

**UNITED REFORM CHURCH / SALVATION ARMY HALL
ABBAY LANE
SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING
OF GRAVE CLEARANCE**



Essex County Council

Field Archaeology Unit

December 2006

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SUMMARY

Client: Salvation Army
FAU Project No.: 1582
NGR: TL 536383
Planning Application No.: UTT/0432/04
Site Code: SW46
Oasis ID: essexcou1-151192
Date of Fieldwork: July – September 2006

Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken on graveyard clearance ahead of the construction of building extensions to the church hall at the rear of the United Reform Church, Abbey Lane, Saffron Walden.

In total, 41 burial plots were encountered and the exhumation of 117 individuals observed and recorded within the footprints of the building extensions. In addition, underlying pre-graveyard archaeological horizons and remains were identified and recorded.

This work has collated information on the 18th to 19th century graves that supplements that of the known burial records of the United Reformed Church. It has also verified the widespread presence of a deep and uniform stratified sequence comprising graves cut into made-ground that in turn overlies the original buried land-surface/cultivation soil of the lower valley slope on the south side of the Slade river. A single inhumation grave, probably of Roman or Saxon date, and several isolated potential archaeological features were observed at the bottom of this sequence.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning Background

The archaeological work was carried out under an archaeological condition placed on the planning application (UTT/0432/04) because of its location in close proximity to an area of known archaeological remains.

The development area is within the United Reform Church (URC) graveyard (NGR TL 536383) and comprises the construction of two extensions to the Salvation Army Hall situated behind (north of) the church. As required by the Home Office, the whole of the building footprints needed to be cleared of 18th/19th century burials prior to construction works. In addition, ECC Historic Environment Management had requested that the same areas be subject to archaeological investigation in accordance with Planning Policy Guideline 16 (PPG16). A brief was issued that set out the standards and requirements for this work (Havis 2004).

Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) was subsequently commissioned to carry out the required monitoring works on behalf of the Salvation Army.

1.2 Report and Archive

Copies of this report will be supplied to the client, the ECC Historic Environment Management Team (HEM), the Essex Historic Environment Record (EHER), and the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>). The project archive will be deposited at Saffron Walden Museum.

1.3 Abbreviations used in the report

ALGAO (Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers), **ECC** (Essex County Council), **EAH** (Essex Archaeology and History), **EHER** (Essex Historic Environment Record), **ERO** (Essex Record Office), **FAU** (Field Archaeology Unit), **HEM** (Historic Environment Management), **IFA** (Institute of Field Archaeologists), **NGR** (National Grid Reference), **OS** (Ordnance Survey), **OD** (Ordnance datum), **PRO** (Public Record Office), **RCHM** (Royal Commission on Historical Monuments), **SMR** (Sites and Monuments Record), **URC** (United Reform Church), **WSI** (Written Scheme of Investigation).

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and Topography

The site is located to the north of Abbey Lane on the western edge of Saffron Walden town centre situated within the grounds of the United Reform Church/ Salvation Army Hall (TL 536383). The investigation area comprises the footprints to proposed extensions to the Church Hall comprising an area of c.89 sq m on its southern side and a second area c.50 sq m on the west (Fig 1).

The site occupies the north-facing slope of the valley of the river Slade. While the surrounding vicinity gently slopes down to the north, the site itself has been levelled in the historic period. This has resulted in the raising of the ground surface by as much as 2.2m along the northern edge of the site to form a level surface. Retaining walls on the north, east and west boundaries define a vertical drop down to the surrounding properties. Prior to this development, modern ground surface heights ranged between c.50.4 and 49.7m OD.

The development area lies within the redundant graveyard of the United Reformed Church. Up until the time of the grave clearance works it was covered with lawn, with paving and shrubs at the foot of the extant Salvation Army Hall. The river Slade runs in a culvert along, or just beyond, the northern edge of the site.

2.2 Geology

The solid geology comprises a weak friable fine-grained chalk (Impey 2005). This is overlain by alluvial silts sands and gravels, now buried at some depth due to the post-medieval raising and levelling of the ground surface within the URC site.

2.3 History and Archaeology

The archaeological background for this and other parts of Saffron Walden has previously been given extensive discussion by Bassett (1982) and summarised/reviewed by Medlycott (1999). In view of this, only a summary of the most pertinent information is presented here.

