NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Report No. 1093

An Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief at All Saints Church, Waterden, Norfolk

1976 CRS

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Contents

Location:	All Saints Church, Waterden
District:	West Norfolk
Grid Ref:	TF 8848 3581
HER No.:	1976 CRS
Date of fieldwork:	8th to 15th June, 6th July to 11th July 2005

Summary

Several human burials were disturbed by the excavation of a drain alongside the south wall of All Saints Church, Waterden. They included the remains of a young baby – probably new born. Quantities of disarticulated human bone were also found. Most of the human remains appeared to be sealed by deposits relating to the use and demolition of the former south aisle and chapel of the church.

Excavation revealed the eastern and western walls of a former south aisle and chapel of medieval date. Some small areas of a mortar and tiled floor to the aisle survived with a subsequent layer of mortar suggesting a later floor surface. At the eastern end of the aisle, in what is thought to be the area of the chapel, there was a change in the 'floor' level and a linear band of mortar that probably represented a step. The corner of a masonry structure, possibly a plinth, was also recorded and the south face of an east-to-west wall was seen in the northern side of the trench. These latter features may have been internal structures such as alcoves or, possibly, an altar. The structural features were overlaid by soil and debris resulting from their demolition. A few pieces of window glass, some of them painted, were found in the demolition material and at least one tomb of later date was cut through this material.

A watching brief was maintained on drainage trenches and soakaway pits. In situ *and disarticulated human remains were disturbed by the trenches. All human remains were reburied at the end of the site work.*

In two of the soakaway pits, one to the north-west and one to the south-west of the church, flint walls were exposed. These were thought to be the former boundary walls to the churchyard.

1.0 Introduction

(Figs 1 and 2)

All Saints Church is located within the modern parish of South Creake (Fig. 1). Originally it was part of the, now deserted, village of Waterden but today this settlement consists only of the church, the old rectory just to its south and Waterden Farm about 400m to its north-east.

The archaeological work was necessitated by renovations to the church. These included replacement of the roof of the chancel, repair of some buttresses and, most significantly in terms of the archaeology of the site, the laying of new drains. In the absence of gutters, 'French' drains, laid along the north and south sides of the church, were designed to take water away from the walls of the church and, *via* drains, into soakaways located away from the building.

At the southern side of the church it was highly likely that the groundworks for the drains would disturb the remains of the former south aisle that is known to have been demolished – perhaps during the Reformation or during renovations around 1600AD.

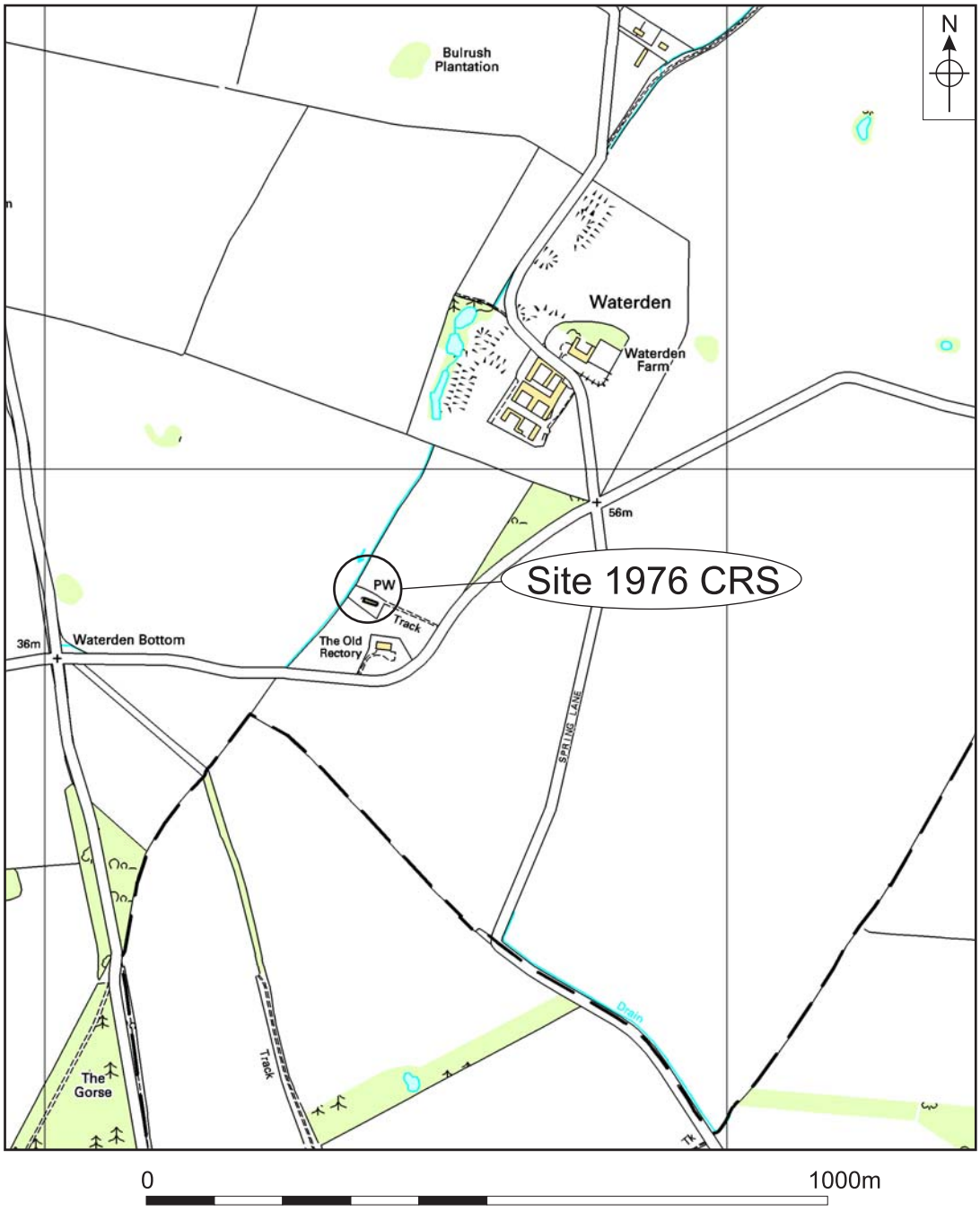

Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:10,000

In this area the trench for the ‘French’ drain was dug by hand by the archaeologists. The area of hand excavation was about twelve sq. m (Fig. 2).

In other areas a watching brief was carried out during the excavation of the drainage trenches and soakaways by the site contractors (Fig. 2).

The work was commissioned by Nicholas Warns Architect Ltd on behalf of South Creake Parish Council who funded the work.

This archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit (NAU Ref: 1922/WAB) and a Brief issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA Ref: ARJH, 13 December 2004).

The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area.

The site archive is currently held by the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service, following the relevant policy on archiving standards.

2.0 Geology and Topography

The solid geology of the area is Upper Chalk. This is overlaid by chalky till, a clayey subsoil and coversand; the ‘Good Sands’ of north-west Norfolk (Funnell 1994; Corbett and Dent 1994).

