

Ancient Monuments Laboratory  
Report 38/97

WALL PAINTING CONDITION AUDIT,  
RICHMOND CASTLE, NORTH  
YORKSHIRE

J Davies  
T Manning

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RICHMOND CASTLE, NORTH YORKSHIRE

J Davies  
T Manning

Summary

This condition audit of wall paintings at Richmond Castle includes a wall painting record, general audit information, documentation of original materials and execution of the painting, and deterioration and damage including previously used materials and treatment, as well as proposals for treatment and monitoring strategies.

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## Richmond Castle North Yorkshire

The following report has been generated by the Wall Painting Section database. This archival system provides a computerised record of all wall paintings in English Heritage Historic Properties and is intended to comprehensively document the collection. Each report has been subdivided into four sections to present the data in a clear format. These include:

**1 Wall Painting Record:**

Includes a description of the site and paintings, as well as archival information, such as bibliographic references and photographic records.

**2 General Audit Information:**

Describes any monitoring undertaken and a synopsis of future conservation requirements.

**3 Technique:**

Documents the nature and condition of the original materials and execution of the painting which is described according to its stratigraphy and any related analysis.

**4 Deterioration and damage, added materials, treatment:**

*Deterioration and damage* lists the types of alterations which may have occurred, that is either deterioration (natural alterations such as cracking or delamination) or mechanical damage (such as graffiti).

*Added Materials* documents all non-original materials present on or within a painting. These may include naturally occurring substances (accretions, such as dirt and dust) or deliberately added materials (coatings, coverings and repairs).

*Treatment* documents previous interventions and proposed treatment and monitoring strategies.

Throughout each section, an area of painting is assigned a number between 1 and 4 which is intended as a general indication of present condition. These are: 1 good, 2 fair, 3 poor, 4 unacceptable.

This report is based on information gathered prior to March 1996 and does not include any changes in condition, further research or treatment undertaken after this date. Amended editions will be produced as necessary.

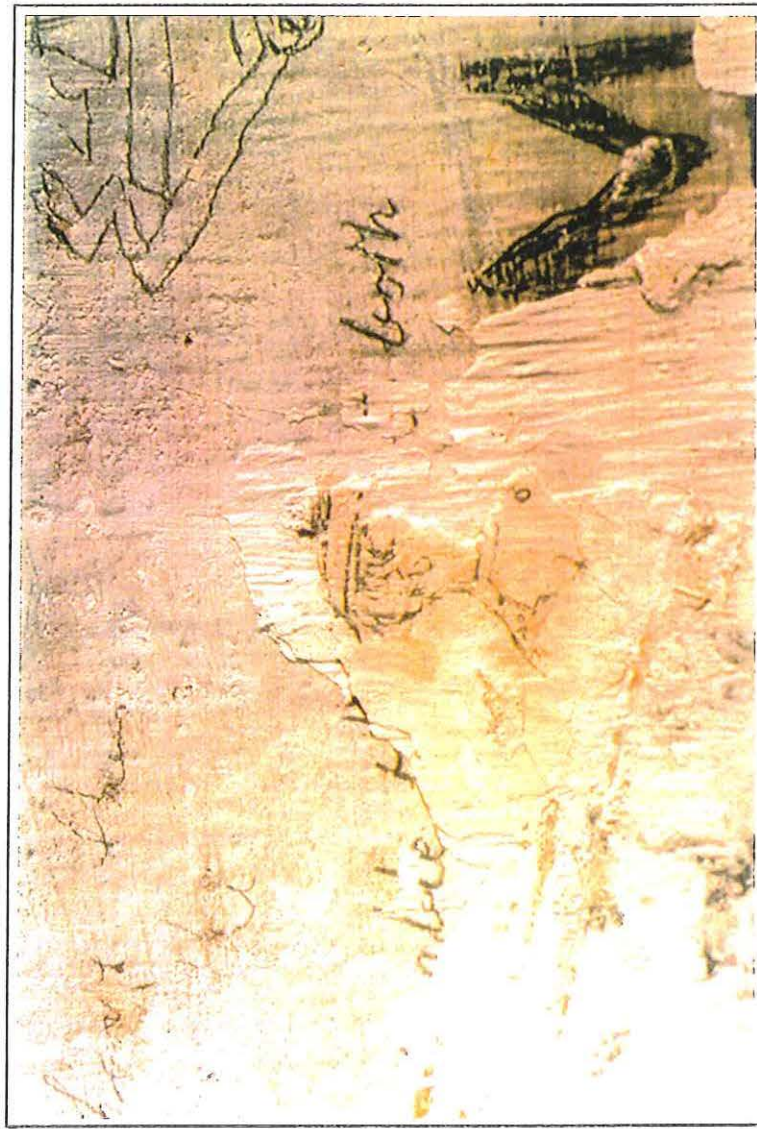
# Contents

- 1     Detention Block, cells 1, 2, 3, 5 and corridors.**
- 2     Detention Block, cells 4, 6, 7, 8 and corridor between 3-4.**
- 3     St Nicholas' Chapel.**