The site has the potential to contain Roman, mid-late Saxon and early medieval archaeological remains. Both cemetery and occupation remains from these dates have previously been found immediately south-west of the church in the vicinity of Gibson Way and Gibson Close, where two investigations were undertaken in 1830 and 1876 (Bassett 1982; EHCR 451-458). These excavations revealed approximately 200 burials. Graves without orientation comprised c. 50 of the total and may have been Roman or earlier in date. Occupation evidence comprised a large assemblage of Romano-British artefacts dating from 1st to 5th century AD. The exposure of

several large regular ditches and retrieval of a 1st century Claudian brooch and catapult bolt have lead to speculation that this activity had military origins. In contrast, Romano-British finds have been sparsely distributed throughout the rest of the Saffron Walden (Medlycott 1998), largely comprising field systems in evidence over much of the eastern side of town (Bassett 1982).

The place name 'Walden' (from the old English, '*weala denu*') probably means 'valley of the Britons or serfs', indicating the towns origins whilst effectively supporting potential for an earlier settlement. The majority of burials within the Gibson excavations were aligned east-west and dated to the Saxon period. Continued occupation/cultivation is implied by the recovery of several sherds of hand-made grass-tempered ware pottery dating to around the 7th century. This is reinforced by evidence of possible sunken floored buildings beneath the excavated graves originally described and sketched as large pits within the 1876 excavation records. Burial activity appears to have continued as late as the 12th century, with pottery suggesting further site use into the 13th century.

More generally, Saffron Walden, as a town, is a medieval development; founded in the 11th century around the castle. The medieval remains found at Gibson Way/Close, however, probably relate to an earlier Saxo-Norman settlement in the Slade valley, alongside the cemetery. The Abbey Lane site was brought into the planned medieval settlement with its enclosure within the *magnum fossatum* (aka the Repell, Battle or Town Ditches), a defensive enclosure, in the second quarter of the 13th century. It is possibly this event that brought about the vicinity's abandonment as a place of settlement and burial. Abbey Lane itself was a major thoroughfare heading westward out of the medieval town, exiting through a presumed gateway in the *magnum fossatum* some 100m west of the URC site. It has been proposed that the new town was laid out on a regular grid pattern of roughly 12 x 12 perches (c.60 x 60m) (Bassett 1982, 25-6). It is therefore possible that medieval plots extend across what was once known as Abbey Meadows, although roadside occupation does not appear to have extended this far west until the post-medieval period, judging by available cartographic sources.

A Congregational church was established on the site, then known as 'Froggs Orchard', in 1694. There is a corpus of documentary sources at the Essex Record Office (ERO) for this and the succeeding URC (ERO ref: D/NC 16). The present URC was built in 1811 and a school (now the Salvation Army Hall) added, following further land purchase, in 1861.

The land on the north, west and east sides of the church has formerly been used as a graveyard. Although the start date of this activity has not been established, a drawing of the Congregational Church shows funerary monuments to its east and west and an 18th to 19th century period of use is assumed. Burial is understood to have ceased in the 1870s. A plan of *known* burial plots exists

(supplied by Hibbs and Walsh architects), which indicates the development area to contain 33 burial plots. Grave recording has been undertaken by the North West Essex Churchyard Group in 1982-5 [ERO ref: T/Z 151/14) and an earlier record made in 1843 (ERO ref: D/NC 16/2/17 and D/NC 16/2/18), from which a range of demographic information can be gleaned.

2.4 Previous Archaeological Works

Ground investigations (Impey 2005), carried out to inform the construction design process of the development, were subject to archaeological monitoring in October 2005 (Pocock 2005 a). This was followed by the excavation of an archaeological trial trench within each of the proposed building footprints in November 2005 (Pocock 2005 b). These pieces of fieldwork clearly established the nature and depth of the depositional sequence across the western and northern parts of the site, distinguishing post-medieval burial activity and made-ground from underlying archaeological and natural deposits. At its greatest, this sequence was found to be in excess of 2.0m thickness across the northern area of the site. The tops of 18th-19th century graves were encountered at a depth of as little as 0.4m below the present ground surface, cutting up to 1.6m-thickness of made-ground which probably deposited in the 17th century when the river Slade was culverted. Both simple earth-filled and brick-vaulted grave plots were encountered; some containing multiple interments, others inter-cutting on different alignments. Bone preservation was good and, in some cases, coffin wood and metal fittings were present. It was also established that more burial plots were present within the trial trenches than indicated by the existing grave plan.

The burials generally penetrated the bottom of the made-ground, exposing an apparent ancient soil horizon sealed below it at an approximate depth of 1.9m below ground surface. Sherds of Roman pottery were retrieved from this soil and it is likely that it represents the remains of the original land surface of the lower valley slope. However, no archaeological features were discerned within it, or were cut into the underlying natural geological deposits, to suggest the northward spread of significant archaeological remains from the Gibson Way site.