The church is situated at about 43m OD at the head of a slight ‘valley’ that runs off to the west. To the other sides of the church the land rises slightly.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

All Saints Church was originally situated in the centre of the village of Waterden. The track that leads southwestwards from the north-western corner of the churchyard formed the end of the former village street. Earthworks representing the village lie to the north-west and the position of the village in the valley bottom may have led to its name (Wade-Martins 1982).

The church is thought to have originated during the Saxon period; a lancet window in the north wall of the chancel and the doorways appear to date to this period. Some blocked clerestory windows on either side of the nave have also been considered as of this date but it seems likely that they are later, it has been suggested that they are possibly of post-medieval date although those in the north wall are certainly of pre-15th-century date (NHER report). A lancet window in the north wall of the nave dates to around 1200 and has been inserted into the older wall. A south aisle and chapel were added around 1300.

The aisle and chapel were no longer standing when the church was renovated around 1600 and may well have been demolished during the Reformation. Today three infilled arches in the south wall of the nave show the former presence of the aisle and chapel. The central and western arches formed the arcade to the aisle and the eastern arch formed an entrance to the chapel but the exact extent of the former structures is unknown.

Other alteration and additions, for example to windows and buttresses are described in a detailed report in the Norfolk Historic Environment Record. A ruined tower at the

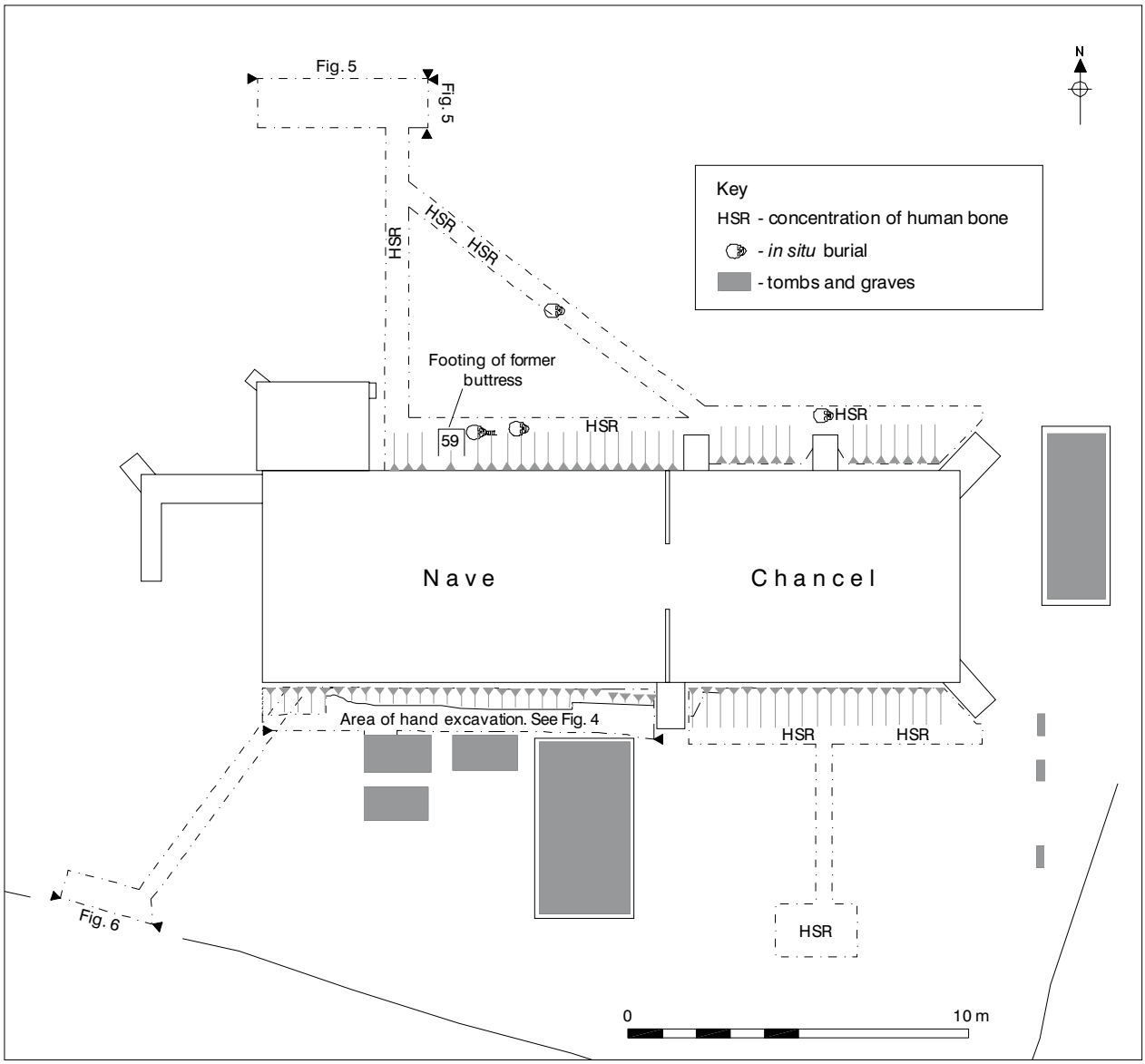

Figure 2. Trench location. Scale 1:200

west end of the church is of unknown date and it is known that the church was extensively damaged by a storm in March 1895 (Wade-Martins 1982).

Many fragments of medieval stonework, said to originate from the church, are built into a barn at Waterden Farm. They include a tracery of *c.* 1300 and angel corbels.

4.0 Methodology

(Fig. 2)

The archaeologists excavated the trench for the drain that ran along the south side of the nave by hand. The architect's specifications stipulated that this should be 1.20m wide and 11.5m in length and that the trench should be dug to a depth of 0.40m below the internal floor level of the church (detailed level information in archive). The north side of the trench sloped at 45° away from the building to enable the drain to function. (The slope would be covered with an impermeable geotextile and the trench backfilled. Any water from the roof of the church would run down the slope and be

carried away from the building by a perforated drainpipe in the bottom of the trench.) The main part of the trench was dug and recorded during the excavation phase of the site work. The easternmost 3m was under scaffolding at that time and was excavated, after the scaffold had been removed, on the return to site for the watching brief.

The other main drainage trenches, along the south wall of the chancel and along the entire north side of the church were dug by machine (to the same specifications as the hand-excavated trench) by the contractors under observation by an archaeologist.

Trenches dug to hold drains to carry water from the main drains away from the church, and three soakaway trenches were also dug by machine under archaeological observation.

The objective of this excavation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence or absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds, other than those that were obviously modern, were retained for inspection.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NAU *pro forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

Levels were referred to an Ordnance Survey benchmark of 43.43m on the south-east corner of the church.

Due to the lack of suitable deposits, no environmental samples were taken.

Site conditions during the period of work were quite good. The weather was fair to hot. Access to the hand-excavated trench was impeded by the tombs and railed areas of graves that were positioned in its vicinity. The digging of the side of the trench to a 45° slope also made hand-excavation technically quite difficult.

5.0 Results

Excavation

(Figs 3 and 4)

Evidence that pre-dated the south aisle and chapel

Undisturbed natural clay and sand [49] was revealed at level of 40.95m OD in a small sondage dug through the subsoil in the bottom of the trench near its eastern end.