First floor, general view of interior



Detail, Cell 8, showing multiple layers of graffiti

# 1 Wall Painting Record

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Property name	RICHMOND CASTLE		
Region	North	County	North Yorkshire
Location of painting	Detention block, cells 1,2,3,5, corridors.		
Orientation	NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST.		
Century 20th	Date	Height (cm) 0	Width (cm) 0
Subjects included	Graffiti		

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## Description

Richmond has its origins in the eleventh century, following the Norman Conquest. Only parts of the eleventh century structure remain and the site is dominated by the massively built twelfth century keep. (Peers, 1988: fronticepiece)

To the south east of the keep is the nineteenth century detention block. 'In 1855 the Castle was leased from the Duke of Richmond for use as headquarters of the North York Militia. The great Court was cleared of debris and a new building was erected on its western side to accommodate staff... another addition was the detention block of eight cells just inside the Castle entrance. In 1907 the Castle became headquarters of the Northumbrian Division of the Territorial Army, and during the First World War it was in continuous use. In 1916 it was made a depot of the Non-Combatant Corps, formed for men conscripted into the army who had a conscientious objection to bearing arms. The Castle was again put to military use in the Second World War.' (Weaver, 1989: 18)

'There are eight cells in the detention block, four on each floor. Conscientious objectors, conscripted into the army and sent to join the non-combatant Corps at Richmond, were put in cells as a result of their refusal to obey orders. In 1916 some were taken from Richmond to France where they were court martialled and sentenced to death. The death sentences were not carried out; the men were returned to England and imprisoned with hard labour.' (Weaver, 1989:18 n.)

'The graffiti is a mixture of writing and drawings executed in pencil on the limewash covering the walls. Some of it is very poignant - the majority are religious tracts or heartfelt political statements, but some are simply scratching away the days, or drawings of girlfriends. There are later additions dating to World War II when the cells were apparently used as a punishment block for disorderly behaviour by soldiers, and then later still by visitors moved by the plight of earlier prisoners. This is obviously a highly important historical document, and as such merits preservation.' (Babington, 1991:n.p.)

The cells on the ground floor are numbered 1 to 4, cell number 1 being situated in the NW of the building, nearest to the castle gate, and cell 4 being at the SE of the building. Cells 5 to 8 are on the first floor, cell 5 being on the NW side and cell 8 at the SE. Room 9 is situated on the first floor, at the NW end, opposite cell 5. For the purposes of this report the interior of each cell have been labelled A to D. A wall is the NE wall with entrance door. B is the SE wall. C is the SW wall and D is the NW wall.

Areas of flaking limewash in cells 4, 6, 7, 8 and the corridor between rooms 3 - 4 were fixed by C. Babington during 1991. Cells 1, 2, 3, 5 and the main areas of the corridors did not receive emergency treatment at that time. The areas treated by C. Babington are now in slightly better condition than areas which were not treated. Therefore the treated and untreated areas have been audited separately and given different condition scores.

## Photographic Record

29/6/94 EH 'current' contact photo files; no images of wall paintings.

## Bibliography

Babington, C. English Heritage internal report, 1991.

Hemmett, R. English Heritage internal report, 1985.

## 2 General Audit Information

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Property name	RICHMOND CASTLE	County	North Yorkshire
Region	North		
Location	Detention block, cells1,2,3,5, corridors.		
Orientation	NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST.		
Century 20th	Date	Height (cm)0	Width (cm) 0
Auditor(s)	TM/JD	Start date	12/07/95

**Overall condition score**      **4**

### Recommendations

The on-going deterioration of this highly important graffiti is obviously linked to the previous condition of the building fabric, and in particular, the exposure of the decoration to excessive and persistent liquid moisture. It is understood that remedial building works carried out in 1993 have largely resolved this problem. Nevertheless, the building is still extremely damp and continued active delamination of the limewash must be expected in the future. In addition, it is very difficult to predict future deterioration behaviour during a possible 'drying-out' period. Conservation should therefore focus on regular inspections (every year) and emergency remedial treatment as necessary.

In the meantime, flake fixing and repairs are urgently required to stabilise the graffiti in these areas. Further repairs to large areas of loss, replacement of unsightly repairs, and reintegration could also significantly improve the appearance of the walls and therefore the presentation of the graffiti [Timescale: 4 conservators, approximately 6 weeks, as soon as possible].

