

3.0 Context

3.2 The Fountains: Landmarks of Market Square Through Time

The Hobson's Conduit was also known as Hobson's River and Cambridge New River. In the 16th and 17th Centuries increasing numbers of students and university staff were dying of plague due to the city's uncleanness. The Master of Peterhouse, Andrew Perne, first suggested in 1574 the idea of taking fresh water from Nine Wells to clean out the King's Ditch on the southern and eastern edges of town. In early 1600 Hobson donated money for a conduit to bring fresh water from Trumpington to a fountain built to provide clean drinking water for the people of Cambridge. A subsequent four-year building project was undertaken in 1610, with a small artificial river being constructed which flowed along both sides of Trumpington Street towards St Catherine's College.

The Market Place branch of Hobson's Conduit was completed in 1614 and brought fresh water to a central fountain. This fountain was made of stone incorporating decorative carvings and provided access to fresh water for residents and traders. As such the fountain became a gathering point for the community as a central point for the city. This original fountain, Hobson's Conduit, was removed from Market Hill to its present site at the junction of Trumpington Road and Lensfield Road. This was due to Market Square being redeveloped in 1855 following the Great Fire and a Gothic Revival gabled fountain being erected in its stead. The fountain's original stone canopy was removed in 1953 having been found to be unsafe.

With the emergence of the private motorcar at the turn of the 20th century the market space began its evolution towards the configuration we see today. The Gothic Revival fountain was erected in 1953 which maintained the flow of fresh water to the square, however the conduit which supplied the fountain was cut off in the 1960s during the construction of the Lion Yard shopping centre development.



From 1614 - 1856
The Market Place branch of Hobson's Conduit was completed in 1614. This branch brought fresh water to the market fountain in the centre of the previous Market Place.



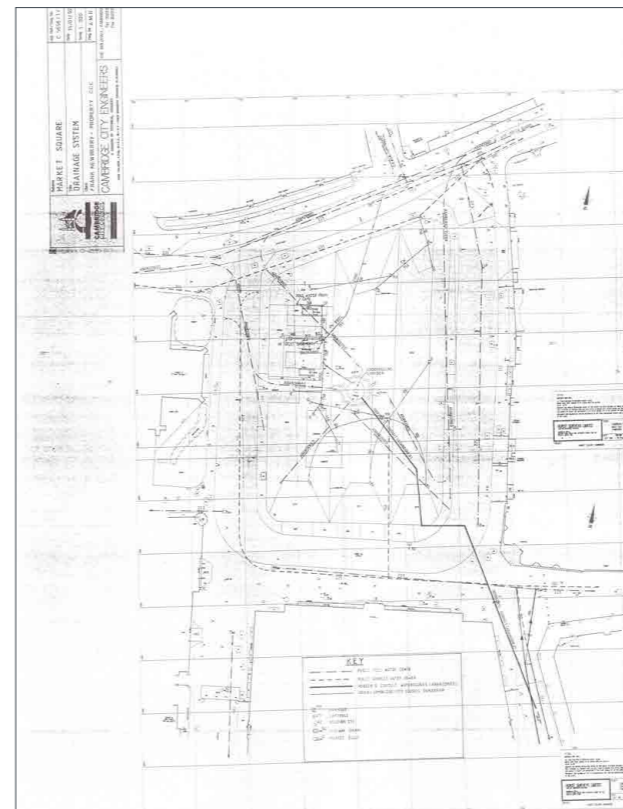
From 1855 - 1953
Following the fire in 1849, the Market Square was redeveloped. In 1855 a Gothic Revival gabled fountain was erected and the original structure of Hobson's Conduit was moved to the corner of Lensfield Road and Trumpington Road in south Cambridge in 1856.



From 1953 - present
In 1953 the fountain was found to be unsafe and taken down. It was removed to the yard of the Cambridge and County Folk Museum, which is the former site of the old White Horse Inn in Castle Street.