Immediately to the southeast of the URC site, monitoring was carried out on a sewer improvement scheme in Abbey Lane itself (Pocock 2006). Although no archaeological remains were identified, natural chalk was located only c.0.34m below the present road surface. It has been conjectured that the road, with its medieval origins, utilised a natural chalk terrace on the north slope of the Slade Valley, just above the floodplain deposits, and may mark the southern limit of Roman to early medieval land-use for the practical purposes of settlement and burial.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In view of previous investigations carried out on the site, this archaeological monitoring work was carried out to identify and record any surviving archaeological remains threatened by the development.

The specific objectives of the archaeological investigation were to:

- Observe and record the nature and form of all post-medieval burials removed by contractors as part of the graveyard clearance phase of the development
- Observe and record the pre-graveyard depositional sequence, particularly the original ground surface buried below the made-ground and any archaeological remains within/below this

4. METHODOLOGY

The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of the contractor's clearance of post-medieval burials from within the planned buildings footprints. The size of the clearance area to the south of the church hall was increased during the investigation to ensure safe use of heavy plant. The topsoil/ overburden/ made-ground was cleared over a localised area using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, until grave fills were apparent in the exposed surface. Once a record was made of the positions of graves, machine-removal of grave fills continued. In practice, it was not always possible to restrict excavations to within the individual grave cuts; particularly where multiple earth-filled graves, on varying alignments (sometimes inter-cutting), were encountered. In such instances, it was more practicable to machine-remove some of the made-ground into which they were cut. Where brick vaults occurred, and the sides of excavations more stable, machine clearance was less problematic.

Human remains and any coffin furniture were retrieved by the attending archaeologist from the side-cast arisings from the grave fills. Where possible, these were collected and bagged by individual interment and securely stored on-site awaiting re-burial. Coffin name plates were recorded, where found to be present.

Recording of such pertinent information as number of interments in each burial plot, their relative age, sex, presence of coffin or vault and depth of burial was recorded throughout the clearance process by the observing archaeologist. Where brick vaults were encountered, the roof of the structure was breached and recording of the interment undertaken whilst still in situ, wherever possible.

Once each burial plot had been cleared, and where machine-excavation allowed, the bottom of the graves and general clearance excavations were inspected for the presence of archaeologically-significant deposits below the made-ground. Where found to be present, such remains were recorded from the trench edge. No investigation requiring entrance of deep excavations was attempted due to health and safety considerations.

Once a local area was cleared of graves and any required recording undertaken, it was backfilled and the process undertaken again on an adjacent area until the whole of the development area was covered.

Standard ECC FAU excavation and recording methods were used, supplemented by project-specific pro-forma recording sheets for each grave. A selective photographic record of the clearance works, range of graves and archaeological deposits encountered was created. All fieldwork methods and recording conformed to the codes of practice and guidance issued by the IFA (1999) and adhered to ALGAO guidelines (Gurney 2003).

5. FIELDWORK RESULTS

5.1 General

In general, the sequence of soil deposition observed during the grave clearance verified the results and conclusions made during both previous archaeological investigations. The modern garden topsoil varied in thickness between 0.20 and 0.40m and overlay a series of levelling deposits comprising build-up, re-deposition and up-cast material associated with the more recent development of the graveyard. Where excavation penetrated the made-ground, the former land-surface of the Slade river valley slope was consistently present directly below. This overlay the natural geological deposits at c.47mOD.

5.2 Post-medieval graves

The investigation identified and recorded 117 grave cuts, all aligned East-West, within 41 plots located beneath the proposed footprints of the new development and additional areas where grave clearance was required (Fig 2). Each plot had the potential to contain three graves located either to the north, the south or in the centre. Most, if not all, burials were in coffins though preservation of grave furniture was very much dependent on grave type. Generally, bone preservation was high but the exception was infant burials where on average 25% of the skeleton survived.

A third of the graves contained structural elements, either being brick-lined or chambered and vaulted. Many of these structures were present in graves that exceeded 3m in depth. Generally, there were three types of structure, though several graves comprised components of each. The first type of structure had been purpose-built for multiple burials (Plate 2). These included two double width vaults in plots 73 and 94, comprising inhumations that lay side-by-side and several multi-chambered vaults like those found in plots 95 and 112. These vaults had half-brick width ledges at regular intervals on which wooden supports or in many cases York stone slabs were inserted to bear the coffin. Some of these vaults, an example being plot 92 (s), had later been re-opened via either end so that a burial could be interned or removed. Consequently, where access was made the resultant hole had been bricked-up poorly.

Seemingly, other grave structures evolved (Plate 5). Initially a structure would begin as a brick lining with capping stones laid on top. An example of this initial stage could be seen in plot 5. Each time the grave cut was re-used an additional brick chamber was added to the previous. This resulted in an irregular, misaligned structure with brick sides supported by the capping stones of the chamber below. The last type comprised distinctive single chambered and vaulted graves built on top of one another (Plate 3). Structures of this type were uncovered in plots 114 and 115; significantly where the more elaborate burials were located.

