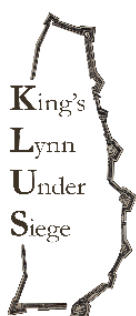




The newsletter of the King's Lynn Under Siege English Civil War Archaeological Project

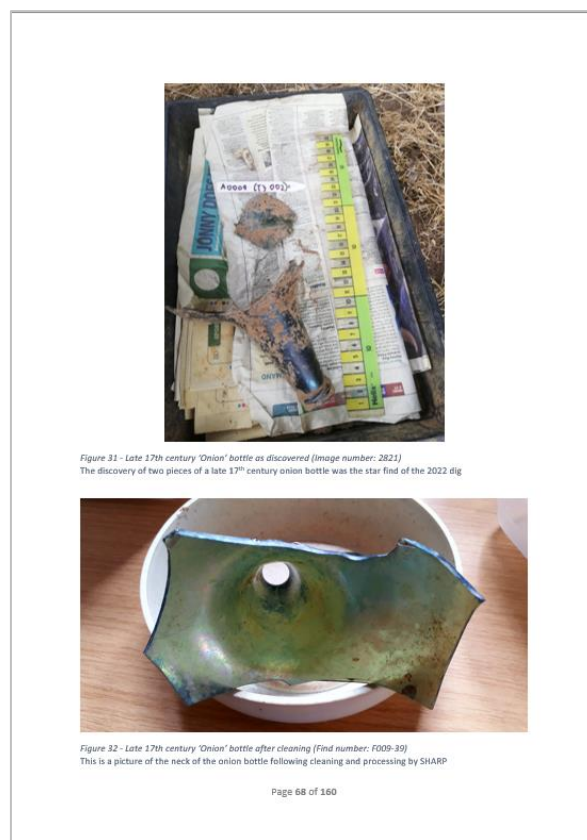
Summer 2025
Issue 9



Welcome to the ninth issue of Siegeworks. For the past couple of years, *Siegeworks* has been published annually, but with the publication of the report covering our recent investigations, an issue for summer 2025 issue is being published to accompany the report.

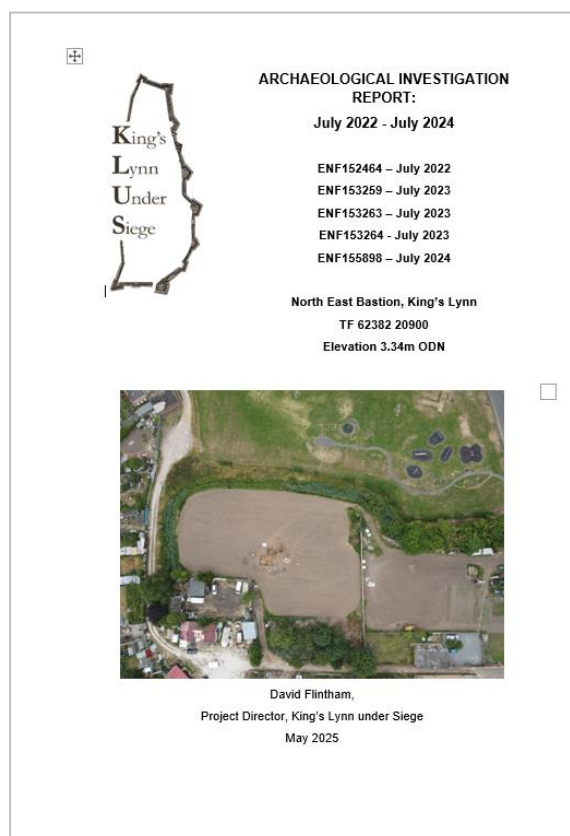
Siegeworks is the newsletter of the King's Lynn Under Siege English Civil War Archaeological Project. To contact the project, e-mail kingslynnundersiege@outlook.com or see the project's website at <https://www.vauban.co.uk/kings-lynn-under-siege>

labours down in writing, to set out what we have found, we have interpreted these findings, and to publish our conclusions. The result is the investigation report for 2022-24.



It was the original intention to write three separate reports, one each for 2022, 2023, 2024, but given what the final report has entailed, it was an incredibly wise decision to combine all three years into a single document.

