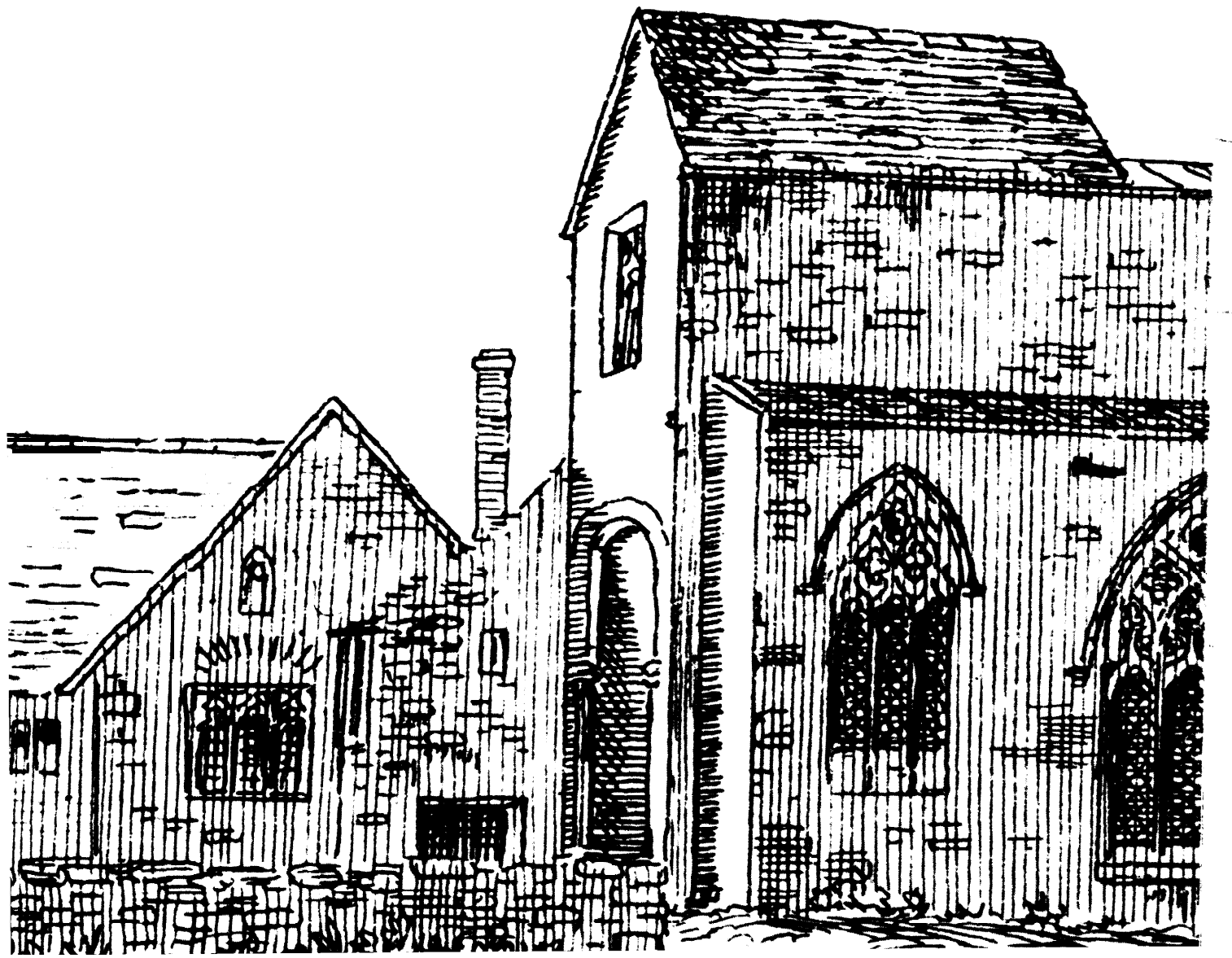
CBA RESEARCH REPORT

No 15

EXCAVATIONS AT ST MARY'S CHURCH DEERHURST 1971-73

Philip Rahtz



Excavations at St Mary's Church, Deerhurst, 1971-73

Philip Rahtz

1976
Research Report 15 The Council for British Archaeology

The Council for British Archaeology
7 Marylebone Road
London NW1 5HA

ISBN 0 900312 34 3

Printed by Eyre & Spottiswoode Ltd,
Grosvenor Press, Portsmouth

Contents

Summary

This report describes the results of *excavations around the ruined east end* of *St Mary's Church, Deerhurst, Glos. New evidence was found of the relationships between the structural components* of *the east end. Many burials were found both inside and outside the structures; some burial was shown to be earlier than the first definable stone structure. Other features may be associated with monastic buildings beyond the east end. Some Roman pottery and building material was found in the excavation, and also Saxon worked stone, including a fragment* of *a wheel-cross head. A radiocarbon date centring in the late 7th century was obtained from an extra-mural feature.*

A preliminary account is also given of *new finds and features in other parts* of *the church complex. These include a 12th century sculpture re-used in the belfry stage* of *the tower, other Saxon and medieval worked stone in local buildings, a survey of the graveyard, and fieldwork in the village and parish. The bulldozing* of *earthworks near Odda's Chapel was observed; a little Roman material was found, and structures located which may be Roman tile kilns.*

Introduction and Acknowledgments

St Mary's Church at Deerhurst has been the subject of many studies for a century and more. Most of them have been concerned with Saxon features visible in the above-ground parts of the structures, though there has been some excavation as well. The current work at Deerhurst was stimulated by a recent paper by Taylor (1968) in which he suggested the possibility that the church may have had a corridor crypt. A small excavation was arranged by the School of History of the University of Birmingham which answered this particular question in the negative, but yielded a surprising amount of new evidence below the ground; this in turn stimulated a reconsideration of the standing building. The research was extended to include the buildings around the church, the graveyard, and Deerhurst village (Plate I). In 1973 the newly formed CBA Churches Committee and the Society of Antiquaries sponsored a research committee on the English Church. They adopted Deerhurst as their principal research project. Dr L A S Butler is the co-ordinating director of this, in collaboration with Dr H M Taylor and the writer. The 1973 season was under the aegis of this committee, as will be future work and reports planned for 1974 and subsequent years. Some information from the 1974 season has been incorporated in this report; a summary of the work done in 1971–4 has been published (Butler, Rahtz, and Taylor 1975). Apart from the work already mentioned, it is hoped to make a total survey of the church by plaster-stripping and excavation inside and outside; this, it is hoped, will settle many outstanding problems of the history of the building, which is regarded as crucial in the study of Anglo-Saxon church architecture. Work will also continue on the monastic buildings, and on the economic background of the monastic complex represented by its estates.

I would like to thank the following who have contributed either to the field work, or to the preparation of this preliminary report:

Volunteers: G Astill, I Burrow, M Carver, J Crow, A Hannan, S Hughes, P Leach, Mrs L Rollason (née Wilkinson), Mrs E Walsh, Miss S Wright.

Specialist work and reports: M Aston (field survey), Professor Rosemary Cramp (comments on Saxon cross fragment), Miss S Hirst (assistant director and section on burials), J Jones (graveyard survey), Mrs G March (find drawing), Dr J Morris (report on human skeletal remains), Miss B Noddle (report on animal bone), Professor F W Shotton, FRS (radiocarbon dating), Professor D Walsh (report on Romanesque sculpture).

General help: Dr L A S Butler (art-historical and general advice), Father H Maclean and the Deerhurst Parochial Church Council (for permission to excavate), the Morris family (hospitality and provision of excavation headquarters), and to Dr H M Taylor, who inspired the initiation of this work and who has continued to encourage all who have taken part in it.

Earlier Work on the East End

Several earlier writers have discussed the east end of the church, especially the form of the apse and its relationship to the main body of the church and to the two flanking porticus on each side. In this paper these features are referred to as the *first stone church,* the *semicircular* and *polygonal apses,* and the *south, south-east, north,* and *north-east porticus* (Fig. 1). The problem which has provoked most discussion is whether the semicircular apse foundations ever carried any superstructure earlier than that fragment which still survives, and whether the latter was semicircular or (as is now generally accepted) polygonal.

The apse was demolished at some time before 1547, when the churchwardens complained of the state of the body of the church, resulting from the removal of the apse masonry (Butterworth 1890, 99; in Buckler 1886–87, 35, fn. 1; and Butterworth 1890, 91, 98). Butterworth thought that it may have become ruinous and the chancel arch blocked long before this date, perhaps as early as the mid-15th century, when the Priory was briefly dissolved. This view depended on the date of the window high in the east gable, on its relationship to the former roof level of the apse, and on the consequences of the decline of the Priory. The date of the demolition of the south-east and north-east porticus is equally uncertain. It has been generally felt (and this is the view taken in this report) that they cannot have co-existed with the polygonal apse, since they mask its elegant strip-framework. Biddle (personal communication) suggests, however, that we may be unwise in projecting modern concepts of elegance back into the Anglo-Saxon period and that the date of these porticus, and that of their demolition, must depend on other evidence.

The earliest pictorial representation of Deerhurst is in Lysons (1804, pl. LV2). His drawing shows the south-east porticus apparently roofed as a separate adjunct of Priory Farm, with the surviving bay of the polygonal apse as its north wall. The ground-level inside the apse is obscured by a fence in his view, so it is uncertain whether the pigstyes referred to by Haigh in 1846 or any other structures were there at that time.

Haigh (1846, 17) described the "chancel" (i.e. the apse) as being "in ruins, and *(proh! pudor!)* its site occupied by pigstyes". He was apparently uncertain (1846, 13) whether the surviving fragment of apse was of polygonal or semicircular plan. His disgust at the state of the east end of the church was equalled only by his distaste for the Puritan seating arrangements inside the present church: "I cannot bu t express a hope" he wrote (1846, 19) "that the time is not far distant when this abomination will b e removed, and the pigs, which now wallow in the ruins of the ancient chancel, will be driven elsewhere". Buckler (1886-87, pl. 1 opp. 16) interpreted the surviving fragment as one bay, and part of the second, of a seven-sided apse, but this was never accepted by Butterworth, the then incumbent of Deerhurst, who in other respects is our soundest and

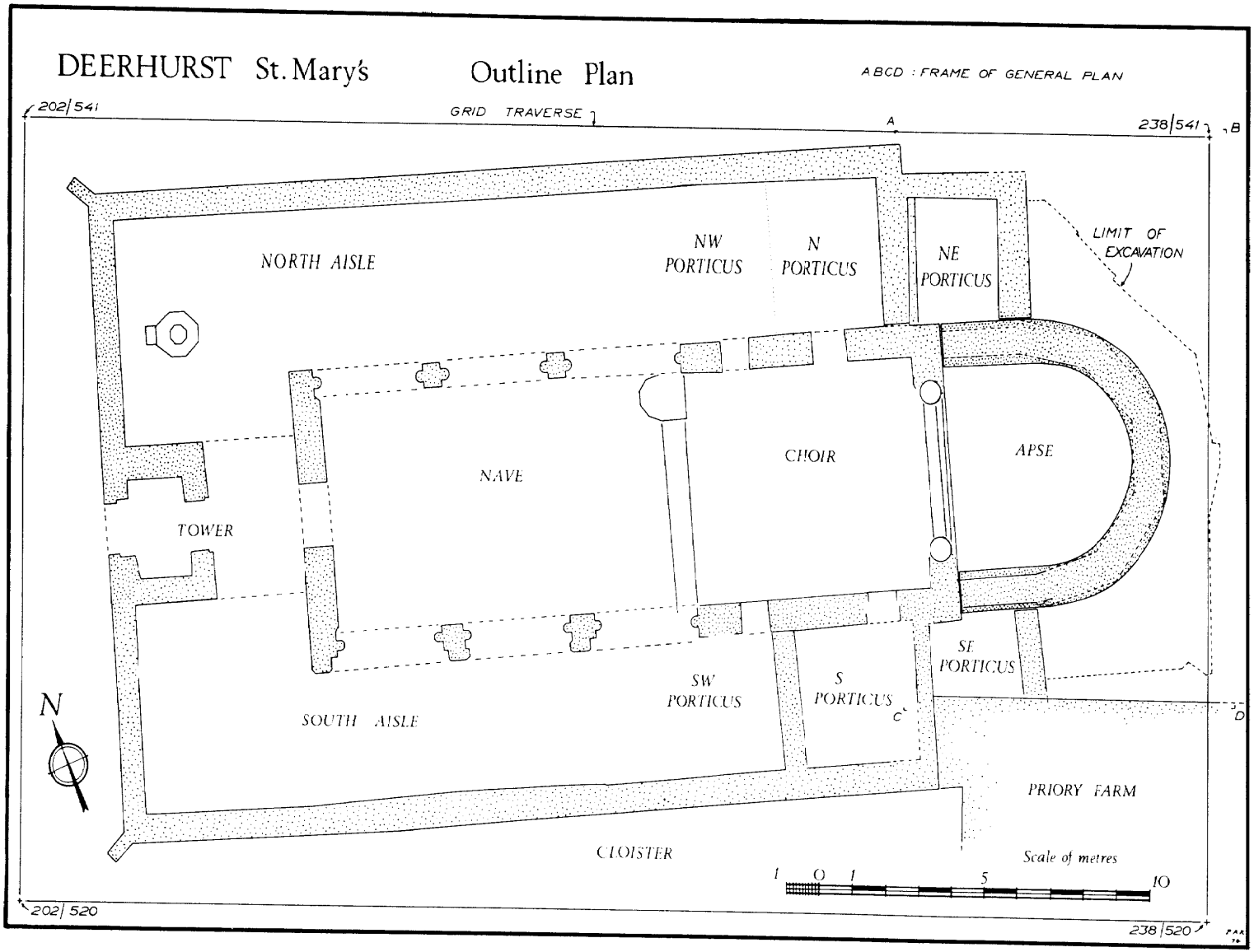


Fig. 1 Deerhurst St Mary's : outline plan

most objective authority on the church in the 19th century, He believed that he had proved the point when he carried out the first recorded excavation on the site on 24 September 1889 (Butterworth 1889–90, and 1890, 96). He uncovered the foundations of a semicircular plan, from which he concluded that "the shape was without doubt semicircular; and there never was a polygonal apse". The pigs had by this time been "driven elsewhere" and their styes had been replaced by a cider-house, occupying "the greater part of the ruined sanctuary" (1889–90, 48).

Inside the cider-house the outer face of the apse was "uncovered for a space of 7 feet, just at the crown of the curve"; outside the cider-house "we struck upon the inner face, before the spring of the curve, and followed it for 7 feet beyond the spring. This section gave us also the *outer* face of the wall". A third section[1] revealed another portion of the outer face. This was presumably near the east end, as it enabled him to calculate the length of the "sanctuary" as 18 ft. Thus in Butterworth's view (1890, 96), Buckler's concept of a polygonal apse had been "overthrown", a structure "of which as now appears he himself was the sole architect and builder".[2]

Butterworth (1890, 10) also recorded Roman finds (see p. 6) and human bones (1890, 100) (see p. 35, and commented (93) on the use of green sandstone as being characteristic of the post-Conquest work.

Micklethwaite (1896) does not appear to have questioned Butterworth's view; he reproduced a plan (328, fig. 25) made in 1860 "under the direction of Mr Slater, the architect, who was then carrying out considerable alterations on the church" (328, fn. 1).[3]

To this he added an apse on the east end of the south-east porticus; "this was not found by Mr Slater, and is put in on the authority of my much-regretted friend, Dr J. H. Middleton, who found evidence of it" (328, fn. 1). What this was, if it ever existed, is not known; no evidence for it was seen in the present excavation.

Knowles (1927) studied the church and apse in 1926 preparatory to the conservation and restoration of the latter as a historical monument. His excavation in the area of the "apsidal presbytery" was done at the suggestion of the Society of Antiquaries with the approval of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society and the Croome Estate Trustees. The work cost £300, which included the cost of conservation of the foundations and of fencing; both of these have now, after half a century, been renewed and replaced by the Department of the Environment (1975).

He records (154) the foundations of the apse as of uniform depth with that of the "quire" "carried through loose sandy earth to the level of a marl stratum about 7 feet below floor-level . . . There were no other foundations or evidence of walling within the area of the apse, which was thoroughly trenched"; "evidence" of a crypt or prepared burial-place was "non-existent".

Knowles demonstrated conclusively that Buckler had been right in believing the surviving apse bay to be part of a polygon, and in his plan (1927, fig. 16) showed that this must indeed have been of seven sides. He went further, however, in asserting that the semicircular foundation which he exposed was not only of one build with the polygonal apse (156), but that "the inevitable conclusion must be that the semicircular-ended foundation was built to receive a polygonal apse of seven equal sides" (158). The inevitability of this conclusion has been challenged by Taylor on mathematical grounds (in a paper delivered to the Society of Antiquaries in March 1974) and in this report (p. 18 on stratigraphical and structural grounds.

Knowles further claimed that "all the indications seem to favour the view that it [the apse] was part of the same build" as the east wall of the first stone church. These conclusions were based on wall thickness and the presence in both of herring-bone masonry, and are refuted in this paper on stratigraphical grounds.

The foundations of the south-east and north-east porticus were also exposed. He records that these were secondary to the apse and assumed that both were secondary to the south and north porticus (160) (this may be true of the south-east but is not true of the north-east porticus).

Human bones were found in 1926 inside the apse near the north wall (160, fn.) (where Butterworth had also dug and perhaps put them there–see p. 35, and outside the apse to the east of the north-east porticus.

Apart from what has just been recorded (and a cutting made west of the tower), the extent or location of Knowles's excavation is unknown; it is therefore difficult to tell which of the areas of disturbance found in the present excavation were of 1926 and which of earlier date.

Knowles also recorded the capital and base now in the parlour of Priory Farm (see p. 29). He regarded the former as being of 12th century date (160) and probably the base as well, as he includes a profile of it on the same drawing (his fig. 17); this may be true, but there is a possibility that the base is earlier, in view of a find in the present excavation (p. 29).

Jackson and Fletcher (1961) accepted the polygonal apse, but regarded it as secondary to an earlier semicircular apse. They argued (1961, 65) for an "early" date for the church, comparing the plan with 7th century Kentish churches of cruciform plan with stilted semicircular apses. In order to maintain such a thesis, they argued that the semicircular apse was of one build with the first stone church, the vertical scar on the north side of the east elevation of the church (p. 18) resulting from its removal (1961, 68). Evidence will be given below to show that such a scheme cannot be supported. They also postulated (1961, 67 and fig. 4.1) that the north-east and south-east porticus had originally flanked the semicircular apse, but had been demolished when the polygonal apse was built. This may be true; they were, however, we believe mistaken in regarding the signs of burning seen in the roll-headed doorway which links the south-east with the south porticus as the result of a fire which *preceded* the polygonal apse (which shows no burning) and which may have been, they thought, the

occasion of the destruction of the semicircular apse. We would now regard the arch of this doorway as being stylistically of later (probably post-Conquest) date.[4] They thought that the human bones recorded by earlier writers in the north-east porticus showed that this (and by inference the south-east porticus) had had "sepulchral use" (1961, 70). Evidence from the present work suggests that the burials were earlier than the porticus (p. 17).

Taylor and Taylor (1965, 202) took a more cautious view about the apse; they accepted the polygonal apse, but did not regard the existence of a semicircular apse as proven. Taylor (personal communication) has more recently reiterated this position and pointed out that, while there may be evidence that the semicircular apse foundation is not of one build with the polygonal apse, there is none to prove that any superstructure was ever actually built on it. If it could be assumed that the north-east and south-east porticus were demolished when the polygonal apse was built, then clearly they can only have existed with an earlier apse; but as discussed above (p. 1) this cannot be taken for granted. It is hoped that the evidence to be cited below (p. 18) will strongly suggest that there *were* two apses, one replacing the other, and show that both were secondary to the first stone church in its original form.

It has been assumed in the papers hitherto published on Deerhurst that the south-east and north-east porticus were secondary to the south and north porticus, a relationship which is now disproved in the case of the north-east[5] and unproven in the south-east.

Other papers (e.g. Gilbert 1954) have considered the relationships at the east end, but have been more concerned with problems of style, dating, and speculation on origins and parallels than with structural relationships.

Taylor's paper on corridor crypts (1968, 47) gave reasons for believing that Deerhurst might perhaps have had a corridor crypt, similar to that still to be seen at Brixworth, although no direct evidence was then to be seen. That a crypt might have existed at Deerhurst had earlier been noted by Gilbert (1965, 6) but without any statement of reasons. The possibility had been suggested to the Taylors by the two blocked doorways visible above present ground level in the east walls of the south and north porticus; steps from them might at some time have led down eastwards into a corridor crypt extending around the apse. It was thought that such a major feature should have left evidence which could still be recovered by excavation, in spite of the apparent extent of former disturbance. A few days' digging in 1971 in the south-east porticus and area to the east of it soon showed that no such crypt had ever existed and that disturbance had not been so extensive as to have destroyed all the archaeological evidence, a view confirmed subsequently in the whole apse area.

The Excavation

Recording system

[Site prefix: DH 1971, 1972, 1973]

Areas:	A Apse interior S SE porticus SE SE exterior NE NE exterior N NE porticus
Layers:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 prefixed by area code; subdivisions a, b, c
Features:	Fl, F2, F3 prefixed by area code; subdivisions a, b, c
Finds:	ST (stone) HB (human bone) etc., followed by serial number in each category
Plans:	G general, PD pre-Dissolution, PM post-medieval, B burials and human bones
Sections:	Sl, S2, etc.
Elevations:	El, E2, etc. (shape and size of stones on these depend on extent of mortar removal, especially in buried areas.)

Method

Areas were excavated by layer and feature, sections being drawn where exposed at limits of cutting or where otherwise visible, e.g. under heating duct in north-east porticus, or by reconstruction of levels taken on pre-determined axes. Finds and features were recorded in plan and their level related to site datum, and subsequently to Ordnance Datum in metres. All surveying was done at 1:20 metric scale, including elevations and sections. Photography was in monochrome on Pentacon 6, 6 x 6 cm format, Ilford FP4; colour on Praktica V, 35 mm, Kodachrome II with 24 mm lens.

Maps and locations

1:2500: SO 8629–8729–8630–8730; Nat. Grid Ref.: SO 871299; 2°ll´W longit., 51°58´N lat.

Stratification

The general stratification could be formalized into five layers as follows (each with area prefix):

1 Bushes, weeds, roots, and surface layers.

2 Dark grey-brown levels of backfilling of earlier cxcavations, disturbances, and former farmyard soil: the general post-medieval layer.

3 Dark brown sandy soil, disturbed and sometimes redeposited generally, containing only occasional intrusive post-medieval finds, but containing all earlier material not in features: interpreted mostly as a disturbed buried soil, usually the material in which features were initially defined.

4 Orange-brown sandy soil, mostly clean and without finds; merges with 3: interpreted as the weathering layer of the subsoil below.

5 Reddish sandy clay subsoil, a hard stratum on which all stone structures are based, not yet geologically identified: usually identified as Triassic marl, but more probably derived from underlying glacial or alluvial deposits.

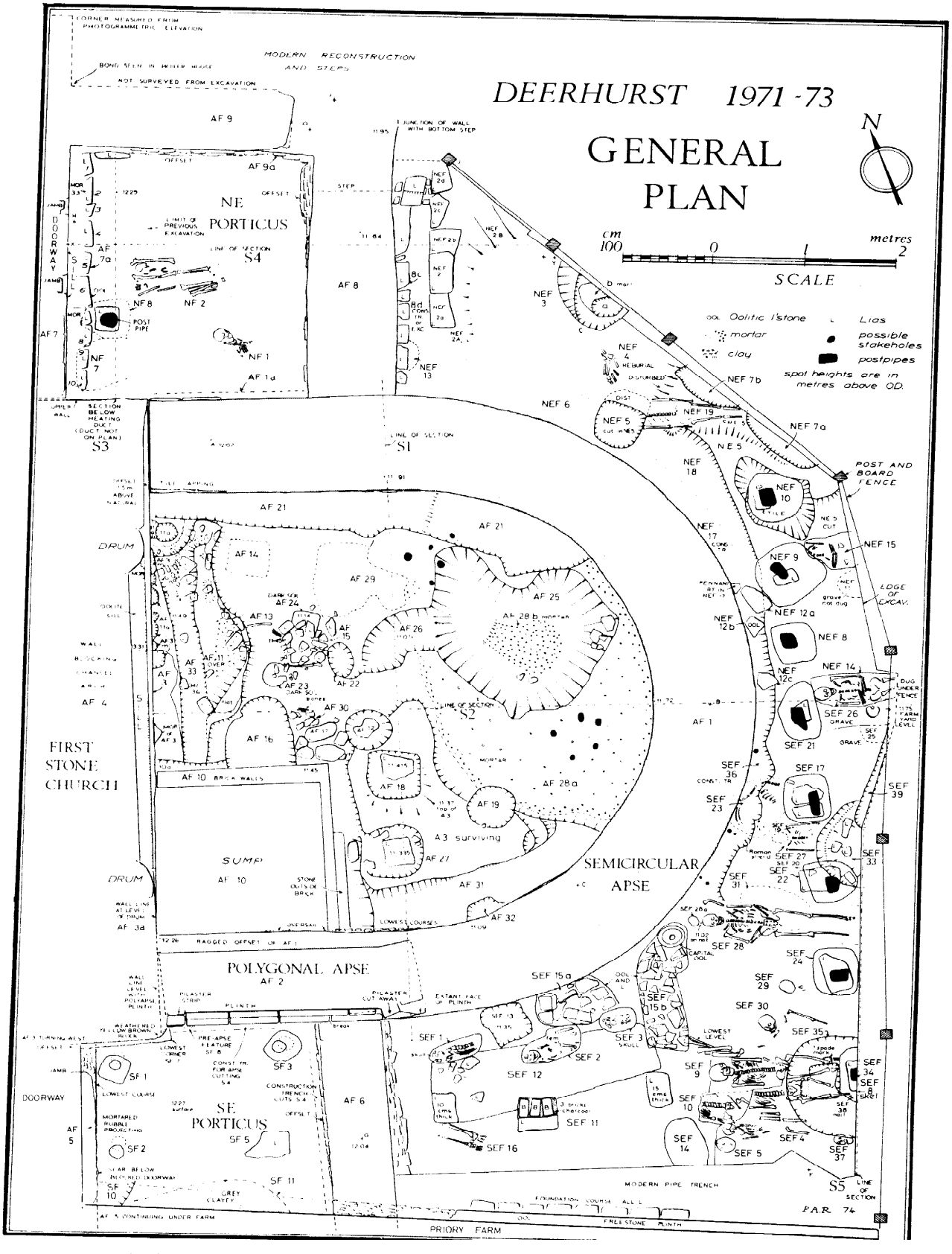


Fig. 2 General plan

Levels

A site datum was established on the apse wall just south of the east centre, which was related to Ordnance Datum by a bench mark on the west face of the tower. Levels not shown on the figures are listed as follows (all in metres above OD):

1	Ground level by west door of church	12.83
2	Farmyard to east of S2	11.77
3	Inside chancel (step) (0.18 higher than sill in blocking outside)	13.49
4	Inside east wall of north porticus (0.06 higher than outside)	13.23

Periods

Summary

This is only tentative, in view of the continuing study of the church as a whole, and thus there is no reference to these periods in the text or drawings, except in this discussion; they are used here merely as a convenient framework in which to describe the structural and stratigraphical sequence; they are not necessarily in chronological sequence.

I	pre-first stone church, including prehistoric and Roman
IIa	first stone church—first phase
IIb	first stone church—second phase
IIc	pre-apse, of periods I, IIa, or IIb
IId	possibly as IIc but not securely related
III	semicircular apse
IVa	south porticus
IVb	north/north-east porticus
IVc	south-east porticus
V	polygonal apse
PD	other pre-Dissolution features and finds
PM	post-medieval

Period I: Pre-first stone church

Prehistoric

The only possible evidence of prehistoric occupation is that of a flint flake (ST2), in an area of clean soil, but experience elsewhere has shown that flint continues to be used or re-used in Roman and medieval times. The area is obviously an attractive one for early settlement and such is evident in the air photographs of the parish, which show features likely to be of prehistoric date, including what looks like a major barrow with internal structure (p. 26).

Roman

A small number of pieces of Roman building material was found in several features: these include fragments of *imbrices, tegulae,* flue-tiles, and brick, in fired clay, and possibly Pennant stone roof- or floor-tiles. There were also several Roman sherds; indeed, these form the majority of the sherds found. There is also the possibility that some of the brick-tempered building mortars may be Roman (p. 33).

The building materials may have been brought in as raw material for Saxon or later construction. It is more difficult to accept this explanation for the sherds and the mortar. The latter may indeed be merely evidence for the survival of a characteristic Roman technique (p. 33). This still leaves the pottery. This might be dismissed as curios picked up during the robbing of building material, but it could be seen as evidence of Roman occupation on the site of the church, however slight. There is an earlier reference to possible Roman finds under the church which might support such a hypothesis. Butterworth (1890, 10 fn. 1) records the finding of "two large earthenware vases or 'cinerary urns' under the pavement of Deerhurst church in 1861" (presumably in the nave); he says that they "were conveyed to Apperley Court, where they were carefully preserved". No trace of them can now be found. There was also a coin of Victorinus (AD 265) discovered "at the same time and place".[6] These urns might well have been Roman, as the associated coin might suggest, or they might be Saxon. They could have been of a domestic character, but the finding of what were at least clearly substantial fragments of (if not complete) pots, suggest rather cremation or inhumation burials. If this can be confirmed by future excavation, this is clearly of the greatest interest in providing an early background for the religious use of the site.

All or some of the Roman finds may be residual in the contexts in which they were found; this is clearly true where they are associated with Saxon or later material. The possibility cannot, however, be dismissed that some excavated features are of Roman date. Some of the earliest burials may, of course, be Roman, as the 1861 find might hint, but so too may be the earlier structures, including especially the first stone church (perhaps not originally a church) and other. features not dated to later centuries, such as those cut by the apse. Only further excavation can prove this, but it must be stressed that there is nothing in the evidence from the excavation to disprove it.

The Roman material has been spoken of so far as if it were Roman in the conventional sense, i.e. of the first four centuries AD or the earlier 5th century. Current research, especially in the western counties of England, suggests that Roman material may, especially when sparse, as at Deerhurst, be evidence of occupation in the 5th, 6th or even 7th centuries, in areas where English settlement was long delayed. Nor is this occupation necessarily Christian in these centuries; archaeological evidence is accumulating for the possible survival of paganism in the west into the 6th if not even the 7th century.

If the material is regarded as merely derived from some Roman site, then this is perhaps not far to seek. In Odda´s Chapel are displayed *pila* tiles from a hypocaust, which are said to have been found nearby; there is also a terra-cotta head of Jupiter Ammon said to have been dug up in the south-west corner of the churchyard (information from Fr H Maclean[7]). The location of Roman buildings or structures in this area was suggested in 1972, when bulldozing in field 9587 by Odda´s Chapel revealed more building material (including a possible *tessera,* ST12) and a few sherds; two possible tile-kilns were also seen (p. 25).

It seems very likely then that there are substantial Roman buildings, perhaps a villa, in Deerhurst; the nucleus of these may be near Odda´s Chapel, but there may be some religious nucleus under the church itself.

Other pre-first stone church features

Whatever the date of the first stone church may be, there was certainly earlier occupation and burial. This is shown by finds in the builders' layers (AF3b, AF35) (sections S2, S3: Figs. 3 and 4) associated with the first stone church. These include a few animal bones (p. 32); these could, of course, be from the builders' meals, but the same can hardly be said of human bones in the same context, which must represent earlier burials. Another pre-church burial seems indicated by AF13 (HB20), which was presumably cut by the builders' operations, at least those of the second phase. The contexts are not exclusively those of the first-phase builders, they are also those of the second phase (see below); it is, however, argued below that the second phase involved only a rebuilding or heightening of the first stone church and did not involve new foundations. The burials are thus more likely to have been disturbed by the first-phase builders, though there may also have been subsoil disturbance in the second phase for reasons that are not yet known to us. Further evidence of pre-first stone church occupation was also seen as AF3c, dark laminated soil, apparently sealed by the primary builders' upcast NF9 in the north-east porticus. [g]

Although the first stone church has been spoken of as the primary structure seen in excavation, there may be earlier stone or timber structures lying west of the east end of the present church, with which the material described might be associated; earlier occupation or burial might be in an open area, unenclosed or within a defined boundary. Burials in particular need not be associated with a religious structure; they may be part of an undeveloped cemetery as defined by Thomas (1971, ch. 3).

Other features not directly related stratigraphically to the first stone church may also be earlier than it. These are discussed below as IIc and d.

Period IIa: first stone church—first phase (AF3) (=SF7 lower) (Figs. 5–8)

The first stone church, as here defined, exists in an archaeological sense as the lower courses of the present east wall and the north-east and south-east corners, and short visible lengths of the return wall foundations westwards. It is possible, and is indeed at present assumed, that they are part of the entire "basic inner rectangle" of the church, at its foundation level, but this has not yet been proved; the extensions westwards may terminate anywhere.

The first phase comprises the lower four courses (*c.* 40cm in height) bonded with a yellowish mortar. They consist entirely of Lias, as far as the exposed stones show, with the exception of a few pieces of purplish stone.[9] They are founded on the hard natural clay, which was cut away slightly to receive the lowest course, more on the north end (in a construction trench 10 cm deep) than the south (cf. S2, S3, El); this is probably associated with the slight drop in the level of the natural from north to south. The foundations therefore displaced some subsoil, and presumably any intact or disturbed buried soil which lay on the subsoil. This displaced material thus included both clay and soil and was identified in the excavation as AF36 (see S2) [10] along the east wall, and as NF9 on the north side (see S3). The latter lay in places on a period I layer (AF3c) and had two components; the first was similar to AF36, but secondary to this, banking up on its north side, was some slightly mortary soil and a Lias block, interpreted as builders' waste. No such upcast was identified on the south side because of later disturbance. By the north-east corner, a slight space was left between wall and upcast. This was filled with clayey lumps and mortary soil (lower part of AF3b), which spread slightly northwards over the spoil NF9. It could not clearly be separated from the second phase part of AF3b, though the mortar in the lower part was all of the yellowish type.

The south-east and north-east corners of the first stone church were buried in soil, and have remained so; the implications of this will be considered in relation to the second phase below.

