



KDK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Archaeological Observation and Recording Report

St Nicholas Church
Rectory Lane
Stevenage
Hertfordshire

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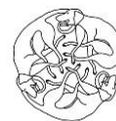
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Summary

Between January and November 2019 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording of St Nicholas, Rectory Lane, Stevenage, Hertfordshire as part of the reconfiguration of the church interior. The church is Grade I listed and dates from c.1125. Extensive alterations were undertaken in the 1840s and again in the early 20th century, which along with the medieval enlargement of the aisles and chancel, resulted in the relocation of a number of burials and ledger slabs. In total 22 individual burials were observed during the ground reduction, and 10 groups of disarticulated remains were revealed, predominantly in the south transept, which was added in 1841 and the north and south aisles. At least two of the burials are of former rectors, one of which was revealed beneath the oldest ledger slab in the church dating from the very early 14th century and thought to be Gerald de Stanton (d.1314). One individual, whose skull was discovered behind the altar, had suffered severe head wounds, whilst another had a remarkable set of well-kept teeth.

Five burial chambers were partially exposed, two of which were not directly beneath ledger slabs as they had been moved during one of the earlier building programmes. A row of vaults beneath the line of ledger slabs in the north aisle had previously remained undisturbed, and a stair access was revealed at the western end during the current building programme. This was cleared and became the repository for the remains that had to be relocated.

The duct and brick base for an earlier heating system were revealed at the east end of the south aisle and 3 other features showing heat affected fills that are thought to be either braziers or associated with the building of the vaults were found at the west end of the building.

External works were limited to a single test pit against the east wall of the south transept, which revealed only the foundations of the wall and the associated ground disturbance.

1 Introduction

1.1 Between January and November 2019 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording of St Nicholas, Rectory Lane, Stevenage, Hertfordshire. The project was commissioned by the Rector and churchwardens of St Nicholas Church, and was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by KDK (Bradford 2019), and approved by the Archaeological Advisor to the Diocese of St Albans.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This project has been required under the terms of the Faculty 0686 granted by the Diocese of St Albans to undertake the reconfiguration of the interior of the building, including the installation of underfloor heating and the relocation of the screens.

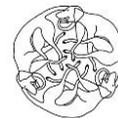
1.3 *The Site*

Location

St Nicholas church is in the town and civil parish of Stevenage, and the administrative district of Stevenage Borough Council. It is centred on the National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 24074 26207 (Fig. 1).

Description

St Nicholas is a Grade I listed building, forming part of a group with 'Moonhill' and 'Dominic Cottage' which are located to the south and are both Grade II listed (Fig. 2). It is described as in its listing as (NHLE 1176923):



C12; circa 1125, West tower nave. Aisles added C13, circa 1230, Aisles widened and C12 chancel rebuilt circa 1330. C15 nave clerestory, nave and chancel roofs aisle arcades rebuilt on existing columns, towers and angle buttresses, spire (lead renewed 1899). North east vestry South transept and south porch 1841. south aisle enlarged 1912-14. Early C13 font, late C14 or early C15 choir stalls with misericords, restored C15 rood screen, finely carved with foliated pinnacles, cusped ogee arches, piscina and sedilia. Late C13 stone effigy of lady and 2 attendants. Carved marble wall monument to Charles Gibbon, 1771. Well-designed black and white marble Turner wall monument, 1844.

Development

The proposed alterations include the addition of a first floor above the current parish meeting room, the removal and replacement of the floor in the nave, the relocation of three screens and the addition of another screen and a set of folding glazed doors (Fig. 3). The relocation of two of the screens was, however, revised as a result of which a third screen was no longer necessary.



Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

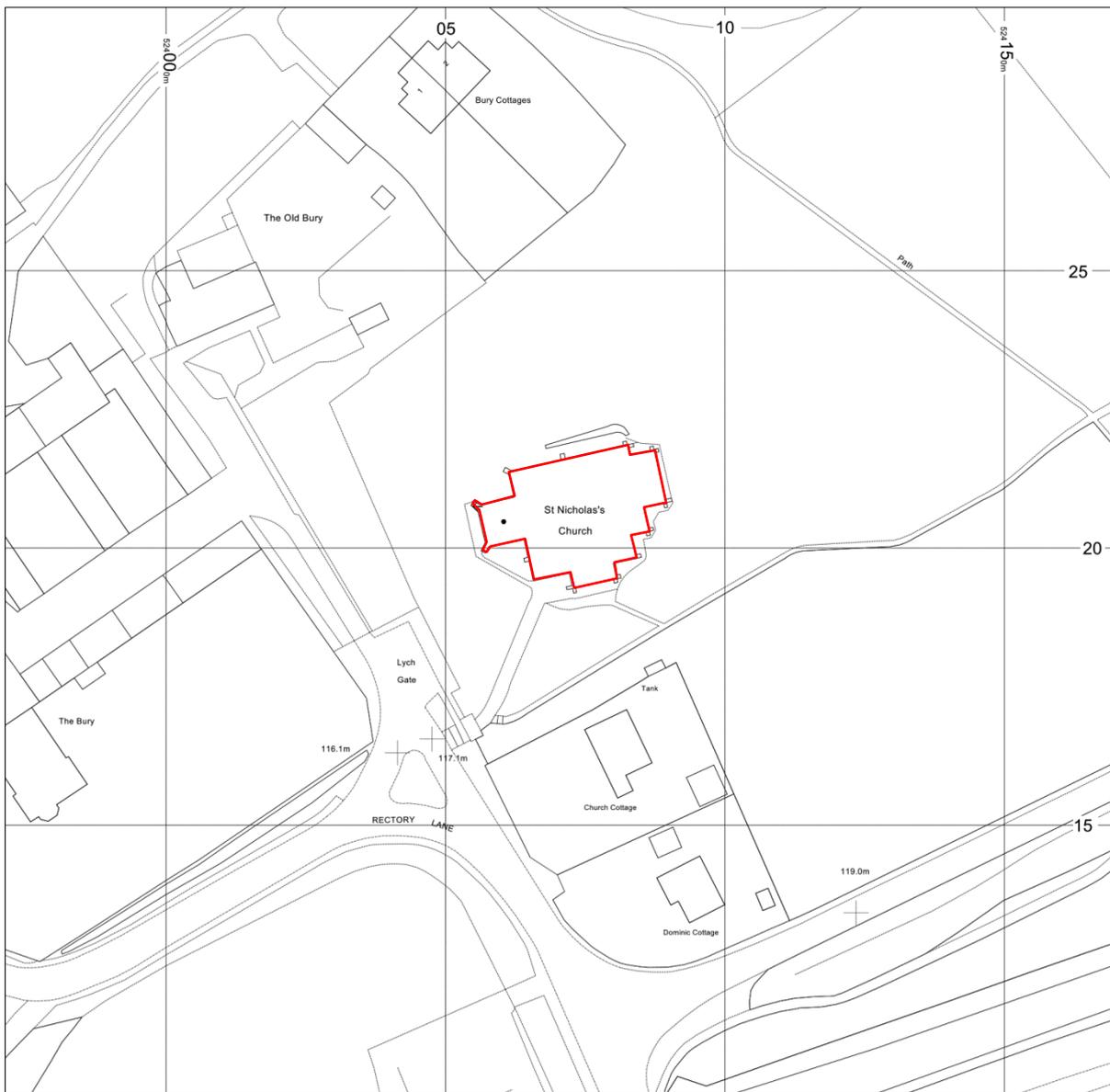


Figure 2: Site location (scale 1:1250)



2 Aims & Methods

2.1 Aims

The aims of this project were:

- To establish the date, nature and extent of activity within the building

2.2 Methods

The methods used were as follows:

- The ledger slabs were recorded prior to the removal of the floor.
- All groundworks that were likely to have an impact on archaeological deposits were done under archaeological supervision.
- The dismantling of the chancel screen was monitored.

It should be noted that the heating system was rerouted to avoid the burial vaults, which as a result were left entirely intact. However, it was only possible to leave three burials in situ (SK1, SK16 & SK17) because of the depth of the ground reduction needed to accommodate the new heating system. All the remains that had to be removed were re-interred within the church.

The depth at which human remains were encountered varied from 0.20m to 0.74 below ground level (BGL). Examples of both extremes were found within c.4m of each other beneath ledger slabs LS9 and LS10 in the nave and chancel where there was only a 4cm difference in the floor level. Given that the floor in the chancel had been reduced by approximately 1m in the early 20th century, SK16 & 17 would have been buried at some considerable depth, but SK1, whose burial would have been within the nave was always shallow.

The greatest difference in burial depth was in the 19th century south transept where they ranged from 0.30 – 0.60m below ground level. The density of burials here and the varied depth is typical of burials within a churchyard, which is where these individuals would have originally been interred.

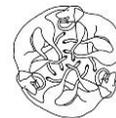
Most of the burials were revealed at a depth of 0.40-0.50m BGL. Amongst these were two children, both revealed at a depth of 0.40m BGL, one within the chancel and the other in the Lady Chapel.

Various groups of disarticulated remains were discovered at various depths within the church, the shallowest being at c.0.20m BGL.

2.3 Standards

The work conformed to the following requirements:

- The relevant sections of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance Notes* (CIfA 2014)
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014)
- Current English Heritage guidelines (HE 2015, EH 2008)
- The Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003)



3 Archaeological & Historical Background

- 3.1 The following section has been compiled using information from the Victoria County History, The Royal Commission for the Historic Monuments of England and a Heritage Statement prepared in 2018 by Artemis Heritage.
- 3.2 The earliest part of the existing church is the Romanesque tower, which has fabric dating to the first half of the 12th century.

In the early 13th century the nave was rebuilt and north and south aisles added. The current font also dates from the 13th century. The aisles were widened c.1330 probably at the same time that the present chancel with its north and south chapels was rebuilt (RCHME). The chapel to the south of the chancel is thought to pre-date that to the north (O'Callaghan & Coulter 2018: 8).

Throughout the 14th century the church underwent a substantial rebuilding program including widening the aisles to their present size, the installation of the current tower staircase and the construction of the chancel and western parclose screens (*ibid*).

In the 15th century the church was re-roofed and partially refenestrated in the Perpendicular style. The west screen into the south chapel; the two eastern parclose screens, and the remains of the medieval font cover have been dated to c1440 (*ibid*).

Large scale restoration works including the construction of the south transept and a new, screened minister's vestry in the north-east corner of the church, the replacement of the pews and the lowering of the chancel floor took place in the 19th century under the Reverend George Blomfield. The work was carried out between 1841-1844 at the total cost of £1,079.4s.6d with £300+ for pews, flooring and roof, £200+ for transept and windows, £160+ for internal and external rendering, and £150+ for the glazing. The original organ was also replaced and the arrangement of the choir were changed. Between 1874 and 1906 the medieval screens and stalls were moved around internally several times (*ibid*).

Much of the church's current appearance is due to changes made by Sir Charles Nicholson in the first half of the 20th century. He prioritised the repair of the roof and the restoration of the pews, floors and other items that had been water damaged, as well as the installation of a heating system. He returned the screens and stalls to their possible original positions and relocated the organ. Due to the outbreak of the war Nicholson's restoration was realised over an extended period of time, spreading into the interwar years. Albert Richardson undertook minor improvements during the 1930s, including the installation of a new pulpit and communion rail. In 1977 Nicholson's transept was converted into a parish room and later the organ was relocated back into the south chancel (*ibid*).



4 Results

Introduction

The archaeological works commenced with the inspection of a service trench to the east of the south porch. This was followed by the recording of the ledger slabs within the church before the development works commenced inside the building (Appendix 2). In total 26 site visits were undertaken between July and November 2019, including monitoring the dismantling of the chancel screen and the analysis of the last human remains discovered during the ground works.

External Groundworks

A test pit that measured 0.48 x 0.59m was excavated to the east of the south transept within an area of highly disturbed ground (Fig. 4; Plates 1-2). This was particularly evident in the north facing section, where the disturbed ground (29) overlay 0.08m of chalk (029). The east facing section consisted of two courses of brick above 0.18m of clay (Fig. 5). The brickwork was part of the foundation for the transept, and the small area that was revealed suggested that this was in English Bond. The wall above ground level was rendered.

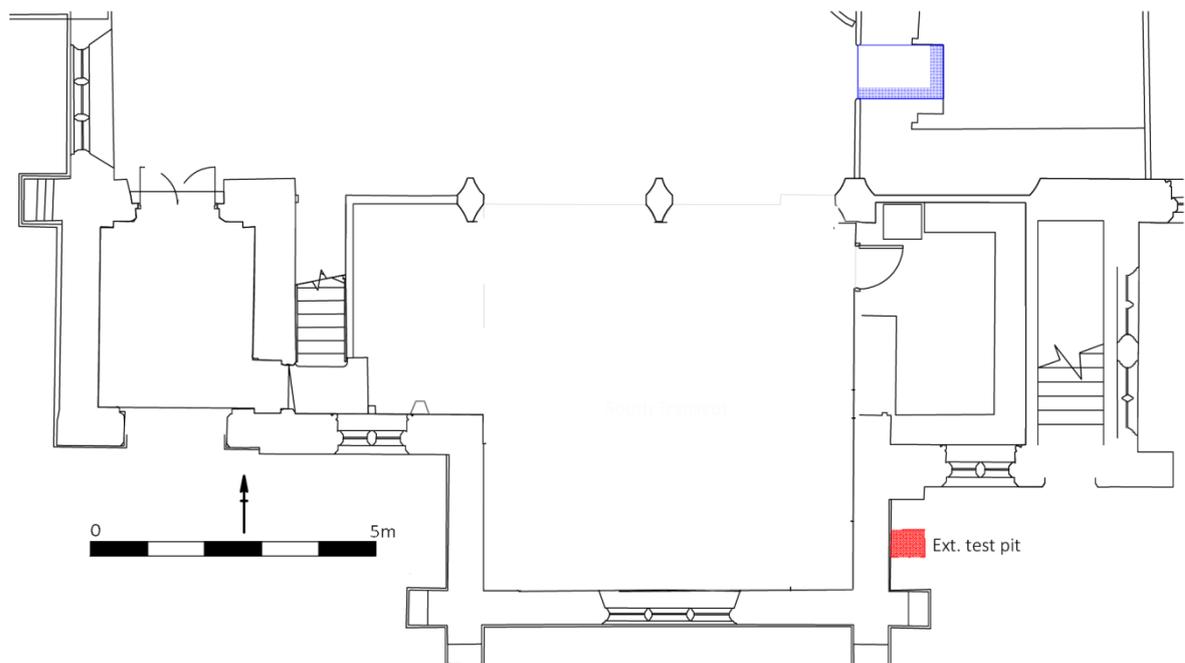


Figure 4: Location of the test pit (scale as shown)

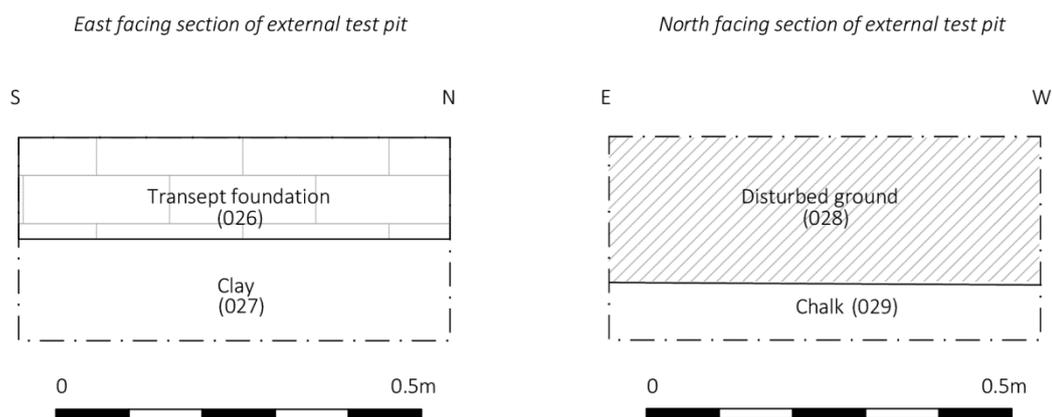


Figure 5: External test pit sections (scale 1:20)



Plate 1: External test pit (NB arrow is pointed south)



Plate 2: External test pit detail (NB arrow is pointed south)

Internal Groundworks

The ground reduction within the church was initially some 200mm, which revealed some of the early 20th century heating ducts. Some were lined with Fletton bricks and had a concrete floor and were 0.45m wide (Plate 48). That along the north wall, was a simple cut, some 0.35m wide. The service ducts were re-used and were widened and deepened as required. The service trench that ran north-south in front of the chancel screen was widened to 0.70m and excavated to a depth of 0.70m. The trench in the south aisle, which was originally 0.72m wide, was made 0.90m wide and 0.92m deep. That along the west wall was, in contrast only 0.59m deep. A second stage of ground reduction was undertaken to reach the levels required for the new heating system.

Two test pits were excavated in the corners of the south transept to assess the foundations, which were 0.40m deep, prior to the excavation of three east-west aligned trenches, c.0.50-0.60m wide and between 0.45 and 0.56m deep.

Most of the natural geology was chalk, but there were patches of firm orange/brown clay with flint and chalk inclusions, particularly on the northern side of the church.

The archaeological features revealed during these works are shown in Figure 6.



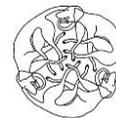
Description

Ledger Slabs

There were 16 ledger slabs within the church of which seven were in the north aisle, two in the nave, one in the chancel, two in the sanctuary, three in the south aisle and one partially beneath the organ at the eastern end of the south aisle (Fig. 6; Plates 104-119). The earliest (LS10) lay beneath the chancel screen and was therefore partially within the nave and partially within the chancel (Plate 113). Given that this slab is said to commemorate Gerald de Standon, who was the Rector of St. Nicholas from 1276 until 1314 (NADFAS 2009), the location was most appropriate. It became clear during the monitoring visits that a number of slabs had been moved during earlier works to the church. Gerald de Stanton's slab, for example, was replaced incorrectly and the head and shoulders were exposed during the ground reduction whilst the remainder of the burial lay beneath the ledger slab. The ledger slab commemorating George and Alice Crouch, Benjamin and Mary Kingman and the Kingman children (SL11) was relocated to the south of their burial vault to align with the nave and, presumably, not to encroach on the wooden flooring (Plate 114). In contrast, the slabs in the north aisle appear to have been left in place (Plates 83-84; 105-106). Ledger slab 14, dedicated to Mrs Anne Wilson (d. 1818) is partially located beneath the organ, but the inscription in the lower half of the slab reads *Under this stone is the Entrance to Vault* (Plate 118). As this part of the church was not impacted by the development, it is uncertain whether this is in its original location, or whether it could have been moved eastwards along the south aisle. This is of particular interest as a burial vault (BV05) was discovered immediately to the west of this slab and east of LS16. Which slab the vault was associated with remains enigmatic (see below). During this development in 2019/20 all except one of the ledger stones were left in place. Ledger Slab 15 was relocated to the eastern end of the north aisle on the stone dais which is paved with reused stone.

There are inevitably stylistic variations according to the personal taste and wealth of the purchaser and the fashions of the day. Of interest is the choice of stone. The medieval slabs are all of polished limestone from southern or Eastern England. Imported limestone became popular from the mid-17th century with black marble being used between 1664 and 1825. A yellow marble was used for a single slab dated 1660. All the other slabs, with the exception of one use of sandstone in the 19th century, are made of limestone.

The ledger survey details including the photographs are to be found in Appendix 2.



Burial Vaults

Six burial vaults were revealed during the course of the building works, three in the north aisle (BV02, BV03 & BV04), one at the west end of the nave (BV01) and two in the south aisle (BV05 & BV06) (Fig. 6; Plates 3-10). The three in the north aisle were beneath ledger slabs LS02, LS03 and LS04, and it would be highly unlikely that they did not contain the remains of the Whittingtons in BV02 and BV03, and Georgiana Turner in BV04.

