

Waltham

Section CL E-W 1955 South Face

Date 9.5.51

Length 110'. Measurement from W face of inner arcade of E side of Cloister

cut across central area of Cloister from E-W 30' 6" S of 1/2 W of Church

The natural subsoil was a stiff yellow clay. The uppermost layers of this clay were much disturbed and this allowed a natural top line was nowhere identified

Between 12' 6" and 14' 9" was a layer of burnt red clay about 3" thick set directly on the surface of the natural clay. Its surface at -1' 4" to -1' 6" was slightly dished and it lay some 1' 6" below the layer of building debris of the early 13th century, which represents the surface of the 12th century cloister and was probably slightly above the surface contemporary with the burnt clay. On the W a single stone in position marked the edge of the burnt surface, or similar stone remained on the E. The stone lay between 1' 6" and 1' 3" on the section and a space up to 1' 4" marks the position of the wall to which the stone belonged [the burnt surface extends ~~to~~ and the section line is near the edge, distorting measurements - the section was drawn before a plan was available]. The burnt surface had a contemporary clearance of soil extending up to ~~it~~ into <sup>the</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>stone</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>at</sup> 3". To the E the surface of the natural clay -1' 4" at 11' 6" to -11' at 9' where the remains were cut by a later disturbance. The ~~so~~ burnt surface was left in position but the delimiting wall was almost entirely removed. The hollow was then filled with stones, clay, soil and rubble, including loose fragments of tiles and pieces of burnt clay with a ~~most~~ smooth surface and not irregular outer surface. On E the top line was ~~shaded~~ <sup>shaded</sup> down following the natural surface of the clay; elsewhere the fill was ~~read~~ <sup>read</sup> on. It was not possible to establish the surface from which the structure was being done but the fill was in position and consolidated when stones on edge were set into it in the 12th century and was sealed by the 13th century building line. [Glass fragments found in the fill were dated by D.B.H. to the 9th century].

From 101' 6" to 103' 10" a reddish ~~all~~ <sup>all</sup> trench filled with loose soil and rubble had one block of ~~limestone~~ <sup>limestone</sup> in position at the base of the W face. The trench was cut into the

natural clay with its base at  $-3'$ . In the west & contemporary with the wall a fragment line of mortar with its surface at  $-2'6"$  ran as far as  $107'10"$  where it was cut by a later disturbance; it lay directly in the clay [this is type of fill record].  
Dunstan's chancel] Close to the wall a post hole  $8"$  across with a loose fill went down to  $-3'6"$ . It showed up first in the surface of the natural clay, but appeared to be cut through the mortar.

From  $46'9"$  to  $48'9"$  a wall shown in section. It was formed of thin lime slabs set into the surface of the clay and continued below  $-1'3"$ . The wall had been demolished before the accumulation of the layer of building debris of the 13th century accumulated but must have risen almost to the surface of the 12th century chancel girth. A similar cut into a similar fill runs from  $18'6"$  to  $21'3"$  into its base at  $-1'3"$ . This is hard, distinguishable from the lime level up, and has been ~~what is that without special description~~ [It was later shown to be opposite the east of the wall running along to N side of the trench and this was shown to be earlier than the 12th century chancel lay out]. It was probably sealed by the clay level representing the pre-13th century surface.

The whole section line apart from later disturbances was then brought to a plane surface by a bedding layer of clay and soil which had been cultivated after forming a fairly stoneless soil. This sloped down regularly from  $0'$  at  $9'3"$  to  $-9'$  at  $107'6"$ . Into this surface were set vertically slabs of limestone lime. That in section shows at  $13'6"$  to  $13'10"$  with its top at  $-2'$  and its base at  $-1'8"$  cutting into the hard clay [On section it would appear that this slab does not reach the 12th century surface but the slabs were irregular and both this slab further north and others of the same series stood proud].

From  $61'$  to  $80'6"$  a deep trench filled with stones rubble clay and soil was cleared to a depth of  $-3'3"$  where two burrs set in yellow mortar began to appear and work was discontinued. From  $56'$  to  $58'4"$  a similar trench was noted, but no burrs had appeared in line of section at  $-3'0"$  [they were found further north. The trenches were cut through the 12th century surface and could be followed to a level of  $-6'$  or higher, well above the early 13th century builders debris.

From  $9'3"$  to  $55'9"$  the 12th century surface was covered with a layer  $2"-4"$  thick of small stones, mortar etc. including many spalls from the dressing of Dunstons stone. This area had clearly served as a builders yard and was the