



University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

**A Level 2 Historic Building Survey
(Level 2) of St Bartholomew's Church,
Main Street, Kirby Muxloe,
Leicestershire.**

NGR: SK 52072 04658

Sophie Clarke



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Main Street, Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire**

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**For: St Bartholomew's Church, Kirby Muxloe PCC
and Pick Everard**

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A Historic Building Survey of St Bartholomew's Church, Main Street, Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire.

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Summary

An historic building survey was undertaken by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) of St Bartholomew's Church, Main Street, Kirby Muxloe, in advance of the construction of a new single storey extension and access path, for which planning permission has been granted (P.A. 12/0517/1/PX).

The church is a Grade II Listed Building dating to the early 13th century, with 14th and 15th century alterations, with restorations by Henry Goddard undertaken between 1848-1850.*

The report and archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums under Accession Number X.A43.2014.

Introduction

In accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12 *Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment* this document forms the report for an historic building survey (Level 2) of St. Bartholomew's Church, Main Street, Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire (NGR SK 52072 04658; Figs 1 and 2). Level 2 historic building surveys are defined in the English Heritage guidance document – *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (2006). Planning permission has been granted for a single storey extension and access path (12/0517/1/PX). The single storey extension is to be located against the northern wall of the church, which will involve the insertion of a new doorway through the existing fabric.

