

**St Mary's Church, Church Lane,
Witnesham, Suffolk**

Diocesan Faculty: 14329

HER Ref: WTN 033

Archaeological Monitoring Report

(© John Newman BA MCIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA)

(January 2017)

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Site details for HER

Name: St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Witnesham, Suffolk

Client: Witnesham PCC

Architects: Simon Merrett Architects Ltd

Diocese of St Edmundsbury

Local planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Faculty ref: 14329

Development: Major re-ordering including creation of an enclosed meeting area, kitchen and toilet at the west end of the church with related external trenching for services and a trench arch drain plus the creation of new and smaller base for the font

Date of fieldwork: 22 August, 20, 21 & 23 September and 21, 22, & 28 November, 2016

LBS ref: 1183185 (Grade I)

HER ref: WTN 033 (also WTN 016)

Event ref: ESF 24673

OASIS: johnnewm1-261488

Grid ref: TM 18002 50902

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Summary: Witnesham, St Mary's Church, Church Lane (WTN 033, TM 1800 5090) monitoring of ground works during a major re-ordering at the church to create an enclosed meeting space, kitchen and toilet revealed flint and mortar foundations for an earlier church structure in external services trenches at the west end of the standing church which is dated to the earlier 13th century. A small length of earlier flint and mortar foundation was also revealed on the north-eastern corner of the 19th century vestry. Works within the church were limited to a very shallow floor level reduction at the west end which remained in material of recent date and no burials were disturbed outside the church. It was also confirmed that the font base was of Post medieval date as it was removed to allow a smaller base to be constructed. In addition a small number of later Saxon and medieval pottery sherds were recovered from the upcast spoil of the external trenches (John Newman Archaeological Services for Witnesham PCC).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Simon Merrett Architects Ltd on behalf of Witnesham PCC commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological monitoring of ground works required under the faculty issued to allow major re-ordering works to be carried out at St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Witnesham (HER WTN 016). These works comprising the creation of an enclosed meeting space, kitchen and toilet at the west end of the church with associated external trenching works to bring services along the north side from the vestry to enter the structure in the west wall, the creation of a trench arch drain in a former path to the south-east of the church and the creation of a smaller font base to facilitate use of the west end. Initially JNAS was commissioned to produce a heritage statement to assess the potential impact of these works and how this might be mitigated and later a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was added to this document (Appendix II).

1.2 Witnesham is a medium village located to the north of Ipswich with the main settlement strung out along the B1077 and various farms and cottages scattered across the parish. In addition a small group of dwellings is located c300m to the west of the B1077 towards the western end of Church Lane and St Mary's Church is within in this group (see Fig. 1). Topographically St Mary's lies in a sheltered location just below the 35m OD contour on the eastern side of the upper reaches of the River Fynn. This cluster of dwellings at the western end of Church Lane close to St Mary's forming the historical core to Witnesham as confirmed both by the church and by the nearby rectory moat (HER WTN 001).

1.3 St Mary's Church is set back from Church Lane on its southern side within a large churchyard which was extended towards the lane in the later Post medieval period to provide an additional area for burials

1.4 The full listing description for St Mary's Church, which is of Grade I status, is included as Appendix II in the heritage statement. In summary the flint rubble structure is of 13th to 15th date with several alterations in the 19th century and it consists of a nave, chancel, south aisle and south-west tower over the porch. The vestry to the north of the chancel was added in 1868. With particular regard to the planned works Dickinson describes the clerestoried nave as being of 14th and 15th century date (1957, 375). He also describes the font, which is centrally placed towards the western end of the nave opposite the south door, as being 'recut....standing on a curious base' (ibid.) while the listing dates it to c1600. The church is also noteworthy for containing a painted panel depicting the arms of King Charles II and other boards of 19th century date with The Lord's Prayer, the Credence and the Ten Commandments in the nave.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 In total 7 site visits were made to monitor the various internal and external works with the majority being to examine the latter. During all of the monitoring visits site

visibility was good and was generally under dry weather conditions with the upcast spoil being examined visually on each occasion. To record the monitoring a number of digital images were taken (see Appendix I) and the exposed early church foundations were plotted onto the main architectural drawing.

2.2 While the original agreed scheme planned to put the trench arch drain under a path on the western edge of the churchyard this was seen as being too close to the adjacent property and therefore it was re-located to run along a former path to the south-east of the church that is shown on the grave plan and formerly ran towards the Manor House.

3. Results

3.1 The font base was initially investigated by the contractors and this confirmed that it comprised re-used ashlar blocks plus bricks of Post medieval date with the core of the large base being filled with loose flints.

3.2 Within the church the floor at the west end was only lowered by 200mm to form a raft base for the meeting space, kitchen and toilet area and this only exposed loose building debris of later 19th and earlier 20th century date mixed with numerous fragments of clinker. Towards the south-western corner of the church a 500mm by 600mm hole was knocked through the base of west wall to allow services to enter the building. The wall is 1000mm thick and made of flint rubble bonded with lime mortar.