Preservation within the chambers was very good, wood leather, textiles and metal, though corroded, all survived where present. In two of the burial chambers lead coffins were recovered. One (114) was successfully re-interned intact, the other (95) was compromised within the burial environment when its wooden supports failed and it fell from the third tier in a multi-chambered vault. The inhumation within likely became mixed with the earlier burial below.

The remaining 70% of the graves were simple earth-filled features containing varying numbers of internments. The most active area of the graveyard seems to be towards the west of the community hall and the rear of the church. Here the density of graves was sufficient to cause truncation and disturbance which resulted in some inter-mixing of contexts between all but the deepest or latest of burials. The simple graves were less deep, averaging 2.6m. Usually, little more than handles, nails and fixings survived in the earth-filled graves.

Significant personal information regarding each burial, such as a name plate, was only recovered from those buried on the western side of the graveyard. Generally, name plates were recovered from the chambered burials. However, occasionally, an earth-filled grave would also include some identification (Plate 1).

In general, the investigation resolved that the grave record was unreliable and its unreliability increased the more recent the inhumation. Unfortunately, this made identification of individual remains problematic as the grave record was only able to provide a guide to the person or persons there in. In total, only 16 bodies were able to be named with certainty (Fig 2) and many more unknowns were recovered than originally expected.

A comprehensive account of the burials encountered can be found in appendix 1. In appendix 2 an attempt has been made to address some ID problems that have arisen. All information is supplemented by the archived field record.

5.3 Pre-graveyard remains

Significant pre-graveyard remains were exposed in the base of grave cuts within plots 91 (n) and 148 (n).

On removal of the lower inhumation within 148 (s) further skeletal remains were encountered 2.1m below the ground surface, at c.45mOD (Plate 6). The burial was aligned north-south and was cut into the top of the sealed ground surface. The femur (upper), Tibia and Fibula (Lower) of both legs was observed. Bone preservation was good and it is possible that associated grave goods survived. It is likely to be marginal, but of comparable date and nature, to the earlier settlement and burials found during excavations further up the valley slope. These remains extended beyond the clearance area and were left in situ.

Grave plot 91 (n) penetrated the sealed land surface and below, some 3.1m from the current ground surface, at c.47mOD, was evidence for a northeast-southwest aligned ditch or gully and a large post-hole with suspected post-pipe that was c.0.6m in diameter. In both circumstances, no dating was obtained and the archaeological remains were left in situ.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND ASSESSMENT

The excavation recorded some useful information concerning the 18th/19th century graveyard and generally demonstrated that the URC historic graveyard records cannot be considered definitive, particularly to the rear of the church. The principal aim of the clearance works was to recover additional or complimentary identification from the inhumations; in this the investigation had some success. Unfortunately, many more inhumations were encountered than expected, the majority without any form of identification. Overall only 16 of the burials could be identified with certainty through retrieval of coffin name plates. Many of the problems originate with the inaccuracy

between the churches written and cartographic records, a matter this investigation has partly resolved.

In, addition, the archaeological work has provided confirmation of the previously observed sequence of soil deposition. In particular, the wide spread survival of the original valley land surface but also of the series of levelling deposits and more recent up-cast or re-deposition of soils from burial activity.

The investigation verified the presence of a low-density of archaeological remains within this vicinity. Surviving features and deposits are likely to be peripheral to the main focus of the Roman to early medieval settlement and early burial activity located higher up the slope. Further minor archaeological features and deposits and burials have potential to survive in the area but observations were not easy due to the nature and restrictions of the clearance works.

The methodology used was sound but not ideal. In hindsight it was insufficient to deal with densely clustered grave cuts and consequently distinguishing individual internments was made very difficult. Overall, any future mitigation strategies involving grave clearance would ideally aim to open as large an area as possible. This would minimise cross-contamination issues and provide a clearer overview of the scale of works. Ideally, prior to excavation, strategic trenching would be carried out to establish the soil deposition sequence and determine if archaeological deposits would be impacted by the main works. The development area would then be stripped, mapped and accessed, before preparing a strategy for clearance.

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APPENDIX 1: FIELDWORK DATA

All dimensions are given in metres.