Engraving of Thomas Hobson



Drainage system - Hobson's Conduit abandoned
Cambridge City Engineer surveyed in 1992



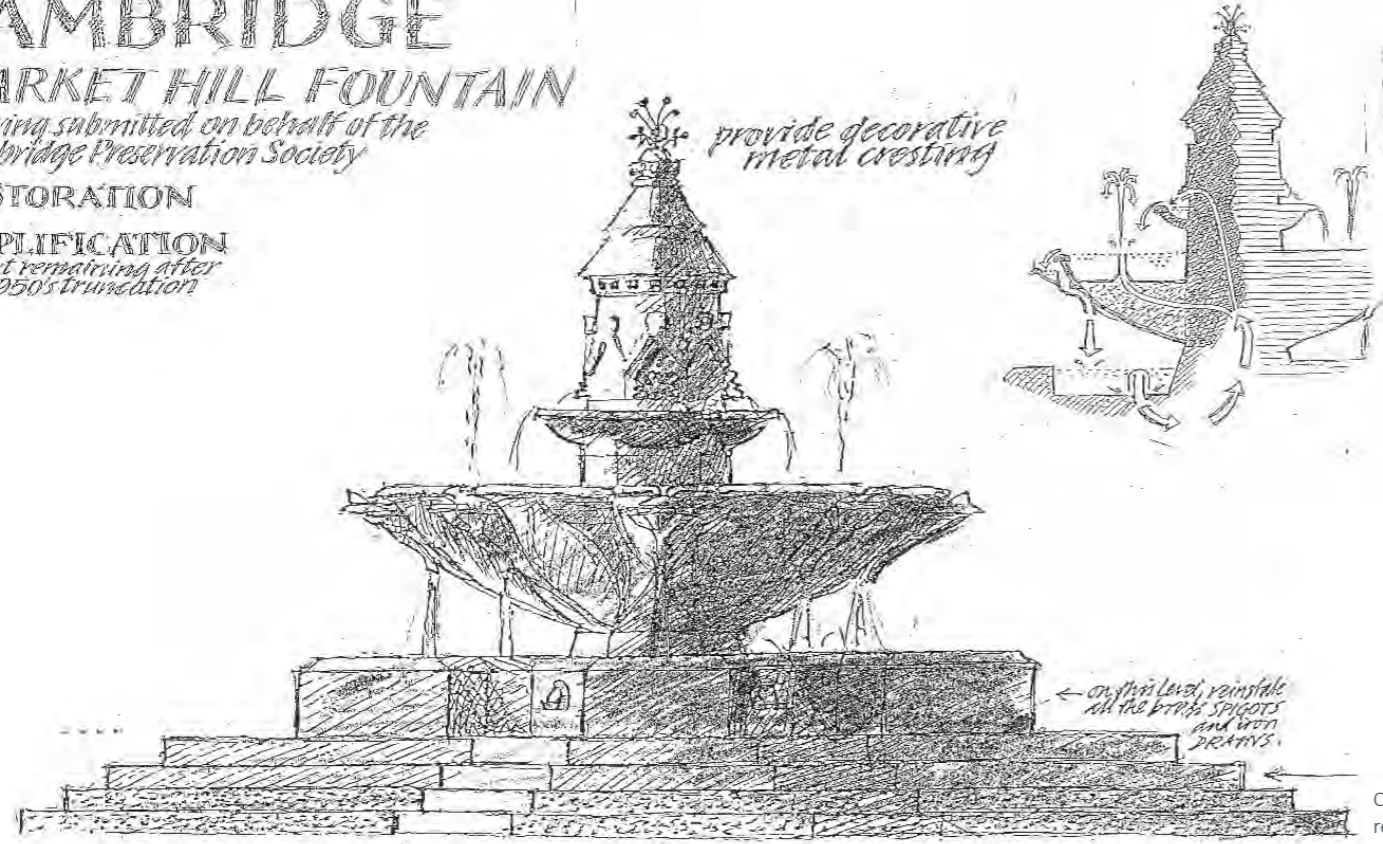
Hobson's Conduit

3.2 The Fountains: Grade II Listed Central Fountain Feasibility

CAMBRIDGE MARKET HILL FOUNTAIN

drawing submitted on behalf of the Cambridge Preservation Society

RESTORATION and AMPLIFICATION
of part remaining after the 1950's truncation



PROPOSED ELEVATION



From 1614 - 1856

1995 Rebuild Cost- £55,000.00- £90,000.00



From 1855 - 1953

1995 Rebuild Cost- £175,000.00



From 1953 - present

