



St Martins Church, Liskeard, Cornwall, Archaeological Watching Brief

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

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St Martins Church, Liskeard, Cornwall

Archaeological Watching Brief

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The Project Manager was Dr Andrew Jones.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of Cornwall Archaeological Unit and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

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Cover illustration:

General view of interior of St Martin's church.

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Abbreviations

CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit
CIIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
OS	Ordnance Survey

1 Summary

This report documents the results of a watching brief carried out by Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) at St Martin's church, Liskeard in advance of the replacement of areas of the church floor and during the excavation of service trenches.

The archaeological recording was commissioned by St Martin's Church and was carried out between February and April 2018. The church is a Grade II* Listed Building of medieval origin and the remit of the archaeological watching brief was to look out for archaeological material and burials associated with earlier phases of the church.

During the groundworks disarticulated human bones were recorded within the make-up level beneath the existing floor and the tops of a number of grave cuts were revealed. In addition, six large granite blocks, which may have been pew supports, were uncovered.

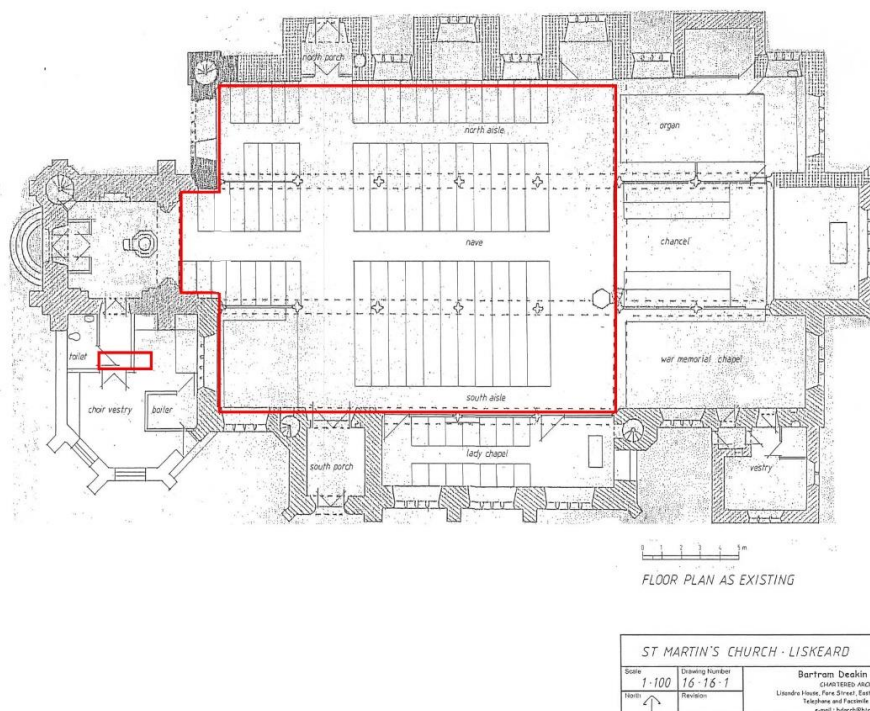


Figure 1: Site extent (floor to be lifted) outlined in red.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

In January 2018 Tony Piper, Churchwarden at St Martin’s Church, contacted Cornwall Archaeological unit (CAU) and requested a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological recording during the groundworks phase of floor renovation works at St Martins Church, Liskeard (SX 25405 64405) (Appendix 1). This was required as the church is a Grade II* Listed Building and has medieval origins.

CAU were commissioned to undertake the archaeological recording, which was carried out in February and March 2018 during the early phases of building works ahead of a new floor being installed as part of a wider church renovation programme being carried out in the first half of 2018. A plan of the floor area under investigation can be seen in Figure 1 (above). The floor surface to be removed is a combination of Terazzo in poor condition, crumbling in places, and carpeted wooden floor areas under the pews. In April 2018 a watching brief was carried out during service trenching.

2.2 Aims

The principal aim of the archaeological recording was to gain a better understanding of the archaeology of the project area in order:

- To ensure that the site works associated with the groundworks were carried out in such a way as to allow adequate recording.
- To record archaeological features and deposits affected by the scheme.
- To recover and record artefacts uncovered by the works.
- To disseminate the results of discoveries appropriately (this report).
- The project area had the potential to contain important buried archaeological deposits. The archaeological investigation therefore provided an opportunity to better understand the character and potential of this resource by recording sites and features affected by it.

2.3 Methods

2.3.1 Fieldwork

All groundworks which might potentially uncover archaeological features were undertaken under archaeological supervision. This included the excavation of footing and other activities which would result in the lowering of the current site levels, as well as the excavation of service trenches. Where archaeological features were revealed, they were cleaned up by hand to determine their significance prior to either their recording or continuing groundworks.

2.3.2 Post-fieldwork

This section is laid out in detail in the WSI for the Watching Brief (Appendix 1) but focuses on responsible and appropriate recording, treatment of any human remains and treatment of any finds or samples taken during the watching brief. It also outlines the creation of a site archive for any records (either paper or digital), and summarizes the basic contents of the resulting report produced after the completion of fieldwork (this report).

3 The site works

The project area lies within the walls of St Martins Church, Liskeard and consisted primarily of the floor area of the nave and the north and south aisles, where the existing floor was removed and the level of the whole floor area lowered by some 0.35m. A small area within the Choir Vestry and toilet area south of the tower was also disturbed by a new services trench. These areas are outlined in red in Figure 1.

4 Site history

The project area is situated within the St Martin's church, which is of medieval origin and a Grade II* Listed Building.

The Listed Building description reads as follows:

Parish church. Some reused Norman fragments, mostly C15 south chapel from 1428, south chancel aisle of 1430, additions to north from 1477, Norman tower repaired in 1675 of which the doorway and some Norman fragments are incorporated into the present 1903 tower by John Sampson of Liskeard; restored 1879 and 1890. Slatestone rubble walls, some granite ashlar, granite and freestone dressings; dry Delabole slate roofs behind embattled parapets. Large complex plan: 5-bay nave, 3-bay choir chancel, west tower, north aisle with chantry chapel projections south aisle, 3-bay Lady Chapel, north and south porches and two C20 vestries. 3-stage embattled tower with offset corner buttresses has 3-centred arched doorway inscribed 1627, otherwise 1903 with Perpendicular-style features including large west window and paired louvred bell-stage windows with linked hoodmoulds under a machicolated parapet cornice. Overall the church is 8 bays plus tower and except for C19 east windows to chancel and south aisle the windows are C15, most with original outer frame but with mullions and tracery partly or wholly replaced in the C19. There are 13 consecration crosses in various positions to north and south aisles and a sundial to east side of porch dated 1779. South elevation has weathered buttresses dividing the bays with angle buttresses at the corners. 2-storey porch has 4-centred arched doorway with quatrefoils to the spandrels; 2-light cinquefoil-headed window over which is flanked by empty statue niches but has smaller niche with statue above. North elevation is articulated by having alternate projecting bays with 4-light traceried windows to each bay. North porch has 4-centred arched doorway with similar 4-light windows over. INTERIOR: large lofty interior has plastered or lime-washed walls; C15 tall standard A (Pevsner) granite arcades with 4-centred arches: 5 bays flanking the nave; 2 bays flanking the choir and 3 bays between south aisle and the Lady Chapel. Arches to choir and east end of south aisle spring from moulded responds over reset carved Norman heads. C15 stone vaults to chantry chapels and chamfered rear arches to all windows. C19 waggon roofs. Some carved fragments of C15 waggon roofs are displayed in the Lady Chapel. Fittings: Norman font bowl set in E wall as stoup; C15 piscina to S aisle; C16 piscina to N aisle (E end); C16 font with large Gothic-style font cover of 1917; beautifully carved octagonal oak pulpit of 1636 by Peter Short; GR coat of arms 1747; nowy-headed painted panels with names of benefactors to N porch; pine pews of 1856; early C20 Gothic-style choir stalls, memorial parclose screens 1897; memorial benches with ends carved in

C16 style to Lady Chapel; altar by J Sampson with top of oak from Mount Hebron and front panels of olive wood from Gethsemane; freestone reredos with blind traceried panels and memorial windows with coloured glass to E end and to S except for one and to W end. Monuments include: resited chest tomb lid under reredos to Thomas Johnson d.1666 aged 57; monument to Dorothy, wife of Richard Roberts, Mayor of Liskeard, d.1697; marble, slate and freestone aedicule with crest to S wall of Lady Chapel to John Trehawk, d.1710 aged 32 and several wall monuments to chantry chapels including marble by Captain Thomas Byam Martin and officers of HMS Implacable to the memory of Lieutenant Joseph Hawkey, d.1809 aged 23; marble to Sophia Badley, d.1839, by Crocker of Plymouth; marble to John Marke of Woodhill Manor (qv), d.1823 aged 63 and to N wall a marble to Sedly Bastard Marke, son of John Marke, d.1855 aged 19. Except for Truro Cathedral one of the 3 largest churches in Cornwall, distinguished by its many chantry chapels erected at the expense of the various town guilds. (Kelly's Directory of Cornwall: Kelly: 1923-: 197; The Buildings of England: Pevsner N: Cornwall: London: 1951-1970: 103-4).

Little formal recording has been made of earlier features within the church, such as pews or floor construction. It was, however, known that the windows and roof were replaced in the 19th century, and it is likely that the Terazzo floor and current pew installation was done at the same time. The terrazzo making up the aisles and walkways between the pews whilst the pews themselves sat on suspended wooden planking.

5 Floor reduction: Archaeological results

Groundworks to remove the existing floor in the nave and north and south aisles began on February 12th, 2018. A mini digger with toothed bucket was used to lift and break the Terrazzo walkways in pieces and a mini dumper to remove material. A list of allocated contexts forms Appendix 2.

Upper floor surface

Figure 2 below shows a wider shot of the church floor to be removed with the terrazzo visible as a system of walk ways left after the wooden pews were removed and Figure 3 is a plan which shows the extent of the terrazzo.



Figure 2: General overview of the floor to be removed, looking east down the centre of the Nave.