3.3 At present electric and water enters the church close to the north-eastern corner of the vestry at the eastern end of the building. Therefore a 300mm wide and 400mm deep trench was mechanically excavated from this point along the north side of the church and then southwards to reach the hole created in the west wall to service the new facilities (see Fig. 2). This trench did not reveal any burials though occasional small fragments of human bone were visible in the upcast spoil and these were re-buried in the trench. However of more note a large flint and mortar foundation (0002 see Fig. 3) was revealed under the north-western corner of the standing church. This foundation (0002) was just below the grass cover in this area and is 1600mm wide on its north-south axis and 1100mm wide on the east-west axis and it ran under the adjacent west wall and north-western buttress. In addition a short, 1400mm long, length of flint and mortar foundation (0003) was revealed 1000mm to the north and this foundation clearly formed the north-western corner to an earlier structure. Both of these foundations were bonded with an orange-brown lime mortar with shell inclusions and both were left in situ with the service trench being taken a small distance to the west to achieve this preservation.

3.4 Towards the eastern end of the church another flint and mortar foundation (0004) was revealed in the service trench just outside the north-eastern corner of the vestry and while the eastern part of it was disturbed the remainder remains in situ. This

foundation was similar in character to those at the western end but is more difficult to characterise as only a narrow 2000mm long eastern edge to it was exposed.

3.5 The trench arch drain to the south-east of the church (see Fig. 2) was 17m long and 1100mm wide but only 400mm deep. At this depth the trench remained in the exposed mid brown clay subsoil below 250mm of topsoil. No burials were revealed though a few small fragments of human bone were visible in the upcast spoil in addition to two flint flakes of Neolithic to Bronze Age date and a few peg tile fragments.

3.6 A few small pottery sherds (0001) were recovered from the upcast spoil of the service trench and trench arch drain and these are described below.

4. The Pottery (Sue Anderson)

4.1 Nine sherds of pottery weighing 46g were collected as unstratified finds. Table 1 provides a summary catalogue of the finds.

Context	Fabric	No.	Wt/g	Description	Spotdate
0001	THET	1	9	rounded wedge rim of medium jar, 130mm diameter, 7% complete	11th c.
	THET	3	6	body sherds	L.9th-11th c.
	THET	1	16	base fragment, ?rural fabric	10th-11th c.
	EMWSS	1	4	base sherd, possibly Melton ware	L.11th-13th c.
	MCW	1	4	medium sandy body sherd, may be THET	12th-14th c.?
	GRIL	1	2	body sherd, green glazed internally, combed externally	L.14th-15th c.
	LMT?	1	5	narrow strap handle, wheelmade, poss THET but v fine and small	15th/16th c.?

Table 1. Ceramics catalogue.

Key: THET – Thetford-type ware; EMWSS – early medieval sparse shelly ware; MCW – medieval coarseware; GRIL – late Grimston glazed ware; LMT – late medieval and transitional.

4.2 Several fine greyware sherds, including a rim fragment, are pieces of Late Saxon Thetford-type ware. This may indicate settlement of this date close to the church. Sherds of early, high and late medieval date are also present. However, all sherds are small and only the Thetford-type rim sherd is a diagnostic piece. The fabrics are typical of the area, although late Grimston-type ware, made near King's Lynn, is not common this far south and it is possible that the fragment is a similar more local ware.

5. Conclusion

5.1 Within the church the ground disturbance at 200mm was superficial and it can be confirmed that no burials or any other deposits of archaeological significance were disturbed. In addition examination of the font base confirmed that it was of Post medieval date being made up of re-used materials and the removal of this base and the construction of a new, smaller, base should be seen as a benefit to the church.

5.2 While the external ground works were limited to a narrow service trench and a shallow trench arch drain the former revealed very interesting results with the flint and mortar foundations (0002 & 0003) on the north-western edge of the standing structure indicating evidence for an earlier masonry church. Whether the larger foundation at the west end (0002) could have been the base for an early, though small, tower is a possibility. With the present church being dated from the 13th century in its earliest existing phase the foundations (0002 & 0003) revealed at the west end must represent evidence for an earlier church in all probability of 11th to 12th century date. Whether an earlier, timber built, church existed at the site in the late Saxon period is likely though the Domesday Book of 1086 does not record a church in the parish but this does not preclude one existing at this time; however the early flint and mortar foundations revealed in the trench are more likely to be of post-conquest date. In this context it is interesting to note the presence of late 9th to 11th century sherds of Thetford type ware indicative of late Saxon settlement nearby.