The burial vaults were only apparent on the south side of the ledger slabs, and were only exposed to a depth of c.20cm. However, it was clear that they were all constructed differently. BV02, which was 2.19m long was barrel vaulted and the 14cm thick ledger slab resting on top of short brick pillars (Plate 4). It was accessed by a stair that was revealed to the west of the ledger slab which was 0.95m wide by at least 1.40m long. The bricks making up the walls of the access were well puddled and measured 22 x 10cm (8¾ x 4in). The fill within the stair access was very soft and friable with chalk fragments. The disarticulated remains found throughout the church were interred within this stair during the course of the project.

Only two courses of bricks, which were finely made and measured 27 x 7cm (6¾ x 2¾in), were exposed of BV03, which had straight sides and was therefore technically a burial chamber rather than a vault (Plate 6). The chamber was 2.14m long with what appeared to be a short length of reinforcement 0.75m from the west end where four bricks measuring 21.5 x 10 x 6cm (8½ x 4 x 2¾ in) were set at a 45° angle to the south wall. The interior of the chamber appears to have been painted white.

Burial Vault BV04 was 2.18m long and had a boat-shaped arrangement of bricks on the south side (Plate 7). The bricks were only two courses high and lay on a bed of bricks set at 90° to the vault. The bricks were frogged and measured 22 x 10 x 6.5cm (8½ x 4 x 2½in) and were set in lime mortar. There was a 10cm gap between the top of the brick wall and the ledger slab.

The burial vault at the western end of the nave (BV01) was fully exposed as the associated ledger slab had been relocated to the south of it during earlier works to the church (Plate 3). The vault was 2.10 m long, and was bordered by a north-south aligned wall at each end. The bricks used for each wall and the vault itself were all different; those used to make up the vault measured 21 x 6cm (8¼ x 2¾in) and had been repointed in cement mortar. The bricks in the east wall were c. 22 x 10 x 7cm (8½ x 4 x 2¾in) and those in the west wall 15 x 11 x 6cm (5¾ x 4¾ x 2¾in). Lime mortar had been used in both walls. The top of the vault had a small rectangular dip where the bricks had been reduced presumably to house a memorial plaque or similar. If the nearby ledger slab and the vault are associated, the remains within the vault are of George and Alice Crouch, Benjamin and Mary Kingman and the Kingman children.

Another burial vault (BV05) was fully exposed at the eastern end of the south aisle (Plates 8-9). Whether it was associated with Anne Whittington whose ledger slab (LS16) lay to the west of the vault or Anne Wilson whose slab is located to the east (LS14) is not certain. Whereas Ann Wilson's slab declares that there is a burial vault beneath, this may still be the case if the slab has not been relocated in previous works. Certainly, the access to BV05 was revealed to the west of the vault. It measured 1.07 x 1.69m and was open at the northern end, as if providing access to chambers to the east and west of it. Indeed, there did initially appear to be a burial chamber beneath LS12, but further investigation concluded otherwise. BV05 was 2.20m long, and the bricks, which were set in lime mortar, measured 22 x 6cm (8½ x 2¾in).

At the west end of the south aisle was a rectangular area demarcated by degraded timber that also appeared to suggest the presence of either a burial chamber or a stair access (Plate 10).



Whether this was actually the case could not be proven during the course of the investigations. A possible medieval floor tile, an iron nail and some bone was found within the timber lined flooring.



Plate 3: BV01 from the east



Plate 4: BV02 from the south



Plate 5: BV02 stair access from the west



Plate 6: BV03 from the south



Plate 7: BV04 from the south



Plate 8: BV05 and its stair access from the west



Plate 9: BV05 and its stair access from the east



Plate 10: BV06 from the west

Burials

Ten groups of disarticulated human remains and 22 identifiable, but incomplete, burials were exposed during the course of the works (Figs. 6, 8-9; Plates 11-29). The following section provides only a summary of what was found; the detailed skeletal analysis can be found in Appendix 3.

The burials, which included 5 children and a peri-natal mortality, were located throughout the church. Three were beneath ledger slabs in the nave (SK1, SK16 & SK17), 1 female adult was directly beneath the north aisle wall which was almost certainly built on top of her grave (SK11); a child's burial lay within the Lady Chapel (SK10); two other children and the peri-natal burials were revealed in the south aisle (SK13, SK14 & SK19); two adults (SK15 & SK18) and an older child (SK15a) were found behind the altar and a child's burial was located in front of it (SK12). In addition, the remains of 8 individuals were found in the south transept/meeting room, which was part of the churchyard until 1841.

The most interesting burial was SK1, which was found partially beneath Ledger Slab 10 in the nave (Plates 11-13). The remains were in a lead coffin with a head niche that had been interred in a grave lined with worked clunch blocks. These anthropomorphic coffins date from 9th and were intended to allow the deceased a direct line of sight of the risen Christ on Judgement Day (Danielle 2006:180-1). It has been suggested that the ledger slab is that of Gerald de Stanton, Rector of St Nicholas between 1276 and 1314 (NADFAS). If that is correct, then this style of burial either lasted longer than previously thought, or that those who buried Gerald still held to the dwindling importance of placing the head to face forward on Judgement Day.

Of equal interest was the skull (SK15) found beneath the reredos wall (Plate 25). Not only did this individual have a healed fracture to the skull, but also three holes that were either conflict injuries or evidence for trepanning. Along with the remains of SK15 was the left leg of an older child (SK15a). To the south of SK15 was a north-south aligned burial of an older male. The alignment of SK18 is unusual, as is the nature of the pathologies on SK15. Burial within the chancel was generally reserved for the priest or high status members of the community. Indeed, the ledger slabs found within the chancel commemorate Rectors Stephen Hellard (LS07) and Robert Chester (LS08). The likelihood is therefore that, unless SK15 had been in



holy orders and that SK18 was displaced during building works, the burials predate the building of the chancel in the 1330s.

In complete contrast to the burials behind the altar, SK12, whose grave was found to the west of the altar, was a young child between 2 and 4 years old (Plate 23). Another child (SK10) aged between 2 and 6 years was buried in the Lady Chapel (Plate 21). Both children were almost certainly of high status families.

Two burials, in aligned grave cuts were found beneath and to the south of Ledger Slab 9 (Plates 26-28). SK16 was mostly beneath LS9 and only part of the skull was exposed. The association between the burial and the slab are of interest here, too. The slab is of polished limestone and the brass indent is empty. Stylistically the slab is similar to LS07, which commemorates one of the 16th century rectors, and this appears to be the case here too. The burial itself is of an adult male, and it is not unreasonable to assume that he was a late medieval rector, too. The coffin stains around SK16 were still visible but the grave itself had been disturbed. It appeared that SK17 may have been buried in a lead coffin, but insufficient of the inhumation was exposed to prove this. Although the clear alignment with SK16 could suggest that this individual had also been a priest, the gender of this individual could not be determined and so any relationship with the priesthood remains enigmatic.

A small cluster of three burials was found to the north of Ledger Slab 16. All three were children; one (SK19) approximately 8 years old, another was less than 6 months old (SK13), and the third (SK14) was a 38-40 week prenatal (Plate 24). Their location within the south aisle could suggest that they had been buried beneath the eaves drip of the nave prior to the south aisle being constructed in the 13th century.

Layered burials were found within the southeast corner Meeting Room, where a group of disarticulated remains (DS8) had been placed over the remains of an adult and a child (SK2 & 3) (Fig. 8: Plates 14-15). The remains of 6 individuals (SK4 -9) were found in a footing trench to the north of these in an area that was probably outside the church at the time of burial (Figs. 8-9: Plates 16-20). The remains were of three adult females (SK2, SK5 & SK8), two adult males (SK3 & SK9), two adults of indeterminate gender (SK6 & 7) and a child between 7 and 11 years old SK4).

A group of disarticulated remains (DA4) was exposed to the east of the row of ledger slabs in the north aisle, including the upper and lower jaws of an individual with perfectly aligned teeth but with one missing molar (SK20) (Plate 29). It is unclear whether this was a male or female, but the proximity of the burial to the slab commemorating Sarah Bowcock (d. 1660) could be significant. Because of dietary changes and the increasing use of forks in the post-medieval period, the size and shape of the jaw changed, becoming smaller and less pronounced. As the remains found here had medieval traits and Sarah Bowcock died in 1660, it could be that this is actually an earlier burial.

Two of the largest groups of disarticulated remains (DA2 & 3) were located to the southwest of the ledger slabs in the north aisle (Figs. 6 & 10: Plates 30-31). They were probably the remains of individuals whose burial had been disturbed during the construction of the burial vaults within that area.

There were also three closely spaced groups of disarticulated remains in the south aisle (DA5-7) and within the South Transept (DA8-10; Plates 32-34). Again the result of disturbance of the original graves, but whether this could be attested to the construction of the burial vaults or the south transept is unclear.



Plate 11: SK1 & LS10 from the north



Plate 12: SK1 & LS10 from the west



Plate 13: SK1 detail



Plate 14: SK2&3



Plate 15: SK3



Plate 16: SK4



Plate 17: SK5



Plate 18: SK6



Plate 19: SK7



Plate 20: SK8



Plate 21: SK10



Plate 22: SK11



Plate 23: SK12



Plate 24: SK13 & SK14



Plate 25: SK15



Plate 26: SK16 & SK17, general shot



Plate 27: SK16



Plate 28: SK17



Plate 29: SK20



Plate 30: DA2



Plate 31: DA3



Plate 32: DA8



Plate 33: DA9



Plate 34: DA10



Archaeological features

A little less than 2m to the south of DA3 was an unusual burnt feature [BF1], which was aligned north-south and had a scorched area to the east (Fig. 10: Plate 35). It was 0.94m long, 0.48m wide and 0.15m deep. The bricks, which could not be measured, lined the south and west of the features and a clay pad (018), c. 0.40m in diameter overlay the brick in the southeast corner. The fill (019) was very friable and ashy, and appeared to have a high wood component as well as a few flint inclusions. This overlay redeposited natural chalk. Another, similar feature (BF2; [007]) was found 2.8m to the south east of BF1, to the south of LS11 (Fig. 10: Plate 36). The lower fill (008), which consisted of burnt material and a possible bit of slag, was overlain by an orange sandy fill (009). BF3 [003] was 1.55m to the south east of BF2 and north of westernmost ledger in the south aisle (Fig. 10: Plate 37). This had three fills (004, 005 & 006), which also had evidence for scorching. These three features were all rather rudimentary in form but clearly all associated with high heat events. It could be that these were either the base for iron braziers or were small ovens/furnaces, possibly used by the builders of the burial vaults.

A more refined brick and tile structure [BS1/020] was revealed at the northeast end of the south aisle, which was aligned north-south with an arced, brick lined channel heading from the southern end towards the boiler house (Fig. 10: Plate 38). The west side of this feature was made of floor tiles measuring 8-10 x 11cm (3 $\frac{1}{8}$ -4 x 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ in) The bricks to the north and east were 22 x 10 x 5cm (8 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 4 x 2in). The fill (021) within the brick structure was ashy and the bricks were stained black on the inside. All things considered this appears to have been part of an earlier, probably 19th century, heating system.

A brick base [BS2/022] c.34cm square was discovered at the east end of the south arcade (Plate 39). It consisted of a single course of lightly frogged red bricks measuring 22.5 x 10.5 x 6.5 cm (8 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in) set in an orange sandy mortar.

A brick built structure [BS3/023] that appeared similar to the stair accesses to the brick vaults was discovered beneath the altar (Plate 40). It measured 1.15m north-south and 1.10m east-west, and the bricks were 23 x 10cm (9 x 4in). It is possible that it gave access to a vault, indeed there were two ledger slabs and at least two burials at this end of the chancel, but there was insufficient evidence to prove this.

Some ephemeral features included a possible cut [011] 0.44m north of SK16 (Plate 41). This ran north-south across the service trench and is thought to have been 0.70m wide, although the northern extent was not clear. In addition, a possible series of cuts [024] were noted to the south end of the ledger slabs in the north aisle at the eastern end (Plate 42).



Plate 35: Feature BF1 from the north



Plate 36: Feature BF2[007] from the east



Plate 37: Feature BF3[003] from the east



Plate 38: BS1 [020] and associated culvert from the west



Plate 39: Brick base [BS2/022] from the west



Plate 40: Brick structure BS3 [023] from the south



Plate 41: Feature [011] north of SK16



Plate 42: Possible graves [024] in the north aisle

Flint & other footings

Ground reduction to the north of BV06 revealed the intermittent flint footings of the wall that was superseded by the south arcade (Plate 46). The flint footings, which were 0.90m wide, extended the full distance between Columns 2 & 3 (numbered from west to east) were 0.90m



wide, but only a short stretch was seen to survive to east and west of Column 1. However, later ground reduction revealed the remains of more footings beneath the north arcade and along the west wall [010]. The footings in the southwest corner of the church comprised limestone blocks to the north and flint to the south that was surrounded by pink, possible mortar dust (Plate 44).

The base of the screen between the chancel and the Lady Chapel was also exposed during the ground reduction and consisted of brick beneath concrete (Plates 44-46). The chancel step was similarly modern (Plate 47), and may well date from c.1914 when the heating was first installed. The service ducts for the pipes ran southwards to the eastern door in the north wall, with a spur extending north into the Lady Chapel and along the south wall of the south aisle, the west wall. The ducts had a concrete base and were lined with Fletton bricks (Plate 48). Some of the ducts were widened and re-used for the present works.

The foundations for the west wall, to the north of the font, were seen to comprise a flint base some 0.32m thick (032) above which was a mixed deposit, 0.29m deep containing chalk, mortar and similar building debris (031), including a single, rectangular worked piece of clunch with diagonal tool marks. This layer was capped by a concrete floor (030) (Fig. 10).

Fragments of Ketton Stone were exposed beneath Ledger Slab LS09, within the chancel. This high quality freestone was used as a dressing stone in the south porch and the buttresses in the north wall, and the fragments are quite possibly detritus from the restoration of the exterior of the church funded by Captain Jellicoe Turner in 1836 (*cf.* Callaghan & Coulter 2018: 16).



Plate 43: Flint footings in the south arcade



Plate 44: Footings in the southwest corner of the church



Plate 45: Footings below the Lady Chapel screen from the south



Plate 46: Structural details revealed in ground reduction in the Lady Chapel



Plate 47: Structural details revealed in ground reduction in chancel



Plate 48: Early 20th century service trench in the Lady Chapel from the southwest

South Transept

The dividing wall between the south aisle and the south transept and the ceiling (dating from 1977) in the meeting room within the south transept were removed exposing the roof above. There were two closely spaced trusses resting on stone corbels, of which the southern was moulded and the northern one, which was set lower than the southern one, had a simple hollow chamfer (Plate 49). The west wall was seen to be partly brick built with blockwork making up the northern section (Plate 51). The floor was removed revealing flagstones that had been screened over.



Plate 49: Corbels on the east wall of the south transept



Plate 50: West wall of the south transept



Plate 51: South and east walls of the south transept

Dais

The dais at the eastern end of the chancel was 0.15m high with a limestone kerb enclosing an area of decorative, neo-Gothic tiling, which in turn enclosed an area 1.67m north-south x 0.47m east-west of black and red tiles in a harlequin formation (Plates 52-53). The tiles were all 10cm² (4in²) and the decorative motifs were dominated by the fleur-de-lys in various formats (Plate 54). The limestone used for the border was a fine grained, oolitic stone with few inclusions, but could not be more closely identified (Plate 55).



Plate 52: Dais from the northwest



Plate 53: Dais detail from the west



Plate 54: Dais tile decoration detail



Plate 55: Dais border detail

Screens

The screens were analysed in detail by Artemis Heritage before works began (Callaghan & Coulter 2019) and the removal of the chancel screen was monitored by KDK. The upper part of the screen dates from the 15th century, but the lower section was replaced by Nicholson in the early 20th century when the screen was restored and reinstalled in the chancel entrance. The project would no doubt have presented some challenges, as the screen had been partially dismantled sometime after the Reformation, and the upper part stored in the Tithe Barn until 1841 when it was set behind the altar as a reredos (*ibid*: 13).

The chancel screen was removed in four parts – the side panels, central tracery and the upper beam (Plates 56-66). A modern timber on the top of the upper beam provided a conduit for cables and also a stand for candles. This covered a series of five mortices that were approximately 8cm long and 3cm wide (Plate 62). At c.2cm depth, they would have been too shallow to support anything robust such as a cross, but could have provided anchorage for a decorative panel. Steel pegs with wooden covers were further testimony to recent works to the screen.

The sections of the column interior that was exposed when the parclose screen (Screen B) was removed between the chancel and the Lady Chapel were inspected. The packing in the east column was a brick and flint core whereas that in the west column was concrete. The footings beneath the screen were of brick rubble beneath concrete (Plate 45). Two pennies dating from 1897 and 1898 were discovered on top of and below the screen when it was being



dismantled. It appeared that they had been deliberately placed when the screen was reset after the new floor had been laid in the early 20th century.

Both screens were to be relocated; the parclose screen to the west end of the church where it would form one of the walls of the proposed crèche and the chancel screen to the altar steps to provide a boundary between the chancel and the sanctuary. A monument to George Blomfield (d.1885), the presiding vicar during the alterations and restorations to the church in the first half of the 19th century and another two his first wife Frances Blomfield (d.1837) were photographed prior to being partially obscured by the chancel (Plate 67). They are very different in style, which is not surprising given the 50 years between their manufacture. Frances Blomfield's monument is of white marble set on a background of grey slate. The simple inscription states;

In memory of /Frances Maria Blomfield /the beloved wife of /the Rev G.B. Blomfield/ Rector of this parish/ who having lived in the true faith/ and fear of god/ died in perfect peace/ June 30, 1837, aged 38, / and lies buried in this chancel.

The memorial for the Rev. Blomfield was erected by friends and parishioners, and consists of a brass plaque within a recess with a trefoil head under a square architrave. The inscription reads:

In pious and loving memory of/ George Becher Blomfield M.A./ Canon of Chester and Rector of/ Stevenage from 1834 to 1874 who/ died Xmas day 1885 aged 84 years./ This tablet is inscribed by his/ friends and parishioners, who/ also erected by subscription the/ clock on the district church of/ Holy Trinity in evidence of/ their esteem, gratitude, and/ love./ Not slothful in business/ fervent in spirit, serving/ the Lord.

It is unlikely that he was buried here, having retired to his third wife's home at Mollington Hall, Cheshire in 1874 (NADFAS).