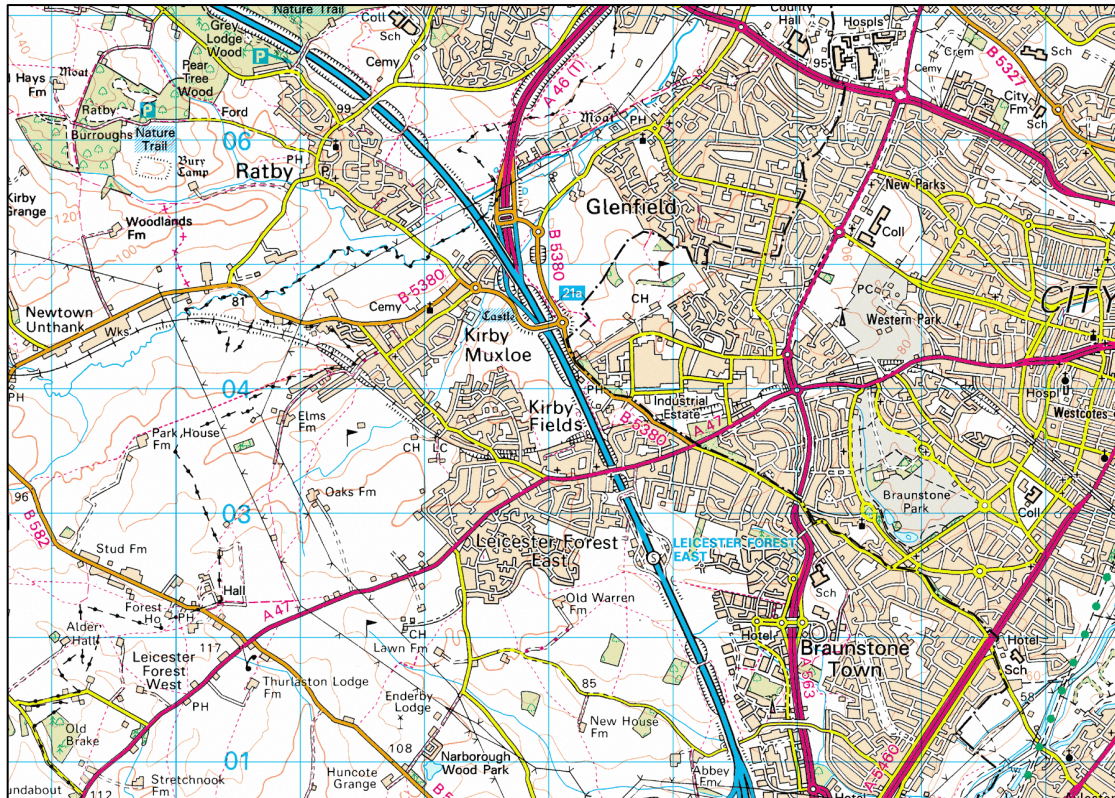


Figure 1. Site Location

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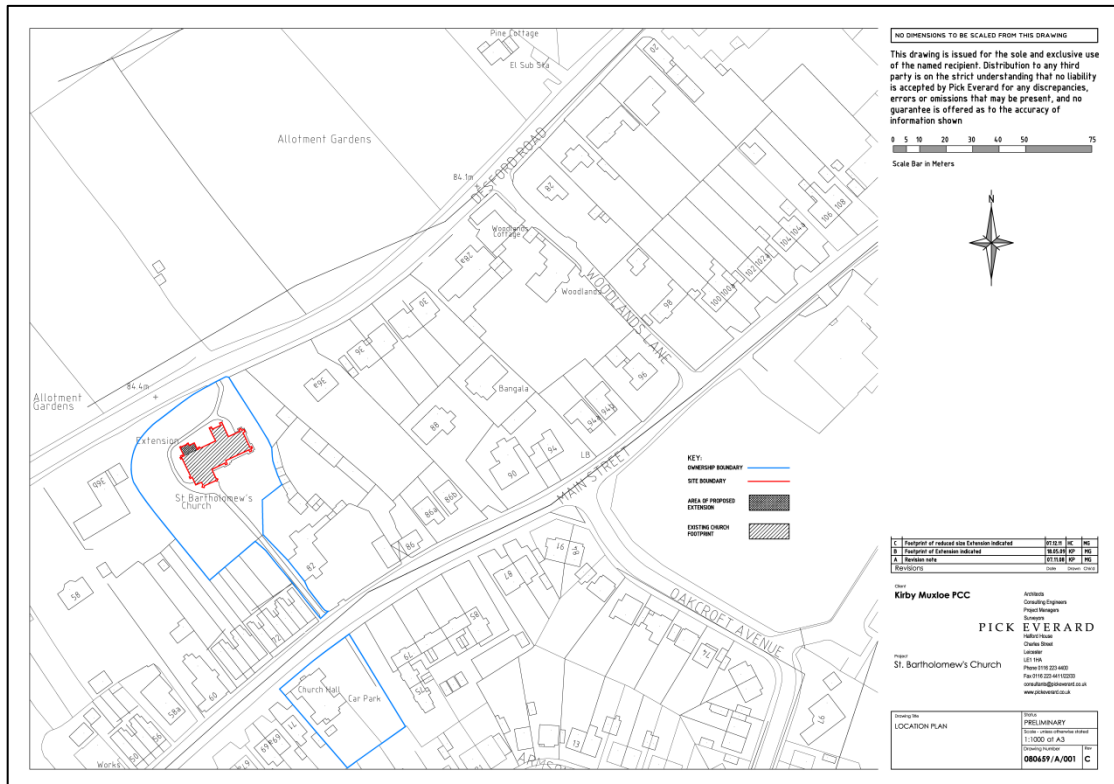


Figure 2. Site plan,

Aims and Objectives

The aim of the work is to provide a record of the existing church building, in advance of the proposed extension. The fieldwork was carried out in response to a request by the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council that a Level 2 historic building survey be completed before the alterations take place.

The objectives of the historic building survey are:

- To provide a written, drawn and photographic record of all the buildings on site prior to the commencement of works with specific attention given to those elements proposed for demolition, conversion and/or alteration. This work to be undertaken to a standard that will allow the future interpretation of the building within the context for which it was originally designed and which subsequently evolved.
- To ensure the long-term preservation of the information through deposition of the record and a summary written report with an appropriate depository.

Methodology

The fieldwork was carried out by Sophie Clarke of ULAS on the 20th March 2014.

Black and white 35mm photographs and digital colour photographs were taken throughout the survey. Notes and sketches were also made and scale site plans supplied by the client were used and modified to suit the purposes of this survey. The specific levels of detail used in the Level 2 survey followed the guidelines laid down in the English Heritage (2006) specification, which were:

1. The Written Account:

- The precise location of the building, by name or street number, civil parish, town, etc, and National Grid reference and details of listing or scheduling.
- The date when the record was made, and the name(s) of the recorder(s).
- A statement describing the building's plan, form, function, age and development sequence. The names of architects, builders, patrons and owners should be given if known.
- An account of the building's overall form (structure, materials, layout) and its successive phases of development, together with the evidence supporting this analysis.
- An account of past and present uses of the building and its parts, with the evidence for these interpretations. An analysis of any circulation pattern or decorative, iconographic or liturgical scheme.

