

ST JAMES' CHURCH, MIDHOPESTONES,  
SOUTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

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On behalf of

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In October 2009, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr Peter Gaze Pace on behalf of St James' Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation and recording prior to and during various quinquennial repairs to St James' Church, Midhopstones, South Yorkshire (NGR SK 2350 9954). An EDAS project design for archaeological mitigation work was approved by the Diocesan Advisory Committee, and the archaeological investigation and recording was made a condition of a Diocesan faculty dated 8th January 2010.

The archaeological work involved the excavation of four small trenches on each side of the church to assess the implications of the proposed drainage scheme, the recording of five table tombs and other monuments prior to their repair and rebuilding, the monitoring of the below-ground excavations associated with the new drainage scheme and other minor works in the churchyard, the monitoring of the structural repairs, and the production of an 'as-built' photographic records.

No *in situ* undisturbed burials were exposed by the works, and no significant new structural or historical information was uncovered. However, the excavation of a French drain around the outside of the church did allow the plinth to be fully exposed and examined. The stepped plinths on the north and south sides of the church are particularly similar in terms of construction, although that to the north side is generally shallower, and they both lie beneath sections of wall previously characterised as potentially medieval in date; no real evidence was found to refute this. The stepped plinth to the east gable is apparently overlain by that of the south wall, and it does not run parallel to the wall face above, supporting a previous suggestion that a medieval wall here was re-faced in 1705. The more substantial stepped plinth to the west gable could also indicate that this wall was completely rebuilt in 1705 rather than being set on medieval foundations, and so the medieval church may possibly have extended further to the west. The apparent staggered joint in the south wall to the immediate east of the south porch might also imply that the medieval church once possessed a larger south doorway, which was subsequently blocked when the porch was built in 1705, although there is no clear structural evidence for this. Finally, a worked stone recovered from deposit 013 in the north-west soakaway pit could have come from a medieval opening such as a doorway or window which was destroyed during the 1705 works.

No clear dating evidence was uncovered for the slight earthwork bank lying on the south side of the church. It is made largely of a sticky reddish-brown silty clay with occasional angular pieces of iron-stained gritstone/sandstone, which butt up against the footings where they were exposed. It is suspected that the bank probably post-dates the 1705 alterations, and that the level of the ground to the south of the church has been raised by burials here during the remainder of the 18th century.

The archaeological deposits uncovered during the watching brief appear to indicate that the construction of the medieval church required relatively limited ground disturbance, with probable natural deposits visible at relatively shallow depths and in some areas the footings are set directly on top of them. Some material uncovered on the west side of the church could originate from the 1705 works, and some associated dumping or raising of the ground level appears to have incorporated medieval material removed from the church.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In October 2009, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr Peter Gaze Pace on behalf of St James' Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation and recording prior to and during various quinquennial repairs to St James' Church, Midhopestones, South Yorkshire (NGR SK 2350 9954).
- 1.2 The proposed repair works, which were defined by a specification produced by the project architect (Pace 2006), comprised repairs to the roofs of the nave and south porch, the repointing of the external and internal west wall of the nave, various strengthening repairs to the south-west corner and north wall buttresses, repairs to the south porch doorway, the rebuilding of a section of churchyard wall, various external drainage works, the dismantling and rebuilding of five table tombs on the south side of the church, the levelling of the access path, and various internal redecorations. In the event, some of the work, including the bulk of the repointing work on the west wall, were removed from the schedule of works (*pers. comm.* Peter Pace).
- 1.3 The archaeological implications of the proposed works were considered from an early stage, and discussions with the Wakefield Diocesan Archaeologist, Mr Ian Roberts, over the scale and scope of the necessary archaeological mitigation work led to the production of an EDAS project design (Dennison 2009; see Appendix 4). In addition to assessing the archaeological implications of the repairs, the project design detailed the investigative and recording work that was required. In summary, the work was to comprise five phases of work, namely a pre-development evaluation, some pre-development recording, a watching brief during development, the production of 'as-built' records once development was complete, and the production of an archaeological report. The project design was subsequently approved by the Diocesan Advisory Committee and the archaeological investigation and recording as set out in the project design was made a condition of a Diocesan faculty dated 8th January 2010.

## 2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 St James' Church is located in an elevated position within the small hamlet of Midhopestones, some 3km to the west of Stocksbridge to the north-west of Sheffield (at NGR SK 2350 9954 centred) (see figure 1). It lies in the angle of two roads, on the west side of Chapel Lane, within a small churchyard (see figure 2). The church was listed as being of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Grade II\*, on 25th April 1969 (IOE number 335349) (see Appendix 3), and is included on English Heritage's National Monuments Record (site SK29NW18).
- 2.2 The single storey church is built of gritstone rubble, poorly coursed on the north and south walls, with a stone slate roof (see plate 1). It has a single cell three bay rectangular plan, comprising a combined nave, chancel and sanctuary with a western gallery (see figure 3). There is also a rough ashlar south porch and a small western bell turret, the latter with an open pyramidal roof. The church is built in a Vernacular style, with double chamfered mullion windows of plain leaded lights, moulded kneelers, gable copings and apex ball finials. The gabled south porch contains a date stone on the lintel inscribed '1705' and 'G B B', with a lead plaque above bearing the Bosville coat of arms.
- 2.3 The surrounding churchyard falls gradually away from south to north. The graveyard was laid out in the 18th century and was extended to the south onto

higher ground in 1915. There is also a slight embankment around all sides of the church, but it is only really prominent to the south, where it stands up to 0.6m in height. At the south-west corner of the church, the bank is set higher than the surrounding ground surface, but at the south-east corner it merges with the general ground level.

### **3 RECORDING METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 The archaeological investigation and recording was undertaken in a number of different phases, as defined by the initial project design (Dennison 2009, 5-10). During all phases, general advice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (now the Institute for Archaeologists) in relation to watching briefs and evaluation works (IFA 1999a; 1999b), and advice relating to archaeological work in Christian cemeteries and burial grounds (ADCA 2004; EH/CoE 2005), was followed.

#### **Phase 1: Pre-development Evaluation**

- 3.2 Mr Ian Roberts, the Wakefield Diocesan Archaeologist, requested that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken in advance of the main programme of works, to determine the archaeological impacts of the proposed external drainage works. This evaluation comprised the hand excavation of four test pits, one on each side of the church, which was carried out on 25th January 2010. The trenches on the south (Trench 1) and west (Trench 4) sides of the church were 1.50m long, while those to the north (Trench 3) and east (Trench 2) were somewhat shorter at 1.00m long (see figure 4). All the trenches were c.0.60m in width and were excavated to a depth of between 0.60m and 0.80m below ground level (BGL); the lowest absolute height reached was 209.64m AOD in Trench 3.
- 3.3 In accordance with the methodology set out in the project design (see Appendix 4), the positions of all monitored groundworks were marked on a general 1:50 scale site plan, and more detailed drawings including sections were made as necessary. A photographic record was also maintained using 35mm colour digital photography (20 shots); Appendix 2 provides a catalogue of photographs. Following standard archaeological procedures, each discrete stratigraphic entity (e.g. a cut, fill or layer) was assigned an individual context number and detailed information was recorded on pro forma context sheets. A total of 12 archaeological contexts were recorded; these are all described in the following text as three digit numbers (e.g. 005) (see Appendix 1). Modern service pipes and associated cuts were not numbered as contexts, but are noted in the text below. In-house recording and quality control procedures ensured that all recorded information was cross-referenced as appropriate. All heights AOD were calculated from an Ordnance Survey cut benchmark on a barn at Chapel Style Farm (value 210.96m AOD) on the opposite side of Chapel Lane to the church; a temporary benchmark (TBM) was established on the threshold of the church porch, with a value of 210.46m AOD, and all height values were calculated in relation to this TBM.

#### **Phase 2: Pre-development Recording**

- 3.4 Five chest tombs on the north and south sides of the church access path were leaning heavily or had partly collapsed by November 2009. As part of the repair works, these tombs were dismantled and the ground below them levelled off to provide a stable base, before they were re-erected in the same position. There were also three other monuments on the north side of the path which would be affected by the repair works, requiring them to be moved or relocated. Prior to

their dismantling, on 3rd November 2009, all eight monuments were subject to a full written and photographic record (21 shots).

- 3.5 A photographic record and appropriate description was also made of the west wall of the nave (both externally and internally), prior to any repairs, to produce a suitable pre-intervention survey. Some 23 shots were taken and Appendix 2 provides a register of the photographs.

### **Phase 3: Watching Brief during Development**

#### *Drainage trenches and soakaways*

- 3.6 A trench for a new French drain, measuring a maximum of 0.60m wide, was excavated around the base of the external walls of the whole of the church, including the two buttresses on the north side, but not across the footpath on the south side of the south porch. The drain was excavated to a depth of 0.30m below the top of the various plinths around the external walls; the maximum depth reached was 210.01m AOD at the north-west corner. The drain was constructed so that levels fell from the east and west walls of the south porch, and along the south, east and west sides of the church, so that water would drain into two soakaway pits. These soakaway pits were located 3m to the north of the north-east and north-west corners of the church. Each pit measured 1.2m square and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.00m below ground level (BGL) (209.04m AOD). The pits were linked to the French drain by four new drainage trenches, also 0.60m wide and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.30m BGL (209.80m AOD) (see figure 7).
- 3.7 The soakaway pits, drainage trenches and French drain to the north, east and west sides of the church were excavated between 25th February and 4th March 2010. All excavations were undertaken by hand with EDAS present, or were left open and observed by EDAS immediately after excavation. On the 1st March 2010, a short (c.1.50m) section of the French drain at the south-east corner of the church was excavated by hand by EDAS, in order to locate the cremation casket associated with the headstone of Charles Stuart (d.1980) and Winifred Stuart (d.1986) here. The remainder of the French drain along the south side of the church was excavated on the 11th March 2010.
- 3.8 As with the Phase 1 works, each discrete stratigraphic entity (e.g. a cut, fill or layer) was assigned an individual context number and detailed information was recorded on pro forma context sheets. Two further archaeological contexts were recorded during the watching brief (see Appendix 1), and in-house recording and quality control procedures ensured that all recorded information was cross-referenced as appropriate. The positions of all groundworks monitored were indicated on a 1:50 site plan, and more detailed drawings were made of individual features as necessary. A photographic record was also maintained using 35mm colour digital photography (64 shots; see Appendix 2). All heights AOD were calculated from the temporary benchmark (TBM) established on the threshold of the doorway of the church porch (210.46m AOD).
- 3.9 No articulated human burials were exposed during the course of the groundworks, and only a very small quantity of disarticulated bone was uncovered; this was returned to the excavated trench. No other finds or significant artefacts were recovered by the works, although one piece of potentially worked stone identified from the north-west soakaway pit was drawn and photographed (see figure 9).

### *Other works in the churchyard*

- 3.10 A slight linear earth bank running parallel to the south side of the church was reduced in height by c.0.25m as part of the works, so that the external ground level here became similar to the internal floor level of the church. In addition, the vertical stone slabs marking the edges of both sides of the access path to the south of the church were taken up and the ground cut back slightly, allowing the slabs to be reset at a slight angle to better support the compacted soil and monuments behind. Both these operations were monitored by EDAS as part of the archaeological watching brief on 11th March 2010.

### *West wall of the nave*

- 3.11 Localised areas of the existing pointing on the external face of the west wall of the nave were removed, and the pointing renewed with a hydraulic lime mortar. The joints in the internal face of the wall were also raked out and some plaster and a section of rotten timber removed, again prior to repointing using a hydraulic lime mortar. Areas of unstable fabric were rebuilt from the inside of the wall, and the core accessed, grouted and infilled with rubble, and two stainless steel ties were inserted to the interior face. This work helped to bind the two skins of the wall together to ensure the full loading was spread throughout its thickness. An intermittent archaeological watching brief was maintained during these structural works, to record any information or remains that might be uncovered.

### **Phase 4: 'As-built' Records**

- 3.12 Once the various repair works had been completed, a photographic record was made of the appearance of the interior and exterior of the church, with particular emphasis on the rebuilt monuments to the north and south sides of the access path and the restored west wall of the nave. This photographic record was primarily made on 13th May 2010 (47 shots; see Appendix 2).

### **Phase 5: Reporting and Archive**

- 3.13 Once the archaeological fieldwork was complete, an EDAS report on the site investigations was produced. Copies of this report have been supplied to St James' Church PCC (client), the DAC, the project architect and the South Yorkshire SMR. A copy of the final report is also included within the site archive.
- 3.14 A fully indexed and ordered field archive has been prepared, in accordance with published guidance (e.g. MGC 1994) and the requirements of the recipient museum. The archive comprises primary written documents, field and finished plans and sections, and photographs, and an index to the archive. With the agreement of the developer and landowner, the project archive will be deposited with Sheffield Museum (site code MHS 10). No artefacts were retained from the archaeological works.
- 3.15 A pdf copy of the EDAS report will also be uploaded to English Heritage's OASIS (Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations) project, together with an appropriate online record.

## **4 OUTLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The following account is taken from a small number of sources, including the Listed Building description (IOE number 335349), the 1995 Quinquennial

Inspection (Pace 1995), a short article by Hey and Ryder (1980), the Midhopestones Conservation Area Appraisal (Sheffield City Council 2007), and a series of excellent local history display boards within the church. The church was also briefly mentioned by Betjeman (1958, 438) and Pevsner (1979).

- 4.2 Midhopestones and its slightly larger sister hamlet of Upper Midhope to the east, are collectively described in historical documents as Middop, Middup or Midhope. The *stones* suffix is relatively recent, the first recorded reference being made in 1678, and it may refer to stepping or leaping stones formerly used to ford the nearby River Porter before the erection of a bridge. In the early 13th century, the manor was in the possession of Hyienus Waldershelf but by the 14th century it was owned by the Barnby family, and the manorial complex lay to the west of the existing church, on the site of the existing Midhope Hall Farm.
- 4.3 Thomas de Barnby, vicar of Kirkheaton, became Lord of the Manor of Midhope in 1337, and is sometimes credited with the foundation of the existing church (Hey & Ryder 1980, 459; Hey 2003, 90). He was succeeded by his nephew Robert de Barnby in 1354, who may also have been the founder of the church around in c.1360. The Sheffield City Council Conservation Area Appraisal (2007) states that the aforementioned manorial complex was once provided with its own chapel, but in 1368 a Thomas de Barnby converted this into a granary, and built the existing church as a replacement; the reference for this information is not given. The church served as a chapel of ease for the main church of the parish of Ecclesfield, which lies 14km to the east. The Barnbys used the church as their private chapel until 1662, when financial hardships forced them to sell the entire manor.
- 4.4 The church was owned by the Puritans between 1622 and 1690, and they installed the surviving pulpit which was high enough for the priest to see out of the adjacent window. The church fell into disrepair in the second half of the 17th century. The church was then restored by Godfrey Bosville who became Lord of the Manor in 1690. He undertook a partial rebuilding of the east and west ends in 1705, and added the porch, the minstrels' gallery, the box pews and a bell cupola; this work was possibly done to commemorate his elevation to the position of High Sheriff of Yorkshire in the same year. Bosville had his coat of arms together with his and his wife Bridget's initials carved above the porch door as a sign that he regarded the church as his personal family chapel.
- 4.5 The north and south walls of the church contains masonry which is clearly earlier than the 1705 remodelling, and may be of medieval date, although no architectural features survive (see figure 3). The thickness of the east gable suggests that earlier walling survives here as well, refaced externally. The three roof trusses are also apparently of pre-18th century date. However, the west gable appears to be wholly of the 1705 rebuild, as are the buttresses on the north side. The architectural features of the building, all dating from 1705, are still very much in the local vernacular tradition of the preceding century (Hey & Ryder 1980).
- 4.6 Late 19th century images and early 20th century photographs exhibited in the church show the structure much as it survives today, and apparently in good structural order. The church was re-roofed in 1959, and other fabric repairs were carried out in the 1960s, when the church was also re-ordered by the architect George G Pace. These internal works included new oak inner doors, a new oak altar, altar cross and candlesticks, an oak priest's desk and kneelers, and wrought iron shields to the pendant lights (*pers. comm.* Peter Pace). Further refurbishment was undertaken in 1978 by Ron Sims when the church became part of the parish of Penistone.