1995 Rebuild Cost- £85,000.00 - £110,000.00

THE MARKET SQUARE, CAMBRIDGE - CONDUIT BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE VARIOUS OPTIONS CONTAINED IN THE FEASIBILITY STUDY

	£
1. Hobsons conduit returned to the Market Square including new base.	65,000
2. Hobsons conduit replica (without crestings).	90,000
3. Hobsons conduit - simplified design.	55,000
4. Gothic fountain rebuilt on existing base.	175,000
5. Gothic fountain - simplified design.	110,000
6. Cambridge Preservation Societies design.	85,000
Rattee and Kett further options -	
7. Cambridge composition by Matthew Simmonds.	75,000
8. Lead cupola Trinity type fountain.	65,000
9. Obelisk or column.	65,000
10. Standard cast iron products.	70,000
11. Standard cast stone mouldings.	45,000

The budgets exclude VAT and have been formulated on current day costs excluding any professional or statutory fees or contingencies.

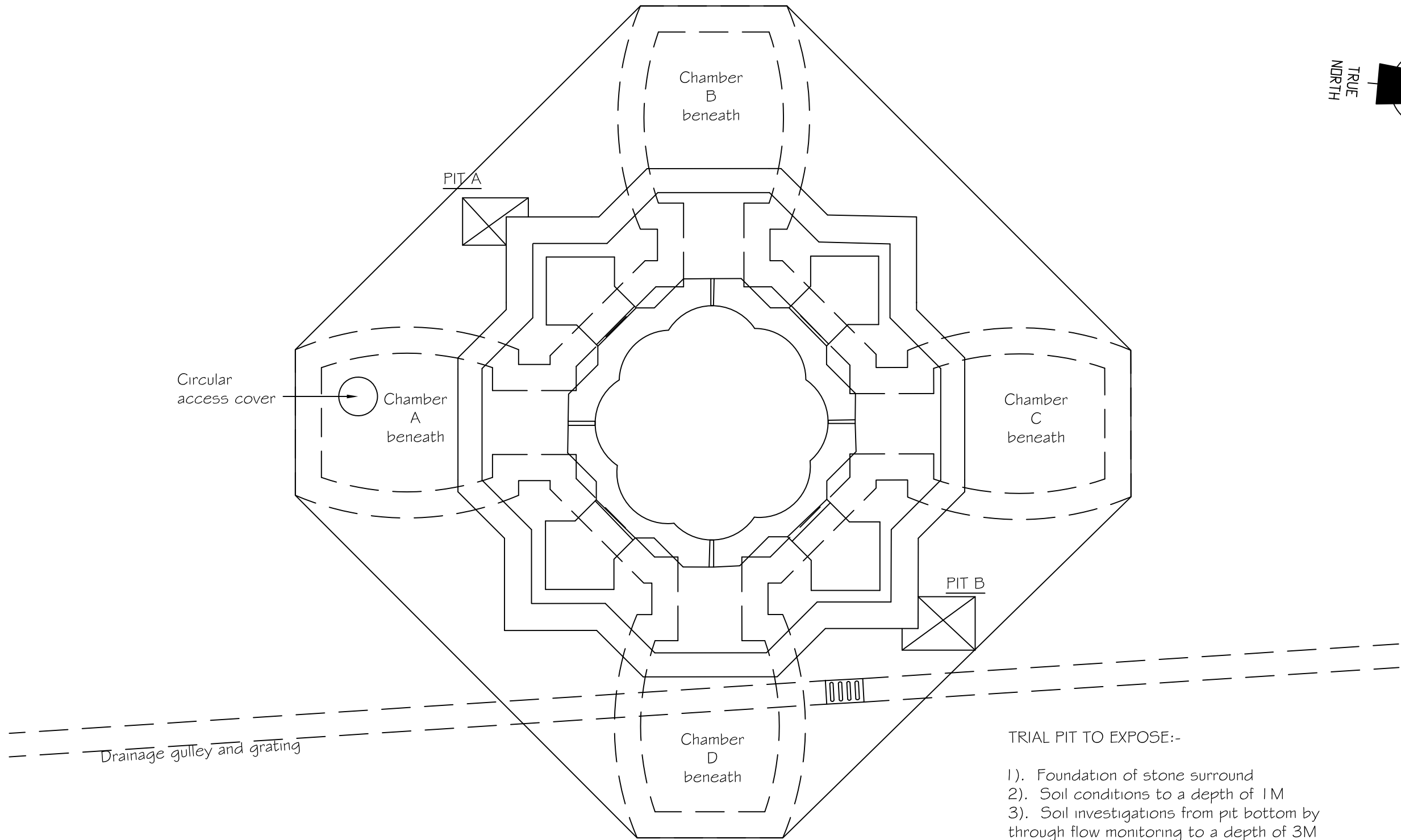
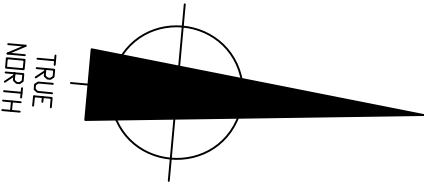
Budget costs for the restoration of the central fountain in 1995. Figures shown are taken from report 'The Market Square, Cambridge Fountain and Conduit Feasibility Study' by Rattee And Kett 1995