2. Drawn Record:

- Shall comprise plans (to scale or full dimensioned) of all main floors as existing. Small buildings of well-known types, or buildings with a repetitive structure (e.g.

many industrial buildings) may be planned on one floor only, but a note or a sketch plan should be made to show the arrangement of other floors. Plans should show the form and location of any structural features of historic significance (e.g. blocked doors and windows; former fireplace openings; masonry joints; changes in internal levels).

- As a minimum, in all cases, the drawn record will include a sketch plan roughly dimensioned (when no more thorough drawn record is required). Such a plan may not always include structural details (e.g. timber framing).
- In each of the above cases, use may be made of available plans (i.e. those prepared as part of a planning application). In all cases these shall be checked by the historic building specialist and supplemented or amended where necessary.

3. Photographic Record:

- General view of views of the exterior of the building.
- The overall appearance of principal rooms and circulation areas.
- Detailed coverage of the building's external appearance. In the case of a building designed by an architect, or intended to be seen from a certain point of view, it is important to have regard to the builder's intentions and to record the effect of the design or of the building's placing.

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2012) and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing buildings or Structures* (2010). In addition, Leicestershire County Council's *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire* (1997) was followed.

Results

The Church of St. Bartholomew is a Grade II* Listed Building dating to the early 13th century, with 14th and 15th century alterations and 19th and 20th century restorations (LB ref: 1177204; HER ref: MLE11081). The Church lies within the Historic Settlement Core of Kirby Muxloe (MLE211) and is likely to have been a focus for activity during the medieval and post-medieval periods.

The Listed building description is as follows:

KIRBY MUXLOE MAIN STREET SK 50 SW 4/41 Church of St Bartholomew
7.10.57 GV II*

Parish church. Early C13 with C14 and C15 alterations to tower. Very much restored 1849 and 1857-8, with further restorations to tower 1891. Vestry/ organ chamber added 1927. Granite and slate rubble with limestone dressings and some ashlar facing to tower. Swithland slate roofs. Nave, south tower, chancel, north vestry/organ chamber. C19 off-set buttresses and gable copings. Y-tracery windows in double hollow-chamfered surrounds with hoodmoulds, all renewed C19. Nave has 3-light west window with carved heads at stops and apex, 3 bays of 2-light windows to north, and 2 similar windows to south. South tower is of 2 stages with moulded string and eaves, pyramidal roof and weathercock. Short diagonal buttresses. Late C14-C15 bell-chamber with 2-light traceried openings and single cusped ogee lights below. South

door, through tower, has moulded 2-centred arch with hoodmould. Small C20 boiler room in south west angle between tower and nave. Chancel has 2-light window to north, 2 more to south along with a transomed low-side window and a blocked door, and 3-light east window. Vestry is gabled to north and has matching windows and north door. Interior: C19 roofs, that to nave with scissor trusses on carved foliage corbels; double-chamfered chancel arch with inner order on semi-octagonal piers; small arched niche in south wall of nave; small arched piscina in chancel; 2 arches to vestry and organ chamber. Fittings are all C19-C20, and include a carved stone reredos with panels for texts; and early C20 glass. Wall tablet in chancel to Francis St John 1732, with broken pediment.