- 4.7 The surrounding graveyard was laid out in the 18th century and was further extended in 1915 (info. from church booklet). Initially, the south side of the churchyard was used for burials from the early 18th century, then the east side from the mid 18th century, the west side from the later 18th century, and finally the north side from the later 19th century. The 1915 extension occupies the upper, southern, portion of the churchyard. The graves here are laid out in orderly rows about a central pathway. However, within the older burial ground to the immediate north, south, east and west of the church, the monuments are more densely and haphazardly clustered.

## 5 RESULTS FROM THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

### Phase 1 Evaluation (see figures 4 to 6)

- 5.1 As previously noted, a total of four trenches were excavated by hand around the church on the 25th January 2010, and these were recorded according to the methodology outlined above and as set out in the EDAS project design (Dennison 2009, 6-7; see Appendix 4). It should be noted that the trench on the north side of the church (Trench 3) was relocated beyond the western buttress to avoid disturbing a late 19th century grave monument.
- 5.2 All the trenches were levelled into a height above Ordnance Datum using the TBM established at the threshold of south porch (value 210.46m AOD). The trenches on the south (Trench 1) and west (Trench 4) sides of the church were 1.50m long, while those to the north (Trench 3) and east (Trench 2) were 1.00m long (see figure 4). All the trenches were c.0.60m wide and were excavated to a depth of between 0.60m and 0.80m below ground level (BGL); the lowest absolute height reached was 209.64m AOD in Trench 3. A total of 12 archaeological contexts were recorded. All four trenches were backfilled by hand on the same day that they were excavated.
- 5.3 A broadly similar sequence of archaeological deposits was uncovered in each trench, although there were some differences (see figures 5 and 6).
- 5.4 Following the removal of turf and a black silt topsoil (001), which had an average depth of 0.08m, a friable dark brown sandy silt subsoil (002, 005, 008 and 010) was exposed, which extended on average to 0.25m BGL.
- 5.5 In Trenches 1 and 2, a sticky firm reddish-brown silty clay (003 in Trench 1 and 006 in Trench 2) with occasional angular pieces of iron-stained gritstone/sandstone up to 0.10m in size lay beneath the subsoil (see plate 3). In both these trenches, this silty clay butted the footings of the church wall (see below), and overlay a compacted gritty orange sandy clay with frequent angular stone inclusions (004 in Trench 1 and 007 in Trench 2), which passed beneath the footings themselves (see plate 4). The gritty orange sandy clay almost certainly represents a natural deposit. In Trench 3, the subsoil (008) overlay a similar reddish-brown silty clay (009) to that described above, although in this case it extended both beneath the base of the trench and the footings themselves. However, in Trench 4, the deposits underlying the subsoil (010) were somewhat different - the subsoil here overlay a compacted layer of mid-brown silty clay (011) with frequent inclusions of angular stone pieces and lime up to 0.10m in size, which butted the adjacent footings. The silty clay (011) in turn overlay a stiff compacted clean reddish-brown sandy clay (012), which continued beneath the footings and the base of the trench; again, this is most probably a natural deposit. No *in situ* burials were encountered in any of the trenches, with only Trench 3

producing a very small amount of *ex situ* human bone from context 006; this was re-buried in the trench when it was backfilled.

- 5.6 The footings exposed in all four trenches took the form of stepped plinths, although again there were some minor variations. In Trench 1, a narrow (0.08m wide) step was set at 210.23m AOD, with the footings extending for a further 0.64m below in the same stonework construction as seen above the step. In Trench 2, the step was even narrower (0.05m wide) and set at 210.36m AOD, with similar stonework extending below for a further 0.60m. In Trench 3, the 0.10m wide step was set at 210.17m AOD and comprised only a single course of masonry 0.15m deep beneath. Only in Trench 4 was there any significant variation. Here, the 0.05m wide step was set at 210.59m AOD, and this can be traced across the remainder of the west gable to the north-west corner of the church at the same height; it does not return around to the north elevation. The wall face dropped vertically for 0.40m below this step, stepped out a further 0.36m, and then dropped again for 0.34m; the stonework of the larger projection is of the same form as the wall face above (see plate 5).

### **Phase 2 Recording of Churchyard Monuments**

- 5.7 Each monument that was recorded in advance of the main programme of works either side of the access path was given a unique identifier letter, which is used in the following text and on figure 7. All of these monuments were visible on the ground surface prior to work commencing and their recorded dimensions are shown accurately on figure 7. In the following transcriptions, a forward slash (/) indicates a new line of the inscription.

#### *Monument A*

- 5.8 A chest tomb with plain sides (partly collapsed) and interior choked with weeds, on the south side of the access path; it measures 1.8m long by 1.0m wide and stands 0.5m high. The slab has a slightly convex moulded edge and bears an incised inscription in elegant upper and lower case script: "In Memory / Of William Jefferson of Midhop / Stones formerly of Manchester, / who died April 25<sup>th</sup> 1821 aged 82 / Years. / Also of Mary his Wife who died / September 19<sup>th</sup> 1821 aged 72 Years.". The inscription occupies the top (west) quarter of the slab, suggesting that additional inscriptions were planned for a later date.

#### *Monument B*

- 5.9 A chest tomb with a solid slab base, moulded plinth and hipped upper slab, on the south side of the access path; it measures 2.2m long and 1.0m wide, and stands 0.75m high (see plate 2). There are various inscriptions, all in incised capitals. The north slope of the upper slab bears the inscription: "IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF / THOMAS WALKER / FARMER, CARR HEAD HUNSHELF BANK / BORN JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup> 1788, DIED AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup> 1867 / IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF / ANNE RELICT OF THE AFORESAID / THOMAS WALKER / BORN JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> 1801, DIED JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> 1870.". The south side of the upper slab reads: "ALSO OF ELIZABETH HIS DAUGHTER / BORN JULY 7<sup>TH</sup> 1845 / DIED APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup> 1855.". The north side of the plinth reads: "THIS TOMB WAS ERECTED BY / JOHN AND WILLIAM WALKER / TIMBER MERCHANTS SHEFFIELD / AS A TOKEN OF AFFECTION FOR THEIR HONOURED PARENTS". On the east side of the plinth is the mason's name: "J HOBSOB BRACKLEY ST SHEF<sup>D</sup>".

### *Monument C*

- 5.10 A chest tomb with plain sides (partly collapsed) and the interior choked with dead grass, on the north side of the access path; it measures 1.56m long by 0.74m wide and stands 0.55m high. The plain slab is inscribed in elegant upper and lower case script: "Here lieth Interred / the Body of Benjamin / Charlesworth of Lane / Yeoman who departed / this life on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of / January A.D. 1776 in / the 75<sup>th</sup> Year of his Age / Stop here thy foot and cast an Eye / As thou art so once was I / As I am now so must thou be / Prepare they self to follow me. / Adjacent on the North / Side lieth the Body of / Grace Wife of the above / Benjamin Charlesworth / And since Wife of James / Hirst of Derby. She died / on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Day of August A. / D. 1788 Aged 69 Years."

### *Monument D*

- 5.11 A headstone with a shallow pointed-arched head, and a sunken edge around the incised upper and lower case inscription, standing between chest tombs C and E on the north side of the access path; it measures 0.9m long and 0.15m wide and stands 1.52m high. It reads: "Sacred / To the Memory of / Thomas Stanley of Midhope Hall / formerly of Brooksbank, who died / October 5<sup>th</sup> 1837. Aged 80 Years / Also of Elizabeth Wife of the / above Thomas Stanley, who died / February 12<sup>th</sup> 1846 Aged 88 Years. / Also of Matthew, Son of the / above Thomas Stanley who died / December 5<sup>th</sup> 1839 aged 53 Years. / Also of Charles Stanley Grand / Son of the above Thomas Stanley / who died February 5<sup>th</sup> 1834: / Aged 18 Years."

### *Monument E*

- 5.12 A chest tomb with plain sides (partly collapsed), on the north side of the access path; it measures 1.68m long by 0.78m wide and stands 0.34m high. The plain slab is inscribed in elegant upper and lower case script: 'Here lieth Interred the / Body of Martha Daughter / of Thomas Stanley of Brook / bank who departed this life / on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February / AD 1769 aged 14 Years. / Also Anne Wife of the above / Tho. Stanley died on the 18<sup>th</sup> / day of July 1783 Aged 59 / Years. Also George their / Son died the 20<sup>th</sup> day of / Feb. 1785 Aged 23 Years. / Likewise the above Thom<sup>as</sup> / Stanley died on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of / December 1788 Aged 61 / Years.'. The inscription extends over the top (west) two-thirds of the slab with the remainder unmarked.

### *Monument F*

- 5.13 A table tomb with a plain slab on two end pieces, on the north side of the access path near the churchyard gate; it measures 1.90m long by 0.91m wide and stands 0.33m high. The slab is inscribed in elegant upper and lower case script: 'Here lieth the remains / of Matthew Stanley of the Holt / He died April 21<sup>st</sup> 1789 Aged / 34 Years. / Also Elizabeth his wife and / late wife of Thomas Piper of Sheephouse. She died Decem / ber 15<sup>th</sup> 1825 aged 62 Years / Also Joseph Son of John and / Harriott Stanley who died July / 14<sup>th</sup> 1831 Aged 2 Years. / Adjacent on the South Side / lieth the body of John Stanley / son of the above Matthew Stan / ley and Elizabeth the late wife / of Thomas Roper of Sheephouse / who departed this life April 3<sup>rd</sup> / 1840 Aged (11?) Years. / Also the Body of Harriott Wife of / the above named John Stanley / who departed this life on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of November 186(5?) Aged 75 Years. / Also Anne Stanley Daughter of the / above John and Harriott Stanley / who died at Southport / July 1<sup>st</sup> 1882 Aged 61 Years. / Also Susannah Wood daughter of / the above John and Harriott Stanley / Died October 25<sup>th</sup> 1888 Aged 64 Years.'.

### *Monument G*

- 5.14 A slab, set flush with the ground surface, the head overgrown, adjacent to the south side of the church and east of the south porch; it measures 1.80m long by 0.7m wide. It is inscribed in elegant upper and lower case script. The upper part is held within an incised diamond-shaped frame: "Here / lyeth interred the / Body of Thomas / Harrersley late of Mid / Hopp Yeoman who Departed / This Life the 16<sup>th</sup> day of July / Anno Domini / 1711.". Below this is: "Also the Body of Ann / his wife She died on the / 12<sup>th</sup> Day of March Anno / D<sup>m</sup> 1746 Aged 81 Years.".

### *Monument H*

- 5.15 A small modern headstone on a stepped plinth, located against the south side of the church close to the south-east corner; it measures 0.46m long by 0.08m wide and stands 0.80m high. It bears the incised inscription in upper and lower case: "In Memory of / Charles Stuart / Died 28<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1980 / Aged 86 Years / Also / Winifred Marina / Stuart / Died 24<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1986 / Aged 93 Years.".

## **Phase 3 Watching Brief**

### *Drainage trenches and soakaways (see figures 7 and 8)*

- 5.16 As has been noted above, a trench for a new French drain, measuring a maximum of 0.60m wide, was excavated around the base of the external walls of the whole of the church, including the two buttresses to the north side, but not across the footpath at the south side of the south porch (see figure 7). The drain was excavated to a depth of 0.30m below the top of the various plinths around the external walls; the maximum depth reached was 210.01m AOD at the north-west corner of the church. Levels in the base of the drain fell from the east and west walls of the south porch, along the south, east and west sides of the church, and into two soakaway pits. These pits were located 3m to the north of the north-east and north-west corners of the church. Each pit was 1.2m square and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.00m below ground level (BGL) (209.04m AOD). The soakaway pits were linked to the French drain by four new drainage trenches, also 0.60m wide and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.30m BGL (209.80m AOD).
- 5.17 The contexts exposed within the drainage trenches and other below-ground works were essentially the same as those already described under the trial trenches above. In all areas, beneath the turf and topsoil (001, average depth 0.08m), the friable dark brown sandy silt topsoil (002, 005, 008 and 010) was seen, extending to an average depth of 0.25m BGL. On the southern, eastern and western sides of the church, this overlay the sticky reddish-brown silty clay (003, 006 and 009), and on the north side, the orange/mid-brown silty clay (011).
- 5.18 Within the north-west soakaway pit, the silty clay (011) was seen to extend to 0.55m BGL, and to overlie a yellow-brown sandy clay (013) containing frequent inclusions of stone, generally up to 0.20m long, but with the occasional larger piece. Of these, one gritstone piece, although very worn, appeared to have been worked, and to perhaps form the remnant of the head of a chamfered opening, perhaps semi-circular or rising to a shallow point (see figure 9). The yellow-brown clay (013) extended beyond the base of the soakaway pit. Within the north-east soakaway pit, the silty clay (011) extended to 0.70m BGL and overlay a similar yellow-brown clay (014) to that noted in the north-west pit, although it contained fewer stones.