A further consideration should be the installation of environmental monitoring, in combination with a moisture survey of the fabric, which should assist in assessing any potential 'drying-out' phase in the future. It should also be considered a priority to commission a full graphic and photographic survey to record aspects of the technique and condition of the graffiti prior to any extensive treatment.

During this inspection it was noted that the cells and corridor nearest the entrance door are unfortunately being used as storage areas for display boards etc. This is a potential cause of damage to the graffiti due to mechanical damage. Cell 3 has been painted with emulsion paint in the past and this has already caused major loss of the graffiti decoration. Therefore it may be possible to use this area for storage if there is no option but to use the detention block for this purpose.



### 3 Audit Information: Technique

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Property name	RICHMOND CASTLE		
Region	North	County	North Yorkshire
Location	Detention block, cells1,2,3,5, corridors.		
Orientation	NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST.		
Century 20 <sup>th</sup>	Date	Height (cm)0	Width (cm) 0
Auditor(s)	TM/JD	Start date	12/07/95

**Overall Condition Score      4**

#### Stratigraphy

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Layer type	Support Layer	Specific condition Score	3
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#### Thickness

#### Comments

The support is comprised of sandstone blocks and sheets which form the walls, ceilings and floors. The building structure has been severely affected by damp penetration and many areas of the support appear to be in poor condition.

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Layer type	Render Layer 1	Specific condition Score	3
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#### Thickness

#### Comments

The thickness of the first render layer is unclear. It has a whitish-grey appearance, possibly indicative of the presence of cement as an additive. Fine dark coloured aggregate is present. Sampling and analysis would reveal further details of the composition and structure of the render layers.

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Layer type	Render Layer 2	Specific condition Score	3
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#### Thickness

#### Comments

The upper render layer is grey and compact, possibly indicating a high cement content plaster. Fine aggregate is present.

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Layer type	Ground Layer 1	Specific condition Score	4
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#### Thickness

#### Comments

There are several limewash layers which serve as the ground layer for the pencil graffiti. Individual pencil lines are frequently applied over the surface, irrespective of areas where the limewash layers are intermittent. For example, limewash was painted over an earlier limewash whilst (timber?) upright fixings were in place. These fixings were removed, prior to the execution of the graffiti, and the pencil drawing applied over both the surface and the earlier limewashes. In other areas flaking of surface limewash layers had occurred prior to the pencil drawings, so that pencil from one image is present on several layers. In many areas there are drawings on underlying limewash layers which are now only visible where subsequent layers have flaked away.

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<b>Layer type</b>	Paint Layer 1	<b>Specific condition Score</b>	2
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<b>Thickness</b>	.01 cm
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**Comments**

The pencil drawings themselves appear to be in reasonable, but not good, condition. They are however in danger of being lost due to deterioration of the underlying layers.

<b>Identified pigments</b>	<b>Colours</b>
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GRAPHITE	BLACK
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## 4 Audit Information: deterioration and damage, added materials, treatment

<b>Property name</b>	RICHMOND CASTLE		
<b>Region</b>	North	<b>County</b>	North Yorkshire
<b>Location</b>	Detention block, cells 1,2,3,5, corridors.		
<b>Orientation</b>	NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST.		
<b>Century</b> 20th	<b>Date</b>	<b>Height (cm)</b> 0	<b>Width (cm)</b> 0

### DETERIORATION AND DAMAGE

#### Deterioration phenomena

**Type** flaking

**Location** Throughout, especially cell 2, wall A, cell 3, ground floor corridor SE end and cell 5.

**Comments** Extensive flaking of limewash layers has occurred on all walls, in all locations. The severity of the flaking is threatening the survival of large areas of important decoration.

**Type** cracking

**Location** General, especially cell 1, ceiling and walls, cell 2 and cell 5.

**Comments** Numerous cracks through the render layers have occurred. In some cases this movement has led to delamination of the renders from the support. This delamination is in some cases severe and will need consolidation if loss is to be prevented.

**Type** loss

**Location** Throughout, see especially the corridor opposite cells 1 and 2 where the entire lower half of the graffiti and wall have suffered severe loss.

**Comments** Many minor losses of all layers has occurred in the past. The loss is patchy but several areas of important decoration appear to have been lost.

**Type** damp

**Location** Floor and ceilings especially.

**Comments** Floors and ceilings appear dark and stained and the interior feels damp. There is ample evidence of soluble salt movement in the form of staining and white bloom which provides further evidence of dampness within the structure.

**Type** delamination (render layer)

**Location** Numerous locations, for example cell 2, wall A.

**Comments** Delamination of the render has occurred in various locations, in particular stresses arising around the door frames to the cells, has led to large areas of delamination. This deterioration is potentially serious and could lead to loss of graffiti.