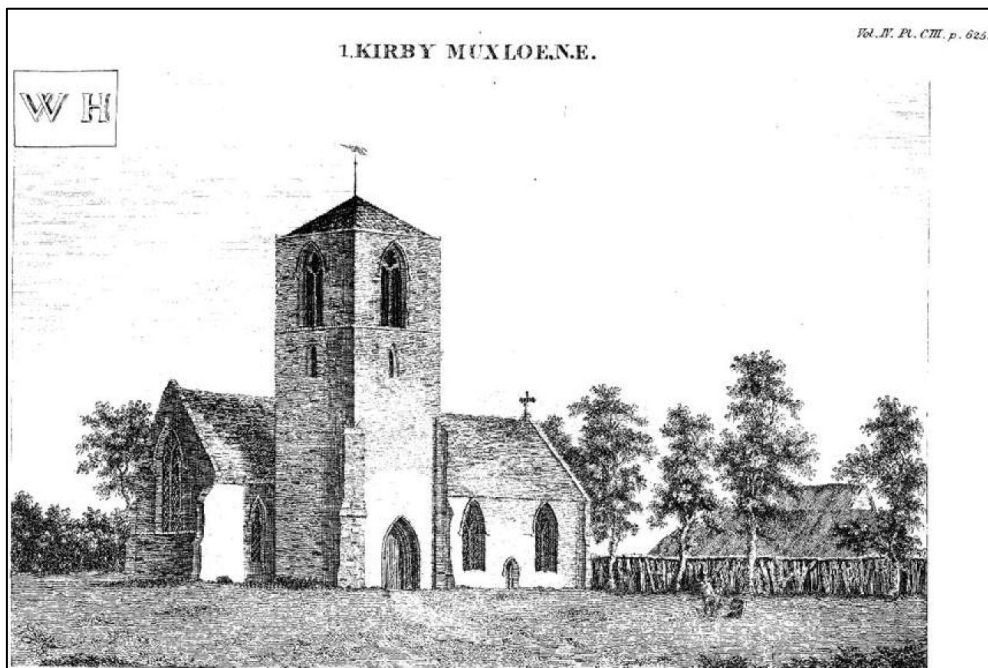


Figure 3. Engraving of St. Bartholomew's Church (c.1792) seen from the south-west.
Reproduced from J. Nichols (1811) vol. IV pt. ii

Building Description

The small parish church building is approximately 72.5m long, comprising a simple nave, chancel and sanctuary, with a low bell-tower located to the south-west and a vestry of 1925-27 located to the north-east. Kirby is known to have had a church by 1168, but the majority of the present building appears to date from the late 13th or early 14th century, with much restoration undertaken during the second half of the 19th century. In the church guide of 1969, Wilshire describes the building as being of white sandstone and gravel, with some granite and stone rubble and states that the north wall of the nave was re-built last century in Derbyshire blue stone. The roof is of Swithland slate.

The building was restored in 1848-50, under the instruction of Henry Goddard (b.1792), of the Goddard dynasty of Leicester architects. The main focus of this work appears to have been the replacement of the roof and the re-building of the north wall

of the nave, which had been previously identified in the Archdeacons report of 1842 as being in a poor state of repair. The church was also refurnished at this time, with the removal of the low Deal galley formerly located at the western end of the nave, and the installation of new oak pews.

Impact of the proposed works

The approved planning application is for the construction of a single storey extension to the north wall, at the western end of the nave, in order to provide kitchen and W.C. facilities. This will involve the partial blocking of an existing lancet window and the insertion of a new doorway opening beneath. Both the window and the wall date to the restoration of 1848-50, and these proposals are therefore unlikely to have an impact upon any upstanding medieval church fabric.

There are three headstones which will require relocation within the graveyard in order to make way for the new extension. These mark the burials of Sarah and Samuel Smith (d. 10th May 1918 and 2nd January 1934 respectively); their son, Walter Henry Smith (d. 12th March 1910), and William Fielding Hitchcock (d. 8th July 1890) and his wife Sarah. It is not known whether the inhumations are also to be relocated at this time. The excavation of the footings and services for the new extension are to be carried out under archaeological monitoring.

The interior of the south wall of the nave is currently showing signs of damp and possible water ingress, which has caused damage to the modern plasterwork. At some future point it is proposed to remove the modern plaster, with a view to identifying the source of the problem and carrying out the necessary repairs. The south wall of the nave appears to be one of the earlier parts of the building and there is some potential for the presence of early painted wall plaster beneath the modern plaster, which may be exposed during its removal.