- 5.19 The stepped plinth footings exposed by the various drainage works were also similar to those already described under the trial trenches above, although obviously they could now be viewed in their entirety (see figure 8). Along the south side of the church, a narrow 0.08m wide step ran the full length of the wall to the east of the porch, rising very slightly towards the south-east corner (see plate 8). Towards the porch, the plinth extended vertically for at least 0.60m below the step (as seen in Trench 1), but at the east end it was only c.0.30m deep, and it rested on that of the east gable (see below). The porch itself appeared to be built over this plinth, and a similar stepped plinth along the east side of the porch butted that of the church. There also appeared to be a similar stepped plinth to the west side of the porch. To the west of the porch, the south wall of the main church stepped out twice, rather than just once. The upper step continued around the south-west corner of the church to run along the west gable (see below).
- 5.20 The stepped plinth running along the south side of the church did not project beyond the south-east corner; indeed, it dropped 0.30m in height here. At the south end of the east gable, the plinth projected some 0.15m from the face of the wall above, but, rather than running parallel to the wall, it angled inwards and to ran to the north. It then dropped again to 210.36m AOD, and stepped out a further 0.08m but continued to angle inwards, until it reached the 0.05m width recorded in Trench 2, after which it disappeared, the wall face above becoming vertical.
- 5.21 On the north side of the church, a very similar stepped plinth was visible to that described for the south side. The plinth ran for the majority of the length of north side (see plate 6), but did not project beyond the north-east corner and actually stopped 0.65m short of the north-west corner, and it was also generally of the same depth as the section exposed in Trench 3. The buttresses on the north side of the church are built over the stepped plinth, and their stepped plinths also butt that of the church. The west gable has a similar stepped plinth to that seen on the north and south sides; indeed, at its south end, it is continuous with that running around the south-west corner of the church. The plinth drops vertically for 0.40m, and then steps out between 0.30m and 0.40m in a series of large blocks (see plate 7). The blocks were mortared using a clean but sticky red-brown clay, and the outer edges of some of them may have been very crudely chamfered, suggesting that they were once visible.
- 5.22 On the south side of the church, to the east of the south porch, the cremation casket associated with the headstone of Charles Stuart (d.1980) and Winifred Stuart (d.1986) was located. The wooden casket containing the cremated remains of Charles Stuart was found at 0.20m BGL and was carefully removed; no casket relating to Winifred Stuart was recovered, suggesting that this either lies below the level of the French drain, or more likely, given that her husband pre-deceased her by six years, that her ashes were scattered elsewhere. The casket was in poor condition and was carefully wrapped in several layers of black plastic, labelled externally and stored next to the altar for the duration of the repair works. At the end of the works, the headstone was re-located in another part of the churchyard and the casket buried beneath it.
- 5.23 During the excavation of the French drain, a number of staggered joints were noted in the external walls of the church; some of these had been previously described by Hey and Ryder (1980). There are staggered joints at the east and west ends of the north wall, and at the west end of the south wall; these may mark the junction between medieval masonry and that relating to the 1705 repairs. There also appears to be another staggered joint in the south wall to the immediate east of the porch.

#### *Other works in the churchyard*

- 5.24 Where the slight linear earthwork running parallel to the south side of the church was reduced in height, only the topsoil and sub-soil previously recorded in Trench 1 (002 and 003) were disturbed.
- 5.25 In addition, a c.7m length of the vertical stone slabs marking the edges of both sides of the access path was taken up and the ground cut back by a maximum of 0.30m, to allow the slabs to be reset at a slight angle to better support the compacted soil and monuments behind (see figure 7). The five adjacent chest tombs (monuments A, B, C, E and F) were rebuilt, involving a very minor reduction of the ground surface around and beneath the upper part of the tombs (see plate 9). None of these works exposed any significant archaeological deposits and no human remains were exposed.

#### *West wall of the nave*

- 5.26 No new structural information was noted during the intermittent watching brief maintained during the works to the west wall of the nave.

#### **Phase 4 'As-built' Records**

- 5.27 Once the various repair works had been completed, a photographic record was made of the appearance of the interior and exterior of the church, with particular emphasis on the rebuilt monuments to the north and south sides of the access path and the restored west wall of the nave.

## **6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 6.1 No *in situ* undisturbed burials were exposed during any of the repair works that were undertaken, and only a very small quantity of *ex situ* human bone was recovered. No significant new structural or historical information was uncovered during internal and external repair works.
- 6.2 However, the excavation of the French drain and associated external works did allow the plinth of the church to be fully exposed and therefore examined in greater detail than had previously been possible. The stepped plinths exposed on the south and north sides of the church are set at similar levels, falling within a range of 0.20m. These plinths are particularly similar in terms of construction, although that to the north side is generally shallower, and they both lie beneath sections of wall previously characterised as potentially medieval in date (Hey & Ryder 1980). No real evidence was found to refute this, although it is noticeable that the prominent staggered joint towards the west end of the north wall is far less marked at a lower level and the masonry here may in fact be contemporary with the west wall. The stepped plinth to the east gable is apparently overlain by that of the south wall, and it does not run parallel to the wall face above, perhaps supporting Hey and Ryder's suggestion that a medieval wall here was re-faced in 1705 (see figure 3). However, no clear evidence was uncovered for any earlier masonry, or masonry of a markedly different character to that which is already visible, or of structures extending beyond the standing walls of the church.
- 6.3 The more substantial stepped plinth to the west gable could indicate that this was completely rebuilt in 1705 rather than being set on part of the medieval building, and that the medieval church may possibly have extended further to the west. The apparent staggered joint in the south wall to the immediate east of the porch might

also imply that the medieval church once possessed a larger south doorway, which was subsequently blocked when the porch was built in 1705, although there is no clear structural evidence for this. Finally, the worked stone recovered from deposit 013 in the north-west soakaway pit could have come from a medieval opening such as a doorway or window which was destroyed during the 1705 works.

- 6.4 No clear dating evidence was uncovered for the slight earthwork bank lying on the south side of the church and extending partly around its south-west corner. It is made largely of a sticky reddish-brown silty clay (003) with occasional angular pieces of iron-stained gritstone / sandstone, which butt up against the footings where they were exposed. It is suspected that the bank probably post-dates the 1705 alterations, and that the level of the ground to the south of the church has been raised by burials here during the remainder of the 18th century.
- 6.5 The archaeological deposits uncovered during the watching brief appear to indicate that the construction of the medieval church required relatively limited ground disturbance, with probable natural deposits visible at relatively shallow depths and in some areas the footings set directly on top of these. The level and inclusions contained within context 011 in Trench 4 on the west side of the church could indicate that it was associated with the 1705 works. If the worked stone recovered from deposit 013 in the north-west soakaway pit did come from a medieval opening, then this may also suggest that some dumping or raising of the ground level took place here in c.1705, incorporating material removed from the church.

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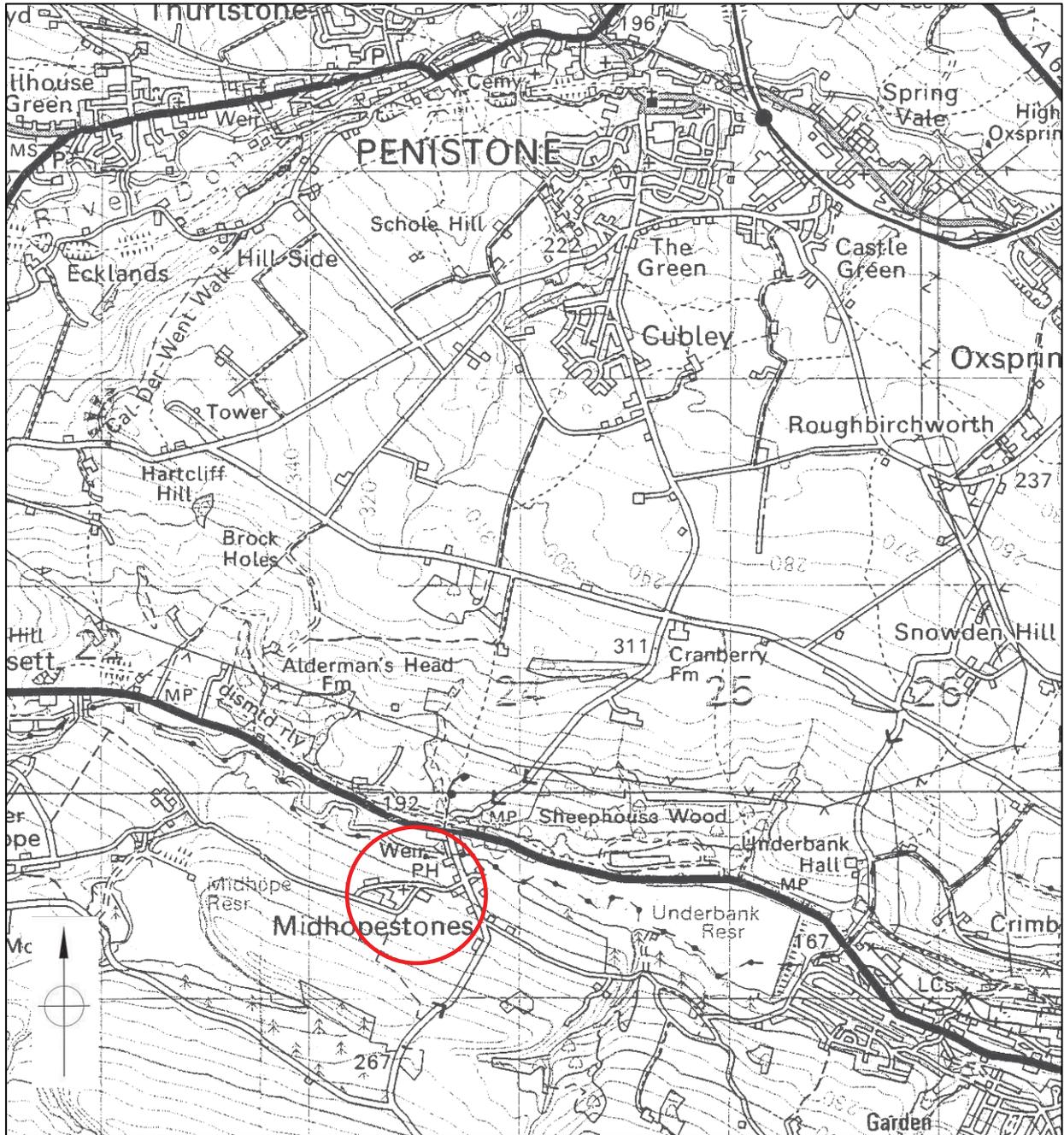
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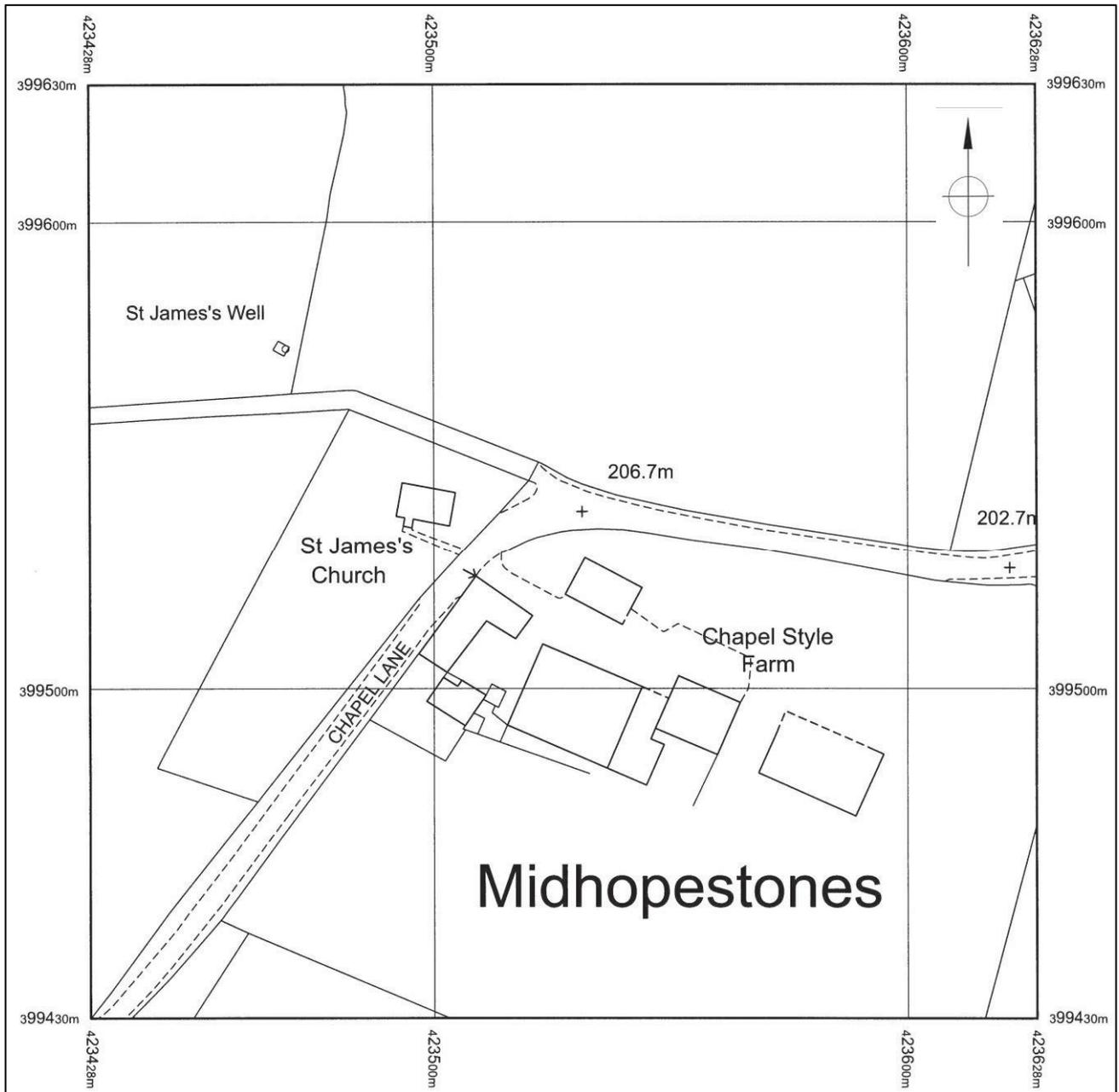
## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 8.1 The programme of archaeological investigation and recording at St James' Church was commissioned by St James' Church Parochial Church Council (PCC), through their architect Peter Gaze Pace. EDAS would like to thank him and Tony White of the PCC for their help and co-operation in carrying out the archaeological work. Thanks are also due to the main contractors, Nicholson-Roberts Co. Ltd., for their patience and assistance during the site work.
- 8.2 The on-site recording was undertaken by Shaun Richardson of EDAS, who also produced the fieldwork records and a draft report. The final report was produced by Ed Dennison, with whom the responsibility for any errors remains.



