

Case Name: Kingsland Castle

Case Number: 1435892

Background

Historic England has been asked to review the scheduling for Kingsland Castle. The land on which the monument lies is understood to be for sale.

Asset(s) under Assessment

Facts about the asset(s) can be found in the Annex(es) to this report.

Annex	List Entry Number	Name	Heritage Category	HE Recommendation
1	1007318	Kingsland Castle	Scheduling	Amend Schedule

Visits

Date	Visit Type
28 June 2016	Full inspection

Context

The monument lies within the Kingsland Conservation Area, and is close to the Grade I listed Church of St Michael.

Assessment

CONSULTATION

The applicant, the owners, the local planning authority, the Historic Environment Record and the Historic England regional office were all invited to comment on the factual details of the case as part of the consultation process.

The applicant responded offering some additional information for the consultation report which has been incorporated where appropriate. They also commented on the overall significance of the monument. The owners representative responded noting that they had no objection to the scheduling being extended to cover all the identified earthworks.

The Archaeological Adviser for Herefordshire Council responded noting they were supportive of extending the scheduled area in line with assessment criteria, and the Historic England Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments offered some comments on the revised boundary and management of the site, which have been taken into account.

DISCUSSION

Archaeological sites are assessed for scheduling on the basis of their national importance, and more specifically their period, rarity, documentation, group value, survival and condition, fragility, diversity and potential. These criteria are set out in the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's policy document, 'Scheduled monuments & nationally important but non-scheduled monuments', Annex 1 (October 2013). Further guidance can be found in the Historic England Selection Guide for pre-1500 Military Sites. This notes that scheduling ensures the long term interests of a site are placed first, and that scheduling is warranted for sites with real claims to national importance and which require close management of their archaeological potential.

Motte and bailey castles are the most visually impressive monuments of the early post-Conquest period which survive in the modern landscape, the best examples of which are generally scheduled. The national

importance of Kingsland Castle has already been recognised by its inclusion on the Schedule of Ancient Monuments. Surviving well in the form of earthwork and buried remains, the present scheduled area covers the motte and the two baileys to the north and east of the motte, which are readily visible on the ground.

This review of the scheduling has enabled us to consider the wider site and assess further earthworks which are visible on the ground, in aerial photography and on modern and historic mapping. This has highlighted that there is a further bailey or annex to the south-east of the existing scheduled area with a wide ditch and bank enclosing it which is clearly visible to the south and west. The northern bank is visible on aerial photographs. West of this is a sunken rectangular area which has been identified as a possible fish pond. These surviving features demonstrate clear archaeological interest and potential, and are clearly related to the motte and bailey site adjacent, and contribute very strongly to its significance and our understanding of it. These, and two other ditches to the north identified from aerial photography and mapping, clearly warrant inclusion within the scheduled area to best manage their importance and archaeological potential.

The existing scheduling for Kingsland Castle is an Old County Number (OCN) which has not been updated, and this review has enabled us to provide a more detailed description of the scheduled monument and its importance. It is clear that Kingsland Castle fully merits its place on the schedule, and now merits an extension to the scheduled area which better reflects our understanding of the site and the extent of its survival. The castle has very strong group value with the adjacent Grade I listed Church of St Michael, which retains C13 fabric and is likely to have co-existed with the castle, providing a highly interesting example of a post-Conquest community.

CONCLUSION

After examining all the records and other relevant information and having carefully considered the national importance of this case, the criteria for scheduling remain fulfilled. It is recommending that the scheduling for the site be amended to expand the scheduled area to encompass features which have been identified as relating to the castle, and to provide an updated schedule description.

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION DECISION:

The scheduling for Kingsland Castle should be amended for the following principal reasons:

- * Updating the designation base: to update the schedule to better reflect our understanding of the site and its extent;
- * Clarity: to provide an updated map and description to assist in the management of the site.

Countersigning comments:

Agreed. The national importance of Kingsland Castle was recognised when it was first scheduled. Since that date, further archaeological work has confirmed the survival of an additional bailey and other features relating to the castle, and the scheduled area should be amended to include the full extent of these nationally important remains.

Deborah Williams
22nd August 2016

Annex 1**List Entry****List Entry Summary**

This monument is scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended as it appears to the Secretary of State to be of national importance.