**Type** salt activity

**Location** Throughout, see especially cell 2, wall C, centre.

**Comments** Fluffy white salt efflorescences are present in many areas and have caused damage and loss to the building fabric and graffiti.

**Type** spalling  
**Location** Support, see especially interior window architraves, ground floor.  
**Comments** The stone support and mouldings are suffering from stone decay, many areas are powdering and spalling off in large flakes.

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**Type** delamination (paint layer)  
**Location** Cell 3.  
**Comments** Cell 3 has been coated with impervious emulsion paint. This layer is failing drastically and peeling and flaking from the underlying layers. Unfortunately the adhesion of the emulsion paint to the underlying limewash is stronger than the adhesion of the limewash to the render layers and therefore limewash is being pulled off the walls along with the associated graffiti.

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**Type** loss of cohesion  
**Location** Various, including room 9 and cell 1, wall A, base.  
**Comments** The stone, render and limewash layers in room 9 have been particularly badly affected by deterioration. The stone is generally in very poor condition and the interior stonework and render of the window has been almost lost. There is no glazing or frame in the window. In addition the limewash in this room is highly unstable and very vulnerable to flaking and loss.

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#### **Mechanical damage**

**Type** nail holes  
**Location** Along walls B and D in several cells.  
**Comments** Numerous holes, some caused by nails and some drilled are present, some of these have been filled. They form a horizontal pattern and may be associated with some fixings, for example, for bunk beds.

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**Type** scratches  
**Location** Throughout.  
**Comments** Probably mainly the result of general wear and tear.

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**Type** insertions  
**Location** See especially corridor opposite cells 1 and 2, and cell 2, walls B and D.  
**Comments** Wooden insertions, probably associated with fixings for furniture.

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**Type** abrasion  
**Location** Base of walls.  
**Comments** General wear and tear, scuffing of the lower walls has resulted in loss of the limewash.

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**Type** minor losses  
**Location** Corridor opposite cells 1 and 2 and staircase corridor.  
**Comments** A circular arrangement of holes, in two sites, appears to indicate the positions in which a dartboard (or boards) were situated.

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**Type** insertions  
**Location** Walls and ceilings.  
**Comments** Fixings for electrical cables and lights appear to have been inserted after the graffiti was executed as they cover minor areas of graffiti in places.

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## ADDED MATERIALS

### Accretions

**Type** biodeterioration

**Location** Base of walls.

**Comments** Dark blackish mouldy growth is present on many of the lower walls.

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**Type** dust

**Location** Upper half of corridor opposite cells 1 and 2.

**Comments** General accumulation over surface.

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**Type** cobwebs

**Location** General.

**Comments** Cobwebs are present in many areas.

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**Type** salt efflorescences

**Location** General.

**Comments** Fluffy white salt efflorescences are present in many areas.

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**Type** biodeterioration

**Location** Various.

**Comments** Green microbiological growth (possibly algae) is present in several areas.

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### Coatings/Coverings

**Type** emulsion

**Location** Walls to cell 1, corridor opposite cells 1 and 2, and cell 2.

**Comments** Green, grey and black emulsion is present on the walls, the coating is patchy and consists of multiple separate brushstrokes rather than a coherent coating. It is possible that the brushmarks are the result of workmen cleaning out their brushes after use who used the walls as a surface on which to brush out excess paint.

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**Type** emulsion

**Location** Cell 3.

**Comments** A thick even coating of white emulsion has been applied to the walls and ceiling. This coating is now in very poor condition.

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### Repairs

**Type** cement

**Location** Various, see for example, cells 1 and 5.

**Comments** Small and large 'patching in' repairs.

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**Type** modern plaster

**Location** Cell 1, wall C, left side, 30cms height.

**Comments** Two small repairs, possibly in a lime mortar are present.

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## TREATMENT

### Past Treatment

**Type** VARIOUS **Date** 01/01/01

**Person** Unknown

**Comments** Cement and modern lime-type repairs are present. No work has been carried out to the graffiti itself in this area.

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### Past Treatment

**Type** MONITORING CONDITION **Date** 01/08/91

**Person** J. Keevil

**Comments** EH internal correspondence, J. Keevil to J. Lang, 1/8/91 'The overall condition of the graffiti is now very poor. Considerable loss has already occurred and large areas of incipient flaking are clearly visible. As you suggested, another photographic survey should now be taken. In my view, the main cause of deterioration is excessive humidity created by damp penetration and the subsequent condensation that this produces both in the structure of and on the surface of the walls. The inside of the south wall and the back of the stairs to the roof are actually running with water. The entry of this water appears to be from the roof, although the pointing of the exterior of the south wall also looks a little suspect. Any faults in these or any other areas should be found and rectified as soon as possible. Ventilation should be encouraged by the cleaning of the existing vents and opening all windows when weather conditions are suitable. I will check with R.T.A.S. as to their previous research into consolidation methods. The obvious technique for consolidation would be lime water, but under the present conditions of dampness, this would be impractical and unlikely to succeed. If, however, we do nothing until the moisture has dried out, most of the surface will be lost. I will send a conservator as soon as available to carry out emergency consolidation on the areas where loss is imminent, using a synthetic resin at effective strength. In the longer term, if dry conditions can be obtained without too much loss, sympathetic conservation methods should be possible.'