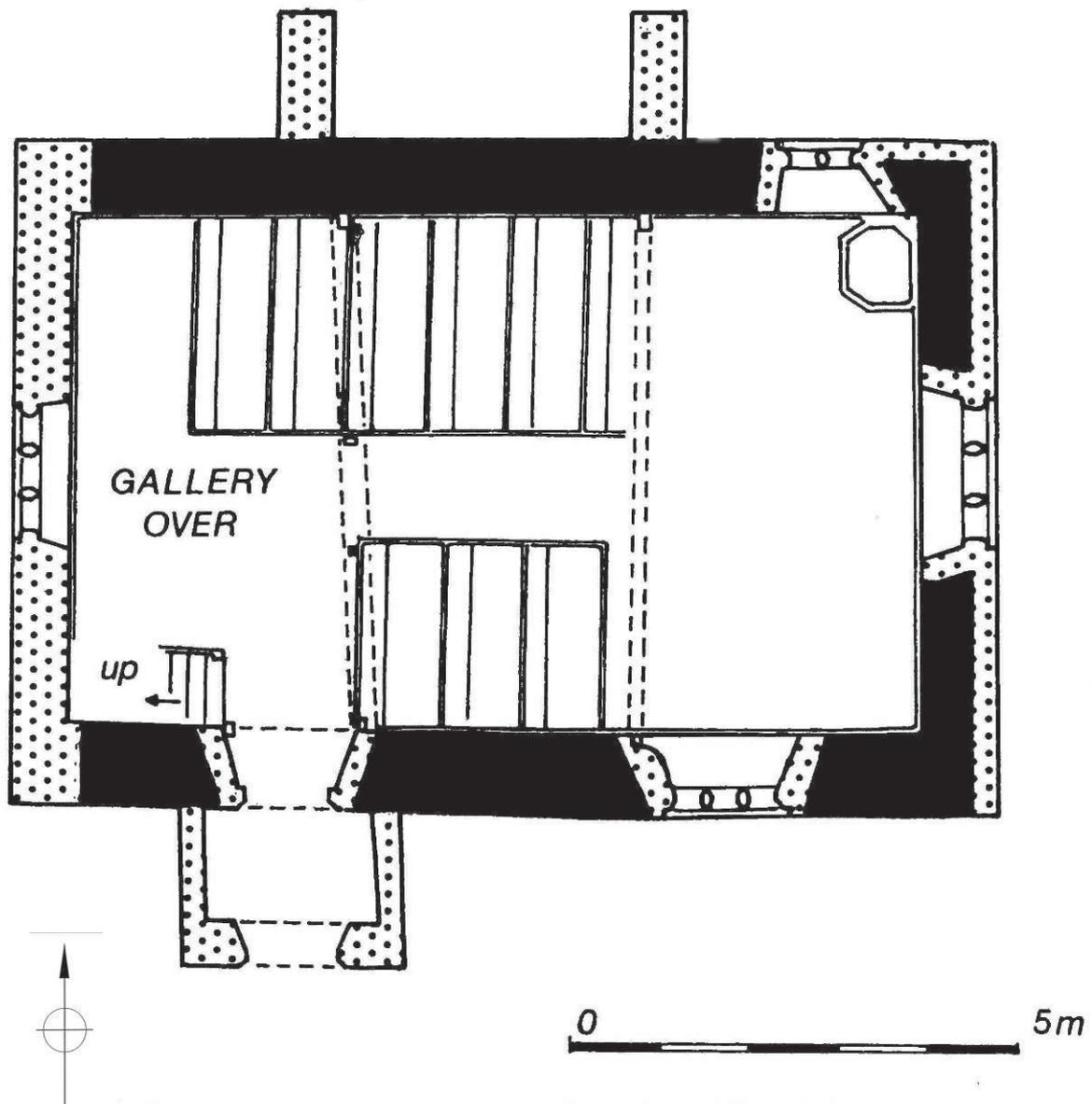
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TITLE	
GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	DATE
NTS	SEPT 2010
EDAS	FIGURE
	1



Reproduced from the 1:1,250 scale map by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright 2010. All rights reserved. Licence AL100013825

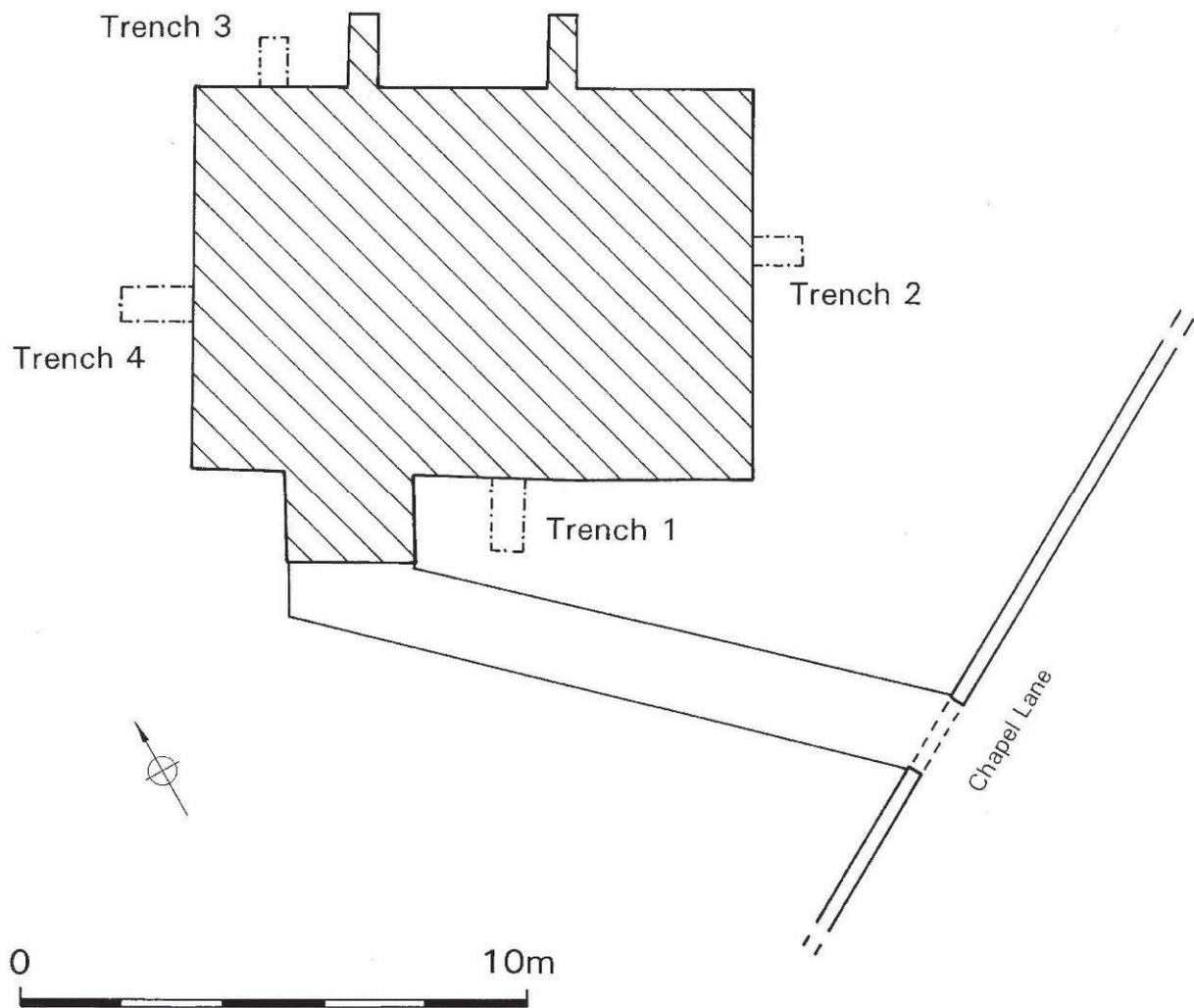
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SITE LOCATION	
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EDAS	FIGURE
	2



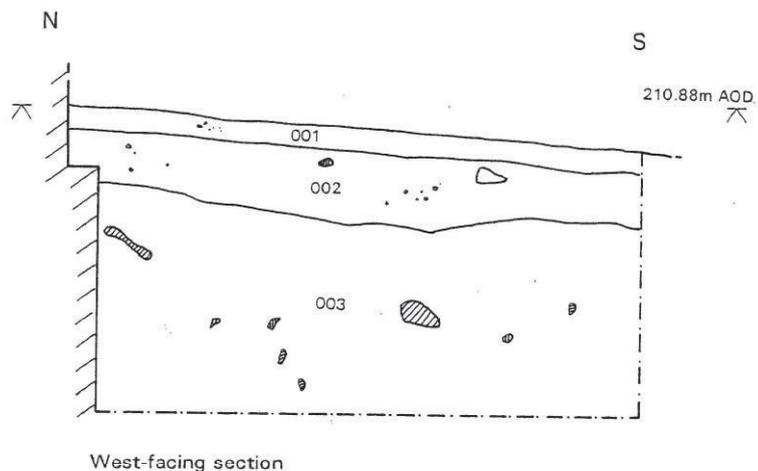
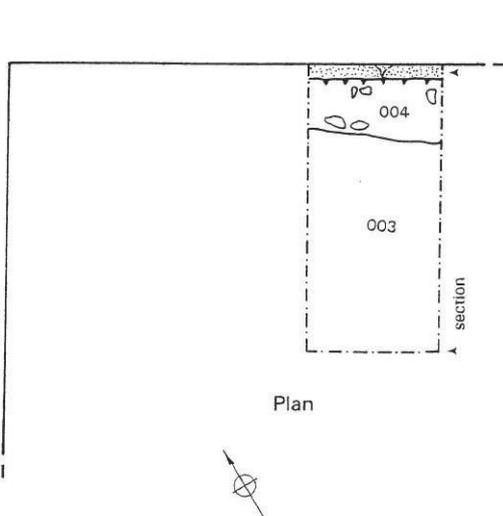
Source: Hey and Ryder (1980).

Potentially medieval fabric shown in black, 1705 fabric shown as dotted.

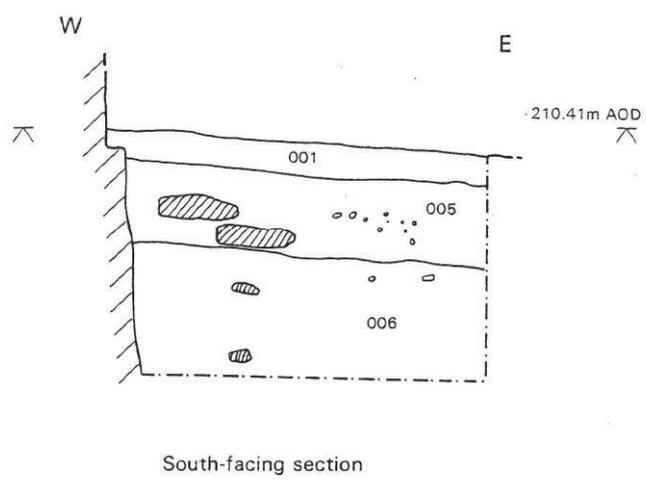
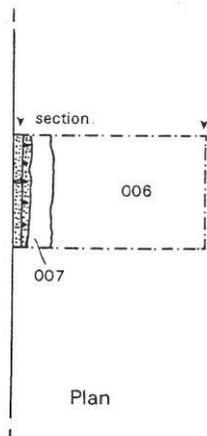
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TITLE	
PHASING PLAN	
SCALE	DATE
AS SHOWN	SEPT 2010
EDAS	FIGURE
	3



PROJECT ST JAMES' CHURCH, MIDHOPESTONES	
TITLE EVALUATION TRENCHES	
SCALE AS SHOWN	DATE SEPT 2010
EDAS	FIGURE 4



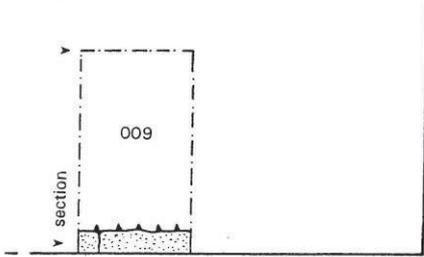
Trench 1



Trench 2



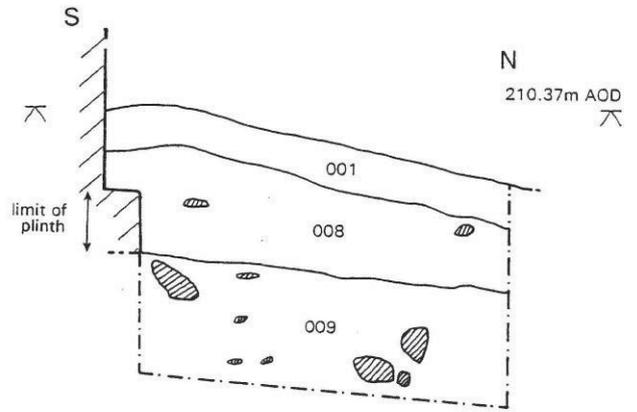
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TITLE EVALUATION TRENCHES 1 & 2	
SCALE AS SHOWN	DATE SEPT 2010
EDAS	FIGURE 5