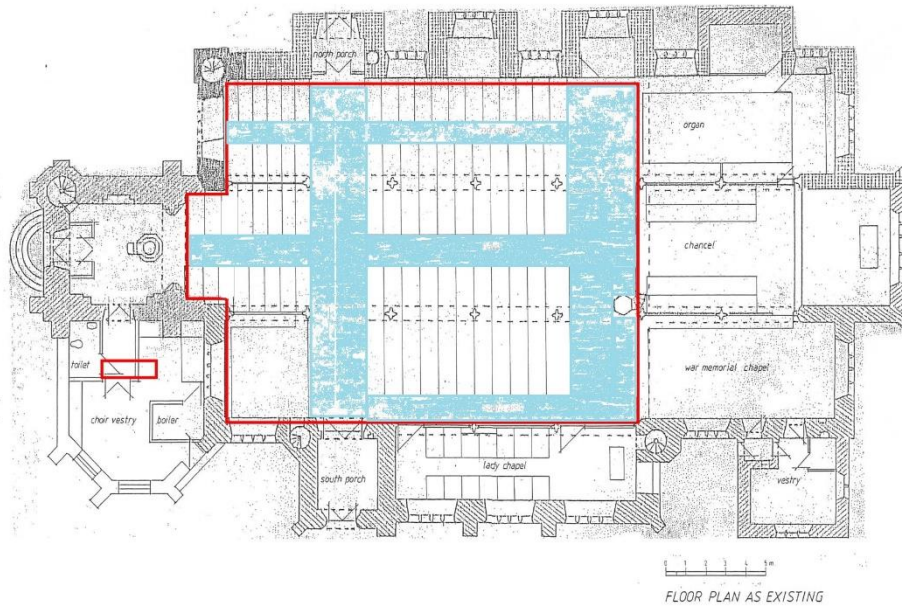


Figure 3: The extent of the terrazzo (1001), in blue. Pew areas correspond with lime screed (1005).

Figure 4 below shows a cross section of the terrazzo (1001), 0.03m thick, a coloured (red, black and white) concrete and marble chip polished surface and its underlying grey concrete and fine gravel bedding layer of approximately 0.09, thick (1002).



Figure 4: Terrazzo floor profile.

The areas between the terrazzo, effectively the pew areas in the plan (Fig 3), were filled with a thick layer of lime mortar screed (1005), a light yellowish grey compact but occasionally soft mortar of lime and coarse granite sand around 0.05m thick. It is likely that this layer was applied to the under-pew areas as a sealing layer above the dirt floor and a bedding layer for brick floor raisers placed at regular intervals across this layer to support the wooden planking of the pew bases.

Layer (1005) seems to have been laid at the same time as the terrazzo as it could be seen washing up the sides of the terrazzo in a few places and generally appeared to abut the terrazzo as opposed to it having been cut by the terrazzo. General detritus

from modern visitors to the church sat above this lime layer, buttons, tinsel and sequins, fluff, bits of wood and occasional nails from the pews and the odd tea light holder, all modern or 20th century in date. Most are likely to likely have fallen between the wooden planks during services.

In areas of the aisles particularly, depressions can be seen in this lime layer that may represent grave or crypt cuts beneath the layer, the fills of which have sunk over time (Fig 5).

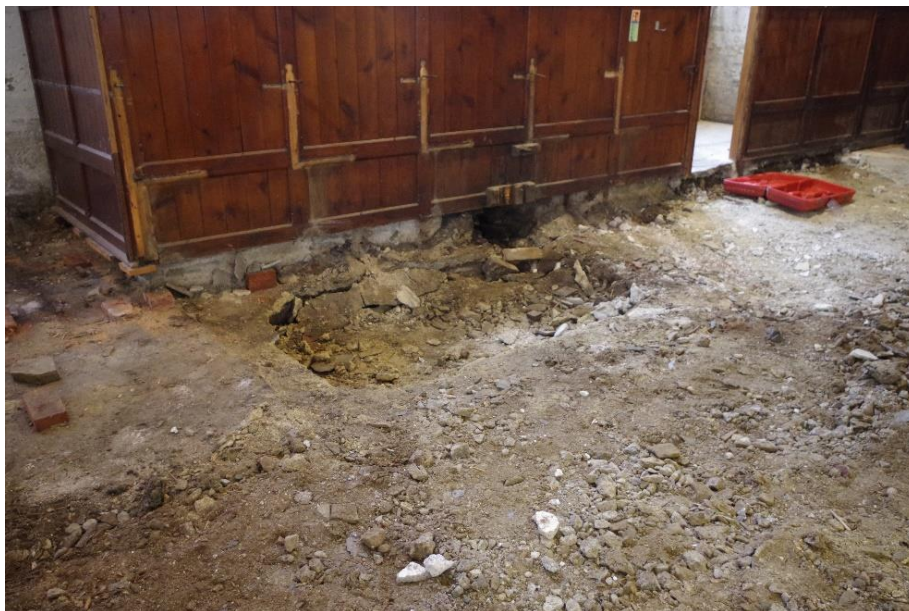


Figure 5: Depression in lime screed (1005), possibly the sunken fill of a crypt against the north wall, looking north east.

Once the terrazzo and concrete bedding layer (1001) and (1002), was lifted, the remains of the sub floor, a mixed layer of soil, bone and old building rubble (1003), and the patches of lime screed (1005) were excavated with a toothless grading bucket.

Subsoil layer (1003)

The subsoil layer (1003) appears to be a homogenised layer of soil from the church floor, light building rubble from previous building works comprising slate fragments, forged iron nails, small fragments of rotting wood, possibly from coffins, and the occasional piece of broken ceramic building material. Human bones from interments within the church had been mixed in within this material across the whole floor area. Most are in surprisingly good condition, probably due to the overlying lime screed (1005) neutralising acidity in the soil that might accelerate decay of bone. In addition to the bone, shards of medieval / post-medieval stained glass, pieces of broken medieval green glazed tile, three clay pipe stems and one corroded iron coffin handle were found. None of the artefacts or bones within layer (1003) appeared to have been *in situ*, rather a mix of disturbed material. The bottom of this layer was not reached at the 0.35m full depth of excavations. Although the finds from within this layer were sparse, the general scatter of bone suggest a levelling episode, possibly carried out in the 19th century ahead of the terrazzo floor being laid and pews installed. No known plan of previous in-church burials is in existence but there certainly would have been some, probably many, dating from the medieval period onwards. It is likely that evidence for surviving grave cuts have been obscured in the mixing of upper layer of (1003) but would be more obvious at a lower level than that which was attained during the works.

Figure 6 (below) shows a general shot of the nave looking east with the top of soil layer (1003) exposed and the lime screed (1005) in the foreground around feature [1004].



Figure 6: Soil layer (1003) looking east towards the chancel. Feature [1004] in the foreground.

All the disarticulated human bone disturbed during the removal of layer (1003) was gathered up (totalling five bin bags worth in volume) and reinterred by the vicar inside the church within grave cut 6 and crypt 3 prior to the new floor being laid (Fig 7).

As the soil layer (1003) was taken down to 0.35m depth, six grave cuts, three crypts and a series of squared and holed stones, possibly relating to earlier pews, were revealed. There are likely to be more grave cuts at a lower depth but within the remit for the current building works subject to the archaeological watching brief these remain undisturbed.

These features are discussed below and scans of original drawn plans can be seen in Appendix 3. Figure 7 (below) is a floor plan with locations for these features.

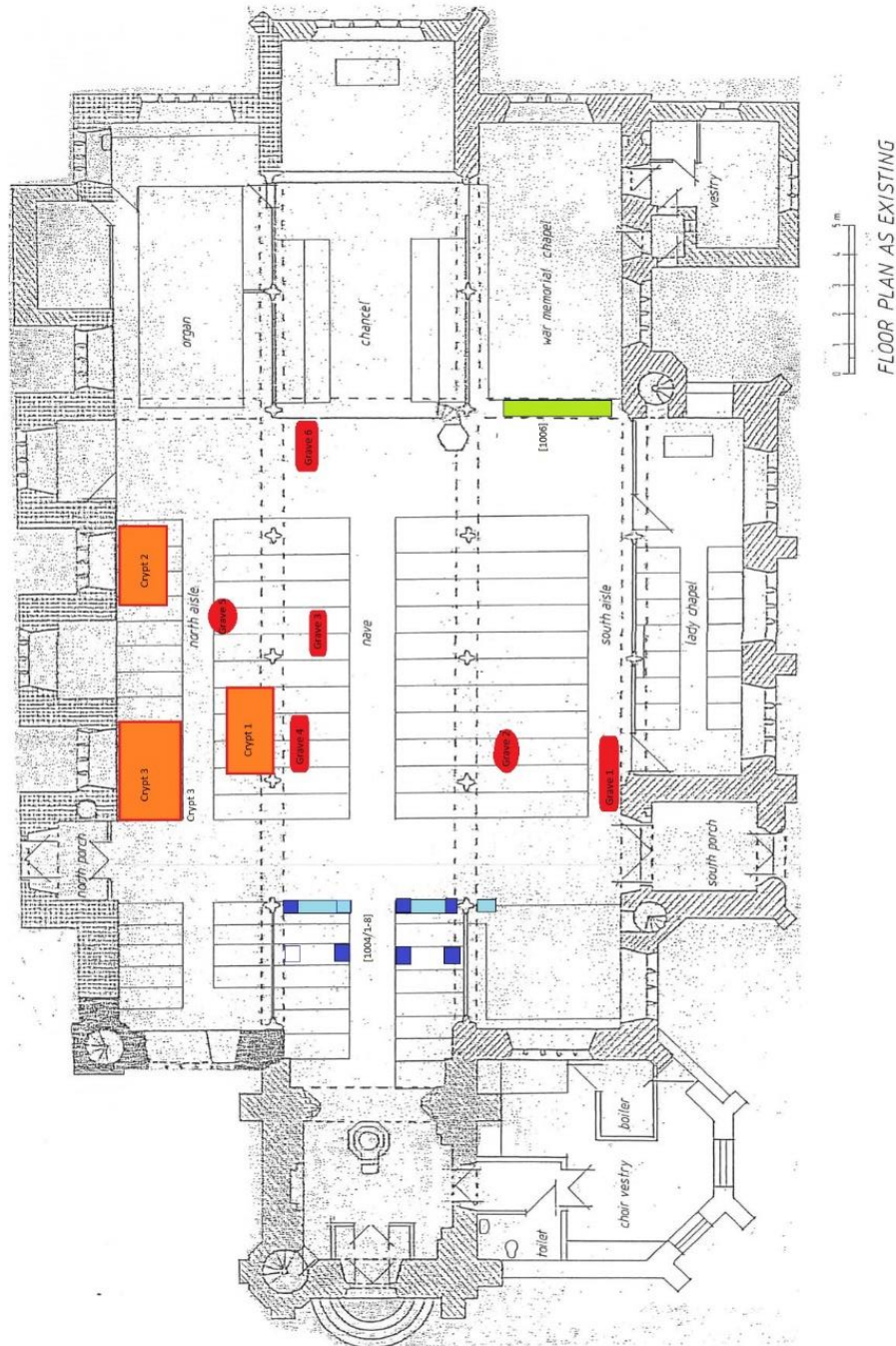


Figure 7: Floor plan with feature locations.