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### Proposed Treatment

**Type** CLEANING **Date** 11/07/95

**Person** TM/JD

**Comments** Removal of emulsion from cells 1 and 2, and the corridor opposite cells 1 and 2, should be attempted, however this treatment may prove problematic and will have to be considered carefully. Removal of flaking emulsion from cell 3 would improve the appearance of the room and allow the walls to 'breathe'. However it would probably not be possible to avoid removing early limewash and graffiti attached to the reverse of emulsion flakes.

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**Type** ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING **Date** 11/07/95

**Person** TM/JD

**Comments** The ground floor cells and corridor appear to be rather damp. A survey of the moisture movement within the structure and the environmental conditions within the building may help to identify the causes of deterioration. It is understood remedial building works have been undertaken and that the building is gradually drying out.

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<b>Type</b>	FILLS/REPAIRS INSERTION	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	Areas of delaminating render will require consolidation, grouting and repairs, cracks and small losses also require repair.		
<b>Type</b>	FILLS/REPAIRS REMOVAL	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	It may be desirable to remove some of the more unsightly -- and potentially damaging -- cement-based repairs.		
<b>Type</b>	FLAKE FIXING	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	Flake fixing of delaminating and flaking limewash is urgently required. The treatments carried out by C. Babington to cells 4, 6, 7, 8 and the corridor between 3-4 using 'eltalene tissue and a damp sponge to press the flakes back... followed where possible with an injection of dilute lime milk' (EH internal correspondence, C. Babington to J. Lang, 21/8/91) appear to have been successful and similar techniques may be adopted again.		
<b>Type</b>	PRESENTATION/REINTEGRATION	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	General presentation could be vastly improved. Filling of cracks and losses could give the walls a more unified appearance (as well as assisting to stabilise the fabric) however the aesthetic impact of the degree of finish of repairs etc. should be considered prior to treatment.		
<b>Type</b>	STRUCTURAL REPAIRS	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	It is understood that remedial building works were carried out c. 1993 (J. Lang, 29/9/94) and these have largely resolved the problems of penetrating water (J. Keevil, 1/8/91 records water running down the walls). Unfortunately however it appears that the building is still rather damp, although this needs to be verified by environmental monitoring and moisture survey work. It may be the case that further structural repairs to 'weatherproof' the building will be required as part of conservation of the graffiti.		
<b>Type</b>	VARIOUS	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	A full graphic and photographic documentation of the graffiti and its condition is vital and urgent.		





# 1 Wall Painting Record

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Property name	RICHMOND CASTLE		
Region	North	County	North Yorkshire
Location of painting	Detention block, cells 4,6,7,8 and corridor between 3-4.		
Orientation	NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST.		
Century 20 <sup>th</sup>	Date	Height (cm)	Width (cm)
Subjects included			
Graffiti			

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## Description

Richmond has its origins in the eleventh century, following the Norman Conquest. Only parts of the eleventh century structure remain and the site is dominated by the massively built twelfth century keep. (Peers, 1988: fronticepiece)

To the south east of the keep is the nineteenth century detention block. 'In 1855 the Castle was leased from the Duke of Richmond for use as headquarters of the North York Militia. The great Court was cleared of debris and a new building was erected on its western side to accommodate staff... another addition was the detention block of eight cells just inside the Castle entrance. In 1907 the Castle became headquarters of the Northumbrian Division of the Territorial Army, and during the First World War it was in continuous use. In 1916 it was made a depot of the Non-Combatant Corps, formed for men conscripted into the army who had a conscientious objection to bearing arms. The Castle was again put to military use in the Second World War.' (Weaver, 1989: 18)

'There are eight cells in the detention block, four on each floor. Conscientious objectors, conscripted into the army and sent to join the non-combatant Corps at Richmond, were put in cells as a result of their refusal to obey orders. In 1916 some were taken from Richmond to France where they were court martialled and sentenced to death. The death sentences were not carried out; the men were returned to England and imprisoned with hard labour.' (Weaver, 1989:18 n.)