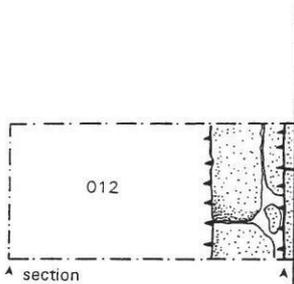
Plan



### Trench 3



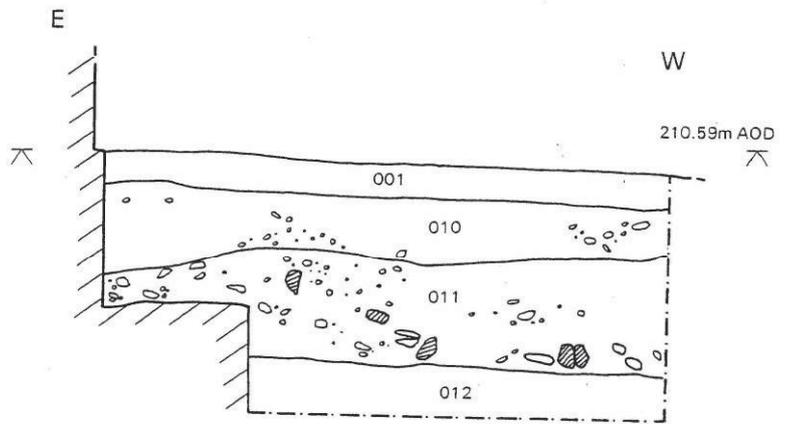
East-facing section



Plan



### Trench 4



West-facing section



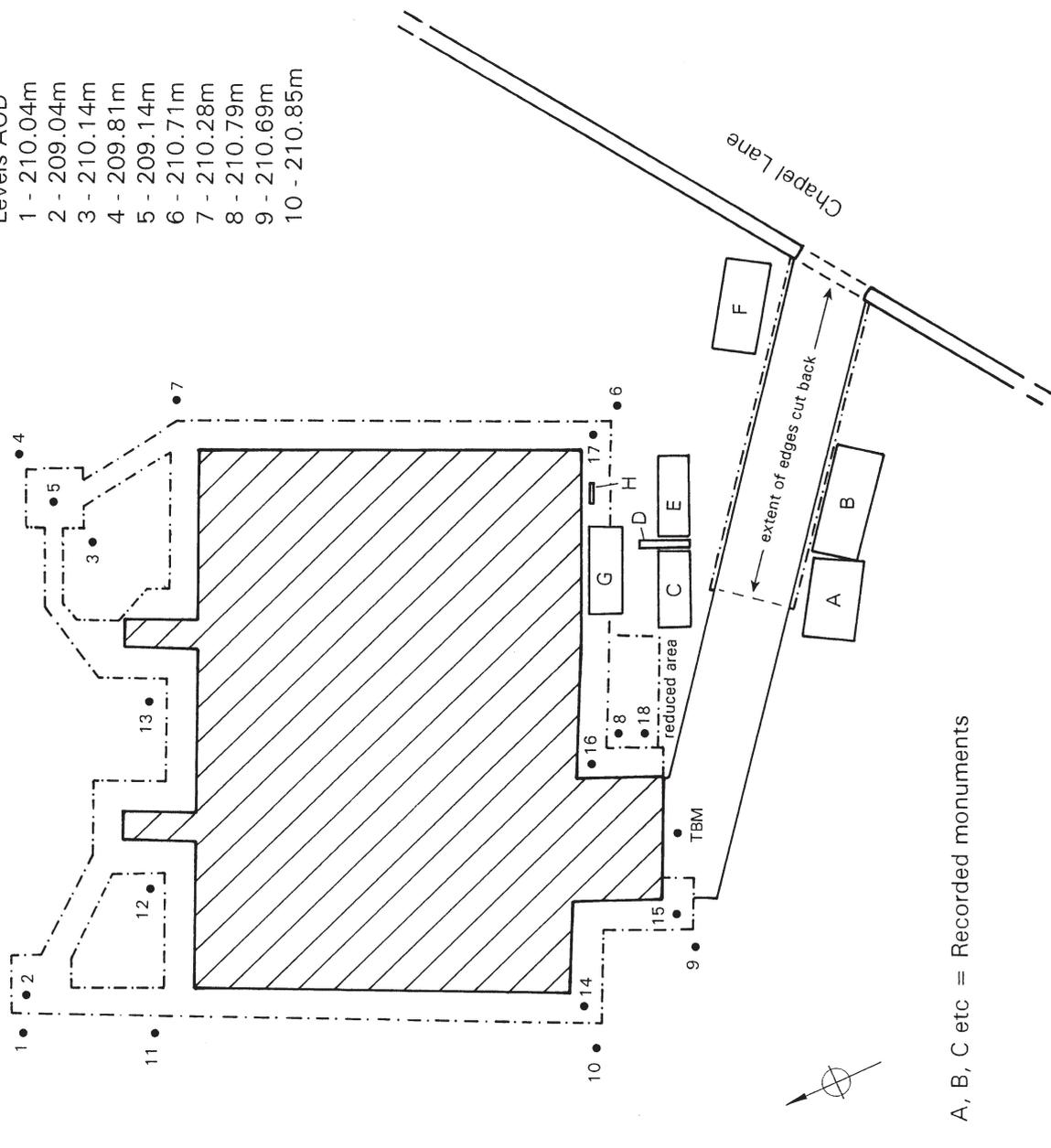
CBM   
 Stone 



PROJECT ST JAMES' CHURCH, MIDHOPESTONES	
TITLE EVALUATION TRENCHES 3 & 4	
SCALE AS SHOWN	DATE SEPT 2010
EDAS	FIGURE 6

- Levels AOD
- 1 - 210.04m
  - 2 - 209.04m
  - 3 - 210.14m
  - 4 - 209.81m
  - 5 - 209.14m
  - 6 - 210.71m
  - 7 - 210.28m
  - 8 - 210.79m
  - 9 - 210.69m
  - 10 - 210.85m

- 11 - 210.31m
  - 12 - 210.52m
  - 13 - 210.45m
  - 14 - 210.44m
  - 15 - 210.23m
  - 16 - 210.39m
  - 17 - 210.39m
  - 18 - 210.56m
- (after reduction)  
TBM - 210.46m



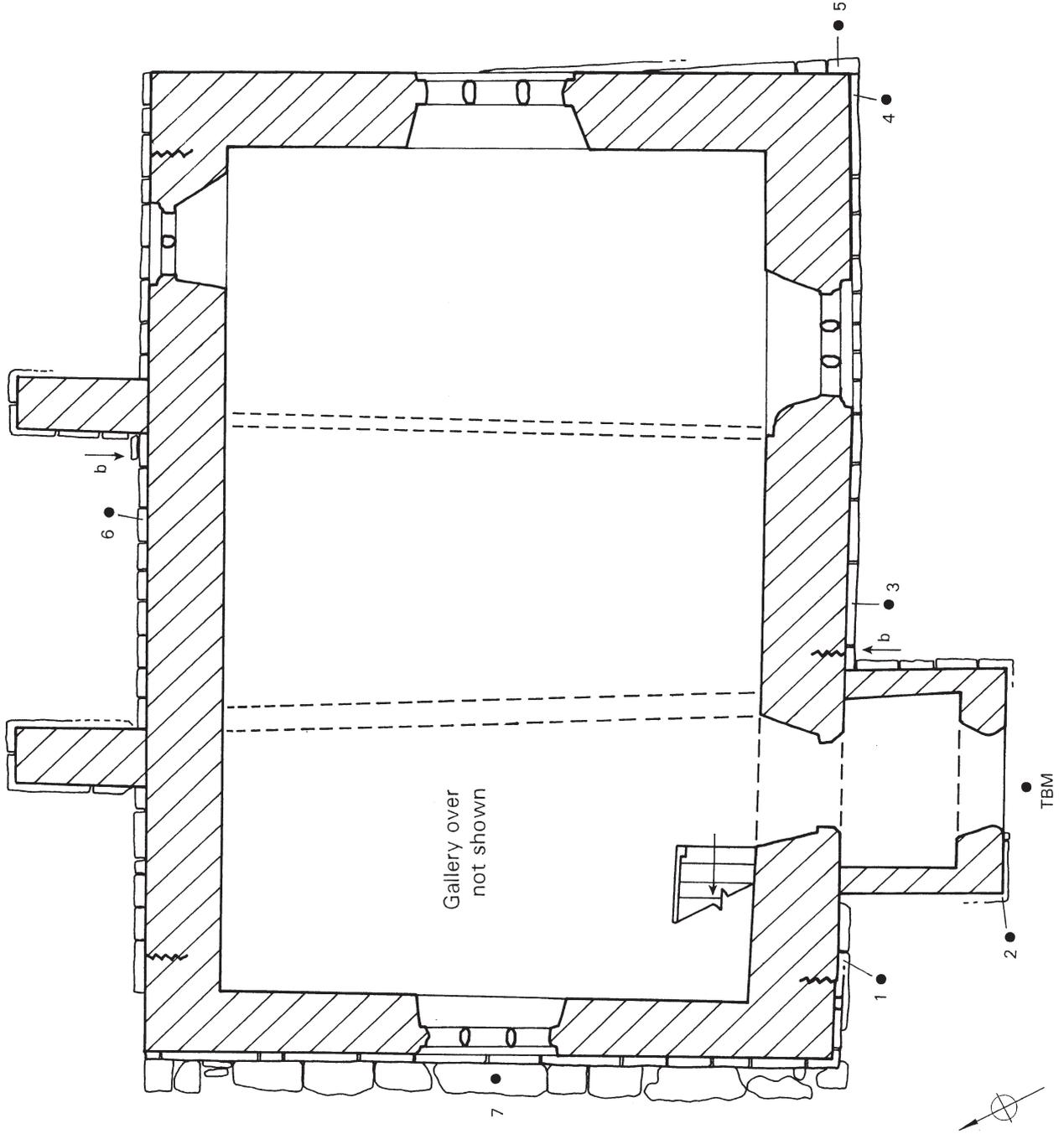
A, B, C etc = Recorded monuments



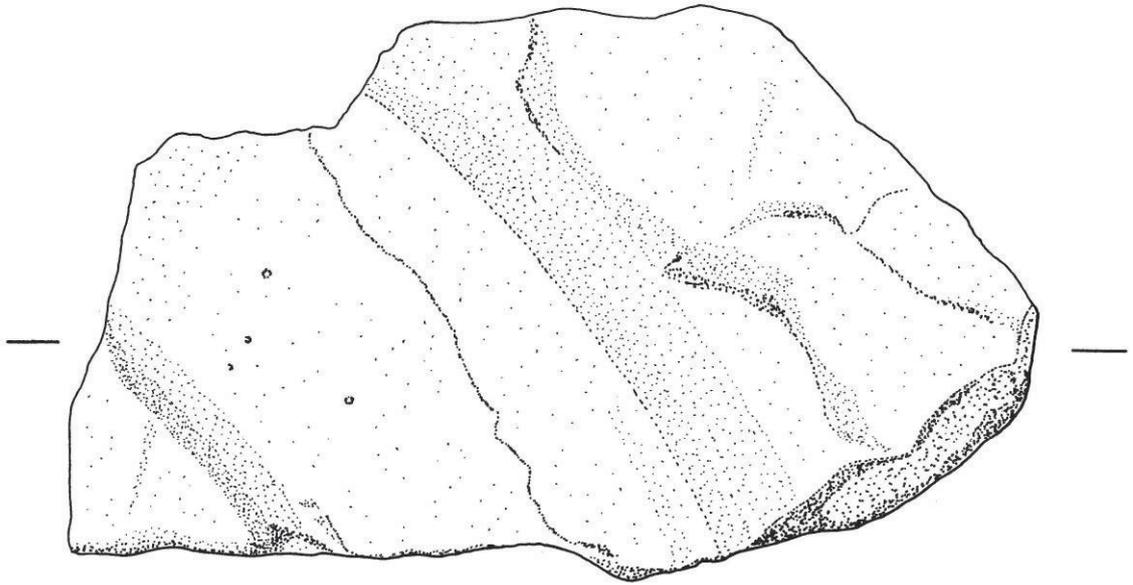
PROJECT	ST JAMES' CHURCH, MIDHOPESTONES		
TITLE	DRAINAGE WORKS AND MONUMENTS		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	SEPT 2010
	EDAS	FIGURE	7

Levels AOD  
 1 - 210.57m  
 2 - 210.49m  
 3 - 210.67m  
 4 - 210.76m  
 b = butts

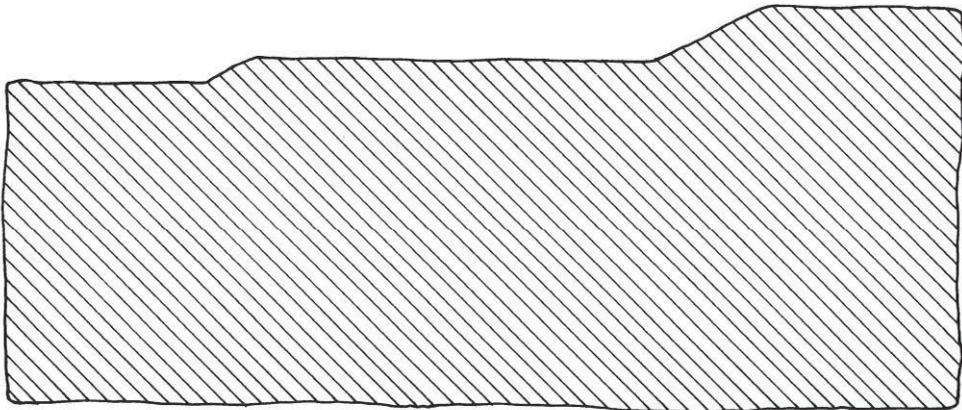
5 - 210.44m  
 6 - 210.45m  
 7 - 210.35m  
 TBM - 210.46m



PROJECT	ST JAMES' CHURCH, MIDHOPESTONES		
TITLE	EXPOSED PLINTHS AND FOOTINGS		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	SEPT 2010
	EDAS	FIGURE	8



Elevation



Profile



Worked stone from context 013, NW soakaway

PROJECT ST JAMES' CHURCH, MIDHOPESTONES	
TITLE WORKED STONE	
SCALE AS SHOWN	DATE SEPT 2010
EDAS	FIGURE 9



Plate 1: General view of church, looking NE.



Plate 2: Monument B (Walker family) prior to repairs, looking W.



Plate 3: Trench 1 - west facing section, looking E.



Plate 4: Trench 1 - footings, looking N.



Plate 5: Trench 4 - footings, looking E.



Plate 6: French drain along north side of church, between buttresses, showing exposed plinth, looking E.



Plate 7: French drain along west gable of church, showing exposed foundations, looking S.



Plate 8: French drain, south side of church, showing exposed plinth, looking NE.



Plate 9: Repaired path and monuments, looking W.



Plate 10: Completed French drain to south side of church, looking NE.

## **APPENDIX 1**

## APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

<i>Context</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Description</i>
001	Site	Compacted black silt soil, average 0.08m deep - topsoil.
002	Trench 1	Friable dark brown sandy silt, average 0.12m deep - subsoil.
003	Trench 1	Firm reddish-brown sandy silt clay, maximum 0.60m deep, with occasional angular sandstone/gritstone pieces up to 0.10m in size - subsoil.
004	Trench 1	Compacted gritty orange sandy clay, with frequent angular sandstone/gritstone pieces up to 0.10m in size - natural.
005	Trench 2	Friable dark brown sandy silt, average 0.22m deep - subsoil (as 002).
006	Trench 2	Firm reddish-brown sandy silt clay, average 0.30m deep, with occasional angular sandstone/gritstone pieces up to 0.10m in size - subsoil (as 003).
007	Trench 2	Compacted gritty orange sandy clay, with frequent angular sandstone/gritstone pieces up to 0.10m in size - natural (as 004).
008	Trench 3	Friable dark brown sandy silt, average 0.20m deep - subsoil (as 002).
009	Trench 3	Firm reddish-brown sandy silt clay, average 0.35m deep, with occasional sandstone/gritstone pieces up to 0.10m in size - subsoil.
010	Trench 4	Friable dark brown sandy silt, average 0.22m deep - subsoil (as 002).
011	Trench 4	Compacted orange/mid-brown silty clay, average 0.30m deep, with frequent pieces of lime up to 0.05m in size and frequent angular pieces of stone up to 0.10m in size - construction deposit associated with 1705 repairs?
012	Trench 4	Compacted stiff clean reddish-brown sandy clay, at least 0.10m deep, with occasional pieces of stone up to 0.05m in size - natural.
013	NW soak	Compacted/firm yellow-brown sandy clay, at least 0.45m deep, with frequent sandstone/gritstone pieces up to 0.20m in size - dumping/activity associated from 1705 works, including some dismantled medieval material?
014	NE soak	Compacted/firm yellow-brown sandy clay, at least 0.30m deep, with frequent sandstone/gritstone pieces up to 0.20m in size - dumping/activity associated from 1705 works, including some dismantled medieval material?