The report covers the July 2022 dig, the July 2023 ground survey, and the July 2024 dig. It does not include the September 2021 Great British Dig investigation (this is covered by a separate report which, as far as I know, is still to be published), nor the geophysical survey undertaken in March 2022



KLUS investigation report

After three summers on site of the North East Bastion, it has been time to put the fruits of our

(the report for this has been published separately under ENF151503. This can be accessed via <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/40382/Historic-Environment-Record>).

The format of the report is straightforward. It begins with the historical and geographical context of the site before summarising previous archaeological activity (September 2021 and March 2022). It then looks at each 'season' in turn, setting the background, objectives, methodology, and finally the findings for each season.

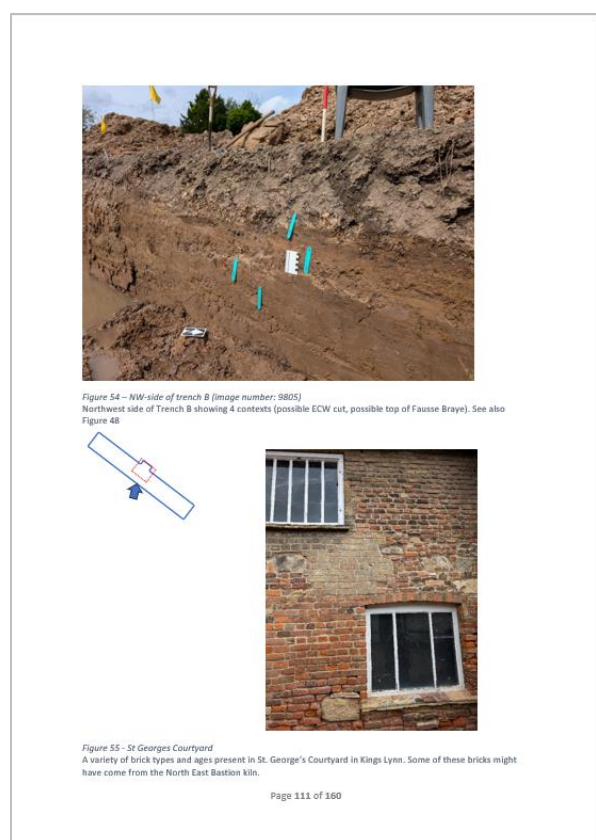


Figure 54 – NW-side of trench B (image number: 9805)
Northwest side of Trench B showing 4 contents (possible ECW cut, possible top of Fausse Braye). See also Figure 48

Figure 55 – St Georges Courtyard
A variety of brick types and ages present in St. George's Courtyard in Kings Lynn. Some of these bricks might have come from the North East Bastion kiln.

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The report is supported by 27 appendices which include various registers from each year (these have been transferred into a number of spreadsheets from the paper forms used on site), as well as the dig diaries for 2022 and 2024.

One of the final appendices provides a chronological history of the site, based on the investigations, from 1643 to the present day, whilst another takes the findings and interprets them to demonstrate just how English Civil War-period ramparts might have been built.

The report itself is 159 pages long and includes 88 illustrations, figures, and tables. As well as being an

important contribution to both the study of fortress engineering during the ECW-period, and the history of King's Lynn itself, the report is a tribute to the efforts and enthusiasm of a small team of volunteers who worked on the site over three summers in all weathers.

The report can be downloaded [here](#).

The conclusions

The conclusion occupy eight pages of the report. Included here is the findings about size of the bastion and how it related to the neighbouring positions in a way that the various bastions were able to mutually support one another. Then there is the design of the bastion itself, and importantly how it was constructed.

The site is not all about the Civil War, however, and the location went on to be the site of a brick kiln at the end of the 18th century, providing important building material for an expanding King's Lynn.

Finally, the results of the investigations have enabled a chronology to be developed, and mapped, tracing the history of the site from the English Civil Wars to the present day.

The 2025 Season or not...

Any thoughts for a 2025 season have had to be dismissed because of my house move: in March I finally left London for the Fens and whilst it went smoothly enough, it did occupy time that I would otherwise be using to plan our next investigation. Dependent on a number of factors (not least willing volunteers to assist with any future planning), KLUS will return to the field in 2026. In the meantime, you will just have to make do with the report!

KLUS apparel now available

A range of clothing displaying the KLUS log is now available. Click [here](#) for details.