Period IIb: first stone church—second phase (AF3a) (=SF7 upper) (Figs. 5–8)

The second-phase courses are also of Lias, with some blocks of purplish stone, which is used to a certain extent alternating horizontally with Lias. Though not consistently done, it does seem to have been deliberate (E5), and a decorative scheme cannot be ruled out. If this is true, it may imply that the coursing was visible, i.e. not buried. [11] The top (burnt) stone of SF7 and a red granular stone (both as in E2) are also not Lias. The second phase is represented by higher courses above those of IIa, up to a maximum height of 4.0 m above the natural; they are on the same plan, and bonded with a pinkish-buff mortar. Both this and the yellowish mortar of IIa were present, sometimes interleaved, in the builders' level AF35, by the east wall (S2), where there is a gap between the wall and the spoil AF36 (S2). In the small similar area by the north-east corner, the two mortars were not so clearly interleaved—all that in the part of AF36 by the first phase courses (S3) was yellow—but AE3b as a whole is a mixed layer, which could not be clearly separated into two phases, except by the pieces of mortar. All this might seem to point to the two phases being of the same building operation, with a change in mortar during the process. This may be true, yet a stronger case can be made for there being two real phases separated by time, for these reasons: (a) the change in the east wall is marked also by the introduction of regular blocks of purplish stone; (b) the two mortars are radically different—one would expect similar mixes in the same building programme; (c) most of the clayey lumps in AE3b(S3) are in the second-phase upper part. This is the reverse of what might be expected in a continuous building process; disturbances in the natural should be associated with the

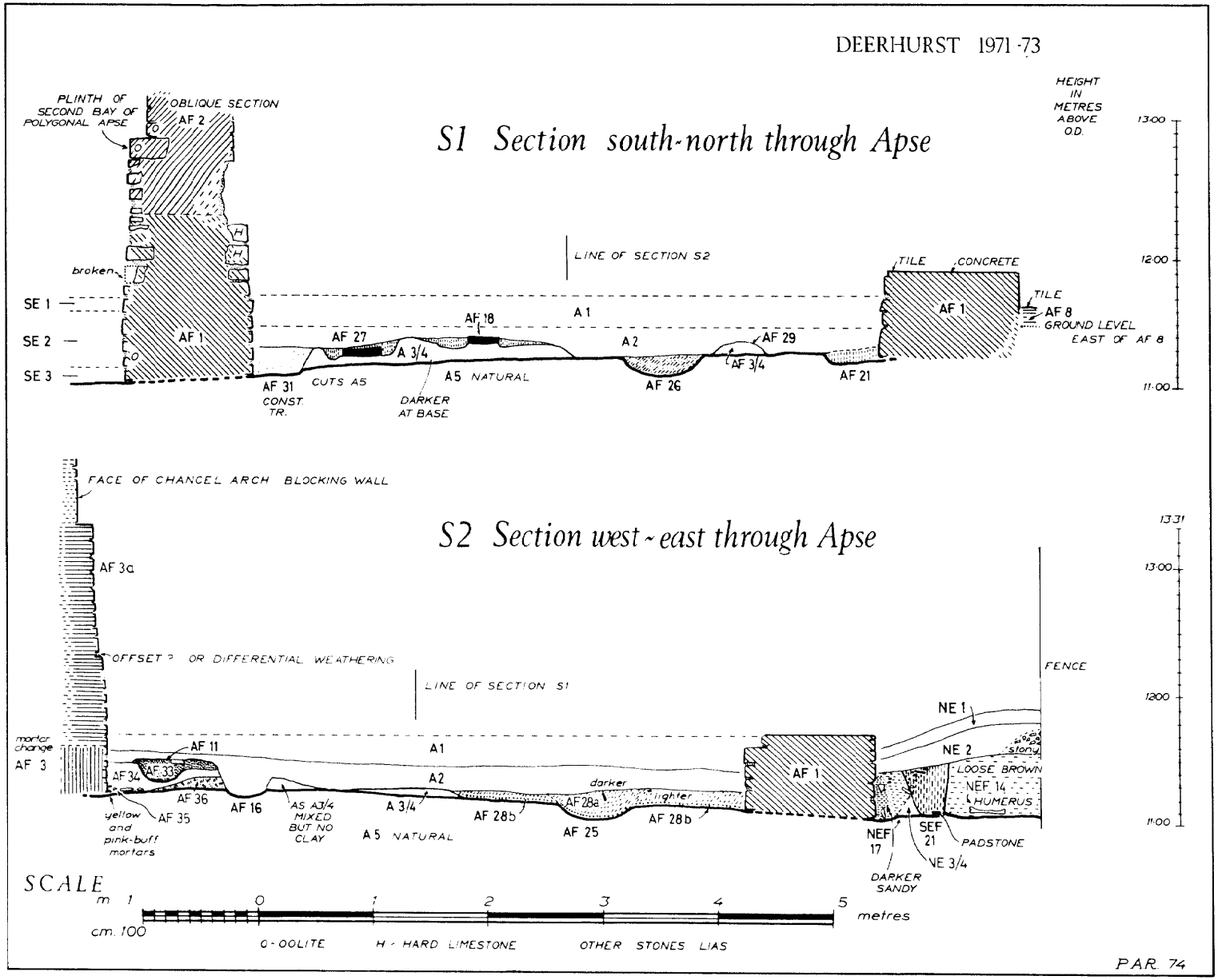


Fig. 3 Sections S1 and S2

primary construction, and the clayey material derived from this would be removed and put to one side. The builders of the upper courses would not be expected to add any more clayey material to the pile (though they might be making disturbances elsewhere). The presence of large lumps of it associated with second-phase mortar is thus interpreted as evidence of the disturbance of first-phase spoil by second-phase builders. The fact that the upper part of AF3b could not be clearly separated from the lower part except by mortar differences might support the idea that the second-phase builders had disturbed the earlier material, perhaps to examine the stability of the foundation of the earlier work. The evidence was clearer in AF35 by the east wall, where the two mortars were interleaved; if there really were two phases here, the later builders obviously exposed the whole of the earlier work before beginning their own operations. The material included Lias chippings, presumably the result of dressing *in situ.* No further evidence was seen in the south-east porticus, except that here joints bonded with yellowish mortar were coated with an extra layer of the pinkish mortar.

The argument is not conclusive; a-c could ultimately be reconciled with a single building programme, in which there was some modification as the work progressed. But on balance a two-phase interpretation seems more probable and is that postulated in this report; further evidence may be hoped for from further excavation.

If the evidence of two phases is accepted, was the first ever built above the courses which now survive? The second phase may be merely a resumption of work on an unfinished structure after a time lapse. The ground on which the church is built slopes down slightly from north to south, [12] but it is believed to slope much more from west to east, a drop of some 2 m. [13] The level of the foundations had to follow this slope, if they were to be set on the hard natural clay, yet the interior floor levels had to be maintained from west to east, even perhaps reversed as at present, when the level of the east end is higher than that of the nave. There is thus a major drop between the floor-level now shown by the sills of the blocked doorways in the south and north porticus and that of the blocked chancel-arch (S2), and the subsoil levels which have just been discussed. It would have been possible to leave the whole of the exterior walls exposed to the lower level, with the coursing gradually dropping from west to east, and a corresponding slope of all exterior ground levels down to the level represented approximately by the present farmyard.

This does not seem to have been done, however; not only are all the lower courses of the eastern quoins of the first stone church in mint condition, with very sharp angles (Plate IIa) but, as already discussed, the builders' spoil remained enveloping them down to the present day. They were buried, and there must have been a wedge-shaped bank extending round the east end or at least the quoins. Only 30 cm of this survived along the east wall (S2); this was sealed at this level by the mortar of the sub-floor level of the later apse (see below). In the north-east and south-east porticus, however, the quoins and returns to the west were buried to a height of at least 60 cm in the former and 1.20 cm in the latter. The material remained *in situ* around the north-east corner as AF3b on NF9(S3); around the south-east corner it was demonstrated by surviving mortar extending over the joints, and by the sharp condition of the corner (Plate IIA) which only ended at the level of the weathered burnt block 1.20 m above natural shown in E2. As seen in the north-east porticus, the bank extended at least 1.60 m to the north.

There is then clear evidence that the north-east and south-east quoins and the adjacent courses to the west were buried. The wedge-shaped bank in the north-east porticus consisted only of builders' spoil, a first phase of NF9 with lower part of AF3b, added to by the rest of AF3b in the second phase; it may have formerly been raised by the addition of other material, but for this there is no evidence. Alongside the east wall, however, there is different evidence. Of the 30 cm depth of material seen here (S2), only 10 cm at the most was of builders' spoil and wall-dressings (AF35); the rest was soil, with finds in it (AF34), which was sealed by the apse sub-floor level. There is thus no clear evidence that the bank piled round the north-east and south-east corners ever extended round the east wall (both points of transition are, of course, destroyed by the apse walls). If it did, then the bank piled along the east wall was not wholly of builders' spoil; it consisted also of occupation material, which included a few ?Roman sherds and a fragment of ?crucible, together with human bones, a piece of ?Roman brick, and a rather odd fragment of mortar (MOR 1 in group L, p. 34).

If on the other hand the bank did not extend along the east wall and its place was taken by an occupation level (an accumulating soil), this must have been inside some building or enclosure, the bank possibly extending eastwards along its outer edges. This possible evidence of a pre-apse eastern extension to the first stone church must be considered with the other evidence of pre-apse structures discussed below as period IIc. Another possibility is that the bank did continue along the east wall in the first phase, but was removed by the second-phase builders when they erected some structure on the east side; this is consistent with the fact that the occupation level AF34 sealed mortars of both the first- and second-phase types, and must thus be contemporary with or later than the second-phase work. The character of the possible pre-apse structure, which must, if it existed, have been of wood or other organic material such as turf, will be discussed below.

The maximum height of the first stone church that can be demonstrated is *c.* 40 cm in the first phase, and c. 4 m [14] in the second. But neither need have been carried any higher in stone (if indeed they were ever completed). There is a tendency to think of Anglo-Saxon churches as being of either stone or timber, but there are so many analogues of stone and timber structures in both Roman and medieval contexts that this seems as likely as structures wholly of stone; not unnaturally it is the latter which have survived and

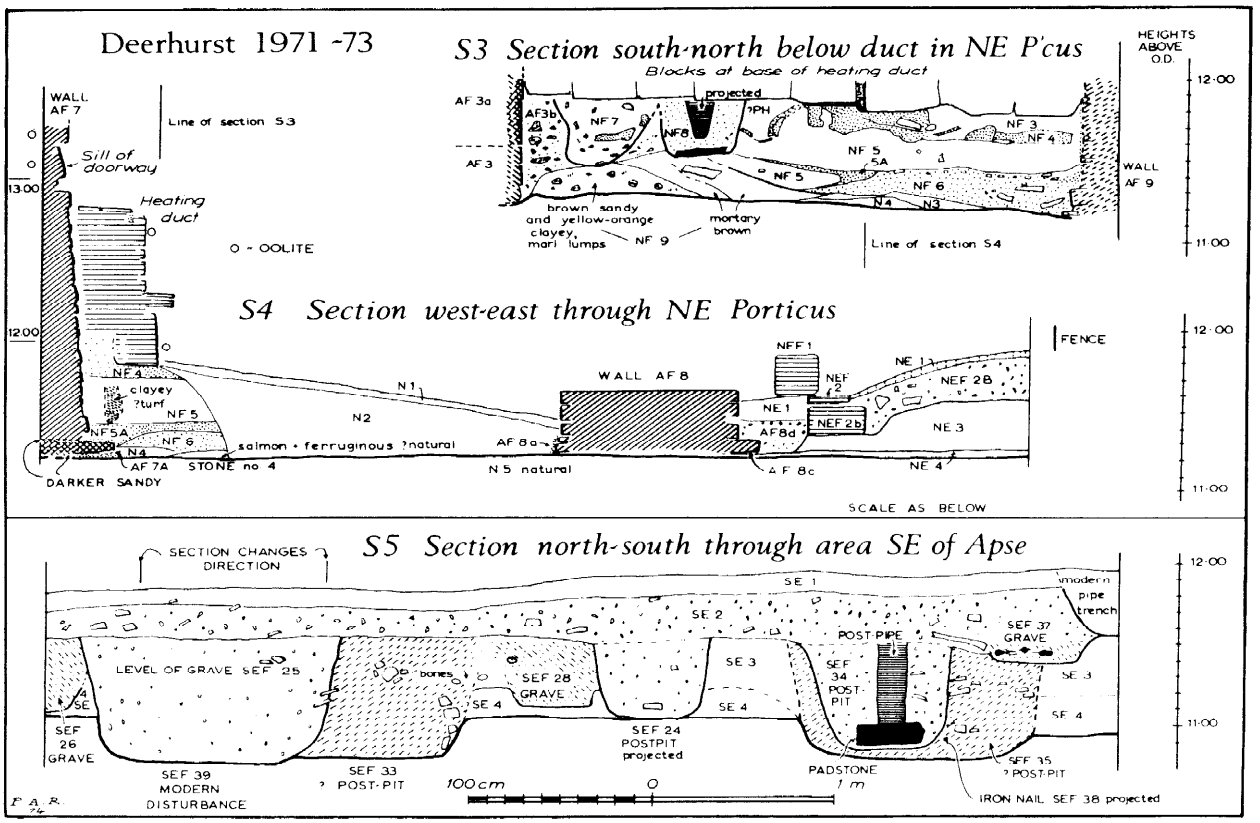


Fig. 4 *Sections S3, S4, and S5*

form the vast bulk of the evidence on which the study of Anglo-Saxon ecclesiastical architecture depends. Paradoxically the evidence for secular building is almost wholly of timber construction, mostly from excavation; secular stone structures have hardly survived, and were in any case probably rare (Rahtz, forthcoming).

There is no evidence that the first stone church was anything more than a low ground wall supporting a half- or wholly-timbered structure. Such a ground-wall need not have been of more than one or two courses—just sufficient to raise the sill-beam off the ground.

No other evidence can be cited for the character of this building, except the faint possibility that it had a hipped eastern gable, a point elaborated below. (p. 11) Nor can its dating yet be shown. *A terminus post quem* of "Roman or later" is given by the material in AF34; further dating may be given by radiocarbon determination of the period I skeletons, or more precisely if enough charcoal could be obtained by flotation or other means from the mortars of the first and /or second phases.

A Roman date cannot be excluded at present; the ?burials of this date seen in 1861 (p. 6) might indeed be *inside* the first stone church. If it were Roman, then the crucial question must be posed as to whether the period IIa/b structure was a church or even Christian.

Period IIc: Pre-apse, contemporary with periods I, IIa, or IIb

Features of this period are those which cannot stratigraphically or structurally be related to the first stone church, but must whatever their date nevertheless be earlier than the period III apse.

AF34 is strictly of this period, though it has been discussed above in connection with period IIb. It is clearly later than the second-phase construction, as it seals mortar of that type, and may be contemporary with or later than the primary use of that building. The possibility of AF34 being within a building or enclosure has been suggested. Such a structure might be represented by such features as SF8, AF32, or NEF 18 (plan PD). These are definitely pre-apse; they could all represent timber features of an enclosure or building. The only finds were a piece of Pennant stone (?Roman) in NEF18, and in the same feature and in SF8 some mortar; the latter may be rendering of a daub or timber structure represented by these features, or may date from their destruction, and be derived from elsewhere.

These features need not, of course, be structural. NEF18 especially may be merely the edge of a disturbed or cut-away area.

Some uncertainty is also felt about "construction-trenches" on the inside and outside of the later apse

wall foundations, (AFla, AF31, SEF36/NEF17), perhaps together with the stake-holes found at the base of SEF36. Although so interpreted, they did contain some finds (mortars, including a piece like that from NEF18 and a brick-tempered piece; human bone; ?Roman pot; and stone, the latter including oolite and burnt pieces) and although there were also Lias dressing-chips and mortar like that in the apse, these might have become incorporated in their filling when a structure in them was destroyed to make way for the apse. If they *do* represent a pre-apse structure, then clearly it was an earlier wooden semicircular apse. Such a hypothesis cannot be maintained on the present evidence, but it cannot be wholly discounted.

The possibility must finally be borne in mind that there may have been features of a pre-apse structure which were entirely destroyed by the construction of the apse, or still lie beneath its foundations. [No features were seen below the apse foundation when the west end of its northern arm was partly removed in 1974 (see below, p. 13.]

To summarize, the features which can be defined as pre-apse do not make any coherent plan, important though they must be. If it is accepted that AF34 is not merely part of the make-up of a bank, then its existence as an occupation level where a bank might otherwise be expected is the best evidence that there was something on the east side of the first stone church, even if it cannot now be defined.

Period IId: possibly as IIc, but not securely related

SEF14 is tentatively linked to a pre-north-east porticus period by a tenuous mortar link, and could be pre-apse. Pits SEF33 and 35 may be pre-apse, though there is oolite in SEF35, including a dateable fragment of cross-head. This may, however, be material incorporated into the filling of these pits only when they had been abandoned for their original purpose. There is a possibility that either or both were post-pits. If they were, they represent some sizeable timber structure lying well to the east of the first stone church, perhaps part of the early monastery.

The finds in SEF35 include a possible door-stud (SEF38 = IRl) and a variety of mortars including wall-rendering. They are both earlier and later than burials. They may or may not be associated with the pre-apse features already discussed. The lack of any links between the mortars in SEF35 and others around the church makes association unlikely; they are probably best viewed quite independently of the main structural sequence of the church. The only possible link was that a mortar fragment from SEF35 MOR20) was apparently secondary to a brick-tempered one, an example of which (MOR19) was in SEF36 and should be pre-apse.

SEF15a and b (Plates III A and B) could also be pre-apse; no construction trench for the apse is visible in these, but it might be ill-defined in such a mass of rubble, or might have been obliterated with the pressure of the stones. On the whole it seems more likely that this material was buried in pits adjacent to the apse wall at a later date. It is unfortunate that no certain context can be found for this rubble, as it includes an important capital whose original provenance it would be useful to know.

Something should be said here about the problems of the brick-faced or brick-tempered mortars. As discussed on p. 33, they need not actually be Roman though they are characteristically so (cf. FC14). Nevertheless it might be expected that they were "early", nearer to Roman times, than, say late Saxon. The evidence from the excavation does not confirm such a hypothesis. None occurred in the first stone church, nor in pre-apse features, except for the possible one of SEF36 (MOR19) and a possibly derived piece in MOR20. Oddly, the other pieces come from unstratified levels (SE2) or from a post-medieval feature (MOR5), though both in the same area; their former context must remain uncertain.

Another feature that could be pre-apse is the lowest course of stones of the east wall of the north porticus, and also the south porticus, as discussed below in period IV.

There is then the problem of AF33 (Plate IIB); this was a linear depression, north–south, in the surface of AF34, but filled with and sealed by the mortar of the apse builders' floor-level AR11 (p. 13 below) (S2). In discussion above of AF34 as an occupation level, it has rather been assumed that at least in the small area available it was intact, i.e. not truncated. Even if it was an occupation level, and more especially if it was merely part of a piled-up bank, it may well have been truncated to the level at which AF33 was defined in its surface.

There is no certainty that AF33 was pre-apse, even if filled with apse builders' waste. There are three possibilities:

(a) it may have held a timber on which was based the scaffolding for the apse builders, subsequently removed and the hollow left blocked with stones and mortar AFll. If however it was pre-apse then there are two possible explanations:

(b) that it held a timber of some pre-apse feature which lay east of the first stone church; this, although secondary to AF34, should be considered in conjunction with the other pre-apse features already discussed;

(c) that it was not a timber-slot, but a gully worn by drip-water, which would imply that the first stone church in its second phase had a hipped eastern gable; the drip-gully, although defined in the surface of AF34, may have always been active, the version seen being merely its final manifestation. However, if this was taking place in an 'open' setting, there should have been a bank along the wall, and the drips would be falling on to a higher level than that encountered in the excavation. AF33 can only be interpreted as a drip gully from a hipped roof if the area was enclosed in some way which precluded there being a bank along the wall, such as a defined enclosure.

Which of these three interpretations is correct cannot be decided on the present evidence; (a) is that

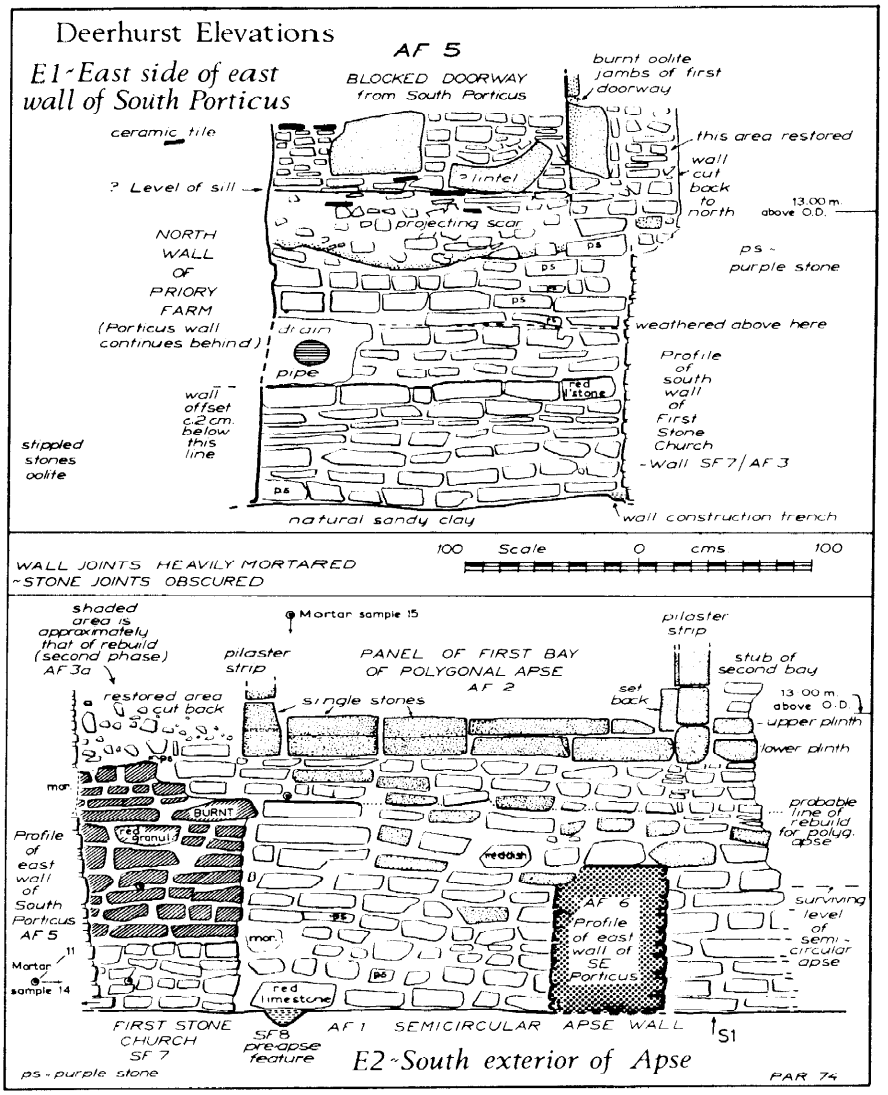


Fig. 5 Elevations E1 and E2

favoured by the writer, which would leave AF34 as a possibly truncated occupation level or the residue of a bank. In either case AF34 may be seen as evidence of a separation in time between the first stone church and the apse building.

Finally, the puzzling feature SEF12 must be discussed (Plates III A and B). There was extensive modern disturbance in the whole area, including the insertion of a Lias padstone into the south-west corner. The north side was less disturbed, and here were three fragmentary burials (SEFl–3); below these were ?medieval finds—lead ?roof clips (OMl), a stone roof tile (ST1), and a few human bones, but also a Roman sherd and a piece of Roman tile. Below these were some pieces of Lias in the west end, sealing a piece of ?medieval glass (GL3). When all these were removed there was a thick layer of charcoal which gave a radiocarbon determination. centring on ad 690. The charcoal may be the residue from a timber set in this depression, and subsequently burnt. This would suggest some major structure in the vicinity, but there seems no obvious relationship between SEF12 and the other pre-apse features discussed. The only point noted is that its axis is roughly at right-angles to that of the surviving east edge of NEF18, an axis rather different from that of the church.

A possible though unlikely interpretation is that this was a charcoal burial, a disturbed grave of which HB31 is the residue. Such burials elsewhere (e.g. Winchester, North Elmham, Hereford), however, are exclusively of late Saxon date, for which the radiocarbon date seems inappropriate.

Possible pre-apse burial is discussed on p. 37 the possibility of one or more porticus being pre-apse is discussed below (p. 23).

Period III: Semicircular apse (Sl–2, E3–4, E6–7; Figs. 3–7; Plates IV, VA)

This (AFl) consisted in most of its length of about five courses of Lias with some oolite, bonded with distinctive mortars (including MOR13). A section removed from the south face of the northern arm where it butted on to the first stone church [15] showed that the walls were of facing blocks of Lias with a rubble core; there was evidence of five horizontal phases of construction, marked by minor mortar changes. In this section the differences did not seem to imply anything more than slight variations in the same building programme. In the southern arm, however, mortar examination of its northern face suggested two rather different mixes, the lower more yellowish, the upper more ginger in colour (E4). The mortar filling AF33, as described above, was only of the lower type; this suggests that the semicircular apse is of two periods, the building of the first of which may be equated with the filling of AF33. It is assumed this mortar of the earlier phase extended over the whole apse area, and served as a floor level of the apse (AF11), not at its functional level, which must have been some 2 m higher, but of a sub-floor space. There is no evidence that this was a crypt, nor that it could be entered anywhere except from the floor-level above, e.g. through a trap-door and down a step-ladder; the walls were apparently left very rough.

The foundations were set very slightly into or on the hard natural clay (S1). On the inner south side, the only part undisturbed in later centuries, a construction trench was defined (AF31), cutting through the buried soil A314 as in S1. [16] The construction trenches outside (NEF17/SEF36/AFla) were up to 20 cm wide (except for AFla in the north-east porticus which was narrower–only 5 cm); their filling may be interpreted either as the material dug out from them (layers 3/4) backfilled into them with such finds as 3/4 may have contained, or as the subsequent silting of an empty trench, which seems less likely. On the line of section S2 and for *c.* 30 cm to the north, the sandy soil by the wall was darker. No explanation can be offered for this; it is just possible that timber or turf was put in here.

The material filling SEF36 was seen, in the few undisturbed areas, to extend horizontally over the surface of SE3; this would suggest that at the time the apse was constructed, the ground level outside it was similar to that at present. Subsequently it seems very probable that it was raised, i.e. by a bank, possibly when the semicircular apse was completed, or perhaps when it was replaced by the polygonal apse. Such a make-up is postulated, not because of any layer which can be interpreted in this way, but because of the present shallowness of the burials in the apse exterior, as discussed on p. 37.

Most of the apse wall survives only to about the present ground level, presumably that to which it was destroyed; this was capped with modern tiles in 1926 (Sl). In the area where the fragment of the polygonal apse still stands, however, the semicircular apse foundations survive to a height of about 1.30 m above natural, as shown in E2. On this exterior elevation, seen here in the south-east porticus, the wall face is, like that of the first stone church, unweathered. This would seem to confirm the evidence of the burials in the exterior area; that, like the first stone church, the new east end of the church was surrounded by banked-up soil. This was made explicit subsequently by the level of the base plinth of the polygonal apse, also shown in E2; it seems that the ground level associated with this may have been 20–30 cm higher than that outside the first stone church, and perhaps this was also the ground level outside the semicircular apse.

The junction of the two apses is shown by a change of mortar and, although every joint has not yet been examined, the suggested line of rebuilding on the exterior is shown on E2. On the interior the elevation (E4) is rather more complex. The coursing of the semicircular apse survives to a similar height, rising a little to the west, where it abuts on to the first stone church, but above this there is an area of ragged masonry which probably represents later disturbance by the polygonal apse. Where the face of the latter is resumed, it is set back a little from that of the semicircular apse (S1). Below the ragged area, the facing of the semicircular apse is apparently of a harder limestone, and a few stones appear to be "corbelling" outwards; these may, like the ragged area above, be due to later rebuilding for the polygonal apse (see below), or in later (possibly even modern) times (p. 18 below).

There is no direct evidence that the semicircular apse was ever built above the level now extant; this point will be discussed further below (p. 17), and in later reports dealing with the higher superstructures,

No dating can be given for the semicircular apse other than that already given for the first stone church, viz. "Roman or later", unless a post-Roman date is proved for P2 in AF34, sealed by AF11, or P3 *in* AF11.

The discussion of the semicircular apse as period III, and of the two eastern porticus as period IV, may seem to assume that the church was extended by an eastern apse before any porticus was added. This may be true, and is so with regard to the south-east and to the present double north/north-east porticus. But there is no evidence yet to show (a) that the south porticus was not already in existence (in its lower courses) when the semicircular apse was built, or that there was not a primary north porticus, represented by the lowest course of the mid-wall of the double porticus (below, p. 15). Either or both of these may have been added to the first stone church before the semicircular apse, as shown in Fig. 11, B1–B3.

Period IV

Introduction

The three divisions of period IV, a, b, and c, are structural rather than chronological; the order in which they are put seems the most likely at the present time, but might well be confounded by further evidence.

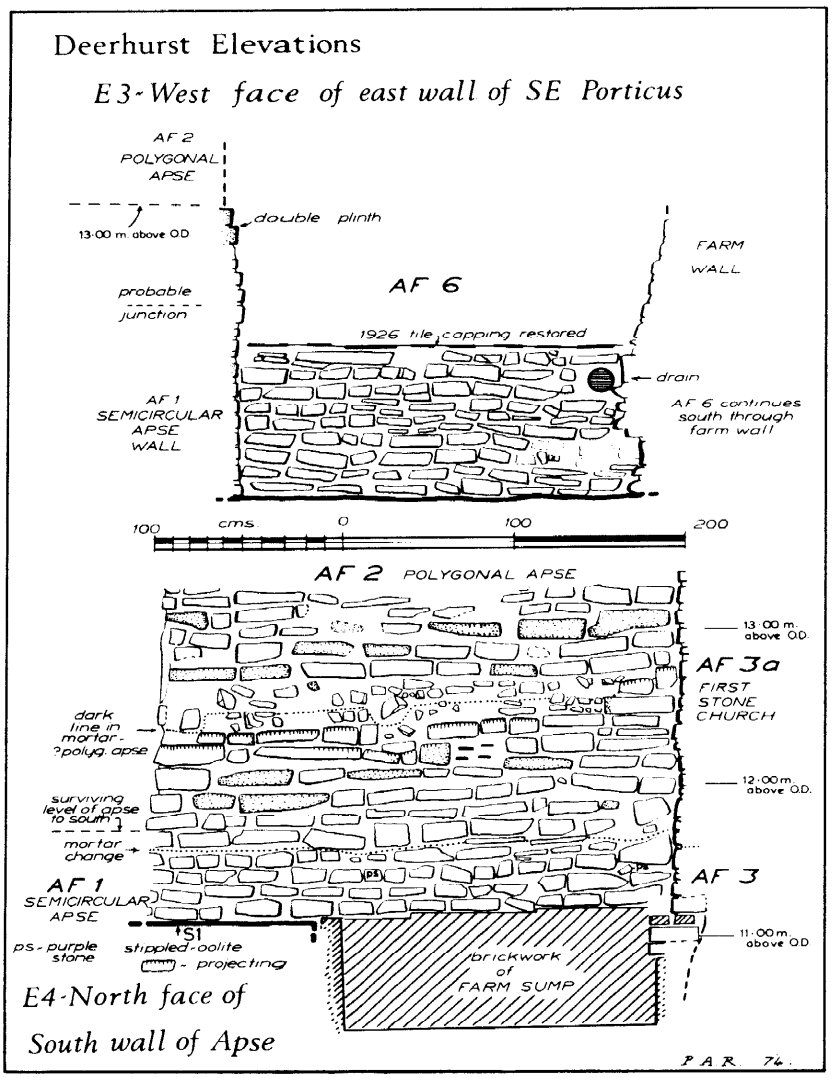


Fig. 6 Elevations E3 and E4

Period IVa: The south porticus (E1–2; Fig. 5; Plate IIA)

The only part of this seen in excavation was part of the east elevation of the east wall; more of this elevation was seen inside Priory Farm in 1973, but is not discussed in this paper, The part seen is shown in El; Lias courses, with one visible piece of reddish limestone, are bedded on a rather uneven profile of hard natural clay, and butted on to the first stone church; the stratification on the east side of this wall was destroyed. There is a slight offset 80–90 cm above the base, but mortar sampling does not show any obvious difference in construction above and below this. The lower metre or more of the wall was unweathered, corresponding to the unweathered part of the south-east corner of the first stone church. So presumably, like that, it was always buried; there may have been burials in the deep soil thus postulated on its east side (p. 37). At a higher level is a doorway, possibly inserted, apparently of two phases; the earlier is represented by the burnt oolite jambs of its north side; these do not "marry" well with the roll-headed arch above, and it is likely that the latter represents a rebuild, probably a widening of this doorway, at a date which is currently believed to be in the 11th century. The non-central position of this doorway, its dating, and its relationship to other structural features are not discussed further in this paper. It may be noted, however, that the unweathered condition of the wall does not extend upwards to the sill of this doorway (see E1). There may at some time have been steps down a ragged projecting scar below the sill [17], or the scar may represent the back-filling of a hole dug to remove a large stone sill; the mortar in the scar is the same as that in the blocking above.

The area observed does not include any herring-bone work; this feature is not present in any of the masonry so far described, but is present in the north/north-east porticus at a level below that of the

door-sill (Plate VIA), and in the polygonal apse. It is clearly an important dating criterion in the structural succession. Tentatively therefore it is thought possible that the south porticus is earlier than the north/north-east porticus; the latter, in its present form at ground level, is a double porticus, and clearly later than the semicircular apse. There is, however, no reason why the south porticus should be later than the semicircular apse, and this may be seen as another reason why it should be given chronological primacy over the north/north-east porticus. It could on these grounds be put into period II as a pre-apse feature. On general grounds, there is unlikely to have been a south porticus without its partner on the north side, which as we have seen is in its double form later than the apse; but the primary feature AF7a, below the mid-wall of the double porticus, may represent such a pre-apse partner (below).

Period IVb: The north/north-east porticus (E8–9; Fig. 8; Plates VIA, B)

This was shown to be a double porticus by the bonding of the north-west interior of the north-east porticus (seen in the present exposed area) and of the junction of the exterior walls seen in the boiler-house to the north of the church, by the removal of the rendering; details of the latter observations are not included in this report.

The western member of the double porticus is wider (from south to north) than its eastern member. The mid-wall between the two (AF7) was butted to the first stone church (Plate VB); the east wall was butted to the semicircular apse (Plate VIA), and thus the whole double porticus must be seen as of period IV, with the possible exception of what may be an earlier structure under AF7.

The whole of the north-east porticus was available for excavation; most of it had been cleared in previous excavation down to the natural (probably in 1926, p. 3), but some burials were left mainly undisturbed, very narrow strips survived by the south, east, and north walls, and, by great good fortune, a strip of intact stratification containing crucial evidence was preserved beneath the heating duct construction.

The earliest features in this area associated with the first stone-church have been discussed above; remains of a bank on the north side of this (NF9 and AF3b in S3) may have been visible to later builders. The first structure was the line of unmortared stones AF7a, numbered l–10 from the north as in Fig. 8, which acts as an offset foundation to the midwall AF7 above. It was not, however, mortared to AF7 except for an oolite block (stone 6) in the middle which stands higher; the rest was separated from AF7 by a thin clean band of dark soil (ES, Plate VIB).

Evidence has been given above (p. 9) for a drop in the natural level from north to south in the area of the first stone church and south of it. It was expected therefore that the level would continue to rise in the north-east porticus. Such was not, however, the case; the natural falls slightly (7 cm) under the length of AF7a, from stone 10 to stone 1, and shows no sign of rising in the boiler-house beyond, nor in the excavation north of the church in 1974. In the north-east porticus, the soil around AF7a was not as light as that just to the east (section S4). It was darker, suggesting that AF7a was set in a construction trench.

A few of the stones were moved to examine them and the dark soil further. Slight traces of yellowish mortar, similar to that of the first phase of the first stone church, under stone 10, confirmed that AF7a was secondary to this. Stones 9 and 8 were removed, and further similar stones were located 20–30 cm behind them, similarly separated from the mortared wall above by clean dark soil; this showed that AF7a was not just a single line of stones. The oolite block (6) was uncovered along its south edge for 60 cm and was still continuing westwards at this depth; a fragment of crucible (SL1) was recovered from the soil under this stone. Stone 2 was removed; on this was residual mortar different from AF7 above. This showed that this stone at least, though in this context not part of a mortared structure, had been at some previous time; a sample of this (MOR 33) may enable its original context to be determined. Under stone 2 was a sliver of animal bone, a fragment of oolite, and half-a-dozen small pebbles. The cavity left by its removal was followed back for 65 cm among stones and dark soil; this is the maximum width which can at present be assigned to AF7a.

Stones at a similar level could be defined (E9) returning eastwards under wall AF9 (Plate VI B). They, too, had clean soil among them, but not over them; AF9 was mortared directly on to them. No such stones were seen under AF8, whose mortared courses lay directly on the natural.

All the stones of AF7a and those under AF9 could be merely a footing for those two walls of the double porticus; it does seem anomalous, however, that the mortared courses of these walls were not taken right down to the natural clay, as is the case with every other wall so far examined at Deerhurst. AF7a, either with or without the stones under AF9, might represent either the east wall (dwarf wall carrying a sill-beam) of a primary north porticus of timber construction, or the west wall of a primary north-east porticus, in either case earlier than the double porticus. If AF7a alone is seen as the east wall of a primary north porticus, it may continue to the north to the full width of the present north porticus (AF9 appeared to oversail stone 1 of AF7a). It could also be earlier than the semicircular apse, and be a partner for a pre-apse south porticus. This rather lengthy discussion of AF7a is the basis for Bl–B3 in Fig. 11.

