



# Chester Cathedral

## **BULLETIN**

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### **Archaeology at the Cathedral**

Archaeologists have begun the exciting and painstaking task of investigating the area around Werburgh Street as part of the consultation process of the Chester Cathedral Phase One project being undertaken by the partnership of Cheshire West and Chester Council, Chester Renaissance and Chester Cathedral. Conceptual plans for the project were launched a few weeks ago and consultations have taken place with a wide range of interested groups, but of course it is important to know what lies beneath the surface before any detailed design work can take place.

The work is being carried out by Oxford Archaeology North, which is the one of the largest independent archaeology and heritage practices in Europe with nearly 400 specialist staff and permanent offices in Oxford , Lancaster , Cambridge and Montpellier, France . They have worked for an astonishing range of clients including the Royal Household, CADW and the National Trust.

The project will assess and evaluate the area adjoining Werburgh Street and the results will then inform the planning and design process. The archaeology outside the Cathedral is not wholly understood and has never been fully excavated so hopefully any finds will shed light on the early development of the site as well as any changes over the centuries. Project Officer and archaeologist from Oxford North, Caroline Raynor said: 'We're very excited to be involved in exploring the area around the Cathedral and hopefully we can contribute new information to the story of this significant part of the city.'

