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CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE Whippsnade, Beds

HN1249

***ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MONITORING REPORT***

HERITAGE NETWORK

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Managing Director: David Hillelson, BA MCIFA

CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE Whipsnade, Bedfordshire

Project ref.: HN1249
Planning ref.: CB/14/03719/FULL
Luton Museum ref.: LTNMG 1178
HER enquiry ref.: 201516/282

Archaeological Monitoring Report

Prepared on behalf of Whipsnade PCC

By

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&

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Report no. 1038

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The cover photograph shows the site looking north-east

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork for this project was carried out by Greg Jones and Daniel Phillips. The report text and illustrations were prepared by Daniel Phillips and Greg Jones. The human bone was assessed by Chris Turner and the report was edited by Helen Ashworth.

The Heritage Network would like to express its thanks to Whipsnade PCC; Pam Ward, architect; and Stephen Coleman and Hannah Firth, Archaeology Team, Central Bedfordshire Council, for their co-operation and assistance in the execution of this project.

Summary

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Site name and address: | Church of St Mary Magdalene, Whipsnade, Bedfordshire, LU6 2LL | | |
| County: | Bedfordshire | District: | Central Bedfordshire |
| Village/town: | Whipsnade | Parish: | Whipsnade |
| Planning reference: | CB/14/03719/FULL | NGR: | TL 01163 17950 |
| Client name and address: | Whipsnade PCC c/o Pam Ward, Architect, Chapel Farm, Whipsnade, Dunstable, Beds. LU6 2LL | | |
| Nature of work: | New extension | Present land use: | Church & Churchyard, |
| Site status: | Listed Building | Reason for investigation: | Direction of local planning authority (NPPF) |
| Position in planning process: | After determination | Project brief originator: | Central Bedfordshire Council |
| Size of affected area: | c.4000m ² | Size of area investigated: | c.200m ² |
| Site Code: | HN1249 | Museum Accession No: | LTNMG 1178 |
| Organisation: | Heritage Network | Site Director: | David Hillelson |
| Project type, methods etc.: | Strip Map & Record; Monitoring | Archive recipient: | Luton Museum |
| Start of work | 07/03//2016 | Finish of work | 03/11/2016 |
| Related HER Nos: | HER 632331 | Periods represented: | Post-medieval |
| Oasis UID | heritage1- 240255 | Significant finds: | Human bone |
| Monument types: | Wall | | |
| Physical archive: | Brick, Tile | | |
| Previous summaries/reports: | Jones, G. 2016 <i>Church of St Mary Magdalene, The Green, Whipsnade, Bedfordshire: An Archaeological Monitoring Interim Report</i> . Heritage Network report no.986 | | |

Synopsis:

In response to a planning condition on the construction of an extension to the Church of St Mary Magdalene, Whipsnade, Bedfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned by Whipsnade PCC to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation on the groundworks for the new development and on the creation of a new opening for a doorway through the south wall of the nave.

The recorded stratigraphy was consistent across the site, comprising dark grey topsoil above pale brown subsoil. The underlying natural clay was encountered close to the church, at a depth of 0.5m below the present ground level, but was not encountered elsewhere on the site. Apart from a single articulated skeleton, revealed during the excavation of Soakaway 2, and fragments of disarticulated human bone, no archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the course of the groundworks on the present site. Examination of the skeleton suggested that the individual was a male, aged between 20 and 40. All human bone was handed to the vicar for reburial in the churchyard.

It was considered that the investigation on the present site had the potential to contribute to a greater understanding of the origins of the church from the early medieval period onward. To this end the discovery of part of an earlier stone and flint construction phase of the church and its state of preservation has added to the understanding of the development of this site.

1. Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared at the request of Pam Ward, acting on behalf of Whipsnade PCC, detailing the results of a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording work carried out as part of a development at The Church of St Mary Magdalene, Whipsnade, Bedfordshire (Figure 1).

1.2 Planning permission for the development (CB/14/03719/FULL) was granted by Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC), subject to a standard archaeological condition issued under the Department of Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF). A full specification for the work carried out is contained in the Heritage Network's approved *Project Design* dated February 2016 (Turner 2016). A Letter of Authority, dated 27/01/2016, was issued by the Archdeacon of Bedford, allowing the present investigative works to be undertaken without a faculty.