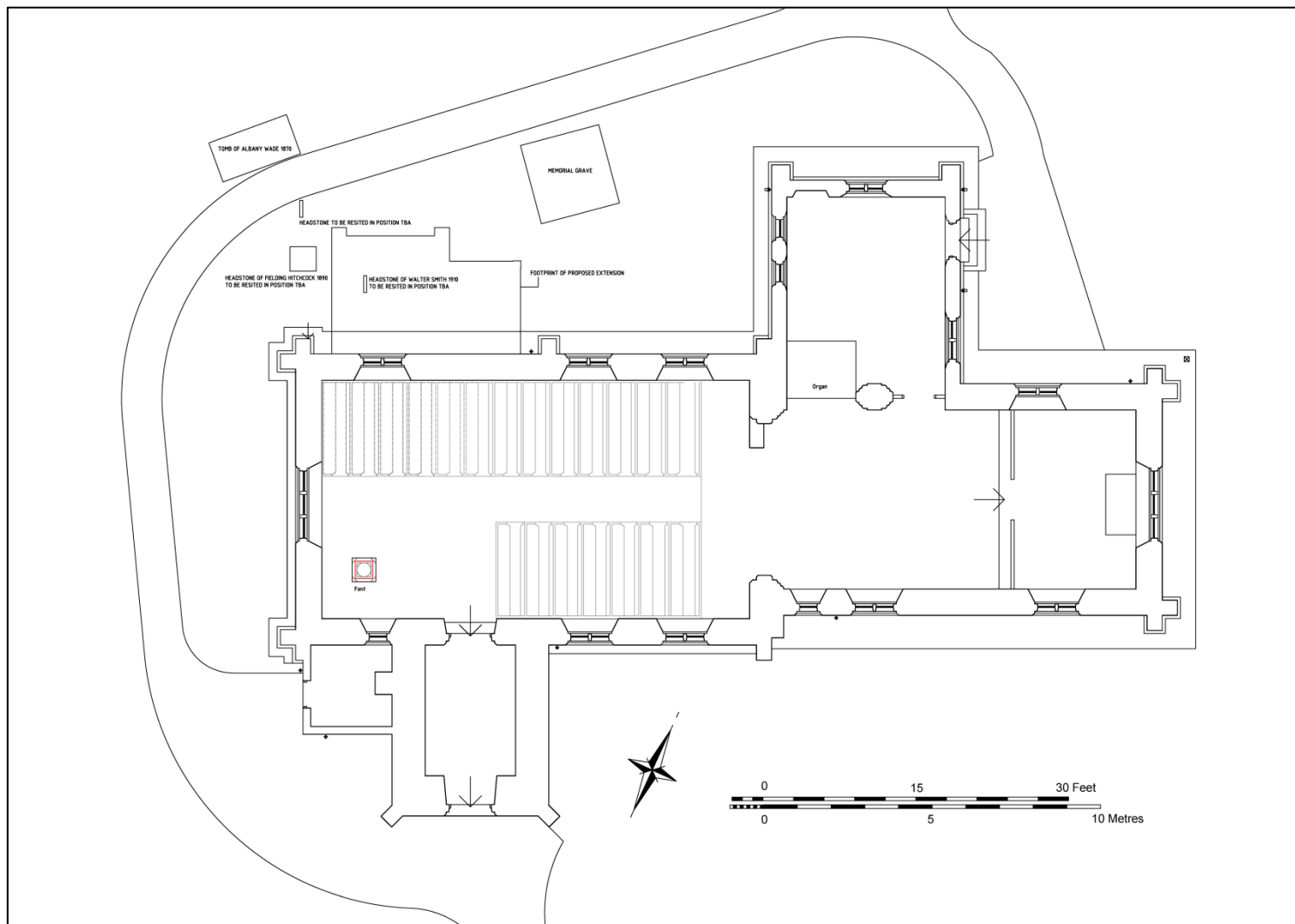


Figure 4. Existing floor plan (derived from drawing supplied by Pick Everard)



Figure 5. Existing north elevation (derived from drawing supplied by Pick Everard).