5.3 The flint and mortar foundation (0004) revealed to the east of the vestry towards the eastern end of the church is more difficult to interpret as being 25m from the foundations (0002 & 0003) at the western it is unlikely to be directly associated. In addition as the vestry was constructed in the mid-19th century it is possible that this foundation (0004) represents evidence for a chapel or similar annex to the standing church that was demolished to make way for the vestry. In all likelihood the foundations (0002 & 0003) revealed at the west end and at the east end (0004) may well be of different stages of building work at the church; a structure with a long and complex building history which continues into the present with the recent works as it is modified to meet the needs of the current community as it has been changed in the past for successive generations.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to everyone on site from Duncan & Son and their contractors for their close cooperation, to Maddie Newman for processing the finds, to Sue Anderson for her specialist finds work and to Sue Holden for her illustration work)

Reference

Dickinson P G M 1957 'Suffolk: The Little Guide' 6th edition

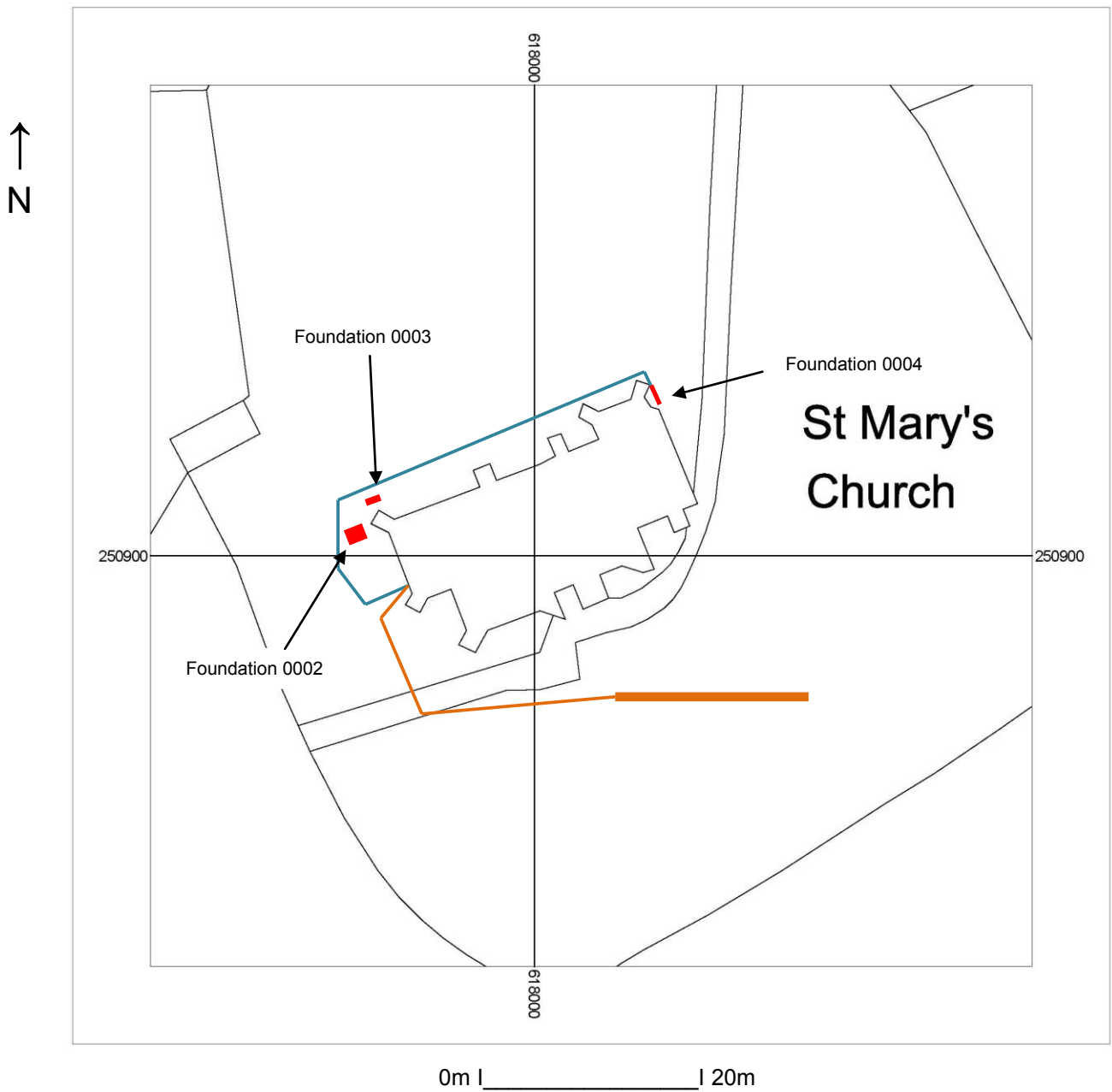


Fig. 2: Location of monitored areas (blue- service trench, brown- trench arch drain and trench, red- early flint and mortar foundations- see Fig. 3)