The foundation trench for the construction of AF7 (and possibly for AF7a) was seen on the east side, cutting through, at its south end, the remains of the earlier bank as shown in S3. In its filling were small pieces of oolite (?dressings) extending as far as the earlier wall AF3, and some marl (?from NF9). Further to the north, beyond the tail of the bank, there were more and larger pieces of oolite at the lowest builders' level NF6 (not here a trench) beneath the present doorway; this may support the identification of this

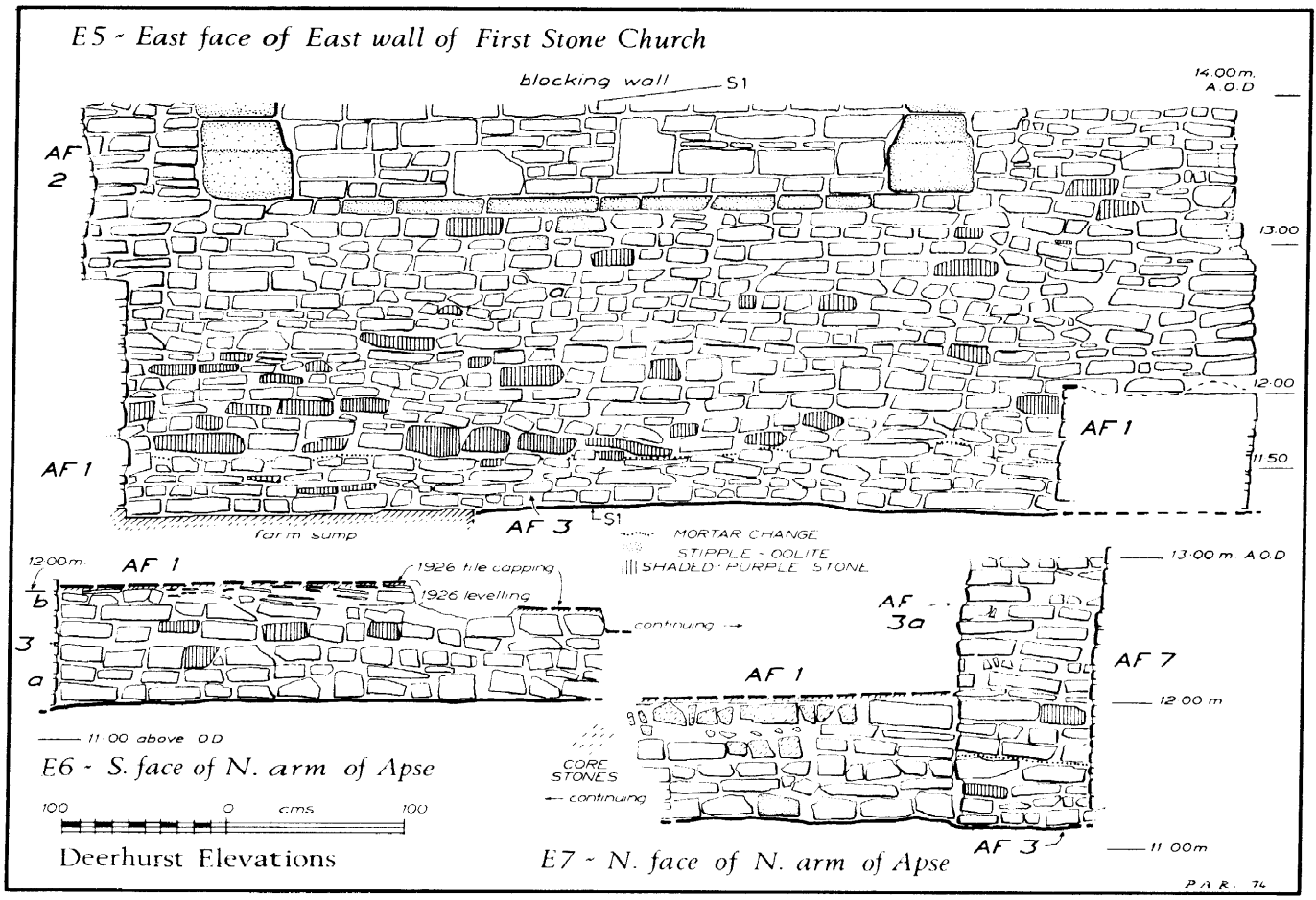


Fig. 7 Elevations E5, E6, and E7

doorway as being an original feature of the double porticus, part of AF7 (but not of AF7a), though this is not conclusive evidence.

The other walls of the north-east porticus were all bonded, AF9 to AF7, and AF8 to AF9. All these walls of Lias were bonded with a distinctive mortar, and set on or just into the hard natural. There was some internal offset, and an external one to AF8 (AF8c) (S3, S4). Burials had been disturbed (NF1, 2, 8) and bones from these had either been added to the parts remaining *in situ* (see p. 37) or laid alongside the walls, especially in AF8a and 9a, in the mortary builders' levels.

The interior level of the porticus was partially filled up at the time of this construction; there was already some depth on the south side, the bank by AF3, possibly formerly of greater extent – there must have been enough soil in the central area to make burials NF1, 2, 8. The relationship of these to the bank layers could not be determined, as they were disturbed in period IVc, but the burials were probably later, and perhaps at least partially in the tail of the bank.

Most of the filling-up material consisted of builders' waste: mortar, soil, and dressings of the walls *in situ*. The lowest layer NF6 lay on the earlier bank slope, or on residues of buried soils (N3/4 – see S3), or in the construction trench by the mid-wall as already mentioned. Other sandy and mortary layers (NF5, 5a) covered this. The sandy NF5 encapsulated between two layers of NF5a mortar was probably merely spare soil. The main layer of NF5 may not be builders' waste, but of some other derivation—it contained some human bones and a Roman sherd; was it imported from elsewhere as make-up? In an area in the centre, roughly corresponding in width to that of the doorway above, was a band of greyish clayey material (see S3), which looked like a gley material, from an alluvial area, of which there are plenty not far away; its regularity suggested actual turves or blocks rather than merely mixed soil.

NF4, which sealed this, also contained a Roman sherd (P12), and contained mortar "identical" to that in NF5a. This could be seen as merely completing the process of builders' waste and infilling, but it could be due to rebuilding operations at a higher level.

There is evidence that the north-east porticus was not filled right up to the level of the floor; presumed to be at the level of the door-sill, and probably of wood; up to *c.* 65 cm above AF7a, AF7 was left in a

rough state with mortar spreading over the joints and adhering in lumps to the stones. Above this, however, the wall face is rendered with a rough white finish, implying that it was not meant to be buried, but was exposed, perhaps in a space below the floor. The final layer NF3 could be seen as soil accumulating in this space or after the floor had gone.

The other features in S3 (NF7 and NF8) are probably much later and are discussed below.

On the east side of AF8, the offset 8c (see S4) was eroded of its mortar; the trench by it (AF8d) may be its former disturbed or eroded construction trench or a previous excavation joining up with NEF6 to the south.

The foregoing discussion refers only to the walls of a double porticus extending up as far as the present interior floor level. This may have supported only a timber superstructure. Above this level the mortar is different and there is herringbone construction, which is absent below. The complex problem of the relationship of these upper walls to the polygonal apse and to the first stone church will be deferred to a later report.

Period IVc: The south-east porticus (E2–3; Figs. 5 and 6)

The south-east porticus is partly occupied by Priory Farm, its southern extent being at present uncertain. The area between the farm and the apse wall was excavated, but proved to have been almost wholly disturbed by previous excavation, except the very lowest levels by the walls. In these signs of construction trenches could be discerned; that for the farm wall was intact (SF11) below a modern drain and contained finds presumably derived from earlier levels, including two fragments of Roman tile, oolite, and mortar. A later disturbance in the south-west corner (SF10) also yielded a fragment of Roman combed flue tile.

The south-east porticus is only represented by AF6 (E2–E3), Lias coursing bedded into the hard natural, with an offset on its west side, and thickening down to an offset on the east side (Plate IIIA).[18] It was butted on. to the semicircular apse; it was bonded with different mortar to that of AF5, the south porticus, so it is unlikely that this is a double porticus like that on the north side. AF6 is now reduced to a level roughly the same as that of the main semicircular apse wall AF1, which is presumably the level at which Knowles found it in 1926. Some wall here seems to have been standing to a considerable height in the late 18th century, however, when Lysons's drawing seems to show the east wall of a farm building apparently coterminous with the present area of the south-east porticus, of which the north wall was the stub of the polygonal apse. There is indeed a ragged scar on the farm wall which should be that of the southern termination of its east wall, but it is slightly east of AF6. More probably the wall shown in Lysons's drawing was not founded on AF6, but on soil to the east of it (or even deeper—there was much disturbance here); it would then have been lapped over the eastern edge of the stub of the polygonal apse, as shown by the cut-away of the pilaster strip and adjacent wall.

The same argument might be pressed about AF6: why does it show no sign of its former presence on the coursing of the semicircular apse above it (E2)? The answer must be that it was merely a straight joint as in the surviving part on a flat wall, which left no trace when it was removed. This line of reasoning is more difficult to maintain with regard to the junction of AF6 with the polygonal apse masonry high up. Here the attachment of a straight joint would have been more complex because of the double plinth and set-back (section S1); the plinth especially might be expected to show signs of having been tampered with if AF6 had been attached to it. Too much weight cannot be given to this negative evidence (cf. the absence of any indication of floor level on the inner side of the polygonal apse wall). Nevertheless, it is consistent with the conventional thesis (p. 1) that the south-east and north-east porticus would not have been erected against the polygonal apse, because it would destroy the decorative effect of the strip-framing; if this can be maintained, then both porticus must have been dismantled before the polygonal apse was built, and this is the view subscribed to in this report. It should be noted that if this argument is accepted, it follows that the semicircular apse must have been completed, otherwise there would have been no support for the two porticus!

There were human bones in the fill of the south-east porticus, which may indicate disturbance of burials (p. 37). Another burial (SEF16, HB32) was presumably cut by wall AF6 (p. 37).

Finally, a remote possibility must be mentioned: that AF6 may be the surviving east wall of a south-east porticus earlier than the south porticus, the west wall of which has been destroyed by the later building. Such a possibility is illustrated in Fig. 11 by C4.

The possible relationships of all the eastern porticus to the semicircular apse are shown in Fig. 11, C1–C8.

Period V: The polygonal apse (E2–5; Figs. 5–7)

The south-west bay and a fragment of the bay to the east of this (AF2) have survived to a considerable height, preserving a complete rectangular panel enclosed by strip-work, above which is a further area of strip-work, the central triangular panel of which frames a relief sculpture, the well known Deerhurst Angel. If this can be shown to be in *situ* and to have been part of the design, it clearly provides important dating evidence. This is the first dating that can be given even tentatively in the sequence at the east end other than "Roman or later".

As already discussed (p. 13), the southern arm of the semicircular apse exhibited in the mortar joints of its northern face evidence of two phases; both the semicircular apse mortars are soft by comparison with the very hard pink mortar of the polygonal apse above, which still remains hard even in the core exposed in the east face of the stub of the second bay.

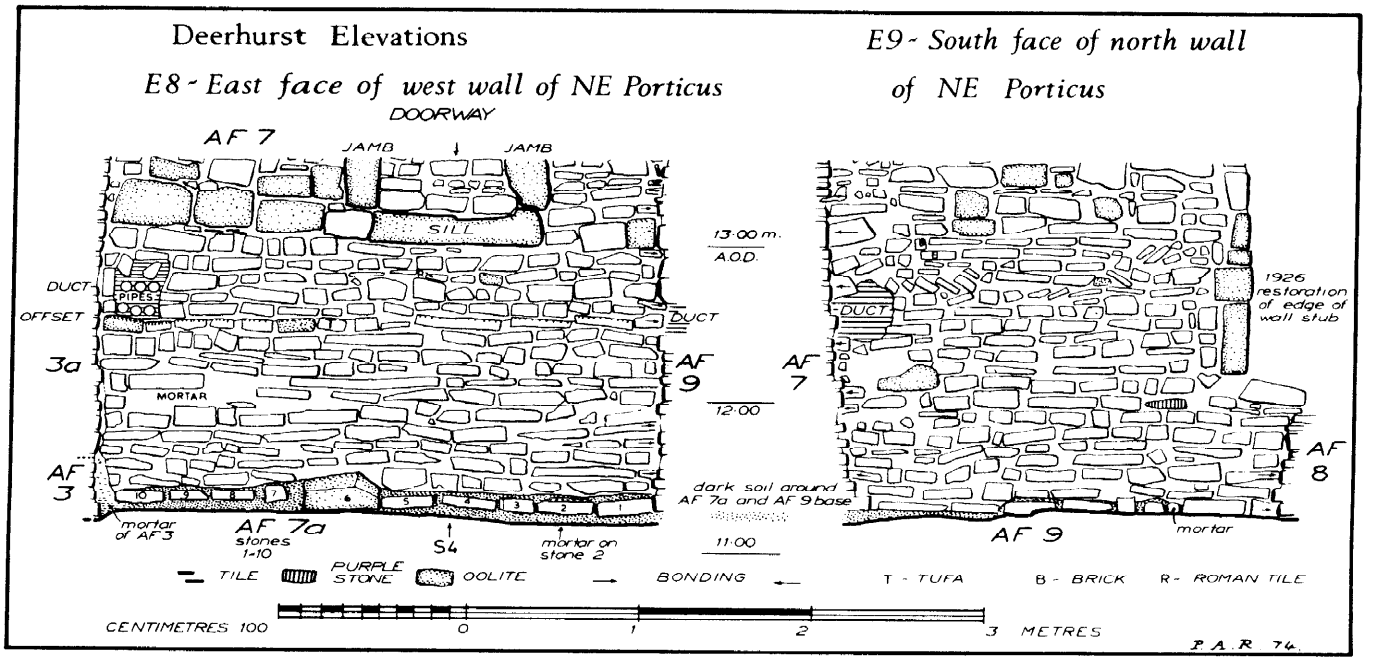


Fig. 8 Elevations E8 and E9

While the polygonal apse mortar has remained thus in spite of it being unroofed for some four centuries, that of the semicircular apse has cavitated considerably, notably at its junction with the later work. These cavities have been plugged in modem times (probably in 1926) by stones, probably including the "corbelling" stones referred to above (p. 13). The contrast in mortars is remarkable, and shows that a superior technique was being applied in the period of building of the polygonal apse.

The quality of the older mortar may have inhibited building to any height in stone; the technical improvement shown in the later mortar may have enabled the polygonal apse to be built to its present height.

In the new work, the greater width of the semicircular apse was carried up a few courses before the wall was set back internally at about the level of the exterior double plinth. The greater width would have extended eastwards on the stilted part of the apse, but would have tapered to zero where the north face of the polygonal apse lay directly over the inner edge of the semicircular apse.

The evidence also disposes finally of the concept that the lower apse was merely a foundation for the upper work, a conclusion reinforced by the presence of herringbone construction in the upper work but not in the lower.

Both apse walls butt on to the east wall of the first stone church AF3 and 3a. The latter, however, only extends upwards for *c.* 4 m, which includes strips *c.* 1.20 m high either side of the blocked chancel arch. For all this distance the polygonal apse is butted; the only sign of its attachment on the north side to AF3a is that the extreme outer north edge of the east wall of AF3a has been trimmed back to provide a seating for the pilaster strip on the north side which would have matched that now surviving on the south side.

Above the highest level to which AF3a survives, the polygonal apse south wall is bonded into the east wall of the church. The heightening of the latter clearly represents a rebuild above AF3a (with herringbone work) which was done at the same time as the polygonal apse was built. More detailed mortar probing is planned to enable the whole extent of the rebuild to be plotted. It is not yet certain what relationship the chancel arch in this wall, now blocked, has to the polygonal apse.

The bonding into the upper wall is confirmed by the scar on the north side, where the polygonal apse wall has been tom away; the scar is of such raggedness as to admit of no interpretation other than a full bonding; apart from the evidence of butt jointing and mortar bonding of the south side, the lower limit of the rebuild, and the upper limit of AF3a is shown by the level at which this scar ceases.

Reasons have already been given why the building of the polygonal apse was, we believe, preceded by the dismantling of the north-east and south-east porticus. The relationship between the new walling of the east end and that of the north and south porticus has still to be determined.

The dismantling of the semicircular apse and the two flanking porticus may have been the occasion for the burying of unwanted rubble outside the former (represented by SEF15a and b); a burnt piece in this may indicate the fate of the earlier east end. If this hypothesis were true it would suggest a context for

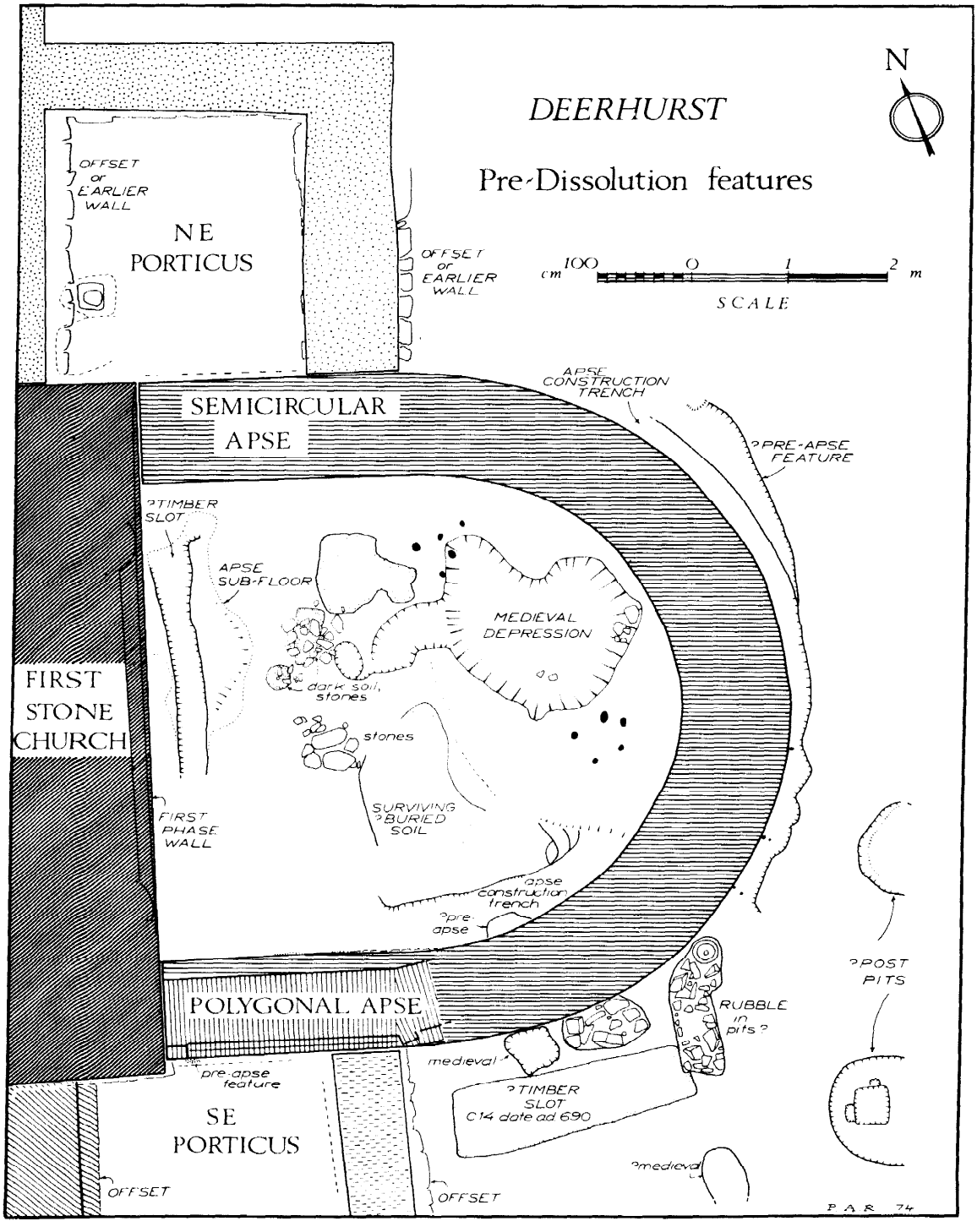


Fig. 9 Pre-Dissolution features

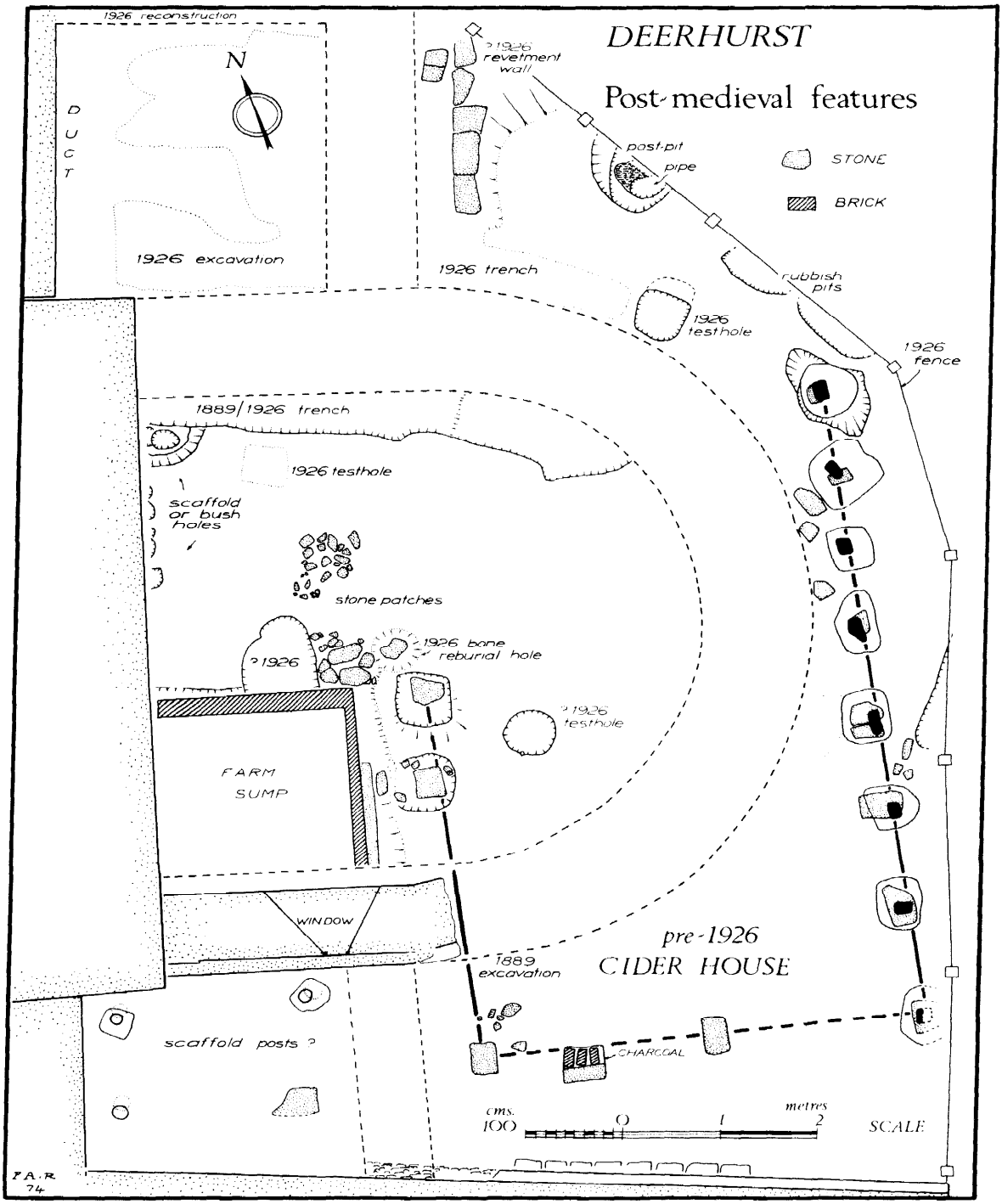


Fig. 10 Post-medieval features

the capital found in SEF15b in the semicircular apse, for instance as a component of the former chancel arch; by analogy, the base in Priory Farm (p. 29) might also be from this, and this too is burnt. There are other signs of burning at the east end including both the eastern doorways of the south and north porticus.

PD: Other pre-Dissolution features and finds

The features included in this section are those which contained material that is post-Norman, or which may be pre-Dissolution by context, which really means, when discussing the east end of Deerhust, earlier than the destruction of the apse, or broadly contemporary with that event. NF7 and 8, for instance, have no dateable finds, but were cut from the highest level surviving; and SEF13 had a fragment of medieval tile; all of these could be post-medieval, however.

The only features which may be significant in elucidating the history of the church are the group inside the apse. They seem to represent late medieval activity at the level of the sub-floor space below the apse; it seems that the floor level defined when the semicircular apse was built, viz. AF11, of stones and mortar, had been removed from at least the area covered by these features, and a shallow excavation made into the natural. There are several possible explanations:

(a) that the features represent late medieval or early post-medieval secular activity after the apse had been destroyed, or at the time of its destruction; the latter might account for the pieces of lead, glass, and tile found, though these could have been incorporated into later secular features. AF25 may have been a puddling-hole to make mortar for the chancel arch blocking wall; this has not been checked yet with the joints in that blocking;

(b) that there was some activity in the sub-floor space. This may have been during reconstruction work when the floor had bee n removed; one possibility here is mortar-mixing in AF25, or some other activity which had worn a hollow in which debris accumulated;

(c) that the features were for drainage, some kind of soak-away to keep the sub-floor dry—this can hardly have been very efficient, as there is no outlet.

The interpretation most favoured is (a), at the time of the destruction.

All the features so far described are summarized on the pre-Dissolution plan PD (Fig. 9), which excludes burials and post-medieval features.

Finds from the pre-Dissolution and other features give some information on the east end of the building, probably at the time of the destruction of the apse. There were apparently some floor-tiles and window-glass of both plain and decorated kinds, with H-section cames in the sanctuary. There seem to have been stone roof-slates somewhere, though fragments of these are not sufficiently numerous in the excavated area to justify the belief that the whole apse was roofed in this way. The lead fittings may also be from the roof, as may be fragments of ceramic roof tile (e.g. FC9). However, none of this material is in a context which can be securely associated with the apse, or indeed any part of the church; it may all be derived from the monastic buildings or their secular successors.

PM: Post-medieval (plan PM, Fig. 10, Plate IV)

The most important of the post-medieval features were the post-pits, post-pipes, and padstones which may be identified with the cider house which stood on the site in the late 19th century. They were carefully levelled to give a uniform depth for the bases of posts which must have been the main studs of this building.

The cider-house must have been erected between 1846, when Haigh was disgusted by the pig-styes then in the chancel (p. 1) and 1889, when Butterworth dug *in* the cider-house; it seems to have been removed by the time that Knowles cleared the site in 1926.

Butterworth (p. 3) described the cider-house as occupying "the greater part of the ruined sanctuary". He found the outer face of the apse inside the cider-house, and uncovered it for 7 ft, "just at the crown of the curve". This must have been just outside the south outer face of the apse, in the area by SEF13. Diggin *outside* the cider-house, he then found the inner face of the apse, "before the spring of the curve", and followed it for 7 ft beyond the spring. This must have been inside the north edge, and his dig may well be the feature identified in our excavation as AF21 (the south-east part, the north-west part being probably of 1926). He also located here the outer face, presumably in the area of NEF6.

These observations seem to confirm the identity of the building as the cider-house, and suggest that the missing fourth wall must have lain somewhere across the northern half of the apse. The east wall of the building extends further north than this, and may perhaps be the *west* wall of some other farm building, on to which the cider-house abutted. The northern-most post-pipe found (NEF10) seems to have been the last in this direction; a further one was expected in the area of NEF7/7a, but no trace was seen here. From NEF10, the wall was based on eight studs, the first six at intervals of *c.* 90 cm centres, and the last two at intervals of just over 1 m—probably all originally "meant to be" in yards. The total exterior length of this wall appears to have been 7.2m, perhaps designed as 8 yds. The wall may, of course, have continued beyond SEF34 to the south, but on this stud a wall turned west, and this must be the south wall of the cider-house proper. The next stud was located at a distance of 2 m, and then there was a gap of a further 2 m; slightly west of the centre of this was a brick and Lias emplacement, which may mark the position of an entrance. The west wall was then *c.* 4.5 m long (5 yds?); from the last padstone the building

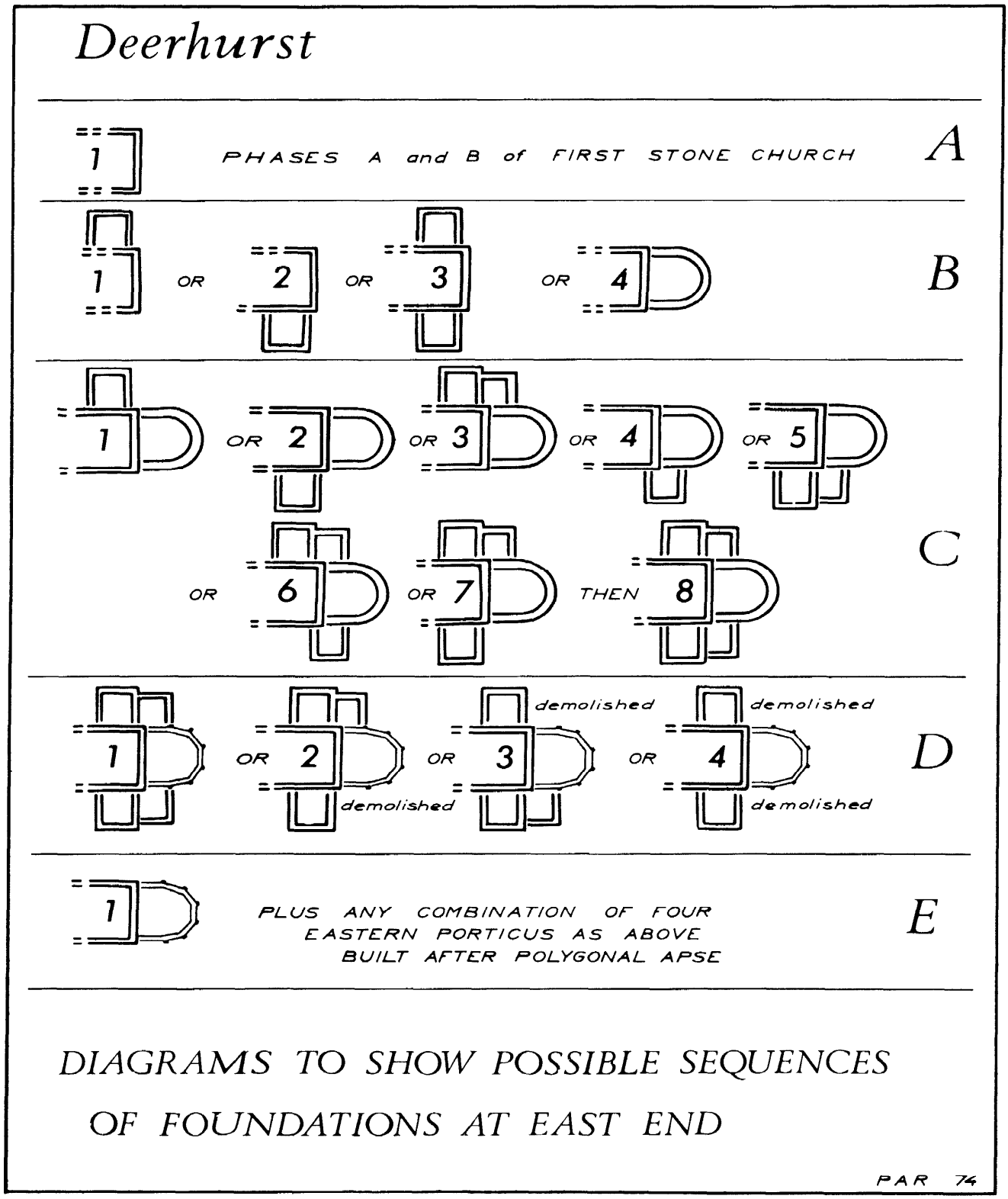


Fig. 11 Diagrams of sequences at east end

turned north, perhaps abutting on to the building occupying the space of the south-east porticus, or at least on to the stub of the polygonal apse, probably standing to a greater height than the cider-house. The next support identified was AF27, inside the apse, some 3 m distant—there may have been an intermediate one on the apse wall itself, or the support of the polygonal apse may have been enough. The last padstone was after an interval of 1 m (1 yd); there were no more to the north, the putative position of the next one being in an undisturbed area. Where then did the walls go after this 5 m (5 yd) wall? Did they return to SEF21, making a rough square; if so, why were no supports found? Such a square building hardly occupies "the greater part of the ruined sanctuary". In view of this discrepancy, we can only assume that the wall returned in the other direction, to abut on the east wall of the church, and that some more flimsy construction, perhaps based on the stone patches in the northern part of the apse, marked the rest of the "inside" to distinguish it from the "outside" by the northern apse wall; perhaps the whole of this side was open.

Where in this building was the mill? It was presumably that now preserved at the east end of the farmyard, an edge-roller in an annular stone trough, of 2.50 m diameter. This must have stood either in the southern "square" of the building, or nearer the church; search may reveal photographs or memories which can quickly settle these rather peripheral questions!

Other post-medieval features are listed on pp. 46–59 where identifications are suggested. They include scaffolding supports, rubbish pits, animal burials, and the square brick feature in the south-west comer of the apse. This was nearly 1 m deep; at its base was a black sludge, and above this farm rubbish of all kinds. It was probably a sump for the cider-house, or possibly for earlier structures, finally levelled off in 1926.

The heating duct in the north-east porticus, carrying six iron pipes, led from the boiler house to the church, entering the wall close to the junction of the north porticus and chancel. Church records show that it and the boiler house were constructed in 1924; the section in the north-east porticus was removed in 1974.

Finally, the last group of post-medieval features are those assigned to previous excavators. Some can be identified from the reports of the excavations, such as the trench on the inside of the north apse wall; others are assigned to them on more general grounds, or from lack of other evidence. The previous excavators did not leave good records of where they dug, but neither did they destroy all the evidence. Modern total excavation is also totally destructive, leaving nothing for our successors. We may be held as greater vandals than our predecessors, because however carefully we dig and record, we do not have the benefit of new techniques in archaeology now in their infancy, or soon to be born, which would have recovered more evidence from the precious stratification we have destroyed.

Conclusion

The amount of evidence that was recovered even by our relatively crude techniques is remarkable for so small an area excavated with a small number of man-hours and at modest cost (about £300). Not only have the features and finds been of great interest, but they have also stimulated a reconsideration of this most important building in ways which were not foreseen when we asked the innocent question: "Did Deerhurst have a corridor crypt?" We hope that subsequent seasons at Deerhurst will be equally rewarding, and will set the rather preliminary observations made in this report in a much fuller context.

Possible sequence of development (Fig. 11)

The straight joints in the foundations, which are in most cases followed in the walls above, indicate that the apse and the porticus to north and south are later additions to the first stone church; however, by themselves these straight joints do not settle the sequence in which these later features were added. The bonding of the north wall of the north-east porticus to the east wall of the north porticus shows clearly that these two were added as a single unit; the possibility of an earlier timber north porticus which was not so bonded is discussed on p. 15. Until further archaeological or structural evidence is found to settle the sequence of other phases, Fig. 11 is an attempt to show all the sequences which cover periods II–V, but are not directly linked to them. We hope that certain of the sequences must ultimately be rejected, and perhaps thus we may hope to define uniquely a single actual sequence of development. [19]

A	the first stone church in both its phases
Bl	A plus a primary north porticus represented by the lowest course of stones in the mid-wall of the present north/north-east porticus
B2	A plus the south porticus
B3	A plus the south and north porticus
B4	A plus semicircular apse; no porticus built yet
C1	B4 plus primary north porticus as in Bl
C2	B4 plus south porticus
C3	B4 plus double northnorth-east porticus
C4	B4 plus a primary south-east porticus, represented by the present east wall of the south-east porticus and a putative west wall destroyed by present south porticus east wall
C5	B4 plus south and south-east porticus
C6	B4 plus north/north-east and south-east porticus as in C4
C7	B4 plus north/north-east and south porticus
C3	B4 plus all eastern porticus; this should be the last stage of C
Dl	C8 plus polygonal apse, north-east and south-east porticus left standing.
D2	Dl with south-east porticus demolished
D3	Dl with north-east porticus demolished
D4	Dl with north-east and south-east porticus both demolished

The possibility must also be considered that the polygonal apse was built before any of the eastern

turned north, perhaps abutting on to the building occupying the space of the south-east porticus, or at least on to the stub of the polygonal apse, probably standing to a greater height than the cider-house. The next support identified was AF27, inside the apse, some 3 m distant—there may have been an intermediate one on the apse wall itself, or the support of the polygonal apse may have been enough. The last padstone was after an interval of 1 m (1 yd); there were no more to the north, the putative position of the next one being in an undisturbed area. Where then did the walls go after this 5 m (5 yd) wall? Did they return to SEF21, making a rough square; if so, why were no supports found? Such a square building hardly occupies "the greater part of the ruined sanctuary". In view of this discrepancy, we can only assume that the wall returned in the other direction, to abut on the east wall of the church, and that some more flimsy construction, perhaps based on the stone patches in the northern part of the apse, marked the rest of the "inside" to distinguish it from the "outside" by the northern apse wall; perhaps the whole of this side was open.