1.3 The Church of St Mary Magdalene lies within the Whipsnade Conservation Area, in the historic core of the village, and is Grade II* listed (NHLE list no. 1159770). It is located on The Green, an area of grassed common land, approximately 100m to the south of the B4540, centred at NGR TL 01163 17950 (Figure 1).

1.4 The aim of the present project has been to consider the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any remains which were liable to be threatened by the development, and the establishment of a local and regional archaeological and historical context for them, if they were discovered, in accordance with the current published local and regional research agenda (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Oake et al 2007; Medlycott 2011).

1.5 It was considered that the investigation had the potential to contribute to a greater understanding of the origins of the church, and the wider settlement of Whipsnade, from the prehistoric period onwards.

1.6 The development proposed the construction of an extension to the southern side of the existing church building.

2. Fieldwork

SITE TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1 The site lies on the eastern edge of the village and on a gentle south facing slope, at approximately 211mAOD. The site is bordered to the south by open fields, to the east and west by detached properties and to the north by The Green.

2.2 Locally the soils belong to the Batcombe Association (582a), described as *Fine silty over clayey and fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging. Some well drained clayey soils over chalk. Variably flinty.* (SSEW 1983).

2.3 The underlying geology comprises Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation, Sedimentary Bedrocks formed approximately 84 to 94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment was dominated by warm chalk seas (British Geological Survey). The chalk is overlain by Clay-with-Flints, a superficial deposit formed by weathering processes up to 5 million years ago in the Quaternary and Neogene periods (ibid).

METHODOLOGY

2.4 The timetable for the fieldwork followed the client's work schedule. A series of site visits were made to monitor the development groundworks.

2.5 All mechanical excavation was undertaken by a 3 tonne tracked excavator, fitted with toothed and toothless ditching buckets as required.

2.6 Mechanical hand tools were used to create a new opening for a doorway in the south wall of the nave.

2.7 All potential archaeological features and deposits were investigated to ascertain their nature, depth, date, and quality of preservation.

2.8 All identified contexts were photographed and recorded using the appropriate pro forma. Scaled plans and sections were drawn on pro forma sheets, at scales of 1: 50, 1:20 and 1:10.

2.9 Spoil from the various stages of the groundworks was inspected for archaeological artefacts.

2.10 All recording work was carried out in accordance with the approved project design, current health and safety legislation, and both CIfA and ALGAO standards.

MONITORING AND RECORDING

2.11 The fieldwork for this project involved a series of site visits to observe the groundworks for the new extension and associated services (Figure 2). These involved the excavation of two test pits to examine the church foundations; ground reduction across the footprint of the new extension; the excavation of new footings and service trenches and soakaways; the reinstatement of the existing path to the north of the church; and the creation of a new doorway through the south wall of the church.

Test Pits

2.12 Two test pits were excavated through an existing gravel drain and were designed to expose the church footings and confirm the depth of the drain (Figure 3).

2.13 Test Pit 1, which was located on the south side of the tower, measured 1.40m x 1.20m and was excavated to a depth of 0.46m. Removal of the gravel revealed the brick foundations [101] to the 16th century tower (Plate 1). The footings, which continued below the limit of excavation, consisted of a line of tile ‘kneelers’ above at least 5 courses of red handmade bricks, which were laid in no discernible pattern. On the western side of the pit the lower courses were stepped out to approximately 0.40m from the line of the tower wall at a depth of approximately 0.40m below the surface of the gravel. On the eastern side this step extended to 0.20m from the tower wall, suggesting that the earlier drainage works had removed some of the foundation brickwork. The upper course had been repointed in cement mortar, while the lower courses were bonded with lime mortar.

2.14 Test Pit 2, which was located on the south side of the nave, measured 0.75m x 0.55m and was excavated to a depth of approximately 0.50m. Removal of the gravel revealed that the nave wall had been supported by an apparently inserted modern concrete ‘lintel’, approximately 0.30m in height (Plate 2). Brick foundations were visible below the lintel and appeared to continue below the base of the test pit.

