Catchcold Tower, Southampton

Graffiti Survey summary

A team from Southampton Archaeology Society visited the tower on 16th April 2019. The team consisted of G & R James, S Hanna, M Garner, M Dowell, J Porter, J & B Webb.

This tower is located between Arundel Tower in the north-west corner of the old town's defensive wall and the later Victorian Forty Steps. It was added in the early 15th century to accommodate cannon and has three inverted 'keyhole' shape gun ports instead of arrow slits. It also boasts its own garderobe. Access is to the upper gun chamber only as the lower part is believed to be just a rubble core with stone facing.

During the Second World War Catchcold Tower was again used to defend the town with an anti-aircraft gun mounted on its roof.

Very little graffiti was found within the tower, all of it indistinct and none at all on the roof.

Fig 1: Catchcold Tower from west side

Fig 2: Inside the tower, looking west

Fig 3: Garderobe in north wall

*Fig 4: "**Question Mark**" on west wall of garderobe*

Fig 5: **I** *shape graffiti on south wall*

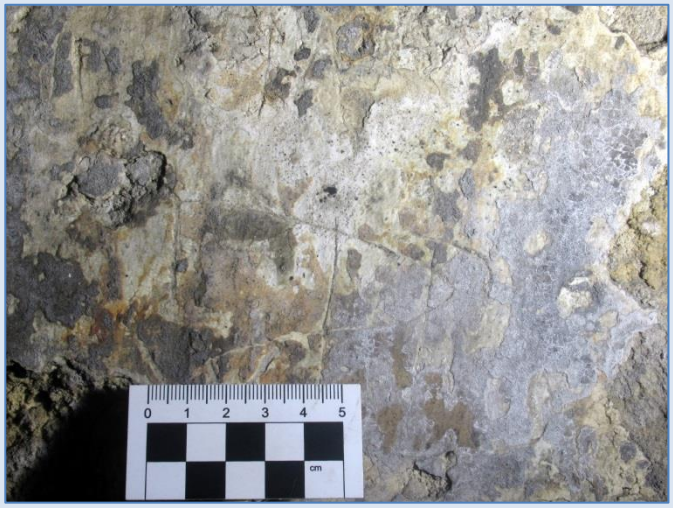

*Fig 6: "***Torpedo***" shape graffiti on north wall*

Fig 7:Double scratched **IV** *graffiti on north wall*

*Fig 8: "***Star of David***" and* **H** *on east wall door jamb*

Fig 9:East side of tower, entrance and stairs to roof

Fig 10: Indistinct **MY** *adjacent to north entrance door jamb*

Joan & Brian Webb - 20th April 2019