Where in this building was the mill? It was presumably that now preserved at the east end of the farmyard, an edge-roller in an annular stone trough, of 2.50 m diameter. This must have stood either in the southern "square" of the building, or nearer the church; search may reveal photographs or memories which can quickly settle these rather peripheral questions!

Other post-medieval features are listed on pp. 46–59 where identifications are suggested. They include scaffolding supports, rubbish pits, animal burials, and the square brick feature in the south-west comer of the apse. This was nearly 1 m deep; at its base was a black sludge, and above this farm rubbish of all kinds. It was probably a sump for the cider-house, or possibly for earlier structures, finally levelled off in 1926.

The heating duct in the north-east porticus, carrying six iron pipes, led from the boiler house to the church, entering the wall close to the junction of the north porticus and chancel. Church records show that it and the boiler house were constructed in 1924; the section in the north-east porticus was removed in 1974.

Finally, the last group of post-medieval features are those assigned to previous excavators. Some can be identified from the reports of the excavations, such as the trench on the inside of the north apse wall; others are assigned to them on more general grounds, or from lack of other evidence. The previous excavators did not leave good records of where they dug, but neither did they destroy all the evidence. Modern total excavation is also totally destructive, leaving nothing for our successors. We may be held as greater vandals than our predecessors, because however carefully we dig and record, we do not have the benefit of new techniques in archaeology now in their infancy, or soon to be born, which would have recovered more evidence from the precious stratification we have destroyed.

Conclusion

The amount of evidence that was recovered even by our relatively crude techniques is remarkable for so small an area excavated with a small number of man-hours and at modest cost (about £300). Not only have the features and finds been of great interest, but they have also stimulated a reconsideration of this most important building in ways which were not foreseen when we asked the innocent question: "Did Deerhurst have a corridor crypt?" We hope that subsequent seasons at Deerhurst will be equally rewarding, and will set the rather preliminary observations made in this report in a much fuller context.

Possible sequence of development (Fig. 11)

The straight joints in the foundations, which are in most cases followed in the walls above, indicate that the apse and the porticus to north and south are later additions to the first stone church; however, by themselves these straight joints do not settle the sequence in which these later features were added. The bonding of the north wall of the north-east porticus to the east wall of the north porticus shows clearly that these two were added as a single unit; the possibility of an earlier timber north porticus which was not so bonded is discussed on p. 15. Until further archaeological or structural evidence is found to settle the sequence of other phases, Fig. 11 is an attempt to show all the sequences which cover periods II–V, but are not directly linked to them. We hope that certain of the sequences must ultimately be rejected, and perhaps thus we may hope to define uniquely a single actual sequence of development. [19]

A	the first stone church in both its phases
Bl	A plus a primary north porticus represented by the lowest course of stones in the mid-wall of the present north/north-east porticus
B2	A plus the south porticus
B3	A plus the south and north porticus
B4	A plus semicircular apse; no porticus built yet
C1	B4 plus primary north porticus as in Bl
C2	B4 plus south porticus
C3	B4 plus double northnorth-east porticus
C4	B4 plus a primary south-east porticus, represented by the present east wall of the south-east porticus and a putative west wall destroyed by present south porticus east wall
C5	B4 plus south and south-east porticus
C6	B4 plus north/north-east and south-east porticus as in C4
C7	B4 plus north/north-east and south porticus
C3	B4 plus all eastern porticus; this should be the last stage of C
Dl	C8 plus polygonal apse, north-east and south-east porticus left standing.
D2	Dl with south-east porticus demolished
D3	Dl with north-east porticus demolished
D4	Dl with north-east and south-east porticus both demolished

The possibility must also be considered that the polygonal apse was built before any of the eastern

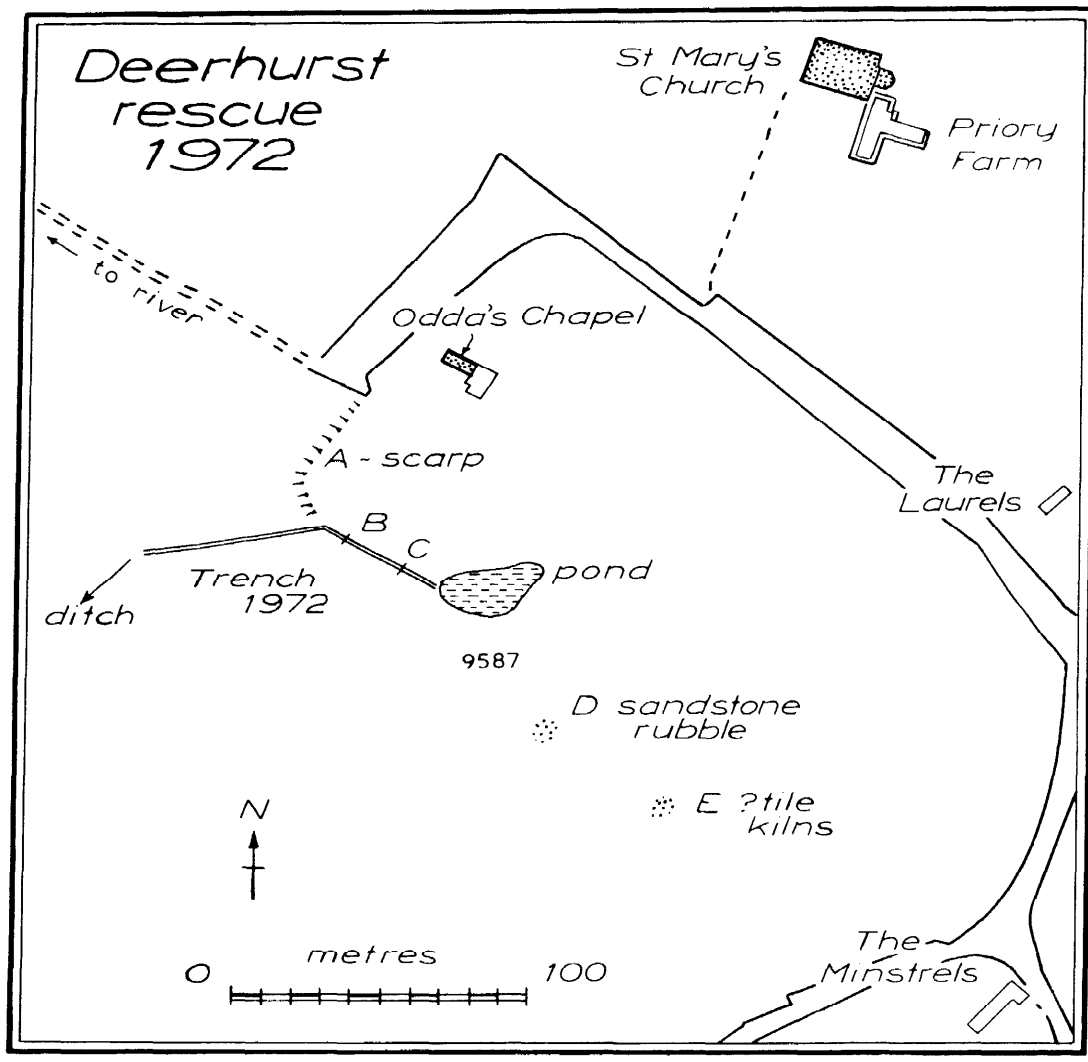


Fig. 12 Rescue excavations 1972

porticus, at least in their lower courses; a further series of diagrams, E, could be drawn to illustrate the permutations of the polygonal apse and secondary south, south-east, and north or north/north-east porticus. If this unlikely possibility were to be accepted, it would, of course, destroy the argument put forward above (p. 17) that the semicircular apse must have been built, or there would be no structure to which the north-east and south-east porticus could abut.

Fieldwork and other observations

Other excavation

1. The stripping of rendering in the boiler-house revealed the exterior bonding of the north and north-east porticus at foundation level. Elevations and profiles will be published in a later report.

2. A test-hole dug by the west side of the boiler-house encountered ?disturbed human bones to a depth of 1.50 m below the present (path) surface; below this was 50 cm of (apparently) clean buried soil lying on hard sandy clay at 2 m. Further work was done here in 1974–75.

3. In the graveyard (see below) some turf and soil was removed in order to expose buried parts of gravestones, especially to complete inscriptions. All the soil was humic; finds were made.

4. In field 9587, south-west of Odda's Chapel, some mechanical excavation was done by the tenants in the spring of 1972. The pond shown on the 25 in OS map as field 9286 (see Fig. 12) was drained by a trench *c.* 1 m wide in a north-west direction for about 37.5 m to a point 3 m to the north of a large tree; beyond this a narrower trench was cut down the slope towards the west corner of the field, where it emptied into a ditch. These are only approximate

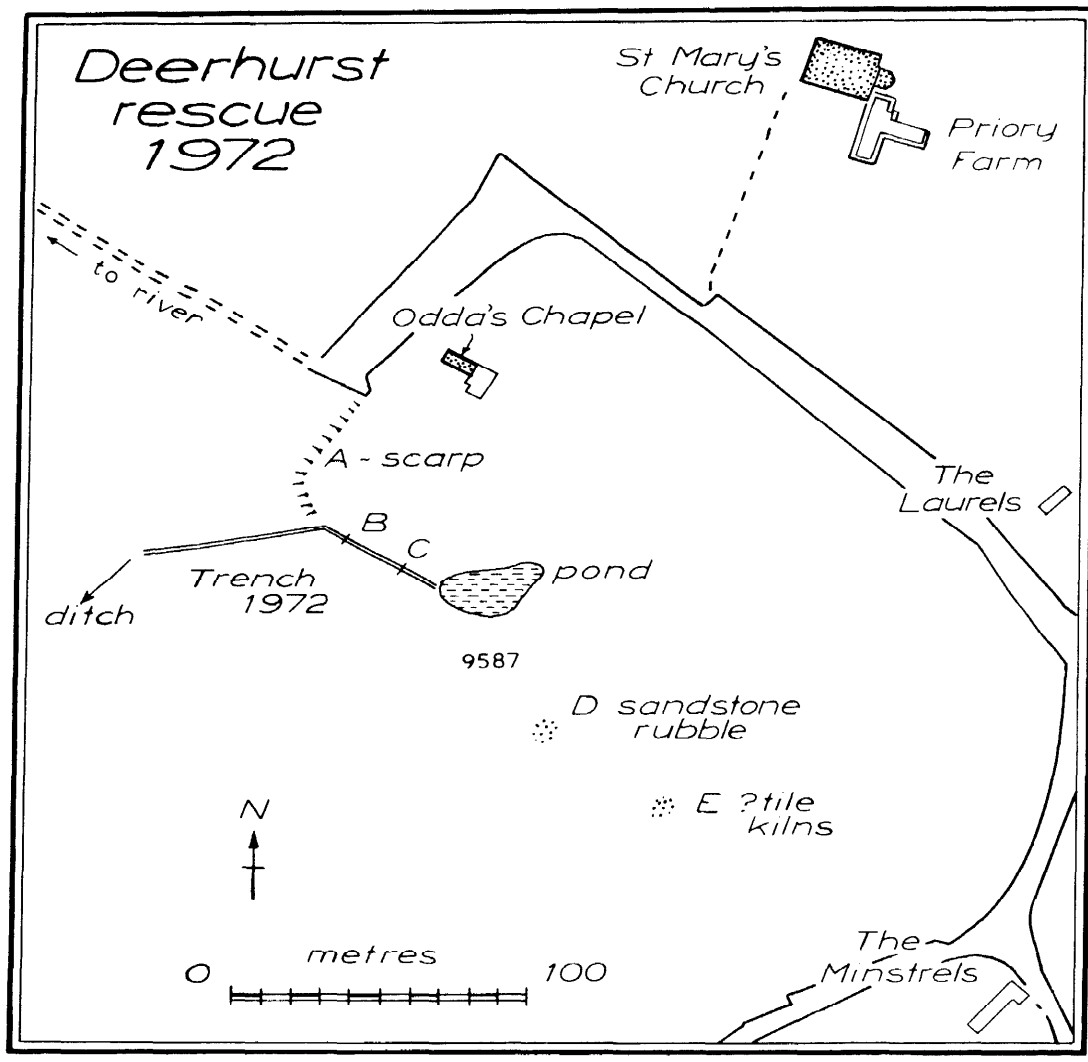


Fig. 12 Rescue excavations 1972

porticus, at least in their lower courses; a further series of diagrams, E, could be drawn to illustrate the permutations of the polygonal apse and secondary south, south-east, and north or north/north-east porticus. If this unlikely possibility were to be accepted, it would, of course, destroy the argument put forward above (p. 17) that the semicircular apse must have been built, or there would be no structure to which the north-east and south-east porticus could abut.

Fieldwork and other observations

Other excavation

1. The stripping of rendering in the boiler-house revealed the exterior bonding of the north and north-east porticus at foundation level. Elevations and profiles will be published in a later report.

2. A test-hole dug by the west side of the boiler-house encountered ?disturbed human bones to a depth of 1.50 m below the present (path) surface; below this was 50 cm of (apparently) clean buried soil lying on hard sandy clay at 2 m. Further work was done here in 1974–75.

3. In the graveyard (see below) some turf and soil was removed in order to expose buried parts of gravestones, especially to complete inscriptions. All the soil was humic; finds were made.

4. In field 9587, south-west of Odda's Chapel, some mechanical excavation was done by the tenants in the spring of 1972. The pond shown on the 25 in OS map as field 9286 (see Fig. 12) was drained by a trench *c.* 1 m wide in a north-west direction for about 37.5 m to a point 3 m to the north of a large tree; beyond this a narrower trench was cut down the slope towards the west corner of the field, where it emptied into a ditch. These are only approximate

measurements—there was no opportunity to survey the area properly. When the water had been drained from the pond, surface bumps and high spots were bulldozed off and pushed into the pond; the scarp, which was formerly a prominent feature on the north-west side of the field, running north - east-south-west, was also degraded. The whole area was then harrowed and re-seeded to yield a better grass crop.

The following observations were made:

(a) where the scarp was degraded (A on Fig. 12), it was seen to consist of at least 1.5 m of reddish-brown alluvial soil with Victorian building debris, tile, and pottery in the upper 35 cm. There were some cobbles at the base of this material at about 10 m south-east of point A; no natural was seen here.

(b) two Roman sherds (P13–14), a Roman or early medieval sherd (P15), a ?tessera (ST12), and a piece of pennant stone (ST6), were recovered from the bulldozed material.

(c) at about point B in the trench, and apparently extending north-west, was an ?undisturbed soil profile of some 75 cm of reddish ?alluvial soil, about 10 cm of hard gravelly material, and then undisturbed soft sandy red marl.

(d) at about point C, some 17.5 m north-west of the north-west edge of the pond, this profile was cut vertically, and a profile was seen extending back to the pond thus:

turf and topsoil	15 cm
brownish sandy	70 cm
reddish-brown with some gravel	45 cm
grey-brown sandy at	1.30 m

and extending downwards to at least 1.50 m, where the water table was reached.

Near the pond, a piece of Roman tile (FC15) was found in the reddish-brown layer at a depth of *c.* 1 m.

(e) two high areas south-east of the pond were shown to be man-made features. At D in Fig. 12 were sandstone foundations of a building, probably of post-medieval date. At E were two areas of burnt debris, each 5 m or more across, which were scraped by the bulldozer, but not removed for more than a depth of about 10–20 cm maximum. Most of the burnt material proved to be charcoal and large pieces of daub, of which FC13 is a sample. There were also many pieces of Roman tile, of which FC14 were typical; two had traces of brick mortar on them.

It is evident that in field 9587 there are many archaeological features which would repay investigation at some future date. The Roman tile may indicate Roman structures, of which the daub pieces are part, perhaps tile-kilns. The small amount of Roman pottery recovered would seem to preclude these finds being part of a domestic complex. The structures may, of course, be of later date, re-using Roman material.

The pond would seem from the evidence of the trench to be merely the residue of a much larger cut-away area, whose function cannot be guessed at; the only dating is that of FC15, which suggests that its upper filling at least is of Roman or later date.

5. In field 8261, which may be the site of a mill, four finds were made in the ploughsoil close to an area where surface indications suggested a building: ST5, a hone, and P8–10, medieval sherds. The latter suggest a date for the building.

Other finds observed

1. The Romanesque sculpture (Fig. 15 and Plate XII), was found built into the ?14th century capping of the belfry stage of the tower; it does not seem to have been recorded before. A report by David Walsh is given on pp. 29–30.

2. Other pieces of stone of similar appearance and thickness are also built into this structure; no relief detail is visible on these, but they are very likely to be part of the same decorative scheme as no. 1.

3. Fragments of early 13th century grave slabs with incised decoration can be seen forming parts of the jambs of the 14th century belfry openings in the top stage of the tower, in its north and south faces.

4. In the exterior face of the west wall of the main range of Priory Farm were noted two fragments of two-strand interlace (Plates VIIB, C). In the south wall there is a further fragment of a 13th century grave slab, with a lightly incised cross on a two-step plinth.

5. In the east wall of the churchyard (bounding the entrance path) a possible monolithic window-head was found built into the south end by the gate. In its eastern face nearer to the farm is built the upper stone of a rotary quern (Plate VIIA); the rynd-slots are rather like those found in Roman or Saxon examples.

6. There are many fragments of worked stone in the garden of "The Minstrels" (Fig. 12), formerly "Whitehall"; they are said to have been formerly near Odda's Chapel and to have been cleared from there some ten years ago. They include the base of the former ?15th century village cross (Plate IXB), four voussoirs of a Norman chevron arch (Plate VIIIB), a Norman jamb (Plate VIIIA), and a Transitional capital (Plate IXA). The original provenance of these pieces is unknown at present.

7.A medieval jug fragment (P16) was found in the garden of field 1380, "The Laurels" by the owner, Mr David Gardner, who kindly lent it for drawing (Fig. 17).

The graveyard survey

Since 1972 Jeremy Jones has been recording the gravestones in the churchyard. He presented a BA dissertation at Birmingham in 1973, which incorporated the preliminary results of the survey. Further work, including the completion of an accurate plan, was done in 1974 and later years; a comparison will also be made between the data on the surviving stones and that in documentary sources, which include a very complete series of parish registers commencing in 1558.

A total of 437 grave memorials survives, with a date range of 1671–1969. Twenty-four memorials recording 28 deaths belong to the 17th century; these have been compared with the parish register for the corresponding period, and this discloses several discrepancies in these two classes of evidence.

Some clearing of ivy and other shrubs was done, and turf and soil were removed to find inscriptions, a tomb, and a broken headstone buried below present ground level. The plan shows clearly the effect of location both on survival and orientation. Many of the earlier memorials have survived on the west side of the churchyard path because they have become well loved features and have therefore been cared for (e.g. Plate X). The area north of the church contains only 19th century and later stones; the graves near the boiler-house and church follow the orientation of the latter, i.e. west-east, but a radial effect is observed towards the north-west corner of the churchyard, where a path and finally the boundary wall (Fig. 2) influence the orientation of graves to be parallel with them. A prominent "Celtic" cross in this area marks the grave of the Rev George Butterworth, to whom we are heavily indebted for his critical observations of the church.

This is not the place to discuss the historical or other information which such a survey will yield (Jones 1976), but it is hoped that data will be included in a later report. It should be stressed, however, that seen as part of the archaeological evidence, the gravestones represent "Layer 1" (and a well dated layer!) of a cemetery of about 10,000 graves, the full understanding of which is an important aspect of the history of the church and of its community.

Field Survey

Michael Aston has made a survey of the parish, a report on which will be included in a later paper. The earthworks of the monastic precinct were mapped; these include a group of fishponds and the remains of a precinct bank. A set of shrunken medieval earthworks were planned adjacent to the present village, comprising hollow ways, house platforms, and ditches. Using air photographs by Professor J K St Joseph and the 1851 Tithe map, the pattern of road and building alignments in the 19th century was plotted, with details of land ownership, and the extent of surviving and ploughed-out ridge and furrow was mapped. Round mounds, possibly barrows, were recorded at SO882285 (Deerhurst Walton), SO871293 (Deerhurst), and SO862277 (Apperley), the last-named crossed by ridge and furrow. A ring ditch, apparently with an internal structure, was seen on air photograph VM48 at about SO87652940, and a possible long barrow (now flat) on air photographs ACQ42, ACQ43, ACQ44 (north-west of churchyard).

A truck-framed barn and a post-medieval dovecote were found at Walton Farm and a medieval stone dovecote at Grange Farm, all apparently previously unrecorded. Other buildings were recorded, including the late medieval hall house with cruck truss at "The Minstrels" (formerly "Whitehall").

The field survey should make it possible to delimit basic areas of early land use including the low-lying riverside water meadows, arable land, and the former large areas of orchards now being cleared. Future work will also include a survey of documentary sources, especially those of the estates owned by Deerhurst Priory, which should assist the interpretation not only of the earthworks and other features in the parish, but also the resources, such as building stone, of the estates themselves.

The Finds

Stone (geological identifications by PAR)

		Fig. no.
ST1	Complete roof tile, with nail- or peg-hole; light grey-buff shelly limestone, shell and sponge-fossil inclusions; max. thickness 3 cm (SEF12a, south edge).	14-9
ST2	Fr. flint flake, struck, ripples of percussion, 13 x 9 x 2 mm (A3, west of AF27).	
ST3	Fr. of wheel-headed cross, seed-pod design on one side, two-strand interlace on other; traces of red paint on pods side, on edges of holes, and on outer edge either side of central band; white paint in recessed areas; no paint visible on interlace side; outer edge has smooth slightly shiny band in centre; this is in places light brown and grey in colour. Professor Cramp says this is a "priming" material to facilitate subsequent colouring; there is possibly similar material in the recesses on the pods side (where there is no white—but not clearly underlying it); there is none under the red paint. The stone is coarse cream oolite with fossil inclusions, smooth in wheel-holes. Original diameter *c.* 26 cm; dia of wheel-holes *c.* 6 cm, thickness 4.75 cm; holes not symmetrical—different distances from edges; room for four holes as shown in reconstruction. Professor Cramp thinks it has never been exposed to external erosion, and suggests an 8th or 9th century date, favouring the latter. Dr Butler suggests that this is probably a headstone and may be evidence for a monastic cemetery (SEF35).	14.11 (and Plate XI)
ST4	Fr. of Pennant (micaceous sandstone), edges *c.* 12 x 10 cm, max. 5 cm thick; one edge dressed smooth, upper (extant) face lightly tool-marked and smooth; found with ST3, possibly part of its base or shaft (SEF35).	–
ST5	Hone, fine blue-grey limestone, very smooth surfaces (field 8261, ploughsoil).	14.10
ST6	Fr. of Pennant (micaceous sandstone), 11 x 8 x 2.5 cm; possibly fr. Roman root or floor tile (field 9587).	–
ST7	Four hand-sized frs. oolite, burnt grey, with white coloured "skin" up to 1 mm thick; possibly evidence of lime-burning (SEF36).	–
ST8	Slab of limestone, one half like Blue Lias, other a shell bed, with a clear line of demarcation; shelly side reddish; burnt red on one corner; irregular 20 x 18 x 2.5 cm; possibly flooring material (SEF35).	
ST9	Fr. of roof-tile, stone as ST1; two edges intact; no nail- or peg-hole extant; 20.5 x 10 x 2 cm = minimum size of tile (NEF8).	–
ST10	Slab of Pennant sandstone, Irregular with no original edges; 17 x 15 x 2.5 cm max.; maroon ?painted patches on one side; may be fr. of Roman roof tile (NEF17).	
ST11	Triangular slab of very micaceous Pennant sandstone 15 x 75 x 3 cm; cf. ST6 but not like ST10 (NEF18).	–
ST12	?Tessera; 3 X 3.2–3.4 x 2 cm; hard fine blue-grey ?Lias or harder limestone; one surface fairly smooth; possibly naturally broken (field 9587).	

Some clearing of ivy and other shrubs was done, and turf and soil were removed to find inscriptions, a tomb, and a broken headstone buried below present ground level. The plan shows clearly the effect of location both on survival and orientation. Many of the earlier memorials have survived on the west side of the churchyard path because they have become well loved features and have therefore been cared for (e.g. Plate X). The area north of the church contains only 19th century and later stones; the graves near the boiler-house and church follow the orientation of the latter, i.e. west-east, but a radial effect is observed towards the north-west corner of the churchyard, where a path and finally the boundary wall (Fig. 2) influence the orientation of graves to be parallel with them. A prominent "Celtic" cross in this area marks the grave of the Rev George Butterworth, to whom we are heavily indebted for his critical observations of the church.

This is not the place to discuss the historical or other information which such a survey will yield (Jones 1976), but it is hoped that data will be included in a later report. It should be stressed, however, that seen as part of the archaeological evidence, the gravestones represent "Layer 1" (and a well dated layer!) of a cemetery of about 10,000 graves, the full understanding of which is an important aspect of the history of the church and of its community.

Field Survey

Michael Aston has made a survey of the parish, a report on which will be included in a later paper. The earthworks of the monastic precinct were mapped; these include a group of fishponds and the remains of a precinct bank. A set of shrunken medieval earthworks were planned adjacent to the present village, comprising hollow ways, house platforms, and ditches. Using air photographs by Professor J K St Joseph and the 1851 Tithe map, the pattern of road and building alignments in the 19th century was plotted, with details of land ownership, and the extent of surviving and ploughed-out ridge and furrow was mapped. Round mounds, possibly barrows, were recorded at SO882285 (Deerhurst Walton), SO871293 (Deerhurst), and SO862277 (Apperley), the last-named crossed by ridge and furrow. A ring ditch, apparently with an internal structure, was seen on air photograph VM48 at about SO87652940, and a possible long barrow (now flat) on air photographs ACQ42, ACQ43, ACQ44 (north-west of churchyard).

A truck-framed barn and a post-medieval dovecote were found at Walton Farm and a medieval stone dovecote at Grange Farm, all apparently previously unrecorded. Other buildings were recorded, including the late medieval hall house with cruck truss at "The Minstrels" (formerly "Whitehall").

The field survey should make it possible to delimit basic areas of early land use including the low-lying riverside water meadows, arable land, and the former large areas of orchards now being cleared. Future work will also include a survey of documentary sources, especially those of the estates owned by Deerhurst Priory, which should assist the interpretation not only of the earthworks and other features in the parish, but also the resources, such as building stone, of the estates themselves.

The Finds

Stone (geological identifications by PAR)

		Fig. no.
ST1	Complete roof tile, with nail- or peg-hole; light grey-buff shelly limestone, shell and sponge-fossil inclusions; max. thickness 3 cm (SEF12a, south edge).	14-9
ST2	Fr. flint flake, struck, ripples of percussion, 13 x 9 x 2 mm (A3, west of AF27).	
ST3	Fr. of wheel-headed cross, seed-pod design on one side, two-strand interlace on other; traces of red paint on pods side, on edges of holes, and on outer edge either side of central band; white paint in recessed areas; no paint visible on interlace side; outer edge has smooth slightly shiny band in centre; this is in places light brown and grey in colour. Professor Cramp says this is a "priming" material to facilitate subsequent colouring; there is possibly similar material in the recesses on the pods side (where there is no white—but not clearly underlying it); there is none under the red paint. The stone is coarse cream oolite with fossil inclusions, smooth in wheel-holes. Original diameter *c.* 26 cm; dia of wheel-holes *c.* 6 cm, thickness 4.75 cm; holes not symmetrical—different distances from edges; room for four holes as shown in reconstruction. Professor Cramp thinks it has never been exposed to external erosion, and suggests an 8th or 9th century date, favouring the latter. Dr Butler suggests that this is probably a headstone and may be evidence for a monastic cemetery (SEF35).	14.11 (and Plate XI)
ST4	Fr. of Pennant (micaceous sandstone), edges *c.* 12 x 10 cm, max. 5 cm thick; one edge dressed smooth, upper (extant) face lightly tool-marked and smooth; found with ST3, possibly part of its base or shaft (SEF35).	–
ST5	Hone, fine blue-grey limestone, very smooth surfaces (field 8261, ploughsoil).	14.10
ST6	Fr. of Pennant (micaceous sandstone), 11 x 8 x 2.5 cm; possibly fr. Roman root or floor tile (field 9587).	–
ST7	Four hand-sized frs. oolite, burnt grey, with white coloured "skin" up to 1 mm thick; possibly evidence of lime-burning (SEF36).	–
ST8	Slab of limestone, one half like Blue Lias, other a shell bed, with a clear line of demarcation; shelly side reddish; burnt red on one corner; irregular 20 x 18 x 2.5 cm; possibly flooring material (SEF35).	
ST9	Fr. of roof-tile, stone as ST1; two edges intact; no nail- or peg-hole extant; 20.5 x 10 x 2 cm = minimum size of tile (NEF8).	–
ST10	Slab of Pennant sandstone, Irregular with no original edges; 17 x 15 x 2.5 cm max.; maroon ?painted patches on one side; may be fr. of Roman roof tile (NEF17).	
ST11	Triangular slab of very micaceous Pennant sandstone 15 x 75 x 3 cm; cf. ST6 but not like ST10 (NEF18).	–
ST12	?Tessera; 3 X 3.2–3.4 x 2 cm; hard fine blue-grey ?Lias or harder limestone; one surface fairly smooth; possibly naturally broken (field 9587).	

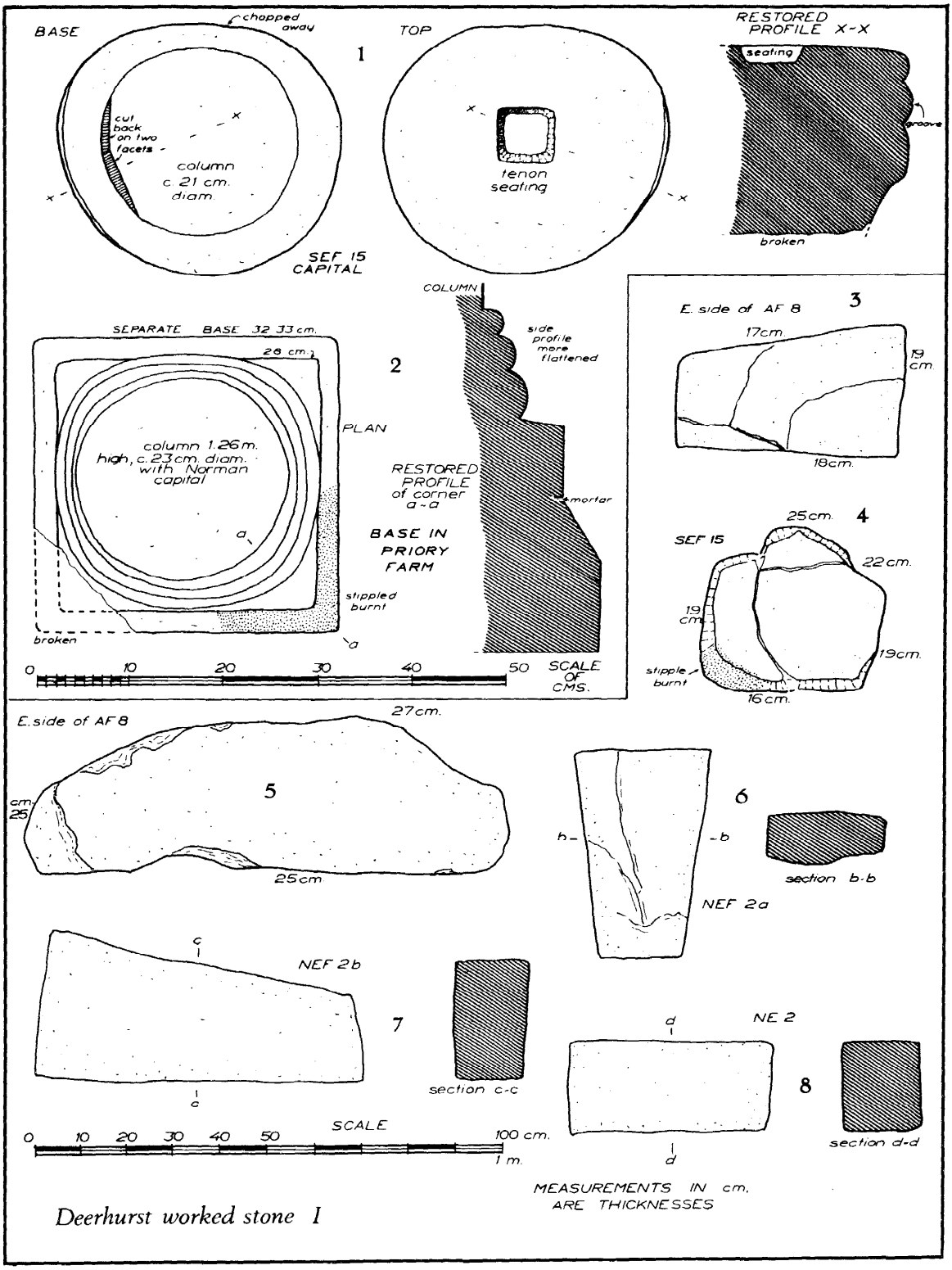


Fig. 13 Worked stone I

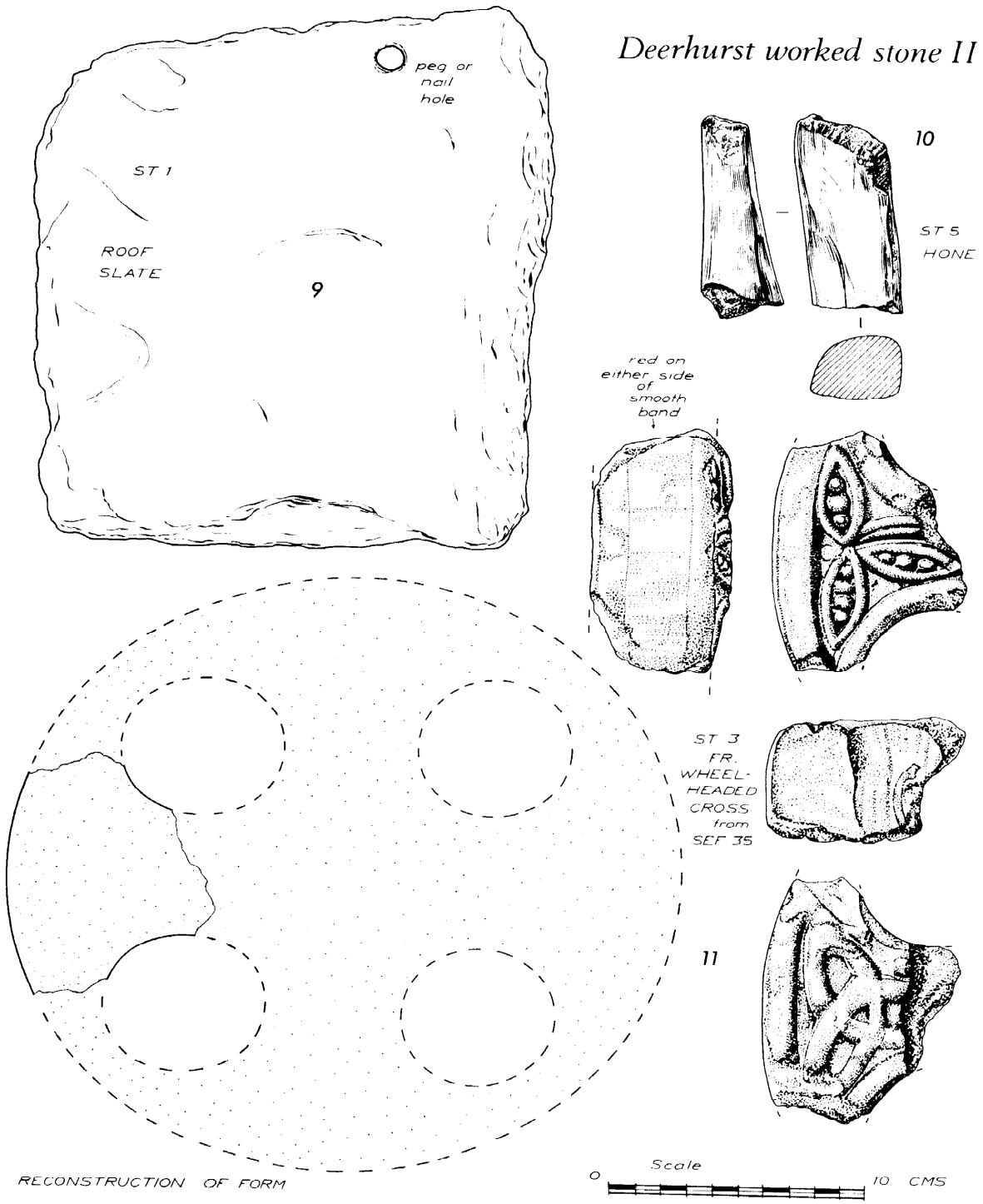


Fig. 14 Worked stone II

		Fig. no.
ST13	Capital or less probably base, with tenon-hole, of oolite; triple roll moulding; similar in style to stone now forming base of capital/column/base assembly in parlour of Priory Farm; the capital there is usually assigned to the 12th century (see p. 3) and the base has therefore been assumed to be of the same period, but the elements of this assembly may be derived from different places, and may be of different dates. ST13 therefore might be post-Conquest, but there is no reason why it must be; its context and associated material must be taken into account. Parallels could be drawn from both pre- and post-Conquest contexts (SEF15b).	13.1 (and Plate XIIIA) 13.2 (and Plate XIIIB)
ST14	Lintel, see illust. (NEF1) (near surface by east side of AF8).	13.5
ST15	Oolite block, see illust. (near surface by east side of AF8).	13.3
ST16	Oolite block with burnt corner (SEF15).	13.4
ST17–19	Three blocks of Lias (NEF2a and 2b and NE2).	136–8

Romanesque sculpture

ST20	Romanesque sculpture in tower, see below (built into belfry roof, probably in 14th century)	15 (and Plate XII)

The following notes have been contributed by Professor David Walsh (University of Rochester, USA):

Part of a sculptured oolite slab was found during the 1972 season. The slab was evidently reused, without consideration of the original decoration, as a brace in the corner of the north and east walls of the bell stage of the tower just under the wooden roof.[20] The decorated side faces down and perhaps less than half of the original surface can be seen, as much of it extends into the courses of stone of the two contiguous walls. In addition, part of the surface is covered by another brace just below it.