Graves/interments

Several grave cuts or *in situ* concentrations of bone were noted at the very base of excavations, these were not disturbed but the surfaces and fills recorded and locations noted (Fig 7).

Grave 1 [1107]/(1008) was located in the south aisle just inside and to the east of the south door. This grave cut can be clearly seen and has a surrounding edge of a single layer of flat irregular shaped slates pressed into the earth round the cut. The *in situ* bones of two individuals were seen in this grave (Fig 8). A small bone toggle was found on the surface of this grave, which is likely to be a cloth fastening of some sort.



Figure 8: Grave 1 looking south.

The stones along the south side of the grave cut had been removed previously, most likely to accommodate the iron gas pipe running along the southern side of the south aisle (visible in Fig 8). The grave interior, fill (1008), measured 1.83m by 0.7m and was similar in appearance to the surrounding soil layer (1003). The depth is unknown as only the top was exposed and it was not excavated. This grave is clearly intact, having not been disturbed by previous floor works and the bones within appear to be undisturbed. A bone pin was found in the fill. There is no evidence of a coffin or staining from such. It is possible these graves are medieval or late medieval, no other cuts noted have the stone edging. A drawing of the upper grave can be seen in Appendix 3.

Grave 2 (1010) comprised a jumbled and dense deposit of bones approximately 0.6m in diameter within a poorly defined fill in the south aisle, the top of which is of a level with the base of excavations. Deeper digging was not carried out to define a clear cut as this would have disturbed deliberately deposited remains unnecessarily. The fill was largely bones mixed in with what appeared to be (1003), and sitting within layer (1003), it is possible this hole relates to a deposit of bones reinterred during previous floor works when layer (1003) was created as there are an odd collection of long bones, more than would be found within a single skeleton (Fig 9).



Figure 9: Grave 2 looking west.

Grave 3, the top of a fill (1011) for a likely grave cut in the north aisle, was exposed during excavations. The upper surface of an apparently articulated skeleton was visible at this level (0.35m deep). The cut, or rather the exposed extent of the fill (1011), was measured at 0.6m wide by 1.5m long. Further excavation was not carried out to clearly define a cut but it appeared roughly rectangular. Small pieces of decayed wood were visible in this fill which was very similar to but slightly darker than the general floor layer (1003). The cut is likely to have held a post-medieval coffin burial.

Grave 4 was located in the nave. Its fill (1012) was exposed at base of excavations so it was not excavated to define a clear cut. The fill does, however, appear to be a sub-rectangular coffin shape (Fig 10), of similar but slightly darker hue to the wider floor surface (1003), a mid greyish brown gritty silt with small fragments of slate. This grave appears to be undisturbed and is 2.5m long by 0.85m wide at the 'shoulder'. It looks to be cut into natural (1009). No bones were visible within the upper surface of the fill. It is likely this is a post-medieval coffin burial with the head end pointing east.



Figure 10: Grave 4, looking west.

Grave 5, comprised layer (1019) a small collection of bones in the northern aisle exposed at base of excavations (Fig 11). No clear cut was evident and (1019) is very close in appearance to the surrounding layer (1003) within which it resides. No clear cut can be identified at this depth but the area of bone and looser soil is roughly 0.6m wide by 0.8m long, and aligned east-west. Bones could be seen within this fill and are likely *in situ* although a little jumbled. It is likely that this is a post-medieval grave.



Figure 11: Grave 5 looking west.

Grave 6 is located within the main aisle of the nave, where it abutted the northern side of the step to the chancel (Fig 12). Layer (1020) which was in the top of this feature was exposed at full depth of excavations for the new floor but voids were present. In order to ensure structural stability for the new floor, these had to be excavated and filled. A small number of post-medieval finds were recovered from layer (1020).



Figure 12: Grave 6 voids looking east towards chancel, pre excavation.

No distinct fill or cut could be discerned at this level but once stabilisation excavations started a lot of jumbled bones intermixed with layer (1003) were discovered. The full depth of excavation here was 0.6m below the general level of floor lowering. At this depth, a decayed articulated skeleton with decayed wood stained soil was observed although not excavated. This void was subsequently used to house half of the reinterred bones gathered during the general floor excavations (Fig 13, below) and three of the stones from feature [1004] (see below).

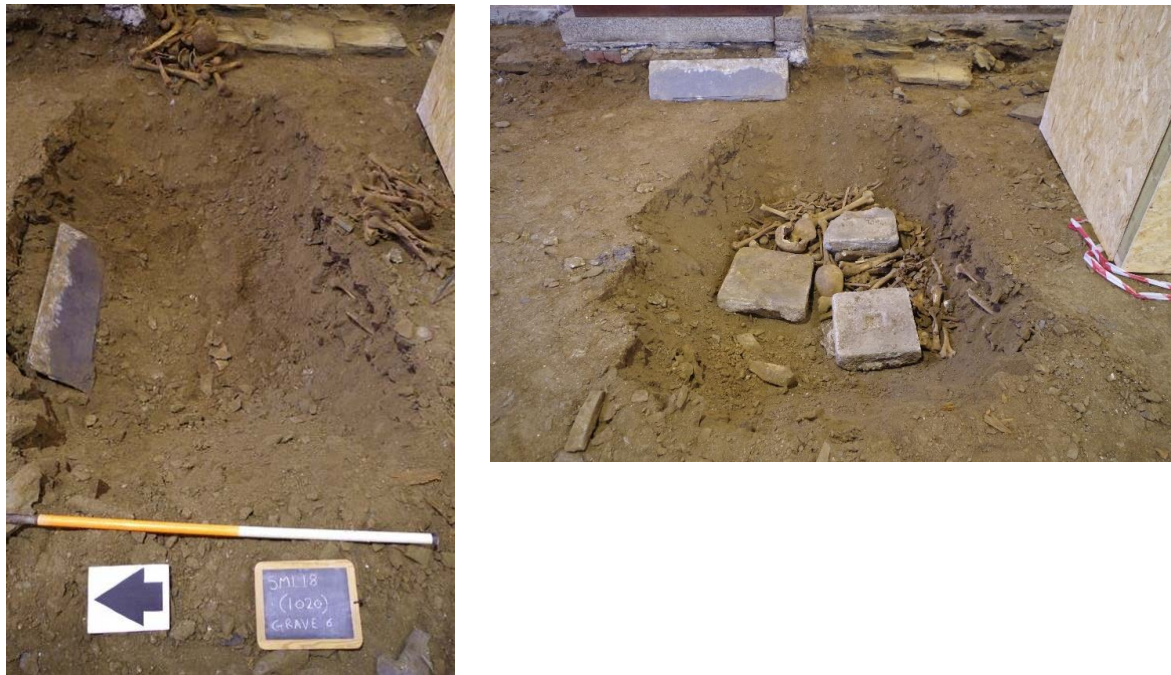


Figure 13: Excavated grave 6 (left) and reinterred bones and stones [1004/1/3/7] (right).

Crypt 1 [1013] / (1014) is located on the nave side of the north aisle and is a rectangular feature, aligned east-west (Fig 14). It is defined by a narrow wall of irregularly sized roughly rectangular pieces of mid blueish yellow slate joined with coarse granite sand lime mortar. The walling is a single thickness of stones, approximately 0.12m-0.2m wide, depth unknown but presumably the full depth of the cut for the crypt. The crypt is 1.85m wide by 2.45m long. The fill (1014) is a mid brown loose sandy silt, no bones are visible, quite similar to layer (1003) but less stone and fine rubble. This whole feature was overlain by lime screed layer (1005) which had sunk down over the feature. The upper layer of stones had to be removed down to 0.5m for engineering purposes, some 0.15m below the general depth of excavations. The upper course was recorded in plan (Appendix 3).



Figure 14: Crypt 1 looking west.

Crypt 2 [1015] / (1016) was very similar in appearance to crypt 1 and 3. It abuts the north wall of the north aisle and lies between two chantry chapels within this wall (Fig 15). Measuring 2.7m long by 1.83m wide this feature comprises a slate wall 0.15m–0.2m wide, a single course wide, and is likely to be the full depth of the crypt cut. The slate is blueish yellow and roughly cut into rectangular pieces of varying depths between 0.03m and 0.1m thick. Coarse lime mortar bonds the pieces of slate together.

The fill (1016) is similar to that in crypts 1 and 3; a finer version of floor layer (1003), a mid brown loose dry sandy silt with less slate and rubble and more lime mortar crumbs. No bones were noted and the top of the fill is of a level with the full depth of excavations (0.35m). This whole feature was overlain by lime screed layer (1005) which had sunk down over the feature.

The upper layer of stones had to be removed down to 0.5m for engineering purposes, approximately 0.15m below the general depth of excavations. The upper course was recorded in plan (see Appendix 3).



Figure 15: Crypt 2, looking north.