Plot Number	Roman Numeral	Grave type	Empty Plot	Skeleton	Grave Depth (m)	Notes	Identification (Investigation only)	Grave Furniture	Archaeology Present
3	III	Earth	✓	✗	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	✗
4 (n)	IV	Earth	✗	✗	n/a	Unarticulated Infant bones recovered	✗	✗	✗
4 (s)	IV	Earth	✗	Infant	1.3	n/a	✗	✗	✗
4 (s)	IV	Earth	✗	Adult	2.4	n/a	William Dunten, died 13th Sep 1843, aged 22 years	✓	✗
5	V	Structure	✗	Adult	2.5	n/a	Jane J Rae, died August 1855, aged 39 years	✓	✗
6 (n)	VI	Earth	✗	Adult	2.8	n/a	✗	✗	✗
7	VII	Earth	✗	Adult	2.8	n/a	✗	✗	✗
8 (s)	VIII	Earth	✓	✗	2.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	✗
25	XXVI	Earth	✗	Adult	2.5		✗	✗	✗
25	XXVI	Earth	?	✗	1.2	Only leather coffin lining survived. Coffin was c.0.40m - Infant	✗	✓	✗
27 (s)	XXVII	Structure	✗	Adult	3.1		George Duke, died 1845	✓	✗
27 (s)	XXVII	Structure	✗	Junior	2.5		Martha Duke, died Nov 5th 1855, aged 16 years	✓	✗
29 (s)	XXIX	Earth	✗	Junior	3.3		✗	✗	✗
29 (s)	XXIX	Earth	✗	Adult	3.5		✗	✓	✗
49 (n)	XLIX	Earth	✗	Junior	2.5		✗	✗	✗
49 (s)	XLIX	Earth	✗	Junior	2		✗	✗	✗
49 (s)	XLIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.6		✗	✓	✗

51	LI	Earth	✗	Adult	2.4		James Woodcock Wedd, died 1st Jan 1843, aged 9 weeks,	✗	✗
51	LI	Earth	✗	Adult	2.8		Lydia Wedd, died Sep 1841, aged 8 years and 9 months	✓	✗
67	LXVII	Earth	✗	Junior	3.3	Foundation trench has truncated much of the grave leaving only the skull	✗	✗	✗
68	LXVIII	Earth	✗	Adult	2.8	Supposed to hold several inhumations	✗	✓	✗
69 (n)	LXVIX	Earth	✗	?	2		✗	✗	✗
69 (central)	LXVIX	Structure	✗	Adult	1.8		✗	✓	✗
69 (central)	LXVIX	Structure	✗	Adult	2.05		✗	✓	✗
69 (central)	LXVIX	Structure	✗	Junior	2.3		✗	✓	✗
69 (central)	LXVIX	Structure	✗	Adult	2.8		✗	✓	✗
69 (s)	LXVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.8		✗	✓	✗
69 (s)	LXVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.5		✗	✓	✗
70 (s)	LXX	Structure	✗	Adult	3.7		✗	✓	✗
70 (n)	LXX	Structure	✗	Adult	3.6		✗	✗	✗
72 (n)	LXXII	Structure	✗	Adult	2		Ann Giblin, died 16th July 1804	✓	✗
72 (n)	LXXII	Structure	✗	Adult	2.5		✗	✓	✗
73	LXXIII	Structure	✗	Infant	3		✗	✗	✗
73	LXXIII	Structure	✗	Adult	3		✗	✓	✗
73	LXXIII	Structure	✗	Adult	3		Sam Porter, died 4th Nov 1825	✓	✗
75	LXXV	Structure	✗	n/a	n/a	Full of brick rubble so remains were left in situ	n/a	n/a	✗
86 (s)	LXXXVI	Earth	✗	Junior	0.8	Torso missing	✗	✗	✗

86 (s)	LXXXVI	Earth	✘	Infant	?	Skull (Partial)	✘	✘	✘
86 (s)	LXXXVI	Earth	✘	Adult	2.8		✘	✓	✘
87 (n)	LXXXVII	Earth	✘	Adult	3.6	Wet conditions	✘	✓	✘
87 (s)	LXXXVII	Earth	✘	Adult	2.6		✘	✓	✘
87 (s)	LXXXVII	Earth	✘	Adult	2.7	Personal effects - buttons	✘	✘	✘
90 (n)	XC	Earth	✘	Adult	2.4		✘	✘	✘
91 (n)	XCI	Structure	✘	Adult	3.1		✘	✓	✘
91 (n)	XCI	Structure	✘	Adult	3.1	Personal effects - buttons	✘	✓	✓
92 (s)	XCI	Structure	✘	Adult	1		Charles Porter, died 17th Feb 1867, aged 76	✓	✘
92 (s)	XCI	Structure	✓	no skeleton	1.6		Sophia Porter, born 1786, died 2nd July 1864	✓	✘
92 (s)	XCI	Structure	✘	Adult	2.1		✘	✓	✘
92 (s)	XCI	Structure	✘	Junior	2.8		✘	✓	✘
94	XCIV	Structure	✘	Adult	2.7		✘	✓	✘
94	XCIV	Structure	✘	Adult	2.7		✘	✓	✘
95	XCV	Structure	✘	Adult	?	Lead coffin	James Searle, died 3rd Nov 1825, aged 69 years	✓	✘
95	XCV	Structure	✘	Adult	3.1		✘	✓	✘
96 (n)	XCVI	Structure	✓	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	✘
96 (s)	XCVI	Structure	✘	Adult	2.3		✘	✓	✘
107 (n)	CVII	Earth	✘	Junior	2.3		✘	✘	✘
108 (n)	CVIII	Earth	✘	Adult	2.3		✘	✘	✘
112 (s)	CXII	Structure	✘	Adult	2.4		Mary King	✓	✘
112 (s)	CXII	Structure	✘	Adult	3.4		Thomas King, died 14th Feb 1846	✓	✘
114	CXIV	Structure	✘	Adult	2.4	Lead coffin	REB ah Rankin, born 1797,	✓	✘