Name: Kingsland Castle

List Entry Number: 1007318

Location

The monument lies west and south of the Church of St Michael and All Angels.

The monument may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County	District	District Type	Parish
	County of Herefordshire	Unitary Authority	Kingsland

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: Not Applicable to this List Entry

Date first scheduled: Unknown

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: RSM - OCN

Legacy Number: HE 103

Asset Groupings

This List entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

List Entry Description**Summary of Monument**

The earthwork and buried remains of a motte and bailey castle, with associated features.

Reasons for Designation

Kingsland Castle, a motte and bailey castle with associated features, is scheduled for the following principal reasons:

* Survival: the castle survives well with a prominent motte, two large baileys, a further bailey and a possible fishpond, comprising a highly significant site which is likely to contain archaeological and environmental evidence relating to its history, construction, use and development;

- * Potential: the monument has clear potential for the discovery of nationally important undisturbed archaeological deposits;
- * Group value: the site has strong group value with the adjacent Grade I listed Church of St Michael, which retains C13 fabric.

History

Motte and bailey castles are among the most familiar of defensive sites dating from the early Medieval period, with over 600 sites recorded nationally. Following the Norman Conquest, these earthwork and timber strongholds were built rapidly across England in a variety of strategic locations, often associated with towns or villages. They were the homes and power base of the most influential families, and were a physical manifestation of their authority.

The composition of motte and bailey castles consists of a large mound of earth or rubble, the motte, generally surmounted by timber and later stone structures including a lookout tower, and the bailey or baileys. The bailey was an embanked enclosure which contained the domestic and communal accommodation. Where there is more than one bailey, these possibly had a separate function, such as the accommodation of livestock.

Motte and bailey castles are known in most regions of England, and are of particular importance to the study of Norman Britain and the development of the feudal system. Although many were occupied for a relatively short period of time, motte and bailey castles continued to be built and occupied from the C11 to C13, after which they were superseded by other types of castle.

Kingsland Castle is thought to date from the early-mid C12 and to have been the seat of the de Braose family. It is thought to have been out of use or of lesser importance by the mid-C15; it is not mentioned in any accounts of the Battle of Mortimers Cross which took place nearby. Writing in the C16, the King's Antiquary John Leland wrote of, "a castle at Kingsland...the ditches wherof and parte of the keep be yet seen by the west parte of Kyngsland church".

Details

PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS

The monument includes a motte and bailey castle with associated features situated on relatively flat ground west of the Church of St Michael.

DESCRIPTION

The motte survives as an oval mound about 56 metres across at its greatest extent, and approximately 6 metres high. It is surrounded by a wide ditch, with separate baileys to the north and east. Partially-buried stone foundations of a shell keep are said to have been visible in the past.

The northern bailey is roughly semi-circular in form and is approximately 110 metres long at its greatest extent. It is divided from the eastern bailey, of approximately 95 metres and more irregular in shape, by a transverse ditch. Beyond the eastern bailey is a further enclosure, with a wide ditch clearly visible to the south and east, and one to the north visible in aerial photographs. Some ridge and furrow has also been identified within this area.

To the west of the southern bailey and across the stream is a rectangular sunken area, which may have been a fishpond.

EXCLUSIONS

All modern tarmac paths, railings, gates and fence posts are excluded from the scheduling, although the ground beneath them is included.

Selected Sources

Websites

Herefordshire Through Time, Historic Environment Record number 340, accessed 24.07.16 from <http://htt.herefordshire.gov.uk/herefordshires-past/the-medieval->