Crypt 3 [1017] / (1018) was a rectangular, east-west aligned crypt with a narrow yellow slate wall with coarse lime mortar lining it. As with crypt 2, it was located against the north wall of the northern aisle, just inside and to the east of the north door. The cut measured 2.7m long by 2.1m wide, making it the largest crypt. The depth is unknown but presumably it reached the bottom of the cut. The top of the fill, (1018), is similar to those found in crypts 1 and 2; a mid brown dry, loose sandy silt with few inclusions. This fill had a void in it which had to be excavated to depth for structural engineering reasons, this reached 0.64m below the general depth of excavations for the church floor works. No soil change or bones were noted. This void was used to reinter some of the bones found throughout layer (1003) during excavation works and three of the stones from feature [1004], stones 2, 4 and 6. Post-medieval pottery and shards of medieval/post-medieval glass were recovered (Appendix 2).

The excavated void and reinterred remains can be seen in Figure 16, a drawing of the upper course of stones was also made (Appendix 3).



Figure 16: Excavated void in crypt 3 (left) and reinterred stones [1004/2/4/6] and bones before reburial (right).




Possible early pew support feature [1004]





The feature [1004] comprised a series of square granite stone blocks and a line of slates (Fig 17). The latter appeared to be reused floor slates, sitting on top of several layers of rough slate and lime mortar, effectively a low wall or dividing step. This feature sits at the western end of the nave between and to the west of the two westernmost pillars along the edge of the nave and east of the tower.

The granite blocks also seem to have been reused, having in all likelihood served another function and then been reworked to a small degree to serve this secondary purpose. The granite type and workmanship is very dissimilar from the smooth pale ashlar granite of the current medieval church, being a darker, and is more yellowish brown and rougher surface finished material. The blocks are possibly associated with an earlier phase of church building or maybe the local castle (Tony Piper, pers comm.). All the blocks are roughly square in plan and have a square or circular depression carved into the centre of the upper face (Table 1). Some of these depressions have iron staining in the base. The stone blocks were laid out in a double row of eight, although two were missing, the settings for the two absent stones could still be seen. The stones were parallel to each other within the double row configuration. A plan showing the layout of these stones and the feature can be seen in Appendix 3. The stones within this feature sit within the lime screed layer (1005) which seems to have been applied around it, the feature itself having been left in place during previous floor works.



Figure 17: Feature [1004] overview looking north.

Stone number	Description	Image
[1004/1]	<p>0.37m by 0.34m and 0.2m deep, faced granite with a rough surface and a square hole on the uppermost surface in the centre 9cm by 8cm and 3cm deep. Abuts stone pillar and sits within the slate surface. This stone is about 1.6m north of stone 3 and east of stone 2. Buried in grave 6.</p>	
[1004/2]	<p>0.43m by 0.42m and 0.12m deep, this stone sits within the floor screed layer (1005). A square hole is in the centre of the upper surface and is 9cm by 10cm and 3cm deep. This stone sits 1.6m west of stone 1 and south of stone 4.</p> <p>The shape of this stone suggests a previous use in a doorway. It is the only stone to have a surface dressed to take mortar. Buried in crypt 3.</p>	
[1004/3]	<p>This stone is broken along the line of the terrazzo, probably to accommodate this floor surface when it was installed. 0.37m by 0.41m and 0.22m deep, a granite stone cut into a square shape with a circular hole in the centre of the upper face, 9cm in diameter and 2cm deep. This stone is about 1.6m north of stone 1 and east of stone 4.</p> <p>Once lifted, a trace of lime plaster was noted on the underside and some green pigment. Buried in grave 6.</p>	

<p>[1004/4]</p>	<p>0.36m by 0.38m and 0.12m deep, faced granite square with a round hole in the centre of the upper surface 8cm in diameter and 2cm deep. This stone sits on the southern side of the terrazzo central aisle and about 1.6m west of stone 3 and north of stone 2. Buried in crypt 3.</p>	
<p>[1004/5]</p>	<p>This stone is missing, probably removed to accommodate the terrazzo floor surface when it was installed as it would have been in the way of this. This stone would have been sitting within the line of slates at the east end of this feature.</p>	
<p>[1004/6]</p>	<p>0.37m by 0.37m by 0.2m deep with a round hole in the centre of the upper surface 8cm in diameter by 2cm deep. This stone is about 1.6m south of stone 8, north of stone 3 and west of stone 5. The underside of this stone is carved as for a window interior or mouldings.</p> <p>This stone was knocked loose during initial excavations. Buried in grave 6.</p>	
<p>[1004/7]</p>	<p>0.44m by 0.41m and 0.1m deep faced granite stone with a square hole in the centre of the upper surface 8cm by 9cm and 2cm deep.</p> <p>Buried in crypt 3.</p>	


<p>[1004/8]</p>	<p>This stone is missing although the setting within lime screed layer (1005) can be seen and beneath this were stones that it had been mounted on. This location is 1.6m west of stone 7 and the same distance to the north of stone 6.</p>	
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Table 1: Stone descriptions for [1004].

The stones were all in the way of the new floor so were recorded before being removed. The six granite stones were reburied within the church under the new floor by request of the Arch Deacon. These were buried in crypt 3 and grave 6 after they were opened up to deal with structural voids (see Figs 13 and 16).

It is thought that the even spacing and levelling of these stones in a double box formation, either side of what was the main aisle at the back of the church, may represent stands for a set of post-medieval pews. They may, however, originally have been associated with earlier medieval or post-medieval phases of the church. The stones have clearly been reused from another earlier phase of the building, possibly in a pre-aisled church.

Possible early floor surface [1006]

Exposed at a depth of about 0.15m and abutting the step into the war memorial chapel to the south of the chancel was a line of large flat slate paving slabs (Fig 18). The line of stones is 3.35m long by 0.76m wide. It is undated but it is possible that they are part of an earlier medieval church floor. The stones had to be removed in order for the new floor to be laid but were planned first.



Figure 18: Old floor surface [1006]. Looking south, war memorial floor to the east.

In addition to the features noted above, a lot of rusted iron pipes (which criss-crossed the floor) were identified. These are likely to be the remains of a previous heating system and be old gas pipes. In the far south west corner of the southern aisle under an area of recently poured concrete (apparently by parishioners some ten years previously), same as the floor in the war memorial chapel (Tony Piper, pers comm.), there was a void filled with fairly modern brick. Again, this is likely to relate to a previous heating system and was filled with brick to close the void prior to concrete pouring. This was numbered (1021) but not formally recorded (see Fig, 19 below).



Figure 19: Brick filled void (1021).

6 Chronology/dating evidence from the floor area

Working backwards from the current floor level, the terrazzo floor and wooden pew system that was replaced during the current building works to the church was reputedly installed in the nineteenth century although no firm date was recorded. This mixture of surfaces, the terrazzo and its bedding mix (1001) and (1002) and the lime screed underlying the pew areas (1005), are most likely contemporary. Underlying these surfaces is a layer of disturbed soil (1003), bone and fine rubble, this layer is deep, well-mixed but was not bottomed. Only the very top of a few graves / crypts were exposed at the depth required for the new floor (0.35m). This layer had very few finds within it but those that were noted included clay pipe stems and nineteenth century china, as well as some small pieces of earlier building materials, including medieval glazed tile and window glass (potassium based coloured glass and applied enamel paint). No modern materials were noted and this layer was effectively sealed beneath (1001)/(1002) and (1005). Iron roofing nails and bits of roof slate in this layer suggest that the layer, whilst possibly disturbed, was present or exposed when the roof was replaced in the nineteenth century and also that stained glass was removed either then or at an earlier date. Interestingly, the windows in the north aisle are largely nineteenth century, whilst the remainder are earlier in date.

The grave cuts and the crypts that cut through layer (1003) can probably be attributed to the post-medieval period as evidence for coffins were present in the form of voids or rotten wood fragments and some iron.

Little evidence of earlier medieval building features were recorded, although it is possible that floor surface remains [1006] and possible pew supports [1004] are related to the earlier interior layout of the building. Whether the components of the

features represent recycled material from an earlier building or original materials still *in situ* is hard to say but certainly no evidence of any structural element of earlier buildings was noted. Of the graves and crypts visible at depth of excavations, Grave 1 had the possibility to be of medieval date. They were notably different, in that the bones were undisturbed and more deteriorated than most. Unusually for most Cornish sites, the general condition of the bone was good, possibly as a result of the lime screed (1005) covering much of the floor ensuring favourable conditions for survival.

The results suggest that the majority of the floor was disturbed, including more recent post-medieval burials, and the whole surface levelled in the nineteenth century ahead of the terrazzo floor and pews being installed and forming the current widespread layer (1003). This process effectively removed or heavily disturbed the later or post-medieval interments within the body of the church. Whether these more recent graves themselves had damaged or disturbed earlier graves could not be determined but, given the long life of the church, it is likely to be the case. There is no doubt this (1003) is only the top layer of many and that deeper grave cuts will survive with older remains under this layer.

7 Service trenching: Archaeological results

By Ryan Smith

The final phase of groundworks at St Martin's Church requiring archaeological supervision was carried out on Thursday 5th April 2018. This stage comprised the excavation of three trenches (two in the choir vestry and one in the toilet) located in the south west corner of the church (Fig 20). The purpose of the trenches was to utilise an existing culvert (previously used as part of the old heating system) to run the water and waste pipes under the floor space.