The earliest deposits encountered by the excavation of the drain to the south of the nave were mid to dark orange brown slightly silty sands with occasional small flints. In the eastern and central part of the trench, within the area of the excavated building (see below), deposit [25] was reached at a depth of about 0.80m from the surface and excavated to a depth of up to 0.40m. Disarticulated human bones were found in layer [25] – with a concentration of remains found in the area immediately beneath a surviving area of floor ([15]; Fig 3 and below). To the west, outside the building a very similar layer ([31]) was reached at 0.60m and excavated to a depth of 0.15m. The deposits were slightly disturbed and may be the surviving part of a subsoil, disturbed

by burials, that was levelled before building occurred in the area. Two sherds of pottery of 12th- to 14th-century date were found in layer [31].

Two graves were recorded as cutting layer [25]. About halfway along the trench, grave [43] extended to the south of the excavated area but most of its eastern end was probably truncated by a later pit ([20] – see below). The articulated skull and left upper torso survived (Sk[38]) in the excavated part of the grave. The teeth were missing from the lower jaw suggesting an elderly individual. This grave was sealed by a make-up layer [41] for floor [16] (see below).

Grave [33] was located towards the western end of the trench, immediately to the east of the excavated wall [17] (see below). The lower jaw and part of the upper torso of a quite large individual (Sk[32]), probably a male, survived. The rest of the skeleton was truncated by later burials. The teeth were worn suggesting a mature or elderly person. The burial also predated the floor - the jaw of this individual was positioned, physically, beneath the layer of mortar ([16]) and the cranium appeared to have been truncated by levelling for the laying of the floor.

Grave [33] was truncated by grave [36]. Only the skull and upper torso (Sk[35]) of the individual buried in grave [36] survived – at the western end of the grave. The perfect condition of the teeth, fused bones and gracile nature of the skeleton suggested that it might have been a young adult, possibly female. The burial was truncated to its east by another grave [51]. The skull, right shoulder and arm and part of the torso (Sk[27]) were revealed in the excavated area, the north-eastern part of the grave extending outside the trench. Iron coffin nails were associated with both these burials.

The relationship between graves [36] and [51] with the floor and its make-up material of the aisle (see below) is not entirely certain due to the very narrow area exposed and the truncation caused by the construction of the later tomb [18]. It seems very likely, however, that the graves pre-dated the floor material and their relative levels support this –the skulls being between 0.36m and 0.52m beneath the surface of the tiled floor.

The south aisle and chapel

Close to the western end of the trench a possible construction trench ([47]) ran north to south, cutting deposit [31]. It contained a creamy yellow hard sandy mortar with moderate amounts of fractured flint ([42]). This wall footing was more than 0.40m deep – its bottom was not reached. The footing was surmounted by a substantial flint and mortar wall ([17]) that survived to a height of up to 0.60m - although it was truncated by a post-medieval or modern drain at its northern end (see below). Some of the flints on the western (external) face of the wall were knapped but most were patinated or cortical. On the eastern (inner) face a mortar render survived in patches. The wall formed the western side of the former south aisle of the church. On the eastern side, the upper surface of the mortar footing was levelled flat - presumably in preparation for the internal floor (see below).

At the eastern end of the hand-excavated area, another wall ([61]) represented the other end of the former building; here being the chapel to the east of the aisle. It was also of flint and mortar and stood to a height of 0.30m.