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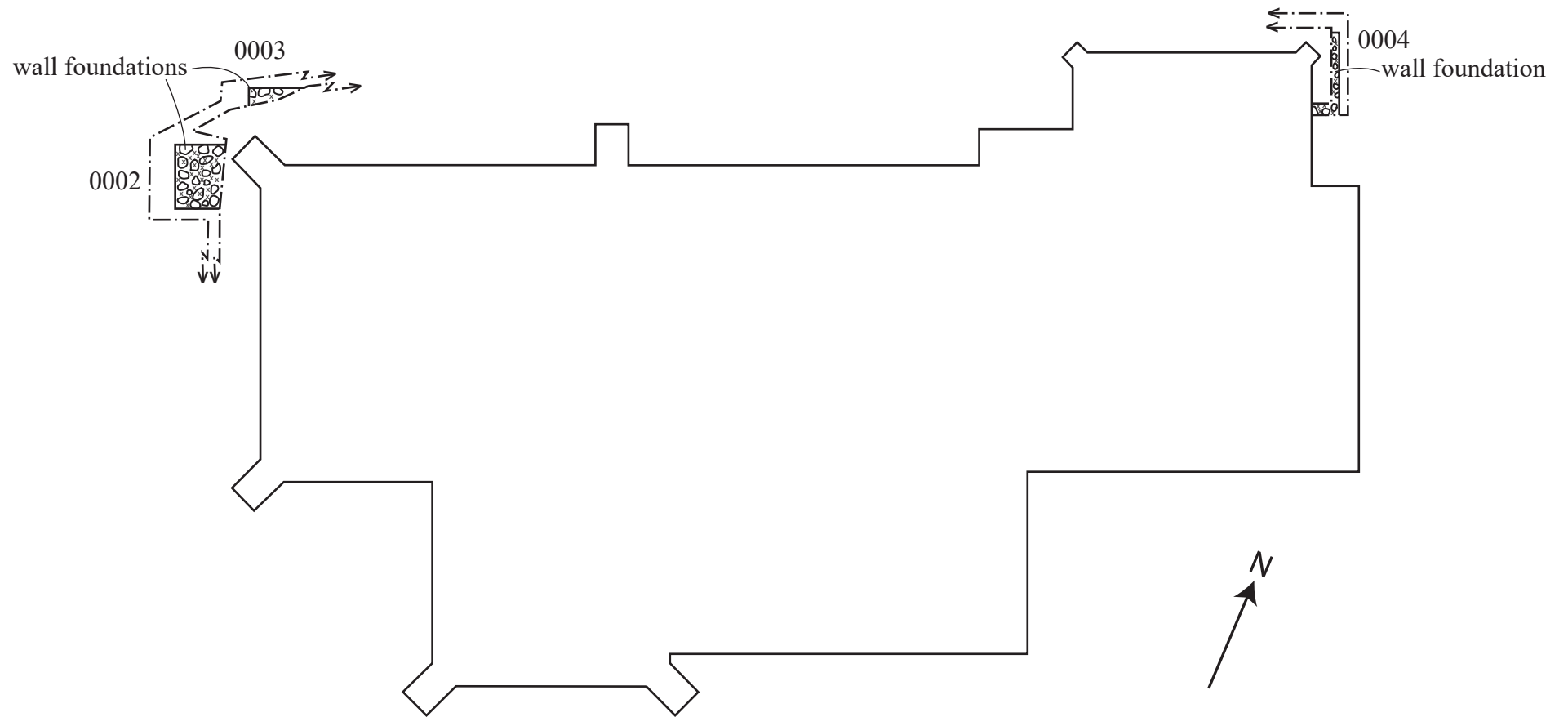


Fig. 3: Early wall foundations at the north-east and north-west corners of the church.



Appendix I- Images



Investigation of font base with loose flints in the core



Floor reduction at west end of the church



Early flint and mortar foundation 0002 at west end of the church



Early flint and mortar foundation 0003 to north-west of church



Trench arch drain from east



Pipe trench to south-west of church

**St Mary's Church, Church Lane
Witnesham, Suffolk**

**Heritage Statement
(Incorporating a WSI for monitoring)**

(© John Newman BA MCIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA)

(January 2014, revised August 2016)

(Tel: 01473 832896 Email: johnnewman2@btinternet.com)

Site details

Name: St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Winesham, Suffolk

Clients: Winesham PCC

Architect: Simon Merrett Architects Ltd

Diocese of St Edmundsbury

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Faculty ref: tbc

Listed building ref: 1183185 (Grade I, listed 25 January, 1985)

Suffolk CC HER ref: WTN 016

Grid ref: TM 18002 50903

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Appendix I- Images of site (taken 24 January, 2014)

Appendix II- Listed building description

Appendix III- Burial plot plan

Appendix IV- Methodology for monitoring

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Simon Merrett Architects Ltd, on behalf of their client Witnesham PCC, commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services to prepare a heritage statement to be submitted within the faculty submission for a proposed development at St Mary's Church, Church lane, Witnesham.