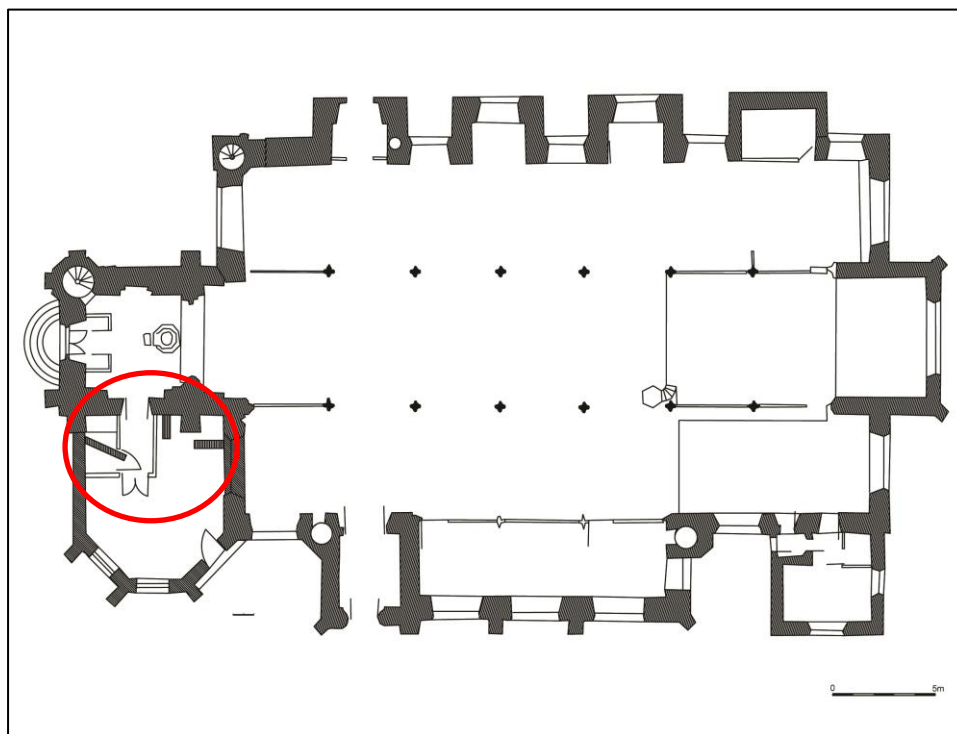


Figure 20: Plan of St Martin's Church Liskeard showing area of service trenches.

Prior to the arrival of the archaeologist all three trenches (Fig 21) had been prepared by a bladed cutter to remove the concrete floor (Fig 22). Excavations then began with Trench 1. Detailed context descriptions are given in Appendix 2.

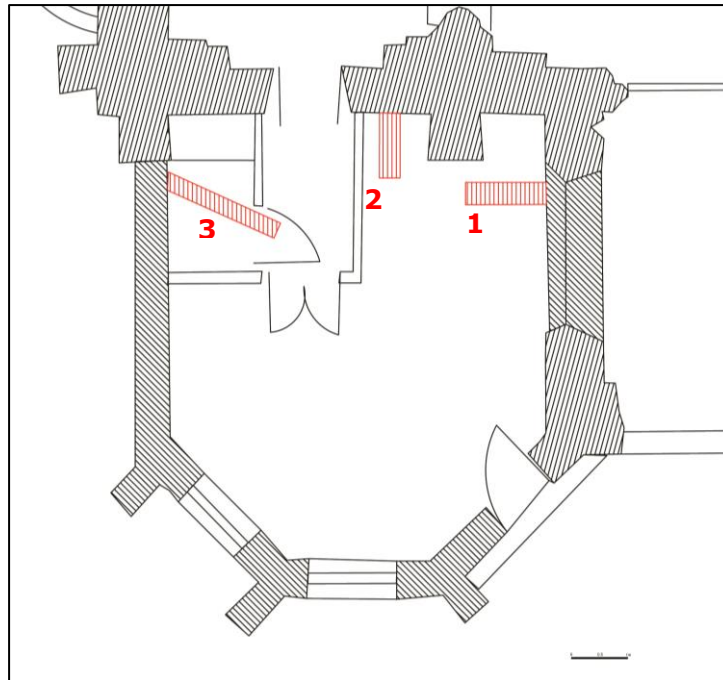


Figure 21: Plan of showing location of Trenches 1, 2 and 3.

Trench 1 (Figs 21, 22 and 23)

Trench 1 was located in the east corner of the choir vestry. The trench was oriented east-west and measured 1.44m long by 0.4m wide and 0.37m deep. Trench 1 was designed to join up with the culvert used by the earlier heating system to the west.

From top to bottom the stratigraphy was as follows:

Layer (2001) comprised a 0.1m thick layer of concrete, which appeared to have originally been covered by wooden floor tiles laid in a herring bone fashion. Variable in depth, the concrete appeared to be a fine mix and was modern in appearance.

Layer (2002) was 0.11m thick and consisted of a loose dark brownish black loose soil containing building rubble and appeared to be bedding for the cement floor. The demolition rubble comprised fragments of slate and granite intermixed with sedimentary stone.

Layer (2003) consisted of dark reddish brown soil containing large amounts of demolition material, which included pieces of roofing slate, granite and other stone, a clay pipe fragment, and a sherd of modern pottery. At the west end of the trench was a length of rough slate (not floor slates) which may have been part of the foundation course of a nearby wall.



Figure 22: Trenches 2 and 1 prior to excavation. Looking north.



Figure 23: Trench 1, south facing section.

Trench 2 (Figs 21, 22 and 24)

Trench 2 was located 0.54m west of the south facing column in the choir vestry. It was orientated north to south and measured 1.16m long by 0.37m wide and 0.47m deep.

From top to bottom the stratigraphy was as follows:

The concrete floor was the same as (2001) in Trench 1.

Layer (2004) was 0.1m deep and similar to (2002) in Trench 1. It comprised a mixture of larger stones and fragments of slate and broken granite. The layer was intermixed

with (2005), a dark reddish brown soil containing larger stones and demolition rubble, comprising fragments of granite stones, roofing slate fragments and pieces of lime ash. A small number of post-medieval artefacts were also recovered. The north end of the trench also contained small fragments of disarticulated bone. The stones within the deposit had small cavities between them which is consistent with disturbed ground and backfilling.

A third possible layer (2006) was a mixture of mid greyish soil and grit, again containing some larger pieces of stone and demolition rubble. It may not really be distinct from (2005), and could have resulted from foundation material being dumped into this area of the trench (note the close proximity of the column and new annexe walls).



Figure 24: Trench 2, east facing section.

Trench 3 (Figs 21 and 25)

Trench 3 was located in the toilet, in the northwest corner of the choir vestry. The trench was orientated northwest to southeast and measured 2.2m long by 0.3m wide, and was 0.53m deep.

From top to bottom the stratigraphy was as follows:

The concrete floor was the same as (2001) in Trench 1 and Trench 2.

Layer (2007) was a loose dark reddish brown soil and stone mixture with demolition rubble, which was similar to layers (2005) and (2006) in Trench 2. The north west end of the trench produced fragments of bone, again however, these appeared to be scattered and did not form any recognisable pattern.

The pipe at the north west end of the trench was plastic and descended into the ground along with a water pipe, implying this area has already been disturbed at least once in recent history.



Figure 25: Trench 3, northeast facing section.

Summary

The area into which the services trenches had been excavated had been disturbed on at least three previous occasions, during the construction and refurbishment of the church and the building of the annexe (which the choir vestry forms part of), again during the installation of the boiler/heating system and most recently by the installation of a toilet.

8 Conclusions/discussion

The depth of excavations during building works on the church floor was 0.35m, for the most part, only the more recent floor and the disturbed subsoil layer (1003) were encountered during the ground reduction. The base of this subsoil layer was not reached and there is potential for further remains to be preserved beneath the excavated level. The features that were recorded during monitoring works were mostly of post-medieval date. Six grave cuts, only the top of which were recorded, are likely to be post-medieval, apart from one which is possibly earlier (grave 1). The three crypts are again likely to be post-medieval. One floor surface remnant may relate to the earlier medieval church and the possible pew supports, which whilst possibly not themselves of medieval date certainly predate the nineteenth century renovation works and were constructed from stones from an earlier phase of the building.

The depth of excavation for the three services trenches in the south west corner of the church was a little deeper reaching a depth of up to 0.53m. However, the areas affected by the trenching were small and the ground was found to be disturbed and no *in situ* burials or archaeological features were encountered.

All findings point towards wide scale renovation work in the nineteenth century which obliterated any evidence of medieval features within the upper portion of the floor. It is possible that lower down in the stratigraphy, unattained during this phase of works, earlier evidence still remains.

9 Recommendations

Whilst few features were disturbed during excavations, there is potential for further remains at a lower level, especially graves, within the body of the church. Any future works involving ground disturbance should be archaeologically monitored.

10 References

Historic England. HERef_PA00445839_L273862.doc.docx

[http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/Online database of Sites and Monuments Records, and Listed Buildings](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/Online%20database%20of%20Sites%20and%20Monuments%20Records,%20and%20Listed%20Buildings)

11 Project archive

The CAU project number is **146765**

The project's documentary, digital, photographic and drawn archive is maintained by Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Electronic data is stored in the following locations:

Project admin: \\CAU\ X:\Live Projects\Liskeard St Martin's Church

Digital photographs: \\CAU\ X:\Live Projects\Liskeard St Martin's Church\Images

Drawings: GRE 908/1-3

Appendix 1: Written Scheme of Investigation

St Martin's Church, Liskeard

Client: St Martins Church

Client contact: Tony Piper

Client tel: 01579 342640

Client email: tony.piper1@btinternet.com

Project background

This document sets out a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) by Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) for a programme of archaeological investigation ahead of the replacement of areas of the church floor St Martin's Church, Liskeard (SX 25405 64405) (Fig 1). The work has been requested by St Martin's Church Liskeard.

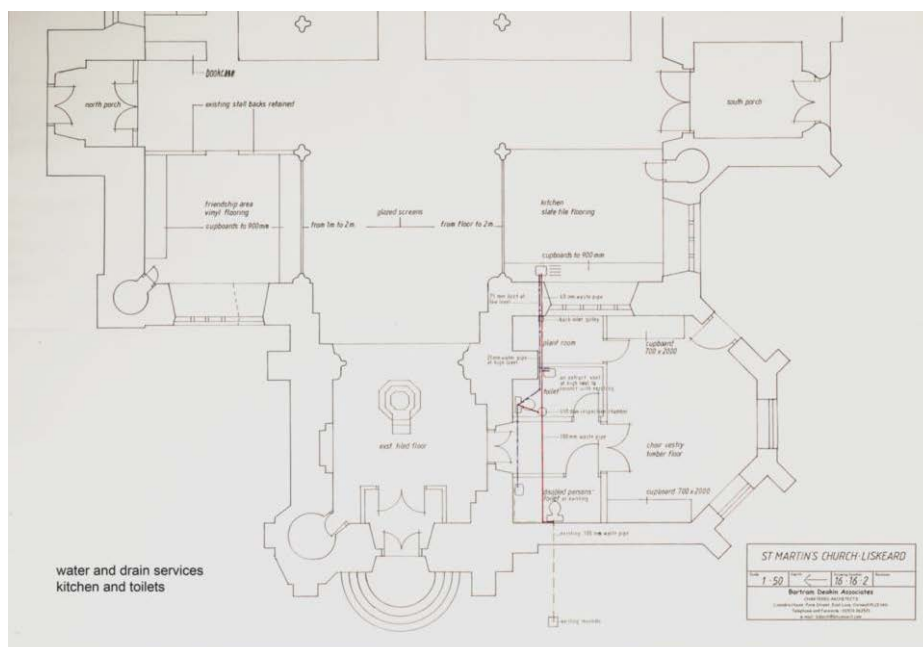


Figure 1: Site location map.