Plate 56: Chancel screen being removed



Plate 57: Chancel screen beam being lifted



Plate 58: Chancel screen detail showing later repair



Plate 59: Chancel screen, mortice & tenon detail



Plate 60: Central tracery detail showing later repair



Plate 61: Underside of upper beam of chancel screen



Plate 62: Mortices on the top of the chancel screen beam (Photo courtesy of Tom Frost)



Plate 63: Screen B from the chancel (Photo courtesy of Tom Frost)



Plate 64: Screen having been removed



Plate 65: Screen B detail (Photo courtesy of Tom Frost)



Plate 66: Screen B detail
(Photo courtesy of Tom Frost)



Plate 67: Memorials on the south chancel wall

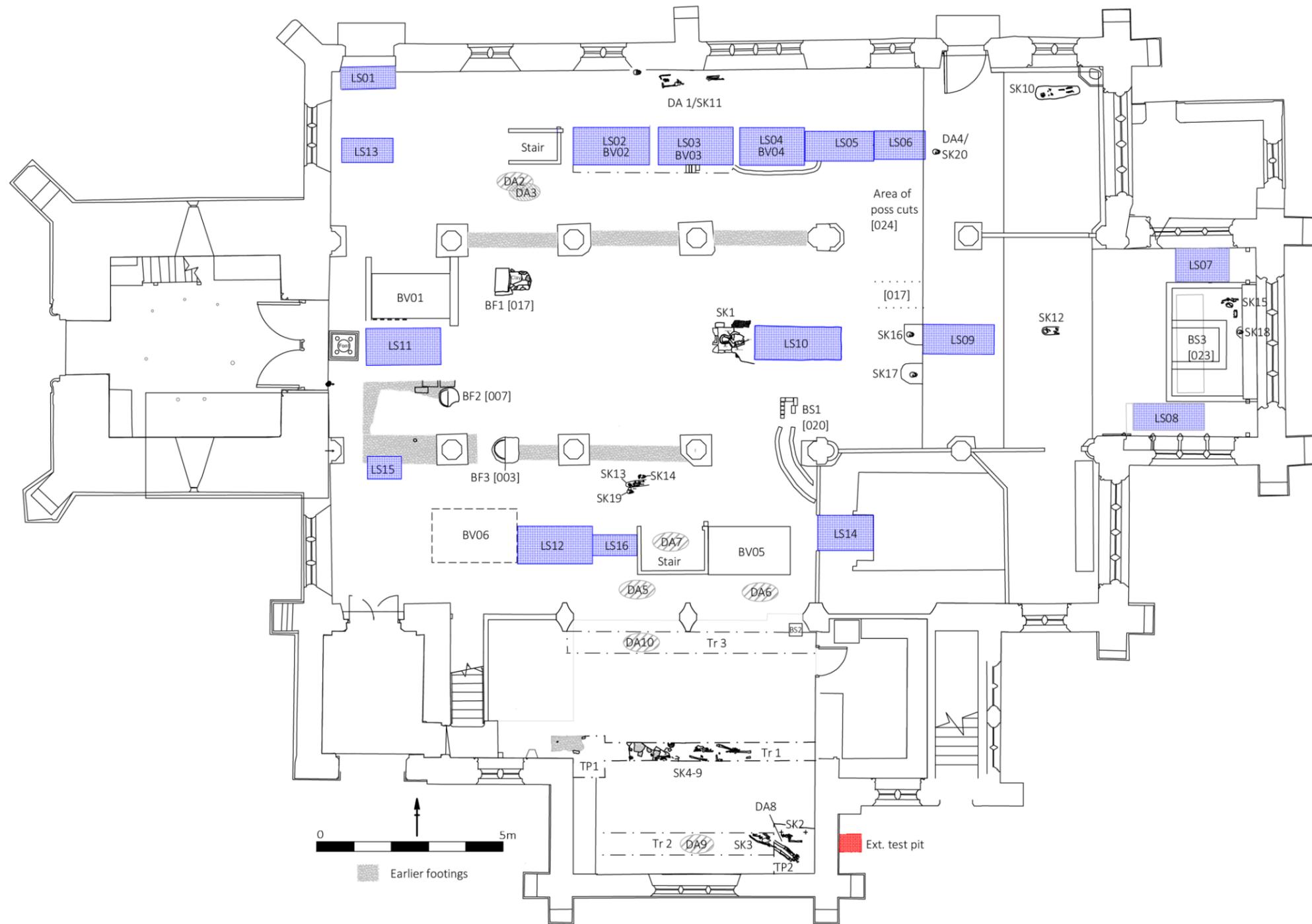


Figure 6: All archaeological remains (scale 1:125)

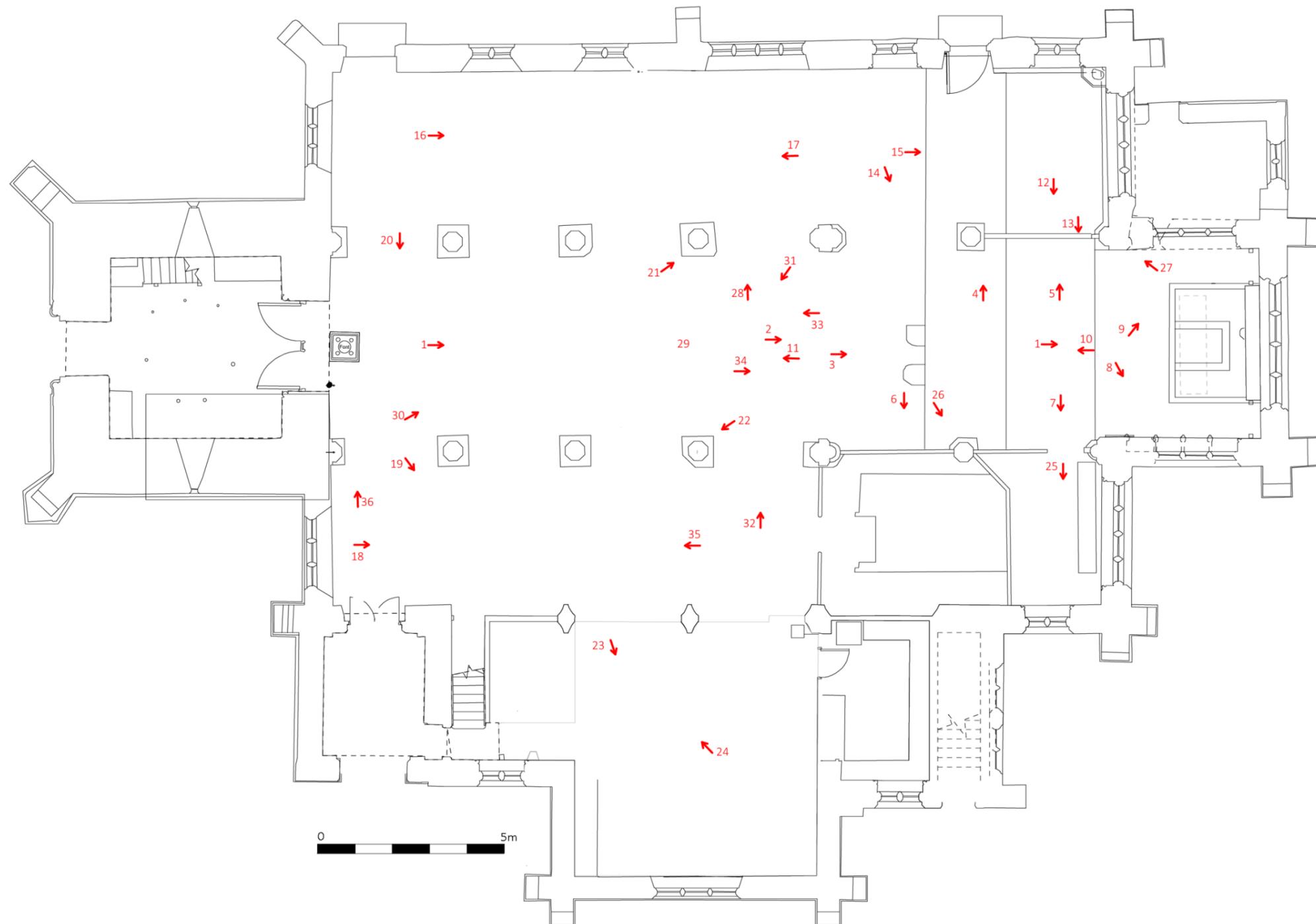
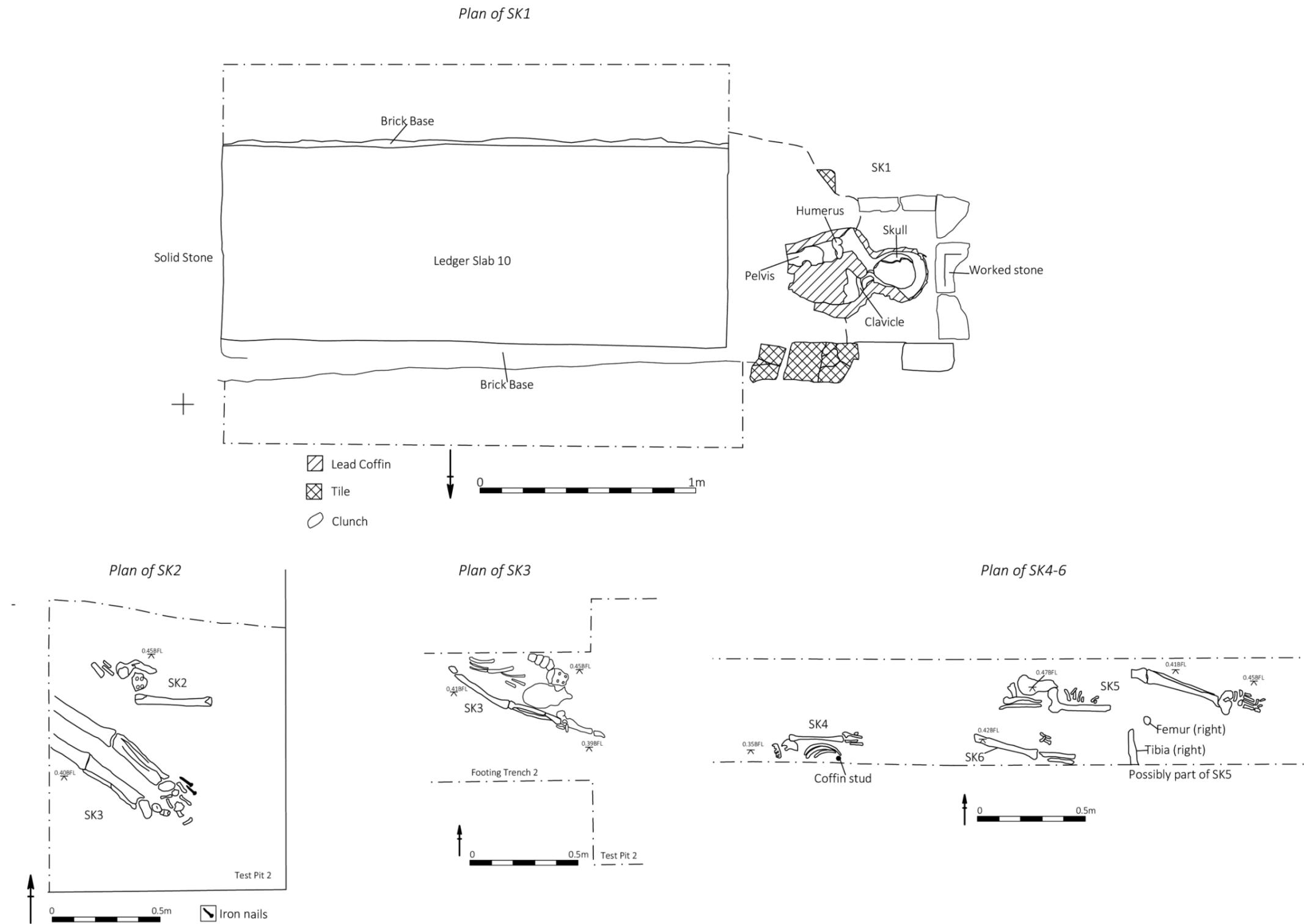


Figure 7: Initial photo survey (scale 1:125)



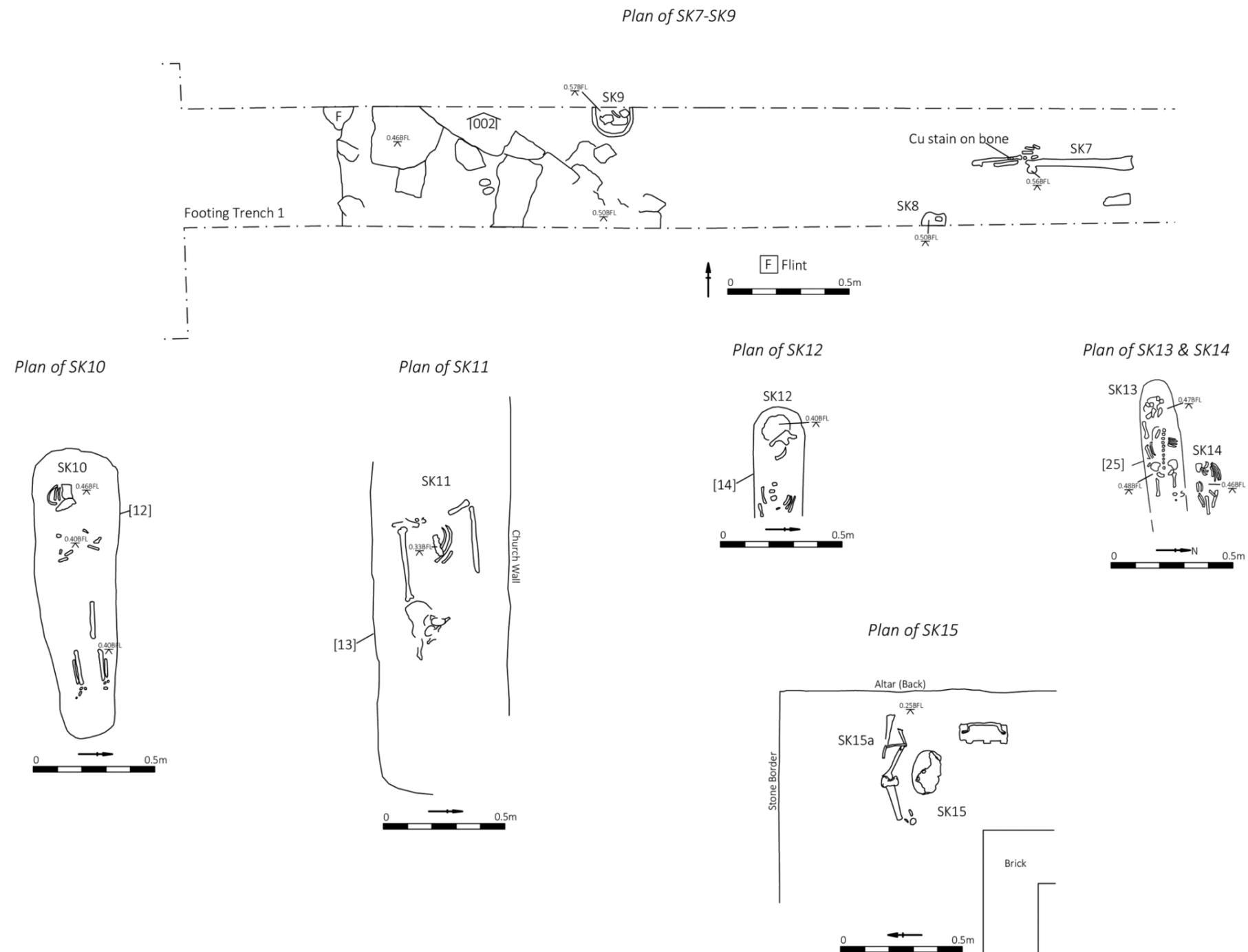


Figure 9: Burial SK 7 – SK15 (Scale 1:20)

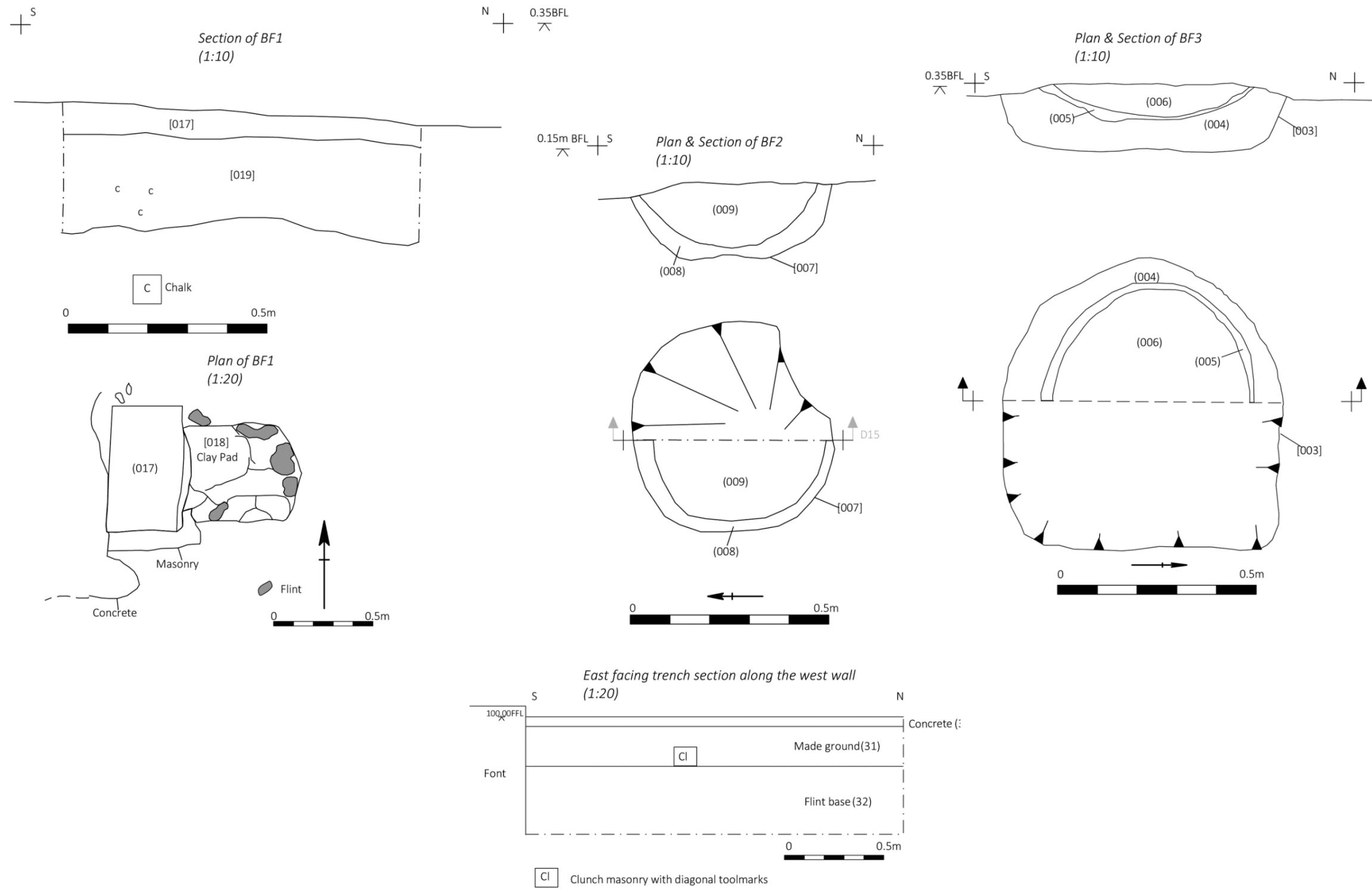


Figure 10: BF1 – BF3 & section of western trench (scales 1:20 & 1:10)



5 Conclusions

The archaeological features that were revealed during the course of the building works were sufficiently diverse to complement and extend the historical data. The most compelling of the remains were, inevitably, the burials and the burial vaults and how they related to the ledger slabs and wall monuments within the church. A stylistic analysis of the ledger slabs is beyond the scope of this report, but it is interesting to note the change in fashion from the black Purbeck Marble that was used extensively in the medieval period to the wider use of imported black, white and yellow marble as trade and communication routes improved in the post-medieval period. Limestone and sandstone were used to a much lesser extent at St Nicholas, but whether this is indicative of socio-economic constraints or simply challenges in supply and demand cannot be conjectured. Certainly, the lesser cost of the sandstone and limestone slabs is counterbalanced by greater durability of marble.

