace and remains of bread oven in the kitchen range



Door blocked, now window

Plate 44. Blocked doorway to the tower

Wessex
Archaeology

This material is for client report only @ Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.

Collapsed bread oven

 Date:
 26/06/03
 Revision Number:
 0

 Scale:
 N/A
 Illustrator:
 KJB

 Path:
 X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03\_06\A3Figs11+14.cdr



Plate 45. The entrance porch

Lamp niche

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.						
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	D			
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	КЈВ			
☐ ☐ Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig15-17.cdr					



Plate 46. Aerial photograph of Pricaston Farm

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.  © Crown copyright RCAHIMW						
	Date:	26/06/03	Revision Number:	0			
Wessex	Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	КЈВ			
☐ ☐ Archaeology	Path:	X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03_06\Fig15-17.cdr					



Plate 47. Drum pillar with cushion capital



**Plate 48.** The large barn, its slit window blocked by the external stair



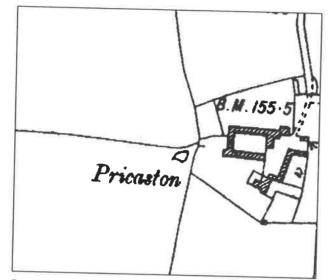
Plate 49. Barn with rounded gables

This material is for client report only @ Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.

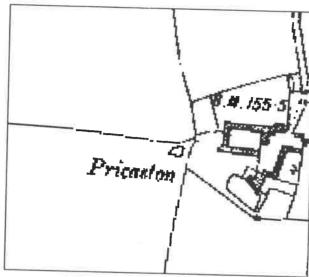
Date: 26/06/03 Revision Number: 0

Scale: N/A Illustrator: KJB

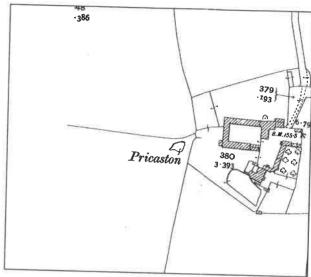
Wessex Archaeology Path: X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03\_06\Fig15-17.cdr



Provincial edition Ordnance Survey map (1948)



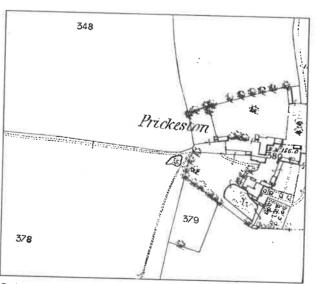
Second edition Ordnance Survey map (1908), scale 6 inches to 1 mile



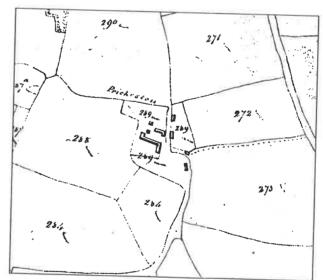
Second edition Ordnance Survey map (1908), scale 25 inches to 1 mile



First edition Ordnance Survey map (1880), scale 6 inches to 1 mile



Ordnance Survey map (1880), scale 25 inches to 1 mile



Tithe map (1840)

0 1 200m

Wessex Archaeology

\_\_\_\_

This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.

Date: 01/07/03 Revision Null Scale: 1:4000 and 1:2500 approx

Date: 01/07/03 Revision Number: 0

Scale: 1:4000 and 1:2500 approx Illustrator: KJB

Path: X:\projects\53179\Drawing Office\Report Figures\Pricaston\03\_06\Fig18.dwg

Map Regression 1948-1809