

**Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group (WGCG)**  
**Local Geological Site - LGS 100 Astley Castle Moat Update Summer 2017**

**Brief Description:**

- The site is a 30metre long exposure of sandstone of the Carboniferous Whitacre Member of the Salop Formation on the north side of a moat which surrounds Astley Castle.
- Astley Castle, which is strictly speaking a fortified manor more than a castle, has been in continuous occupation since the Saxon period.
- At Grade II\*, the castle is counted of national significance.
- Its site includes the moated castle, gateway and curtain walls, lake, church and the ghost of pleasure gardens in a picturesque landscape.

**Monitoring Report:**

- Accessed is by public rights of way.
- There is off road parking at Astley near the crossroads of B4102 and the minor road running north.
- To reach the site from here take the access road on the right immediately beyond the parking place by a derelict barn. There is access to the pasture leading to the moat from Dark Lane or directly on the track leading to the castle
- There are no physical obstacles which make access difficult or unsafe.
- The only safety features identifies were the possibility of livestock in the pasture and the electric fence at the Dark Lane access point although this is insulated.
- The feature of interest is still visible but although the moat is not filled access to the feature is not possible because of intermittent flooding and seasonal vegetation growth.
- It is still worth visiting as it contrasts so strongly with the sedimentary features seen in Dark Lane an for its links with the stone used in the 'Castle' and Church.

**Note:**

All photographs in this update were taken from the original survey on 13 Sept 2012.



Link to Original LoGS (RIGS) document:  
<http://lgs.wgcg.co.uk/LoGS100.pdf>

**IMPORTANT**

- Visitors to LGS sites do so at their own risk and WGCG cannot accept responsibility for any injury, loss or damage which may occur.