1.2 The proposed development is for the installation of an enclosed meeting space, kitchen facilities and toilet at the western end of the nave utilising the area immediately to the west of the south door into the porch. In addition it is proposed to move the font to a new location which at present is planned to be at the western end of the south aisle (during the consultation and faculty application process the proposed works at the western end of the church were reduced in scale, see below for the final plan).

1.3 This heritage statement will assess the probable impact of the planned works on heritage assets at the church and outline a mitigation strategy designed to allow the works to go ahead with a suitable level of archaeological monitoring and recording.

2. St Mary's Church- the site

(see also Appendix I- Images)

2.1 Witnesham is a medium village located to the north of Ipswich with the main settlement strung out along the B1077 and various farms and cottages scattered across the parish. In addition a small group of dwellings is located c300m to the west of the B1077 towards the western end of Church Lane and St Mary's Church is within in this group. Topographically St Mary's lies in a sheltered location just below the 35m OD contour on the eastern side of the upper reaches of the River Fynn. That this cluster of dwellings at the western end of Church Lane close to St Mary's forms the historical core to Witnesham is confirmed both by the church and by the nearby rectory moat (HER WTN 001).

2.2 St Mary's Church is set back from Church Lane on its southern side within a large churchyard which was extended towards the lane in the later Post medieval period to provide an additional area for burials and with regard to the churchyard it is useful to refer to the grave plan (see Appendix III).

2.3 The full listing description for St Mary's Church, which is of Grade I status, is included as Appendix II below. In summary the flint rubble structure is of 13th to 15th century date with several alterations in the 19th century and it consists of a nave, chancel, south aisle and south-west tower over the porch. The vestry to the north of the chancel was added in 1868. With particular regard to the planned works Dickinson describes the clerestoried nave as being of 14th and 15th century date (1957, 375). He also describes the font, which is centrally placed towards the western end of the nave opposite the south door, as being 'recut....standing on a curious base' (ibid.) while the listing dates it to c1600. The church is also noteworthy for containing a painted panel depicting the arms of King Charles II and other boards of 19th century date with The Lord's Prayer, the Credence and the Ten Commandments in the nave. Burials of medieval and later date maybe anticipated both within and outside the church.

3. Proposed works

3.1 Within the church the creation of an enclosed space at the western end of the nave has been planned to cause the minimum disturbance to the fabric that is possible while still creating the enclosed area for the required facilities of a meeting space, kitchen and toilet. The external appearance of the enclosed space has also been designed to be a sympathetic addition to the church and not to be obtrusive and this aspect of the scheme will be outlined in more elsewhere in the faculty submission.

3.2 To create the enclosed space the new internal structure will, in effect, be free standing and therefore the walls of the nave will be not disturbed apart from a low level drilled hole in the western wall to take the waste pipe from the kitchen and toilet and a smaller drilled hole for the water supply. At present the western end of the nave contains benches and these will be removed and the 19th century floor bricks below taken up before the area is lowered by 200/250mm to allow the laying of a new limecrete floor base. The only other excavation works within the church will be for a 600mm x 600mm x 600mm pad base at each end of the front (eastern) side of the new internal structure.

3.3 In the churchyard a trench arch drain for this scheme is planned to go under the path to the former rectory, which is to the west of the church, as this will place it in an area with a lower possibility to contain burials. The trench arch drain will be 1000mm wide by 400mm deep and up to 25m long. To connect the facilities with the drain c11m of 150mm wide trench will be excavated on a north-south alignment outside the west wall off the nave.

3.4 A water supply exists at the church on the north-eastern side of the vestry so a narrow trench will be required along the north side of the chancel and nave before turning south to reach the new facilities. This pipe will only be 25mm in diameter so the trench need only be 100mm wide at most.

3.5 To create an open space in front of the planned enclosed space it is proposed to move the font with the likely new location being at the western end of the south aisle. As noted in section 2.3 above the font is set on 'curious' base which is large and appears to re-use masonry from various sources so seems likely to be of more recent date. It should also be noted that the interior of the church, including the font, was recorded by NADFAS in 2008 though the author has not seen their report to date though St Mary's do possess a copy. Once moved this floor area would be reinstated to fit with the surrounding area though what will be found under the base is unknown.

3.6 Lighting within the church is problematic as the current lights are set very high up on the nave walls just below the roof line making bulb replacement difficult. Therefore it is planned to install more reliable unobtrusive LED type lights just below the clerestory windows.

4. Mitigation strategy

4.1 As noted in section 3.1 above the planned works are designed to cause minimal disturbance to the ground and fabric of the church with the external works placed in an area with a lower potential to contain burials.

4.2 Within the church floor lowering by 200/250mm is unlikely to disturb burials but may reveal evidence for earlier floor levels. It is therefore proposed that the area for the enclosed space be examined and cleaned by hand by an archaeologist once the benches have been removed and then that the floor lowering works be carried out by hand and be closely monitored with allowance to investigate and record any features or deposits of archaeological interest. Similarly the two 600mm x 600mm x 600mm pad pits should be monitored as they are excavated and any deposits or finds on significance be investigated and recorded.