The slab is 10 cm thick and its longest exposed side measures 1.15 m. The back is roughly dressed. On the decorated surface, the exposed edge is carefully bevelled and it is probable that this edge was the original right vertical side of the slab.[21] Parts of two figures, a frond of a split palmette, and a section of its stalk remain of the original composition. A frontal robed figure stands on the upper surface of the palmette. Below, to the right of the stalk, another robed figure faces the left, praying or presenting an object.

The foliate element between the figures, as we have said, is a curling frond of a split palmette. The formal type and the method of carving of the palmette, with the curving, rounded lobes, each with depressions in the centres in the form of wide grooves with sloping sides, is of an extremely common and widespread variety. The foliage of the Deerhurst slab is a rather crude and ungraceful version of the type found on the mid-12th century tympanum of the south door at Kilpeck (Zarnecki, 1953, fig. 19). Only the upper portion of the bottom figure remains visible. The exact position of the left arm is obscured by damage done to the lower part of the slab.[22] The head is seen in three-quarter view. The features are simply blocked out and defined by a series of grooves; the chin is small and the mouth was perhaps never well articulated. The mass of the hair on the back of the head extends as low as the chin and there is a strange proturberance on the side of the head. The figure seems to be wearing a heavy collar or cowl around the neck. The figure above the palmette can only be seen below the shoulders. The articulation of what remains of the figure is rudimentary. The feet are hardly distinguishable from the amorphous lower legs. The upper part of the figure is covered with a heavy mantle.

The relief is characterized by an elemental simplicity. The projecting parts rise from the plane of the background field, the amount of relief between the background and the areas of projection being about 2 cm. The outer contours of the figures are

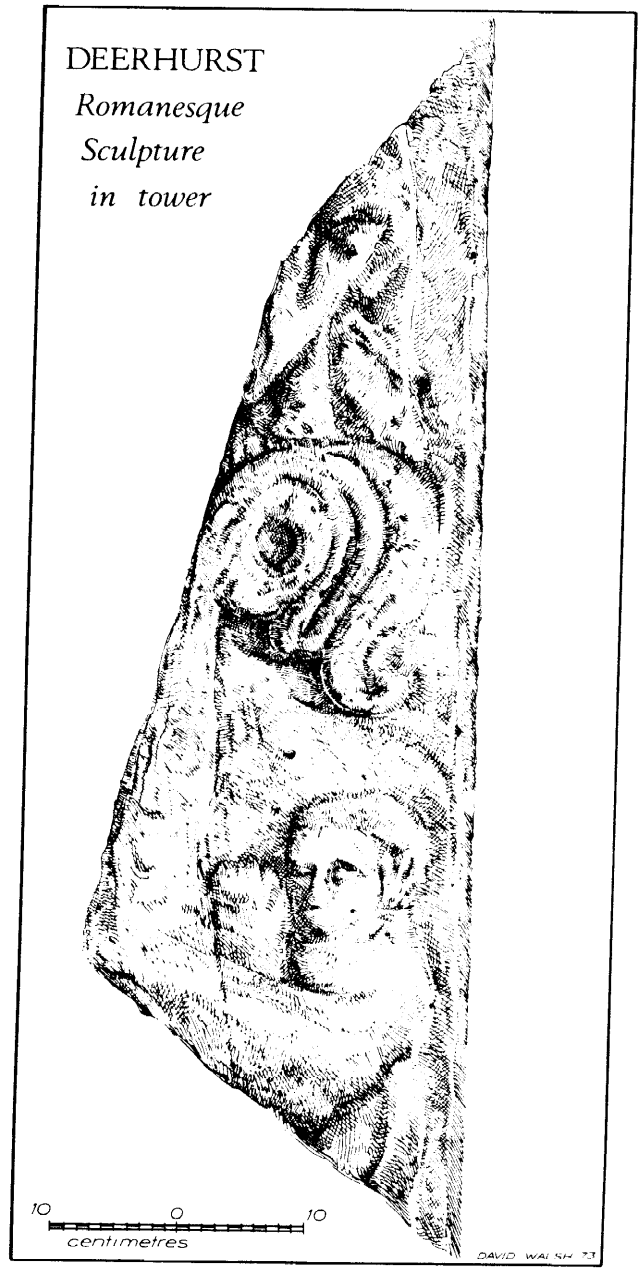


Fig. 15 Romanesque sculpture in the tower

rounded and nearly all the projecting parts are on a single plane, so that the elements of the design read as cutouts. Articulations within the figures such as in folds of drapery are rendered as rounded V-grooves.

The damaged condition and the fragmentary exposure of the Deerhurst slab make the localization and dating of the style difficult. The technique and handling of forms suggest a 12th-century date. The definition of forms by the use of grooves is employed in numerous works of the early 12th century, such as the choir capitals at Hereford Cathedral (Zarnecki 1951, fig. 27). The simpler and less forceful work at Deerhurst is closer to examples of reliefs, for instance, on numerous fonts such as at St Mary's, Wansford, or All Saints', West Waddon, both in Northamptonshire (Zarnecki 1951, figs 38, 4344).

The original size of the slab cannot be determined, since it cannot be told how much of the sculpture is embedded in the wall nor how much of it may have been transformed before re-use. The thinness of the slab (10 cm) indicates that the total surface area was not great. The compositional elements remaining—a half palmette on a stalk and a figure facing toward the left—suggest that we have most of the right side of a quasi-symmetrical composition with the stalk as an axis. If this is the case, the slab was about 60 cm wide. If we imagine the two visible figures as complete, the height of the slab must be 1.5 m or more.

A vertical rectangular format would be appropriate for a stele of some kind, though it is unkikely that this piece was free-standing as it is quite thin and roughly dressed on the back. Such a slab might be set into a wall or floor. The proportions that we have suggested would be appropriate, in fact, for a tomb slab.

If the total composition was symmetrical with an axial stalk, it is possible that the split palmette was a base for a Tree of Life or a flowering cross. The figure below is without halo and could be a donor, the collar or cowl identifying it as a monk, though the damaged projecting element on the side of the head might be a part of female headgear.

Further exposure of the embedded portions of the slab is unlikely, so that the only hope of knowing the subject and function of the work is in finding examples of compositions with comparable details.

Slag

		Fig. no.
SL1	Fragment of crucible, dark grey very hard matrix with much white quartzite grains; one surface fused with reddish-brown sandy material, the other surface vitrified to dull greenish margin with glassy surface; 6–17 mm thick (under stone 6 of AF7a) (see also P3)	

Iron

IR1	Large nail, reconstruction drawing based on x-ray; round-headed, and probably hammered over, suggesting that it has been driven through wood *c.* 7.5 cm thick; head 3 x 2 cm, presumably originally 3 x 3 cm; possibly doorstud (SEF38, in SEF35).	16
IR2	Nail, 4.5 cm long, irregular head 2. x 2.0 cm, wood traces on square-sectioned shank (SF10)	5

Other metals

OM1	Two similar pieces of bent flat-sectioned lead, possibly roof-clips, ?medieval; each is about 10 cm long, l–2 cm wide, and 3 mm thick (SEF12a).	
OM2	Two frs. of H-section lead window cames (AF28a).	–

Glass

GL1	11 small frs. thin transparent pale green ?late medieval window glass *c.* 1 mm thick and 3 minute frs. of opaque medieval window glass *c.* 3 mm thick (AF25, at base of AF28b).	–
GL2	3 frs. decorated opaque medieval window glass *a–c; a* and *b* illust., paint now dark red matt, *c* opaque and crystallized all through, *b* and *b* pale sea-green in core; all 3 mm thick (AF28a).	16
GL3	Small fr. of pale green ?late medieval window glass as GL1 *c.* 1 mm thick (SEF12b).	–
GL4	Fr. ?bottle in green glass, 5.5 x 3 cm irregular, 6 mm thick; probably post-medieval (NEF8) (post-pipe).	–

Fired clay

(See also tile re-used as "grog" in mortar series and in FC (e.g. FC7), which may be Roman)

Roman or Saxon

FC1	Fr. of *imbrex* or other tile, curved; hard red, laminated variegated section, with layers of yellow clay; one smooth edge; 5 x 3 x 1 cm thick (SEF12a).	–
FC2	Large fr. *tegula* or flue-tile; one side hard smooth, section coarse, laminated, with yellow flecks; MOR34 on both sides, thin and patchy on smooth side; thicker on other side, which is very rough and shows impression of ?straw bed in which dried; max. dimensions 18 x 11.5 x 2 cm (SEF15a).	–
FC6a	Fr. of box flue-tile, with combing, typical contorted "folding" of yellow/red streaky clay (SE2, base of layer near south-west end of area).	16
FC6b	As 6a with curved impression, evenly textured, orange/red, laminated (SE2, base of layer near south west end of area).	16
FC6c	Amorphous fr. no surfaces, soft lumpy reddish, may not be Roman (SE2, base of layer near south-west end of area).	
FC7	Fr. of brick, very coarse reddish fabric, heavily grogged with crushed brick or tile, and some fine quartzite grit; one flat sandy surface with impressions of wooden former; not typically Roman, may be post-Roman or Saxon; cf. FC11 (AF34).	
FC8	Fr. of ?box flue-tile with wood impression on interior; laminated reddish section like FC6b, but redder; 8.0 x 7 x 2 cm (unstratified in area SE).	16
FC11	Corner of brick; one face flat and sandy; two corners—knife-trimmed; dull reddish-brown heavily grogged with crushed brick or tile of similar colour and some large pieces of brownish stone; not typically Roman; 7.5 cm surviving of each side and 3.2 cm of thickness, cf. FC7 (AF3b).	
FC13	Five frs. daub, hand-sized lumps, red to grey, with wattle impressions up to 2 cm diameter, probably Roman kiln debris (Field 9587 by Odda's chapel, found after bulldozing).	–
FC14	Four frs. tile or brick (all from field 9587, as FC13).	–
	(a) fr. 9 x 6 x 2 cm thick one side, 30 cm on other, dense red, folded laminated clay, identical to FC8; pink mortar with crushed brick or tile frs. like *opus signinum,* probably from flue-tile.	
	(b) fr. brick 12 x 9 x 4.5 cm thick, laminated yellow/reddish streaky, with pale reddish surfaces.	–
	(c) fr. tile 13 x 6 x 2 cm thick, dense red as (a); one surface fairly smooth, other very smooth.	–
	(d) fr. flue-tile 10 x 13 x 2 cm thick fabric as (c) with cross-combing, partly covered with brick mortar as (a).	16

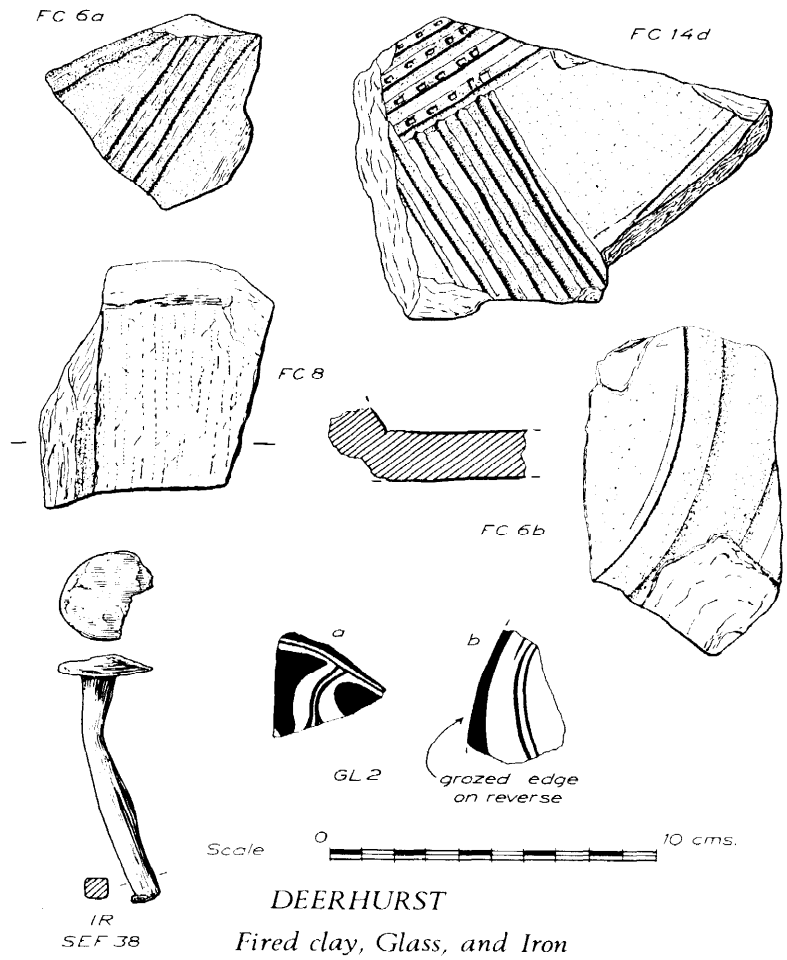


Fig. 16 Fired clay, glass, and iron

Medieval or Later

		Fig. no.
FC15	Fr. tile; 5 x 4 x 1.4 cm finely laminated yellow/red (field 9587 from trench)	–
FC16	Fr. box flue-tile 6 x 7 x 2 cm thick, homogeneous orange-red combing with sharp-pointed tool, 4 grooves in one direction, and 3 at 45° to them (SF10).	–
FC17	Fr. *imbrex* 9 x 5 x 2 cm thick, homogeneous hard orange-red (SF11).	
FC18	Fr. of L-edge of *tegula* 5 x 4 x 2.5 cm thick, dark reddish with thin yellow streaks in laminated fabric (SF11)	–
FC3a	Fr. late or post-medieval brick, hard coarse red, cindery inclusions; 7 x 7 x 4 cm (AF28a).	–
FC3b	Fr. medieval floor tile; tough red sandy one side, dark brown white-speckled dark brown glaze on other side; angle of corner 45°; minimum length of side 7 in; 2.2 cm thick (AF28a).	–
FC4a	Corner fr. of med. floor tile, rough red fabric; cream slip with traces of clear glaze on one side; 2.2 cm thick; angle of comer 90°.	–
FC4b	Fr. tile or brick; yellow-red-orange streaky clay; one surface matt blackened; 4 x 4 x 3 + cm. (from base of AF28b in middle).	–
FC5a, b	Fr. medieval or later roof tile; very hard maroon reddish white-flecked fabric; 7 x 6 x 1.2 cm (from base of AF28b in middle).	–
FC9	Seven frs. of medieval or later roof tiles; dull reddish to dark purplish, very hard and brittle; some fired so hot that self-glazed; one with fr. nib; av. 1.2 cm thick (NEF8).	–
FC10	Scrap of tile, soft reddish, slightly micaceous, one surface smooth (NE3, to south-west of pit NEF3).	–
FC12	Five frs. medieval floor tile, all plain backs (not keyed) (all from N2).	

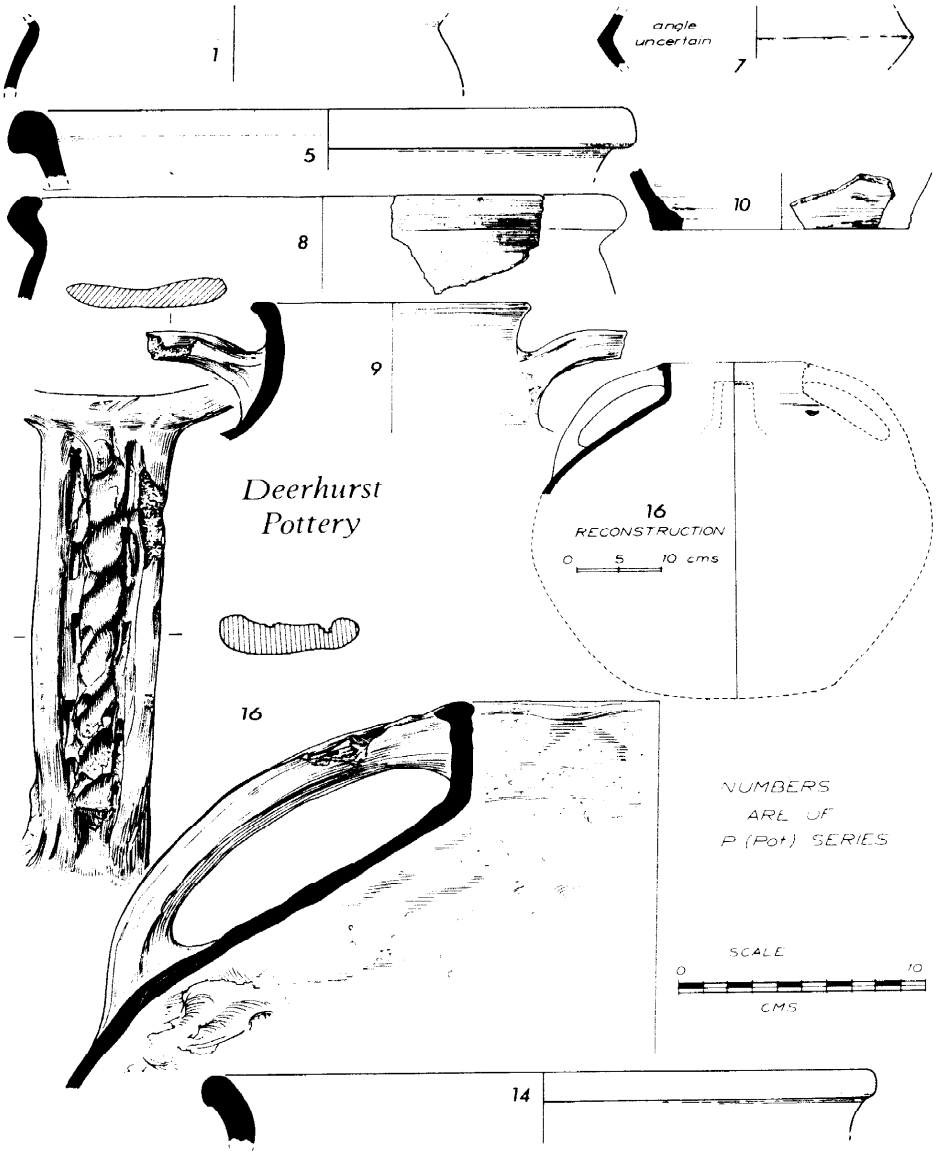


Fig. 17 Pottery

Fig. no.

(a) *c.* ½ of tile 13 x 3 x 2.3 cm; red-brown with very dark greenish patch glaze running down edges and there looking treacly brown; mortar on base and edge (MOR35). –

(b) corner of another similar, but with yellow glaze on cream slip. –

(c) corner of another similar with dark brown white-flecked glaze.

(d) fr. of tile 2.6 cm thick with glaze on cream/yellow slip, fabric similar to b, c.

(e) fr. of tile 3.1 cm thick glaze on yellow/cream-slip, grey core. -

Charcoal

CH1 from SEF12b, radiocarbon-dated (p. 35).

Coal

CH2 from NE3, to south of NEF3.

Animal Bone

(kindly identified by Miss B Noddle, BSc, Department of Zoology, University of Cardiff—see also P. 39)

AB1 Metatarsal of horse. Length 26·6 cm, suggesting withers height of 142 cm, or about 14 hands, slender in build (NE3a).

AB2 Left tibia sheep, distal portion. 27 mm distal width suggests animal of medium size, larger than most medieval sheep (AF3b).

AB3 'Tibiotarsus of goose (AF3b).

Pottery

sh. = sherd; ext. = exterior; int. = interior.
(no scientific examination yet).

		Fig. no.
P1	Sh. from junction of rim/shoulder, weathered, soft gritty, pink-buff outer surfaces with grey core; prominent small red/brown and dark brown grits; Roman, possibly 2nd century (SEF12a).	17
P2	(a) body sh., yellow-brown slightly micaceous, 1.5 x 1.5 cm, 3 mm thick; Roman, or candidate for post-Roman fine red ware (AF34).	–
	(b) body sh., hard, grey ext. surfaces, red/buff core, fine pimply surfaces; 2 x 1 cm, 4 mm thick; probably Roman, but might just be Saxo-Norman; cf. Chester Ware (AF34).	–
P3	Three v. small shs. one a simple rounded rim sh., hard dark grey gritty, limey surface ?burnt or ?refired 1.5 x 1.5 cm, 10 mm thick; rim is of irregular thickness and these shs. may be of a crucible (cf. P18 but P3 is browner) (AF11 in mortar).	–
P4	Small body sh., finely gritted dark grey, Roman black-burnished 10 x 5 X 5 mm (AF34).	–
P5	Rim sh., hard sandy, core and surfaces dark grey, margins reddish, dark green-brown glaze over rim and interior, iridescent on rim; ?16th century (AF25, in AF28a).	17
P6	Body sh. sandy with some serisite, flaky reddish fabric yellow-brown "crackled" glaze on interior; 7 x 5 cm, 7 mm thick; ?16th or ?17th century (AF25, in AF28a).	–
P7	Body sh., fine reddish with some serisite, apparently carination from bowl, probably Roman (SEF36).	17
P8	Rim sh., hard sandy, some quartz and serisite inclusions, grey core, reddish-brown margins, dark grey surfaces; ?13th–14th century (field 8261 in ploughsoil).	17
P9	Rim and handle sh. of jug, hard light reddish-buff, with purplish patches on ext. surface; small patches of mottled greenish glaze on exterior; ?14th–15th century (field 8261).	17
P10	Base sh. hard dense grey, brownish int. surface, base-angle knife-trimmed, ?15th century (field 8261).	17
P11	Body sh., hard dense grey with browner inner margin (2 mm) and surface; very few grits and serisite inclusions, some protruding through surface; wheel-marked inside; 4 x 3 cm x 5.9 mm thick; ?Roman (NF5).	–
P12	Body sh., soft reddish with some dark reddish and dark brown inclusions; 2.5 x 2.5 cm x 5 mm thick; Roman (NF4).	–
P13	Body sh. samian, fr. 33 with carination?, 6 x 2 cm, 5–9 mm thick; Roman, ?2nd century (field 9587).	–
P14	Rim sh. hard finely quartzite-gritted, dark grey wheel-made, Roman (field 9587).	17
P15	Sh., probably from base, coarse hard grey with brownish surfaces (0.5 mm) with inclusions of dark grey material (cf. that in P1) and a micaceous ?quartzite; could be Roman but may be early medieval (field 9587).	–
P16	Rim, handle, and body sh. of large jug or two-handled tripod pitcher (as restored in illustration); hard dark grey with many small whitish ?oolite grits; inner surface grey/buff to grey with many cavities where grits have leached out; outer surfaces have dull green glaze; some 5- or 6-tooth combing on body below neck; handle concave with separate strip inserted, then thumb-pressed, then deeply incised between strip and handle edges; ?13th century, probably from Cotswold source cf. Upton, P85 (Rahtz 1969, 120) (field 1380, "The Laurels" found in gardening by the owner, Mr David Gardner).	17
P17	Sh., thin gritty grey with one darker surface; 1.5 x 1.5 cm x 3 mm thick; probably Roman black-burnished (NE3, to south of NEF3).	–

Mortar

The following notes are tentative, and based on visual examination only. It is hoped to put the study of Deerhurst mortars on a scientific basis in later seasons, as part of the research being done for an MA thesis at Birmingham by Miss V Worthington.

Visual comparisons have been made between the mortars in the field, and subsequently in wet and dry states. It may here be reiterated that only the evidence of identical mortars is positive in structural analysis. Visual identity has here been taken to indicate correlations in building period between one wall and another, but should be extended to include other more scientific criteria. Similarity of mortars may of course indicate a similarity in period, e.g. the brick-tempered mortars may be "early" and more related to Roman prototypes, but cannot reliably be used as dating evidence.

Differences between mortars from a particular structure does not prove that the wall is not of one building period; different mixes may be used from one day to the next. It is doubtful whether the Anglo-Saxon builders adhered to set formulae such as those used in Roman times (at least in the classical tradition). One may nevertheless expect to find broad similarities between contemporary mixes based on rule-of-thumb customary ingredients and proportions; where such similarities are not apparent, two building periods may be postulated.

The variety of mortars encountered in such a small area is surprising. They will form a basis for a complete type-series for the church and monastic buildings.

Group A: Brick or tile inclusions or facing (cf. opus sininum)

This technique is commonly found in Roman contexts (see FC14a). Its presence at Deerhurst may indicate Roman structures on the site or Saxon building using Roman techniques; the latter may be more probable at an "early" date, say in the 5th–7th centuries, rather than later (see MOR19 context). The material used may be derived from Roman structures anywhere in Deerhurst (p. 6), and these sources doubtless remained available throughout the Saxon period. There is, however, a possibility that the material is not Roman, but Saxon, brick or tile. There is no evidence yet that Saxon brick or tile was being used at Deerhurst, though it is suspected on other sites such as Monkwearmouth/Jarrow or Brixworth. Small fragments may, of course, have been brought into the site attached to Roman building materials. See, however, Group K (8c) below,

MOR5 Three frs. pink, one with an extra surface or facing of crushed brick or tile (AF27).[23]

MOR6 Two pieces, pink, one very large, heavily brick- or tile-tempered, very like *opus signinum* (SE2).

MOR19 Stucco, mauve-brown brush-marked surface; some crushed fine brick inclusions; stone impressions (SEF26) (pre-apse context).

MOR20 Large lump, yellow-buff; pebble inclusions up to 2.5 cm and dark grey-green and brown oolite frs. (?lime-burning); material like MOR6 embedded on back of piece (i.e. MOR20 could be secondary to brick-tempered): impressions of stone ?rubble at several angles on interior, and also one impression of wood grain 6 x 5 cm; exterior coarsely finished in cream wash with coarse brush impressions. Very little charcoal (SEF35). See also FC12a and d above.

Group B: Associated group in SEF35, which includes MOR20 above

(associated finds include fr. cross-head ST3).

MOR21 Red-buff, small pebble, lime, and large charcoal inclusions.

MOR22a Mauve-buff, large pebble inclusions; white surface-painted, with a re-rendering 5–8 mm thick; material of latter visually identical to primary material.

MOR22b Greyish-mauve-brown.

MOR23 Dark mauve-brown, large creamy lumps, few tiny pebbles, and some charcoal.

Group C: First stone church (4/14 primary phase, 7/11 second phase)

MOR4 Yellow-buff, fine-textured (in south-east porticus close to base of south wall SF7, and noted at time of collection to be visually the same as that in lowest courses of SF7; it should therefore be identical to MOR14 below, but is not!).

MOR7 Large sample, pink-buff, greenish ?limestone, many small pebbles, frs. of mauve ?quartzitic ?limestone (cf. Millstone Grit), large creamy lumps, some charcoal (AF35, builders' layer equating with second phase).

MORll as MOR7 (SF7, 7th course from base, see E2).

MOR14 Yellow-buff but not identical to MOR4. (SF7, 2nd course from base, see E2).

Group D: Pre-apse

MOR12 Mauve-butf, fine texture, some lime and charcoal (SEF36, but not like apse).

MOR29 as MOR12 (NEFl8).

Group E: Pre-north-east porticus ? (33 is, and 3 by similarity)

MOR3 Six trs. plaster or stucco, buff sandy, small pebble and greenish ?limestone inclusions, fine-textured, very little charcoal; white surface (SEF14).

MOR33 Similar to 3, but not identical (AF7a, stone no. 2)

This is a tenuous link; cf. the greenish ?limestone with that in Group C above.

Group F: Apse walls

MOR13 pink-buff, heavy charcoal flecks (AFl main courses in south-east porticus) (browner than 15, 16).

MOR15 mauve-buff white flecks (three courses below plinth on south side of AF2 in south-east porticus, shown on E2).

MOR16 pink-buff (core of second bay of polygonal apse AF2); visually similar to that in east wall of church to side of blocked chancel arch, above levels assigned to first stone church; polyapse appears to be bonded with these upper levels.

Group G: South porticus, east wall

MOR10 Reddish-buff, creamy flecks, some charcoal (AF5, second joint from bottom, see El).

MOR18 Apparently as 10 (AF5, immediately above offset, above 7th course from base, see El).

This suggests that the offset here does not represent the junction of two phases, but that the wall is of one build.

Group H: South-east porticus, wall

MOR17 Buff-brown, white flecks (AF6)—as other walls of north-east porticus—AF7, 9.

Similar to Group J below, but not identical.

Group J: North-east porticus, not from walls, but visually identical.

MOR25, 28, 31 Mauve-buff large lime and Lias inclusions, many small pebbles, large charcoal. (NF4, NF6, and NF6 just south of NF8).

These link all the infilling layers inside the north-east porticus with the walls; they appear to be identical, though MOR28 is a shade more greenish.

Group K: Medieval feature inside apse (all from base of AF28b).

MOR8a Coarse creamy-buff, much lime, slight charcoal.

MOR8b As 8a, plus tiny pebbles.

MOR8c Similar to 8 a/b but pinker, with some burnt oolite and tiny brick inclusions.

Group L: Grey mortars, one in pre-apse level, other modern.

MOR1 Very small fr. greyish, some reddish stone or mortar inclusions, also tiny black ones: one of these looks like galena, others are metallic or vitreous (AF34).

MOR2 Two frs. stucco or plaster; buff-grey with white (?lime) inclusions (AF27, modern feature).

Group M: Tower (not from excavations, but recovered when probing for termination of string course from interior of *third floor).*

MOR26 Two large pieces, pinkish with large charcoal and pebble inclusions.

MOR30 Large piece as 26 but pinker.

Both of these are similar to mortars from SEF35 (Group B), but not enough to make any link.

Group N: Miscellaneous

MOR9 Reddish-buff, tiny pebbles, very little charcoal, cream finish, thick, with coarse brush impressions (SEF39, post-medieval).

MOR24 Scraps of buff (SEF33, post-medieval).

MOR27 Brown, speckled white (NF7, undated feature).

MOR34 Buff, fine quartzite grits and white flecks (on FC2 Roman tile).

MOR35 Buff-grey, white flecks (on FC12 medieval tile).

NB No links other than those noted have been seen.

Radiocarbon determinations

Two determinations were kindly made by the Birmingham radiocarbon laboratory on charcoal from SEF12 (p. 12). Professor F W Shotton, FRS, comments that the two samples can be averaged at ad 690 ± 75. This and the two dates quoted are uncor-

rected; using a revised half-life they would be earlier by 30–40 years. Other calibration might make them 20–30 years earlier or later, but no basis for recalibration has at the time of writing (April 1974) been agreed. With a single standard deviation (*c.* 2 chances in 3 that the date lies within the range given) the dating range may thus be from the later 6th century to earlier 8th century; or using a double deviation (*c.* 9 chances in 10) that it lies between the early 6th century and the late 8th or early 9th. A Roman or late Saxon date for this feature would thus seem to be excluded.

The dates have been published in *Radiocarbon* **(15,** No. 3 (1973), 446). The full reports are given below.

Dating reference number: Birm. 352

Locality: Deerhurst, Glos.

Nature of sample: Charcoal Submitter's ref: SEF12

Pretreatment: Full (5% HCl and 2% NaOH).

Laboratory counter: 111 Sample $C^{13}/C^{12}=$ } Text
Counter pressure: 45·0 1b/in^2 Modern $C^{13}/C^{12}=$ }

Sample count rate (C_1): 81412 in 3740 min
Background count rate (B): 17216 in 3300 min
Sample activity (S) = (C_1-B): 16.552 d.p.m.
Modern standard count rate (C_2): 25668 in 1000 min
Modern standard activity (M) = 0·95 (C_2-B): 19·428 d.p.m.

$$\delta C^{13} = \left(\frac{\text{Sample } C^{13}/C^{12} - \text{Modern } C^{13}/C^{12}}{\text{Modern } C^{13}/C^{12}} \right) \times 1000 = -25{\cdot}0$$

$$\delta C^{14} = \left(\frac{S - M}{M} \right) \times 1000 = -\frac{2{\cdot}876}{19{\cdot}428} \times 1000$$

Normalized C^{14} Abundance (Δ):

$$\Delta = \delta C^{14} - (2\delta C^{13} + 50)(1 + \delta C^{14}/1000) = -148{\cdot}034$$

C^{14} Half life (Libby) = 5570 years
Age in years (BP): 1290 ± 100
A D 6 6 0

Dating reference number: Birm. 352

Locality: Deerhurst, Glos.

Nature of sample: Charcoal Submitter's ref: SEF12

Pretreatment: Full (5% HCl and 2% NaOH)

Laboratory counter: 1 Sample $C^{13}/C^{12}=$ } Not measured
Counter pressure: 9·7 1b/in^2 Modern $C^{13}/C^{12}=$ }

Sample count rate (C_1): 25640 in 1000 min
Background count rate (B): 6856 in 1000 min
Sample activity (S) = (C_1–B): 18·785 d.p.m.
Modern standard count rate (C_2): 29888 in 1000 min (Running Mean).
Modern standard activity (M) = 0·95 (C_2 - B): 21881 d.p.m.

$$\delta C^{13} = \left(\frac{\text{Sample } C^{13}/C^{12} - \text{Modern } C^{13}/C^{12}}{\text{Modern } C^{13}/C^{12}} \right) \times 1000 = -25{\cdot}0$$

$$\delta C^{14} = \left(\frac{S - M}{M} \right) \times 1000 = -\frac{3{\cdot}096}{21{\cdot}881} \times 1000$$

Normalized C^{14} Abundance (Δ):

$$\Delta = \delta C^{14} - (2\delta C^{13} + 50)(1 + \delta C^{14}/1000) = -141{\cdot}493$$

C14 Half life (Libby) = 5570 years
Age in years (BP): 1290 ± 100
AD 720

The statement of statistical uncertainty is the result of combining single standard deviations of C_1 and B. Where a figure is given as "greater than X", X is the age corresponding to a count of four combined standard deviations and the measured count is less than this.