period/castles/gazetteer-of-herefordshire-castles/parishes-k/king
sland-castle/

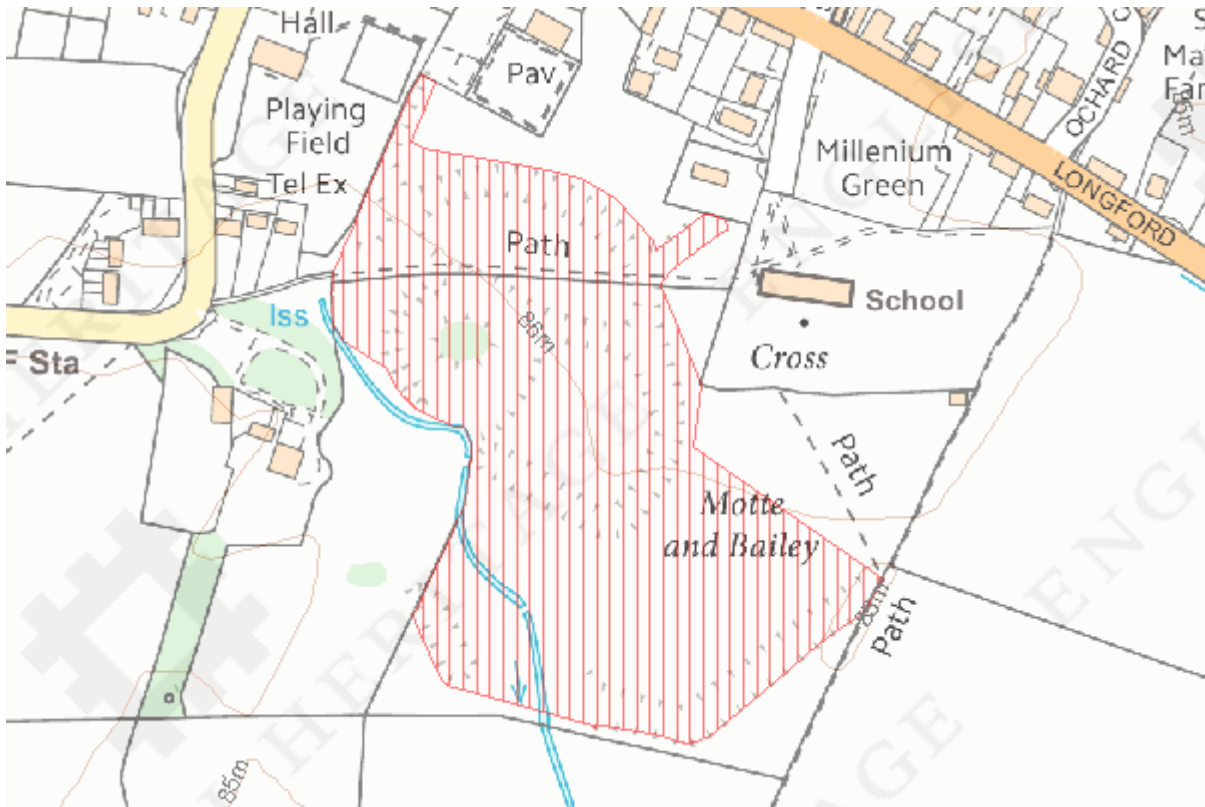
Pastscape Monument number 108522, accessed 25.07.16 from
https://pastscape.org.uk/hob.aspx?hob_id=108522

Other

Historic England, Introduction to Heritage Assets: Earthwork Castles (May 2011)

Map

National Grid Reference: SO4457861224



© Crown Copyright and database right 2015. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100024900.

The above map is for quick reference purposes only and may not be to scale. For a copy of the full scale map, please see the attached PDF - 1007318_2.pdf

Former List Entry**List Entry Summary**

This monument is scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended as it appears to the Secretary of State to be of national importance.

Name: Kingsland Castle

List Entry Number: 1007318

Location

Not currently available for this entry.

The monument may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County	District	District Type	Parish
	County of Herefordshire	Unitary Authority	Kingsland

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: Not Applicable to this List Entry

Date first scheduled: Unknown

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: RSM - OCN

Legacy Number: HE 103

Asset Groupings

This List entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

List Entry Description**Summary of Monument**

Not currently available for this entry.

Reasons for Designation

Not currently available for this entry.

History

Not currently available for this entry.

Details

This record has been generated from an "old county number" (OCN) scheduling record. These are monuments that were not reviewed under the Monuments Protection Programme and are some of our oldest designation records. As such they do not yet have the full descriptions of their modernised counterparts available. Please contact us if you would like further information.

Selected Sources

Map

National Grid Reference: SO 44530 61265



© Crown Copyright and database right 2015. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100024900.

The above map is for quick reference purposes only and may not be to scale. For a copy of the full scale map, please see the attached PDF - 1007318_1.pdf