4.3 Minimal disturbance to the west wall of the nave for the water pipe inlet and drain outlet can be achieved by the use of a good quality diamond drill.

4.4 The works for the trench arch drain will be the major external works. Therefore it would be prudent to combine initial machine excavation of the drain with a combination of close archaeological monitoring and allowance for reverting to hand excavation by the archaeologist should burials, or other features of interest, be revealed. Hand investigation and recording would then be commensurate with the features revealed with any undisturbed burials fully excavated and recorded, if they cannot be left in situ, before re-burial of any human bone within the churchyard.

4.5 The foul drain and water pipe trenches should be closely monitored by an archaeologist in order to record any archaeological deposits and finds and retrieve any disturbed human bone for later re-burial.

4.6 The font is set on an interesting base which appears to be of Post medieval date, it is therefore proposed that the font and base are recorded photographically with appropriate scales before it is moved. The area under the font should be examined by an archaeologist before the floor is re-laid.

4.7 Finally the findings from the various phases of monitoring should form the subject of a report to the standards set regionally in the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occ. Papers 14, 2003)* and nationally in *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001)*. The report should then be submitted to the relevant archaeological advisors to the Diocese and once approved deposited in the County HER and on the online OASIS grey literature library.

Reference

Dickinson P G M 1957 'Suffolk: The Little Guide' 6th edition

Appendix I- Images



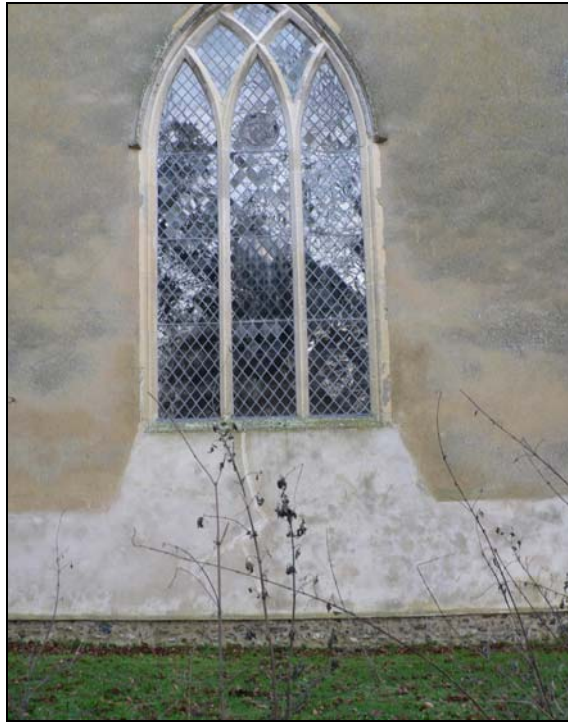
West end of the nave



Font from east



Font from south



West end of the church



West end of the church from the south



View to west along path to former rectory (proposed tank & baskets location)

Appendix II- Listed Building Description

TM 15 SE WITNESHAM CHURCH LANE

1/37 Church of St. Mary

- I

Church. Mediaeval; several alterations in C19, the main phase in 1845. Nave, chancel, south aisle, south-west tower with porch. Vestry added 1868. Flint rubble, mainly plastered apart from tower; freestone dressings. East chancel wall rebuilt c.1800, mainly of limestone rubble (the east window, in the Decorated style, was described as 'modern' by D.E. Davy in 1827. Nave roof slated, chancel roof plaintiled, aisle roof leaded. The plain south chancel doorway is probably C13; its C17 door has reused C14/C15 hinges and closing ring. Major alterations in early and mid C14; a number of Y-traceried windows and a large 3-light west window with intersecting tracery. 2-bay south aisle, the arcade having heavy capitals and bases; the 3-light east aisle window is flanked by image niches, and nearby is a piscina for a side-altar. Plain C14 north nave doorway (now blocked), and beside it and opposite a single-light window each with cusped head. Tower added mid C14 with crenellated and flush-work panelled parapets; 2-light belfry openings and lion-head gargoyles. The simple early C14 south doorway was reduced in size mid C14, and given a moulded stone frame; the door has original ironmongery, and cusped framing at the head. Over the outer doorway is a clock by Fordham 1737, and an earlier sundial (said to be of 1729). The nave walling was raised mid C15 and given 2-light clerestory windows; good 6-bay moulded hammerbeam roof with arch-braced high collars. The roof was ceiled below the collars in C17 with moulded plaster ribs. Good octagonal C15 limestone font with figures and shields on alternate faces of bowl, and animal sculpture around the stem; high octagonal plinth. Fine octagonal pulpit of c.1600 with carved and arcaded panels. Benches are mainly of c.1845 by Henry Ringham; a number at the west end have reused poppyhead standards from C15 benches, and a choir-stall also has a well-carved C15 end. On the nave walls are 13 panels with scriptural texts painted in early C18, directly onto the wall-plaster (there is one more in the chancel). On painted boards are The Lord's Prayer, Credence and Ten Commandments. Another panel is painted with the arms of King Charles II. 3 good early C19 wall tablets to Revd. John King and members of his family, and another to Philip Meadows of Bergersh House. In the chancel floor are 5 ledger slabs of C17 and C18, and in the nave floor a further 7. A fragment of C14 stained glass in the south-west nave window. Glass by Baillie, c.1846, in the east window, and by Ward and Hughes c.1873 in the nave.