Site history

The project area is situated within the St Martin's church, which is of medieval origin and a Grade II* Listed Building. In light of this there is high potential for the recovery of archaeological material and burials associated with earlier phases of the church.

The Listed Building description reads as follows:

Parish church. Some reused Norman fragments, mostly C15 south chapel from 1428, south chancel aisle of 1430, additions to north from 1477, Norman tower repaired in 1675 of which the doorway and some Norman fragments are incorporated into the present 1903 tower by John Sampson of Liskeard; restored 1879 and 1890. Slatestone rubble walls, some granite ashlar, granite and freestone dressings; dry Delabole slate roofs behind embattled parapets. Large complex plan: 5-bay nave, 3-bay choir chancel, west tower, north aisle with chantry chapel projections south aisle, 3-bay Lady Chapel, north and south porches and two C20 vestries. 3-stage embattled tower with offset corner buttresses has 3-centred arched doorway inscribed 1627, otherwise 1903 with Perpendicular-style features including large west window and paired louvred bell-stage windows with linked hoodmoulds under a machicolated parapet cornice. Overall the church is 8 bays plus tower and except for C19 east windows to chancel and south aisle the windows are C15, most with original outer frame but with mullions and tracery partly or wholly replaced in the C19. There are 13 consecration crosses in various positions to north and south aisles and a sundial to east side of porch dated 1779. South elevation has weathered buttresses dividing the bays with angle buttresses at the corners. 2-

storey porch has 4-centred arched doorway with quatrefoils to the spandrels; 2-light cinquefoil-headed window over which is flanked by empty statue niches but has smaller niche with statue above. North elevation is articulated by having alternate projecting bays with 4-light traceried windows to each bay. North porch has 4-centred arched doorway with similar 4-light windows over. INTERIOR: large lofty interior has plastered or lime-washed walls; C15 tall standard A (Pevsner) granite arcades with 4-centred arches: 5 bays flanking the nave; 2 bays flanking the choir and 3 bays between south aisle and the Lady Chapel. Arches to choir and east end of south aisle spring from moulded responds over reset carved Norman heads. C15 stone vaults to chantry chapels and chamfered rear arches to all windows. C19 waggon roofs. Some carved fragments of C15 waggon roofs are displayed in the Lady Chapel. Fittings: Norman font bowl set in E wall as stoup; C15 piscina to S aisle; C16 piscina to N aisle (E end); C16 font with large Gothic-style font cover of 1917; beautifully carved octagonal oak pulpit of 1636 by Peter Short; GR coat of arms 1747; nowy-headed painted panels with names of benefactors to N porch; pine pews of 1856; early C20 Gothic-style choir stalls, memorial parclose screens 1897; memorial benches with ends carved in C16 style to Lady Chapel; altar by J Sampson with top of oak from Mount Hebron and front panels of olive wood from Gethsemane; freestone reredos with blind traceried panels and memorial windows with coloured glass to E end and to S except for one and to W end. Monuments include: resited chest tomb lid under reredos to Thomas Johnson d.1666 aged 57; monument to Dorothy, wife of Richard Roberts, Mayor of Liskeard, d.1697; marble, slate and freestone aedicule with crest to S wall of Lady Chapel to John Trehawk, d.1710 aged 32 and several wall monuments to chantry chapels including marble by Captain Thomas Byam Martin and officers of HMS Implacable to the memory of Lieutenant Joseph Hawkey, d.1809 aged 23; marble to Sophia Badley, d.1839, by Crocker of Plymouth; marble to John Marke of Woodhill Manor (qv), d.1823 aged 63 and to N wall a marble to Sedly Bastard Marke, son of John Marke, d.1855 aged 19. Except for Truro Cathedral one of the 3 largest churches in Cornwall, distinguished by its many chantry chapels erected at the expense of the various town guilds. (Kelly's Directory of Cornwall: Kelly: 1923-: 197; The Buildings of England: Pevsner N: Cornwall: London: 1951-1970: 103-4).

Known archaeological sites

Additional sites in the immediate vicinity, identified in the Historic Environment Record, include:

- Medieval cross (MCO5231). Culverland Cross, a latin cross of granite was removed from Versoe or Venslloe in 1908 and now stands in Liskeard churchyard. It is a Scheduled Monument (DCO821).
- Medieval Cross (MCO5912). Ten creek Cross, a latin cross, was moved to the churchyard and is situated 3.5m south east of the church. It is a Scheduled Monument (DCO820).

Aims and objectives

The principal aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the archaeology of the project area in order to:

- To ensure that the site works associated with the groundworks are carried out in such a way as to allow adequate recording.
- To record archaeological features and deposits affected by the scheme.
- To recover and record artefacts uncovered by the works.
- To disseminate the results of discoveries appropriately.
- The project area has the potential to contain important buried archaeological deposits. The archaeological investigation therefore provides an opportunity to better understand the character and potential of this resource by recording sites and features affected by it.

Key objective is:

To locate and record any medieval remains which survive within the project area.

Working methods

All recording work will be undertaken according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) guidance (CIfA 2014a, 2014b, 2014c, 2017). Staff will follow the CIfA *Code of Conduct* (2014d). The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists is the professional body for archaeologists working in the UK.

Pre-fieldwork

In advance of the fieldwork CAU will discuss and agree with the client:

- Working methods and programme.
- Health and Safety issues and requirements.
- Transfer of Title for artefacts.
- Obtaining an accession number from the appropriate archive repository.

Fieldwork: watching brief

An archaeological watching brief is required on the site during groundworks. This work will be guided by CIfA's guidance on undertaking watching briefs (CIfA 2014b).

All groundworks which might potentially uncover archaeological features will be undertaken under archaeological supervision. This will include the excavation of footing or service trenches, or other activities which would result in the lowering of the current site levels. Should archaeological features be revealed, site works will be halted and the exposed features cleaned up by hand to determine their significance prior to either their recording or continuing groundworks. The client will allow reasonable time for the excavation and recording of any features thus revealed. Where a temporary stop of work is required the site archaeologist will request this via the client.

If complex and/or significant archaeological deposits are encountered then the archaeological requirements will be reviewed by the client and CAU. **In the event that remains cannot be preserved *in situ* then full-scale excavation may subsequently be required.** The significance of the remains will be agreed between the client, CAU and Nick Cahill, Archaeological Adviser to the Diocesan Advisory Committee.

Recording

During the archaeological recording the archaeologist will:

- Identify and record any archaeological features that are revealed; the level of recording will be appropriate to the character/importance of the archaeological remains.
- Site drawings (plans and sections) will be made by pencil (4H) on drafting film; all drawings will include standard information: site details, personnel, date, scale, north-point.
- All features and finds will be accurately located at an appropriate scale.
- All archaeological contexts will be described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence.
- Photographic recording will comprise colour photography using a digital SLR camera. Photographs will include a record of significant features and general working shots. A metric scale, site and context identifier, and a north arrow where appropriate, will be included in all record shots.

Treatment of human remains

- If human remains are discovered on the site within an archaeological context, the client, the Archaeological Adviser to the Diocesan Advisory Committee and Public Health, Cornwall Council will be informed.
- Human remains should only be excavated and removed if it is considered that they will contribute towards further scientific understanding.
- A coroner's license must be obtained from the Ministry of Justice before any remains are disturbed.
- Any consents or licenses required will be obtained on behalf of the client by CAU.
- If human remains are uncovered, which require excavation, they will be excavated with due reverence. The site will be adequately screened from public view. Once excavated, human remains will not be exposed to public view. If human remains are not to be removed their physical security will be ensured, by backfilling as soon as possible after recording.

- Fragments of human bone should be treated with respect and reburied.

Treatment of finds

The fieldwork is likely to produce artefactual material. The following recording and retention policies will be followed:

- In the event that objects containing precious metal(s) are encountered, the coroner will be informed as per the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996.
- Significant finds in stratified contexts will be plotted on a scaled base and recorded as small finds.
- All finds will be collected in sealable plastic bags which will be labelled immediately with the site code, the context number or other identifier, the type of material, and the finder's initials. The only exception to this policy will be that large assemblages of modern (post-1800) material may be representatively sampled.
- Modern (post-1800) finds may be disposed of at the cataloguing stage. This process will be reviewed ahead of its implementation.

Treatment of samples

The fieldwork may produce environmental samples. The following collection, recording and processing policies will be followed:

- Sealed/undisturbed archaeological contexts in the form of buried soils, layers or deposits within significant archaeological features that have the potential to contain palaeoenvironmental evidence and/or material suitable for scientific dating will be sampled.
- In the event that significant organic remains are encountered, advice may be sought from the Historic England Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.
- All samples will be described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence.

Creation of site archive

Following review with the CAU Project Manager the results from the fieldwork will be collated as an archive.

This will involve the following.

- All finds, etc., will be washed, catalogued, and stored in a proper manner (being clearly labelled and marked and stored according to CAU guidelines).
- All records (context sheets, photographs, etc.) will be ordered, catalogued and stored in an appropriate manner (according to CAU guidelines).
- Any black and white negative film will be catalogued and deposited with the site archive.
- Colour digital images taken as part of the site archive will be either converted from colour to black and white negative film and added to the site archive, or deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).
- Completion of the Historic England/ADS OASIS online archive index.