Market traders toilet facilities (position diagrammatic only)

NOTES

1) Contractor to verify all dimensions/levels on site prior to construction.

2) Do not scale this drawing



TRIAL PIT TO EXPOSE:-

- 1). Foundation of stone surround
- 2). Soil conditions to a depth of 1M
- 3). Soil investigations from pit bottom by through flow monitoring to a depth of 3M

A	Requirements revised	AC	-	15/08/01
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Rev.	Description	By	Chkd	Date
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Wright Consulting Engineers
 Granary Barn, Little Maplestead
 Halstead, Essex CO9 2SN
 Tel: (01787) 479685
 Fax: (01787) 479686

Client
 Cambridge City Council, Environment and Planning

Project
 Cambridge Market Square Fountain

Drawing Title
 Trial Pit Location and Requirements

Drawn	AC	Checked	-	Approved	-
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Scale	1:50	Drawing No	1274/1	Rev.	A
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Date	13/08/01
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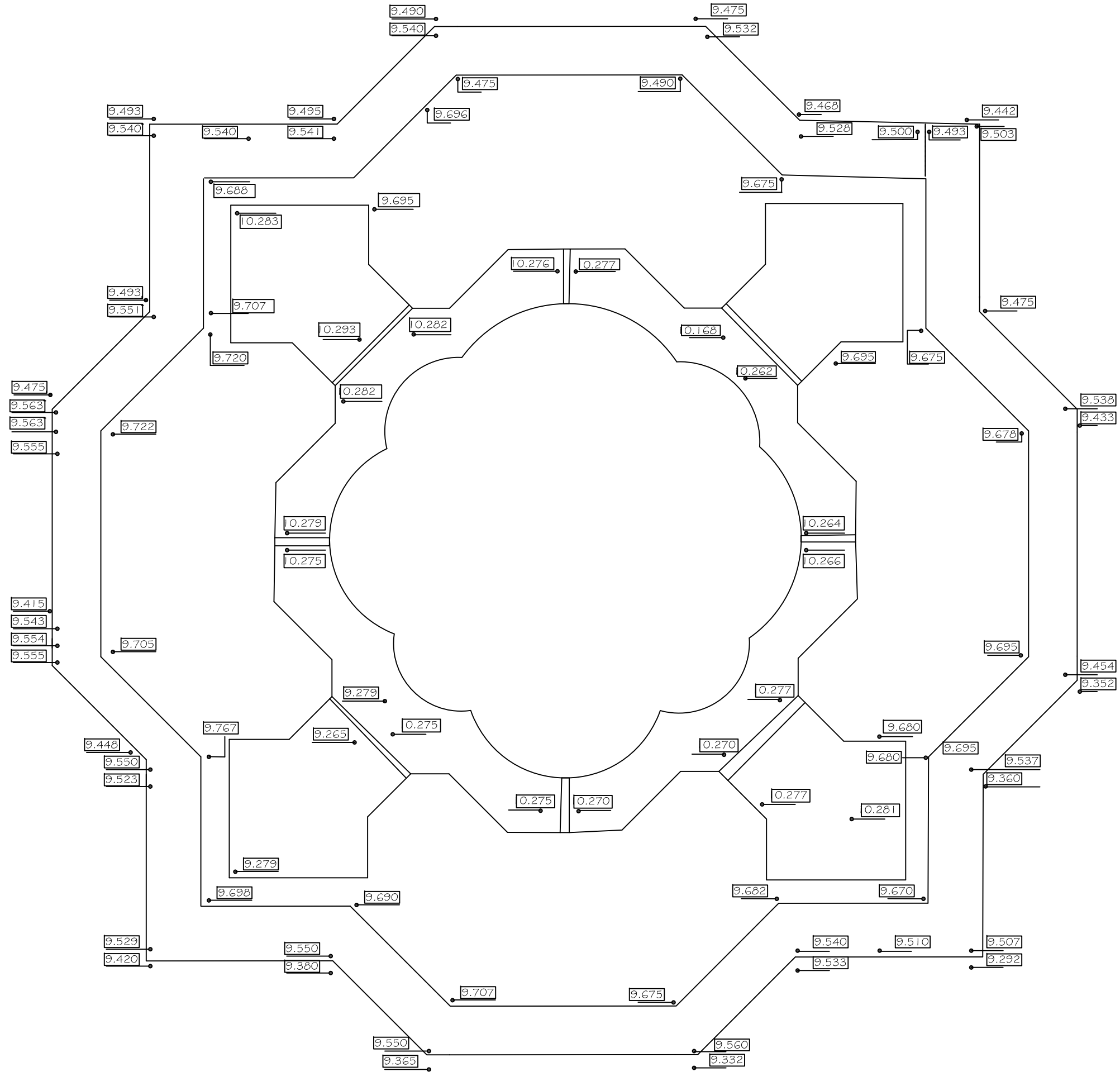