It was clear that many of the ledger slabs had been relocated. Some, such as LS11 at the west end of the nave, which was almost certainly associated with the burial vault immediately to the north of it (BV1), were deliberately relocated for aesthetic reasons. In this instance, to be better aligned in the central aisle and to avoid impacting on the new wooden flooring. Others, such as LS10, were simply mislocated when they were relaid. Nonetheless, the proximity of some of the burials to named slabs and the skeletal analysis undertaken on the remains has allowed some identification of some of the remains, however tenuous. The most interesting is SK1, whose burial was partially overlain by LS10, which has been dated on stylistic grounds to the c.1290-1320 (NADFAS). The anthropomorphic coffin beneath was popular from the 9th as it allowed the deceased a direct line of sight of the risen Christ on Judgement Day (Danielle 2006:181) and appears to have continued in use throughout the medieval period (ADS Medieval Monastic Cemeteries Database). The remains were of an older male, quite possibly Gerald de Standon who died in 1314, or his predecessor, Henry Borham whose place Gerald took in 1276. LS07 has lost its brass plaque, but the indent suggests that this also commemorated a priest, whose burial (SK16) was partially revealed beneath. If this hypothesis is correct and the absolute alignment of SK16 and SK17, which lay to the south of SK16, is indicative of a line of priestly burials, then the general association of chancel burials with those in holy orders is substantiated. However, the memorial plaque to Frances Blomfield and the child burial (SK12) in the chancel demonstrate that exceptions are not uncommon and memorials and vaults of important/wealthy members of the community are not a rarity. This brings into question the two unusual burials behind the altar. SK15 was a mature male with serious head injuries, which were either signs of conflict or archaic brain surgery. The incidental and healed head injuries would suggest the former, and although conflict would not have been unknown within the Church it was not commonplace for a priest to receive injuries as severe as this as a result. The skull was found along with the leg bones of a young person and a coffin handle, which would suggest that these remains are from seriously disturbed burials that quite possibly post-date the medieval period. The north-south aligned remains of SK18 are anomalous on the basis of the alignment and one can only assume that this either lay outside the original chancel walls or has also been disturbed.

Other examples of churchyard burials being subsumed by the church itself were found in the north wall where SK11 was found directly beneath the wall itself, and in the south transept. This area would have been part of the churchyard until 1841, and a higher concentration of burials are located here than elsewhere in the church. The southeast corner of the transept was built over existing burials, and disarticulated remains were buried on top of them during the building programme. Two further groups of disarticulated remains (DA9 & DA10) are likely to be the result of disturbance due to the construction of the south transept, given their location.



Other groups of remains, such as DA2 & DA3 in the north aisle, were either reburied having been disturbed when the adjacent burial vaults were built, or when the floor was laid.

It would seem that the only secure means of ensuring ones burial place remains undisturbed is to be interred in a vault. The vaults in the north aisle appear to have been untouched by later works, but those in the south aisle and at the west end of the nave were less fortunate. BV01 appears to have been the last resting place for several members of the Crouch and Kingman families. According to the ledger slab (LS1), four adults and three children who died between 1724/5 and 1760 were buried together. The brickwork of BV01 is of good quality and initially thought to be early 19th century, no doubt because of the lack of weathering within a church.

More enigmatic are the burials within BV05 in the south aisle. It is a large structure and possibly not the last resting place for Anne Wilson who died in 1818 and whose ledger slab (LS14) states that the entrance to her vault lies beneath the stone. The slab now lies beneath the screen to the south chapel, but whether it was originally located there is not known. The size of the vault would suggest it was built for a family, and it is possible that it belonged to the Trott family. Martha and John Trott died in 1788 and 1799 respectively. The vault itself is built of lightly frogged bricks, which were first being manufactured at around the time of their death. A tenuous association, perhaps, as Anne Wilson's death falls within the same timeframe.

Equally enigmatic is Brick Structure 3 [023], revealed beneath the present altar. This lies in the holiest part of the church and yet appears to be an access to a burial vault. If that is the case, the burials within were of extremely high secular or ecclesiastical status. It is tempting to consider whether this could be the burial place of Frances Blomfield. Certainly the date of the bricks, the fact that she was the wife of the rector who had the church reconfigured in the first half of the 19th century and the declaration on the wall monument that she was buried within the chancel could allow the hypothesis some credence.

Three small features were revealed at the west end of the church, [003], [007] and [017]. All three had heat affected material associated with them, although [017] was rectangular rather than sub-circular and was partially brick-lined, they all appeared to have been short-lived and in use before the stone floor was laid. Whether they were bases for braziers or had a more industrial function associated with one of the building programmes isn't clear. In contrast BS1 at the eastern end of the south aisle was clearly part of an earlier heating system, with the heating duct extending from the boiler house to the brick structure that would have supported a radiator.

The archaeological investigations also revealed details of the structural development of the church. The remains of earlier foundations were exposed along the north and south arcades, and at the western end of the nave. The ground reduction within the chancel in the 1840s was, and is, not only evident in the columns, but also in the re-siting of the ledger slabs. The use of Ketton Stone, which was not used in the medieval building programmes of St Nicholas but was part of the basal layer beneath Ledger Slab [09] is a clear indicator of this reworking. Early 20th century alterations of the interior were evident in the use of post-medieval brick beneath the medieval screen in the Lady Chapel which had clearly been reset over newly laid woodblock flooring, and the brick/tile or cement infill within the columns at the eastern end of the north arcade. The development of the heating system from possible braziers to the heating duct BS1 and finally the brick and concrete lined ducts dating from the early 20th century has also been revealed.

The construction and later reconfiguration of the south transept was also clearly demonstrated from the depth of the foundations from its first construction to the modern blockwork wall in the north end of the west wall when the transept was converted to a meeting room in 1977.



6 Acknowledgements

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The fieldwork was carried out by Karin Kaye, MA MCIfA, Carina Summerfield-Hill, MSc ACIfA, Barney King, Chris Martin-Taylor BSc and Laura Dodd MSc ACIfA. The report was written by Karin Kaye. Carina Summerfield-Hill and Laura Dodd, and edited by David Kaye BA ACIfA.



7 Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

- Written Scheme of Investigation
- Initial report
- Monitoring sheets
- Site drawings
- Client's site plans
- List of photographs
- Associated reports by Artemis Heritage
- CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Stevenage Museum, and additional hard copies of the reports will be presented to Hertfordshire Archive and Local Studies.



8 References

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Appendix 1: Initial Photo Survey



Plate 68: Nave: view to east (1)



Plate 69: Chancel screen: view to east (2)



Plate 70: Lady Chapel: view to east (3)



Plate 71: Chancel: view to north (4)



Plate 72: Chancel: view to north (5)



Plate 73: Chancel: view to south (6)



Plate 74: Chancel: view to south (7)



Plate 75: Chancel: sedilia & piscina (8)



Plate 76: Chancel: northeast corner (9)



Plate 77: Chancel: view to west (10)

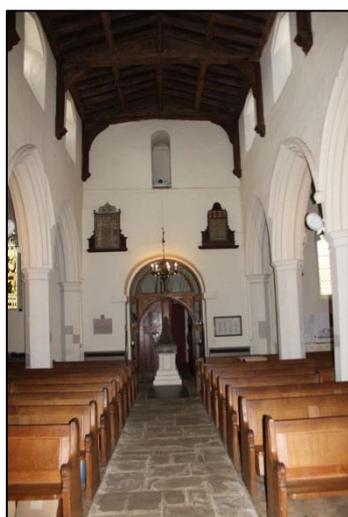


Plate 78: Nave: view to west (11)



Plate 79: Lady Chapel: view to east (12)



Plate 80: Lady Chapel screen detail (13)



Plate 81: Lady Chapel screen detail (14)



Plate 82: Lady Chapel: view to east (15)



Plate 83: North aisle: view to east (16)



Plate 84: North aisle: view to west (17)



Plate 85: South aisle: view to east (18)



Plate 86: South aisle arcade (19)

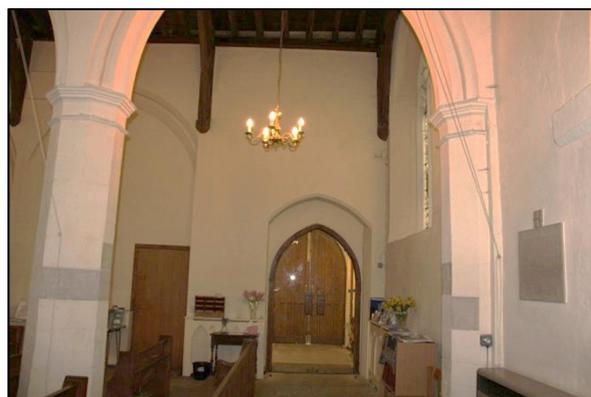


Plate 87: Entrance in the southeast corner (20)



Plate 88: North arcade label stop (21)

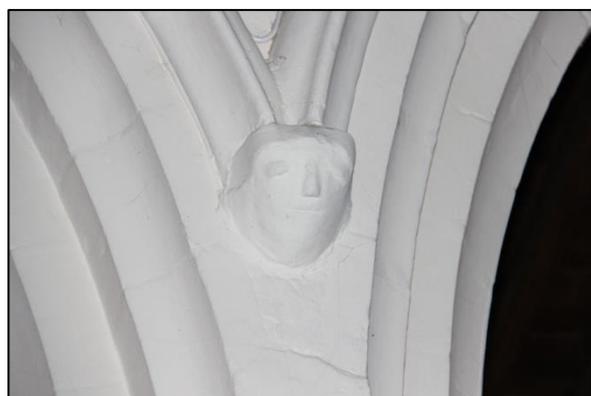


Plate 89: South arcade label stop (22)



Plate 90: South transept: view to south (23)



Plate 91: South transept: northeast corner (24)



Plate 92: Trinity chapel: view to south (25)



Plate 93: Chancel column detail (26)



Plate 94: Sanctuary label stop (27)



Plate 95: Pew end (28)



Plate 96: Roof (29)



Plate 97: North arcade (30)



Plate 98: North arcade (31)



Plate 99: Nave floor, east end: view to north (32)



Plate 100: Nave floor: view to west (33)



Plate 101: Nave floor: view to east (34)



Plate 102: South aisle floor: view to west (35)



Plate 103: Nave floor, west end: view to north (36)



Appendix 2: Ledger Slabs Report

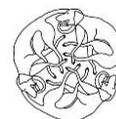
Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage	Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS01
		Notes				
Monument type		Ledger				
Monument location		At the north door				
Alignment		East/west				
Monument Date		Possibly 15th century				
Primary Material		Purbeck marble				
Secondary Materials						
Condition		Other	Worn with some pitting			
Associated Features						
Foundations						
Dimensions (mm)	Width	Length	Depth	Height		
	0.67	1.55				
Positioning of lettering						
Shape of text panel						
Definition of text						
Text style Primary						
Text style Secondary						
Condition of Inscription						
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up						
Decorative Motifs	Upper					
	Central					
	Marginal					
Stone Masons name						
Description						



Rectangular slab cut to fit into the doorway. The brasses have been removed and the surviving indents are of a male figure with a female on either side. Each figure has a banner beside it, representing a prayer scroll. The figures stand on a rectangular indent which would have held an inscription. Below the figures are indents for two groups of children, presumably those of each wife beneath the relevant female figure. The dress, particularly the head dresses suggest a 15th century date for the slab.



Plate 104: Ledger slab LS01



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage	Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS02
		Notes				
Monument type		Ledger				
Monument location		North aisle, west end of a series of slabs				
Alignment		East/west				
Monument Date		1865				
Primary Material		Black marble				
Secondary Materials						
Condition		Poor	Lower left hand side worn			
Associated Features		Monument 6 for Richard Whittington of Barwick Hall Westmoreland				
Foundations						
Dimensions (mm)	Width	Length	Depth	Height		
	1.01	2.04				
Positioning of lettering						
Shape of text panel						
Definition of text		Incised				
Text style Primary		Roman				
Text style Secondary						
Condition of Inscription		Clear				
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up						
Richard Whittington eldest son of Richd Whittington of Barwick Hall in Westmorland Died Janry 31st 1847 Aged 80 years Catherine Amelia Whittington his wife second daughter of Robert Hinde esqre of Preston in this county, Died Janry 6th 1813 Aged 48 years. Catherine Isabella Lodge Whittington their eldest daughter Died Octr 14th 1849 Aged 45 years. Charlotte Amelia Hinde Whittington younger sister of the last named only other child of the same parents, died 19th Augst 1865 , aged 57 Youngest member of her much respected family						
Decorative Motifs	Upper	Coat of arms with motto nil desperandum in banner below				
	Central					
	Marginal					
Stone Masons name		Warren of Hitchin is incised on bottom right corner of the slab				
Description						



Black marble with only a coat of arms as non textual feature. Memorial to Richard Whittington, Catherine Amerlia Whittington, Catherine Isabella Lodge Whittington and Charlotte Amelia Hinde Whittington. A small band of marble is located between this and the adjacent slab, which is dedicated to Richard Whittington of Barwick Hall. NADFAS Entry: Large rectangular polished stone slab with a deeply incised inscription in roman-style caps, with the first name larger than the rest and the months and last line in decorated sloped caps. Centred above the inscription is incised a shield of arms, the colours indicated by hatching. Blazon : Gules a fess chequée Or and Azure [WHITTINGTON] impaling Gules a chevron between three hinds trippant Or [HINDE]
 Damage: The stone is badly pitted at the bottom left and top right corners

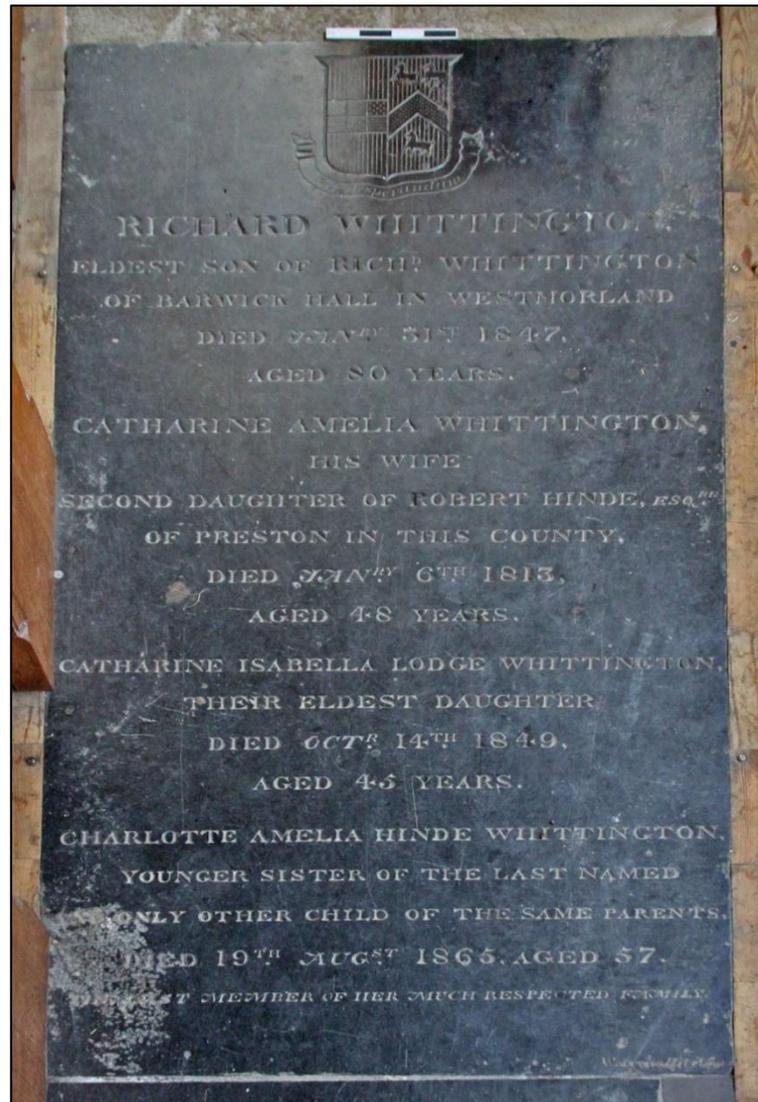


Plate 105: Ledger slab LS02



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS03
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		East of Monument LS02 in the north aisle					
Alignment		East/west					
Monument Date		1825					
Primary Material		Black marble					
Secondary Materials							
Condition							
Associated Features		Associated with Monument 5 above					
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width 1.01	Length 2.01	Depth	Height		
Positioning of lettering		Below crest					
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text		Incised-painted					
Text style Primary		Roman					
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription							
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
Here are interr'd the mortal remains of Richard Whittington Born at Barwick Hall in Westmoreland. Obt. 16th Febr'y 1783 AE; 61 years. Also of his Son William Whittington, born in Stevenage. Obt: 1st Decr. 1809. AE: 39 years. Also of his Wife Sarah Whittington. Born at Torrishome Hall near Lancaster. Obt, 25th Febr'y.1825 AE: 88 years							
Decorative Motifs	Upper	Shield in top left corner					
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Simple marble memorial with crest and motto Nils Desperandum above in top left corner. Memorial of Richard and his third wife, Sarah Whittington and their son William Whittington. NADFAS entry: Large rectangular polished black stone slab, joined to item 022 by a narrow strip of similar material. The inscription is incised in roman-style caps and l/c and is less deeply cut than on item 022; all white-filled. The archaic 'long s' has been used and dates and place-names are sloped. Large colons are incised beneath each superscript abbreviation. At left top of the slab is incised a shield of arms with the colours shown by hatching. Blazon- Gules a fess chequée Or and Azure [WHITTINGTON] Motto: Nil Desperandum [Not despairing]
Damage consists of some superficial scratches and some chipping at the bottom right corner.

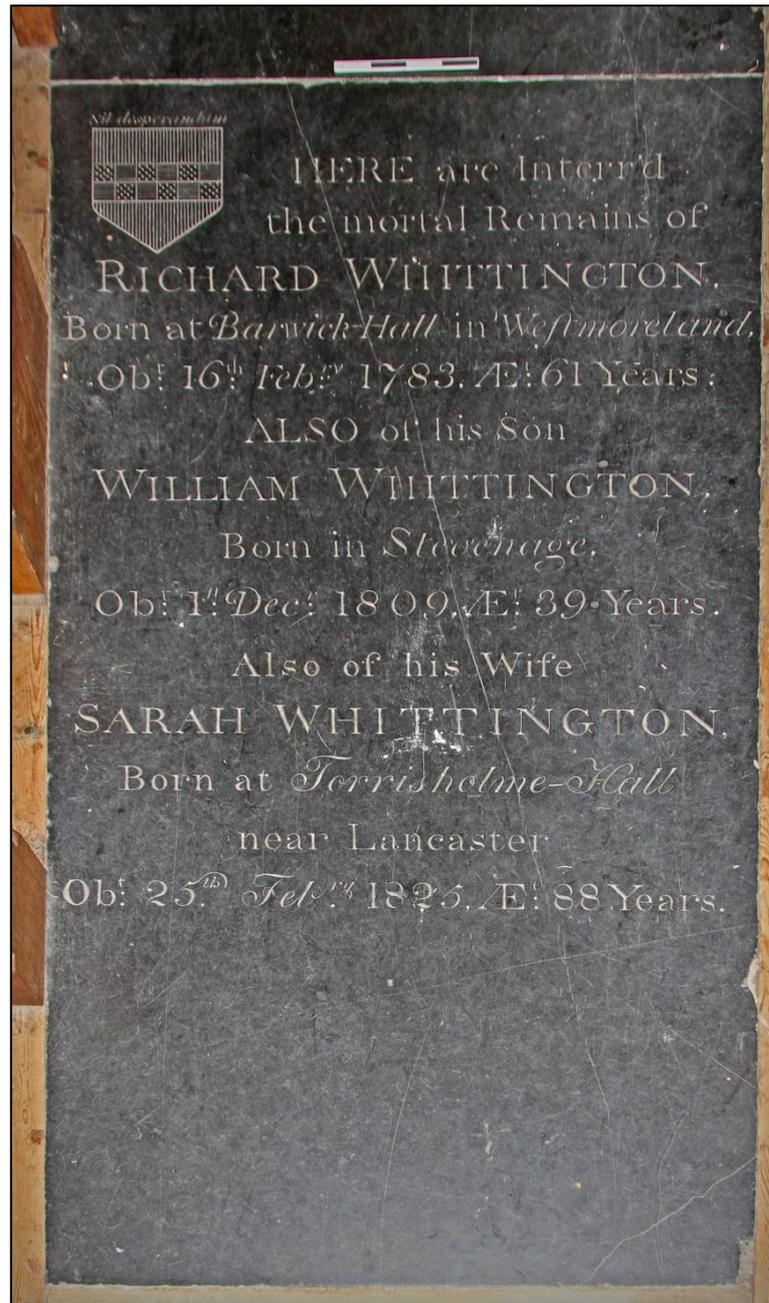


Plate 106: Ledger slab LS03



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS04
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		East of Monument LS03 in north aisle					
Alignment		East/west					
Monument Date		19th century					
Primary Material		Sandstone					
Secondary Materials							
Condition		Poor					
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width 1.01	Length 1.74		Depth		Height
Positioning of lettering		Central					
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text		Incised-painted					
Text style Primary		Roman					
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription		Mainly decipherable					
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
In a vault beneath this stone are deposited the mortal remains of Georgiana Eliz Turner Wife of Lieut Jellicoe Turner of the Royal Navy. She departed this life on the 9th of December [1832 Aged 60 years]							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Badly worn memorial to Gergiana Turner. Circular patch of wear in the top right section, also worn in the bottom right and along the right hand edge obscuring the last of the text. NADFAS entry: Large rectangular stone slab; the inscription, now rather indistinct or missing, is incised in roman-style caps, once black-filled. Missing text is indicated by square brackets at 9. Damage: The sandstone has flaked and worn badly, especially all down the right side.