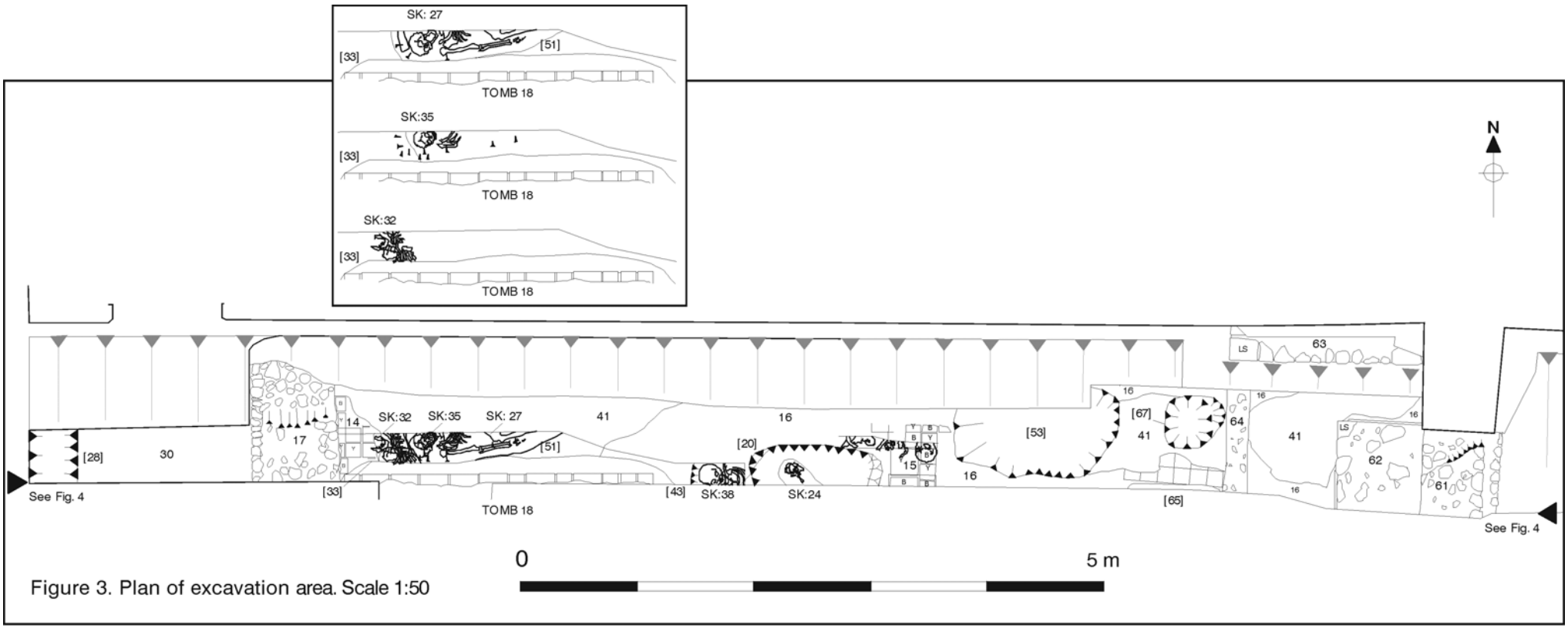

Figure 3. Plan of excavation area. Scale 1:50

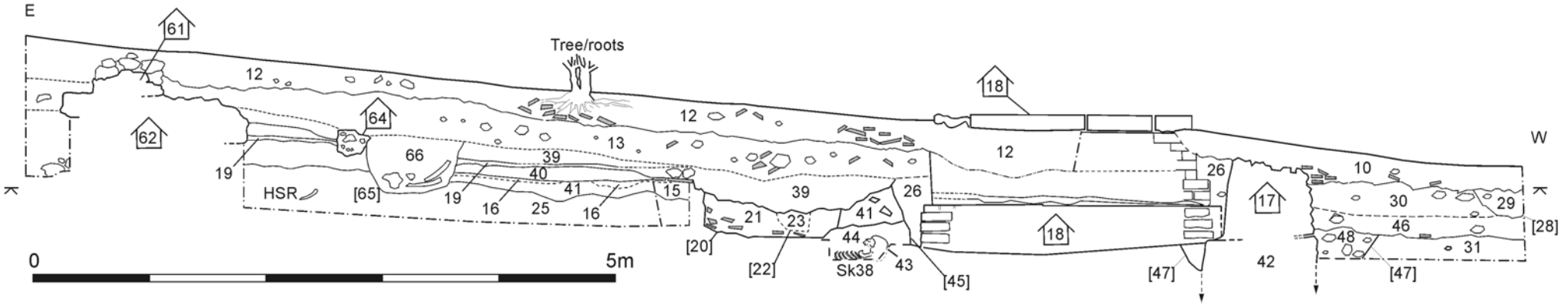

Figure 4. Excavation area, east, central and west sections. Scale 1:50

Within the area of former building and sealing the fills of the two graves described above, was mid orange brown silty sand with occasional stones and sparse flecks of mortar ([41]). It was interpreted as a make-up layer for the floor of the building. Above it was a thin layer of creamy yellow mortar ([16]) that was traced, intermittently along the trench. It was truncated in places by the graves that had been dug through it. Immediately to the east of wall [17] and, also, about 4.50m further to the east, small area of a tiled floor ([14] and [15]) survived, the tiles bedded into the mortar surface. In other areas, notably in a small area near the eastern end of the trench, impressions were seen, where tiles had been removed from the floor. The tiles were either yellow- or black-glazed and included small and large square tiles. To the west, alongside the wall, floor tiles ([14]) had been cut to fit a narrow gap at the edge of the floor and some tiles in the eastern area ([15]) also appeared to be similarly cut and may indicate an edge to the floor in that area – perhaps representing there was some kind of stepped, or other, boundary between the nave and the aisle or within the aisle itself. It may be that the tiles only survived in these marginal areas where many of them were cut fragments and not worth re-using.

Overlying the remnants of the tiled floor and its mortar-bedding layer was another make-up layer, this time of yellowish grey sand and mortar ([40]). Clearly most of the tiles of the original floor were removed before this was laid down. Layer [40] was overlaid by a second thin layer of mortar ([19]) that was presumably for another floor. It was more prominent in the eastern part of the trench, becoming intermittent and largely truncated to the west.

Immediately to the west of, or inside, the eastern wall of the former building, large flint cobbles set in mortar ([62]) formed the square corner of a ‘plinth’ which projected from the wall for about 0.75m and was about 0.40m deep. It extended beyond the southern edge of the trench. Mortar render partially covered its two exposed faces.

About a metre to the west of this ‘plinth’, a linear band of hard sandy yellow mortar ([64]) crossed the excavated area. It was 0.25m wide and about the same in depth. In the same area, the south face of a short east-to-west length of flint wall ([63]) was recorded at the northern edge of the trench. This terminated at a limestone cornerstone at its western end that was exactly aligned, at a right angle, with the linear band of mortar.

In the area between the plinth and the band of mortar, make-up material was overlaid by a thin layer of mortar which was the same as – or very similar to floor layer [16] to the west – although here, it appeared at a higher level.

It is hard to fully interpret these features from the small areas exposed but it is possible that the band of mortar represents the position of a step (possibly leading up to an altar or similar feature, represented by the rendered plinth in the corner of the chapel area). Such a step would explain the change in level of the mortared floor in the area. The short length of wall to the north may represent a division between the nave and chapel, or altar, area.

Evidence for activity post-dating the use of the building

In the central area of the trench the tiled floor ([15]) appeared to be cut by ?pit [20]. This extended outside the trench but was probably a sub-rectangular feature. It was flat-bottomed and contained a quite loose silty sand fill with occasional flints, fragments of tile and flecks of chalk and mortar. A sherd of 12th- to 14th-century pottery came from its fill that, towards its western end, was cut by a small ovate

grave ([22]) that contained the remains of an infant, probably newborn (Sk[24]). Numerous copper alloy pins were found surrounding the skeleton as well as a few iron nails, some with wood attached. These suggested that the infant had been wrapped in a shroud and placed within a coffin.

The upper floor layer ([19]) was overlaid by layer [39] that consisted of mid to light orange brown slightly silty sand with occasional small to medium flints and common flecks of chalky mortar. This layer appeared to continue westwards, sinking into a hollow in the area above the infilled ?pit [20] and infant burial [22]. This deposit probably represents material from the demolition of the aisle. In the area above the floor it was compacted - possibly *in situ* demolition material which may have been trampled to some degree - but above the infilled pit it was less so and rather more 'mixed' in appearance. It is possible that this might be because the digging of ?pit [20] and its backfilling post-dated the 'demolition' layer and that the latter was actually redeposited in this area.

In the central and western part of the trench the probable demolition material above the floor was truncated by later disturbances – namely the construction of tomb [18] that can be dated, from its inscription, to 1688.

Overlaying deposit [39], layer [13] was of a similar matrix to [39] but with frequent fragments of tile and slightly less compacted. It was also thought to include material from the demolition of the building. A piece of roof tile and three fragments of glazed floor tile, all of medieval date, came from the layer as well as several fragments of window glass (including two pieces of 14th-century date) and a piece of lead window came. One of the floor tiles has an inscription and can be dated to the late 14th century.

Outside the former building, to the west of wall [17], a layer of orange brown silty sand with occasional flints and fragments of tile and patches of mortar ([46]) overlay the subsoil. Its upper surface appeared to be trampled. It was overlaid by a slightly less compacted layer ([30]) of mid brown sandy silt with patches of orange-coloured sandier soil and common small to medium–sized flints. A sherd of pottery of 16th-century date and several fragments of window glass were found in this deposit. One piece of glass probably dates to between 1330-1380.

These deposits are thought to be equivalent to [39] and [13] within the building and to represent the demolition of the building and later accumulation of material but, in the excavated area to the west of the aisle, the deposits were undisturbed by graves. There were no burials and the only disturbance was at the western end of the trench where the edge of a feature ([28]), probably a pit, cut deposit [30]. Fragments of pan tile of post-medieval date and two iron nails were found in its fill ([29]) which was overlaid by the modern topsoil ([10]).

Near the eastern end of the trench, three pits or other disturbances ([53], [65] and [67]) were recorded. The former was recorded as cutting the upper floor layer [19]. The other two were seen to cut deposit [39]. Thus, these features almost certainly post-date the demolition and subsequent disuse of the building in this area.

To the east, layer [13] was disturbed by the construction of tomb [45]/[18] which has an inscription dating it to 1688. A sherd of pottery of 16th-century date came from the fill ([26]) surrounding the tomb. It was also cut, at the eastern end of the excavated area, at its northern edge, by an east-to-west gully ([55]) which was interpreted as a

drain, probably of late 19th- or 20th-century date. The west wall of the aisle [17] was truncated to its north and this was probably also due to the same drainage feature.

Watching brief

(Figs 2, 5 and 6)

North of the church

To the north of the church, trenches were dug for the 'French' drain alongside the wall of the building and for drains leading to a soakaway to its north-west. Close to the church, the trenches were just over a metre deep. At the junction of the drain trenches with the soakaway the trench was 1.25m deep.

