

# Project in Focus

## The Castle Mall Excavations

**The most remarkable group of finds from the Castle Mall site was recovered from a well at the foot of the bridge to the mound. The well probably dated from the 12th century and was about thirty metres deep.**

It was backfilled with rubbish about 300 years later. When excavated, it was found to contain 4,818 items (of which 1,638 were nails!).

The objects from the well help us to work out what was going on in the Castle.

Much of the rubbish in the well seems to have come from the Castle armoury. Other items show excellent craftsmanship and indicate trade with other areas of England and mainland Europe.

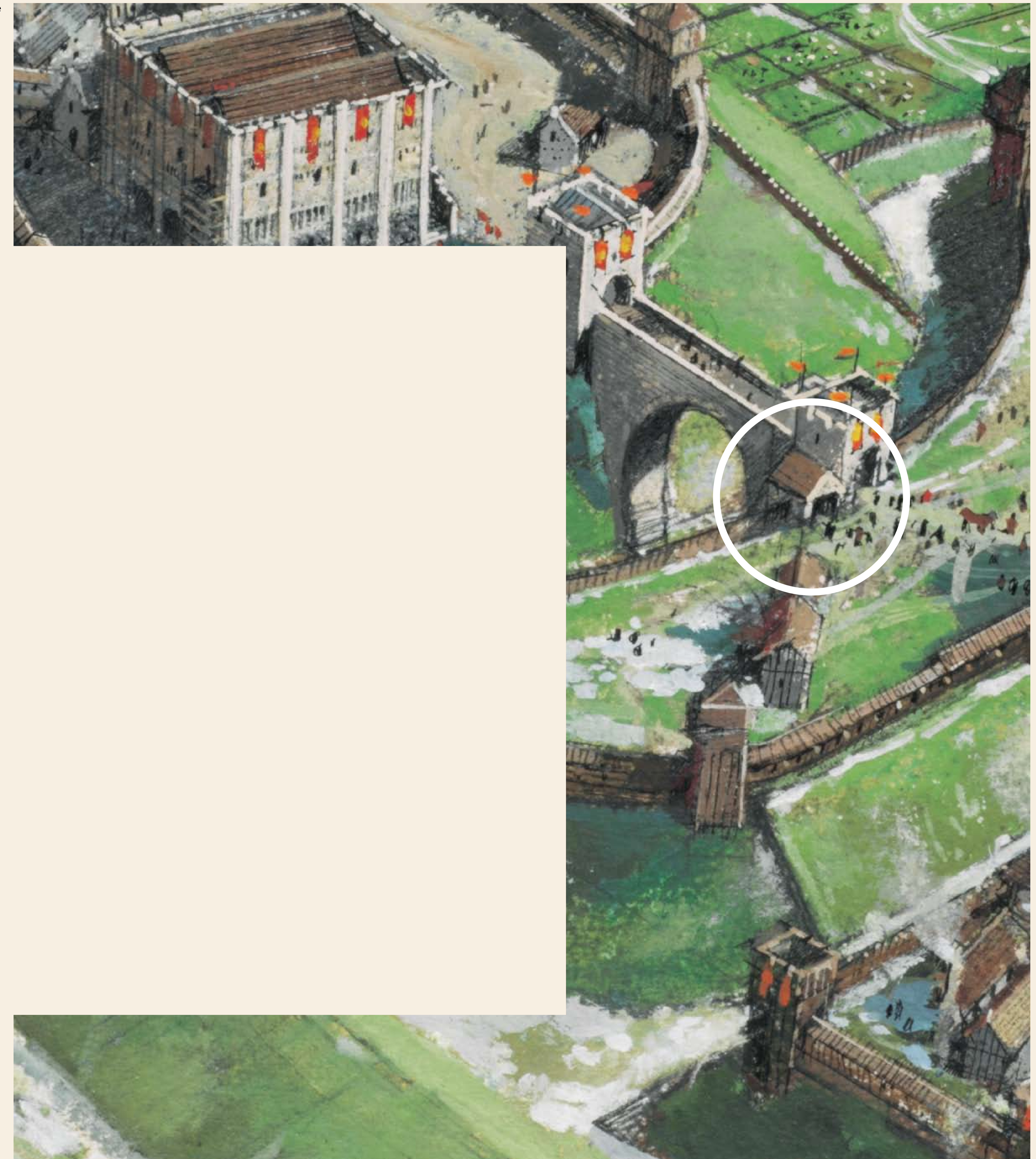
While the high-quality medieval items found here were probably associated with life in the Castle, later objects from the 16th and 17th centuries were used by people throughout Norwich.

Les fouilles archéologiques sur le site des murs d'enceinte du château (où se trouve aujourd'hui le centre commercial « Castle Mall ».) ont révélé un puits du XIIIe siècle. Les 4 818 objets du puits comprenaient des éléments de l'armurerie du château et des témoignages de commerce avec l'Europe continentale.

This picture shows the great depth of the defensive ditches of Norwich Castle. The base of the ditch is about 2 metres below the bottom person.



The site of the well at the foot of the bridge is marked on this artist's reconstruction.



Archaeologists recording the rubbish infill of the south bailey ditch.



Excavating the 12th century well.