Photographic Survey

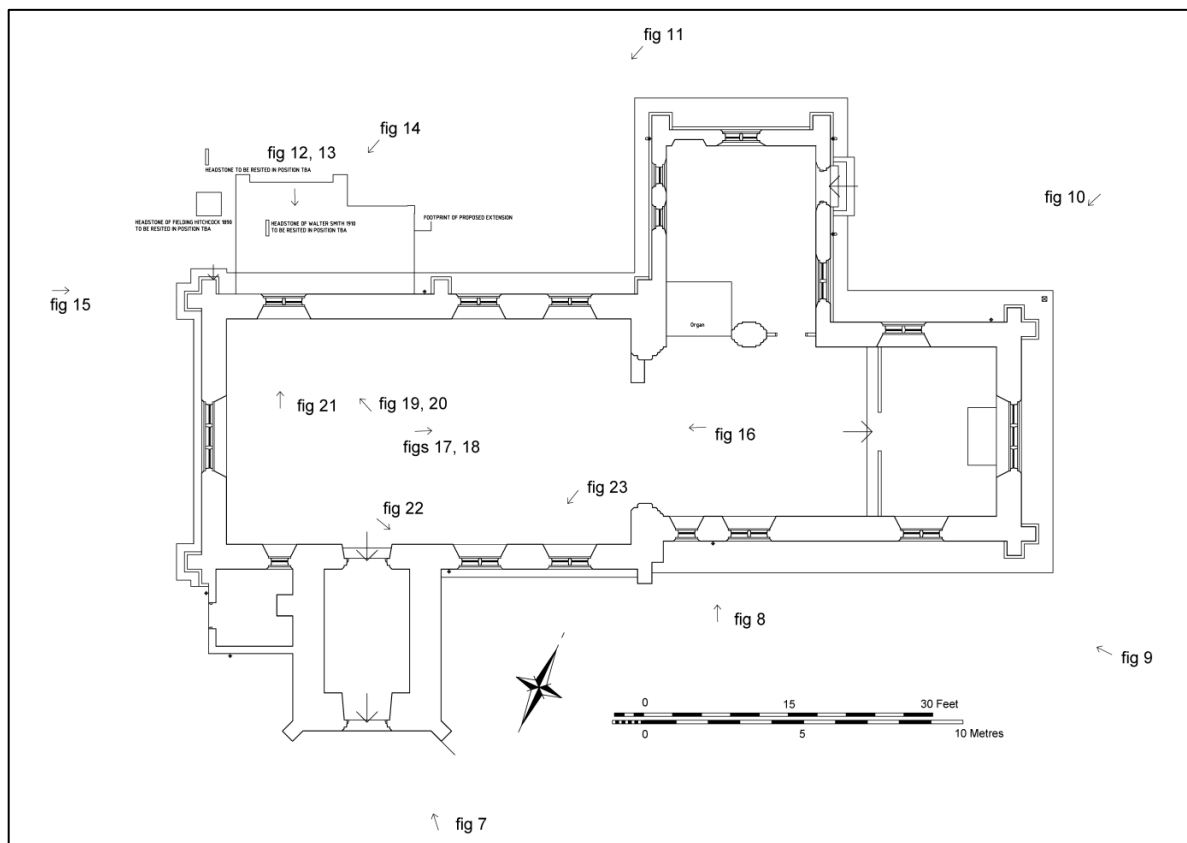


Figure 6. Location of figures 7-23 on floor plan.



Figure 7. Church exterior, looking north.



Figure 8. Windows and blocked openings on south elevation.



Figure 9. South elevation, looking north-west.



Figure 10. Vestry of 1927, looking south-west.



Figure 11. North elevation of nave, looking south-west.



Figure 12. North wall, location of proposed single storey extension. Looking south.



Figure 13. As above, with 1m scale.



Figure 14. Headstones within footprint of proposed new extension, looking south-west.



Figure 15. West elevation, looking east.



Figure 16. Church interior, looking west from chancel towards nave.



Figure 17. Looking east from nave towards chancel.



Figure 18. Scissor roof trusses over nave, looking east.



Figure 19. North-western corner of nave, looking towards window proposed for alteration as part of development.



Figure 20. As above, with mid-19th century pews to be removed.



Figure 21. Detail of window proposed for alteration, looking north.



Figure 22. South wall of nave, with area of damage caused by damp. Looking south-east.



Figure 23. South wall of nave and piscina, showing further signs of damage to plaster. Looking south

Archive

The archive will be deposited with the Leicestershire County Council Museums Service under the Accession Number X.A43.2014 and consists of:

This report,

2 sheets of A3 with site plan and north elevation drawing at 1:100 scale, with notes

Contact sheets of 38 digital photographs,

36 35mm black and white photographs and negatives,

1 Photographic record sheet, combined black and white and digital,

Plan showing locations of archived photographs

CD of this report and the digital photographs.

Publication

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. A record of the project will also be submitted to the OASIS project. OASIS is an online index to archaeological grey literature.

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was undertaken by Sophie Clarke, the project was managed by Patrick Clay.

Bibliography

English Heritage 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice*. London: English Heritage

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Wilshire, J. 1969 *Saint Bartholomew's Kirby Muxloe Church Guide*. Leicester: Barker and Co.

Oasis Information

Project Name	St. Bartholomews Church
Project Type	Level 2 Building Survey
Project Manager	P Clay
Project Supervisor	S Clarke
Previous/Future work	Building Survey
Current Land Use	Church
Development Type	extension
Reason for Investigation	As a condition
Position in the Planning Process	Ongoing
Site Co ordinates	SK 52072 04658
Start/end dates of field work	20.03.14
Archive Recipient	LCC
Study Area	0.5ha

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24/03/2014



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