In the base of the trenches, patches of buff sandy clay ([58]; not figured) were encountered and were thought to represent undisturbed natural deposits. Elsewhere the trenches were cut into an orange brown 'subsoil' ([57]). Occasional fragments of tile and pieces of disarticulated human bone were found in this layer; in one place, a skull was recorded at a depth of only 0.40m below the modern ground level. A handle from a Grimston ware vessel of 15th-century date also came from the subsoil. In several places, however, concentrations of human bone suggested the presence of *in situ* burials and in some cases these were certainly present (Fig. 2). Some articulated bone, as well as disturbed material, was removed by the archaeologist and retained for reburial. Due to the nature of the narrow machine-excavated trenches, no cuts for graves were visible.

The only feature of archaeological significance recorded in the drain trenches to the north of the church was the base of a former buttress (Fig. 2). This was revealed *c*. 2m to the east of the porch and consisted of footing [59] that was of cream coloured sandy lime mortar and some flints. It was observed in the sloping side of the trench beneath the topsoil and in its base. Directly above this footing the scar of the buttress is still visible in an unrendered area of the church wall and a stone capping for the former buttress protrudes from the upper wall.

The soakaway to the north-west, was 1.40m in depth. Its northern side coincided with wall [71] that ran east-to west, extending beyond both ends of the excavated trench (although due to its slightly different orientation to that of the trench, the west end

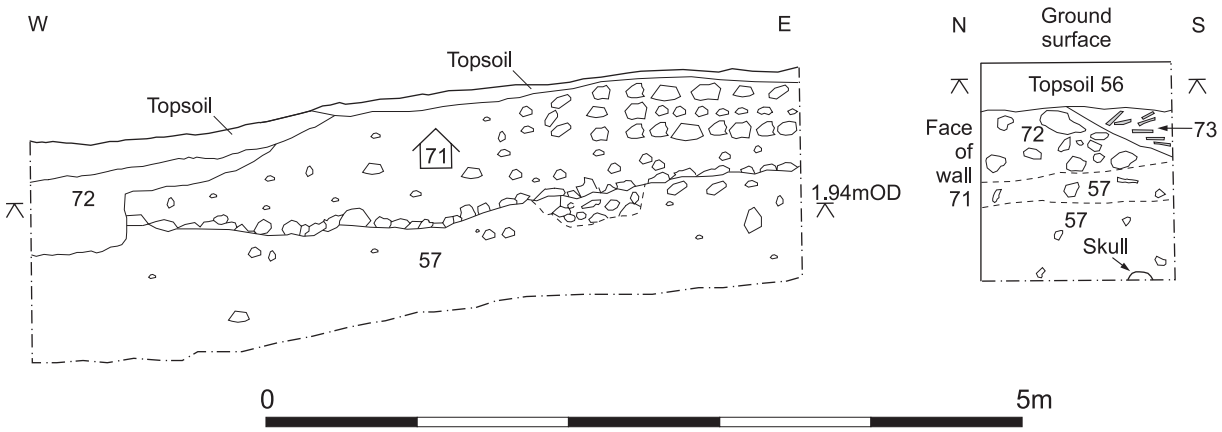

Figure 5. South- and west-facing section of soakaway north-west of church. Scale 1:50

was not quite revealed in the section) (Fig. 5). The wall was built of large flints that were quite neatly coursed in the upper area. The lower area had areas of mortar render surviving on its face. It appeared to have been built directly on the underlying 'subsoil' ([57]). A skull was recorded (and left *in situ*) in the bottom of the west-facing section of the soakaway. A 'bank' of mortar-rich sandy soil and flint rubble ([72]) appeared to rest up against the wall – it was seen in both the west- and east-facing trench sections. It may represent the collapse of the wall that is thought to be a former boundary to the churchyard or it may be a dump of material from elsewhere. On top of it was a dump of chalk-flecked soil with frequent fragments of tile ([73]).

South of the church

To the south of the chancel the trench for the 'French' drain was dug by machine. Nothing of archaeological interest was revealed within it other than significant amounts of human bone – which was retained for reburial. Halfway along this trench, another trench led directly southwards to a soakaway. This latter drain trench was 1.30m deep and the soakaway was 1.50m deep. Again, nothing of archaeological significance was revealed in these trenches – apart from human bone which was kept for reburial.

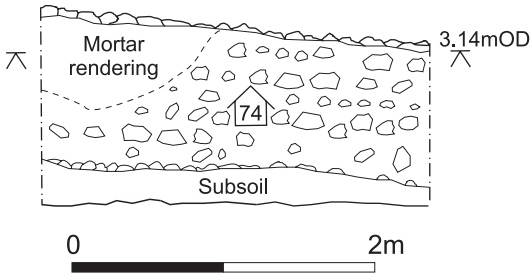

Figure 6. South-west soakaway, north-facing section. Scale 1:50

At the south-western corner of the church another drain trench was dug for a drain leading to a soakaway. Nothing of significance was recorded in the trench for the drain but in the soakaway another wall ([74]), similar to that seen in the soakaway to the north, was recorded (Fig. 6). It was of flint and mortar with some mortar render surviving and coincided with the edge of the soakaway trench in the same way as that to the north did. It is interpreted as representing a former southern boundary to the churchyard.

6.0 The Finds

Introduction

The finds are listed in Appendices 2a and 5 with more detailed information on specific material included below and in Appendices 3, 4, 6 and 7.

The Pottery

by Sue Anderson

Introduction

A total of nine sherds of pottery, weighing 0.225kg, were collected from seven contexts.

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count and weight. All fabric codes were assigned from the Suffolk post-Roman fabric series, which includes Norfolk, Essex,

Cambridgeshire and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Local wares and common imports were identified from Jennings (1981). Form terminology follows MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes. Standard pottery quantification forms were used.

The assemblage

The pottery is quantified by context in Appendix 3.

This small assemblage varies in date from the high medieval to modern periods. Modern material consisted of a creamware rim from a small holloware vessel of indeterminate form and the base of a stoneware blacking bottle, both from topsoil contexts ([10] and [12]). A fragment of a 17th- to 18th-century tankard or tyg in red earthenware similar to West Norfolk bichrome was also a topsoil find. A small burnt sherd of a local or Dutch post-medieval redware was found in a layer of demolition rubble [30], and the rim sherd of a local early post-medieval jug came from grave fill [26]. A large strap handle typical of later Grimston ware (cf Clarke and Carter 1977, fig 87.3) with an olive green glaze was found in a subsoil deposit ([57]). Two abraded sherds of high medieval Grimston ware were also found in subsoil deposits [31], and an abraded sherd of Grimston-type coarseware came from pit fill [21].

Discussion

The earliest pottery from the site consisted of locally produced coarse and glazed wares from Grimston near King's Lynn. These were widely available during the 12th to 14th centuries and occur on most high medieval sites in the region. Later Grimston ware is more common in West Norfolk than further afield, as it was rivalled by the Late Medieval and Transitional (LMT) industries on the north Suffolk border. The local early post-medieval ware jug is similar to examples made at Fulmodeston and may be a product of that kiln site (Wade-Martins 1983). Post-medieval wares are represented by red-firing earthenwares, which is again typical of the region at this period. The modern wares are utilitarian types and available to most classes of people during the 19th century. The group is too small and too broad in date range for further conclusions.

