

Updated Design and Heritage Statement for 2021/1343 (Plunge Pool)

During the dismantling of the stone work necessary to begin the repairs to the plunge pool, two additional water courses were discovered. The original plans were to create a hidden culvert for one water course to drain away underneath a new wall and into the lower pool. The discovery of the water courses and in consultation with the conservation officer, structural engineer and archaeologist, a new plan was developed that would use three pipes to bring the water courses together into one pipe. This pipe would then drain the water off into lower pool as originally planned. As this pipe would now be visible. To preserve the aesthetics of the asset, stone work and shingle will be placed over the pipe to camouflage it. This method also has the benefit of being able to make repairs to the pipe without having to remove the stonework banking should this necessary in the future.

An alternative option would be to allow the water to run into the top pool as it would have done originally. This option was discounted as there the base of the pool, which is not original and thought to be concrete, might not be watertight. It is not feasible to test this at this point in time. If the concrete base of the pool is cracked and leaks, this could possibly cause further damage and erosion of the stone bank. It is not known when the concrete base of the pool was installed.

A further option would be to build back the bank without addressing the watercourse issue which was not considered as would lead to continued damage to the structure over time.