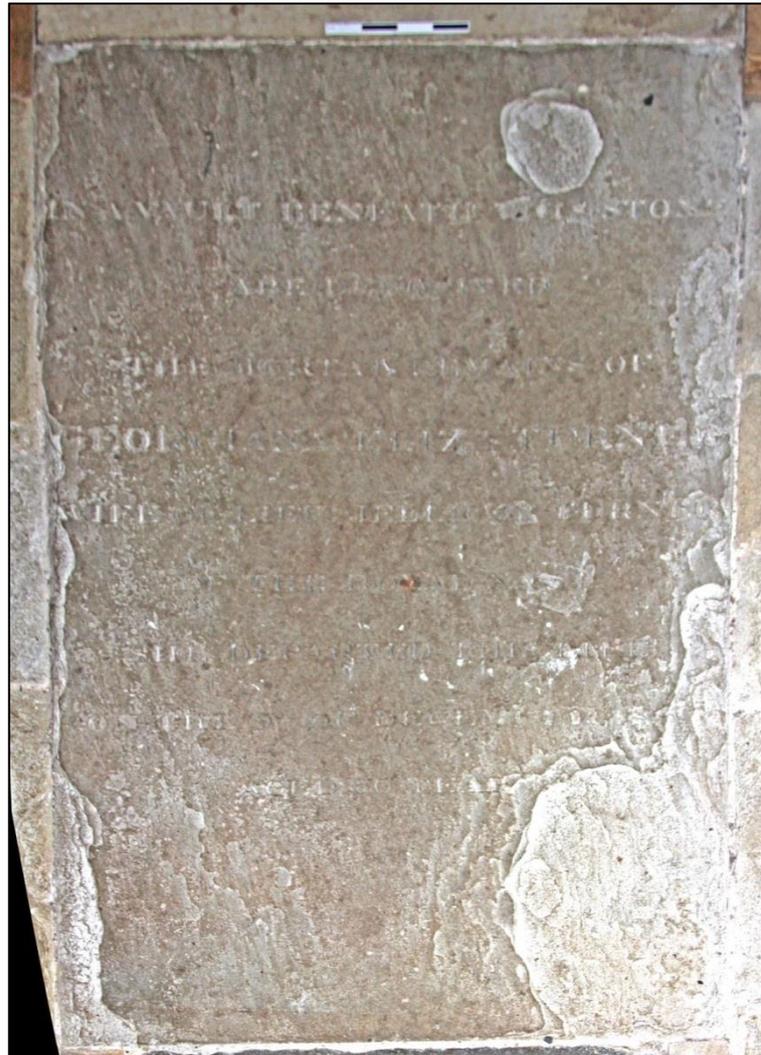
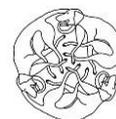


Plate 107: Ledger slab LS04



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage	Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS05
		Notes				
Monument type		Ledger				
Monument location		North aisle, just within the Lady Chapel				
Alignment		East/west				
Monument Date		late med (Poss late 15th century)				
Primary Material		Polished limestone				
Secondary Materials						
Condition						
Associated Features						
Foundations						
Dimensions (mm)	Width	Length	Depth	Height		
	0.79	1.83				
Positioning of lettering						
Shape of text panel						
Definition of text						
Text style Primary						
Text style Secondary						
Condition of Inscription						
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up						
Decorative Motifs	Upper	Two shields				
	Central	Two shields above and below male and female figure. Two groups of smaller figures (male & female children) below the main figures				
	Marginal					
Stone Masons name						
Description						



Brass now removed from this family ledger slab depicting husband, wife and four children. There is a shield in each of the four corners of the slab. NADFAS entry: Rectangular stone slab with well-defined indents of male and female figures with child groups and shields.

Outlines of both the main figures suggest civilian dress, the male's gown finishing at ankle-length and the female's covering her feet. She wears a shallow horned head-dress, typical of the late 15th c. The matrices of a group of sons, and another of daughters are beneath the male and female indents respectively. There are a total of four shield indents, set at top and bottom left and right hands of the slab.

Of the 19 rivet holes, 5 still have rivets, 5 channels are visible.

The stone contain a large number of freshwater mussel fossils called 'unios'.



Plate 108: Ledger slab LS05



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS06
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		Lady Chapel, East of Monument LS05					
Alignment		East/west					
Monument Date		1660					
Primary Material		Marble					
Secondary Materials							
Condition		Moderate	Upper section very worn				
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width 0.74	Length 1.38		Depth		Height
Positioning of lettering		Below crest					
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text		Incised-painted					
Text style Primary		Roman					
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription							
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
<p>Here lieth Sara (late wife of Richard BowCocke at the Swan in this towne) the daughter of John Nodes gent: born in March baptized the 27th day 1628 married the 19th day of April 1655 died the 17th of November 1660 She had 2 daughters one abortive the other named Sara</p>							
Decorative Motifs	Upper	Coat of arms with three floral motifs over inverted v					
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Smaller slab than the others and interestingly of the wife of a publican but with a crest. Also mentions miscarriage. NADFAS entry: Balzon - A chevron engrailed between three slipped trefoils. There are no arms listed in the usual sources for Nodes. The family held lands in Shephalbury and their family tombs are still in St. Mary's church there. Sara's husband, Richard, was landlord of The Swan Inn, and in this connection she is mentioned in Pepys' Diary. John Nodes is mentioned in old church records. The reference to an 'abortive' daughter in the inscription is very unusual. Richard Bowcocke re-married in 1672

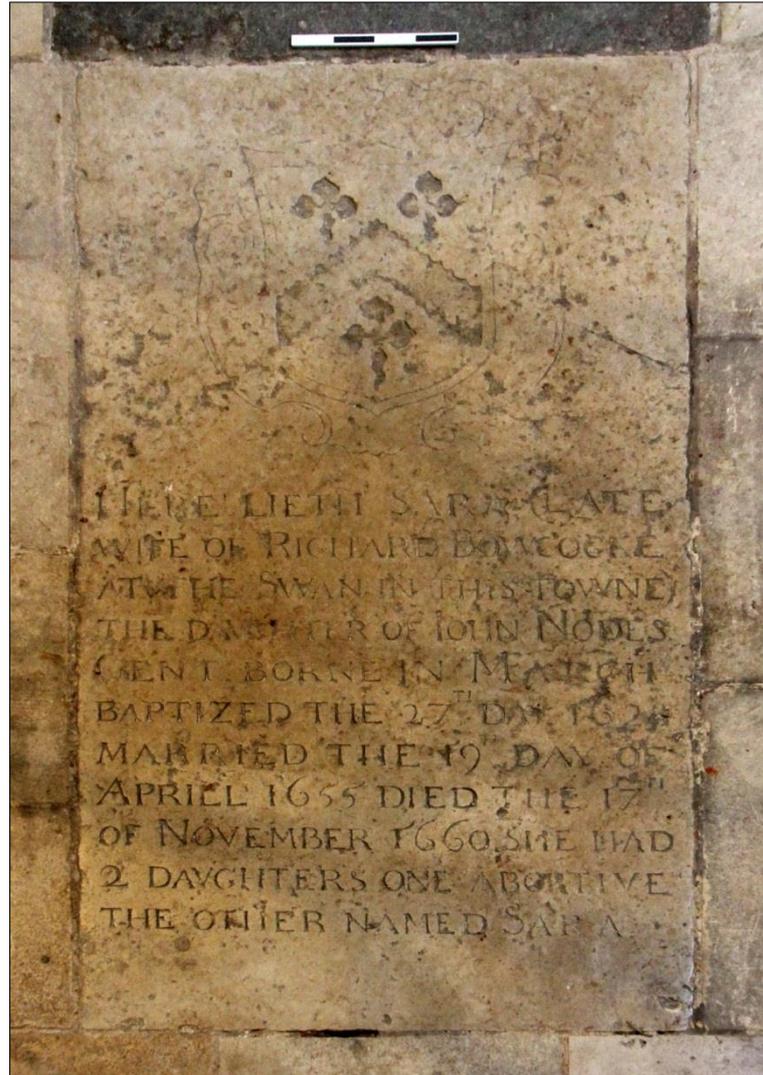


Plate 109: Ledger slab LS06



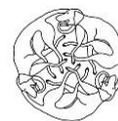
Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS07
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		North side of the sanctuary					
Alignment		East/west					
Monument Date		?16th century					
Primary Material		Limestone					
Secondary Materials		Brass					
Condition		Moderate					
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width 0.85	Length 1.32		Depth		Height
Positioning of lettering		Panel below effigy					
Shape of text panel		Rectangular (Horizontal)					
Definition of text		Incised					
Text style Primary		Gothic					
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription		Mainly decipherable					
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
<p>(Taken from NADFAS entry) Hic iacet magist^r Stephanus Hellard Ebor diocesis in decretis Bacallarius, quōdā Rector huius Ecclesie ac etiam Canonicus Cathredalis ecclesie Assauensis qui obit--- die ms~ ---Anno dnī millio quingentesimo ----Translated as: Here lies Master Stephen Hellard, Diocese of York, Bachelor in Degrees, once Rector of this church and also Canon of the cathedral church of St. Asaph, who died on the ----day of the month ---- in the year of our Lord one thousand five hundred-----</p>							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Brass of a priest in full vestments below which is an inscription in Latin that is difficult to read. An indentation on either side of the figure is all that remains of the brass shields. The brass inscription is also incomplete. NADFAS entry: This slab was moved from the body of the Chancel to its present position in 1884. Stephen Hellard was Rector of Stevenage church from 1472 until his death in 1506. He founded some almshouses which were burnt down in 1807. The brass must have been prepared during his lifetime and the spaces left on the inscription plate for the day, month and year of his death and never completed after the event; in addition, the final section of the inscription plate has been removed (this would most probably have been an exhortation to pray for his soul and cut off during the Reformation.)



Plate 110: Ledger slab LS07



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS08
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		South side of the sanctuary					
Alignment		East/west					
Monument Date		1664					
Primary Material		Black marble					
Secondary Materials							
Condition		Moderate	Damage may indicate the removal of the slab during restoration work in 1841 or 1914				
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width	Length	Depth	Height		
		0.71	1.99				
Positioning of lettering	Below coat of arms						
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text	Incised-painted						
Text style Primary	Other		Uncial				
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription	Clear						
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
In spem resurrectiones ad vitam aeterna hic iacet Robertus Chester (sacra Theologia pfeessor)(et huic Rector) qui obiit 6 Aprilis (aestatis sua) 67 (Redempriones 1664) Siste viator + lege Lucis evangelica jubar coruscum spectata eExemplar probitatis clarum filius ecclesae verus Catholicae Doctrinae columnen Decusq. vitae nostrae aetatis honos lepos voluptas Hic terrae exuvias reliquit orbi famam Astris animam. Viator ito							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



NADFAS entry: Blazon- (Ermine) on a chief (Sable) a griffin passant (Argent) [CHESTER] impaling (Sable) a chevron engrailed (Or) between three plates each charged with a cross pattée (Gules or Or). The inscription has been translated as : In hope of the Resurrection to eternal Life, here lies Robert Chester, Professor of Sacred Theology and Rector of this church, who died aged 67 on the 6th April in the year of Redemption 1664. Stop, traveller and read. Here is a brilliant ray of evangelical light, much admired, a shining example of probity, a true son of the Catholic church, a pillar of learning, an adornment of our life, the honour, charm and delight of our generation. He left his mortal remains to the earth, his fame to the world and his soul to the stars. Traveller, go on your way.

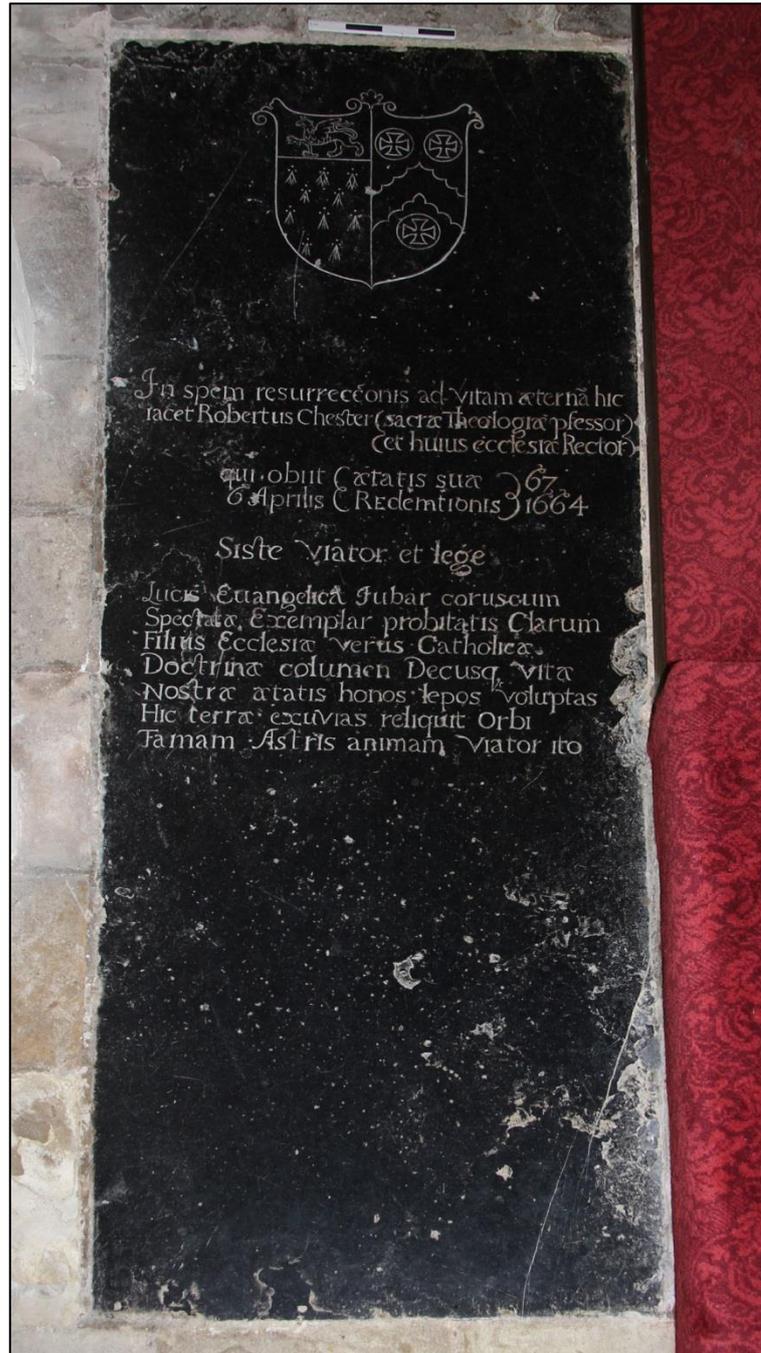


Plate 111: Ledger slab LS08



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS09
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		Chancel					
Alignment	East/west						
Monument Date	?mid 15th century						
Primary Material	Polished limestone						
Secondary Materials	Brass (now removed)						
Condition	Poor						
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)	Width	0.83	Length	1.93	Depth	Height	
Positioning of lettering							
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text							
Text style Primary							
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription							
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



All the brass has been removed and there is no inscription now but rectangular panel below the effigy would have held one. This is similar to Monument 11 and may have been for another Rector.



Plate 112: Ledger slab LS09



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS10
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		Under chancel screen					
Alignment		East/west					
Monument Date		Late 13th century to early 14th century					
Primary Material		Purbeck Marble					
Secondary Materials		Brass now removed					
Condition		Poor					
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width 0.89	Length 2.33		Depth		Height
Positioning of lettering		Within border					
Shape of text panel		Cartouche					
Definition of text		Other	Formerly brass inlay to border				
Text style Primary		Other	Lombardic				
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription		Destroyed					
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central	Floriat cross above					
	Marginal	Worn motifs or text within a border					
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Rectangular slab that tapers towards the base. The centre of the slab has a tall almost floral image that appears to be medieval. The border probably had a date at the top although this and all the other motifs are badly worn and the infill material, if there was any, has been destroyed. The number 8 can be made out on the right hand side. NADFAS entry suggests that this could be the grave slab for Gerald de Standon, who was the Rector of St. Nicholas from 1276 until 1314. NADFAS entry reads: Rectangular stone slab, which tapers slightly towards the base, bearing the matrix of a demi-priest overlaying at the head of a large floriated cross. A long diagonal calcite streak crosses the slab from centre top to two-thirds down the r/h side. The inscription area lies within the roll-edged border which surrounds the slab, but the matrices of the old brass (latten) separate Lombardic letters, are now indecipherable



Plate 113: Ledger slab LS10



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS11
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		West end of nave, east of the font					
Alignment	East/west						
Monument Date		1760					
Primary Material		Black marble					
Secondary Materials							
Condition		Moderate					
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		width 0.99	Length 2.01	Depth	Height		
Positioning of lettering		Central					
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text		Incised					
Text style Primary		Roman					
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription		Clear					
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
Here lieth interr'd the several body's viz Mr. George Crouch Died 19th Febry 1724/5 Aged 49 Mrs Alice Crouch his Wife. Died the 6 of Novr 1725 Aged 52. Mrs Mary Wife of Mr. Benjamin Kingman Died the 20 of May 1758 Mr. Benjamin Kingman Died the 10 of Janry 1760 Also the Children of the aforesaid Benjamin and Mary Kingman							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Black marble slab with a crack across the upper section. Memorial to George and Alice Crouch, Benjamin and Mary Kingman and their three children. NADFAS entry: Rectangular black stone slab deeply incised in caps and l/c, the initial caps being larger; all white filled and using archaic spelling and the 'long s'. The last line has a more lightly incised part of a scroll decoration which overlaps the 'o' of Also. Damage: a deep, horizontal crack near the top after the 4th line