Ceramic Building Material

by Lucy Talbot

The site produced ninety-five examples of medieval and post-medieval ceramic building material weighing 16.273kg.

Methodology

The assemblage was quantified (counted and weighed) by form and fabric (Appendix 4). The fabrics were identified by eye and the main inclusions noted. Fabric descriptions and dates are based on the provisional type series established by Sue Anderson formerly of the Suffolk Unit.

Medieval

The medieval ceramic building material assemblage consists of a single piece of plain unglazed roof tile and three fragments of English floor tile dating from the 13th to 15th centuries (0.319 kg). All of them were from demolition layer [13].

The most interesting of these is an incomplete triangular tile, described by Eames as a type Bii (Eames 1978), and decorated with a relief inscription under a copper-rich lead glaze. A similar complete square tile can be found at Beauvale Priory, Nottingham and dates from the late 14th century (Eames 1980, no.354).

The two remaining fragments of floor tile are badly worn, with traces of copper-rich lead glaze remaining in patches.

Post-medieval

The site produced ninety-one fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material of 16th- to 19th-century date (15.954kg). The assemblage includes two pieces of dark orange coarse sandy brick with sparse inclusions of flint and ferrous pellets (0.730kg). Twenty-one fragments of plain unglazed roof tile and six pieces of pan tile were collected (3.822kg). The roof tile is made of an orange medium sandy fabric with sparse flint inclusions. The pan tiles have a finer sandy fabric with few coarse inclusions, and are likely to be of a later date than the plain roof tiles.

Early post-medieval Flemish floor tiles make up the majority of the whole assemblage (11.402kg). The group consists of sixty-one fragments and one intact example. All have similar fabric, orange, medium to fine sand with grog inclusions and voids. Decoration varies from clear lead to copper and iron rich lead glazes, and cream slip under a clear lead glaze. All are square shaped with the exception of one triangular example, have undercut sides, mainly sanded bases and the majority have the characteristic nail holes in each corner. Many have traces of mortar present on sides and/or bases. Only one intact example survives with complete dimensions of 118x119x24 mm ([15]) but many have one or more complete width/length and measurements varying from 114 – 122 mm, with the thickness ranging from 24-27 mm. A large cream slip glazed floor tile also survives in three pieces and measures 237 x 244 x 36 mm. A single tile fragment recovered from context [14] has a large flat bulge, possibly an air bubble, in the centre of the upper surface and fissures on one or more sides which have filled with a dark green copper rich lead glaze. This is possibly a waster or at least evidence of a misfiring.

Small Finds

by Julia Huddle and Stephen Heywood

A total of fifteen small finds were recovered on site.

The window glass and lead window came amount to ten small finds (representing 29 individual items) and are discussed below by David King.

A very interesting piece of worked limestone was recovered from modern topsoil (SF1; Plate 1). The diagonal axed tooling on this piece suggests it is of late 11th- or 12th- century date. Its function is uncertain but the definite triangular section suggests the possibility of it having been part of a polygonal bowl, i.e. a font or stoop. The motif is uncommon in Romanesque sculpture and parallels are lacking.

Plate 1. Worked stone (SF1). Scale 1:4

Part of an iron horseshoe (SF2) and a piece of nailed lead strip are from the fill of grave [26] which dated to

the post-medieval period, both the items could be medieval or later in date.

Some twenty drawn wire copper alloy pins (SF7) are from the fill of post-medieval grave [23] and are probably shroud pins, their uniformity in shape and small size suggests they are likely to be of post-medieval date.

Finally a piece of lead waste spillage (or melted material) (SF5) is from demolition material [30].

Window Glass and Lead Cames

by David J King

Window Glass

A small amount of medieval window glass was found consisting of twenty-seven fragments, of which eleven have traces of painted decoration. The glass is mainly opaque and often considerably denatured. Some of the opaque fragments were almost certainly pot colour (i.e. the glass itself is coloured). Only four pieces have painting that is sufficiently clear and complete to give any indication of typology. One fragment (Appendix 6; Cat. 10) has painting that may suggest that it is part of a section of drapery. Two other pieces (Cat.17, 26) are indicative of naturalistic grisaille of the 14th century. One (Cat. 17) has part of a barbed rose, and a second (Cat. 26) has part of a leaf. The evidence is not sufficient for certainty on this matter, but grisaille painting of this type was ubiquitous in 14th-century glazing. The piece of drapery could point to a band window, combining horizontal bands of grisaille above and below a series of figures.

One larger fragment (Cat. 1) has the inside surface of the glass covered with striated paint which is probably smear shading, a technique used mainly in the period *c.* 1330-1380, which would provide a suitable date range for the whole assemblage.

Lead Window Came

Two pieces of lead came of medieval date were recovered from deposit [13] (Appendix 7).

7.0 Conclusions

The earliest deposits encountered in the excavated trench were brown silt sands that were thought probably to represent the surviving part of a subsoil that had been disturbed by burials, and perhaps levelled to some degree, prior to building in the area. Two sherds of pottery of 11th- to 14th-century date were found in this material.

Two graves were recorded cutting the layer of probable subsoil. They were post-dated by levelling activity and make-up material for the construction of the building to the south of the church. The cranium of one skeleton had been truncated by the preparations for the laying of the later floor and this burial was also truncated by another one that, in turn, was cut by another. It is very likely, although not certain, that both these latter burials also pre-dated the building in the area.

The excavation revealed the eastern and western walls of the former building to the south of the nave although both walls were truncated at their northern end where there was a small gap between them and the standing wall of the church – probably the wall had been destroyed here by a 19th- or 20th-century drain. The western wall

of the aisle survived to a height of over half a metre. At the other end of the trench, another substantial wall represented the eastern wall of the chapel to the east of the main aisle. Other masonry remains within the eastern end of the former building may have indicated the position of internal structures such as walls, a step and, perhaps, an altar of some sort. Within the former building a mortar bedding layer for a floor was recorded and, upon this, two or three small areas of tiled floor survived, most of the tiles having, apparently been robbed. Above the remnants of the floor was make-up material layer and then another thin layer of mortar survived intermittently, presumably bedding for a later floor.

The floor was disturbed by later activity – mainly that relating to further burials in the area. It was also overlaid by layers of material that included demolition debris from the building. A fragment of floor tile has an inscription and can be dated to the late 14th century and several pieces of window glass also date to the 14th century.

The archaeological work resulted in the, previously unknown, realisation of the position of the eastern and western sides of the former aisle and chapel. It also provided some evidence for internal detail such as rendering of the walls, tiled floors, and features such as walls and, possibly, a stepped floor and altar. Sherds of 12th- to 14th-century pottery were found in a deposit that pre-dated the building and tile and glass of 14th-century date concur with the previously suggested date for the aisle and chapel.

To the south and north of the church, the remains of flint walls, revealed in the trenches for the soakaways suggested that the churchyard was formerly walled and, partly, showed its extent.

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Finds were processed by Lucy Talbot and finds were examined and reports written by Sue Anderson (pottery), Stephen Heywood (worked stone), Julia Huddle (small finds), David King (window glass and lead came) and Lucy Talbot (ceramic building material).