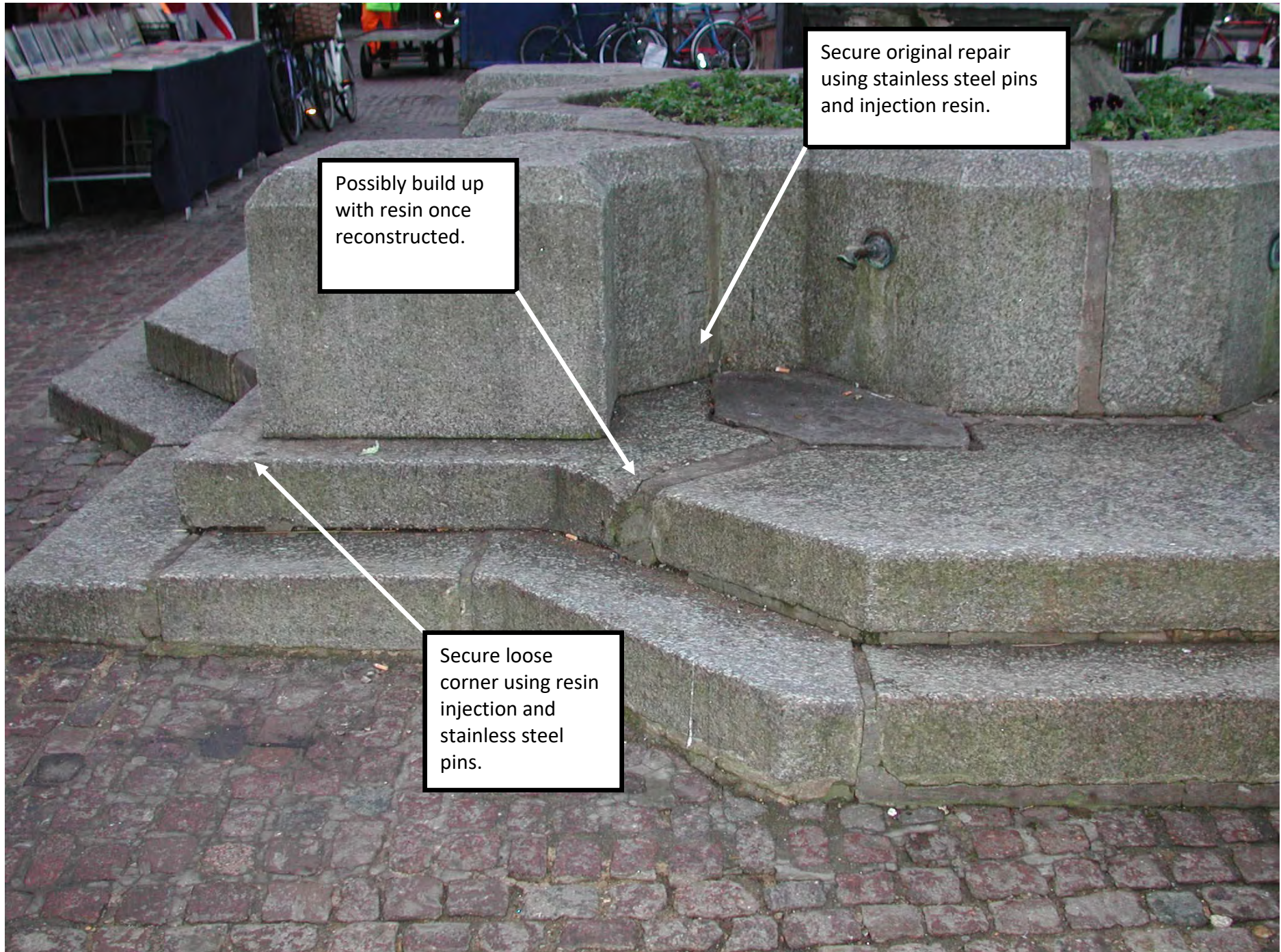
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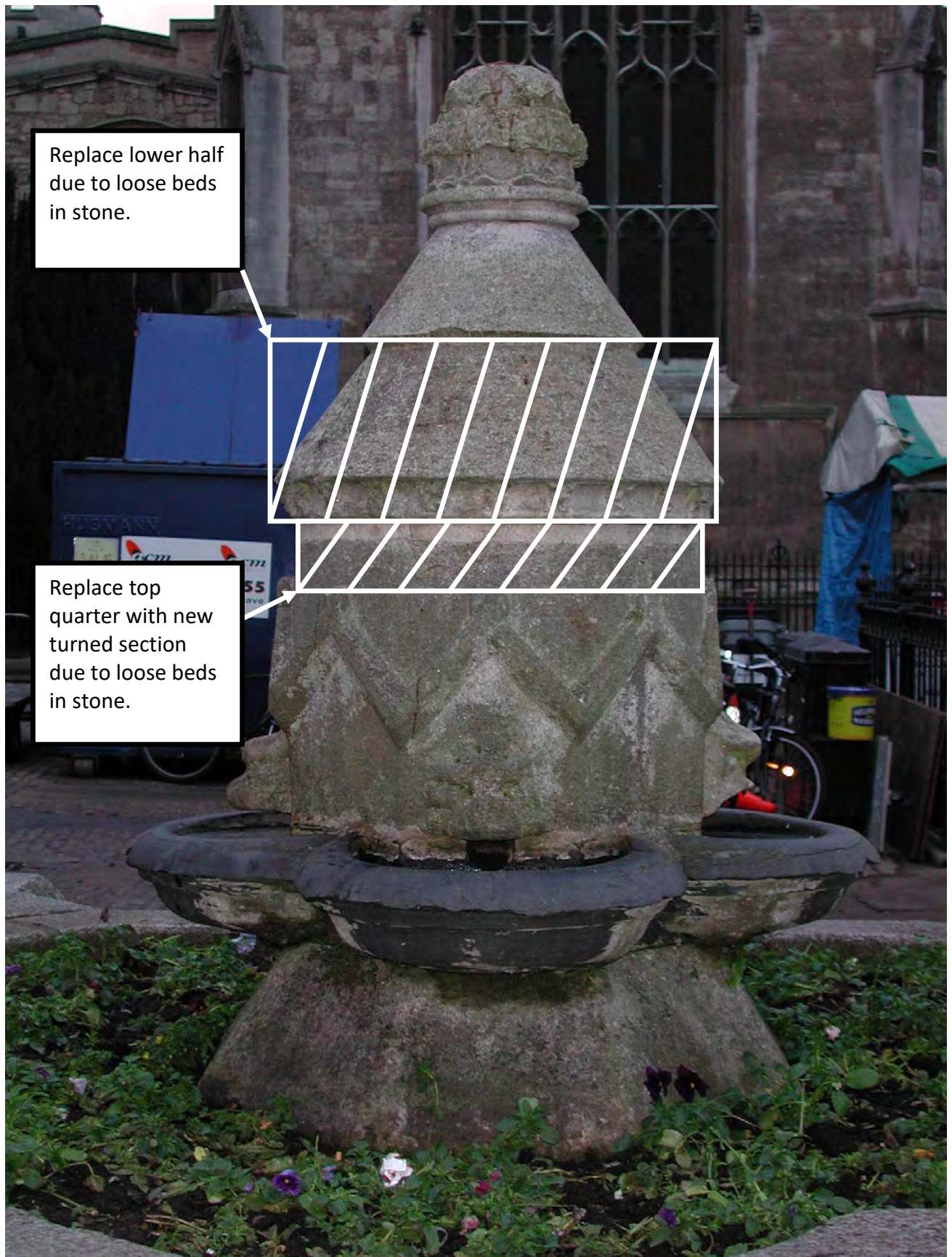


Chamber D

Rev.	Description	By	Chkd	Date
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 Wright Consulting Engineers Granary Barn, Little Maplestead Halstead, Essex CO9 2SN Tel: (01787) 479685 Fax: (01787) 479686				
Client CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL				
Project MARKET SQUARE FOUNTAIN				
Drawing Title STONWORK LEVELS				
Drawn	LP	Checked	Approved	
Scale	NTS	Drawing No	Rev.	
Date	26/11/01	1274/05	-	



East Elevation of Top and Bowls









Fountain Repair Considerations (not exhaustive):

- 1. Historical development – understand, maintain and repair**
- 2. Fountain Repair – Progressive foundation movement, creation of under-surface voids, iron cramp corrosion, vandalism**
- 3. Fountain Use – Load carrying capacity of underground vaults, water supply and drainage, protection etc**
- 4. Statutory Services – Access, maintenance, repair and alteration**
- 5. Archaeology – unlikely but possible ref. trench 2001**
- 6. Surface Water Drainage – additional capacity if water reinstated**
- 7. Respecting the past and repairing for the future – servicing, security, structural & service capacity and environmental health**