## APPENDIX 2

## APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Film 1: Digital colour photographs taken 3rd November 2009

Film 2: Digital colour photographs taken 25th January 2010

Film 3: Digital colour photographs taken 25th-26th February 2010

Film 4: Digital colour photographs taken 1st March 2010

Film 5: Digital colour photographs taken 4th March 2010

Film 6: Digital colour photographs taken 11th March 2010

Film 7: Digital colour photographs taken 21st April 2010

Film 8: Digital colour photographs taken 13th May 2010

Film	Frame	Subject	Scale
1	283	Box pews to interior of church	-
1	284	Box pews to interior	-
1	285	Church, prior to repairs, looking NE	-
1	286	Church, prior to repairs, looking NE	-
1	287	Footpath and tombs, prior to repairs, looking SE	1m
1	288	Footpath and tombs, prior to repairs, looking NW	1m
1	289	Monument B, prior to repairs, looking W	1m
1	290	Side inscription on Monument B, looking S	1m
1	291	Top inscription on Monument B, looking SE	1m
1	292	Inscription on Monument A, looking W	1m
1	293	Inscription on Monument A, looking W	1m
1	294	Inscription on Monument C, looking W	1m
1	295	Inscription on Monument C, looking W	1m
1	296	Detail of inscription on Monument C, looking W	1m
1	297	Monument D, looking W	1m
1	298	Inscription on Monument E, looking W	1m
1	299	Monuments C, D & E, prior to repairs, looking NW	1m
1	300	Inscription on Monument F, looking NW	1m
1	301	Detail of inscription on Monument F, looking W	1m
1	302	Monument F, prior to repairs, looking E	1m
1	303	Monument G, looking W	1m
1	304	Inscription on Monument G, looking W	1m
1	305	Monument H, looking N	1m
1	306	Detail of inscription on Monument E	-
1	311	Detail of inscription on Monument E	-
2	292	Interior, N timber supporting balcony, looking NE	-
2	293	Interior, detail of N timber supporting balcony, looking NE	-
2	294	W gable, prior to repair, looking E	1m
2	295	SW corner of W gable, prior to repair, looking E	1m
2	296	Window in W gable, prior to repair, looking S	1m
2	297	Window in W gable, prior to repair, looking S	1m
2	298	W gable and bellcote, prior to repair, looking S	1m
2	299	Bellcote, prior to repair, looking N	-
2	300	W gable prior to repair, looking SE	-

Film	Frame	Subject	Scale
2	301	Bellcote, prior to repair, looking SE	-
2	302	NW corner of W gable, prior to repair, looking SE	-
2	303	GF W interior, prior to repairs, looking NW	1m
2	304	GF north end of W interior, prior to repairs, looking N	1m
2	305	GF north end of W interior, crack to NW corner, prior to repairs, looking N	1m
2	306	GF W interior, staircase, prior to repairs, looking SW	1m
2	307	GF / 1F W interior, prior to repair, looking S	1m
2	308	1F W interior, prior to repair, looking NW	1m
2	309	1F W interior, prior to repair, looking NW	1m
2	310	1F W interior, prior to repair, looking N	1m
2	311	Test Pit 1, looking N	1m
2	312	Test Pit 1, looking N	1m
2	313	Test Pit 1, E section, looking SE	1m
2	314	Test Pit 1, W section, looking NW	1m
2	315	Test Pit 1, looking N	1m
2	316	Test Pit 2, N section, looking N	1m
2	317	Test Pit 2, S section, looking S	1m
2	318	Test Pit 2, S section, looking S	1m
2	320	Test Pit 1, looking N	1m
2	321	Test Pit 1, looking N	1m
2	323	Test Pit 2, looking W	1m
2	324	Test Pit 3, looking S	1m
2	325	Test Pit 3, E section, looking E	1m
2	326	Test Pit 3, W section, looking W	1m
2	327	Test Pit 3, looking S	1m
2	328	Test Pit 3, looking S	1m
2	330	Test Pit 4, looking SE	1m
2	331	Test Pit 4, looking SE	1m
2	333	Test Pit 4, N section, looking N	1m
2	334	Test Pit 4, view of exposed footings from above	1m
3	514	GF NW interior, repairs in progress, looking N	1m
3	515	GF / 1F W interior, repairs in progress, looking S	1m
3	516	GF / 1F W interior, repairs in progress, looking W	1m
3	517	1F W interior, repairs in progress, looking W	1m
3	518	1F W interior, repairs in progress, looking N	1m
3	519	External W gable, repairs in progress	1m
3	520	External W gable, repairs in progress	1m
3	521	Dressed stone fragment recovered from NW soakaway	1m
3	522	Dressed stone fragment recovered from NW soakaway	1m
3	523	NW soakaway, N section, looking N	1m
3	524	NW soakaway, N section, looking N	1m
3	525	NW soakaway, N section, looking N	1m
3	526	NW soakaway, W section, looking W	1m
3	527	NW soakaway, looking S	1m
3	528	NE soakaway, S section, looking S	1m

Film	Frame	Subject	Scale
3	529	NE soakaway, W section, looking W	1m
3	530	NE soakaway, N section, looking N	1m
3	531	NE soakaway, E section, looking E	1m
3	534	NE soakaway, looking SW	1m
4	536	Cremation casket of Charles Stuart (d.1980), S side of church, during removal	1m
4	537	Cremation casket of Charles Stuart (d.1980), S side of church, during removal, looking NW	1m
4	538	Cremation casket of Charles Stuart (d.1980), S side of church, during removal	1m
4	540	Cremation casket of Charles Stuart (d.1980), S side of church, during removal	-
4	541	Cremation casket of Charles Stuart (d.1980) after removal	-
4	542	Cremation casket of Charles Stuart (d.1980) after removal	-
4	543	French drain to SE corner of church, showing exposed plinth, looking N	1m
4	544	French drain to SE corner of church, showing exposed plinth, looking NW	1m
4	545	French drain, N side of church, E side of W buttress, looking S	1m
4	546	French drain, N side of church, E side of W buttress, showing exposed plinth, looking S	1m
4	547	French drain, N side of church, between buttresses, looking E	1m
4	548	French drain, N side of church, W side of E buttress, looking NE	1m
4	549	French drain, N side of church, W side of E buttress, showing exposed plinth, looking S	1m
4	550	French drain, N side of church, between buttresses, looking W	1m
4	551	French drain, N side of church, E buttresses, looking SE	1m
5	592	French drain, NW corner of church, looking SE	1m
5	593	French drain, N side of church, W end, looking E	1m
5	594	French drain, N side of church, W end, looking SE	1m
5	595	French drain, N side of church, W end towards W buttress, looking S	1m
5	596	French drain, N side of church, W end, looking SE, showing joint in footings below ragged joint in wall, looking S	1m
5	597	French drain, N side of church, W end, looking SE, showing joint in footings below ragged joint in wall, looking S	1m
5	598	French drain, N side of church, W end, looking SE, showing ragged joint in wall, looking S	1m
5	599	Drain and soakaway pit to NW of church, looking SW	1m
5	600	Drain and soakaway pit to NW of church, looking S	1m
5	601	French drain around W buttress, N side of church, looking S	1m
5	602	French drain, NE corner of church, looking E	1m
5	603	Drain and soakaway to NE of church, looking N	1m
5	604	French drain, N side of church, E end, looking SW	1m
5	605	French drain, N side of church, E end, looking SE	1m
5	606	Drain and soakaway to NE of church, looking E	1m
5	607	Drain and soakaway to NE of church, looking E	1m
5	608	French drain showing exposed footings, west gable of church, looking N	1m
5	609	French drain showing exposed footings, west gable of church, looking N	1m
5	610	French drain showing exposed footings, west gable of church, looking S	1m
5	611	French drain showing exposed footings, west gable of church, looking S	1m
5	612	French drain showing exposed footings, west gable of church, looking N	1m

Film	Frame	Subject	Scale
5	613	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, S end, looking S	1m
5	614	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, S end, looking S	1m
5	615	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, S end, looking E	1m
5	616	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, looking E	1m
5	617	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, looking E	1m
5	618	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, looking E	1m
5	619	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, looking E	1m
5	620	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, looking E	1m
5	621	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, looking E	1m
5	622	Exposed footings in French drain, west gable of church, looking E	1m
6	766	French drain and plinth, SW corner of church, looking E	1m
6	767	French drain and plinth, SW corner of church, looking NE	1m
6	768	French drain and plinth, SW corner of church and porch, looking NE	1m
6	769	French drain and plinth, SW corner of porch, looking N	1m
6	770	French drain and plinth, E side of porch, looking W	1m
6	771	French drain and plinth, S side of church, looking NE	1m
6	772	French drain and plinth, E gable of church, looking N	1m
6	773	French drain and plinth, SE corner of church, looking W	1m
7	370	View of church from churchyard gate, repairs complete, looking NW	-
7	371	SE corner of church, repairs complete, showing re-erected headstone and French drain, looking NE	-
7	372	S side of church, repairs complete, looking NE	-
7	373	N side of church, repairs complete, looking S	-
7	374	SE corner of church, repairs complete, looking NE	-
7	375	General view of church, repairs complete, looking E	-
7	376	1F W interior, repairs complete, looking NE	-
7	380	General view of W interior of church, looking NW	-
7	381	Stairs, W interior of church, looking N	-
7	382	General view of church, repairs complete, looking NE	-
7	383	Path and adjacent monuments, repairs complete, looking SE	-
7	384	N side of church, repairs complete, looking N	-
8	216	Interior after repair scheme, looking NW	-
8	217	Interior after repairs scheme, looking SW	-
8	218	New fittings to interior after repairs scheme	-
8	219	Interior after repairs scheme, looking E	-
8	220	N side of church, repairs complete, looking NE	1m
8	221	SW corner of church, repairs complete, looking NE	1m
8	222	Path and adjacent monuments, repairs complete, looking SE	1m
8	223	Monuments C to F, repairs complete, looking E	1m
8	224	Monuments A & B, repairs complete, looking SW	1m
8	225	Monuments C to E, repairs complete, looking NW	1m
8	226	Monuments C to E, repairs complete, looking N	1m
8	227	Completed French drain to S side of church, looking NE	1m

Film	Frame	Subject	Scale
8	228	Completed French drain to E gable, looking NE	1m
8	229	Completed French drain to N side of church, looking S	1m
8	230	Completed French drain to N side of church between buttresses, looking S	1m
8	231	Completed French drain to N side of church (E end), looking S	1m
8	232	Completed French drain to N side of church (E end), looking S	1m
8	233	Completed French drain to W gable after repairs, looking E	1m
8	234	W gable after repairs scheme, looking E	1m
8	235	Completed French drain to SW corner of church, looking E	1m
8	236	Monument B, repairs complete, looking S	1m
8	237	Monuments and path after repairs, looking NW	1m
8	238	Monuments C to E & H, repairs complete, looking N	1m
8	239	Monument B, repairs complete, looking N	-
8	240	Monuments C to E & H, repairs complete, looking N	-
8	241	S porch, repairs complete, looking N	1m
8	242	S side of church, repairs complete, looking N	1m
8	243	Porch inscription, looking N	-
8	244	N side of church, repairs complete, looking S	-

## APPENDIX 3

### APPENDIX 3: LISTED BUILDING DESCRIPTION

Location : CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CHAPEL LANE (north side), BRADFIELD, SHEFFIELD, SOUTH YORKSHIRE

IoE number : 335349

Date listed : 25 APRIL 1969

Date of last amendment : 25 APRIL 1969

Grade : II\*

SK29NW

BRADFIELD

CHAPEL LANE  
(north side),  
Midhopestones

3/25

Church of St James

Church. Probably of medieval origin, rebuilt 1705. Gritstone rubble, poorly coursed on north and south walls, rough-ashlar porch, stone slate roof. Nave and chancel in one, south porch. Single storey, 3-bays (interior). Vernacular style with double-chamfered mullion windows, plain leaded lights, moulded kneelers, gable copings and apex ball finials. Gabled porch to left has an early cross-boarded oak door, heavily studded and with decorated strap hinges. Quoin reveals and flat 3-centred arched lintel, all moulded. Lintel date GBB 1705 with lead plaque above bearing the Bosvile coat of arms. To right: 3-light chancel window. North wall buttressed with 2-light chancel window. East window: tall, 3 lights. West gable: 3-light window to ground floor with 2-light to gallery. Interior: well preserved interior of 1705. 2 rows of box pews and panelled dado (partly renewed). Heavily carved C17 pulpit. Oak stairs and balustrade to west gallery. Profile-cut wall posts of small-scantling, trusses above have tie beams sawn off and purlin ties added although the western truss retains a moulded and soffit-morticed collar which may represent an earlier closure at this end. A complete king-post truss against east wall. Pre-reformation altar slab removed to Penistone Church. Initials on lintel are of Godfrey and Bridget Bosvile. Godfrey Bosvile of Gunthwaite Hall in Penistone parish purchased the manor in 1690, he was High Sheriff of Yorkshire in 1705 and remodelled this church in that year. D. Hey and P. Ryder, 'St. James' Church, Midhope', *Archaeological Journal* vol 137, pp 459-460. Porch illustrated in C.F. Innocent, *The Development of English Building Construction*, 1916 p.228.

Source: Images of England website ([www.imagesofengland.org.uk](http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk))

## APPENDIX 4

QUINQUENNIAL REPAIRS,  
ST JAMES' CHURCH, MIDHOPESTONES,  
SOUTH YORKSHIRE

PROJECT DESIGN FOR  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

Report no: 2009/359.R01  
Version: Final  
Date: November 2009  
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On behalf of

St James Church PCC  
c/o Peter Pace Architect  
The Old Rectory  
Scrayingham  
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# QUINQUENNIAL REPAIRS, ST JAMES' CHURCH, MIDHOPESTONES, SOUTH YORKSHIRE

## PROJECT DESIGN FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Various repair works are proposed to St James' Church at Midhopestones, comprising repairs to the roofs of the nave and south porch, the repointing of the external and internal west wall of the nave, strengthening repairs to the south-west corner and north wall buttresses, repairs to the south porch doorway, the rebuilding of a section of churchyard wall, various external drainage works, the dismantling and rebuilding of five table tombs on the south side of the church, the levelling of the access path, and various internal redecorations.
- 1.2 Some of these works, in particular the external drainage, will have archaeological implications and so the Wakefield Diocesan Archaeologist has requested that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken to determine what the impacts might be. Depending on the results of this work, other archaeological recording may be required prior to or during the proposed repair works; some archaeological recording will also be necessary prior to the dismantling of the five table tombs. It is to be expected that this archaeological evaluation and any subsequent recording will be made a condition of any Diocesan faculty granted for the works.
- 1.3 This Archaeological Project Design has been prepared by Mr E Dennison of Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS), on behalf of St James' Church Parochial Church Council. It details the programme of archaeological evaluation that will be undertaken on site before any repair work takes place, and makes initial recommendations for any further work (subject to the results of the evaluation).

### 2 SITE LOCATION

- 2.1 St James' Church is located in the small hamlet of Midhopestones, some 3km to the west of Stocksbridge to the north-west of Sheffield (at NGR SK 2350 9954 centred). It lies in the angle of two roads, on the west side of Chapel Lane, within a small churchyard.
- 2.2 The church was listed as being of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, Grade II\*, on 25th April 1969 (IOE number 335349). The church is also mentioned by Pevsner (1979, 1368), and is listed on English Heritage's National Monuments Record (site SK29NW18).

### 3 DESCRIPTION OF THE CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD

- 3.1 The following account is based on the Listed Building description (IOE number 335349), the 1995 Quinquennial Inspection (Pace 1995), a short article by Hey and Ryder (1980), and a site visit made by EDAS on 3rd November 2009.
- 3.2 The single storey church is built of gritstone rubble, poorly coursed on the north and south walls, with a stone slate roof. It has a single cell three bay rectangular plan, comprising a combined nave, chancel and sanctuary with a western gallery. There is also a rough ashlar south porch and a small western bell turret, the latter with an open pyramidal roof. The church is built in a Vernacular style, with double-chamfered mullion windows of plain leaded lights, moulded kneelers, gable copings and apex ball finials. The gabled south porch contains a date stone on the lintel inscribed "1705" and "G B B", with a lead plaque above bearing the Bosville

coat of arms. The early cross-boarded door, heavily studded with decorated strap hinges, is of early 18th century date. There are two stepped buttresses on the north side of the church, and a movement fracture in the east wall extending up from the head of the east window.