Julie Curl and David Dobson prepared the illustrations for this report which was edited by Alice Lyons.

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Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Description	Period
10	Deposit	Topsoil	Modern
11	Deposit	Layer	Post-medieval
12	Deposit	Topsoil	Modern
13	Deposit	Layer – demolition material (E. end of trench, inside aisle)	Post-medieval
14	Deposit	Floor	Medieval
15	Deposit	Floor	Medieval
16	Deposit	Mortar for floor	Medieval
17	Masonry	West wall of aisle	Medieval
18	Masonry	Tomb within [45]	Post-medieval
19	Deposit	Mortar for floor	Medieval
20	Cut	Pit	Post-medieval
21	Deposit	Fill of pit [20]	Post-medieval
22	Cut	Grave	Post-medieval
23	Deposit	Fill of grave [22]	Post-medieval
24	Skeleton	Within grave [22]	Post-medieval
25	Deposit	Subsoil (E. end of trench, inside aisle)	Medieval
26	Deposit	Fill of [45]	Post-medieval
27	Skeleton	*In situ* burial	Medieval
28	Cut	Pit	Post-medieval
29	Deposit	Fill of [28]	Post-medieval
30	Deposit	Layer – demolition material (West end of trench, outside aisle)	Post-medieval
31	Deposit	Subsoil (West end of trench, outside aisle)	Medieval
32	Skeleton	Within grave [33]	Medieval
33	Cut	Grave	Medieval
34	Deposit	Fill of grave [33]	Medieval
35	Skeleton	Within grave [36]	Medieval
36	Cut	Grave	Medieval
37	Deposit	Fill of grave [36]	Medieval
38	Skeleton	Within grave [43]	Medieval
39	Deposit	Layer	Post-medieval
40	Deposit	Layer – makeup between floor levels	Medieval
41	Deposit	Layer	Medieval
42	Masonry	Footing for aisle wall	Medieval
43	Cut	Grave	Medieval
44	Deposit	Fill of grave [43]	Medieval
45	Cut	Grave	Post-medieval
46	Deposit	Layer	Post-medieval
47	Cut	Construction cut for [17]	Medieval
48	Deposit	Fill of [47]	Medieval
49	Deposit	?Undisturbed natural deposit	Natural
50	Deposit	Fill of grave [51]	Medieval
51	Cut	Grave	Medieval
52	Skeleton	Within subsoil [25]	Medieval
53	Cut	?Pit	Post-medieval
54	Deposit	Fill of ?pit [53]	Post-medieval
55	Cut	?Pipe trench	Modern
56	Deposit	Topsoil – during watching brief to north of church	Modern
57	Deposit	Subsoil – during watching brief to north of church	Post-medieval
58	Deposit	Undisturbed natural deposit - during watching brief to north of church	Natural
59	Masonry	Mortar footing of former buttress	Medieval
60	Deposit	Layer – demolition material	Post-medieval

Context	Category	Description	Period
61	Masonry	East wall of aisle or chapel	Medieval
62	Masonry	Plinth	Medieval
63	Masonry	Corner	Medieval
64	Masonry	?Step	Medieval
65	Cut	Pit	Post-medieval
66	Deposit	Fill of pit [65]	Post-medieval
67	Cut	Pit/post-hole	Post-medieval
68	Deposit	Fill of pit/post-hole [67]	Post-medieval
69	Deposit	Subsoil – similar to [25]	Medieval
70	Deposit	Make-up layer	Post-medieval
71	Masonry	Wall	?Post-medieval
72	Deposit	Dump	Post-medieval
73	Deposit	Dump	Post-medieval
74	Masonry	Wall	?Post-medieval

Appendix 1b: OASIS feature summary table

Period	Feature type	Quantity
Medieval (1066 to 1539AD)	Building	1
Medieval (1066 to 1539AD)	Grave	?4
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD)	Grave	?
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD)	Pit/post-hole	?3
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD)	Wall	2
Modern (1900 to 2050 AD)	Pit/post-hole	?3

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context (not including Small Finds which are listed in Appendix 5)

Contex	Material	Quantity	Weight	Period
10	Pottery	1	0.001	Post-medieval
	Ceramic building	4	0.893	Post-medieval
	Mortar	2	0.180	-
	Iron nail	1	-	-
	Glass - window	1	-	Post-medieval
12	Pottery	2	0.053	Post-medieval
	Ceramic building	3	1.783	Post-medieval
	Iron nail	1	-	-
13	Ceramic building	31	5.531	Medieval and post-
	Mortar	1	0.172	-
	Shell – oyster	-	0.014	-
14	Ceramic building	9	1.630	Post-medieval
	Mortar	4	0.352	-
15	Ceramic building	17	2.696	Post-medieval
21	Pottery	1	0.004	Medieval
	Ceramic building	19	1.689	Post-medieval
	Iron nails	14	-	-
23	Iron nails	3	-	-
26	Pottery	1	0.011	Post-medieval
	Ceramic building	7	1.442	Post-medieval
	Shell – Oyster	-	0.010	-

Contex	Material	Quantity	Weight	Period
29	Ceramic building	2	0.292	Post-medieval
	Iron nails	2	-	-
30	Pottery	1	0.006	Post-medieval
	Ceramic building	3	0.317	Post-medieval
	Iron nails	7	-	-
31	Pottery	2	0.004	Medieval
34	Iron nails	9	-	-
57	Pottery	1	0.147	Medieval

Appendix 2b: NHER finds summary table

Period	Material	Quantity
Unknown	Lead and Iron strip	1
	Lead metal working debris	1
	Window glass	3
	Shell	-
	Mortar	-
	Iron nails	37
Medieval (1066 to 1539AD)	Pottery	6
	Ceramic building material	4
	Worked Stone	1
	Iron horse shoe	1
	Window glass	24
	Window came	2
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD)	Pottery	3
	Copper alloy pins	20
	Ceramic building material	91

Appendix 3: Pottery

Context	Fabric	Sherd count	Weight (kg)	Description	Spotdate
10	Refined whiteware	1	0.001	Small rolled rim, creamware (diam 60mm, 5%)	Late 18th to 19th century
12	West Norfolk bichrome?	1	0.007	Body of tankard? Dark green glaze ext, speckled brown/green glaze interior	17th to 18th century
	English stoneware	1	0.045	Blacking bottle base, with contents adhering	19th century
21	Grimston-type medieval coarseware	1	0.004	Abraded body sherd	12th to 14th century
26	Local early post-medieval ware	1	0.011	Rim of jug, copper green glaze int & ext (diam 80mm, 9%)	16th century
30	Glazed red earthenware	1	0.006	Or possible Dutch redware, burnt body sherd, orange glaze interior	16th to 18th century
31	Grimston Ware	2	0.004	Slightly abraded body sherds, 2 vessels, green glazed exterior	Late 12th to 14th century
57	Late Grimston Ware	1	0.147	Large strap handle stabbed at intervals along centre line, large pads to apply lower end, pale yellow-green glaze, pale buff oxidised surface	15th century