The Burials

By S Hirst

Evidence of human burial was found over the whole of the area excavated (Fig. 18). This was to be expected since both Butterworth and Knowles had noted their presence in earlier work. Butterworth (1890, 100) wrote: "Beneath the surface it [the north-east porticus] occupied, a large number of human bones were discovered, when 50 years ago the place was disturbed in the interests of farm buildings". Knowles reports that (1927, 160) "human and bovine bones were found within the apse near the north wall" and "outside the apse to the east of the northern adjunct, at *c.* 2 ft from the surface, a skull and several limb bones were found" (these were thought to be of a young male). It seems likely that the bones found in the present excavation buried in a deep circular hole inside the apse (AF12) were some or all of those found by Knowles and reburied by him.

In the present excavations human bone was found in all the areas excavated, but in varying degrees all the burials were disturbed. The density of burials was greater on the south side of the east–west axial line which may indicate a preference for the south side, a feature that can be paralleled in many churchyards (Johnson 1912, ch. 8). There is evidence of a total of between 30 and 40 burials from the 63 different groups of bones found. All the bones were in fairly good condition, though some of those disturbed were less robust. The bones still *in situ* generally lay in layer 3, the ?buried soil. Outside the stone structures they were all contained between the top of layer 3 and the top of the natural. These burials seem very shallow and might have been expected to be cut well into the natural. This may suggest that when the graves were dug there was considerably more soil outside the structures than now remains. All the articulated skeletons (or part skeletons) were extended and supine, with head central or sideways. Of the eight in which the lower arms were still *in situ,* the arms of three were extended by the side, three

rected; using a revised half-life they would be earlier by 30-40 years. Other calibration might make them 20-30 years earlier or later, but no basis for recalibration has at the time of writing (April 1974) been agreed. With a single standard deviation (*c.* 2 chances in 3 that the date lies within the range given) the dating range may thus be from the later 6th century to earlier 8th century; or using a double deviation (*c.* 9 chances in 10) that it lies between the early 6th century and the late 8th or early 9th. A Roman or late Saxon date for this feature would thus seem to be excluded.

The dates have been published in *Radiocarbon* **(15,** No. 3 (1973), 446). The full reports are given below.

Dating reference number: Birm. 352

Locality: Deerhurst, Glos.

Nature of sample: Charcoal Submitter's ref: SEF12

Pretreatment: Full (5% HCl and 2% NaOH).

Laboratory counter: 111 Sample C^{13}/C^{12} = } Not measured
Counter pressure: 45·0 lb/in² Modern C^{13}/C^{12} = }

Sample count rate (C_1): 81412 in 3740 min
Background count rate (B): 17216 in 3300 min
Sample activity (S) = (C_1-B): 16.552 d.p.m.
Modern standard count rate (C_2): 25668 in 1000 min
Modern standard activity (M) = 0·95 (C_2-B): 19·428 d.p.m.

$$\delta C^{13} = \left(\frac{\text{Sample } C^{13}/C^{12} - \text{Modern } C^{13}/C^{12}}{\text{Modern } C^{13}/C^{12}} \right) \times 1000 = -25{\cdot}0$$

$$\delta C^{14} = \left(\frac{S - M}{M} \right) \times 1000 = -\frac{2{\cdot}876}{19{\cdot}428} \times 1000$$

Normalized C^{14} Abundance (Δ):

$$\Delta = \delta C^{14} - (2\delta C^{13} + 50)(1 + \delta C^{14}/1000) = -148{\cdot}034$$

C^{14} Half life (Libby) = 5570 years
Age in years (BP): 1290 ± 100
A D 6 6 0

Dating reference number: Birm. 352

Locality: Deerhurst, Glos.

Nature of sample: Charcoal Submitter's ref: SEF12

Pretreatment: Full (5% HCl and 2% NaOH)

Laboratory counter: 1 Sample C^{13}/C^{12} = } Not measured
Counter pressure: 9·7 1b/in² Modern C^{13}/C^{12} = }

Sample count rate (C_1): 25640 in 1000 min
Background count rate (B): 6856 in 1000 min
Sample activity (S) = (C_1-B): 18·785 d.p.m.
Modern standard count rate (C_2): 29888 in 1000 min (Running Mean).
Modern standard activity (M) = 0·95 (C_2 - B): 21881 d.p.m.

$$\delta C^{13} = \left(\frac{\text{Sample } C^{13}/C^{12} - \text{Modern } C^{13}/C^{12}}{\text{Modern } C^{13}/C^{12}} \right) \times 1000 = -25{\cdot}0$$

$$\delta C^{14} = \left(\frac{S - M}{M} \right) \times 1000 = -\frac{3{\cdot}096}{21{\cdot}881} \times 1000$$

Normalized C^{14} Abundance (Δ):

$$\Delta = \delta C^{14} - (2\delta C^{13} + 50)(1 + \delta C^{14}/1000) = -141{\cdot}493$$

C14 Half life (Libby) = 5570 years
Age in years (BP): 1290 ± 100
AD 720

The statement of statistical uncertainty is the result of combining single standard deviations of C_1 and B. Where a figure is given as "greater than X", X is the age corresponding to a count of four combined standard deviations and the measured count is less than this.

The Burials

By S Hirst

Evidence of human burial was found over the whole of the area excavated (Fig. 18). This was to be expected since both Butterworth and Knowles had noted their presence in earlier work. Butterworth (1890, 100) wrote: "Beneath the surface it [the north-east porticus] occupied, a large number of human bones were discovered, when 50 years ago the place was disturbed in the interests of farm buildings". Knowles reports that (1927, 160) "human and bovine bones were found within the apse near the north wall" and "outside the apse to the east of the northern adjunct, at *c.* 2 ft from the surface, a skull and several limb bones were found" (these were thought to be of a young male). It seems likely that the bones found in the present excavation buried in a deep circular hole inside the apse (AF12) were some or all of those found by Knowles and reburied by him.

In the present excavations human bone was found in all the areas excavated, but in varying degrees all the burials were disturbed. The density of burials was greater on the south side of the east-west axial line which may indicate a preference for the south side, a feature that can be paralleled in many churchyards (Johnson 1912, ch. 8). There is evidence of a total of between 30 and 40 burials from the 63 different groups of bones found. All the bones were in fairly good condition, though some of those disturbed were less robust. The bones still *in situ* generally lay in layer 3, the ?buried soil. Outside the stone structures they were all contained between the top of layer 3 and the top of the natural. These burials seem very shallow and might have been expected to be cut well into the natural. This may suggest that when the graves were dug there was considerably more soil outside the structures than now remains. All the articulated skeletons (or part skeletons) were extended and supine, with head central or sideways. Of the eight in which the lower arms were still in situ, the arms of three were extended by the side, three

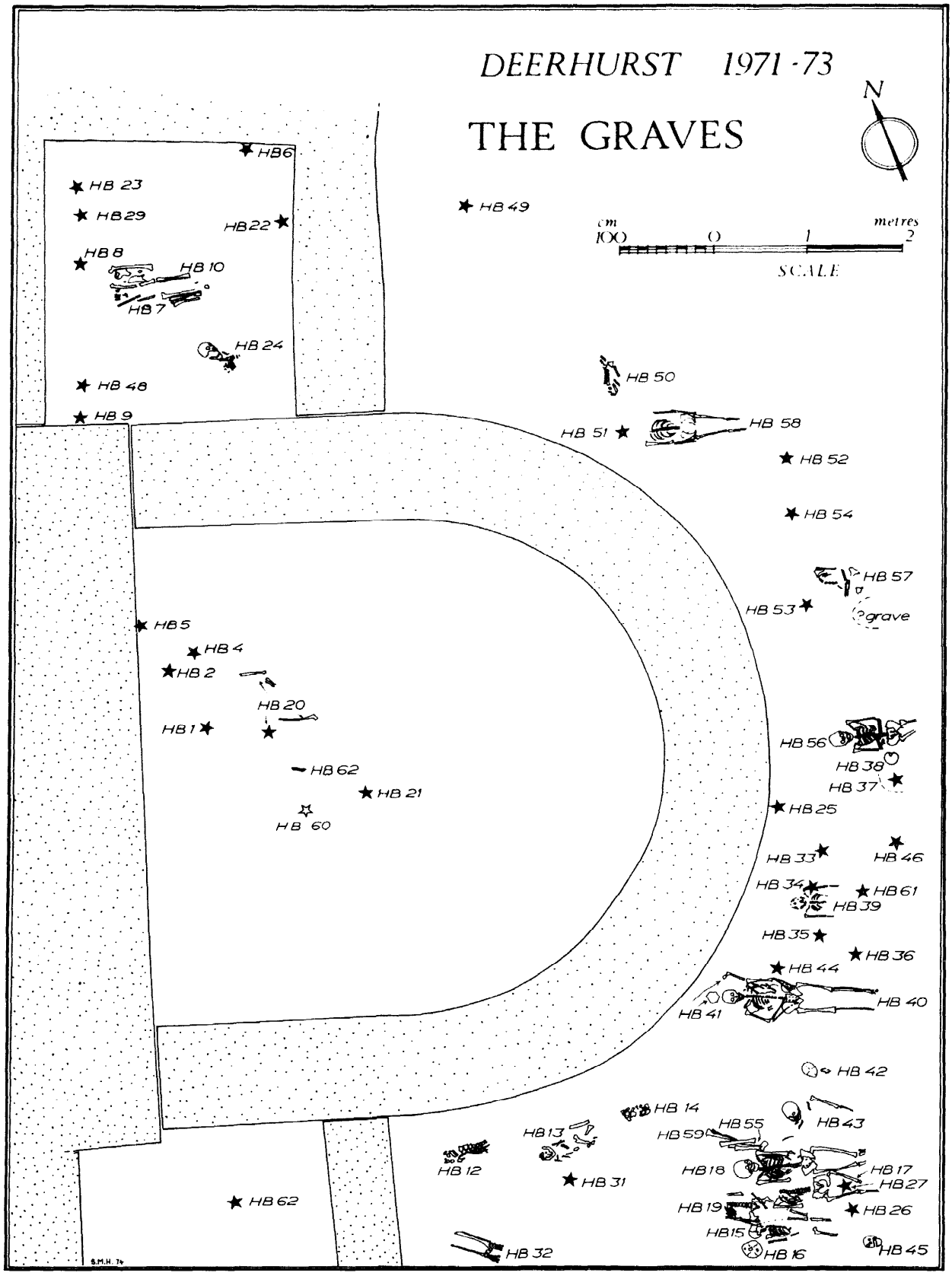


Fig. 18 The graves

flexed across the pelvis, and two flexed across the waist. With the exception of four or five, the skeletons *in situ* were all oriented with the west-east axis of the church walls. Of the exceptions four (HB4, 3, 1, and 2) were all apparently oriented with the heads to the north of the church axis, while HB10 was apparently oriented south of it. These "aberrant" graves are amongst those thought to be the earliest; they may have been oriented in relation to some earlier structure or some other factor such as the direction of the sun, and not, as the later ones were, to the stone church walls.

There were no definite grave goods. The only possible ones were two pig's tusks which were found lying at the same level as, and just to the north of, the left elbow of HB56. The difficulties of defining the edge of the grave and the degree of disturbance of the soil makes their association with the burial very uncertain. If they were associated they might be interpreted as some sort of amulet. In the circumstances it seems safest to discount them as only a possibility.

There is no dating evidence with any of the burials and they can only be arranged in groups of relative sequence, depending on their relationships to other features. Several of the groups of bones can be shown to be earlier than the earliest stone structures on the site. In considering the date of these burials it must be remembered firstly that there is possible evidence of Roman burials on the church site (p. 6). Secondly, in the present excavations there is evidence of burials that were earlier than the first stone church. HB5 and HB9 were incorporated in the builders' layers AF3b and AF35; this is evidence that there were human bones in the area, disturbed either by the building of the first stone church or previously. There was also human bone (HB4) in AF34, the soil which lay over the builders' layer AF35 to the east of AF3, and in the mortar and stone AF11 filling the ?timber slot AF33 defined in AF34. All these bones may have been disturbed in the same building operation and may even be from the same burial. The burials represented by HB20 (left arm bones *in situ* to the east of AF34) must also be earlier than AF34/36, as its head, if not disturbed by or before the construction of AF3, would (from its level) either have to be cut through AF34/36 or remain *in situ* sealed under AF34/36, neither of which is the case. This suggests that this burial is earlier than at least phase 2 of the first stone church, since AF34 seals second-phase mortar. It could have been dug through a soil bank around the first-phase stone church (p. 9), or it could be earlier than either phase; if it were, there must have been enough soil in this area to make a burial without penetrating the natural. Although some of the bones disturbed by the construction of AF3 may derive from HB20, it is unlikely that they all do: several are foot and ankle bones, and the feet of HB20 would have been a considerable distance away to the east.

There is possible evidence of burials inside the area of the south-east porticus, but no bones remained *in situ* here, bones only being found in the disturbed upper fill. However, the leg and foot bones HB32 are evidence of a burial earlier than the south-east porticus since the upper part is not present; the body could only have been laid out with its feet in such a position before the east wall of the south-east porticus was built. A similar situation was found in the north-east porticus. HB6 was in the fill of the construction trench for AF9, HB22 in the builders' layer (AF8a) associated with the base of AF8, laid by the builders in a north-south direction. This suggests burials in the area before the building of the double porticus. Since the leg bones HB10 are apparently *in situ* this burial must also antedate the building of the porticus, since there would not be room for the upper part of it after the construction of the mid-wall of the porticus. HB7 and HB10 and 24 were all sealed or disturbed by NF5 and 6 (builders' layers) and may all be earlier than the building of the porticus. Bone (probably derived from the above-mentioned groups) was also found incorporated in NF5 (HB29) and NF6 (HB8 and 23). The finding of HB25 in the construction trench for the semicircular apse (SEF36) shows that at least one burial was earlier than this, perhaps the same as that preceding the first stone church.

All the evidence of the burials inside the structures suggests that they predate the structures. None can be shown conclusively to be later than their construction, hence there is no evidence of any burial inside the buildings. Outside the apse and porticus it is more difficult to suggest a chronology for the burials, as there are few dated features to relate them. It seems possible that all the burials outside the apse and eastern porticus are later than the semicircular apse, since in an area of dense burial not one is cut by it. Since no burials encountered cut through the natural they may all have been in deep soil piled around the apse, which has subsequently been truncated (p. 9). The burials HB15, 19, and probably HB43 were all cut by pit SEF35. These burials are all therefore earlier than the date of the deposition of the cross. In the south-east area it is possible that SEF12, the subrectangular feature with a layer of charcoal on the bottom, was in fact a grave (p. 12), HB31 in layer above. The Cl4 date of the charcoal of *c.* ad 690 gives a *terminus post quem* for the three groups of bones, much disturbed but probably *in situ,* HB12, 13, and 14, which overlay SEF12 at a higher level. The burial HB32 is possibly earlier than SEF12, but the relationship was obscured by later disturbance. The only other burial related to a feature other than the post-medieval one was HB39; this was earlier than pit SEF33, which contained only human bone (HB61 ? from HB39) and may be of similar date to SEF35, to which it is similar in character. The other burials can only be related to much later features which cut them, but there is evidence of superimposition of burials in the case of HB15, 16, 19, 38, 41, ?42, ?44, 55, and 59.

The only other possibility of dating the burials is by radiocarbon determination; if this can be arranged, the resulting dates will not only help to determine the absolute dating of burials and the span of burials around the east end of the church, but may also narrow down the dating for structures, or features which

can be shown to be earlier or later than the burials.

Of the 63 burials, 25 were submitted to Dr J Morris for specialist comment, and his report is appended. The remaining 28 burials were re-interred.

Key to Human Bone Table

HB No.	Human bone number
Feature No.	Feature number
In situ?	NS—not *in situ* S—*in situ* SD—*in situ* but disturbed
Context	Circumstances of finding bones suggest they are *Earlier* than . . . . . . *Later* than . . . . . . and therefore *dating given* is. . . . .
Articulation	A—articulated D—disarticulated P—partly articulated
Arms	FP—flexed across pelvis FW—flexed across waist E—extended by sides
Head	R—turned to right ½R—turned half to right L—turned to left ½L—turned half to left F—frontal
Age	A—adult; C—child; asterisks indicate excavator's assessment only
Probable sex	Capitals (M,F) assessment based on pelvic remains Lower-case (m,f)—observation given in brackets

The Skeletal Remains

By J F Morris, MD, BSc, MB, ChB (Department of Anatomy, University of Bristol)

A sample of the skeletal remains were removed from site and examined at the Department of Anatomy, University of Bristol, in an attempt to assess the sex, age, and expected live stature for each individual, noting points of anatomical interest, and any abnormalities.

General condition

Nearly all bones were very fragmented and incomplete. Long bones, and parts of pelvis and skull important for determining sex, were reconstructed wherever possible, but detailed reconstruction of skull vault fragments was not undertaken in view of the incomplete nature of the specimens.

The number of individuals

Assuming that most numbered burial remains received represent parts from separate individuals (though the adult femur fragment of HB13a is undoubtedly a part of the femur represented in HB12a) there appear to be at least 33 individuals. Burials HB6, HB7, HB11, HB12, HB13, HB15, HB19, and HB22 appear to contain the remains of more than one individual. HB12, 13, 19 and 22 comprise remains from an adult and a child; HB15, an adult, a child, and a newborn; HB6, HB7 and HB11, at least two adults.

The age of the individuals

The estimation of age was based, wherever possible, on dental evidence: either the degree of tooth eruption in children or the pattern of molar wear in adults (Brothwell 1963). This wear pattern is said to have been reasonably constant from neolithic to medieval times. If, however, the flour used by the community was either particularly gritty or bland, the estimates given would be either too high or too low respectively. Most of the teeth were present in their sockets or could be allocated to a given socket with confidence. Dr B K Berkovitz (Department of Anatomy, University of Bristol) has examined all the teeth and commented on dental abnormalities. Those remains for which a dental age could not be given, but which showed adult bones with closed epiphyses were designated as "adult", or if immature "child" and in some cases a rough estimate for the age of the children could be given in the absence of teeth.

The skeleta were derived from both adults and children. The remains of only five adults could be aged dentally: these were 20-30 (two individuals), 25-35 (two individuals), and 35-45 (one individual). The remains of the other adults gave no real clue as to their age at the time of death.

The juvenile remains comprised some bones from a child dying at or around the time of birth, seven children, aged 3-5 (one individual), 5-6 (two individuals), 7-8, 7-9, and two others whose remains were so incomplete as to make attempts at ageing meaningless.

Probable sex of the individuals

In only a few individuals was it possible to attempt to assess the sex of the adult remains. The appropriate remains of two adult pelves strongly suggested that HB6a was female and HB10, male; the skulls of HB12a and HB19 suggest that they were female and male respectively, and the general dimensions of the long bones from HB7a and HB11a might suggest that they came from male individuals. Other than these, so few long bones were preserved intact that assessment of sex was impossible.

Expected stature of *the individuals*

As so few long bones remained intact, or could be completely reconstructed, any data given here must be treated with great caution. In those individuals for whom one or more long bones could be reconstructed, the remains suggest that the individuals ranged in height from 162 to 178 cm. This is the same range as that derived for the much more complete series of measurements at Beckery (Rahtz and Hirst 1974).

Pathological changes

Pathological changes were most pronounced around the teeth, there being considerable evidence of severe

periodontal disease though, with one possible exception, caries was absent. The other bones were free from deformity.

HB12 Calculus and periodontal disease.

HB14 Long-standing inflammation of LL6 and LL7 with marked periodontal disease. Marked slope of wear on the molar teeth (Plates XIVA, B).

HB18 Periodontal disease and wear of anterior teeth due to overload following loss of molar teeth. LL6 shows signs of possible caries, and is not in occlusion with a maxillary tooth (Plates XIV C, D).

HB6a Thoracic vertebra show signs of severe osteoarthritis, with possible vertical compression of the vertebral body (Plate XVA).
This may indicate an aged individual.

HB11 Evidence of osteoarthritis of lumbar vertebra (Plate XVB).

HB28 Periodontal disease and calculus.

Points of interest

HB18 Ossified parts of posterior atlanto-occipital membrane (by no means uncommon) with marked osteophyte growth around the atlanto-axial joint between the dens of the axis and the anterior arch of the atlas. This new bony growth projects upwards and may have been continuous with the anterior margin of the foramen magnum (Plates XV C, D).

Non-human remains

HB13b ?lower end of animal radius with knife (?spade) mark.

HB15c 1 ungulate tooth; 4 animal bone fragments.

Conclusions

The skeletal remains appear to comprise the bones of at least 33 individuals; of these, eight were children ranging in age from new-born to about 10 years, and the rest adult, the adults being 20-45 where dental remains permitted accurate ageing. In most individuals the sex could not be established, but of the four individuals for whom appropriate parts of the pelvis or skull remained, two appeared to be female and two male. The remaining bones were rather variable in their dimension, some being large, with prominent muscular markings, and others quite frail. This suggests that men, women, and children of all ages are probably represented here, and could be consistent with a pattern of death in childhood or relatively early adult life from infectious diseases. The only pathological changes revealed by the skeletal remains were periodontal disease and osteoarthritis of the spine.

Bibliography

Brothwell 1963 — D R Brothwell, *Digging up Bones* (British Museum, 1963).

Buckler 1886-87 — J C Buckler, Notes on Saxon Architecture, with a Description of Deerhurst Priory, Gloucestershire, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* **11** (1886-87), et seq.

Butler, Rahtz, and Taylor 1975 — L A S Butler, P A Rahtz, and H M Taylor Deerhurst 1971-74: The Society's Research Project on the Archaeology of the English Church, *Antiq. J,* **55** (1975), 346-65

Butterworth 1846 — G Butterworth, Notes on the Priory and Church of Deerhurst, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* 1(1846), 96-104.

Butterworth 1889-90 — G Butter-worth, The Ancient Apse of Deerhurst Church, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* **14** (1889-90), 48-49.

Butterworth 1890 — G Butter-worth, *Deerhurst, a Parish in the Vale of Gloucester* (Tewkesbury and London, 1887; revised ed. 1890).

Gilbert 1954 — E Gilbert, Deerhurst Priory Church revisited, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* **73** (1954), 73-114.

Gilbert 1965 — E Gilbert, Brixworth and the English Basilica, *Art Bulletin* **47** (1965).

Haigh 1846 — D H Haigh, Deerhurst Church, *J. Brit. Archaeol. Assoc.* **1** (1846), 9-19.

Jackson and Fletcher 1961 — E D C Jackson and E G M Fletcher, The Anglo-Saxon Priory Church at Deerhurst, in Jope 1961, 64-77.

Johnson 1912 — W Johnson, *Byways in British Archaeology* (CUP, 1912)

Jones 1976 — J Jones *How to record graveyards* (CBA/Rescue, London 1976)

Jope 1961 — E M Jope (ed.), *Studies in Building History* (London 1961).

Knowles 1927 — W H Knowles, Deerhurst Priory Church, *Archaeologia* **77** (1927), 141-l64.

Lysons 1804 — S Lysons, *Gloucestershire Antiquities* (1804).

Micklethwaite 1896 — J T Micklethwaite, Something about Saxon Church Building, *Archaeol. J.* **53** (1896), 293-351.

Rahtz 1969 — P Rahtz, Upton, Gloucestershire 1964-1968, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* **88** (1969), 74-126.

Rahtz 1971a — P Rahtz, Deerhurst Church *ibid.* **90** (1971) 129-35.

Rahtz 1971b — P Rahtz, Deerhurst, *Current Archaeol.* 28 (Sept. 1971), 135-39.

Rahtz Forthcoming — P Rahtz, Buildings and rural settlement, in D. Wilson (ed.), *The Archaeology of Anglo-Saxon England* (Methuen, forthcoming).

Rahtz and Hirst 1974 — P Rahtz and S Hirst, *Beckery Chapel, Glastonbury 1967-8* (Glastonbury Antiquarian Society, Glastonbury, 1974).

Taylor and Taylor 1965 — H M and J Taylor, *Anglo-Saxon Architecture* (CUP, Cambridge, 1965).

periodontal disease though, with one possible exception, caries was absent. The other bones were free from deformity.

HB12 Calculus and periodontal disease.

HB14 Long-standing inflammation of LL6 and LL7 with marked periodontal disease. Marked slope of wear on the molar teeth (Plates XIVA, B).

HB18 Periodontal disease and wear of anterior teeth due to overload following loss of molar teeth. LL6 shows signs of possible caries, and is not in occlusion with a maxillary tooth (Plates XIV C, D).

HB6a Thoracic vertebra show signs of severe osteoarthritis, with possible vertical compression of the vertebral body (Plate XVA).
This may indicate an aged individual.

HB11 Evidence of osteoarthritis of lumbar vertebra (Plate XVB).

HB28 Periodontal disease and calculus.

Points of interest

HB18 Ossified parts of posterior atlanto-occipital membrane (by no means uncommon) with marked osteophyte growth around the atlanto-axial joint between the dens of the axis and the anterior arch of the atlas. This new bony growth projects upwards and may have been continuous with the anterior margin of the foramen magnum (Plates XV C, D).

Non-human remains

HB13b ?lower end of animal radius with knife (?spade) mark.

HB15c 1 ungulate tooth; 4 animal bone fragments.

Conclusions

The skeletal remains appear to comprise the bones of at least 33 individuals; of these, eight were children ranging in age from new-born to about 10 years, and the rest adult, the adults being 20-45 where dental remains permitted accurate ageing. In most individuals the sex could not be established, but of the four individuals for whom appropriate parts of the pelvis or skull remained, two appeared to be female and two male. The remaining bones were rather variable in their dimension, some being large, with prominent muscular markings, and others quite frail. This suggests that men, women, and children of all ages are probably represented here, and could be consistent with a pattern of death in childhood or relatively early adult life from infectious diseases. The only pathological changes revealed by the skeletal remains were periodontal disease and osteoarthritis of the spine.

Bibliography

Brothwell 1963 — D R Brothwell, *Digging up Bones* (British Museum, 1963).

Buckler 1886-87 — J C Buckler, Notes on Saxon Architecture, with a Description of Deerhurst Priory, Gloucestershire, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* **11** (1886-87), et seq.

Butler, Rahtz, and Taylor 1975 — L A S Butler, P A Rahtz, and H M Taylor Deerhurst 1971-74: The Society's Research Project on the Archaeology of the English Church, *Antiq. J,* **55** (1975), 346-65

Butterworth 1846 — G Butterworth, Notes on the Priory and Church of Deerhurst, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* 1(1846), 96-104.

Butterworth 1889-90 — G Butter-worth, The Ancient Apse of Deerhurst Church, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* **14** (1889-90), 48-49.

Butterworth 1890 — G Butter-worth, *Deerhurst, a Parish in the Vale of Gloucester* (Tewkesbury and London, 1887; revised ed. 1890).

Gilbert 1954 — E Gilbert, Deerhurst Priory Church revisited, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* **73** (1954), 73-114.

Gilbert 1965 — E Gilbert, Brixworth and the English Basilica, *Art Bulletin* **47** (1965).

Haigh 1846 — D H Haigh, Deerhurst Church, *J. Brit. Archaeol. Assoc.* **1** (1846), 9-19.

Jackson and Fletcher 1961 — E D C Jackson and E G M Fletcher, The Anglo-Saxon Priory Church at Deerhurst, in Jope 1961, 64-77.

Johnson 1912 — W Johnson, *Byways in British Archaeology* (CUP, 1912)

Jones 1976 — J Jones *How to record graveyards* (CBA/Rescue, London 1976)

Jope 1961 — E M Jope (ed.), *Studies in Building History* (London 1961).

Knowles 1927 — W H Knowles, Deerhurst Priory Church, *Archaeologia* **77** (1927), 141-l64.

Lysons 1804 — S Lysons, *Gloucestershire Antiquities* (1804).

Micklethwaite 1896 — J T Micklethwaite, Something about Saxon Church Building, *Archaeol. J.* **53** (1896), 293-351.

Rahtz 1969 — P Rahtz, Upton, Gloucestershire 1964-1968, *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Archaeol. Soc.* **88** (1969), 74-126.

Rahtz 1971a — P Rahtz, Deerhurst Church *ibid.* **90** (1971) 129-35.

Rahtz 1971b — P Rahtz, Deerhurst, *Current Archaeol.* 28 (Sept. 1971), 135-39.

Rahtz Forthcoming — P Rahtz, Buildings and rural settlement, in D. Wilson (ed.), *The Archaeology of Anglo-Saxon England* (Methuen, forthcoming).

Rahtz and Hirst 1974 — P Rahtz and S Hirst, *Beckery Chapel, Glastonbury 1967-8* (Glastonbury Antiquarian Society, Glastonbury, 1974).

Taylor and Taylor 1965 — H M and J Taylor, *Anglo-Saxon Architecture* (CUP, Cambridge, 1965).

Taylor 1968 — H M Taylor, Corridor Crypts on the Continent and in England, *North Staffs. J. Field Stud.* **9** (1968), 17-52.

Thomas 1971 — C Thomas, *The Early Christianity* of *North Britain* (OUP, London, 1971).

Zarnecki 1951 — G Zarnecki, *English Romanesque Sculpture 1066-1140* (Alec Tiranti Ltd, London, 1951).

Zarnecki 1953 — G Zarnecki, *English Romanesque Sculpture 1140-1210* (Alec Tiranti Ltd, London, 1953).

Notes

1 A hand-written gloss on the Society of Antiquaries' copy of Butterworth 1890 gives this as 2 1/2 ft.

2 Butterworth did, however, reproduce Buckler's plan (1890, opp. 75) with its seven-sided apse, on which in the same copy is a gloss "should be semicircular".

3 He says the plan "is now in the collection of the Society of Antiquaries".

4 The point had already been raised in a "discussion" appendix to Knowles 1927 (164).

5 At any rate in its present form (p. 15).

6 John Rhodes, of Gloucester Museum, has kindly added the following information in reply to our query: "Lady Mary Lyon of Apperley Court lent us in 1956 a parcel of coins which we returned to her in 1970; it included a bronze of Victorinus, *rev.* SALVS AVG (RIC 122) which we took to be the one found under Deerhurst Church in 1861. Incidentally the same parcel contained two other coins reputed to have been found in Deerhurst village also in 1861; they were a denarius of Julius Caesar, *rev.* CAESAR (RRC 1013), and a bronze of Constantine II, rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS 1 standard (RIC Lyons 276). Finally, our permanent collection includes one coin found in Deerhurst, near the Saxon chapel at an unknown date; it is a follis of Constantius 1, *rev.* GENIO POPVLI ROMANI (RIC London 37a)."

7 The late Victor Margrett of Odda's Chapel Farm is said to be the source of this information. Dr Arnold Taylor, the former Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments, tells me that nothing is known of the origin of this material, which was in Odda's Chapel when it was taken into Guardianship in 1962.

8 This is not shown in the drawn section S3 (Fig. 4); it was only seen when these layers were followed to the west under the heating duct.

9 This and other stone descriptions are only provisional; the petrology and mortars of the church are being studied as part of an MA thesis at the University of Birmingham by Miss V Worthington.

10 The buried soil seems to have been removed here before building.

11 The set-back of up to 10 cm at about 1 m above the natural (shown at its maximum in section S2) is apparently due to differential weathering and erosion above this level.

12 See p. 7, in period IIa, and p. 15, re the north-east porticus; the best evidence for a fall to the south is the exposure of the exterior footings on the south side of the church, in the cloister area; it seems likely that this was due to levelling a slight slope, rather than to a general lowering of the cloister area.

13 This view and the argument that follows were based on the ground level by the present west doorway. Excavation there in 1975 showed, however, that this was erroneous: the subsoil level is similar to that at the east end. The present text must be reconsidered in the light of this new evidence.

14 This is not shown in the present drawings, but will be demonstrated when the whole of the east elevation is published in detail; see period V.

15 The end of the northern arm was mortared on to the stones of the first stone church. The north edge was in line with the north edge of the first stone church, but the south edge was slightly inset leaving the earlier south-east corner exposed (see Plate IIA).

16 The possibility of this and the outer construction trenches being earlier, though unlikely, has been discussed above.

17 The sill (13.12) is higher than the level of the base of the plinth of the polygonal apse (12.70) which is higher than the weathered comer of the first stone church (12·48) (see E1, E2).

18 This did not extend to the apse wall, as shown in E2.

19 The south-east porticus is assumed in these diagrams to be the same width N-S as the north-east one, and the putative primary porticus (see p. 15) to be the same length E-W as the western member of the later double porticus.

20 The masonry in this area dates from the 14th-15th century and later.

21 The dressing of the bevel is smoother and may be of later date. The outer lobe of the palmette looks cut into or worn.

22 The folds of the garment have been obliterated by a series of diagonal cuts across this portion of the slab perhaps when it was placed in its present position.

23 Dr Graham Webster comments that this is rather different from the finish of typical *opus signinum;* he thinks this piece may be plaster, possibly an attempt to copy the dark red finish which is so common in Roman contexts.