'The graffiti is a mixture of writing and drawings executed in pencil on the limewash covering the walls. Some of it is very poignant - the majority are religious tracts or heartfelt political statements, but some are simply scratching away the days, or drawings of girlfriends. There are later additions dating to World War II when the cells were apparently used as a punishment block for disorderly behaviour by soldiers, and then later still by visitors moved by the plight of earlier prisoners. This is obviously a highly important historical document, and as such merits preservation.' (Babington, 1991:n.p.)

The cells on the ground floor are numbered 1 to 4, cell number 1 being situated in the NW of the building, nearest to the castle gate, and cell 4 being at the SE of the building. Cells 5 to 8 are on the first floor, cell 5 being on the NW side and cell 8 at the SE. Room 9 is situated on the first floor, at the NW end, opposite cell 5. For the purposes of this report the internal walls of each cell have been labelled A to D. A wall is the NE wall with entrance door. B is the SE wall. C is the SW wall and D is the NW wall.

Areas of flaking limewash in cells 4, 6, 7, 8 and the corridor between rooms 3 - 4 were fixed by C. Babington during 1991. The areas treated at that time are now in slightly better condition than areas which were not treated. Therefore the treated and untreated areas have been audited separately and given different condition scores.

## Photographic Record

## Bibliography

Babington, C. English Heritage internal report, 1991.

Hemmett, R. English Heritage internal report, 1985.

EH internal correspondence, various, in studio archive.

## 2 General Audit Information

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Property name	RICHMOND CASTLE	County	North Yorkshire
Region	North		
Location	Detention block, cells 4,6,7,8 and corridor between 3-4.		
Orientation	NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST.		
Century 20th	Date	Height (cm)	Width (cm)
Auditor(s)	TM/JD	Start date	12/07/95

**Overall condition score**      **3**

### Recommendations

The on-going deterioration of this highly important graffiti is obviously linked to the previous condition of the building fabric, and in particular, the exposure of the decoration to excessive and persistent liquid moisture. It is understood that remedial building works carried out in 1993 have largely resolved this problem. Nevertheless, the building is still extremely damp and continued active delamination of the limewash must be expected in the future. In addition, it is very difficult to predict future deterioration behaviour during a possible 'drying-out' period. Conservation should therefore focus on regular inspections (every year) and emergency remedial treatment as necessary.

In the meantime, overall, the areas of decoration are more stable in Cells 4,6,7 and 8, as they have recently undergone emergency treatment. However, further fixing and insertion of repairs are now required to stabilise areas which were not treated by C. Babington in 1991 [Timescale: 2 conservators, 6-8 weeks, as soon as possible].

A further consideration should be the installation of environmental monitoring, in combination with a moisture survey of the fabric, which should assist in assessing any potential 'drying-out' phase in the future. It should also be considered a priority to commission a full graphic and photographic survey to record aspects of the technique and condition of the graffiti prior to any extensive treatment.

### 3 Audit Information: Technique

Property name	RICHMOND CASTLE		
Region	North	County	North Yorkshire
Location	Detention block, cells 4,6,7,8 and corridor between 3-4.		
Orientation	NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST.		
Century 20 <sup>th</sup>	Date	Height (cm)	Width (cm)
Auditor(s)	TM/JD	Start date	12/07/95

**Overall Condition Score 3**

#### Stratigraphy

Layer type	Support Layer	Specific condition Score	3
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#### Thickness

#### Comments

The support is comprised of sandstone blocks and sheets which form the walls, ceilings and floors. The building structure has been affected by damp and many areas of the support appear to be in poor condition.

Layer type	Render Layer 1	Specific condition Score	3
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#### Thickness

#### Comments

The first render layer appears to be applied in a layer approximately 2 cms thick. It has a rather pale grey appearance, possibly indicating the presence of cement an additive. Fine dark coloured aggregate is present.

Layer type	Render Layer 2	Specific condition Score	3
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#### Thickness

#### Comments

The upper render layer is approximately 1 to 1.5 cms thick. It has a grey compact appearance, possibly indicating the presence of cement. Fine aggregate is present.

Layer type	Ground Layer 1	Specific condition Score	3
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#### Thickness

#### Comments

There are several limewash layers which serve as the ground layer for the pencil graffiti. Individual pencil lines are frequently applied over the surface, irrespective of areas where the limewash layers are intermittent. For example, limewash was painted over an earlier limewash whilst (timber?) upright fixings were in place. These fixings were removed, prior to the execution of the graffiti, and the pencil drawing applied over both the surface and the earlier limewashes. In other areas flaking of surface limewash layers had occurred prior to the pencil drawings, so that pencil from one image is present on several layers. In many areas there are drawings on underlying limewash layers which are now only visible where subsequent layers have flaked away.