Appendix 4: Ceramic Building Material

Context	Form	Quantity	Weight (kg)	Period
10	Plain roof tile	2	0.285	Post-medieval
	Floor tile	2	0.608	Post-medieval
12	Brick	1	0.695	Post-medieval
	Pan tile	2	1.088	Post-medieval
13	Plain roof tile	1	0.015	Medieval
	Floor tile	3	0.304	Medieval
	Floor tile	27	5.212	Post-medieval
14	Floor tile	9	1.630	Post-medieval
15	Floor tile	17	2.696	Post-medieval
21	Brick	1	0.035	Post-medieval
	Plain roof tile	15	1.298	Post-medieval
	Pan tile	1	0.146	Post-medieval
	Floor tile	2	0.210	Post-medieval
26	Plain roof tile	4	0.531	Post-medieval
	Pan tile	1	0.182	Post-medieval
	Floor tile	2	0.729	Post-medieval
29	Pan tile	2	0.292	Post-medieval
30	Floor tile	3	0.317	Post-medieval

Appendix 5: Small Finds

Small Find	Context	Context type/date	Material	Object name	Description	Object date
1	12	Topsoil modern	Limestone ?Barnack	Worked stone	Fragment of worked stone broken on the underside. Worked surfaces with very marked, axed, diagonal tooling. Stylised arrowhead or spearhead motif in light bas-relief with a shaft terminating at a slightly moulded border marked by a quirk; tip missing. 'Arrowhead' with concave sides and convex base, is triangular in section with the apex corresponding to the centre of the motif. A further fragmentary worked edge to one side. Length (incomplete): 220; width (incomplete): 203; thickness (incomplete): 35mm (Catalogue entry by Stephen Heywood).	11th or 12th century
2	26	Fill of Grave Post-medieval	Iron	Horseshoe	One branch of a horseshoe broken at ?both ends with broad web (32mm at widest point) and smooth profile, only one rectangular nail hole visible with remains of stump from iron nail. Entire surfaces covered in corrosive products and this item should be x-rayed.	Medieval or later.

Small Find	Context	Context type/date	Material	Object name	Description	Object date
3	26	Fill of Grave Post-medieval	Lead & Iron	Nailed strip	With iron nail *in situ*.	Undiagnostic
4	13	Demolition material Post-medieval	Lead	Window came	See Appendix 7.	Medieval
5	30	Demolition material Post-medieval	Lead	Waste	Spillage, 52g.	Undiagnostic
6	13	Demolition material Post-medieval	Lead	Window came	See Appendix 7.	Medieval
7	23	Grave fill, no date	Copper alloy	Pins x 20	At least twenty pins, a few broken and two showing signs of having been white metal coated; all with short straight shanks and spherical heads which appear to be formed by a strip around the top of the shank as in Type 2 (Margeson 1993, fig 5, nos. 36-38) recovered from 16th, 18th and an unphased deposit respectively.	Post-medieval
8	30	Demolition material Post-medieval	Glass	Window glass x 2	See Appendix 6.	See Appendix 6
9	30	Demolition material Post-medieval	Glass	Window glass x 6	See Appendix 6.	See Appendix 6
10	13	Demolition material Post-medieval	Glass	Window glass x 4	See Appendix 6.	See Appendix 6
11	11	No information	Glass	Window glass x 1	See Appendix 6.	See Appendix 6
12	26	Fill of grave Post medieval	Glass	Window glass x 2	See Appendix 6.	See Appendix 6
13	60	Demolition material no date	Glass	Window glass x 4	See Appendix 6.	See Appendix 6
14	13	Demolition material Post-medieval	Glass	Window glass x 2	See Appendix 6.	See Appendix 6
15	13	Demolition material Post-medieval	Glass	Window glass x 5	See Appendix 6.	See Appendix 6

Appendix 6: Window glass

Catalogue

1. SF8 [30]. A sub-rectangular opaque fragment with one grozed edge having what appears to be smear shading on the inside surface. 47x30x3mm. c.1330-c.1380.
2. SF8 [30]. A sub-triangular fragment with unidentified painted trace line. 30x28x4.5mm. 14th century.
3. SF9 [30]. A sub-triangular fragment of clear glass with one grozed edge. 23x23x2mm. Medieval.
4. SF9 [30]. A rhomboidal fragment of clear glass with one grozed edge. 22x18x2mm. Medieval.
5. SF9 Context 30. A rectangular fragment of clear glass with one grozed edge. 19x10x2mm. Medieval.
6. SF9 [30]. A fragment of clear medieval glass, 2mm thick.
7. SF9 [30]. A fragment of clear medieval glass, 2mm thick.
8. SF9 [30]. A fragment of clear medieval glass, 2mm thick.
9. SF9 [30]. A fragment of clear medieval glass, 2mm thick.
10. SF10 [13]. A trapezoid fragment of opaque glass with one grozed edge and a painted design with a thin matt wash and trace lines. Possibly drapery. Fourteenth century.
11. SF10 [13]. A sub-rectangular fragment of opaque glass with a single trace line. 17x15x3mm. Medieval.
12. SF10 [13]. A sub-triangular fragment of opaque glass with the end of a curved trace line. 8x7x5mm. Medieval.
13. SF10 [13]. A sub-triangular fragment of opaque glass with one grozed edge. 20x9x3mm. Medieval.
14. SF11 [11]. An irregular fragment of opaque glass. 20x13x1mm. Medieval or post-medieval.
15. SF12 [26]. A sub-triangular fragment of clear (almost opaque) glass with two adjacent grozed edges. 28x21x3mm. Medieval.
16. SF12 [26]. A fragment of clear (almost opaque) glass, 1mm thick, possibly medieval.
17. SF13 [60]. A sub-triangular fragment of opaque glass with part of a barbed rose design, probably from naturalistic foliage grisaille. Yellow stain may have been used on the back of the glass on the petals. 20x17x2.5mm. *c*.1330-1400.
18. SF13 [60]. A flake of clear, almost opaque, glass.
19. SF13 [60]. A flake of clear, almost opaque, glass.
20. SF13 [60]. A flake of clear, almost opaque, glass.
21. SF14 [13]. A sub-triangular fragment of clear (almost opaque) glass with curved trace lines. This fragment may be from 13th century stiff-leaf grisaille, or from later decorative work. 56x21x3.5mm. 13th or 14th century.
22. SF14 [13]. A rectangular fragment of opaque glass with two adjacent and one flat edge. 20x15x3mm. Medieval.
23. SF15 [13]. A sub-triangular fragment of opaque glass with a thick matt wash that has mainly flaked off. 23x7x3mm. Medieval.
24. SF15 [13]. A sub-rectangular fragment of opaque glass with a thick matt wash that has mainly flaked off. 15x8x3mm. Medieval.
25. SF15 [13]. A sub-rectangular fragment of opaque glass with a small circular trace line. 17x14x3mm. Medieval.
26. SF15 [13]. A sub-triangular fragment of opaque glass with the trefoil tip of a naturalistic leaf, possibly from naturalistic leaf grisaille. 22x16x2.5mm. *c*.1290-1400.
27. SF15 [13]. A fragment of opaque glass, 3mm thick. Medieval.

Appendix 7: Lead came

The catalogue refers to the typology established by Dr Barry Knight (see King 1987).

1. SF4 [13]. A section of medieval lead came, type C, 80mm long, flange 4mm, heart 2mm.
2. SF6 [13]. A section of medieval lead came, type A, 100mm long, flange 6mm, heart 3mm.