HUMAN BONE TABLE

HB No.	Feature No.	In Situ?	CONTEXT: Earlier than	CONTEXT: Later than	CONTEXT: Dating given	Part present	Articulation	Arms	Head	Specialist Report	Part Lifted	Number of Individuals	Age	Probable Sex	Probable Stature	Remarks
1	***AF34***		AF33	AF35; AF36	-	tooth	D	–	–	no	all	-	?A*	–	–	
2	AFll		AFIO; AF21	AF33	-	Unidentified bone	D	–	–	yes	all	l		–	–	
3	U/S		-	-	-	mandible	D	–	–	no	all	-	?A’	–	–	
4	AF34		AF33	AF35; AF36	-	vertebra	D	–	–	yes	all	1		–	–	
5	AlF35		AF34	–	pre-1st stone church	phalanges	D	–	–	yes	all	1	A	–	–	
6	AF9a	**NS**	AF9	–	pre north-east porticus	2 frs. femur; 1 fr. humerus; 1 radius; 1 ulna; 1 vertebra	D	–	–	yes	all	2-a -b	A A	F –	63-164 cm	
7	NF2a	**NS**	NF5; NF6; AF7 or 7a	–	pre-north-eas porticus	1 femurs; 4 tibia frs.; 13 foot and toe bones	D	–	–	yes	all	2-a -b	A A	m (long bones)	164 cm 174 cm	2 or 3 individuals represented, all laid out at same level as HB10
8	NF6	**NS**	NF6	–		fr. of clavicle	D	–	–	yes	all	l	A	–	–	from MOR31 in NF6
9	AF3b	**NS**	AF3b	–	pre-1st stone church	5 foot phalanges; 8 foot and ankle bones; 1 vertebra	D	–	–	yes	all	l	A	–	–	
10	NF2b	**s**	AF7; AF7a; NF5; NF6	–	pre-north-east porticus	2 femurs; 1 tibia; 7 frs. pelvis; 2 vertebrae; 5 ?foot phalanges; 3 frs. ulna	P	–	–	yes	all	l	A	M	175-178 cn	femurs and tibia articulated, rest placed between them
11	U/S in NE3	**NS**	–	–		2 frs. femur; 1 fr. humerus; 1 fr. vertebra; 14 frs. skull	D	–	–	yes	all	2-2 -t	A A	m (long bones) –	162cm -	humerus from second adult
12	SEF1	**S**	–	SEF12	t.p.q. ad 690 (Cl4 date)	frs. skull and upper jaw; R. clavicle and ribs; upper vertebrae	A	–	–	yes	all	2-a -1	A25-35 C5-6	f (skull –	- -	rest of skeleton cut away
13	SEF2	SD	–	SEF12	t.p.q. ad 690	upper part skeleton; frs. femur and tibia	P	-	–	yes	all	2-a -b	A C5-5½	– –	– –	femur fr. only = HB12a includes animal bones
14	SEF3	SD	–	SEF12	t.p.q. ad 690	crushed skull	?P	–	–	yes	all	1	A35-45	–	–	

HB No.	Feature No.	In Situ?	CONTEXT: Earlier than	CONTEXT: Later than	CONTEXT: Dating given	‘art present	Articulation	Arms		Report	art Lifted	Number of Individuals	Age	Probable Sex	Probable Stature	Remarks
15	SEF4	S	SEF35; ?HB19	-	-	R side upper body; R femur	*A*	-	-	-	all	3 - a - b - c	C7-8 A C new born	- - -	- - -	includes animal bones
16	SEF5	?NS	?HB15	-	-	base of skull	D	-	-	yes	all	1	C	-	-	upside down; ?disturbed by HB15; age estimate based on bones
17	SEF8	S	SEF34	?HB18; HB19; SEF35	-	vertebrae; R side; R upper arm; pelvis; femur; part tibiae	P	-	-	yes	vertebrae only	1	-	-	-	
18	SEF9	S	SEF34; HB17	SEF35; HB35; HB59	-	complete except far lower leg and arm bones	A	-	-	yes	skull and humerus only	1	A25-35	m (skull	178 cm	pitting on skull; J. M. believes this to be post-mortem
19	SEFlO	S	HB17; SEF35	?HB15	-	complete except for skull and foot bones	A	FP	-	yes	ill	2-a -b	A C7-9	- -		
20	AF13	SD	AF36; AF34; AF33; AF11; AF24	-	?pre-1st stone church, definitely earlier than phase 2	humerus; radius; ulna; femur & other bones not *in situ*	P	FP	-	yes	all	1	A	-	169 cm	
21	AF12	NS	AF12	-	-	unidentified mixed bones	D	-	-	no	all		-	-	-	?reburial after 1926 excavations
22	AF8a	NS	AF8a	-	?pre-north-e; porticus	frs. of humerus and radius; 10 frs. small bone; humerus	D	-	-	yes	all	2-a -t	A ?C	- -	- -	
23	NF6	NS	NF6	-	-	2 vertebrae; 2 rib frs.	D	-	-	yes	all	1	A	-	-	
24	NF1	S	NF5; NF6	-	-	18 frs. skull; 2 frs. mandible; 4 vertebrae; 2 clavicles; 4 ribs	P	-	-	yes	all	1	A20-3	-	-	
25	SEF36	NS	SEF36	-	pre-semi-circular apse	fr. only	D	-	-	yes	all	1	?	-	-	

HB No.	Feature No.	In Situ?	CONTEXT: Earlier than	CONTEXT: Later than	CONTEXT: Dating given	Part present	Articulation	Arms	Head	Report	‘art Lifted	Number of Individuals	Age	Probable Sex	Probable Stature	Remarks
26	SEF35	**NS**	SEF35	–	–	vertebra	D	-	-	yes	all	1	A	–	–	?from HB15, 19 or 43
27	SEF35	**NS**	SEF35	–	–	fr. of foot bone (talus)	D	-	-	yes	all	1	A	–	–	?from HB15, 19 or 43, but very good condition ?more modern
28	SEF39	**NS**	SEF39	–	–	fr. skull and mandible	D	-	-	yes	all	1	A20-30	–	–	
29	NF5	**NS**	NF5	–	–	fr. ?radius	D	-	-	yes	all	1	?C	–	–	
30	U/S in SE2	**NS**		–	–	frs. only	D			no	all; reburied	–		–	–	not on plan
31	SEF12a	**NS**	SEF12a	–	–	few frs. only	D	-	-	no	a11; reburied	–		–	–	
32	SEF16	**s**	AF6; ?SEF12	–	pre-south-east porticus	R & L leg and foot bones	A	-	-	no	none	–	?A*	–	–	orientation north of west
33	SEF17	**NS**	SEF17	–	–	frs. unidentified bones	D			no	a11; reburied	–	?A’	–	–	
34	SEF19	**NS**	–	–	–	skull	?D			no	a11; reburied	–	?C*	–	–	position on plan approx.
35	SEF20	NS	–	–	–	part of skull	?D			no	all; reburied	–	?C*	–	–	?infant ; position on plan approx.
36	SEF22	NS	SEF22	–	–	frs. unidentified bone	D			no	all, reburied	–	?A*	–	–	
37	SEF25	S	SEF39	–	–	broken skull and mandible; clavicles; scapulae	D			no	a11; reburied	–	?A*	–	–	relation to HB38 destroyed by SEF39 (see S5)
38	SEF26	SD	?HB56	–	–	fr. cranium; humerus	P			no	all; reburied	–	?A*	–	–	?disturbed by HB56
39	SEF27	S	SEF33	–	–	skull, mandible; clavicles; humeri; fr. ulna, vertebrae and ribs	A	E	?R	no	all; reburied	–	?C*	–	–	HB61 ?part of this disturbed by SEF33
40	SEF28	S	–	HB41; ?HB44		complete except for some hand & foot bones	A	FP	F	no	none	–	?A’	–	–	

HB No.	Feature No.	In Situ?	CONTEXT			Part present	Articulation	Arms	Head	Specialist Report	Part Lifted	Number of Individuals	Age	Probable Sex	Probable Stature	Remarks
			Earlier than	Later than	Dating given											
41	SEF28a		HB40	–	–	cranium; humerus	D		–	no	one	–	?A+	–	–	disturbed by HB40
42	SEF29		?HB43	–	–	cranium and few ribs	?P		–	no	all; reburied	–	?A*	–	–	
43	SEF30	SD	SEF35	?HB42	–	skull; clavicles; Larm	A		R	no	a11; reburied	-	?A*	–	–	
44	SEF31	NS	?HB40	–	–	frs. vertebrae & ribs; part of pelvis	D		–	no	all; reburied	–	?A’	–	–	approx. position only on plan
45	SEF37	S	–	SEF35	–	skull	A		1/2R	no	all; reburied	–	?A*	-	–	rest in situ to rest of cutting
46	SEF39	NS	SEF39	–	–	frs. only	D		–	no	all; reburied	–	?A*	–	–	part HB37, 38 or 56
47	N2	NS		–	–	frsbone only	D		–	no	all; reburied	–		–	–	rot on plan
48	NF7	NS	NF7	–	–	frs. bone	D		–	no	a11; reburied	–	-	–	–	see S3
49	NEF2a	NS	NEF2a	–	–	few identified bones	D		–	no	all; reburied	–	-	–	–	
50	NEF4	NS	–	–	–	long bones	D		–	no	all; reburied	-	?A*	–	–	‘reburied by farmer after disturbance by dog
51	NEF5	NS	NEF5	–	–	fr. of mandible	D		–	no	all; reburied	–	?A’	–	–	possibly from HB58, dis nrbed by Knowles
52	NEF7a	NS	–	–	–	frs. burnt skull and other bones	D	-	-	no	all; reburied	–	?A*	–	–	possibly includes feet of HB58
53	NEF9	NS	NEF9	–	–	frs. unidentified bone	D		–	no	all; reburied	-	–	–	–	?part of HB57
54	NEFlO	NS	NEFlO	–	–	frs. unidentified bone	D		-	no	all; reburied	–	–	–	–	
55	SEF9	NS	HB18	–	–	3 leg bones	D	-	–	no	none	–	–	–	–	see HB59
56	NEF14	S	–	–	–	complete	A	FW	F	no	none	–	A’	–	–	pig tusks at L elbow
57	NEF15	S	NEF9	–	–	pelvis; R&L arms; vertebrae; L ribs and shoulder	A	FM	–	no	none	–	?C*	–	–	legs in situ to east; not excavated

HB No.	Feature No.	In Situ?	CONTEXT: Earlier than	CONTEXT: Later than	CONTEXT: Dating given	Part present	Articulation	Arms	Head	Specialist Report	Part lifted	Number of Individuals	Age	Probable Sex	Probable Stature	Remarks
58	NEF9	S	NEF7a; NEF5	-	-	all except skull and feet	A	E	-	no	none	-	?A*	-	-	
59	SEF9	?NS	HB55; HB18	-	-	tibia; fibula	D	-	-	no	none	-	?A*	-	-	
60	AF30	?NS	AF30	-	-	frs. pelvic bones	?D	-	-	no	all; reburied	-	?A*	-	-	
61	SEF33	NS	SEF33	-	-	frs. unidentified bone	D	-	-	no	all; reburied	-	-	-	-	?part HB39 disturbed by SEF33
62	S 2	NS	-	-	-	mixed frs. of bone	D	-	-	no	all; reburied	-	-	-	-	
63	NEF6	NS	-	-	-	frs. leg bones; ribs; vertebrae	D	-	-	no	all; reburied	-	-	-	-	

Details of Layers and Features

G - General Plan
B - Burial plan
PD - Pre-Dissolution plan
PM - Post-Medieval plan

Layer or feature no	Description	Interpretation	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
	Area A-Apse interior								
A1	rooty dark brown soil and brushes	post-1926 growth	modem finds			S1, S2			
A2	dark brown soil, cinder etc.	1926 spoil	modem finds & some human bone & brick-tempered mortar			S1, S2			
A314	brown sandy, with some intermixture of yellowish and darker streaks; some Lias and oolite pieces at *c.* 15 cm below surface, darker towards base, peeled off natural. (Layer 5 is natural below 4)	?redeposited or much disturbed buried soil and weathering layer with accretions; stone may have moved down by worm action; natural may have been totally exposed.	ST2 flint flake, west of AF27 in A3; some human bone frs.		G PD	S1 S2			only in limited areas
AF1	foundation of semi-circular apse, covered by modem (1926) tile capping: Lias with some oolite; 5+ courses on natural at slightly varying depths	possible stub of corbelling on S side below polygonal apse wall	MOR13, sample taken in south-east porticus	butts to first stone church; possibly rebuilt by heating system AF10	G PD	S1 E2 S2	E4-7	III A IV VA	
AF1a	narrow (5 cm) trench by AF1 in north-east porticus	construction trench		defined in N3, cut AF3b	G PD				
AF2	wall of polygonal apse, south-west bay, and stub of next, with pilaster frame, angel etc.		MOR15 as on E2 MOR 16 from core of second bay	separated from AF1 on inner face by small mortared rubble interpreted as packing above ruined or levelled AF1; bonded to upper wall AF4 of first stone church ? rebuild, except for pilaster strips which butt.	G PD	S1	E2-5	IIA	
AF3 and AF3a	east wall of first stone church, lower part only, in two phases AF3 and 3a; Lias with no visible oolite; set slightly into natural at base	2 phases defined by mortars; see discussion of relationships in north-east porticus; upper part 3a	for MOR see SF7	SF7 is south-east comer of AF3; phases as in E2; in north-east porticus lowest 3 courses are AF3 and upper ones above this are 3a (west of comer by AF3b)	G PD PM	S2 S3	E1 E4-8	IIA VA VB	

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretation	Finds	Relationships; dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
AF3b	mortary soil lying by AF3 in north-east porticus, with frs. of hard sandy clay; up to level of top of 3rd course from base mortar is of first phase as AF3a; above this of second phase	lowest part should be construction trench of AF3, upper part of AF3a; yet latter contained hard marl lumps; these might be from some new excavation of this phase, but more likely from cutting into spoil of AF3 phase; this is evidence bf two real phases.	FC11 Roman brick and AB2-3 sheep and goose bones, level with base of 4th course from base of AF3/3a HB9 frs. of human bone; finds may be from AF3c.	cut through NF9? lying on mixed N4 as in section S3; cut by NF7, 8; banked against AF3; overlaid by builders' layers of no&north-east porticus; cut by AFla at level above natural		S3			goes under westerly stone of AF1; height in S3 shows minimum height to which AF3 and 3a was buried
AF3c	thin laminated layer of charcoal-flecked dark soil, under NF9; seen as latter was followed to west, running under edge of and merging with base of N3 towards north.	occupation level pre-first stone church.		0-1 cm; cut by slight wall-trench of AF3					not on section
AF4	east wall of first stone church, upper part, bonded with polygonal apse AF2 + scar on north			chancel arch ?inserted into this, slightly skew	G PD				
AF5	east wall of south porticus, with blocked doorway	projecting scar below door-sill may be of steps down to ?ground	tile in 'step scar'; MOR10, 2nd joint from base. MOR 18, above offset, above 7th course from base.	butted to first stone church; earlier than wall of Priory Farm	G PD		E1 E2		Mortars similar
AF6	east wall foundation of south-east porticus; slight offset at base; mortar flush with joints	always buried?	MOR17	butted to apse; capped with modem tile	G PD		E2-3	IIIA	set slightly into natural
AF7	west wall of north-east porticus (= central wail of double porticus), with blocked doorway; white plaster over mortared joints above *c.* 65 cm up from natural	wall exposed and not buried above 65 cm.		butted to first stone church; bonded with other walls of double porticus	G PD	S4	E8-9	VB VIA VIB	

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretation	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
AF7a	single course of stones, mostly Lias, but one oolite block, separated from natural by thin band sandy soil	offset to AF7, or earlier wall	MOR33 on stone 2 separate from AF7; possibly vestigial from former use of these stones; SL1 (crucible fr.) under stone 6 in soil; human rib under stone 2	not mortared to AF7, but separated by brown sandy soil, except oolite block, which is mortared to AF7; butted to first stone church	G PD	S4	E8-9	VB VIB	
AF7b	trench by south end of AF7; mortary soil and some marl (?from NF9)	construction trench for AF7 and/or 7a	many small frs. of oolite right to south end of trench where it ends against AF3	30 cm wide, cut through NF9					not on plan or section
AF8	east wall foundation of north-east porticus			butted to apse, bonded with AF9	G PD	S1 S4	E9		
AF8a	mortar and soil by west side of AF8	AF8 builders' layer	HB22, bones laid north-south against wall foundation			S4			
AF8c	stones below and extending east from AF8; ?packed with brown sandy	offset to AF8, or less probably earlier wall		not mortared to AF8, but all mortars here largely eroded	G PD	S4			
AF8d	? trench on east side of AF8/8c, fill dark mortar-flecked	construction trench for AF8, or just possibly previous excavation joining to NF6	fr. HB, no modem finds		G	S4			
AF9	north wall of north-east porticus	upper part modern rebuild		bonded to other walls of double porticus	G PD	S3	E9		
AF9a	mortar and soil against lower part of south face	builders' layer	HB6		G PD				
AF10	brick emplacement in **south-west** corner of apse; concreted over in 1926; 10a construction trench to north	farm sump	mass of bottles boots **etc.;** sludge at base	80 cm deep	G PM		E4		

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretation	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section Elevation	Plate	Remarks
AF11	area of stones and mortar; latter as semicircular apse wall	floor or sub-floor of apse made of builders' waste	Lias and one piece oolite; 50% lumps up to 20x10x10 cm; HB2, P3 ?crucible fr.	up to 10 cm thick; mostly on A3/4, but dipping into and filling AF33; cut by AF10 and AF21	G PD	S2	IIB Iv	
AF11a	holes in AF11 against AF3 wall, filled A2	bushes, roots, or 1926 scaffolding or excavation test-hole		extending down to natural or up to *c.* 10 cm further	G PM			
AF12	pit filled with human bones and some animal; stone on top	bone reburial of 1926	HB21	*c.* 40 cm deep	G B PM			
AF13	human bones originally ? *in situ,* but femur inverted by disturbance	burial, shallow; pre-first stone church, probably second phase (p. 7)	HB20	under A2; radius and femur under AF15	G B			only burial in apse defined
AF14	square disturbance, fill A2 just penetrates marl	1926 test-hole			G PM			
AF15	concentration of stone under A2, Lias	Undated, probably modem		level 11.45 above OD	G PM PD			
AF16	disturbance outside north-east comer of AF10; 20 cm into natural	?1926 disturbance, or when AF10 made?	fill late Victorian pot	fill as A2	G PM	S2		
AF17	several large stones under A2, Lias	post-base e.g. for medieval scaffold? or more probably post-medieval	late medieval roof tile under		G PM PD			
AF18	Lias pad-stone in pit	pad of stud of pre-1926 cider-house		below A2; level 11.41 above OD	G PM	S1		
AF19	pit, fill clay and dirty sandy, clay plug in top	1926 test-hole to determine character of natural?	willow-pattern in base	c. 70 cm below top of A3/4	G PM			
AF21	trench following south side of north apse wall, fill as A2	1926 wall-following excavation; but also dug here in 1889, especially east part (see p. 3)	modem	varying depths into natural	G PM	S1		presumably destroyed construction trench of apse.
AF22	depression, brown sandy	associated with AF26 for medieval ?drainage		A2 dipping into top	G PD			

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretations	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
AF23/24	depression in natural; dark soil, some Lias in top	?post-holes, ?medieval, ?contemporary with AF26		under A2	G PD				
AF25/26	hollow in natural, with mortar at base of 26 (AF28b) brown sandy soil above (AF28a)	medieval drainage, or puddling hollow for mortar, or worn away by earlier use and filled in medieval period	see AF28a, b, medieval finds	fill AF28a in top, AF28b in base, defined below A2, level in base 11.07 above OD	G PD	S2 (edge)			
AF27	Lias stone in pit	pad of stud of pre-1926 ciderhouse	MOR2 and MOR2		G PM	S1			
AF28a	brown sandy soil in top of AF25 and extending beyond its edges	fill in top of AF26 and beyond; contemp. occ. layer	P5, P6, late or post-medieval pot, GL2, medieval; OM2 lead came frs. FC 3a, b, tile and brick		G PD	S2			
AF28b	layer of mortar in base of AF26	?puddling residue in AF26	MOR8 in 28b; at base GL1, med.; FC 4a, b, floor and Roman tile; FC 5a, b, roof tile	level at base 10.89 above OD	G PD	S2			
AF29	surviving patch of A3/4			max. height 10 cm above A4	G PD	S1			
AF30	group of stones	?post-base, undated, probably post-medieval	HB60 under	under A2	G PD				
AF31	trench following north side of south apse wall; fill dark brown soil and mortar flecks	construction trench for semicircular apse; just possibly pre-apse, if apse wall was trench-built		cut by AF10a, cuts A3/4; 1-2 cm into natural, *c.* 20 cm from surviving top of A314	G PD	S1			
AF32	deepening of AF31 into hole beneath apse wall; fill not distinguished from AF31			*c.* 10 cm deep into natural as seen under apse wall	G PD				

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretation	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
AF33	linear depression	1. timber-slot of: (a) pre-apse structure (b) apse builders' scaffold 2. drip-gully of pre-apse ?hipped roof; 2 unlikely, as piled soil around pre-apse church should have had a higher surface than this	seals finds in AF34 and AF36	defined on removal of AF11, which filled it; cut by AF10 and AF21; in surface of AF34	G PD	S2		IIB	not quite parallel to AF3; may be turning east at north end
AF34	brown sandy soil		HB1, 4; FC7 brick; SL1 ?crucible fr.; P2a, 2b ?Roman pot; P4 Roman pot; MOR1.	AF33 defined in this, seals AF35 and 36	G PD	S2			
AF35	Lias chips and mortar, two kinds interleaved, of two phases of first stone church	builders' layer of 2nd phase of AF3, possibly incorporating that of 1st phase	MOR7 (= 2nd phase of first stone church) HB5 frs. phalanges	under AF34, merges with edge of AF36		S2			
AF36	laminated mixed red clayey and brown sandy soil	upcast from digging of slight foundation trench for AF3		under AF34, merges with AF35	G	S2			
	Area *S-South-east porticus*								
S1/2	dark brown sandy rooty	backfill of 1926 excavation	modem china brick etc., HB62						
S3	brown sandy	disturbed buried soil, possibly including banked-up soil	mortar and small stone, including MOR4	surviving in small areas mainly against lower parts of wall foundations.					
S4	buff-orange sandy	weathering layer of natural		5-10 cm where surviving					
SF1	?posthote, v. dark brown soil; post-pit and post-pipe; latter sloping up to south-south-west	?modern scaffolding hole		pit 20 cm into natural; pipe 22 cm into natural	G PM				
SF2	? posthole, v. dark soil and brick; sloping up to south-south-west	?modern scaffolding hole	modern brick	17 cm into natural	G PM				

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretation	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
SF3	? posthole, v. dark soil; sloping up to west-south-west	?modern scaffolding hole	modem glass	15 cm into natural; SF1-3 defined in surface of SF4	G PM				
SF5	slab of Lias 8 cm thick	?pad stone for modem scaffolding		base 24 cm above natural; defined below S1/2; S3/4 surviving below	G PM				
SF7	south-east comer of first stone church from level of natural up to former ground level; 12 courses on corner	two phases indicated by mortar as in E2; lower 4 courses first phase; is top stone an attached-pillar base?	MOR11, 14; 11 secondary to 14 (covers joint bonded with 14)	former ground level shown by brownish weathered or burnt comer-stone below which courses sharp and un-weathered; evidence of banked-up soil	G PD		El, E2		
SF8	hole in natural, seen in elevation below apse wall; not extending to south; dark sandy soil with trace of buff mortar at base	pre-apse feature		sealed by wall AF1	G PD		E2		
SF10	disturbance in south-west comer of south-east porticus; mortary soil and clay lumps	?modern disturbance	mortar frs. fr. Roman flue-tile FC16 iron nail IR2	cuts foundation trench of farm wall; below modem drain	G PD				
SF11	trench cutting through earlier levels along-side farm wall in south-east porticus; sandy soil and mortar	construction trench for medieval wall of Priory Farm	mortar lumps fr. Roman imbrex FC17. fr. Roman tegula FC18. 2 frs. coarse oolite	cuts disturbed earlier levels and buried soil S4, sealed by modem drain.	G PD				
	Area SE- South-east exterior								
SE1/2	v. dark rooty soil		rubble, bricks, tile, pot, animal bone, HB30, FC6, MOR6 in S2			S1 S5			
SE3	brown sandy	disturbed buried soil		most SE features defined in this		S1 S5			
SE4	buff-orange sandy	weathered surface of natural	mortar flecks in root holes	surface of SE4 is near ground level outside apse, as mortar-flecked soil in apse construction trench SEF36 lapped up over SE4		S5			absent on line of S1

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretations	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
SEF1	upper part of skeleton *in situ,* but disturbed		HB12	level 11.36 above OD; partly seals SEF12, in SE3	G B				
SEF2	part of skeleton ? *in* situ, but dist.		HB13	level 11.35 above OD, seals SEF 12; in SE3	G B				
SEF3	" " "		HB14	level 11.45 above OD; in SE3	G B				
SEF4	" " child, part *in situ*		HB15	possibly cut by SEF10 and legs by SEF35	G B				
SEF5	base of skull inverted		HB16	on SE3	G B				
SEF8	skeleton, head and R. side cut away		HB17	prob. later than SEF9, definitely later than SEF10, 35; cut by SEF34	G B				
SEF9	skeleton		HB18 (also HB55 and HB 59 under)	cut by SEF34; overlies SEF35	G, B				pitting of skull
SEF10	part skeleton, arms downwards		HB19	overlain by SEF8, may cut SEF4; cut by SEF35; later than SEF12	G, B G PM				
SEF11	square hole, with 3 bricks and 1 slab Lias surrounded by charcoal; no depth below	?pad for stud of pre-1926 cider-house							
SEF12	rectangular depression, fill SEF12a and 12b at base	?charcoal burial with bones robbed, or more probably timber-slot from which burnt timber robbed		overlaid by SEF11; disturbed right down to level of natural	G PD			IIIA	
SEF12a	mixed soil, Lias and oolite pieces, human bones, lead, tile	upper fill of SEF 12, or backfill of disturbance going into it	OM1 lead ?roof ? clips; FC1 ceramic (Roman) tile. ST1 stone roof tile; P1 Roman pot; HB31 human bones	*c.* 15 cm below natural				IIIB	
SEF12b	dense charcoal; some Lias in surface in west end, and a block deeply embedded in south-west comer, to level of natural and extending 10-15 cm. above	see SEF12, lower, ?primary fill; Lias intrusive; block in comer probably padstone for pre-1926 cider-house	frs. coal below corner block; GL3 (?late med) under other Lias, Radio-carbon date of charcoal CH1 centred on ad690	c. 15-20 cm below natural					

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretation	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section Elevation	Plate Remarks
SEF13	?posthole	?late medieval	fr. medieval tile	depth 20 cm into natural	G PD		
SEF14	disturbance or pit, partly in south section; fill brown sandy, Lias chips	?pre-north-east porticus, see mortar notes	frs. animal bone, frs. of stucco or mortar (MOR3)	depth 60 cm into SE3, ending 10-15 cm above natural	G PD		
SEF15a, b	rubble, probably in pits, edges of pits not defined in area of disturbance	?demolition pits to bury unwanted building material	FC2 Roman tile ST13 capital, oolite and Lias pieces incl. ST16 (burnt corner)	? secondary to semicircular apse foundation, no clear relationship; construction tr. for apse might not be definable in this; but most likely to be later.	G PD		IIIA could date IIIB from demolition of semi-circular apse when polygonal apse built.
SEF16	part skeleton		HB32	on natural, no evidence of grave	G, B		IIIA
SEF17	pit with Lias slab and dark core	pad-stone, post-pipe and post-pit for pre-1926 cider-house	modern finds, roof tile, brick, pot, human bones HB33	level of padstone 11.12 m above OD	G PM		
SEF19	skull		HB34	*c.* 10 cm below apse wall top; near surface of SE3	G B		
SEF20	skull		HB35	as SEF19	G, B		
SEF21	as SEF17	cider house		slab 11.14 above OD	G PM	S2	
SEF22	" "		HB36 and coal	slab 11.15 above OD	G PM		
SEF23	animal bones of pig	modern animal burial		by apse wail	G PM		
SEF24	as SEF17	cider-house	post-med pot	slab 11.17 above OD	G PM	S5	
SEF25	part skeleton, upper part		HB37	cut by SEF39; in top of SE3	G, B	S5 for level	
SEF26	part skeleton, grave outline seen as darker soil		HB38	cut SE3; cut by SEF21	G, B	S5	
SEF27	part skeleton		HB39	cut by SEF33	G, B		
SEF28	skeleton		HB40	cut into but not through SE4 and cut SEF28a	G, B	S5	

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretations	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
SEF28a	frs. skeleton	grave disturbed	HB41	displaced by digging SEF28	G, B				
SEF29	part skeleton		HB42		G, B				
SEF30	part skeleton		HB43		G, B				
SEF31	frs. skeleton	?disturbed grave	HB44	high in SE3	G, B				
SEF33	pit, fill brown sandy with Lias frs.	?post-pit; ? cf. SEF35; similar depth and profile	frs. HB61, possibly from grave SEF27; MOR 24	cuts SE4 and SEF27 cut by SEF39	G PD	S5			
SEF34	as SEF17	cider-house	coal	slab 11.00 above OD; cuts SEF8 and 9	G PM	S5			
SEF35	pit, mainly brown sandy and has frs.; lowest 5-10 cm dark brown sandy with black/brown sandy staining especially towards south edge; this extends down into shallow squarish depressions in natural 1-3 cm deep; above this concentration of re-deposited marl, mortar and stone around level of natural	?post/pit, filled partly with material from demolished stone structures. basal fill, ?timber staining ?spade-marks or ?timber ?back-fill after demolition or timber-robbing?	SEF38=IRI, large nail, and ST8 near base; ST3 (fr. of wheel-cross), ST4 (fine oolite) MOR 20-23 in back fill layer (incl. stucco) HB26 (vertebra) at level of cross, HB27 (foot-bone) in basal level	skeletons SEF8, 9, 37 lie above this; HB26, 27 suggest that SEF35 is later than some burials	G PD	S5			SE3 to south was very clean and devoid of finds.
SEF36	trench round apse; fill brown sandy with flecks of lime, charcoal, and mortar as in wall AF1; see stakeholes, p. 59.	construction trench for apse, possibly incorporating or disturbing earlier feature(s)	oolite pieces near wall; P7 (?Roman) deep close to edge by SEF27 as on plan G; MOR12, not as AF1,?from pre-apse structure; ST7 (?burnt); fr. stucco (MOR19) with brick-tempering & white surface (also pre-apse?) fr. of human bone HB25	cuts SE3; material as that in feature seen to spread over SE3 in area between SEF17 and 21, showing that there was no deep soil piled up here when apse was built; skeletons may therefore be either in pre-apse make-up, levelled by apse builders, or in post-apse make-up.	G PD				= NF17
SEF37	skull and scapulae; rest beyond excavation		HB45						
SEF38	iron nail, large	see SEF35	IR1		G	S5			

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretations	Finds	Relationship to other features or layers, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
SEF39	disturbance, v. dark soil and modem material	?pit'	HB28, 46, MOR9		G PM	S5			
	Area NE-North-east exterior								
NE1	roots and topsoil					S2 S4			
NE2	dark soil, modem material, human bones	mostly backfill of earlier disturbances	bones of 2-3 individuals ST19 Lias			S2			
NE3	disturbed red-brown	disturbed buried soil	modern tile, P17 (?Roman), FC1O, HB11; AB1, horse bone at base of layer; CH2 coal			S2 S4			
NE4	orange-brown sandy	weathered surface of natural				S2 S4			
NEF1	lintel found in north comer		ST14			S4			not on plan
NEF2	wall, north-south,	revetment for edge	ST17, 18		G S4 PM				
2a-d	oolite and Lias, east of AF8	made in 1926 or earlier; 2 is top course, a-d lower			PM S4				
NEF2a, c	trench, modem finds, dark soil	construction for NEF2 or Knowles trench if pre-1926	HB49		G S4 PM				
NEF3	pit, with dark core and marl patch; yellow mortar or cement in pit	post-pit (c) and post-pipe (a) with re-deposited marl patch (b), probably modem		not fully excavated, but 20+ cm deep	G PM				may be robbing-hole
NEF4	hole with bones	modem reburial	HB50		G PM				dug up by dog in 1960's and reburied
NEF5	square hole, dark brown sandy, brick and tile	?1926 test hole	HB51, fr. mandible	just penetrating natural	G PM				
NEF6	trench by apse wall, modem finds, dark soil	1926 excavation trench, following apse and AF8	human bones HB63		G PM				
NEF7a, b	pits, burnt edge, with burnt base, modem finds	modern rubbish pits?	burnt animal bones and human bones HB52	(a) *c.* 20 cm deep into natural (b) *c.* 15 cm deep	G PM				

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretations	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
NEF8	pit, dark core, modern finds and filling	post-pit and post-pipe of cider-house, irreg. stone in base	GL4, FC9 (7 roof-tile frs. late or post med?) ST9 roof-tile; all in pipe		G PM				
NEF9	as NEF8	Lias padstone	human bones HB53, 58		G PM				
NEF10	as NEF8, ceramic roof-tile for pad		human bones HB54		G PM				
NEF11	?grave, not dug				G, B				
NEF12a-c	three stones (b oolite; a, c, Lias)	?modern		on fill of NEF17 at level at which cider-house post-pits were distinguished	G PM				
NEF13	patch of manganese in natural, blue black sandy	?natural		goes under AF8	G				
NEF14	skeleton	intact grave	HB56	cut into NE3; west end cut by edge of SEF21 cut by post-pit NEF9	G B G	S2			
NEF15	part of articulated skeleton		HB57		B				
NEF17	trench round apse foundation AF1; brown sandy, flecks lime frs. Lias, charcoal on section line and for *c.* 30 cm to north, area by wall was darker	construction trench for apse ?timber or turf in trench	oolite frs. and a Pennant sandstone slab (? Roman) (ST10) also Lias frs.	not well-defined (see NEF18); not seen beyond point where cut by NEF5, but here area much disturbed to natural	G PD	S2			= SEF36 (see also AF1a)
NEF18	linear north-south feature; cleaner, lighter soil than that in NEF17, with little except flecks or small thin patches of mortar, mainly against outer edge	?timber-slot, or edge or cut-away area?; pre-apse; if timber feature, why mortar? does this imply an intermediate stone phase between feature and apse; or is mortar rendering of daub?	MOR29 (not like apse) ST11 (?Roman Pennant)	cut by NEF17; defined up to NEF5, but not beyond	G PD				

NB This feature was first seen by PAR while following NEF17 round the edge of the apse towards the north; it was at first thought to be merely a widening of NEF17, but when this had reached 40cm out from the wall, it was realized that the outer edge was diverging in a straight line, here well defined as it was cutting through a high hard marl patch in the natural; and that at the point of widening, there were traces of buff mortar different from that of the apse; as excavation progressed northwards, NEF18 was more clearly defined from NEF17 in colour and texture, though the exact junction between the two remained vague; hence the edge of NEF 17 is shown as a dotted line.

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretations	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section	Elevation	Plate	Remarks
NEF19	skeleton		HB58	cut by NEF5	G B				
	Area N-North-east portions								
N1, 2	roots and dark mixed soil with modem finds	1926 backfill; limit shown by dotted line on plan	HB47, FC12 floor tile			S4			
N3	red-brown sandy	disturbed buried soil defined after removal N1/2				S3			
N4	pink/orange sandy	weathering layer of natural				S3 S4			
NF1	fr. of skeleton, upper Part	?*in situ*	HB24		G, B				in 'island' left by 1926 excavation
NF2a, b	frs. of skeletons; soil round similar to NF6	graves disturbed by builders of north-east porticus who added HB7 to remains of HB10	(a) HB7 (long bones re-deposited) (b) HB10 (articulated)	covered by NF5, 6, and thus earlier than north-east porticus; there is in any case no upper part for NF26, which must have been destroyed for wall AF7 or 7a	G B				
NF3	rooty, dark red-brown sandy, similar to NF5	upper fill of north-east porticus, possibly not primary, as covers rendering ?soil accumulation under floor		cut by NF8		S3			
NF4	thick mortar as that in porticus walls; some Lias frs.	part of make-up inside north-east porticus	MOR25, P12 (Roman)	cut by NF8		S3, S4			
NF5	brown sandy; few Lias when cut back to plane of AF7, gave way vertically to grey clayey band (see section S4), in central area only, broadly corresponding with width of blocked doorway above	ditto ?turf and ?alluvial ?gley soil, not from immediate area; ?imported as part of make-up of porticus? or does this represent edge of secondary construction trench?	HB29, human bones; P11 (?Roman)	cut by NF8; sloping up to south against soil NF9 banked against AF3 wall		S3 S4			

Layer or feature no.	Description	Interpretations	Finds	Relationships, dimensions	Plan	Section Elevation	Plate	Remarks
NF5a	mortar layer as NF4	as NF4		as NFS, and covers offset AF7a		S3 S4		
NF6	mortar and Lias, with many pebbles from mortar mix; mortar as porticus walls; Lias chippings, and oolite ones below area of doorway especially	primary builders' layer of North East porticus builders' dressings derived from doorway? /presumptive evidence of doorway being of one build with porticus.	MOR28, 31 HB8, 23 (8 in MOR31)	on tail of NF9; on N3/N4 in places as on section S4 but mainly on natural further west towards wall AF7; dies away to west, ending on offset AF7a; at south end rises up on to NF9, and drops into construction trench AF7b.		S3 S4		note also oolite in centre of AF7a
NF7	disturbance; lenses creamy-buff mortar and small oolite and Lias	?post-hole, ?scaffold, ?medieval	fr. human bone HB48; MOR27	cuts AF3b from level heating duct	G PD	S3		
NF8	disturbance, with dark core and Lias stone at base; some mortar in dark core	post-pit, post-pipe, and padstone at base; ?scaffolding; ?medieval		cuts AF3b and NF5, 6	G PD	S3		
NF9	layers of brown sandy and yellow-orange clayey (primary) and slightly mortar-flecked brown sandy (secondary) with one Lias block; some pieces of sandy marl	material piled up against first stone church wall AF3, consisting at least partly of redeposited or disturbed N3 and N4, from construction trench of AF3, with possibly additional material and mortar		see AF3, 3a, 3b, 3c		S3		mortar like first phase AF3, but too small to be certain

Stake-holes Possible stake-holes are shown on plans G and PD. Those inside the apse were seen only in the surface as defined below layer 2; they were vague, only 3-5 cm deep and filled with dark soil. They were almost certainly root-holes. Those outside the south-east side of the apse were defined at the base of SEF36, when clearing the natural below. They were filled with slightly darkish soil 2-4 cm deep; they were convincing only because they were in two pairs c.80 cm apart with another single one to the north c.1 m away. They may be structural (e.g. markers), but could easily be root-holes.