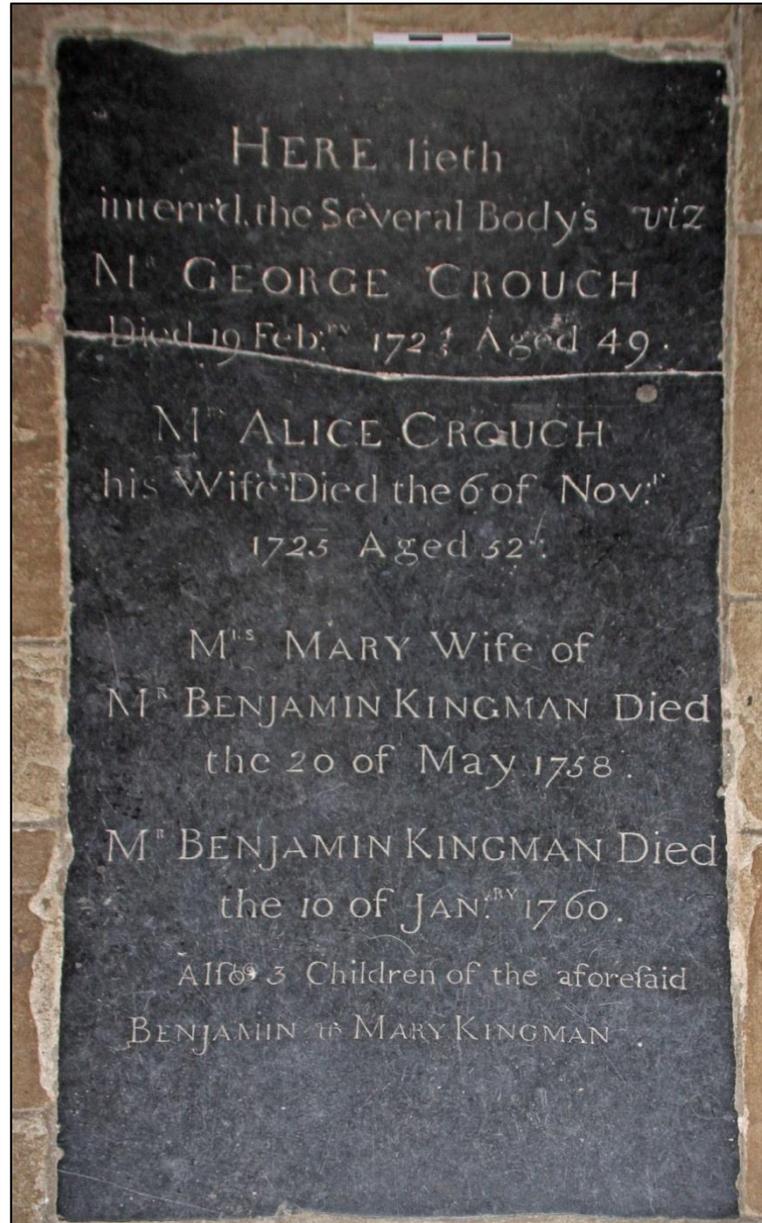


Plate 114: Ledger slab LS11



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS12
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location	South aisle, west of Monument LS14						
Alignment	East/west						
Monument Date	1799						
Primary Material	Black marble						
Secondary Materials							
Condition	Moderate						
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width 1.01	Length 2.01	Depth	Height		
Positioning of lettering	Central						
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text	Incised-painted						
Text style Primary	Roman						
Text style Secondary	Roman Italic						
Condition of Inscription	Clear						
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
In memory of Martha the wife of John Trott of Biggleswade who departed this life the 15th Sept 1788 Aged 36 years. Also John Trott died Octr. 7th 1799 aged 68 years							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Unadorned black marble slab. NADFAS entry: Large black rectangular floor slab incised in roman style caps and l/c with some letters in script and italic. The 'long s' is used. All white filled.
Damage: surface deeply scored three quarters down from left rising to halfway up right side.



Plate 115: Ledger slab LS12



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS13
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		West end of north aisle					
Alignment		East/west					
Monument Date		1910					
Primary Material		Limestone					
Secondary Materials							
Condition		Poor					
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width 0.61	Length 1.38		Depth		Height
Positioning of lettering		Top half					
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text		Incised					
Text style Primary		Other					
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription							
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
Here lieth the body of John Glenister							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



The stone has a large crack half way down, below which the stone is devoid of inscription or decoration. The NADFAS entry for the memorial for his wife (Monument LS15) states that the death of John Glenister was reported in the Herts Express of Feb 12th 1910.

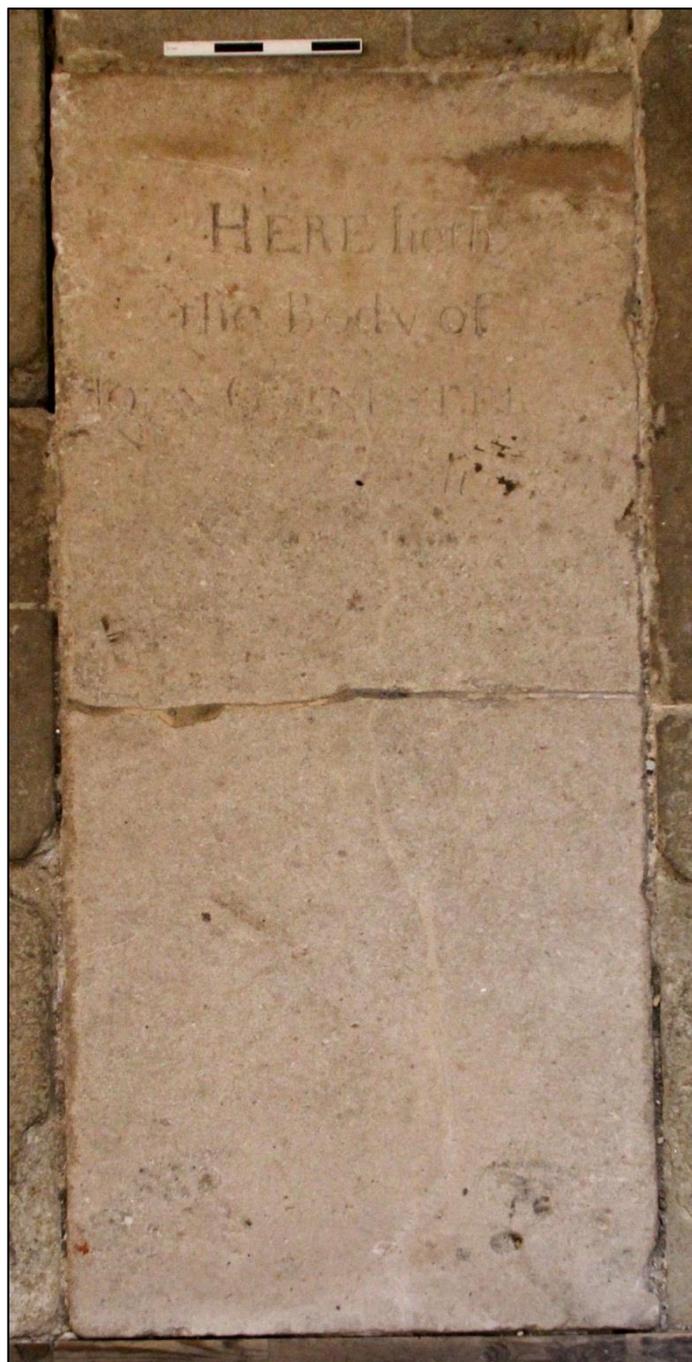


Plate 116: Ledger slab LS13



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS14
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		Trinity Chapel, east end of the south wails					
Alignment			East/west				
Monument Date			1818				
Primary Material			Limestone				
Secondary Materials							
Condition			Other	Very worn			
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)	Width 66.5		Length	Depth		Height	
Positioning of lettering							
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text			Incised				
Text style Primary			Roman				
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription							
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Partially underneath the organ. There is a crack across the width of the slab beneath some of the very worn text. A large stain is also present in the bottom left corner. The NADFAS entry states the inscription is the same as that on the wall tablet which reads: In memory of Mrs Anne Wilson Obt February 27th 1818 Aetat 73. On the lower part of the slab are the words Under this stone is the Entrance to Vault



Plate 117: Ledger slab LS14



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS15
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		South of monument LS11					
Alignment		East/west					
Monument Date		1910					
Primary Material		Limestone					
Secondary Materials							
Condition		Worn					
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width 0.61	Length 0.91		Depth		Height
Positioning of lettering							
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text							
Text style Primary							
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription		Destroyed					
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Very worn and only faint traces of text visible in the right light. NADFAS entry states that this was originally mounted on the west wall. The inscription as it was in 1934 is as follows with the indistinct letters in square brackets

Here liet[h the Body of Mary / wife of Thomas Glenister died]



Plate 118: Ledger slab LS15



Project Name	St. Nicholas Stevenage		Project code		439/SSN	Mon. Ref.	LS16
			Notes				
Monument type		Ledger					
Monument location		South aisle, east of monument LS12					
Alignment		East/west					
Monument Date		1754					
Primary Material		Limestone					
Secondary Materials							
Condition		Moderate					
Associated Features							
Foundations							
Dimensions (mm)		Width 0.56	Length 1.20	Depth	Height		
Positioning of lettering		Central					
Shape of text panel							
Definition of text		Incised					
Text style Primary		Roman					
Text style Secondary							
Condition of Inscription		Clear					
Inscription: Please note face being inscribed N, E, S, W or Up							
In memory of Anne the wife of Thomas Whittington who died August 18th 1754 in the 37th year of her age							
Decorative Motifs	Upper						
	Central						
	Marginal						
Stone Masons name							
Description							



Rectangular slab with only a narrative and no additional motifs NADFAS entry: Small rectangular pale stone incised in roman style caps. Some remains of a white fill. Some caps larger. Missing letter indicated by square brackets.

Damage: wear and chipping down right side.

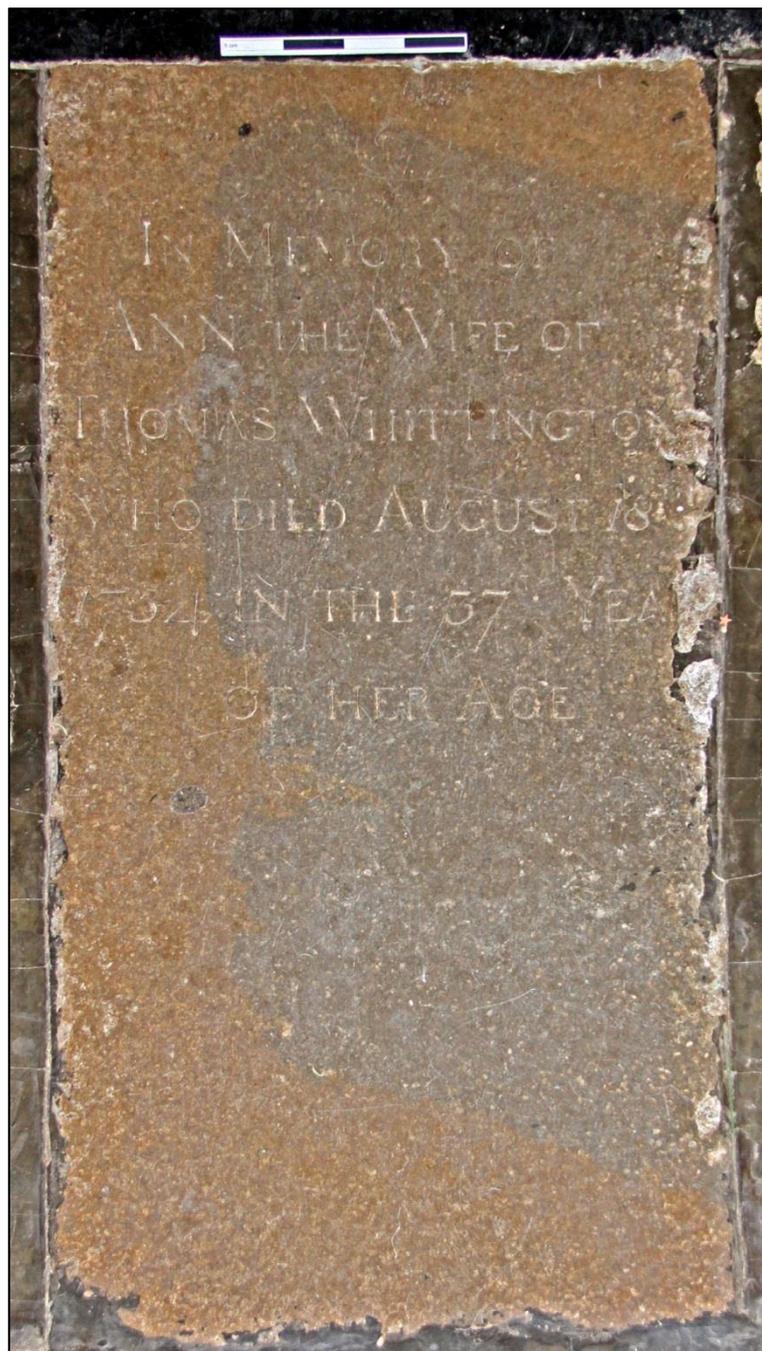


Plate 119: Ledger slab LS16



Appendix 3: Human Remains Report

Human Osteology Report

(Carina Summerfield-Hill MSc ACIfA Laura Dodd MSc ACIfA)

Introduction

A total of 22 articulated human skeletons along with disarticulated remains were excavated during development works at the site of St Nicholas Church, Stevenage. The majority of the articulated remains were laid out in the traditional burial position of extended and supine and orientated east-west with the head to the west. Two individuals, SK18 and SK18a were aligned north-south. For a number of the graves clear grave cuts were observed, and the presence of coffin nails and fragments of metal indicated coffin burials. Many of the burials had been heavily disturbed by later burials and construction works within the church.

Methods

The skeletal remains were rapidly analysed and recorded whilst on site following the recommendations set out by Brickley & McKinley (2004).

A record photograph and plan of each skeleton was produced, and any pathologies commented on and photographed.

See below for skeletal catalogue.

Specifically the following areas were examined:

Completeness

The overall completeness of each skeleton was categorised as follows:

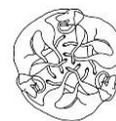
- 0-25% (less than a quarter of the skeleton present)
- 25-50% (quarter to half of the skeleton present)
- 50-75% (half to three quarters of the skeleton present)
- 75-100% (three quarters to the entire skeleton present)

The body was sub-divided into skull, axial skeleton, upper appendicular, upper extremities, lower appendicular, lower extremities and bone surface preservation, completeness (see above) and bone fragmentation was assessed.

Demography –Age & Sex

The assessment of the age of the individuals was based on epiphyseal fusion of the long bones (Schwartz 1995, 185-222, Schaefer, Black and Scheuer 2009, Ubelaker 1989), bone measurements for non-adults (Schaefer, Black and Scheuer 2009), dental development and attrition (Ubelaker 1978, Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994, Brothwell 1981, and Smith 1984) and where possible the auricular surface (Lovejoy *et al.* 1985), pubic symphysis (Brooks and Suchey 1990, Todd 1921 a & b). Cranial suture closure was only referred to when no other methods could be applied to a lack of preservation as this method is somewhat lacking in accuracy (Baker 1984, Mann *et al* 1987, Meindl and Lovejoy 1985 and Todd and Lyon 1924, 1925a, 1925b, 1925c). The age categories are as follows:

- Foetal (0-38 weeks)
- Infant (birth to 1 year)
- Young Child (1 to 5 years)
- Old Child (6 to 12 years)
- Adolescent (13 to 17 years)



-
- Young adult (18-25 years)
 - Prime adult (26-35 years)
 - Mature adult (36-45 years)
 - Older adult (46+ years)

Note: the term Adult (>18 yrs) was used when bones are fully fused and preservation does not allow a more precise age range to be assigned.

Assessment of the sex of the individuals was based, where possible, on the morphological characteristics of the skull and pelvic regions (Schwartz 1995, 280-281; Buikstra & Ubelaker 1994, Buikstra and Mielke 1985, Phenice 1969, Milner 1992, Acsadi and Nemeskeri 1970), and metric data (Stewart 1979). The sex categories are as follows:

- N/a (applies to sub-adults)
- Undetermined sex (due to a lack of preservation)
- Female
- Probable female
- Ambiguous sex
- Male
- Probable male

Heath and Disease

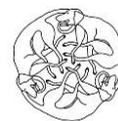
The human remains were analysed for any abnormal bone and teeth changes associated with either developmental or pathological conditions following standards set out by Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994) and Brickley and McKinley (2004) and Ortner (2003).

Results

SK1: was an older adult male found towards the eastern end of the nave. Here the remains of a perforated lead coffin containing human remains were exposed. Overlying the majority of the coffin a ledger slab was seen. Due to the collapse of the lead coffin and the ledger slab all that could be observed for analysis were the remains of the skull, upper part of the right humerus that was at a right angle and thus thought to have been displaced, part of the right pelvis which too was displaced. Part of the left clavicle was also visible and a fragment of mandible. This individual was to stay in-situ. The fragment of mandible observed indicated heavy wear to the teeth and also ante-mortem tooth loss (AMTL), that can be linked to age, diet and oral hygiene (Roberts and Manchester 2005: 73-74). The bone had fully healed and thus AMTL occurred some considerable time prior to death. A fragment of cranium was taken for Carbon 14 dating.

SK2: was an adult female excavated in test pit 2, in the meeting room of the church. The remains consisted of the right femur, left part of the pelvis, sacrum and the left ribs. The skeleton extended beyond the limit of excavation, and was also cut by SK3 to the south. As such the remains had been disturbed as the left femur, right part of the pelvis, arm and hand were missing.

SK3: was an older adult male found in test pit 2 and extending into footing trench 2. The remains found consisted of the right and left legs, feet, right part of the pelvis, right arm and hand, sacrum, lower part of the spinal column and right ribs. The left side of the upper body was beyond the limit of excavation. Two coffin nails were found along with fragments of degraded metal forming part of the coffin. This individual had suffered trauma to the left tibia and fibula (lower leg) towards the distal end. Here there was a healed impacted fracture to the bone on the external side of the tibia and the



internal side of the fibula. The affected area on the tibia measured 40mm in width and 80mm in length, and to the fibula 20mm in width and 30mm in length. (Plate 120). All the remains found for SK3 also displayed signs of osteoporosis as the bones were very porous and light in weight.



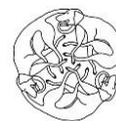
Plate 120: SK3 – healed impacted fracture to the distal end of the left tibia and fibula (scale 20cm)

SK4: was an older child found in footing trench 1, in the meeting room of the church. Here the partial remains of the left side of the skeleton were found consisting of the scapula, humerus, upper part of the left radius and ulna (lower arm), five ribs and three metacarpals (finger bones), whilst the right side of the skeleton continued beyond the limit of excavation. The lower part of the skeleton was no longer present thus these remains had been disturbed. A fragment of mandible was also found which assisted in aging this individual based from the dentition to 9 years \pm 24 months, and also the humerus found was unfused. In the chest area of the remains were five coffin studs and a nail.

SK5: was an adult female in footing trench 1, found cutting SK6. Again, a partially articulated skeleton that continued beyond the limit of excavation was excavated. The right side of the remains consisted of a distal fragment of humerus, radius, ulna, hand, pelvis, femur and part of the foot (1st metatarsal) and the left side consisted of the distal end of the femur, tibia, fibula and foot. This individual had been disturbed as the upper body was lacking in preservation and the left upper and right lower leg had also been disturbed.

SK6: was an adult, sex undetermined, found in footing trench 1. The remains were cut by SK5 and as such, the left upper and lower part of the skeleton were not present, only the right humerus, ulna and radius were seen. A number of finger bones (2nd and 3rd metacarpals and a proximal phalanx) were also found in close proximity that were possibly part of SK6 or even SK5. Further disturbance had also occurred as the skull was not present either.

SK7: was an adult, sex undetermined, found in footing trench 1. The remains had been disturbed and as such only the left lower arm (radius and ulna), hand, femur and right distal and shaft of the femur were excavated. Green copper staining was observed on the left lower part of the radius which may



have indicated that this individual was possibly wearing jewellery around the wrist at the time of burial or it could be linked to a coffin as a single coffin nail was also found in close proximity to the remains.

SK8: was an older adult female found in footing trench 1. Only part of the skull including the mandible was excavated as the majority of this individual continued beyond the limit of excavation. The lower dentition indicated that this individual had suffered from AMTL and the bone had fully healed during life.