Identified pigments	Colours
lime white	white

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<b>Layer type</b>	Paint Layer 1	<b>Specific condition Score</b>	2
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**Thickness**

**Comments**

The pencil drawings themselves appear to be in reasonable condition. They are however still at risk from deterioration of the underlying support.

**Identified pigments**   **Colours**

GRAPHITE        BLACK

## 4 Audit Information: deterioration and damage, added materials, treatment

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Property name	RICHMOND CASTLE		
Region	North	County	North Yorkshire
Location	Detention block, cells 4,6,7,8 and corridor between 3-4.		
Orientation	NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST.		
Century 20th	Date	Height (cm)	Width (cm)

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### DETERIORATION AND DAMAGE

#### Deterioration phenomena

Type flaking

Location General.

Comments Although the most severe areas of flaking limewash were fixed by C. Babington in 1991 (the locations treated appear relatively stable) further general deterioration of the graffiti scheme has resulted in more flaking and loss to surrounding areas.

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Type cracking

Location Various, especially around doors.

Comments Numerous cracks are present. No repairs were carried out to cracks by C. Babington during 1991.

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Type loss

Location Various, limewash ground.

Comments Much loss of the limewash ground has occurred.

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Type damp

Location Cell 4.

Comments Cell 4 appears to be extremely damp. In general the first floor cells seem drier than the ground floor rooms.

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Type delamination (render layer)

Location Cell 4, walls A and C.

Comments The render surrounding the doors and windows is delaminating from the stone support.

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Type salt activity

Location Cell 4, wall C.

Comments White fluffy efflorescences are present around the window.

---

Type spalling

Location Cell 4, wall C.

Comments The stone window architrave is suffering from stone decay and large flakes are spalling off.

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**Type** loss  
**Location** Cell 4, wall B.  
**Comments** Large areas of render have been lost from cell 4, wall B.

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**Type** loss of cohesion  
**Location** Cell 4.  
**Comments** A large area of render in cell 4, generally on wall B, is suffering loss of cohesion.

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**Type** staining  
**Location** Cell 4.  
**Comments** Staining of the walls in cell 4 appears to be related to dampness and the movement of moisture.

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**Type** losses (render layer)  
**Location** Cell 8, wall B.  
**Comments** A large area of render has been lost, probably as a result of moisture infiltration.

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#### **Mechanical damage**

**Type** insertions  
**Location** Various, especially walls B and D.  
**Comments** Numerous insertions are present in the walls, these may well be associated with fixings for furniture etc.

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**Type** scratches  
**Location** Throughout.  
**Comments** Probably mainly the result of general wear and tear.

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**Type** nail holes  
**Location** General, especially walls B and D.  
**Comments** Numerous nail and drill holes are present in the walls, some have been filled. They may be associated with fixings for furniture, etc.

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**Type** abrasion  
**Location** Base of walls.  
**Comments** General wear and tear and scuffing of the lower walls has resulted in some loss of limewash. The first floor appears to have suffered less general wear and tear than the ground floor.

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**Type** insertions  
**Location** Walls and ceilings.  
**Comments** Fixings for electrical cables and lights appear to have been inserted after the graffiti was executed as they cover minor areas of graffiti in places.

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## ADDED MATERIALS

### Accretions

**Type** dirt

**Location** General.

**Comments** Fairly disfiguring.

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**Type** cobwebs

**Location** General.

**Comments** Fairly disfiguring.

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**Type** dust

**Location** General.

**Comments** Fairly disfiguring.

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**Type** biodeterioration

**Location** Various, especially cell 4.

**Comments** Green microbiological growth (possibly algae) is present in several locations.

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### Repairs

**Type** cement

**Location** Cell 4, 6 and 8.

**Comments** Generally quite small 'patching in ' repairs.

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## TREATMENT

### Past Treatment

Type VARIOUS Date 01/01/01

Person Unknown

Comments Cement repairs have been inserted at some date.

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### Past Treatment

Type MONITORING CONDITION Date 01/08/91

Person J. Keevil

Comments EH internal correspondence, J. Keevil to J. Lang, 1/8/91 'The overall condition of the graffiti is now very poor. Considerable loss has already occurred and large areas of incipient flaking are clearly visible. As you suggested, another photographic survey should now be taken. In my view, the main cause of deterioration is excessive humidity created by damp penetration and the subsequent condensation that this produces both in the structure of and on the surface of the walls. The inside of the south wall and the back of the stairs to the roof are actually running with water. The entry of this water appears to be from the roof, although the pointing of the exterior of the south wall also looks a little suspect. Any faults in these or any other areas should be found and rectified as soon as possible. Ventilation should be encouraged by the cleaning of the existing vents and opening all windows when weather conditions are suitable. I will check with R.T.A.S. as to their previous research into consolidation methods. The obvious technique for consolidation would be lime water, but under the present conditions of dampness, this would be impractical and unlikely to succeed. If, however, we do nothing until the moisture has dried out, most of the surface will be lost. I will send a conservator as soon as available to carry out emergency consolidation on the areas where loss is imminent, using a synthetic resin at effective strength. In the longer term, if dry conditions can be obtained without too much loss, sympathetic conservation methods should be possible.'