Listing NGR: TM1800250903

Appendix III- Burial Plot Plan



Burial plot plan (north to right)

Appendix IV- Methodology for monitoring

1 The works to be monitored comprise:

- 1.1 The dismantling of the font base so a smaller base can be substituted.
- 1.2 The lowering of the floor at the western end of the church by c250mm so the floor for the new facilities can be at the same level as the nave floor.
- 1.3 The excavation of two c300mm x 300mm pad bases to support the front of the new facility.
- The creation of a hole in the west end of the church to take the drainage pipe.
- The excavation of a narrow trench to take a 100mm diameter pipe along the outside of the west wall to the path to the south-west of the church with a manhole where a change of alignment is required.
- The excavation of a 25m long by 1000mm wide and 400mm deep trench for the trench-arch drain under the path.

The necessity for an HER search for the area within 250m of the PDS to inform the reporting will be discussed with the relevant SCCAS Archaeological Officer once the results of the monitoring are known and commissioned if required.

5.2 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of contexts under an overall site HER and event numbers requested from SCCAS beforehand. All contexts will be numbered and finds recorded by context. Conventions compatible with the county HER will be used throughout the monitoring. Site plans will be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate and related to the proposed development, and sections at 1:10 or 1:20 (all on plastic drawing film) and related to OS map cover. Sections will be levelled to a datum OD. A photographic record of high resolution digital images will be made of the site and any exposed features.

5.3 As necessary and to define archaeological deposits exposed surfaces will be trowelled clean before recording and where possible any significant features, such as previous floor levels, will be left in situ. Archaeological deposits will be fully hand investigated and recorded within the required depths of the pipe trench and trench arch drain excavations with sections at appropriate points. Even if no archaeological deposits are revealed every effort will be made to gain a record of the natural occurring deposits and overburden that could help in the understanding of the general history of land use. Where appropriate 40 litre palaeoenvironmental samples will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and research agendas if relevant archaeological deposits

John Newman Archaeological Services

are revealed. If human burial evidence is revealed the SCC Archaeological Officer will be informed and if it cannot be left in situ excavation and recording will be carried out under the authority of the relevant faculty and the remains will be reburied at a suitable point within the churchyard. Any such work will incur an additional cost. The possibility of modifying the ground work design to leave any such remains in situ will also be examined (in this case the possibility of finding burials is assessed as being high though the burial plot plan does not show any in the area of the pipe trench and trench arch-drain and the works within the church will cause minimal ground disturbance).

5.4 All finds will be collected and processed unless any variation is agreed with the relevant SCC Archaeological Officer. Finds will be assessed by recognised period specialists and their interpretation will form an integral part of the overall report. Finds will be stored according to ICON guidelines with specialist advice/treatment sought for fragile ones. Every effort will be made to gain the deposit of the site finds to the SCC Archaeological Store under their relevant HER code and site numbering for future reference save human remains which, as indicated above, will be reburied within the churchyard. If this is not possible then the SCC Archaeological Officer will be consulted over any requirements for additional recording. Any discard policy will be discussed and agreed with the relevant Archaeological Officer at Suffolk CC.

5.5 An archive of all records and finds will be prepared consistent with the guidelines in *MoRPHE* and this will be deposited with the Suffolk CC HER within 6 months of working finishing on site under the relevant HER number. As necessary the site digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) within the agreed allowance for the monitoring and reporting works.

5.6 The monitoring report will be consistent with the principles in *MoRPHE* and this report will summarise the methodology employed and relate the archaeological record directly to the level of visibility allowed by the operation of plant given the nature of the underlying natural deposits. The report will also give an objective account of the deposits and stratigraphy recorded and finds recovered with an inventory of the latter. Any interpretation of the monitoring results will be clearly separated from the objective account of the monitoring and its results. The report will give a clear statement regarding the results of the site monitoring in relation to both the more detailed aims in section 2 above and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (EAA Occ. Papers 3, 8 & 24, 1997, 2000 & 2011) and local HER search results if required. An unbound draft copy of the report will be presented to the Archaeological Service at Suffolk CC within 3 months of the completion of the site works. Once accepted a bound hard copy and pdf version will be sent to the County HER in addition to a pdf version for the client for submission to the relevant LPA. The site monitoring will be registered on the OASIS online archaeological record before field work starts followed by submission of the final draft in .pdf format. An HER summary sheet will be completed and a summary prepared of any positive results for inclusion in the annual PSIAH round-up. The

John Newman Archaeological Services

reporting will be commensurate with the findings from the monitoring and at its most basic level will detail the location, circumstances and characteristics of the deposits exposed and any finds that are revealed.

