



Figure 2 Plan of excavations and location of recorded sections

### 3. RESULTS

#### 3.1 Observations of the chancel walls and the adjacent eaves-drip drain.

Immediately adjacent to the base of the church walls was a drainage channel (context 1000) consisting of stone slabs 0.25m wide or 0.58m wide, 0.13m high and ranging between 0.75m and 0.90m in length, with a shallow concave gully, 0.12m wide and 0.03m deep, running centrally along each block. The gully formed a continuous eaves-drip drain around the entire church, with the exceptions of the western elevation and the south side of the church porch. In places, such as the western elevation of a buttress at the south-eastern corner of the nave, the stone blocks of context 1000 were immediately adjacent to the church wall, but on the remainder of the southern side of the chancel context 1000 was separated from the church wall by a thin strip of concrete between 0.17m and 0.23m in width (context 1001, Figure 3 Section 2). On the northern and eastern sides of the chancel context 1000 was separated from the church wall by stone blocks 0.22m wide and between 0.42m and 0.98m in length (context 1002, Figure 3 Section 4). Contexts 1000, 1001 and 1002 rested on either poured concrete up to 0.14m thick (context 1003, Figure 3 Section 4), or directly upon cemetery soils (Figure 3 Section 2). Contexts 1000-1003 were all of modern date.



Plate 2 New drainage trench and contexts 1000 and 1001 adjacent to the south side of the chancel

Two parallel kerbs were recorded each 0.80m in length, which ran at 90 degrees from either side of the south door of the chancel (context 1004 was the western and 1005 was the eastern kerb). These kerbs each consisted of two courses of sandstone blocks up to 0.40 x 0.22 x 0.15m in size, bonded with hard, coarse-grained, cream-coloured mortar. The blocks showed a variety of coarse striated tooling, and all seemed to have been re-used. The walls were stratigraphically above contexts 1001-1003 and were clearly therefore modern.



Plate 3 Tooling on kerb 1005

The presence of contexts 1000-1003 meant that relatively little could be learned of the structural history of the church. It was possible, however, to see lower portions of the chancel walls where new drainage down-pipes were being inserted. A down-pipe pierced context 1000 at the junction of a buttress and the eastern end of the south aisle of the church (Figure 2, Figure 3 Section 1 and Plate 4). The western elevation of this buttress continued 0.27m below the upper surface of context 1000, where it stepped out 0.015 to 0.02m. This step presumably represents an original footing.

A second drainage down-pipe pierced contexts 1000 and 1001 at the junction of the south aisle and chancel. The church wall here continued 0.31m below the level of contexts 1000/1001, but there were no visible footings (Plate 5).

Finally, the footing beneath the chamfered plinth was seen to be in excess of 0.22m deep where a modern drain, associated with contexts 1000-1002, had been inserted. This drain cut also showed that the chancel had been underpinned with three courses of brick (context 1008, Figure 3 Section 3 and Plate 6) at some stage, but it is not possible to know how extensive this underpinning was, or to assess its date.



Plate 4 Footing of church wall



Plate 5 Church wall at junction of south aisle and chancel