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### Past Treatment

Type FLAKE FIXING Date 21/08/91

Person C. Babington

Comments EH internal correspondence, C. Babington to J. Lang, 21/8/91 'I spent two days at Richmond - the first assessing the condition of the graffiti and making a photographic record, and the second undertaking the emergency fixing of flaking limewash... the areas of actively flaking graffiti were fortunately relatively small. I was therefore able to treat these immediately using eltalene tissue and a damp sponge to press the flakes back. To further aid adhesion this was followed where possible with an injection of dilute lime milk.'

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### Proposed Treatment

Type ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING Date 11/07/95

Person TM/JD

Comments A survey of the environmental conditions and moisture movement within the building may help to identify the underlying causes of decay and therefore formulate a suitable conservation strategy.

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<b>Type</b>	FILLS/REPAIRS INSERTION	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	Areas of cracked, delaminating and deteriorated renders, together with areas of loss should be repaired using sympathetic materials.		
<b>Type</b>	FILLS/REPAIRS REMOVAL	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	It may be beneficial to remove unsuitable cement repairs, although the benefits of this procedure should be balanced against the potential for causing some damage to original materials during the process.		
<b>Type</b>	FLAKE FIXING	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	Further flake fixing is required. The methods adopted by C. Babington in 1991 appear to have been relatively successful and a similar technique may be useful again.		
<b>Type</b>	PRESENTATION/REINTEGRATION	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	The general presentation of the detention block could be improved by basic good housekeeping and repairs to the walls and graffiti. However the aesthetic impact of the degree of finish of repairs etc. should be considered prior to treatment.		
<b>Type</b>	STRUCTURAL REPAIRS	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	It is understood that remedial building works were carried out c. 1993 (J.Lang, 29/9/94) and these have largely resolved the problems of penetrating water (J. Keevil, 1/8/91 records water running down the walls). Unfortunately however it appears that the building is still rather damp, although this needs to be verified by environmental monitoring and moisture survey work. It may be the case that further structural repairs to 'weatherproof' the building will be required as part of conservation of the graffiti.		
<b>Type</b>	VARIOUS	<b>Date</b>	11/07/95
<b>Person</b>	TM/JD		
<b>Comments</b>	A full graphic and photographic documentation of the graffiti and its condition is highly recommended.		



# 1 Wall Painting Record

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<b>Property name</b>	RICHMOND CASTLE		
<b>Region</b>	North	<b>County</b>	North Yorkshire
<b>Location of painting</b>	St Nicholas chapel		
<b>Orientation</b>	NORTH,SOUTH,EAST AND WEST.		
<b>Century</b> 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Height (cm)</b> 0	<b>Width (cm)</b> 0
<b>Subjects included</b>			
Unknown			

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## Description

Richmond has its origins in the eleventh century, following the Norman Conquest. Only parts of the eleventh century structure remain and the site is dominated by the massively built twelfth century keep. (Peers, 1988: fronticepiece)

St Nicholas' Chapel dates from the eleventh century and is situated at the base of the Robin Hood Tower in the eastern section of the curtain wall. The ground floor chapel has a barrel vault ceiling and on the south, west and north walls an arcade of 'semicircular arches and shafts with simple cushion capitals. At the east is a single narrow light, the flat sill of which seems to have held the mensa (table) of an altar, and on either side of the window are circular double-splayed openings'. (Peers, 1988:8)

Traces of red paint have been noted by David Park in the chapel. These traces were photographed during audit inspection 1995. However, it is unclear whether these remains relate to a significant decorative scheme (original or otherwise), or are a form of relatively modern graffiti. Therefore they have not been audited in full.

## Photographic Record

29/6/94 EH 'current' contact photo files;  
no images found.

EH photo library, computer keyword search;  
no images found.

Photograph search, DOE files, EH photo library (JD24/03/95)  
no relevant DOE photographs found.

TM/JD Audit 1995.

## Bibliography

Babington, C. English Heritage internal report, 1991.

Hemmit, R. English Heritage internal report, 1985.

Peers, C. Richmond Castle Yorkshire, English Heritage Guide, H.M.S.O. 1981, English Heritage, reprinted 1985 and 1988.

Weaver, J. Richmond Castle and Easby Abbey, English Heritage Guide, E.H. 1989.