Plate I (Frontispiece) Air photograph of Deerhurst from the south-east at time of flooding of the Severn in 1972. Photograph by Professor J K S St Joseph (ref. BLF72)

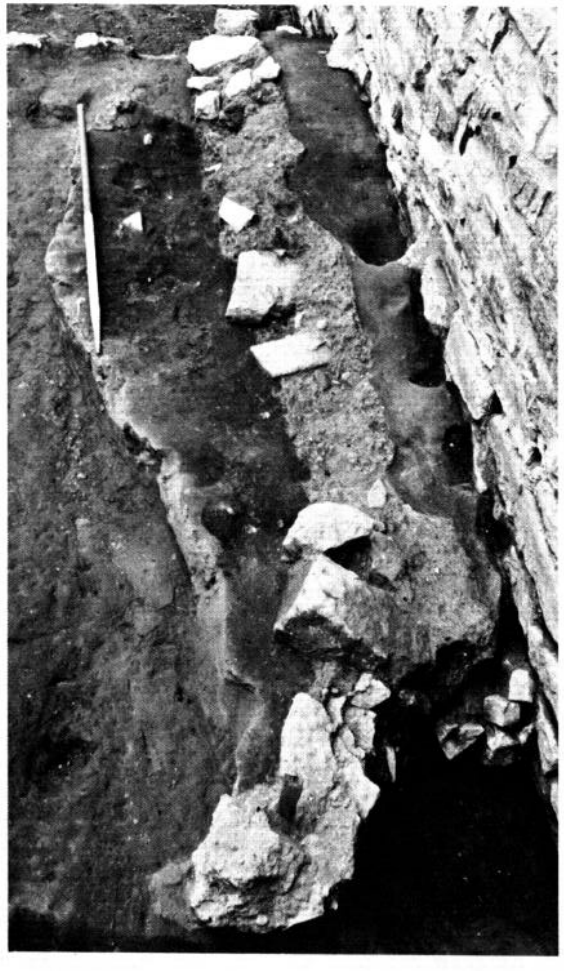


Plate II A South-east corner of first stone church, with east wall of south porticus abutting on left, and semicircular apse wall on right, with oolite plinth and pilaster strip of polygonal apse above. From south-east

B Apse : mortar of AF11 as defined in slot AF33. From north

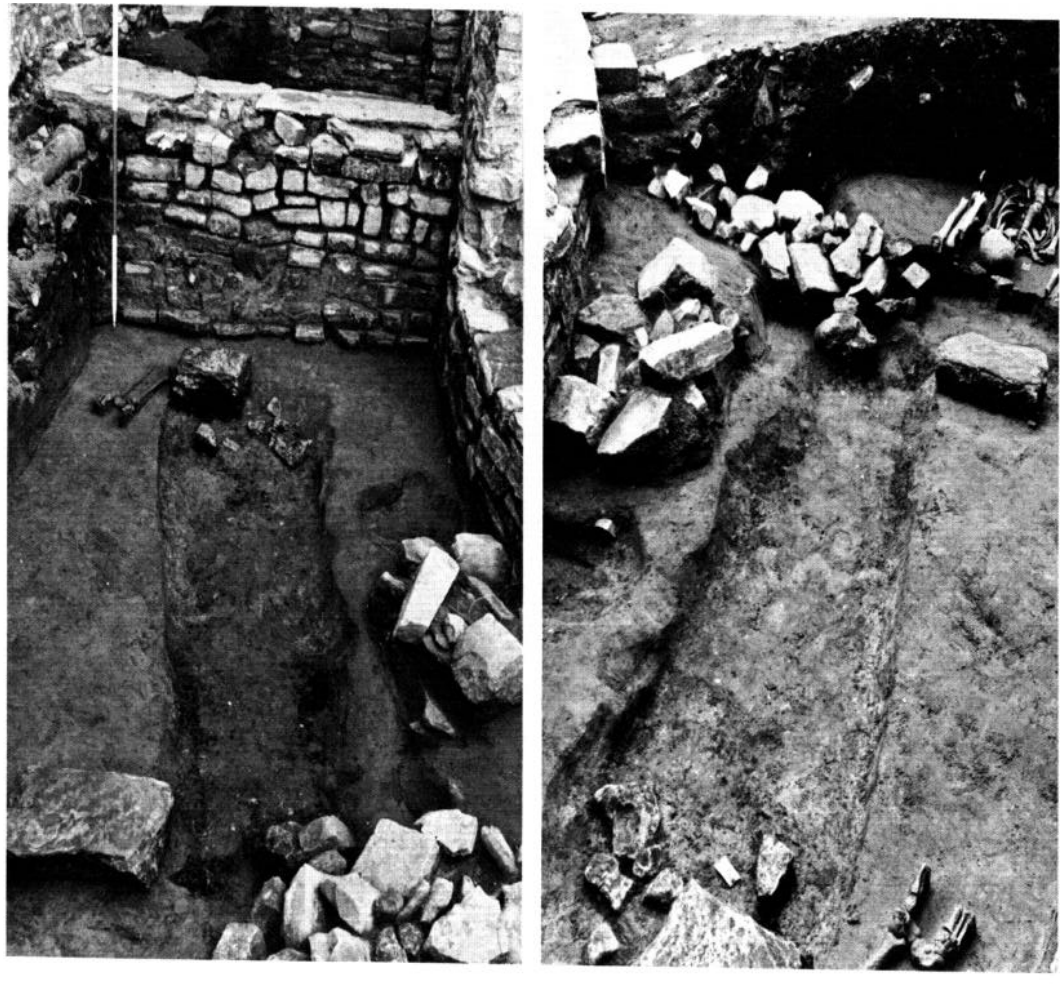


Plate III A Junction of semicircular apse (right) with east wall of south-east porticus; SEF15a and SEF12 in foreground, with legs of burial SEF16. From east

B SEF12A, with stones SEF15a, b top left. From south-west

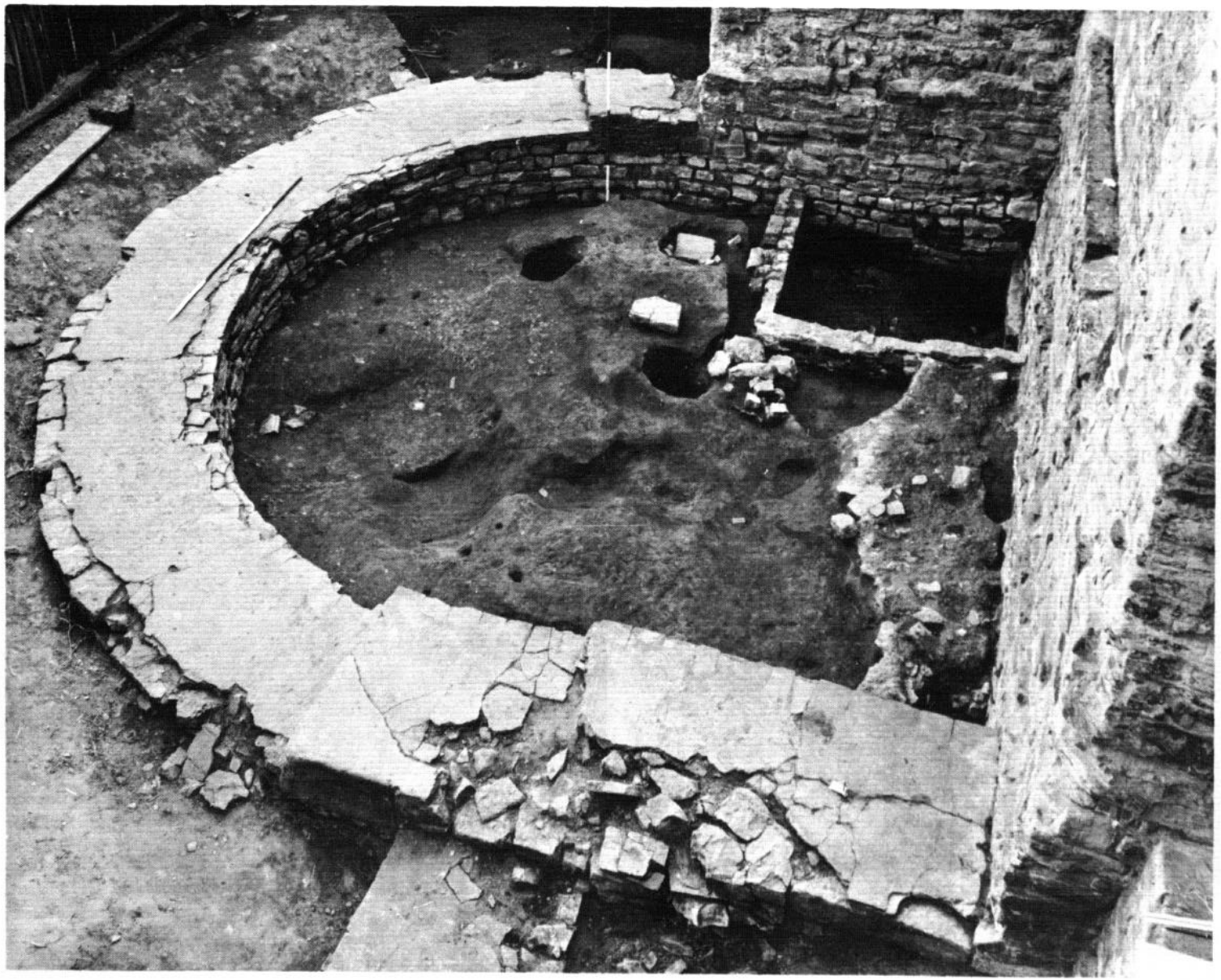


Plate IV Excavated apse from north, with remains of mortar AF11 still in position

Plate V A Excavated apse from east; east wall of first stone church in background, with sill of blocked arch above

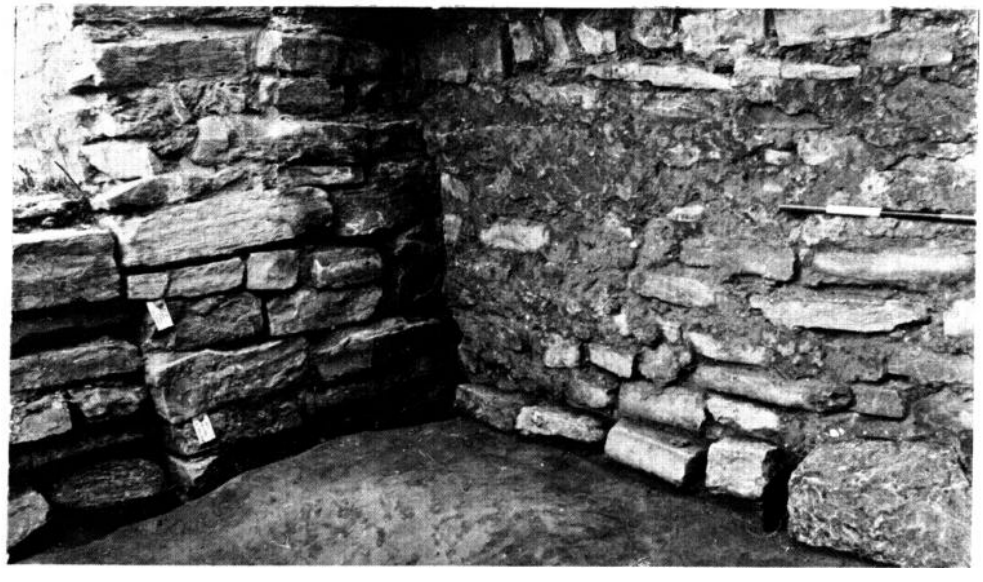
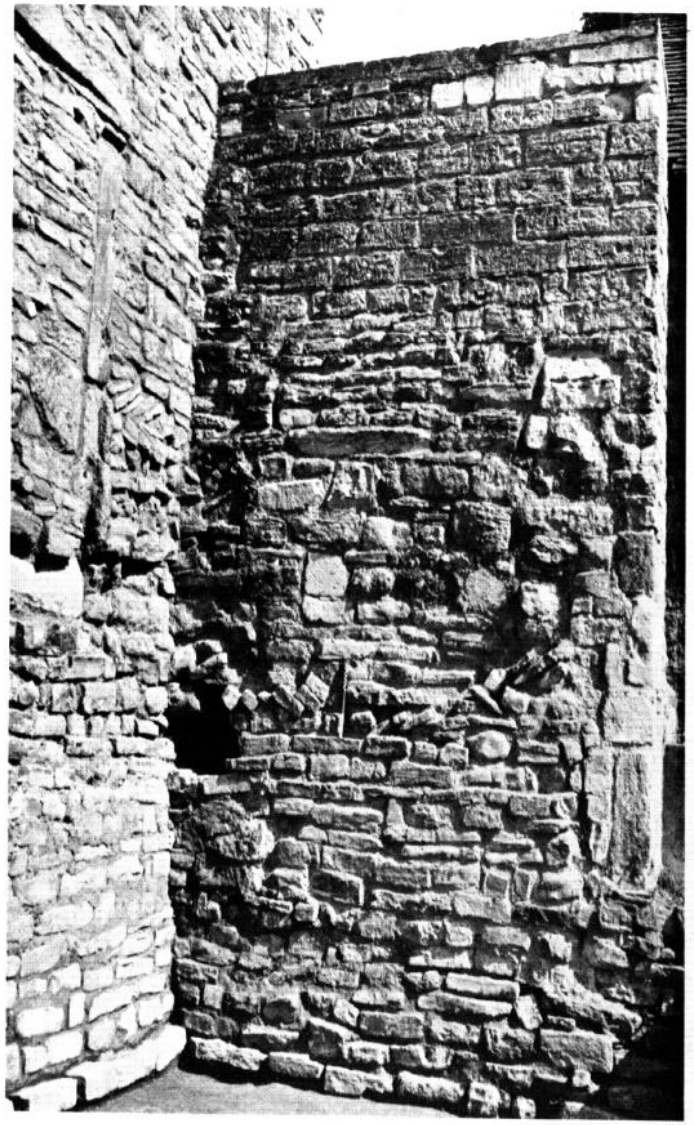


Plate V B North-east comer of first stone church, with wall of semicircular apse abutting on left and mid-wall of double north/north-east porticus on right. From north-east

Plate VI A East face of mid-wall of double north/north-east porticus, with sill of blocked doorway. From east



B North wall of north-east porticus; south face from south. Hole is for duct heating pipes

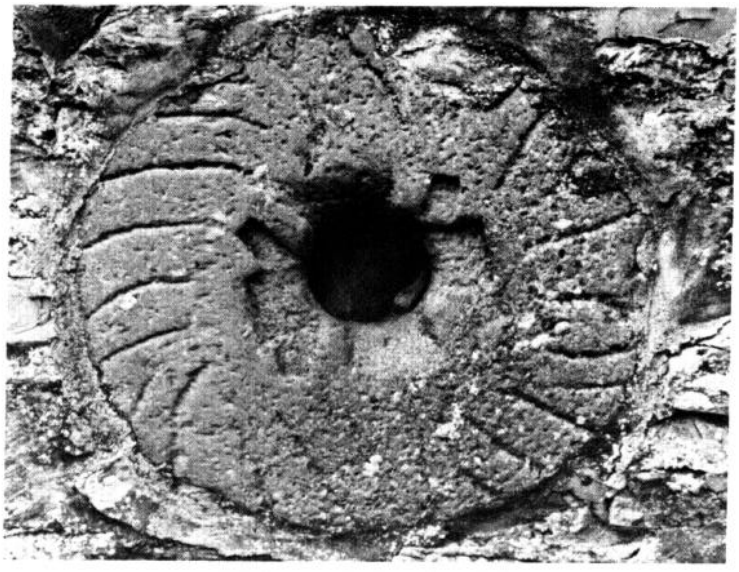


Plate VII A 'Rotary quern (upper stone) built into wall bounding east side of path leading to church entrance (on field side); *c.* 30 cm diameter

Plate VII B Fragments of interlace sculpture built into west wall of Priory Farm

Plate VII C Fragments of interlace sculpture built into west wall of Priory Farm

Plate VIII A Transitional moulding in garden of "The Minstrels" B Chevron voussoirs in garden of "The Minstrels"

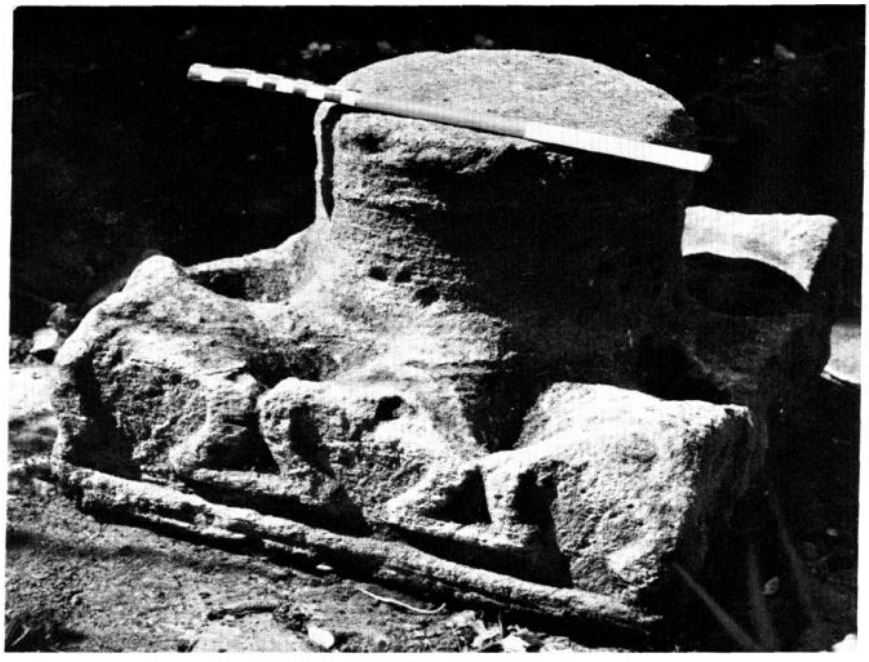


Plate IX A Transitional capital (inverted) in garden of "The Minstrels"

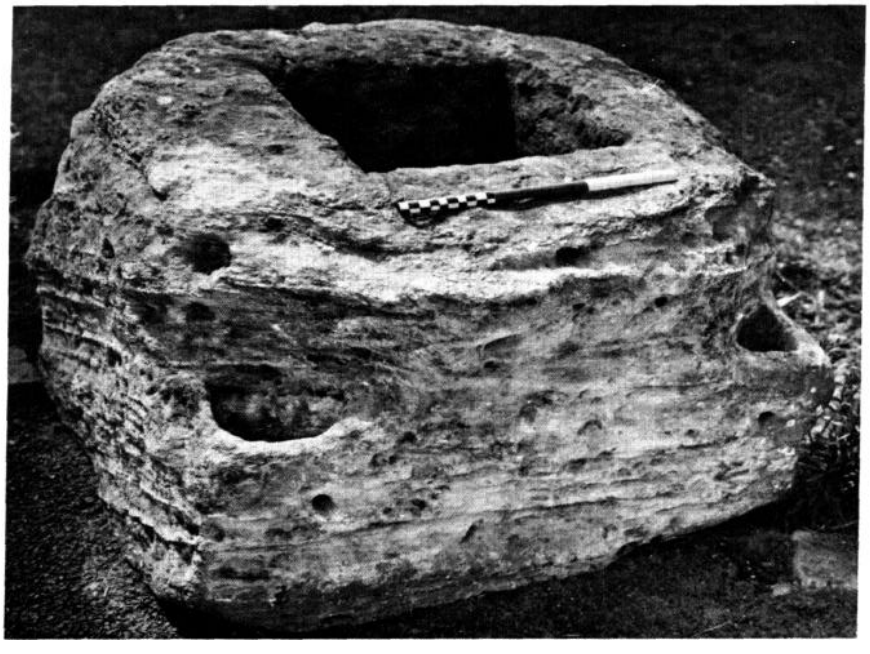
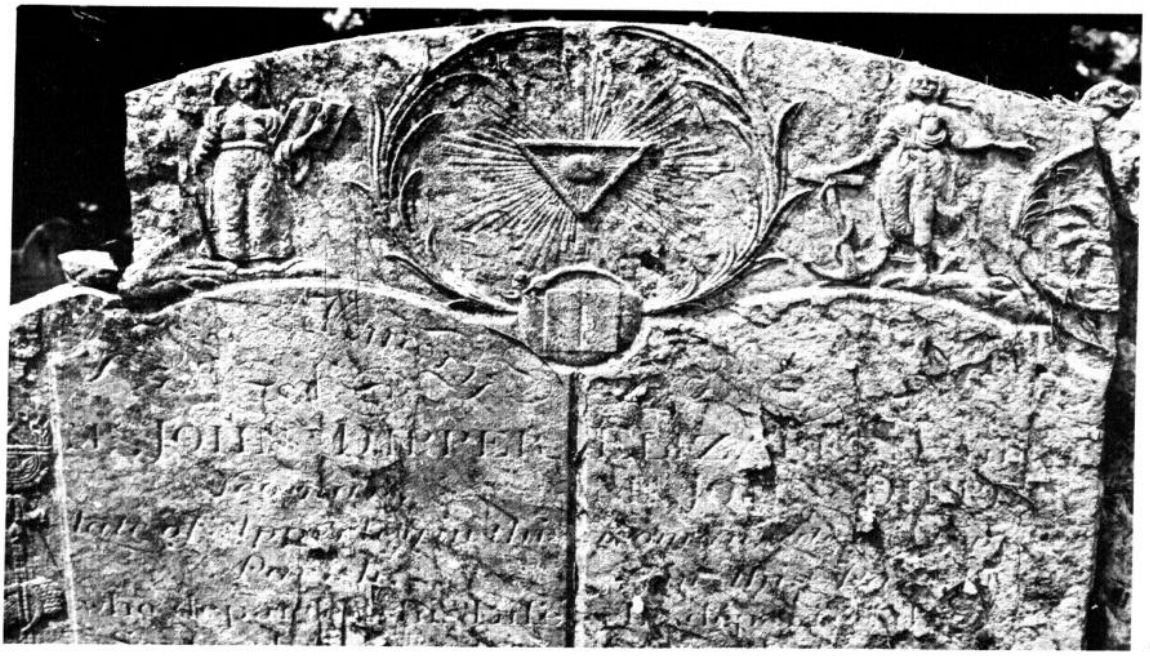
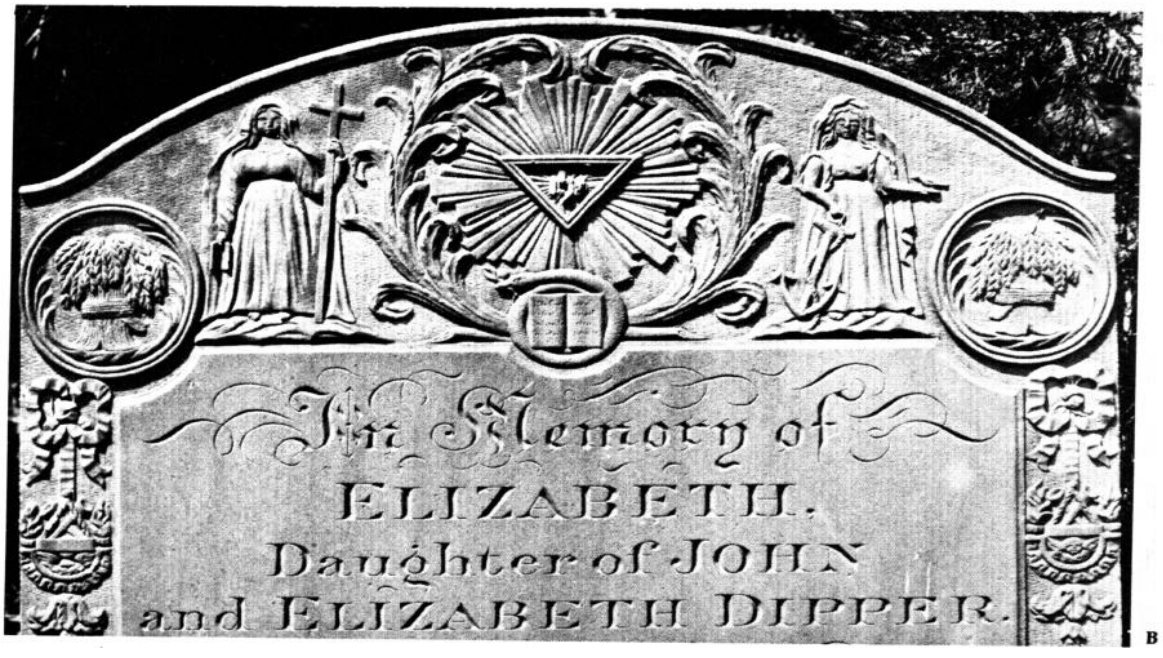


Plate IX B Base of cross in garden of "The Minstrels"



A



B

Plate X A, B Headstones of Dipper family, 1815 and 1852. Note that the latter has deliberately copied the iconography of the former, but mechanical engraving tools and "Victorianizing" have destroyed the vitality shown by the earlier one

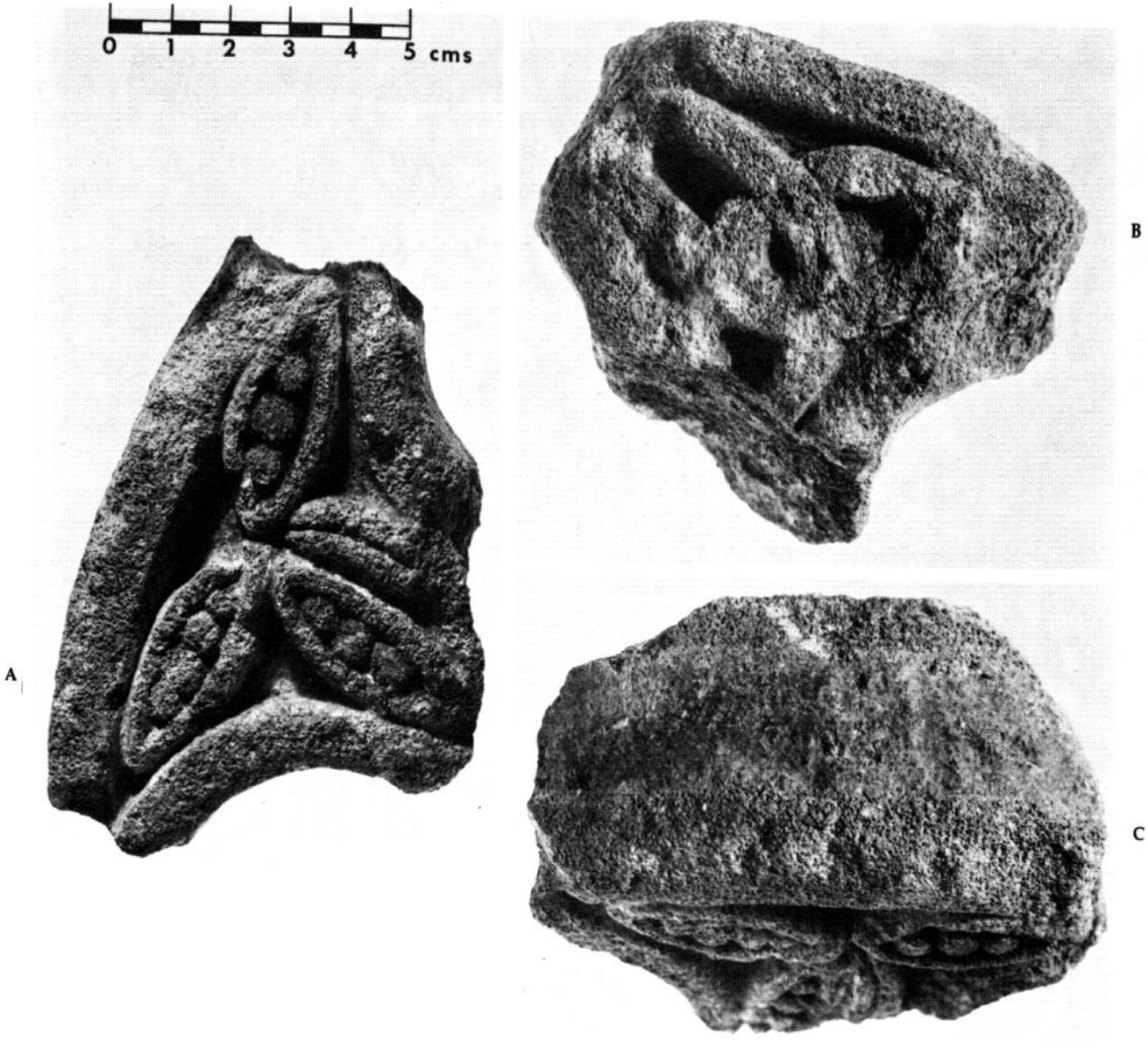


Plate XI Fragment of cross-head ST3 : A pod side, B interlace side, C edge, showing smooth band. For scale see Fig. 14

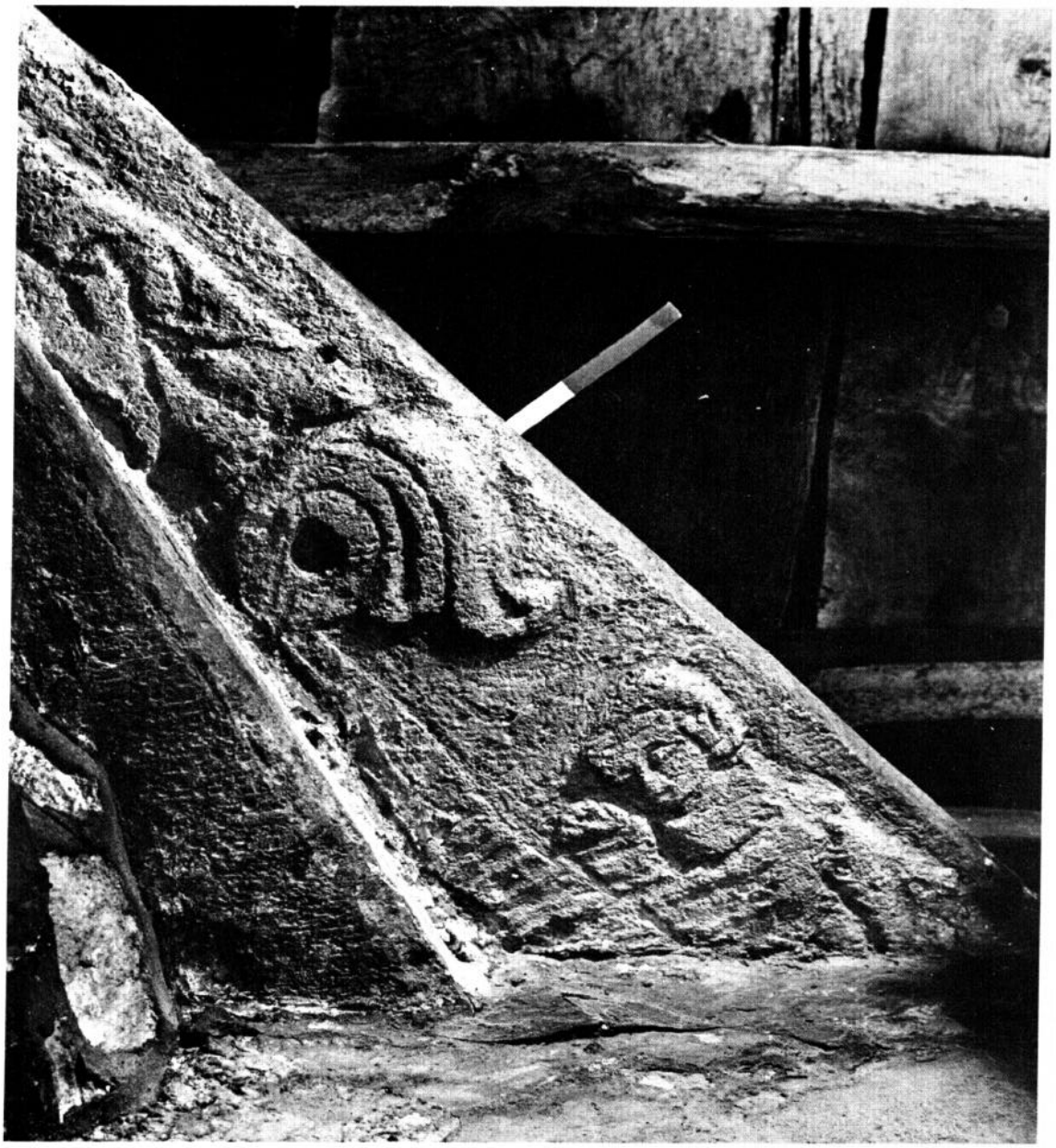


Plate XII Romanesque sculpture from tower (cf. Fig. 15)

Plate XIII A Capital ST13 (inverted)

Plate XIII B Base in parlour of Priory Farm

Plate XIV A Mandible from skeleton HB14

B Maxilla from skeleton HB14 (corresponding sloped wear on molars)

C Mandible from skeleton HB18

D Mandible from skeleton HB18 from above, showing lack of wear of molars (no occlusion) with pronounced wear of anterior teeth

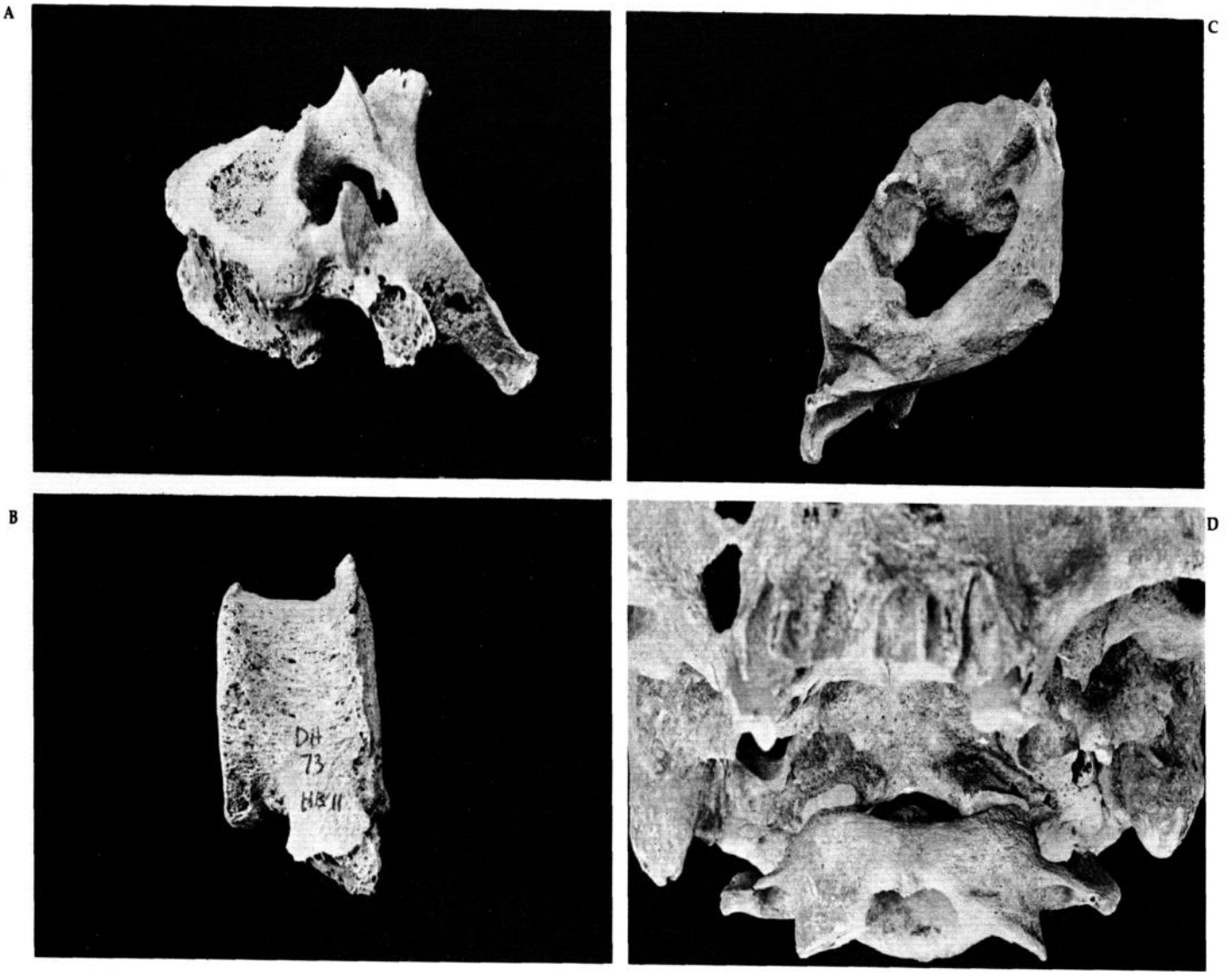


Plate XV A Thoracic vertebra from skeleton HB6a

B Lumbar vertebra from skeleton HB11, showing evidence of osteoarthritis

C Ossified posterior atlanto-occipital membrane, with osteophyte growth around atlanto-axial (dens) joint, from skeleton HB18

D Anterior view of base of skull of skeleton HB18 with atlas in position; the new bone projects up to nearly touch the foramen magnum