Reporting

The results from the project will be drawn together and presented in a concise report. The scope of the report will be dependent on the scale and significance of the results from the project.

In the case of negative results the findings will be presented in a CAU short report format. In the case of limited results the findings will be presented in a concise archive report. Which type of report is most appropriate will be agreed by CAU and the client at the conclusion of the fieldwork stage.

In the case of significant and/or extensive results a post excavation assessment report will be produced in accordance with CifA's guidelines for post-excavation assessment (2014c). This will include a summary of the site archive and work carried out for

assessment, a discussion of the potential of the data, and an updated project design (UPD) setting out proposals for analysis and publication.

The report will include the following elements:

- Summary
- Project background
- Aims and objectives
- Methodology
- Location and setting
- Archaeological results
- Chronology/dating evidence
- Conclusions
- References
- Project archive index
- Supporting illustrations: location map, historic maps, plans, elevations/sections, photographs as appropriate

Archive deposition

An index to the site archive will be created and the archive contents prepared for long term storage, in accordance with CAU standards.

The archiving will comprise the following:

- All correspondence relating to the project, the WSI, and a single paper copy of the report, stored in an archive standard (acid-free) documentation box.
- A2 drawn archive storage (plastic wallets for the annotated record drawings).
- The project archive will be deposited initially at ReStore PLC, Liskeard and in due course (when space permits) at Cornwall Record Office.
- Digital data will be stored on the Cornwall Council network which is regularly and frequently backed up.
- Digital data forming part of the site archive will be deposited with the ADS.

CAU uses the following file formats for stored digital data:

- DOCX Word processed documents
- XLSX Spreadsheets
- PDF Exports of completed documents/reports/graphics
- JPG Site graphics and scanned information
- DNG or TIF Digital photographs
- DWG AutoCAD drawings, measured surveys
- MXD ArcView GIS (electronic mapping) data
- AI Adobe Illustrator graphics

Timetable

The study is anticipated to commence during February 2018. CAU will require at least 2 weeks' notice before commencement of work, in order to allocate field staff and arrange other logistics.

The archive report will be completed within 3 months of the end of the fieldwork. The deposition of the archive will be completed within 3 months of the completion of the archive report.

References

- CIfA, 2014a. *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, CIfA, Reading
- CIfA, 2014b. *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, CIfA, Reading

CIfA, 2014c. *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation*, CIfA, Reading

CIfA, 2014d. *Code of Conduct*, CIfA, Reading

CIfA, 2017. *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*, CIfA, Reading

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Cornwall Archaeological Unit is part of Cornwall Council. CAU employs 20 project staff with a broad range of expertise, undertaking around 120 projects each year.

CAU is committed to conserving and enhancing the distinctiveness of the historic environment and heritage of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly by providing clients with a number of services including:

- Conservation works to sites and monuments
- Conservation surveys and management plans
- Historic landscape characterisation
- Town surveys for conservation and regeneration
- Historic building surveys and analysis
- Maritime and coastal zone assessments
- Air photo mapping
- Excavations and watching briefs
- Assessments and evaluations
- Post-excavation analysis and publication
- Outreach: exhibitions, publication, presentations

Standards



CAU is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and follows their Standards and Code of Conduct.

<http://www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa>

Terms and conditions

Contract

CAU is part of Cornwall Council. If accepted, the contract for this work will be between the client and Cornwall Council.

The views and recommendations expressed will be those of CAU and will be presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

Project staff

The project will be managed by Andy Jones BA, PhD, FSA, MCIfA who will:

- Discuss and agree the detailed objectives and programme of each stage of the project with the client and the field officers, including arrangements for health and safety.
- Monitor progress and results for each stage.
- Edit the project report.
- Liaise with the client regarding the budget and related issues.

Work will be carried out by CAU field staff, with assistance from qualified specialists and sub-contractors where appropriate. All staff will follow CAU's Health and Safety Policy and work in accordance with a site-specific risk assessment.

Report distribution

Paper copies of the report will be distributed to the client, to local archives and national archaeological record centres.

A digital copy of the report, illustrations and any other files will be held in the Cornwall HER and also supplied to the client on CD or other suitable media.

Copyright

Copyright of all material gathered as a result of the project will be reserved to Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council. Existing copyrights of external sources will be acknowledged where required.

Use of the material will be granted to the client.

Freedom of Information Act

As Cornwall Council is a public authority it is subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which came into effect from 1st January 2005.

CAU will ensure that all information arising from the project shall be held in strict confidence to the extent permitted under the Act. However, the Act permits information to be released under a public right of access (a "Request"). If such a Request is received CAU may need to disclose any information it holds, unless it is excluded from disclosure under the Act.

Health and safety statement

CAU follows Cornwall Council's *Statement of Safety Policy*.

Prior to carrying out on-site work CAU will carry out a site-specific Risk Assessment.

Insurance

CAU is covered by Cornwall Council's Public and Employers Liability Insurance, with a policy value of £50m. The Council also has Professional Negligence insurance with a policy value of £10m.

Andy Jones

Principal Archaeologist

23/1/18

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Cornwall Council

Fal Building, County Hall,

Treyew Road,

Truro, Cornwall. TR1 3AY

Tel: 01872 323691

Email: andjones@cau.org.uk

Appendix 2: Tables of contexts

Contexts in floor area

Context number	Context type	Basic description	Dimensions	Description
1001	Build	Terrazzo floor	0.03m thick	Mid red, grey, black and white hard concrete and stone chips, decorative terrazzo floor surface. This surface conforms to walkways and aisle between pews in the body of the church.
1002	Build	Terrazzo bedding mix	0.09m thick	Mid grey hard concrete with small stone chips. The bedding mix for the fine terrazzo surface.
(1003)	Deposit	Subsoil layer	Unknown / varying thickness	<p>Pale yellowish greyish brown loose dry sandy silt, a mixed layer of soil and light rubble and small slate pieces with frequent human remains, occasional CBM, roofing slate fragments and occasional rotten wood fragments. Finds include:</p> <p>1 handle springing/shoulder sherd from a Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware, Lostwithiel Ware jug with traces of white painted line decoration. 15th to 16th centuries AD.</p> <p>2 body-sherds of Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware, (South-western micaceous ware). 15th to 16th centuries AD.</p> <p>1 sherd of Post-Medieval Yellow Glazed Slipware (Bristol / Somerset Ware). 18th century.</p> <p>6 sherds Modern White-glazed stoneware, 'Pearlware' (or modern industrial china). 19th to 20th centuries AD.</p> <p>2 fragments of green glazed floor tile. 18th to 19th century.</p> <p>2 fragments of glazed floor tile. 19th century.</p> <p>2 clay pipe stem fragments. Bore Ø= 3mm which suggests a date <i>circa</i> 1660's.</p> <p>2 fragments of window glass. Medieval, or more likely post-medieval.</p> <p>2 iron coffin handles. 18th to 19th centuries.</p> <p>3 iron rafter nails. 18th to 19th centuries?</p> <p>1 iron scribing tool, or punch? 18th to 19th centuries?</p>
1004	Build	Poss. Pew supports	9m by 4m in total	A series of stone blocks and a slate low wall like feature, possibly pew supports.
(1005)	Deposit	Lime screed	0.05m thick, under pew bays	Light yellowish grey hard lime mortar.
1006	Build	Old floor	3.35m by 0.76m by	Layered slate and lime mortar with the uppermost slates being large, smooth

		surface	0.25m deep	floor slates of 5-8cm depth.
[1007]	Cut	Grave 1	1.83m long by 0.7m wide	Sub rectangular east-west aligned grave cut with stone kerbing around three sides, missing on the southern side due to damage from a previous pipe installation. Cuts natural.
(1008)	Deposit	Fill of grave 1	1.83m long by 0.7m wide	Single visible fill of [1007], mid greyish brown friable, soft gritty silt with 20% small sub angular slate fragments and human bone <i>in situ</i> . 2 individuals visible, skulls to the west. Finds comprised 1 point from a bone pin, probably a hair pin. Medieval to post-medieval.
(1009)	Deposit	Natural	Patchy visibility	Compact pale yellowish brown gritty silty clay, occasional decayed granite flecks. Only visible in a few places.
(1010)	Deposit	Fill/cut of grave 2	0.6m diameter	Irregular shaped possible grave largely comprised a jumble of human bones. Very little soil, same as (1003).
(1011)	Deposit	Fill of grave 3	1.5m by 0.6m	Sub-rectangular deposit, poorly defined edges probably grave cut, bones visible. Soil same as (1003), clay pipe stem in the fill.
(1012)	Deposit	Fill of grave 4		Apparently undisturbed fill of a grave cut, roughly articulated bones within a mid greyish brown loose gritty silt and 20% small slate fragments. East- west aligned.
[1013]	Cut	Crypt 1	2.45m – 1.85m	Rectangular, east-west aligned enclosure of slate and lime mortar, a crypt.
(1014)	Deposit	Fill of crypt 1	2.16m by 1.3m	Single visible fill of crypt [1013], mid brown soft sandy silt with no inclusions.
[1015]	Cut	Crypt 2	2.7m by 1.83m	Rectangular, east-west aligned enclosure of slate and lime mortar, a crypt.
(1016)	Deposit	Fill of crypt 2	2.06m by 1.27m	Single visible fill of crypt [1015], mid brown soft sandy silt with no inclusions.
[1017]	Cut	Crypt 3	2.7m by 2.1m	Rectangular, east-west aligned enclosure of slate and lime mortar, a crypt.
(1018)	Deposit	Fill of crypt 3	2.3m by 1.78m	Single visible fill of crypt [1017], mid brown soft sandy silt with no inclusions apart from a fragment of lime mortar. Voids present, probably from coffin collapse. Excavated depth of void to 0.64m and not reached the base of fill. Finds include: 4 sherds (rim) of Modern White-glazed stoneware, 'Pearlware' (or modern industrial china). 19th to 20th centuries AD. 2 sherds of North Devon Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware (Barnstaple Ware). 19th century. 1 clay pipe stem fragment. Bore Ø=1.6mm which suggests a date circa 1830's.

