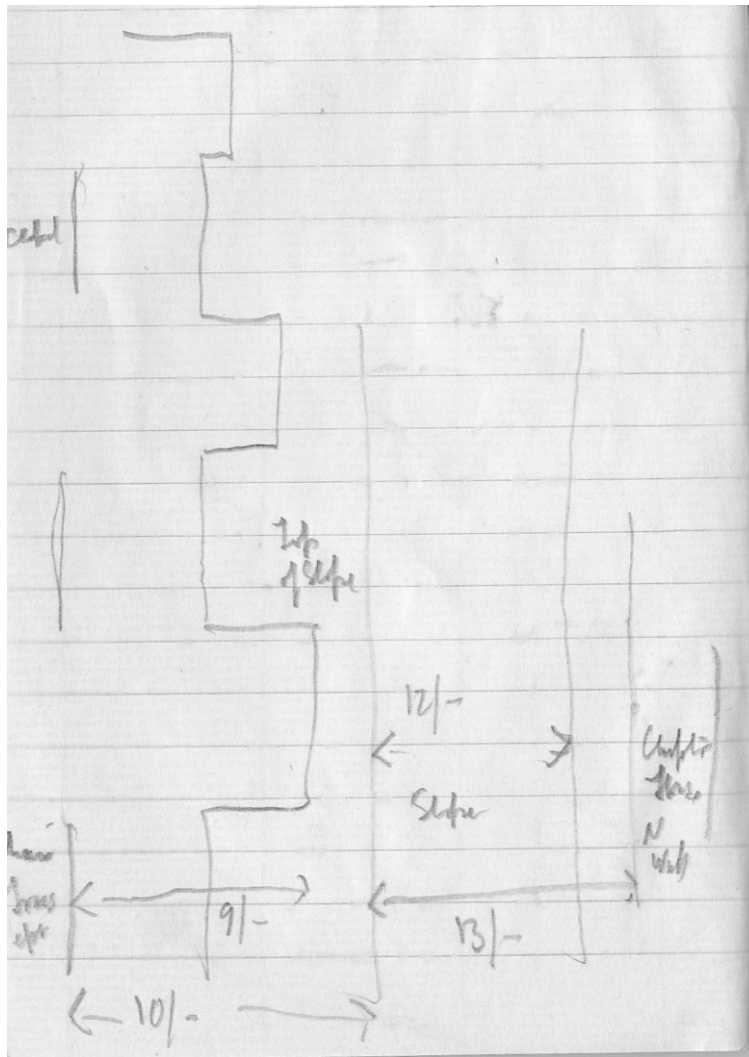


Site/GLA/2/5

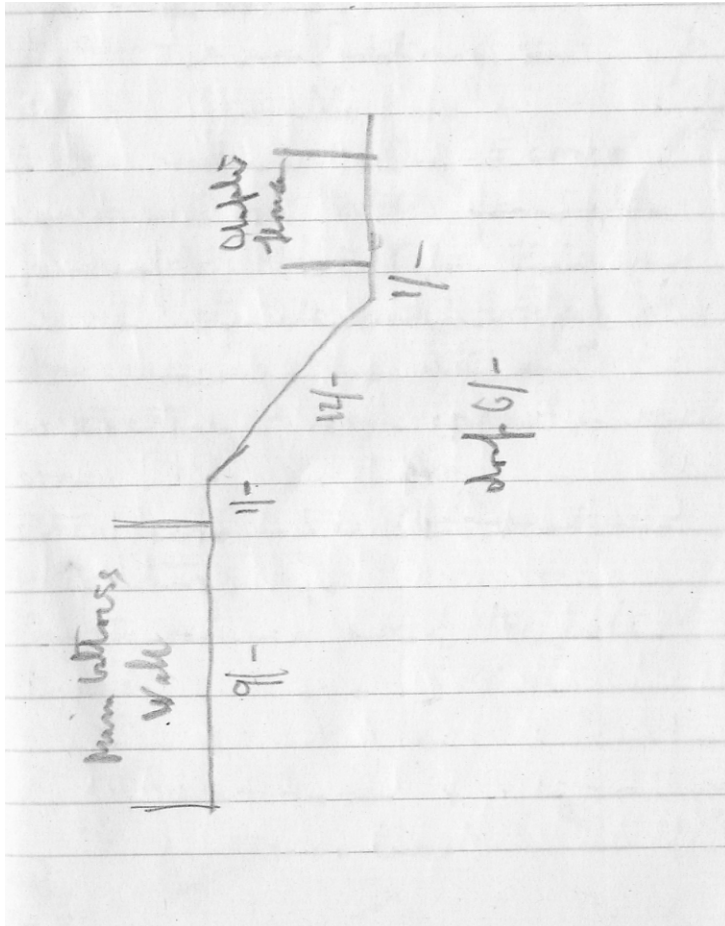
Raleigh Radford

Glastonbury 1964

Back page 1



Chapter House/S transept slope



1964. Chapter House and slype: measurements for planning purposes.

Page 2

1964. Chapter House: measurements for planning purposes.

Page 3

1964. Clearance

Clearance of area north of foundation trench of N wall of Abbot's House to AHCT - arbitrary lines ?ft to E. ?ft to N.

Area except in N – in SE corner was covered with cobbled pavement of Abbot's yard. This was 2"-6" deep with rough irregular stones set on edges with an underbedding of rough mortar and looser stones.

Pottery found under this went into 14th century.

Two trenches were cut off to path to west.

Back page 3

Under cobbling was roughly levelled burnt debris with some pottery in and covering a layer of irregular plaster much disintegrated and again showing traces of fire. Pottery in & below this is of pre-fire (1184) date. The east and west walls of this building were located in deep test trenches running E-W some 12' from north boundary. The East wall only was located in S test trench. This mortar/plaster spread covered whole area S of chapel wall line but thinned out irregularly E & W. It was still traceable in S cut W.

N cut west was not carried down to 12th century level and it lay outside Abbot's courtyard.

*Page 4*

The walls below the mortar spread were free standing within a trench which was subsequently filled with earth and a few stones. This trench was about 7ft wide for a 3ft wall which could be traced by a looser more mortar filled fill with a few stones in the bottom. It went 1'6" below contemporary ground level which lay about 1' below surface of mortar spread. The base of this trench cut through the clay was not reached.

The rarity of stone and the small stones etc used in the remaining pieces of foundation suggest a light structure probably in half-timber work.