- 3.3 Internally, the church contains two rows of early 18th century box pews, a heavily carved Jacobean pulpit in the north-east corner, and a roof structure with king post trusses with the small-scantling tie beams of two of the trusses cut away. There is a complete king-post truss built into the face of the east wall. A pre-Reformation alter slab has been removed to Penistone church nearby.
- 3.4 The church was founded by the Barnby family of Barnby Hall, Cawthorne. Thomas de Barnby, vicar of Kirkheaton, became Lord of the Manor of Midhope in 1337, and was succeeded by his nephew Robert in 1354. Robert de Barnby may have been the founder of the church around c.1360, although Hey attributes Thomas de Barnby as the founder at a slightly earlier date (Hey & Ryder 1980, 459; Hey 2003, 90). The church was built as one of Chapel of Ease for the main church of the parish of Ecclesfield, which lies 14km to the east. The Barnby's used the church as their private chapel until 1662 when financial hardships forced them to sell the entire manor.
- 3.5 The church was owned by the Puritans between 1622 and 1690, and they installed the surviving pulpit which was high enough for the priest to see out of the adjacent window. The church fell into disrepair in the second half of the 17th century. The church was then restored by Godfrey Bosville who became Lord of the Manor in 1690. He undertook a partial rebuilding of the east and west ends in 1705, and added the porch, the minstrels' gallery, the box pews and a bell cupola; this work was possibly done to commemorate his elevation to the position of High Sheriff of Yorkshire in the same year. Bosville had his coat of arms together with his and his wife Bridget's initials carved above the porch door as a sign that he regarded the church as his personal family chapel.
- 3.6 The north and south walls of the church contains masonry which is clearly earlier than the 1705 remodelling, and may be of medieval date, although no architectural features survive. The thickness of the east gable suggests that earlier walling survives here as well, refaced externally. The three roof trusses are also apparently of pre-18th century date. The west gable appears to be wholly of the 1705 rebuild, as are the buttresses on the north side. The architectural features of the building, all dating from 1705, are still very much in the local vernacular tradition of the preceding century (Hey & Ryder 1980).
- 3.7 Fabric repairs were carried out in the 1960s, when the church was also re-ordered by the architect George G Pace. These internal works included new oak inner doors, a new oak alter, altar cross and candlesticks, an oak priest's desk and kneelers, and wrought iron shields to the pendant lights (*pers. comm.* Peter Pace).
- 3.8 The surrounding churchyard falls gradually away from south to north. The graveyard was laid out in the 18th century and further extended in 1915 (info from church booklet). The 1915 extension occupies the upper, south, portion of the churchyard. The graves here are laid out in orderly rows about a central pathway. However in the older burial ground to the immediate north, south, east and west of the church, the churchyard monuments are more densely and haphazardly clustered. There is a slight embankment around all sides of the church, but it is only really prominent to the south, where it stands up to 0.6m in height. At the south-west corner of the church, the bank is set higher than the surrounding

ground surface, but at the south-east corner it merges with the general ground level.

## 4 THE PROPOSED WORKS

- 4.1 Full details of the proposed works are contained within a specification for fabric repairs produced by the project architect, Peter Pace (Pace 2006).
- 4.2 Not all the proposed works as listed in paragraph 1.1 above will require an archaeological involvement - those work which do are the external drainage works, the repointing of the external and internal west wall of the nave, the rebuilding of a section of churchyard wall, the dismantling and rebuilding of five table tombs on the south side of the church, and the levelling of the access path. These works are described below, in turn. Reference should also be made to the accompanying figure.

### External drainage works

- 4.3 It is proposed to reduce the height of an existing earth bank, which runs along the south side of the church, by c.600mm so that the external ground levels are closer to the internal floor levels of the church. As part of this work, a stone marking the position of some interred ashes by the south-east corner of the church will have to be moved a short distance to the south. An 18th century grave slab adjacent to the south wall would also have to be taken up, and repositioned on the south side of the present path, close to the grave slab of Mary Wainwright 1707; the depth of the underlying burial or tomb is unknown. The existing bank also runs around the south-west and south-east corners of the church, and here the bank will be reduced by c.250mm, grading down to the natural ground levels in the north-west and north-east corners.
- 4.4 A trench for a new French Drain measuring 600mm wide by 350mm deep (maximum) would then be excavated around the base of the external walls of the whole of the church, apart from around the two protruding buttresses on the north side of the church and along the south side (front) of the south porch. Commencing at the east side of the porch, the alignment of the drain would pass through a small heap of overgrown stones, ceramic path edging and stone slates at the junction of the south porch and the nave. Moving eastwards, there is a grave slab of 1711 commemorating Thomas Harrersley and then a headstone on a stepped plinth to Charles Stuart and dated 1980. Turning along the east gable, there is sufficient space between the wall and the chest tombs to the east to accommodate the drain. On the north side of the church however, the drain will disturb a later 19th century grave, running parallel to the north wall and set between the buttresses. The grave has a cross at the west end commemorating Charles Fenton and, although overgrown, the stone edging delineating the grave is visible to the east; the south side of the grave is set c.0.35m north of the church's north wall. Along the west gable, as with the east, there is sufficient space between the wall and the adjacent chest tombs to accommodate the drainage run. There is a second small heap of stone at the junction of the nave and the west side of the porch. The levels of the drain are intended to fall from the east and west walls of the south porch, along the south, east and west sides of the church.
- 4.5 Three new drainage trenches also 600m wide will then be dug from the north-east and north-west corners of the church, and from the centre of the north side of the church, to connect with two new soakaway pits, measuring 1.2m diameter by 1.2m deep, which will be dug c.3.0m from the north-west and north-east corners. The

drain running from the centre of the north side of the church will run across the grave of Charles Fenton referred to above. The ground surface in this area is uneven, and it is likely that it is occupied by burials. The position of the north-west soakaway pit appears to lie close to the grave associated with an 1864 headstone commemorating Eva and Thomas Worrall Webster. The area within which the north-east drain and soakaway pit will be located is currently overgrown, and includes a large holly bush which will need to be cut back. The line of the drain appears to avoid the chest tombs to the immediate east of the church, but the area of the soakaway is currently too overgrown to see whether there are any grave slabs here; it is likely that there will be burials in this area, either marked or unmarked.

### **Other external works**

- 4.6 Two table tombs on the south side of the access path (to Thomas Walker and William Josephson) are leaning heavily due to the sloping ground levels here. These tombs are to be dismantled, and the ground below them levelled off so that they can be rebuilt in the same position on a flat base. The rebuilding will utilise stainless steel cramps (replacing the existing wrought iron ones) and hydraulic lime mortar.
- 4.7 In a similar fashion, two other table tombs (to Benjamin Charlesworth and Martha Dauheey) on the north side of the access path will be dismantled and reset on a firm base. A further low table tomb immediately adjacent to the entrance gate on the north side of the path will be re-levelled and the large plant growth dug up and the roots removed.
- 4.8 The vertical stone slabs marking the edges of both sides of the access path will be taken up and the soil cut back slightly, allowing the slabs to be reset at a slight angle to better support the compacted soil behind.
- 4.9 A c.3m section of the churchyard wall, immediately south of the south-east entrance gates, has been damaged by vehicles, and this will be rebuilt in a similar style.

### **West wall of the nave**

- 4.10 The existing pointing on the external face of the west wall of the nave will be removed, and the pointing renewed in a hydraulic lime mortar. The joints in the internal face of the wall will also be raked out and some plaster and a section of rotten timber will be removed, again prior to repointing in a hydraulic lime mortar. Two concrete bonders will also be inserted into the external elevation, between the two windows, to strengthen the structure.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSALS**

- 5.1 Wherever possible, the routes of all the new drainage trenches and soakaways have been positioned by the project architect so as to avoid any marked burials, although a small number will still be affected by the excavation of the French Drain., especially along the south and north sides of the church; one of these burials (Charles Stuart 1980) is recent. The precise route of the French Drain along these sides of the church may therefore need to be modified slightly to avoid these burials. It is also quite possible that additional unmarked burials could be affected, particularly by the new connecting drains running to the soakaways (especially that running from the centre of the north wall which actually crosses a

marked burial), and by the soakaways themselves which are to be 1.2m deep. The alignment of these trenches and the positions of the soakaways may therefore need to be modified or adjusted.

- 5.2 It is possible that the excavation of the French Drain around the base of the external walls of the church, despite being only 350mm deep (maximum), might uncover structural information relating to the original medieval chapel or the 1705 Bosville rebuild. It is assumed that the 1705 rebuild utilised the earlier medieval foundations, and this will be a good opportunity to try and resolve this issue.
- 5.3 In addition, the lowering of the slight earthwork bank running along the south side of the church, and around the south-east and south-west corners, may uncover important archaeological information relating to the church or the churchyard. At present, it is not known whether this bank represents demolition and/or clearance material associated with the 1705 rebuild, whether it contains medieval deposits or even burials associated the original chapel, or even whether it results from post-1705 drainage or other repair/improvement works. This bank will require archaeological investigation prior to any levelling (see below).
- 5.4 The act of dismantling and rebuilding the five table tombs adjacent to the access path may also have archaeological implications, particularly given that the ground underneath the tombs will need to be slightly graded or levelled out prior to re-erection. It is also possible that the minor works associated with the re-edging of the access path may also have some archaeological implications. The inscription of the late 18th chest tomb closest to the churchyard gate on the north side of the path suggests that there is or once was an associated burial adjacent to the south side and, due to the slightly sunken nature of the access path, it is possible that re-edging might encounter this burial if it is still present. Although not large, the elder bushes to be removed from around this monument are well established, and their removal might also possibly disturb burials at a shallow level. It is important that these works are subject to archaeological monitoring.
- 5.5 Finally, the removal of the existing pointing and plasterwork to the west wall of the nave, both internally and externally, may reveal additional structural information associated with the medieval chapel and the 1705 rebuild.
- 5.6 As the churchyard is still in use, it is presumed that any legal issues relating to the excavation, removal or disturbance of any burials and their markers affected by the proposed repairs will be covered by the forthcoming Diocesan faculty. It is also presumed that any considerations relating to the reburial of any remains, the repositioning of any grave markers, and the notification to, and the liaison with, any surviving relatives will be covered by any Diocesan faculty. These items are therefore not included in the following scheme of archaeological investigation.

## **6 SCHEME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION**

- 6.1 In order to mitigate the archaeological implications listed above, it is appropriate that a phased scheme of archaeological investigation is carried out prior to and during the various repair works. This investigation will be undertaken by EDAS, who will be appointed and commissioned by the Parochial Church Council. Depending on the scale and timing of the archaeological work, EDAS may need to appoint various subcontractors to assist with the investigations. In all cases, advice previously issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists in relation to watching briefs and evaluation works (IFA 1999a & b), and advice relating to archaeological work in Christian cemeteries and burial grounds (ADCA 2004;

EH/CoE 2005) will be followed. Contact will also be made with the receiving museum (Sheffield Museum) and the South Yorkshire SMR in advance of the start of the project.

6.2 It is envisaged that five phases of archaeological work will be required, as follows.

### **Phase 1: Pre-development Evaluation**

6.3 Four archaeological evaluation trenches will be dug against all four sides of the church in the general positions indicated on the attached plan. However, the trench on the north side of the church will need to be repositioned so that it lies to the east or west of the two buttresses; in its present position it would disturb the grave of Charles Fenton noted above. The trench on the west side of the church also needs to be moved slightly to the north or south to avoid an overhanging holly bush. The trenches will be 500mm wide by 600mm deep, those on the north and east side of the church will be 1000mm long while those on the south and west sides will be 1500mm long; this additional length is required to fully investigate the slight earthwork bank on these sides of the church.

6.4 The aims and objectives of the archaeological trenching will be:

- to establish the presence/absence of any archaeological remains which will be affected by the proposed drainage or other works;
- to determine the extent, condition, function, relationships, character, quality of survival, importance and date of any archaeological remains affected by the proposed drainage works; and
- to record and recover any information relating to the construction/development of the church and churchyard.

6.5 The four trenches will be dug by hand, possibly with the assistance of the site contractors but if so always under the direct supervision of the archaeologists. The existing turf will be carefully stripped off and appropriately stored for subsequent reinstatement. Spoil will be positioned to one side of each trench so as to minimise land-take. All excavation will be by hand and exposed surfaces will be taken down in level spits until the required depth of excavation.

6.6 A sufficient sample of all archaeological features and deposits revealed will be excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to achieve the aims of the evaluation. The complete excavation of archaeological features is not regarded as necessary but a sufficient sample will be investigated in order to understand the stratigraphic sequence in each trench, down to naturally occurring deposits or the required depth of excavation; it may be necessary to extend the depth of excavation in parts of the trenches to more than 600mm if significant archaeological deposits are uncovered or to reach the foundations of the church's external wall faces. All archaeological recording, including any sampling for environmental deposits if required, will be sufficient and appropriate depending on the nature of the archaeological material being uncovered.

6.7 All excavated archaeological contexts (deposits, fills, cuts, structural remains etc) will be recorded by detailed written records giving details of location, composition, shape, dimensions, relationships, finds, samples, and cross-references to other elements of the record and other relevant contexts, in accordance with best industry practice and following EDAS recording guidelines. All contexts, and any small finds and samples from them, will be given unique identifying numbers.

- 6.8 A full written, drawn and photographic record will be made of all material and features revealed during the course of the excavations. The position of each trench relative to a plan of the church will be produced at a scale of 1:100 or 1:50. Individual trench plans will be completed at a scale of 1:50 or 1:20 (as appropriate), whilst section drawings will be at a scale of 1:10. All sections, plans and elevations will include spot-heights related to Ordnance Datum in metres as correct to two decimal places. Colour digital photographic records (10m megapixel resolution) will be taken, using appropriate scales and identifiers.
- 6.9 All bulk finds, defined as brick and tile, building materials, animal bone and shell, will be collected by context. They will also be washed and marked in a manner agreed with the receiving museum. Any marking and labelling will be indelible and irremovable by abrasion. The bulk finds will be appropriately bagged and boxed, and statistically recorded.
- 6.10 All non-modern artefacts recovered will be treated as small finds, will be recorded three dimensionally, and will be retained and removed from the site for processing and analysis. Non-modern artefacts will also be collected from the excavated topsoil and subsoil, where practicable. The following categories of finds may be predicted: pottery, ferrous and non-ferrous metalwork, glass, ceramic building materials, clay pipes, worked bone, flint and/or worked stone. Any artefacts recovered and retained from the evaluation will be packed and stored in the appropriate materials and conditions to ensure that minimal deterioration takes place. The guidelines laid out in the IFA Guidelines for Finds Work will be followed, and conservation work, if required, will be undertaken by approved conservators following UKIC guidelines (UKIC 1990).
- 6.11 Given that the trenches are being excavated in a churchyard, it is expected that human burials will be uncovered, although they may lie below the c.600mm depth of excavation. If this is the case, only the upper levels or grave cuts will be recorded in plan, and the burials will remain undisturbed. However, if shallow articulated burials are encountered, these will be screened from view and be carefully excavated, lifted, bagged (individual burials kept separate) and removed for safe storage until such time as reburial can be arranged by the church authorities in an alternative location within the churchyard. In accordance with current advice (EH/CoE 2005, 23), articulated burials will not be "chased" beyond the limits of the excavation. Small disarticulated and/or disturbed bones will also be gathered together for subsequent reburial. All human remains that are uncovered will be treated with due dignity. Given that any disturbed human remains (either articulated or disarticulated) will not be leaving the churchyard, no Ministry of Justice Burial Licence will be required.
- 6.12 The scale and nature of the proposed investigations suggest that a soil-sampling programme for the recovery of carbonised and waterlogged remains, vertebrate remains, molluscs and small artefactual material etc will not be necessary for this project. However, such a programme will be initiated should the need be identified. EDAS will also make provision for the recovery of samples suitable for scientific dating, as necessary. Any finds that fall within the purview of the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to H.M. Coroner according to the procedures outlined in the Act.
- 6.13 All trenches will be backfilled and reinstated immediately after excavation and recording has been completed, to avoid subsequent contamination and/or unauthorised public access. The areas of trenching will be left in a tidy and clean state on completion of the fieldwork programme.