SK9: was an adult male found in footing trench 1, adjacent to a flint and mortar foundation. Again, only part of the skull was excavated with no dentition preserved, with remaining skeleton elements continuing beyond the limit of excavation.

SK10: was a young child found in the ground reduction in the northeast corner of the church. A clear grave cut was identified cutting into the natural chalk. Remains of the cranium and maxilla were excavated, whilst the mid section of the skeleton was lacking in preservation. The left femur, along with the right and left lower leg bones (tibia and fibula), and foot bones (calcaneous and metatarsals) were also recovered. A fragment of maxilla, along with a number of loose teeth assisting in aging this individual to 4 years \pm 12 months.

SK11: was an adult female found during ground reduction in the north aisle. Traces of a grave cut into the natural chalk was also observed. The remains were thought to have been associated with the skull recovered as part of DA1. The articulated remains consisted of the left and right humerus, right scapula, left clavicle, sternum, right and left rib fragments, left side of the pelvis and lumbar vertebra. Further remains were likely present but as this skeleton was below the impact level it was not fully exposed and was able to stay in-situ.

SK12: was a young child found during ground reduction to the west of the altar. A clear grave cut was seen cutting into the natural chalk. Some disturbance had occurred to the remains as only the upper part of the skeleton was present. The remains consisted of cranium fragments, right and left scapula and rib fragments, spinal column, and the left proximal end and shaft of the ulna. All the bones were unfused and the dentition aged this individual to 3 years \pm 12 months. A single coffin nail was also found.

SK13: was an infant found during the ground reduction in the south aisle. A clear grave cut was seen cutting into the natural chalk. Some disturbance had occurred as the lower leg bones and feet were not present. The remains consisted of cranium fragments, right and left humerus, ulna and radius, right hand (two metacarpals and one phalanx, right and left scapula, spinal column with right and left rib fragments, pelvis, sacrum and right and left femur. All of the bones were unfused and measurements of the right humerus (73mm in length) and pelvis (ilium – 38mm in length and 34mm in width) gave this individual an age range of 1.5 months (humerus) to 4-6months (pelvis). SK13 was found adjacent to SK14, both of which were below the impact level and were able to stay in-situ. These graves may have originally been in the cemetery prior to the construction of the south aisle.

SK14: was a prenatal, found adjacent to SK13. Again, some disturbance had occurred as the skull and lower legs and feet were not present. Remains observed consisted of the right scapula and clavicle, right lower arm (radius and ulna), right and left rib fragments and right and left femur. All of the bones were unfused and measurements of the right femur (71mm in length) gave this individual a range of 38-40 weeks prenatal.

SK15: was found to the north of the altar along with the remains of SK15a. The remains comprised a cranium of an adult individual with a number of interesting pathologies. On the right parietal was a well healed depressed fracture (Plate 121). The depression measured 18.30x11.84mm and could be



seen on the anterior (endocranial) surface of the skull. Due to the positioning on the skull and the size of the injury, this pathology is likely to be the result of interpersonal. A second, unhealed perforation was visible on the right parietal which measured 23.3x11.84mm (Plate 122). The hole was irregular and the edges of the perforation were smooth indicating that very little or no healing had taken place before the individual had died. A radiating fracture 48.58mm in length was observed heading towards and through the sagittal suture from the initial perforation to a third hole (Plate 123 and 124). A third perforation was located on the occipital bone which measured 23.63x<36.91mm. Once again, this hole had smooth edges with no evidence of healing. It is unclear whether these injuries are the result of several events of interpersonal violence, or evidence of trepanation, a surgical procedure in which a hole is drilled, cut or scraped into the skull exposing dura mater, a tough layer of connective tissue that directly overlies the brain. This procedure carries a high risk of infection, direct injury to the brain and bleeding into the brain tissue (Ortner 2003:173). Further trauma was observed on the left side of the occipital bone (Plate 125). This perforation was very irregular and measured 23.63x<36.91mm. This part of the skull had been greatly damaged post-mortem. The edges of this perforation were smooth and showed no signs of healing. Lastly, a slight dent and pitting was observed on the left side of the lambdoid suture and a small foramina, an opening in which nerves, blood vessels and other structures can travel, was present (Plate 126).



Plate 121: SK15. Healed depression fracture



Plate 122: SK15. Perforation 1



Plate 123: SK15. Perforation 2



Plate 124: SK15. Perforation with radiating fracture

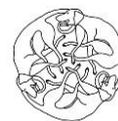


Plate 125: SK15. Perforation



Plate 126: SK15. Slight dentation, pitting and foramina

SK15a: was found buried with SK15. The remains comprised the left leg of an individual probably in their late childhood. Analysing the stages of epiphyseal fusion in this individual's distal femur, proximal tibia, distal tibia and femoral head indicated that they were under the age of 13 when they died

SK16: was found to the west of ledger slab LS09. The remains comprised of a cranium of a probable male adult of an undetermined age. This burial was disturbed by the digger bucket and probably earlier works to the church. The grave was cut into the chalk 0.72cm below floor level and remains of a coffin were observed to the east and west of the grave cut. On examination of the individual, the skull appeared warped as crushing had led to the temporal bone being squashed into the cranial cavity. This likely occurred post-mortem.

SK17: was located 0.50m to the south of SK16 and 0.30m to the south of ledger slab LS09. Once again, the skull of this individual has been disturbed by the bucket. As this individual was below the impact level at 0.72m it was decided not to excavate further. The grave cut measures 0.58m wide.

SK18: was located to the east of the brick vault access within the alter area. The individual was aligned north-south and the remains comprised the skull and several cervical vertebrae of an adult male of advancing age. The spine showed evidence of extensive degenerative joint disease as marginal osteophytes and porosity on the transverse process and superior and inferior articular process were observed (Plate 127). In addition, this individual displayed severe dental pathologies. Dental caries had destroyed the crowns of four teeth and greatly damaged the crowns of a further two (Plate 128). Several teeth had also been lost ante mortem. Dental calculus was also observed although this was minimal.

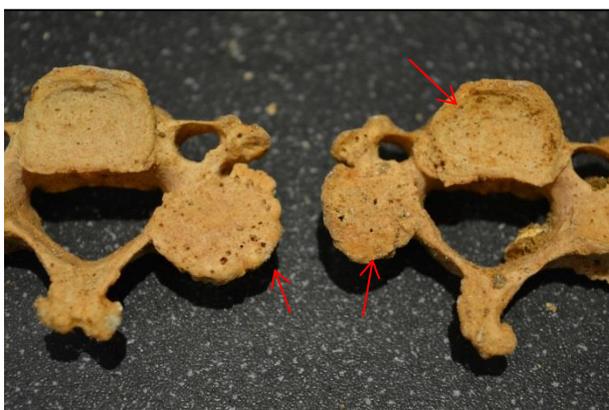
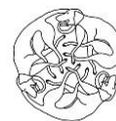


Plate 127: SK18



Plate 128: SK18



SK18a: was found mixed with SK18. The left leg, right femur, part of the radius and a finger from the right hand were recovered. The stage of epiphyseal fusion showed the individual to be an adolescent between the ages of 13 and 17 years old.

SK19: was a child in later childhood. Examination of their dental development placed the individual's age at death around 8 years (+/-24 months). Pitting was visible on the parietal bone this is likely to be post-mortem damage. This individual was found to the north LS16. The skull was tilted to look to the north.

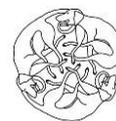
SK20: comprised the mandible and partial maxilla of a probable male adult individual (Plate 129). Although this person's teeth were in good condition, there were still signs of dental pathologies. Antemortem tooth loss was observed in the right mandibular second molar which appeared healed. Periodontal disease was also present. An interesting feature of this individual's dentition was the alignment of the upper and lower jaw. SK20 appeared to have an 'edge to edge' bite or even a slight underbite.



Plate 129: SK20 dentition

Disarticulated Remains

Disarticulated remains were found during the floor reduction throughout the church and also in the test pits and footing trenches in the meeting room. In particular a larger concentration was found towards the north-west corner of the nave (DA2 & 3). This may have been a result of the vaulted tombs found to the north cutting through the area and potentially disturbed earlier graves. Further concentrations were also found in test pit 2, along with scatters found throughout footing trench 2 and 1, which are attributed to the intercutting of graves, and also the construction of the side extension. Footing trench 3 was devoid of disarticulated remains for the most part until the western end was excavated. Here a high level of remains were found which may have been a result of clearing the area when the side extension of the church was constructed. For the majority of the ground reduction within the church there was little in the way of disarticulated remains aside from scatters primarily in the northeast corner of the church and along the southern wall next to the burial vaults.



Conclusions

From such a small sample, no statistical analysis can be carried out and no full conclusions as to the demography and health of the population may be confidently reached. This sample showed no bias in age or gender of individuals and the remains displayed little in the way of pathology. The pathologies noted included a healed leg fracture, degenerative joint disease, and evidence of Ante-Mortem Tooth Loss (AMTL) linked to oral hygiene and age, all of which are typical of a small church going community. One individual of note was SK15 whose skull displayed multiple perforations. One of the pathologies, a well healed depressed fracture on the frontal bone, is likely the result of blunt force trauma. The remaining perforations are may also be the result of severe penetrating trauma, but it is also possible these holes indicate trepanation attempts.

Another interesting observation from this assemblage of individuals was found in SK20 who had an 'edge to edge' straight bite or slight underbite. Within the last c.250 years it has become normal for individuals to develop an overbite, albeit in most cases, slight. The reason for this change is widely blamed on the introduction of cutlery. Prior to the use of utensils, humans tore meat and bread with their teeth leading to greater muscle strength. Cutting up food into manageable bite sized pieces resulted in a serious change in oral health and the subsequent lack of muscle has led to the misalignment commonly seen in modern populations (Saunders 2016). Although this may simply be a developmental issue it is worth noting that a straight bite may indicate burial that pre-dates the 18th century.

Skeletal Catalogue

Dental abbreviations:

√	Present
NP	Not present (lack of preservation)
/	Post-mortem tooth loss/tooth out of socket
X	Ante-mortem tooth loss
*	Tooth present but socket missing
E	Erupting
U	Tooth unerupted
?	Unerupted and not visible in the jaw/possible congenital absence
B	Broken tooth (Post mortem)
Cr	Crown only
R	Root only
H	Hypoplasias
CA	Caries
CL	Calculus
P	Periodontal disease
PL	Periapical lesion

Skeleton No. 1

Burial type: Lead coffin with ledger

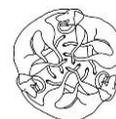
Orientation: E-W

Age: Older Adult

Sex: Male

Completeness: 0-25% observed

Dentition:



Left							Right									
<i>Mandible</i>	<i>M₃</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₃</i>
	X	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	√	√	√	X	X	X	X	X

Pathology: AMTL

Skeleton No. 2

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation: E-W

Age: Adult

Sex: Female

Completeness: 0-25% observed

Skeleton No. 3

Burial type: Coffin

Orientation: E-W

Age: Older Adult

Sex: Male

Completeness: 25-50% observed

Pathology: Trauma to the left tibia and fibula, osteoporosis

Skeleton No. 4

Burial type: Coffin

Orientation: E-W

Age: Older child

Sex: N/A

Completeness: 0-25% observed

Dentition:

Left							Right								
<i>Mandible</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>M₂</i>	
	U	√	U	U	U	√	√	√	√	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	

Skeleton No. 5

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation: E-W

Age: Adult

Sex: Female

Completeness: 25-50% observed

Skeleton No. 6

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation: E-W

Age: Adult

Sex: Undetermined

Completeness: 0-25% observed

Skeleton No. 7

Burial type: Coffin

Orientation: E-W

Age: Adult

Sex: Undetermined



Completeness: 0-25% observed

Skeleton No. 8

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation: E-W

Age: Adult

Sex: Female

Completeness: 0-25% observed

Dentition:

	Left						Right									
<i>Mandible</i>	<i>M₃</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₃</i>
	X	X	X	X	X	/	/	/	/	/	/	X	X	X	X	X

Pathology: AMTL

Skeleton No. 9

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation: E-W

Age: Adult

Sex: Male

Completeness: 0-25% observed

Skeleton No. 10

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation: E-W

Age: Young Child

Sex: N/A

Completeness: 0-25%

Dentition:

	Left						Right							
<i>Maxilla</i>			<i>dm²</i>	<i>dm¹</i>	<i>dc</i>	<i>di²</i>	<i>di¹</i>	<i>di¹</i>	<i>di²</i>	<i>dc</i>	<i>dm¹</i>	<i>dm²</i>		
				*	/	/	/	/	/	/	*			
<i>Maxilla</i>	<i>M²</i>	<i>M¹</i>	<i>p²</i>	<i>p¹</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>I²</i>	<i>I¹</i>	<i>I¹</i>	<i>I²</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>p¹</i>	<i>p²</i>	<i>M¹</i>	<i>M²</i>
							U							
<i>Mandible</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>M₂</i>
		U						U					U	

Note: mixture of deciduous and permanent dentition observed, the permanent teeth found were all loose and still in the development stage with no root present.

Skeleton No. 11

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation: E-W

Age: Adult

Sex: Female?

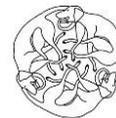
Completeness: 25-50%

Skeleton No. 12

Burial type: Coffin

Orientation: E-W

Age: Young Child - Right Humerus 73mm in length = 1.5 months (Maresh, MM (1970) pp. 157-200



Right illum (pelvis) 38mm in length, 34mm in width = 4-6months (Molleson and Cox, 1993)

Sex: N/A

Completeness: 0-25%

Dentition:

Left			Right											
Maxilla			<i>dm</i> ²	<i>dm</i> ¹	<i>dc</i>	<i>di</i> ²	<i>di</i> ¹	<i>di</i> ¹	<i>di</i> ²	<i>dc</i>	<i>dm</i> ¹	<i>dm</i> ²		
										/				
Mandible			<i>dm</i> ²	<i>dm</i> ¹	<i>dc</i>	<i>di</i> ²	<i>di</i> ¹	<i>di</i> ¹	<i>di</i> ²	<i>dc</i>	<i>dm</i> ¹	<i>dm</i> ²		
				U	/	/	/	/	/	/	U			

Skeleton No. 13

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation: E-W

Age: Infant

Sex: N/A

Completeness: 50-75%

Skeleton No. 14

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation: E-W

Age: Prenatal – Right femur 71mm in length = 38-40 weeks prenatal (Fazekas and Kósa 1978)

Sex: N/A

Completeness: 25-50%

Skeleton No. 15

Burial type: Unknown

Orientation: E-W

Age: Adult

Sex: Undetermined

Completeness: 0-25%

Pathology:

- Several perforations in the skull
- Radiating fracture
- Healed depressed fracture
- Pitting and additional foramina

Skeleton No. 15a

Burial type: Coffin?

Orientation:

Age: >13years based on epiphyseal fusion

Sex: N/A

Completeness: 25-50%

Skeleton No. 16

Burial type: Coffin

Orientation:

Age: Adult

Sex: Probable male

Completeness:



Skeleton No. 17 – Not excavated

Burial type: Coffin

Orientation:

Age:

Sex:

Completeness: 0-25

Skeleton No. 18

Burial type: Unknown

Orientation: E-W

Age: Older Adult – down to degenerative joint disease and tooth pathology

Sex: Male

Completeness: 0-25%

Dentition:

	Left						Right										
<i>Mandible</i>	<i>M₃</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₃</i>	
	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	R	R	R	CA	R	CA	/

Pathologies:

- AMTL
- Dental caries which have destroyed the crowns of four teeth and greatly damaged the crowns of a further two
- Minimal dental calculus
- C1, 2, 3 and 4- marginal osteophytes on transverse process, superior and inferior articular process.
- Porosity where osteophytes are present on the spine

Skeleton No. 18a

Burial type: Unknown

Orientation: E-W

Age: Adolescent- 13-17 based on epiphyseal fusion

Sex: N/A

Completeness: 25-50%

Skeleton No. 19

Burial type: Unknown

Orientation: E-W

Age: Late childhood- 8 years +/- 24 months

Sex: N/A

Completeness: 0-25%

Dentition:

	Left						Right							
<i>Maxilla</i>			<i>dm²</i>	<i>dm¹</i>	<i>dc</i>	<i>di²</i>	<i>di¹</i>	<i>di¹</i>	<i>di²</i>	<i>dc</i>	<i>dm¹</i>	<i>dm²</i>		
			√	√							√	√		
<i>Maxilla</i>	<i>M²</i>	<i>M¹</i>	<i>p²</i>	<i>p¹</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>I²</i>	<i>I¹</i>	<i>I¹</i>	<i>I²</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>p¹</i>	<i>p²</i>	<i>M¹</i>	<i>M²</i>
	U	√	U	U	U	E	/	E	E	U	U	U	√	U

**Skeleton No. 20****Burial type:** Unknown**Orientation:****Age:** Adult**Sex:** Probable Male**Completeness:** 0-25%**Dentition:**

	Left						Right									
<i>Maxilla</i>	<i>M₃</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₃</i>
							√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<i>Mandible</i>	<i>M₃</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₁</i>	<i>I₂</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>P₁</i>	<i>P₂</i>	<i>M₁</i>	<i>M₂</i>	<i>M₃</i>
	/	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	X

Pathologies:

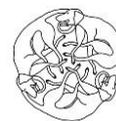
- AMTL
- Periodontal disease

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Appendix 4: Photograph List

Sequence No.	Shot	Date	View	Subject
1	1	28.02.19	ENE	View across nave
2	2	28.02.19	ENE	View of screen into sanctuary
3	3	28.02.19	ENE	View into sanctuary
4	4	28.02.19	NNW	Screen in north aisle
5	5	28.02.19	NNW	Screen in north aisle
6	6	28.02.19	SSE	Screen in south aisle
7	7	28.02.19	SSE	Screen in south aisle
8	8	28.02.19	SE	View into sanctuary
9	9	28.02.19	NE	View into sanctuary
10	10	28.02.19	WSW	View from sanctuary into nave
11	11	28.02.19	WSW	View from sanctuary into nave
12	12	28.02.19	WSW	View along nave
13	13	28.02.19	SSE	North aisle screen
14	14	28.02.19	n/a	Detail of screen
15	15	28.02.19	SE	North aisle screen
16	16	28.02.19	ENE	View along north aisle
17	17	28.02.19	ENE	View along north aisle
18	18	28.02.19	WSW	View along north aisle
19	19	28.02.19	WSW	View along south aisle
20	20	28.02.19	SE	South wall of south aisle
21	21	28.02.19	S	View towards porch
22	22	28.02.19	n/a	Column detail
23	23	28.02.19	n/a	Column detail
24	24	28.02.19	SE	South wall of meeting room
25	25	28.02.19	NW	NW corner of meeting room
26	26	28.02.19	S	Window behind organ
27	27	28.02.19	SE	Screen divide for north aisle
28	28	28.02.19	n/a	Sanctuary arch detail
29	29	28.02.19	n/a	Pew end
30	29	28.02.19	n/a	Pew end (with flash)
31	30	28.02.19	n/a	Roof
32	30	28.02.19	n/a	Roof (with flash)
33	31	28.02.19	ENE	East wall of sanctuary
34	32	28.02.19	ENE	East wall of north aisle
35	33	28.02.19	WSW	View along north aisle
36	34	28.02.19	SE	South wall of south aisle
37	35	28.02.19	NE	View across nave
38	36	28.02.19	SW	View across nave
39	37	28.02.19	n/a	Floor & ledger slabs across east end of nave
40	38	28.02.19	n/a	Floor & ledger slabs across east end of nave
41	39	28.02.19	n/a	Floor along nave



