



BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Castle Acre, Norfolk Study Day Saturday 2nd May 2015

Although there was already a settlement at Acre in 1066, the particular arrangement of castle, town and priory was a creation of the Norman Conquest and entirely due to the de Warenne family's establishment of a local power base in the area by the early 1070s. By 1085 the castle was habitable and the priory had been founded. Although the priory was dissolved in 1537 and its church dismantled, enough survives to enable one to tentatively reconstruct its elevation, while the monastic buildings, and in particular the west range, survive in large part. Later work also includes the remodelling of the prior's lodging and reconstruction of the parish church of St James.

This study day affords an opportunity to examine Castle Acre in the round, and will draw upon the talents and expertise of a number of scholars – roughly organized as below.

- 11.00 - Landscape and settlement (Rob Liddiard)
- 11.45 - Castle and bailey gate (Sandy Heslop)
- 12.30 - St James' parish church (Helen Lunnon)
- 13.00 - lunch
- 14.00 - Origins and foundation of the Priory (Edward Impey)
- 15.00 - Monastic buildings (John McNeill)
- 15.45 - Tea
- 16.15 - Priory Sculpture (Jill Franklin)
- 17.00 - Prior's Lodgings (Jeremy Ashbee)
- 17.45 - Closing remarks and discussion
- 18.00 - Day ends (the return train leaves Downham Market at 18.48, arriving Kings Cross 20.32)

If you intend travelling by train from the south, the 08.44 from London King's Cross arrives at Downham market at 10.07, from where lifts will be available. If travelling from the north or west, the relevant connections are via Peterborough, where the 08.58 to Ely connects with the 09.51 from Ely to Downham Market (arriving 10.07). If you are travelling by car, and would be prepared to offer lifts from Downham Market this would be very helpful. Otherwise, you should meet at Acre Castle by 11.00

The cost of the day will be £25 for members. The event is free for students.

Places are limited to 25, of which up to 12 are reserved for students.

To apply please e-mail Helen Lunnon – h.lunnon@uea.ac.uk – by Wednesday 15th April, stating if you are a student. In the case of a greater number of applications being received than places available a ballot will be used. Successful candidates will be contacted by email on Monday 20th April.