				2 fragments of window glass, one grozed with red paint decoration on its surface. Part of a stained glass window. Medieval, but more probably post-medieval.
(1019)	Deposit	Fill of grave 5	0.8m by 0.6m	Mid greyish brown loose dry sandy silt. Human bone visible in upper face of fill, articulated.
(1020)	Deposit	Fill of grave 6	1.5m by 0.9m by 0.6m+ depth	Mid greyish brown loose dry sandy silt. No cut visible but coffin? Voids in need of stabilising. Human bone visible in fill mixed and the whole depth of the excavation. At 0.6m an articulated skeleton was noted the other being disarticulated or disturbed. 3 fragments of green glazed floor tile- 18th to 19th century, and 1 fragment of post-medieval window glass were recovered.
(1021)	Deposit	Brick fill of void	0.6m by 0.8m by 0.3m deep	Rectangular cavity for heating piped filled loosely with modern brick. Underlies an area of modern concrete.

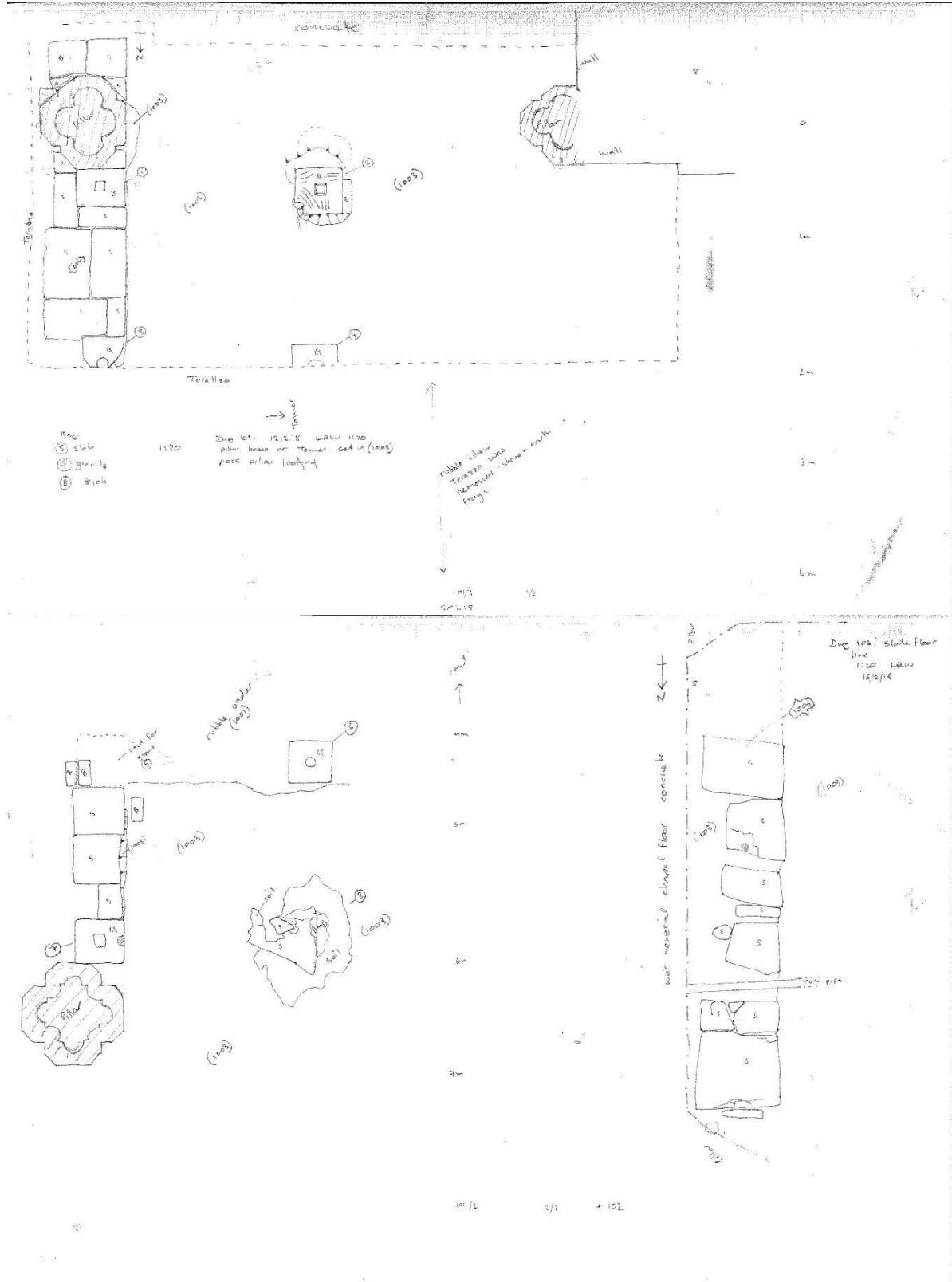
Contexts in service trenches

Context number	Context type	Basic description	Dimensions	Description
(2001)	Deposit	Concrete in Trenches 1, 2 and 3	0.01m thick	Concrete layer, appeared to be a fine mix and modern in appearance.
(2002)	Deposit	Bedding layer in Trench 1	0.11m thick	Dark brownish black loose soil containing building rubble. The rubble comprised fragments of slate and granite intermixed with sedimentary stone.
(2003)	Deposit	Rubble layer in Trench 1	Unknown thickness	Dark reddish brown soil containing large amounts of demolition material, which included roofing slate fragments, granite fragments and other stone. Finds included: 1 clay pipe stem fragment. Bore Ø= 2.6mm, suggests a date c.1710. 1 fragment modern salt-glazed drainpipe. 19th to 20th centuries AD.
(2004)	Deposit	Bedding layer in Trench 2	0.1m thick	A mixture of larger stones and pieces of demolition material, fragments of slate and broken granite.
(2005)	Deposit	Rubble layer in Trench 2	Unknown thickness	A dark reddish brown soil mixed with larger stones and demolition rubble comprised of granite fragments, pieces of roofing slate and lime ash fragments. The north end of the trench produced small fragments of disarticulated bone. Finds included: 1 basal sherd with foot ring of Modern White-glazed stoneware,

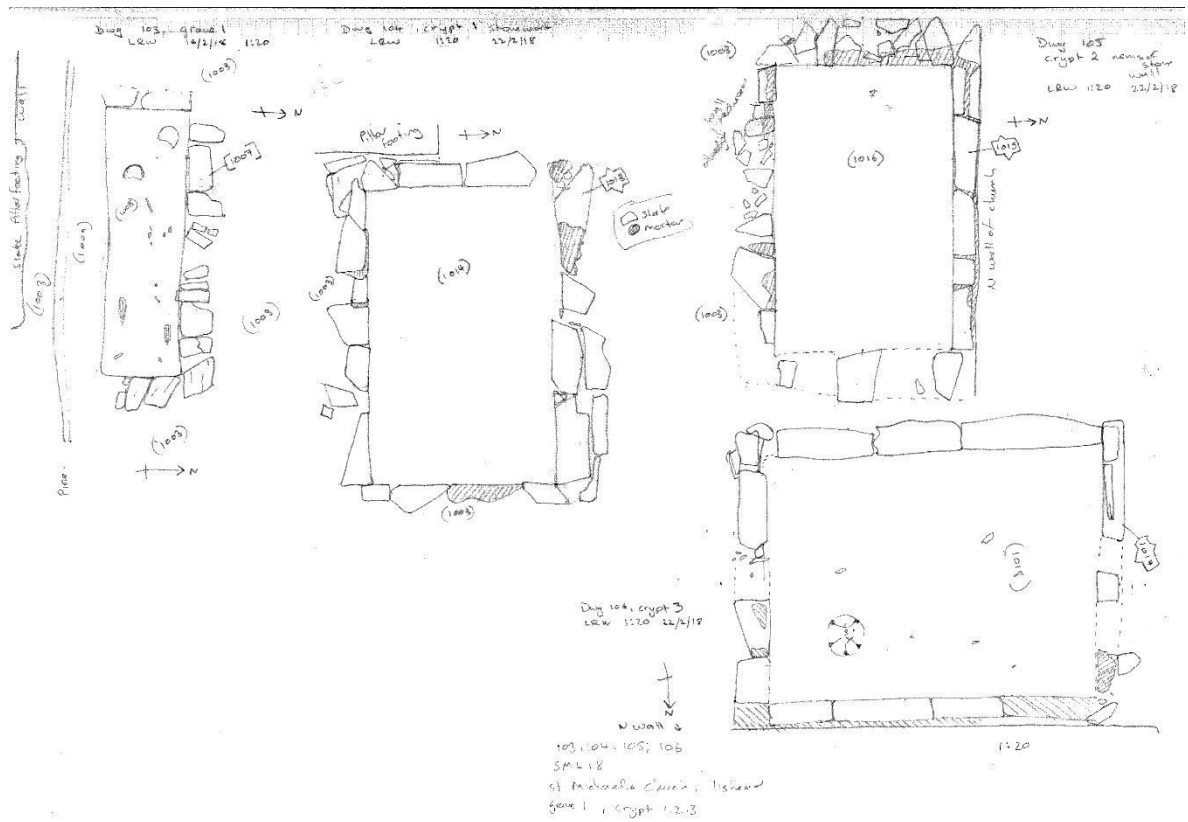
				<p>'Pearlware' (or modern industrial china). 19th to 20th centuries AD.</p> <p>1 sherd terracotta roof tile (Bridgewater?). 19th to 20th centuries AD.</p> <p>1 fragment of roofing slate with two sub-rectangular nail holes. Post-medieval?</p> <p>1 large iron nail. 18th to 19th centuries?</p>
(2006)	Deposit	Rubble layer in Trench 2	Unknown thickness	A mid greyish soil with grit. Again contained some larger pieces of stone, and fragments of demolition rubble. Possibly same as (2004).
(2007)	Deposit	Rubble layer in Trench 3	Unknown thickness	A loose mixture of dark reddish brown soil and stone, similar to (2005) and (2006). Contained fragments of bone.

Appendix 3: Site plans

Possible pew footing feature [1004]



Drawings of Grave 1 and crypts 1,2 and 3



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