Sequence No.	Shot	Date	View	Subject
42	40	28.02.19	n/a	Floor along nave
43	41	28.02.19	n/a	Floor along south aisle
44	42	28.02.19	n/a	Floor across west end of nave
45	1	17.07.19	ENE	Screen A before top being removed
46	2	17.07.19	SW	W column screen B removed
47	3	17.07.19	SE	E column screen B removed
48	4	17.07.19		E column screen B removed- detail of rubble interior
49	5	17.07.19		W column screen B removed- detail of interior
50	6	17.07.19		Pennies found on & under screen B
51	7	17.07.19		Pennies found on & under screen B
52	8	17.07.19		Pennies found on & under screen B (without flash)
53	9	17.07.19		Pennies found on & under screen B (without flash)
54	10	17.07.19		Blomfield memorial
55	11	17.07.19		Maria Blomfield memorial
56	12	17.07.19		Both memorials on wall
57	13	17.07.19		Brass Blomfield memorial
58	14	17.07.19		Brass Blomfield memorial
59	15	17.07.19		Maria Blomfield memorial
60	16	17.07.19		Area poss. to be impacted by relocation of chancel screen
61	17	17.07.19		Screen A from the E
62	18	17.07.19		Screen A from the W
63	19	17.07.19		Props
64	20	17.07.19		Props
65	21	17.07.19		Screen A- north wall
66	22	17.07.19		Screen A south wall/column
67	23	17.07.19		N end of beam
68	24	17.07.19		Beam being lifted from N-S
69	25	17.07.19		Beam being lifted from N-S
70	26	17.07.19		Beam being lifted from N-S
71	27	17.07.19		S end of beam mortared into column which has been cut to receive it
72	28	17.07.19		Screen
73	29	17.07.19		Screen
74	30	17.07.19		Screen
75	31	17.07.19		Screen
76	1	07.08.19	SE	SE corner of sanctuary
77	2	07.08.19	NE	NE corner of sanctuary
78	3	07.08.19	SE	SE corner of sanctuary
79	4	07.08.19	S	South wall of sanctuary
80	5	07.08.19	ENE	East wall of sanctuary
81	6	07.08.19	ENE	East wall of sanctuary
82	7	07.08.19	ENE	East wall of sanctuary
83	8	07.08.19	ENE	East wall of sanctuary



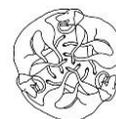
Sequence No.	Shot	Date	View	Subject
84	9	07.08.19	ENE	Detail of east wall
85	10	07.08.19	ENE	Detail of east wall
86	11	07.08.19	ENE	East wall of sanctuary
87	1	07.08.19	SSE	Meeting room view south
88	2	07.08.19	SE	Meeting room view SE
89	3	07.08.19	SW	Meeting room view SW
90	4	07.08.19	NW	Meeting room corbels on W wall
91	5	07.08.19	NE	Meeting room corbels on E wall
92	6	07.08.19	n/a	Slabs from the west
93	7	07.08.19	n/a	Slabs from the south
94	8	07.08.19	n/a	Slabs detail
95	1	21.08.19	N	Straight sided brick wall E end N aisle
96	2	21.08.19	S	Straight sided brick wall E end N aisle view to south
97	3	21.08.19	S	Vaulting at W end of N aisle
98	4	21.08.19	W	Ground reduction N of nave slabs
99	5	21.08.19	W	General view of ground reduction
100	1	11.09.19	W	Burial vault 5 stairwell, view to W
101	2	11.09.19	W	Burial vault 5 stairwell, view to W
102	3	11.09.19	E	Burial vault 5 stairwell, view to E
103	4	11.09.19	N	Burial vault 5 detail, view to N
104	5	11.09.19	E	Curved brick line, E end of S aisle
105	6	11.09.19	E	Flint footings between coulmns 1 & 2 view to E
106	7	11.09.19	N	Flint footings E & W of coulmn 1
107	8	11.09.19	W	Burial vault 06, view to W
108	9	11.09.19	N	Burial vault 06, view to N
109	10	11.09.19	W	Burial vault 05, view to W
110	11	11.09.19	E	Burial vault 05, view to E
111	12	11.09.19	E	Burial vault 05, view to E
112	13	11.09.19	E	Detail of 05
113	1	12.09.19	n/a	Small finds from area
114	2	12.09.19	N	Chancel tiled screen foundations
115	3	12.09.19	S	Chancel view to S
116	4	12.09.19	S	North chapel view to S
117	5	12.09.19	N	North chapel view to N
118	6	12.09.19	N	Brick structure, E end nave adj.column 4 view to N
119	7	12.09.19	E	S side of nave, view to E
120	8	12.09.19	E	S side of nave, view to E
121	9	12.09.19	W	S side of nave, view to W
122	10	12.09.19	W	S side of nave, view to W
123	11	12.09.19	W	N side of nave, view to W
124	12	12.09.19	E	N side of nave, view to E
125	1	12.09.19	E	Disarticulated bone
126	2	12.09.19	E	Test pit 2 corner of meeting room SE corner
127	3	12.09.19	E	Test pit 2 corner of meeting room SE corner



Sequence No.	Shot	Date	View	Subject
128	4	12.09.19	E	Test pit 2 corner of meeting room SE corner
129	5	12.09.19	E	Brick structure [01]
130	6	12.09.19	E	SK 1 & 2
131	7	12.09.19	N	SK 1 & 2
132	8	12.09.19	W	SK 1 & 2
133	1	17.09.19	W	SK3
134	2	17.09.19	W	SK3
135	3	17.09.19	n/a	Coffin handle- Tr 2
136	4	17.09.19	W	Disarticulated remains- Tr 2
137	5	17.09.19	W	Disarticulated remains- Tr 2
138	6	19.09.19	E	Test pit 2 church foundations
139	7	19.09.19	E	Test pit 2 church foundations
140	8	19.09.19	S	Test pit 2 church foundations
141	9	19.09.19	S	Test pit 2 church foundations
142	10	19.09.19	SE	Test pit 2 church foundations
143	11	19.09.19	E	Footing Tr 2
144	12	19.09.19	E	Footing Tr 2
145	13	19.09.19	W	SK4
146	14	19.09.19	n/a	Coffin studs- SK4
147	15	19.09.19	n/a	Coffin studs- SK4
148	16	19.09.19	W	Sk 5
149	17	19.09.19	W	Sk 5
150	18	19.09.19	W	Sk 6
151	19	19.09.19	W	Sk 7
152	20	19.09.19	W	Sk 7
153	21	19.09.19	W	Sk 8
154	22	19.09.19	W	Sk 8
155	23	20.09.19	W	Foundations in test pit 1
156	24	20.09.19	E	Foundations in footing Tr 1
157	25	20.09.19	E	Foundations in footing Tr 1
158	26	20.09.19	E	Foundations in footing Tr 1
159	27	20.09.19	S	Foundations in footing Tr 1
160	28	20.09.19	S	Foundations in footing Tr 1
161	29	20.09.19	W	Sk 9 & foundation- footing Tr 1
162	30	20.09.19	W	Sk 9 & foundation- footing Tr 1
163	31	20.09.19	W	Sk 9 & foundation- footing Tr 1
164	32	20.09.19	W	Brick base- footing Tr 3
165	33	20.09.19	n/a	Coffin handle & nail- Tr 1
166	34	20.09.19	S	Strat footing Tr 2
167	35	20.09.19	S	Strat footing Tr 1
168	36	20.09.19	S	Strat footing Tr 1
169	37	20.09.19	W	Disarticulated dump- footing Tr 3
170	38	20.09.19	W	Footing Tr 3
171	39	20.09.19	W	Footing Tr 3



Sequence No.	Shot	Date	View	Subject
172	40	20.09.19	S	Strat footing Tr 3
173	41	20.09.19	W	Footing Tr 2
174	42	20.09.19	SW	Footing Tr 1-3
175	43	20.09.19	SE	Footing Tr 1-3
176	44	24.09.19	n/a	Disarticulated bone from NE corner ground reduction
177	45	24.09.19	n/a	Disarticulated bone from NE corner ground reduction
178	46	24.09.19	n/a	Disarticulated bone from NE corner ground reduction
179	47	24.09.19	W	Sk 10
180	48	24.09.19	W	Sk 10
181	49	24.09.19	W	Sk 10
182	50	24.09.19	W	Sk 10 (board wrong)
183	51	24.09.19	W	Sk 10 (board wrong)
184	52	24.09.19	W	Sk 11
185	53	24.09.19	W	Sk 11
186	54	24.09.19	W	Sk 11
187	55	24.09.19	W	Sk 12
188	56	24.09.19	W	Sk 12
189	57	24.09.19	W	Sk 12
190	58	26.09.19	NE	Ground reduction SE corner near altar
191	59	26.09.19	E	Strat, ground reduction SE corner
192	60	26.09.19	NE	Ground reduction NE corner
193	61	26.09.19	SE	Ground reduction SE corner
194	62	26.09.19	SE	Ground reduction SE corner
195	63	26.09.19	NE	Ground reduction SE corner
196	64	26.09.19	W	Poss. grave cuts- north aisle east end
197	65	27.09.19	W	Sk 13 & 14
198	66	27.09.19	W	Sk 13 & 14
199	67	27.09.19	W	Sk 13 & 14
200	68	30.09.19	W	Tr 2- church foundations
201	69	30.09.19	W	Tr 2- church foundations
202	70	30.09.19	W	Pit with scorching, south aisle
203	71	30.09.19	W	Pit with scorching, south aisle
204	72	30.09.19	W	Section with scorching, south aisle
205	73	30.09.19	W	Section with scorching, south aisle
206	74	01.10.19	W	Pit [007] pre ex
207	75	01.10.19	W	E facing section of pit [007]
208	76	01.10.19	N	Stone & flint foundation [010]
209	77	01.10.19	NW	Stone & flint foundation [010] in nave
210	78	01.10.19	SW	[003], [007], [010]
211	79	01.10.19	W	West of N aisle ground reduction
212	80	01.10.19	N	Altar reduced
213	81	01.10.19	E	Ground reduction between service Tr. Ledger- S aisle
214	82	01.10.19	n/a	Disarticulated bone from above reduction S aisle
215	83	01.10.19	n/a	Disarticulated bone from above reduction S aisle



Sequence No.	Shot	Date	View	Subject
216	84	02.10.19	E	Stairs excavated for bone reburial
217	85	02.10.19	E	Sk 15
218	86	02.10.19	E	Sk 15
219	87	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15 - Cranium
220	88	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15 - Cranium
221	89	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15 - Cranium
222	90	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15 - Cranium
223	91	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15 - Cranium
224	92	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15 - Cranium
225	93	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15 - Cranium
226	94	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15 - Cranium
227	95	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15- Tibia
228	96	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15- Tibia
229	97	02.10.19	n/a	Sk 15- Tibia
230	98	02.10.19	N	Altar - finished
231	99	02.10.19	N	Altar - finished
232	100	02.10.19	N	Ground reduction between ledger & steps- N aisle



Appendix 5: Registers

Context Register

Context No.	Cut/Fill Type	Description
001	Structure	Flint Foundation- Test pit 1
002	Structure	Flint Foundation- Footing Tr 1
003	Cut	Pit with scorching and ash (south aisle)
004	Fill	Fill of pit [003]
005	Fill	Fill of pit [003]
006	Fill	Fill of pit [003]
007	Cut	Pit with scorching and ash- W end of nave
008	Fill	Burnt basal fill of [007]
009	Fill	Orange sandy secondary fill of [007]
010	Structure	Stone foundation in SW nave and below arcade
011	Cut	Possible Grave cut- E heat duct
012	Fill	Fill of [011]
013	Cut	Grave with SK 16- E heat duct
014	Fill	Fill of [013]
015	Cut	Grave with SK 17- E heat duct
016	Fill	Fill of [015]
017	Structure	BF1; burnt feature at the west end of the nave
018	Deposit	Clay deposit associated with [017]/BF1
019	Fill	Fill of [017]/BF1
020	Structure	BS1: Northeast end of the south aisle, part of earlier heating system
021	Fill	Fill of [020]/BS1
022	Structure	BS2: brick base east end of South arcade
023	Structure	BS3: rectangular structure beneath the altar
024	Cut	Possible cut north of SK16[017]
DA1	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: north wall
DA2	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: West end of the north aisle
DA3	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: West end of the north aisle
DA4	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: East of LS06
DA5	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: South aisle
DA6	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: South aisle
DA7	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: South aisle
DA8	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: SE corner of the south transept
DA9	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: South transept: Trench 2
DA10	Group	Group of disarticulated remains: South transept: Trench 3



Skeleton Register

SK No.	Location	Description
1	Nave: beneath LS10	Adult Male
2	South transept: Test Pit 2	Adult
3	South transept: Test Pit 2	Adult Male
4	South transept:Footing Tr 1	Child
5	South transept:Footing Tr 1	Adult Female
6	South transept:Footing Tr 1	Adult
7	South transept:Footing Tr 1	Adult
8	South transept:Footing Tr 1	Adult Female
9	South transept:Footing Tr 1	Adult Male
10	Lady Chapel	Child
11	North aisle	Adult Female?
12	Chancel: west of altar	Child
13	South aisle	Infant
14	South aisle	Prenatal
15	Chancel: east of altar	Adult
15a	Chancel: east of altar	Child
16	Nave: beneath LS09	Adult skull
17	Nave: south of SK16	Adult skull
18	Chancel: south of SK15	Adult
18a	Chancel: south of SK15	Juvenile
19	South aisle	Skull
20	Nave: east of LS06	Adult

Drawing Register

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Type	Scale	Description
1	1	P	1:20	Sk1 & ledger
2	1	P	1:10	Sk2 & 3 Test pit
3	1	S	1:10	BF
4	2	P	1:10	SK3 Footing 2
5	2	P	1:10	SK4-6 Footing 1
6	3	P	1:10	Flint foundation 001 & 002, Sk 7-9
7	4	P	1:10	Sk10
8	4	P	1:10	Sk11
9	4	P	1:10	Sk12
10	5	P	1:20	Possible grave cuts
11	5	P	1:10	Sk13-14
12	5	P	1:10	Pit [003]
13	5	S	1:10	Pit [003]
14	6	P	1:20	SW Nave & S Aisle- [003], [007], [010]
15	6	S	1:10	Pit [007]

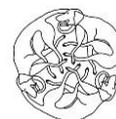


Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Type	Scale	Description
16	7	P	1:5	Sk15- Altar
17	8	S	1:10	E Heating duct
18	8	P	1:20	E Heating duct- Sk16-17



Appendix 6: OASIS and Site Data

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name & Address	St Nicholas Church, Stevenage, Herts	Project Site Code	439/SNN
OASIS reference	kdkarcha1-341101	Event/Accession no	TBC
OS reference	TL 24074 26207	Study area size	331sq m
Project Type	Watching Brief	Height (mAOD)	
Short Description	<p>Between January and November 2019 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording of St Nicholas, Rectory Lane, Stevenage, Hertfordshire as part of the reconfiguration of the church interior. The church is Grade I listed and dates from c.1125. Extensive alterations were undertaken in the 1840s and again in the early 20th century, which along with the medieval enlargement of the aisles and chancel, resulted in the relocation of a number of burials and ledger slabs. In total 22 individual burials were observed during the ground reduction, and 10 of groups of disarticulated remains were revealed, predominantly in the south transept, which was added in 1841 and the north and south aisles. At least two of the burials are of former rectors, one of which was revealed beneath the oldest ledger slab in the church dating from the very early 14th century and thought to be Gerald de Stanton (d1314). One individual, whose skull was discovered behind the altar, had suffered severe head wounds or possible trepanation, whilst another had a remarkable set of well-kept teeth.</p> <p>Six burial chambers were partially exposed, two of which were not directly beneath ledger slabs as they had been moved during one of the earlier building programmes. A row of vaults beneath the line of ledger slabs in the north aisle had previously remained undisturbed, and a stair access was revealed at the western end during the current building programme. This was cleared and became the repository for the remains that had to be relocated.</p> <p>The duct and brick base for an earlier heating system were revealed at the east end of the south aisle and 3 other features showing heat affected fills that are thought to be either braziers or associated with the building of the vaults were found at the west end of the building.</p> <p>External works were limited to a single test pit against the east wall of the south transept, which revealed only the foundations of the wall and the associated ground disturbance.</p>		
Previous work	No	Site status	Grade 1 Listed
Planning proposal	Addition of a first floor above the meeting room, removal and replacement of the floor in the nave, relocation of three screens, addition of another screen and a set of folding glazed doors	Current land use	Place of Worship
Local Planning Authority	Stevenage Borough Council	Planning application ref.	N/A
Monument type	Church	Monument period	Medieval
Significant finds	Lead lined coffin, burial vaults	Future work	Not known
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation	KDK Archaeology Ltd		
Project Brief originator	N/A	Project Design originator	KDK Archaeology Ltd
Project Manager	Karin Kaye MA MCIfA	Director/Supervisor	Karin Kaye MA MCIfA
Sponsor/funding body	PCC		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date	31.01.2019	End date	05.11.2019



PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical	N/A	All finds reburied in the church	
Paper & digital	Stevenage Museum	Fieldwork sheets, drawings & reports	
Digital	OASIS	Report	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title	Archaeological Observation & Recording Report: St Nicholas Church, Stevenage Hertfordshire		
Serial title & volume	KDK Archaeology Report 439/SSN 3.1		
Author(s)	Karin Kaye MA MCIfA with Carina Summerfield Hill MSc ACIfA & Laura Dodd MSc ACIfA		
Page no's		Date	3 rd March 2020



Appendix 7: Hertfordshire Historic Environment Record Sheet

Site name and address: St Nicholas Church Stevenage Hertfordshire		
County: Hertfordshire	District: Stevenage Borough	
Village/Town: Stevenage	Parish: Stevenage	
Planning application reference: N/A		
Client's name, address, & tel. no: St Nicholas PCC		
Nature of application: Addition of a first floor above the meeting room, removal and replacement of the floor in the nave, relocation of three screens, addition of another screen and a set of folding glazed doors		
Present land use: Place of Worship		
Size of application area: 456sq m	Size of area investigated: 331sq m	
NGR (to 8 figures): TL 24074 26207	Site code: 439/SSN	
Site director: Karin Kaye MA MCIfA	Organization: KDK Archaeology Ltd	
Type of work: Observation & Recording		
Date of Work:	Start: 31.01.2019	Finish: 05.11.2019
Curating museum: Stevenage Museum		
Related HER no's:	Periods represented: Medieval, post-medieval, modern	
Relevant previous summaries/reports: St Nicholas Church, Stevenage: KDK Archaeology Ltd Report 439/SSN/2.1		
<p>Summary of fieldwork results:</p> <p>Between January and November 2019 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording of St Nicholas, Rectory Lane, Stevenage, Hertfordshire as part of the reconfiguration of the church interior. The church is Grade I listed and dates from c.1125. Extensive alterations were undertaken in the 1840s and again in the early 20th century, which along with the medieval enlargement of the aisles and chancel, resulted in the relocation of a number of burials and ledger slabs. In total 22 individual burials were observed during the ground reduction, and 10 of groups of disarticulated remains were revealed, predominantly in the south transept, which was added in 1841 and the north and south aisles. At least two of the burials are of former rectors, one of which was revealed beneath the oldest ledger slab in the church dating from the very early 14th century and thought to be Gerald de Stanton (d1314). One individual, whose skull was discovered behind the altar, had suffered severe head wounds or trepanation, whilst another had a remarkable set of well-kept teeth.</p> <p>Six burial chambers were partially exposed, two of which were not directly beneath ledger slabs as they had been moved during one of the earlier building programmes. A row of vaults beneath the line of ledger slabs in the north aisle had previously remained undisturbed, and a stair access was revealed at the western end during the current building programme. This was cleared and became the repository for the remains that had to be relocated.</p> <p>The duct and brick base for an earlier heating system were revealed at the east end of the south aisle and 3 other features showing heat affected fills that are thought to be either braziers or associated with the building of the vaults were found at the west end of the building.</p> <p>External works were limited to a single test pit against the east wall of the south transept, which revealed only the foundations of the wall and the associated ground disturbance.</p>		
Author: Karin Kaye MA MCIfA	Date: 3 rd March 2020	