Slightly oblique to N boundary ran a wall. 2'1" wide of roughly split undressed lias blocks. There was a 2' offset at ground level which was set on a further foundation course of similar blocks, the largest block in-situ measured 1'4" long and 6" high. The highest piece reached 1'8" above offset. Only 2 small stretches survives. It aligned with the south wall of St Michael's chapel. North of this wall was a mortar bedding for robbed paving. This sealed 13th century pottery including pieces probably no later or c. 1300. The mortar eased some 6' west of chapel probably for steps rising to chapel. At a later date this passage was...

*Page 5*

...abandoned and thrown into the cemetery and graves dug cutting through the mortar. Near the chapel were two successive graves the later of which had a skeleton at 6'8" below the turf. The graves were not explored but were covered with mortar & clay pads at 2'6" – 3'0 below turf. St Michael's chapel west wall was cut in north section. It was 4' wide and the foundation trench entirely robbed. The bottom was not reached 6' below turf or 2'6" below 13/14th century ground level. The south wall was similar with a large buttress projecting south at...

*Back page 5*

...angle. This retains portions of an irregular foundation of small pieces of lias set in a slurry of poor yellow mortar. The west wall trench with a soil fill has been cleared in modern times probably mistaking a earlier mortar set bedding of uncertain date under the chapel for the wall. This foundation may well be steps to an earlier shorter chapel. The south wall trench was robbed in modern and had much spalls and mortar in trench. It was followed on the south side by an uneven soil filled trench (probably Bond).

*Page 6*

The wall on S chapel wall line separates Abbot's court from access to chapel and cemetery. It is probably part of Monington's layout.

The western paved access is contemporary. The later use of this access for graves implies a new access from cemetery to north on level.

Grave in NW corner has clay pad.

Graves in centre of trench have yellow hard mortar pads.

No traces of pre 12th century layout but surface of soil is churned with bone fragments descending 1ft or more. This implies cultivation or earlier post-holes.