- 6.14 On completion of the site work, a short summary interim note will be produced outlining the results of the excavations, supported by appropriate photographs and drawings. This will not be a formal report, but simply a note to inform the second phase of archaeological fieldwork.

### **Phase 2: Pre-development Recording**

- 6.15 In addition to the Phase 1 evaluation outlined above, a detailed and comprehensive photographic record will be made of the five table tombs which are to be dismantled and re-erected as part of the repair works. This photographic record will take place prior to any dismantling, and will include an appropriate written description. Colour digital photographs will be taken (10m megapixel resolution) of the tombs from all angles and square on to each face, using appropriate photographic scales. The photographic guidelines produced by English Heritage (2006, 10-12) will be followed, where appropriate.
- 6.16 The written description will include a ground plan of the tombs in relation to the church and adjacent path, any monumental inscriptions, and a photographic catalogue and plan showing the directions of shot. It is envisaged that the photographic record will also be used by the main contractors to assist with the subsequent rebuilding.
- 6.17 A photographic record and appropriate description will also be made of the west wall of the nave (both externally and internally), prior to any repairs, to produce a suitable pre-intervention survey.

### **Phase 3: Watching Brief During Development**

- 6.18 It should be noted that the methodology for the following phase of work may be altered or amended, depending on the results of the Phase 1 work above.
- 6.19 Depending on the requirements of the church authorities (Diocesan faculty currently pending), any marked burials may need to be exhumed and removed from the area of development in accordance with the wishes of any living relatives. Any unmarked burials uncovered by the works should be left *in situ* if at all possible and the scale and nature of the works adjusted accordingly to prevent disturbance, following appropriate instructions from the project architect (e.g. slight realignment of drainage trenches or reducing the depths of the soakaway pits). However, if disturbance to any articulated burials is necessary, they will be screened from view and be carefully excavated, lifted, bagged (individual burials kept separate) and removed for safe storage until such time as reburial can be arranged by the church authorities in an alternative location within the churchyard. As previously noted, in accordance with current advice (EH/CoE 2005, 23), articulated burials will not be “chased” beyond the limits of the excavation. Any small disarticulated and/or disturbed bones disturbed by the works will also be gathered together for subsequent reburial. All human remains that are uncovered will be treated with due dignity.
- 6.20 It is assumed that the main contractor will undertake all excavations within the churchyard by hand. However, if mechanical equipment is to be used, diggers should be fitted with a toothless bucket.

### *Drainage trenches and soakaways*

- 6.21 The new French Drain to be excavated around the base of the church, as well as the connecting drains to the soakaways and the soakaways themselves, will be subject to direct archaeological monitoring as they are being dug, so that any archaeological deposits that might be uncovered can be immediately identified and recorded.
- 6.22 If it becomes clear during the monitoring work that little of archaeological interest is likely to survive in specific parts of the site, the recording work may be halted in that part of the site. However, if structures, features or finds of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed, time will be allowed for the archaeologist to clean, assess, and quickly hand excavate, sample and record the archaeological remains, as necessary and appropriate to allow the archaeological material to be sufficiently characterised. Work will not be allowed to continue in the immediate vicinity of any archaeological remains until those remains have been recorded. As noted above, there is more potential for the discovery of articulated human remains in the three soakaway pits, which are to be 1.2m deep.
- 6.23 The recording methodology as set out for the Phase 1 evaluation work above will be followed for this watching brief work.

### *Other works in the churchyard*

- 6.24 An archaeological watching brief will also be carried out during the other proposed works in the churchyard, namely the dismantling of the chest tombs, any ground reducing or other levelling works, and the rebuilding of a section of the churchyard wall. This will ensure that any archaeological deposits that might be uncovered by these works can be immediately identified and recorded. The recording methodology as set out for the Phase 1 evaluation work above will be followed for this watching brief work.

### *West wall of the nave*

- 6.25 An archaeological watching brief will also be maintained during the repairs to the west wall of the nave, both internal and external. This will ensure that any structural remains that might be uncovered can be immediately identified and recorded. The recording methodology as set out for the Phase 1 evaluation work above will be followed for this watching brief work.

### **Phase 4: “As-built” Records**

- 6.26 Once the various repair works have been completed, a photographic record will be made, particularly of the rebuilt table tombs and the restored west wall of the nave and access path etc. This photographic record will follow the methodology outlined for the Phase 2 works, and the results will be incorporated into the survey report and archive.

### **Phase 5: Reporting**

#### *Project archive*

- 6.27 On completion of all the archaeological fieldwork, any samples taken will be processed and any finds will be cleaned, identified, assessed, spot dated, marked (if appropriate) and properly packaged and stored in accordance with the

requirements of national guidelines. The level of post-excavation analysis will be appropriate to the quality and quantity of the finds recovered, and specialists would be consulted as necessary.

- 6.28 A fully indexed and ordered field archive will be prepared, in accordance with published guidance (e.g. MGC 1994) and the requirements of the recipient museum. The archive will comprise primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs, and an index to the archive. With the exception of human remains and finds of treasure (as defined under the 1996 Treasure Act) (see above), all finds are the property of the landowner. However, it is generally expected that the finds will also be deposited with the site archive. A finds recovery and conservation strategy will be agreed in advance of the project commencing, and this will include contingency arrangements for artefacts of special significance. Any recording, marking and storage materials will be of archival quality, and recording systems will be compatible with the recipient museum.
- 6.29 Subject to the agreement of the landowner, the site archive will be deposited with any finds with Sheffield Museum. A copy of the Archive Index and the name of the recipient museum will also be sent to the South Yorkshire SMR.

#### *Reporting*

- 6.30 All of the artefacts, ecofacts and stratigraphic information recovered from the site investigations will be assessed as to their potential and significance for further analysis. If necessary, a post-excavation assessment will be undertaken, which will conform to the requirements defined by English Heritage (1991); if further post-excavation work is recommended, an outline research design will be prepared and costed.
- 6.31 Within ten weeks of the completion of the site work, a report on the site investigations will be produced. This report will include the following (as appropriate):
- A non-technical summary;
  - Site code/project number;
  - Planning reference number and SMR casework number;
  - Dates for fieldwork visits;
  - National grid reference;
  - A location plan, with scale;
  - A copy of the developer's plan showing the areas monitored;
  - Sections and plan drawings with ground level, Ordnance Datum and vertical and horizontal scales;
  - General site photographs, as well as photographs of any significant archaeological deposits or artefacts that are encountered;
  - A written description and analysis of the methods and results of the archaeological investigations, in the context of the known archaeology of the area;
  - Specialist artefact and environmental reports, as necessary.
- 6.32 Four copies of the final report will be supplied, for distribution to the PCC (client), the DAC, the project architect and the South Yorkshire SMR. A copy of the final report will also be included within the site archive.
- 6.33 EDAS also subscribe to English Heritage's OASIS (Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations) project, and all EDAS projects are fully OASIS

compliant. Prior to the start of the fieldwork, an OASIS online record will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form will be subsequently completed for submission to English Heritage. This will include an uploaded pdf version of the entire report.

### **Other Considerations**

#### *Health and Safety*

- 6.34 EDAS would comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974 while undertaking the work. A full copy of their Health and Safety Policy is available on request. All archaeological work on site will be carried out with due regard for all Health and Safety considerations, and Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological matters. As some of the recording work will be carried out at the same time as the main contractor's work, EDAS will also have regard for any constraints or restrictions imposed by the Main Contractor.
- 6.35 The archaeologists undertaking the investigations will be equipped with a mobile phone that will be switched on at all times during fieldwork operations to enable contact to be made between the site and other interested bodies.
- 6.36 EDAS will also undertake a Risk Assessment detailing project-specific Health and Safety requirements, which all members of staff are made aware of prior to on-site work commencing. This will take into account the location of the nearest Accident and Emergency Unit Department to the site, take precautionary measures for overhead and below-ground services, dangers to/from the public and the identification of potential dangers and risks to the archaeologists and approved visitors to the site during fieldwork and when the site is not in operation (e.g. evenings and weekends).

#### *Insurance*

- 6.37 The site is privately owned and EDAS would indemnify the landowner in respect of their legal liability for physical injury to persons or damage to property arising on site in connection with the archaeological investigations, to the extent of EDAS's Public Liability Insurance Cover (£5,000,000).

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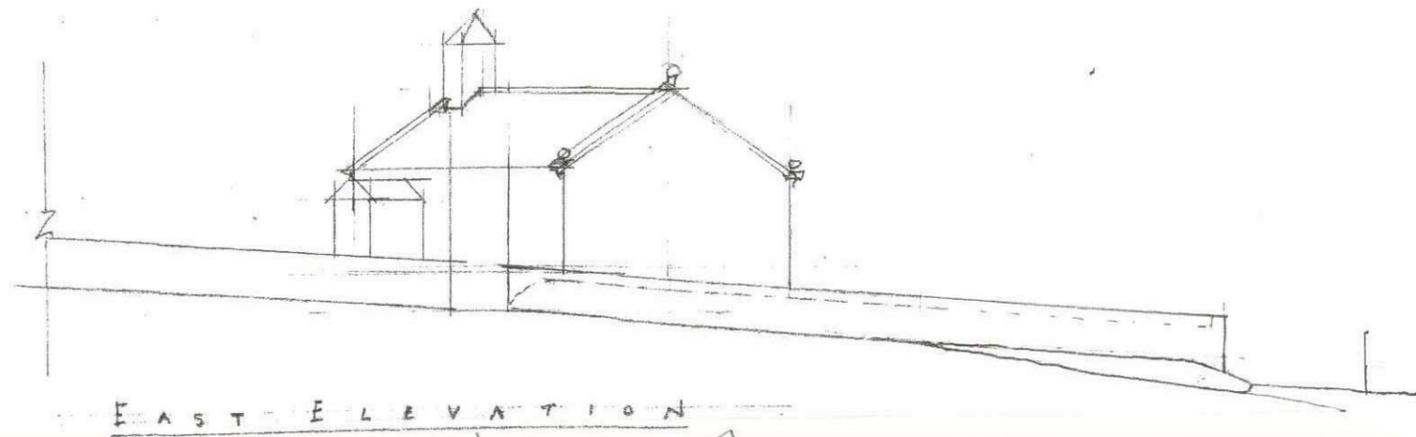
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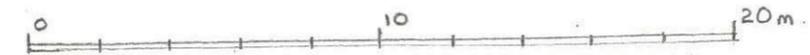
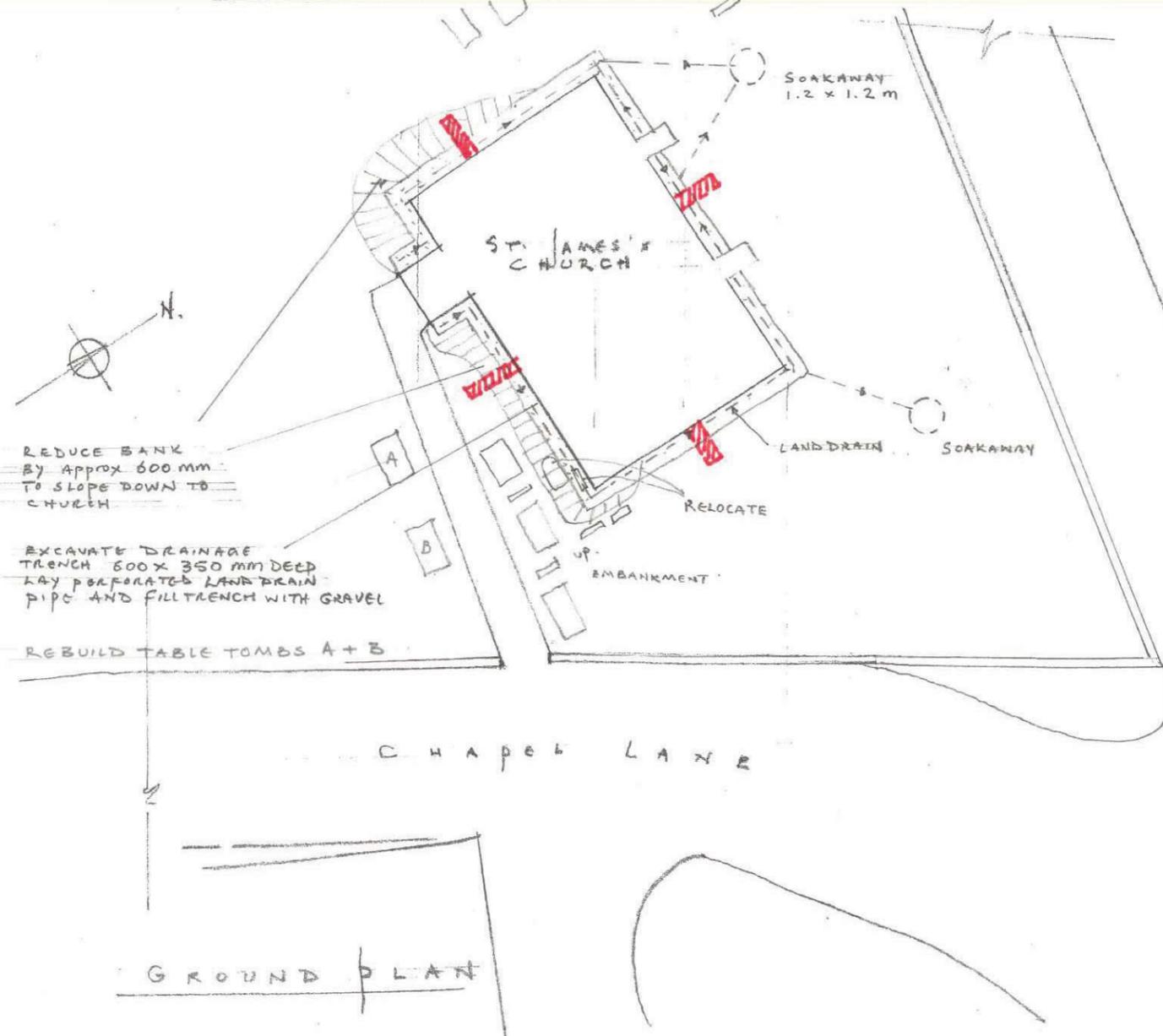
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AUG. 2009.  
 ARCHAEOLOGY  
 PROPOSED TRIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
 PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF FABRIC REPAIRS.

 EXCAVATE TRENCH  
 450 MM WIDE BY 600 MM DEEP.

PROPOSED DRAINAGE WORKS  
 NOV. 2006.



<b>St. James's Church MIDHOPESTONES</b>		
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Proposed Accessible WC Building		
Site Plan and Elevation as existing		
February' 09	1:200	Dwg. 2