							died aged 53 years		
114	CXIV	Structure	✗	Adult	3.4		Joseph Gray, died 12th Jan 1816	✓	✗
114	CXIV	Structure	✗	Adult	3.4		Mary Gray, died 4th July 1833	✓	✗
115	CXV	Structure	✗	Adult	2.7		✗	✓	✗
115	CXV	Structure	✗	Adult	3.7	Heavily decorated coffin	✗	✓	✗
137 (n)	CXXXVII	Earth	✗	Adult	2		✗	✗	✗
137 (n)	CXXXVII	Earth	✗	Adult	2.4		✗	✗	✗
137 (s)	CXXXVII	Earth	✗	Adult	2		✗	✓	✗
137 (s)	CXXXVII	Earth	✗	Adult	2.4		✗	✓	✗
138 (n)	CXXXVIII	Earth	✗	Adult	2		✗	✓	✗
138 (n)	CXXXVIII	Earth	✗	Adult	2.2		✗	✓	✗
138 (central)	CXXXVIII	Earth	✗	Adult	2		✗	✓	✗
138 (central)	CXXXVIII	Earth	✗	Adult	2.6		✗	✓	✗
138 (central)	CXXXVIII	Earth	✗	Adult	2.9		✗	✓	✗
138 (s)	CXXXVIII	Earth	✗	Adult	?		✗	✗	✗
138 (s)	CXXXVIII	Earth	✗	Junior	?		✗	✗	✗
138 (s)	CXXXVIII	Earth	✗	Infant	2.8		✗	✗	✗
139 (s)	CXXXIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.7		✗	✗	✗
139 (s)	CXXXIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.7		✗	✗	✗
139 (n)	CXXXIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.8		✗	✗	✗
139 (n)	CXXXIX	Earth	✗	Infant	2.8		✗	✗	✗
148 (n)	CXLVIII	Earth	✗	Junior	?		✗	✓	✓
148 (n)	CXLVIII	Earth	✗	Infant	?		✗	✗	✓
148 (n)	CXLVIII	Earth	✗	Junior	?		✗	✗	✓
148 (n)	CXLVIII	Earth	✗	Adult	2.7		✗	✓	✓

149 (central)	CXLVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.2		✗	✗	✗
149 (central)	CXLVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.6		✗	✗	✗
149 (n)	CXLVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.4		✗	✓	✗
149 (n)	CXLVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.8		✗	✗	✗
149 (s)	CXLVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	?		✗	✗	✗
149 (s)	CXLVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	?		✗	✗	✗
149 (s)	CXLVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	?	Name plate but letters indistinguishable	✗	✓	✗
149 (s)	CXLVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	?		✗	✗	✗
149 (s)	CXLVIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.9		✗	✗	✗
150 (n)	CL	Earth	✗	Adult	?		✗	✓	✗
150 (n)	CL	Earth	✗	Adult	?		✗	✗	✗
150 (n)	CL	Earth	✗	Adult	3		✗	✓	✗
150 (s)	CL	Earth	✗	Adult	2.6		✗	✗	✗
151 (n)	CLI	Structure	✗	Adult	3.5		✗	✗	✗
159	CLIX	Earth	✗	Adult	1.6		✗	✓	✗
159	CLIX	Earth	✗	Junior	2.05		✗	✓	✗
159	CLIX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.3		✗	✓	✗
159	CLIX	Earth	✗	Infant	2.6	Name plate but some letters indistinguishable	...March...died 58 years	✓	✗
160 (n)	CLX	Earth	✗	Infant	1.4		✗	✓	✗
160 (n)	CLX	Earth	✗	Adult	?		✗	✓	✗
160 (n)	CLX	Earth	✗	Adult	?	Personal effects - bone comb		✓	✗
160 (n)	CLX	Earth	✗	Infant	?		✗	✓	✗
160 (n)	CLX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.6		✗	✓	✗
160 (s)	CLX	Earth	✗	Adult	?		✗	✓	✗
160 (s)	CLX	Earth	✗	Adult	2.6		✗	✓	✗
160 (central)	CLX	Earth	✗	Adult	?		✗	✓	✗