6. Risk Assessment

6.1 Protective clothing will be worn on site (hard hat, high visibility vest/coat, steel-toe cap boots, and ear muffs if required). A safe working method will be agreed with the contractors on site in order to maximise access to disturbed ground and up cast spoil. Suitable clothing will be available to mitigate against extremes of weather.

6.2 Vehicles will be safely parked away from work areas and lines of access.

6.3 Before work on site starts any special requirements regarding potential site contamination will be discussed with the client's agent and any ground test reports examined. Gloves and hand wash/wipes be available and any information on possible ground contamination will be passed to finds and environmental specialists. The potential for services in the area will be discussed with the client and their contractor.

6.4 A fully charged mobile phone will be carried and a first aid kit will be taken to site.

6.5 Close liaison will be maintained with the contractor on site with regard to the depth and stability of the footing trenches and any potential health and safety considerations.

6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Towergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

7. Specialists

Conservation:	Conservation Services
Faunal remains:	J Curl (Sylvanus Archaeology)
Human remains:	S Anderson (Freelance)
Palaeoenvironmental samples:	V Fryer (Freelance)
Pre-historic flint:	S Bates (Freelance)
Pre-historic pottery:	S Percival (Freelance)
Post Roman ceramics & CBM:	S Anderson (Freelance)
Roman small finds:	N Crummy (Freelance)
Roman pottery & CBM	S Benfield (CAT)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS

St Mary's Church, Winesham

Description from NADFAS Record of Church Furnishings, 2005

(by Deben, Ipswich & Orwell Group)

'208a Font An octagonal bowl having four panels of winged angels holding blank shields alternating with four panels of blank shields hanging from a stud each panel with a tooled background and surrounded by a border of ten spaced fleurons. The hemispherical bowl is lead lined, 54cm x 29cm with a drain hole, having a plug soldered to the rim of the bowl. The haunch is in two sections at the top are eight cherubin heads at each corner with overlapping wings, below are eight fleurons sloping down to the a stem. Four lions serjant alternate with buttresses to the eight corners of the stem. The original base has many cracks with unusual buttress types at the corners and a semi-circular step on the west side.'

Freestone, lead cover oak, flat panelled 15th century

Bowl h 43.50cm & circum. 250cm Stem h 53cm

Base h 50cm & circum. 580cm Step h 20cm w 74cm d 48cm

Possibly defaced by Thoms Warren' (who was rector 1645-1698 'said to have destroyed hammer beam roof and font')

On second examination under better light base does look coherent rather than made up of re-used masonry but, as noted by NADFAS, it has many cracks. Perhaps this is due to a 17th century attempt to destroy it, however the font is in good condition and in fact appears to have relatively little sign of wear if it is of late medieval date and it seems odd if the base was damaged but the font was left untouched.

John Newman

14 February, 2014



Font from west



Font from south

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-261488

Project details

Project name	St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Winesham, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Winesham, St Mary's Church, Church Lane (WTN 033, TM 1800 5090) monitoring of ground works during a major re-ordering at the church to create an enclosed meeting space, kitchen and toilet revealed flint and mortar foundations for an earlier church structure in external services trenches at the west end of the standing church which is dated to the earlier 13th century. A small length of earlier flint and mortar foundation was also revealed on the north-eastern corner of the 19th century vestry. Works within the church were limited to a very shallow floor level reduction at the west end which remained in material of recent date and no burials were disturbed outside the church. It was also confirmed that the font base was of Post medieval date as it was removed to allow a smaller base to be constructed. In addition a small number of later Saxon and medieval pottery sherds were recovered from the upcast spoil of the external trenches.
Project dates	Start: 22-08-2016 End: 28-11-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	ESF 24673 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	WTN 033 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	1183185 - LBS No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 4 - Churchyard
Monument type	WALL Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Faculty jurisdiction
Project location	
Country	England

Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL WITNESHAM St MARY'S CHURCH, CHURCH LANE
Postcode	IP6 9JD
Study area	60 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 18002 50902 52.112856934072 1.18426340195 52 06 46 N 001 11 03 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 35m Max: 36m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	John Newman Archaeological Services
Project brief originator	Diocesan Archaeologist
Project design originator	John Newman
Project director/manager	John Newman
Project supervisor	John Newman
Type of sponsor/funding body	Parochial Church Council
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Landowner
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Digital Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Paper Contents	"Ceramics"
Paper Media available	"Plan","Report"
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Witnesham, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report

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