160 (central)	CLX	Earth	✘	Adult	2.6		✘	✓	✘
161 (n)	CLXI	Earth	✘	Adult	2.4		✘	✓	✘
161 (n)	CLXI	Earth	✘	Adult	2.4		✘	✓	✘
161 (s)	CLXI	Earth	✘	Adult	2.8		✘	✓	✘
161 (s)	CLXI	Earth	✘	Adult	2.4	Personal Effects - buttons	✘	✓	✘
162 (n)	CLXII	Earth	✘	Adult	2.7		✘	✓	✘
162 (n)	CLXII	Earth	✘	Adult	1.5		✘	✓	✘

APPENDIX 2: ADITONAL INFORMATION

49 (n)	XLIX	Susannah Hunt.
67 - 69	LXVII-LXIX	Amalgamated during the span of the grave record.
70 (s) and 70 (n)	LXX	Ann/ James/ Fanny Camp were the likely remains within these plots.
86 (s)	LXXXVII	Contained three burials. It may be that these are Richard/ William and Ann Housden previously recorded in grave 87 (n).
87 (s)		Likely held W and Martha Cowell previously thought to be in plot 88.
91 (n)		Likely held Elizabeth and Charles White.
92 (s)		Those held here were previously thought to be in 92.
94 and 95	XCIV and XCV	Clearly these have been mixed during the span of the record. It is likely that plots 94 to 96 all hold members of the Serle family though there is no supporting evidence.
107 (n) and 108 (n)	CVII and CVIII	May have held William and Josiah Stokes who were previously recorded as both being within 109.
112 (s)	CXII	Held Mary and Thomas King previously thought to be in 113. Does this mean the Cowell inhumations are likely within 111? 111 was unexcavated as it had collapsed and been backfilled with rubble.
115	CXV	May hold members of the Rankin family. However, two bodies were found instead of the expected one.
138 (n)	CXXXVIII	Could have held members of the Ling Family.
139	CXXXIX	May have held George Ling, Catherine Elizabeth, Elizabeth Ann and William Perring, The Perrings' were previously recorded in 140.
148 and 149	CXLVIII and CXLIX	High density of burials, likely the grave record is both inaccurate and unspecific.
150 (s)	CL	Likely to have held William Willet.
151 (n)	CLI	Likely to have held (?) Headland.
159 – 161	CLIX - CLXI	High density of graves, individual identification impossible.

APPENDIX 3: ARCHIVE INDEX

SITE NAME SW46

Index to the Archive

File containing:

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Brief
- 1.2 Written Scheme of Investigation

2. Research Archive

- 2.1 Archive/client Report

3. Site Archive

- 3.1 Grave Records
- 3.2 Archaeology Records (117 grave record sheets)
- 3.3 URC List of Burials
- 3.4 Photographic Register
- 3.5 Site Photographic Record (100 digital images)
- 3.6 Miscellaneous maps and plans
- 3.7 CD-R containing digital copies of data

APPENDIX 4: EHER SUMMARY SHEET

Site Name/Address: United Reform Church/ Salvation Army Hall, Abbey Lane, Saffron Walden	
Parish: Uttlesford	District: Saffron Walden
NGR: UTT/0432/04	Site Code: SW46
Type of Work: Monitoring and recording	Site Director/Group: M. Pocock ECC FAU
Date of Work: July – September 2006	Size of Area Investigated: c.139 sq m
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Saffron Walden Museum	Funding Source: The Salvation Army
Further Work Anticipated? Not Known	Related EHCR Nos:
Final Report: EAH summary	
Periods Represented: Roman/Saxon?, Post-medieval	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>In total, 41 burial plots were encountered and the exhumation of the remains of 117 individuals observed and recorded within the footprints of the building extensions. In addition, underlying pre-graveyard archaeological horizons and remains were identified and recorded.</p> <p>This work has collated information on the 18th to 19th century graves that supplements that of the known burial records of the United Reformed Church. It has also verified the widespread presence of a deep and uniform stratified sequence comprising graves cut into made-ground that in turn overlies the original buried land-surface/cultivation soil of the lower valley slope on the south side of the Slade river. The investigation verified a low-density of archaeological remains within this vicinity. A single inhumation grave, probably of Roman or Saxon date, and several isolated archaeological features were observed at the bottom of this sequence. Surviving features and deposits are likely to be peripheral to the main focus of the settlement and early burial activity located higher up the slope. Further minor archaeological features, deposits and burials have potential to survive in the area but observations were not easy due to the nature and restrictions of the clearance works</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports:	
Pocock, M.J.	United reform Church/ Salvation Army Hall, Abbey Lane, Saffron Walden, Essex: Archaeological Monitoring and Recording of Ground Investigations, 2005
Author of Summary:	Date of Summary:
Matthew Pocock	December 2006



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Fig.1. Location plan

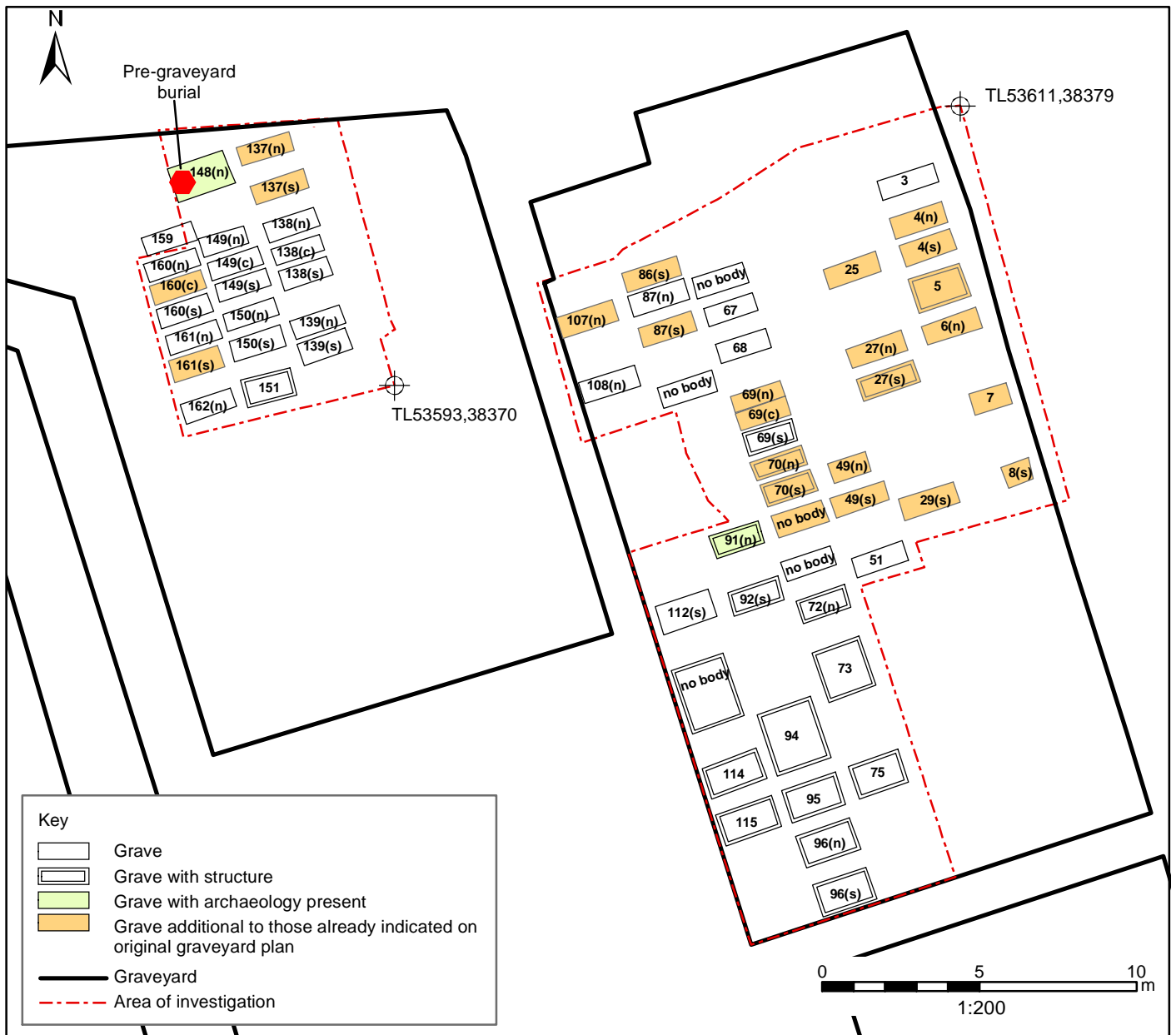


Fig.2. Graves examined during monitoring



Plate 1: (Above) Name plates from plot 51.

Plate 2: (Right) Double chambered vault with half brick ledges.



Plate 3: Single chambered and vaulted



Plate 4: Earth filled graves



Plate 5: Evolved brick-lined and capped grave



Plate 6: Pre-18/19th century graveyard burial