2.15 No further archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the monitoring of the test pits.

Ground Reduction

2.16 A soil bank was located approximately 1.40m to the south of the church and measured approximately 2.12m in width, with a maximum height of approximately 0.40m above the surface of the gravel drain. An area measuring 5.90m in length and 2.50m in width was reduced by machine, under direct archaeological supervision, to the level of the gravel, in order to ascertain the make-up of the bank (Figure 3, Plate 3). The stripping revealed a layer of loose dark grey sandy silty clay topsoil, approximately 0.30m in depth, above a pale brown silty sandy clay subsoil, in excess of 0.10m in depth. The western end of the reduced area revealed disturbed ground where a soakaway, fed by the adjacent drain, had been inserted.

2.17 A 1m wide sondage was subsequently excavated across the footprint of the extension level with the bottom of the drain, which exposed the natural brownish yellow sandy clay containing large quantities of flint (Plate 4). This was reached at a depth of between 0.40m and 0.50m below the top of the bank.

2.18 In consultation with the Planning Archaeologist, the decision was taken to strip the remaining subsoil from the western part of the extension footprint to expose the natural clay (Plate 5). This work, which was done with the Planning Archaeologist present, confirmed both the absence of a cemetery soil and of human burials across the extension footprint.

Footings trenches

2.19 Footings trenches for the new extension were excavated through the area of the previously monitored ground reduction. As this area had previously been reduced to the natural substratum, these trenches were inspected, but their excavation was not monitored.

2.20 The eastern footings trench ran south from the church wall to the east of TP2. The trench, which measured approximately 1m in width and 1m in depth, revealed possible

evidence for the foundations to the medieval church. A layer of flint and chalk rubble, context [102], was observed at a depth of 0.5m below the present ground level. It was sitting directly on the natural clay and below the later brickwork (Plate 6). The wall, which measured 0.20m in depth, was bonded with lime mortar. No evidence for a foundation trench was observed.

2.21 No further archaeological features, deposits or finds were observed in the footings trenches.

Path Reinstatement

2.22 The main footpath on the north side of the church was reinstated as part of the present project. The works involved the removal of the original footpath and its replacement with a new brick path. An area measuring 34m in length by 2.9m in width was stripped to a depth of 0.1m. This phase of the groundworks was not archaeologically monitored as it was unlikely to breach the topsoil.

Soakaways

2.23 Two soakaways were excavated during the present project (Figure 2). Soakaway 1 was located to the north of the church, on the eastern side of the footpath. It measured 1m by 1m and was excavated to a depth of 1.2m. The stratigraphy exposed in the sections comprised dark grey sandy silty clay topsoil, 0.2m in depth, above pale brown silty sandy clay cemetery soil, over 1m in depth (Plate 7).

2.24 No cut graves, or other archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered in Soakaway 1.

2.25 Soakaway 2 was located approximately 4.5m to the south of the church nave, in an small open space surrounded by a number of graves (Figure 2). It measured 1.6m by 1.4m and was excavated to a depth of 1m (Plate 8). The stratigraphy exposed in the sections was similar to that encountered in Soakaway 1.

2.26 Part of an articulated inhumation was revealed in the northern half of the soakaway, at a depth of approximately 0.8m below the existing ground surface (Figure 4, Plate 9). The skeleton was aligned east - west and lay in a supine position. The lower half of the body, including feet, legs, pelvis, lumbar vertebrae, hands and lower arm bones, was exposed within the soakaway. The upper torso and head lay beneath the western baulk.

2.27 Examination of the bones showed that they were in good condition. The structure of the pelvis appeared to indicate a male, while wear in the vertebrae indicated an age range of between 20 and 40 years. The exposed bones were collected and handed to the vicar for reburial.

2.28 No grave cut or coffins furniture was observed. No other archaeological features, deposits or finds were observed in Soakaway 2.

Service Trenches

2.29 Soakaway 1 was served by a service trench (ST1) which ran north from the north doorway of the church and along the eastern edge of the area stripped for the new path (Figure 2). The trench measured approximately 1m in width, 0.5m in depth and 11m in length. The stratigraphy exposed in the trench sections was similar to that recorded elsewhere on the site and comprised loose dark grey sandy silty clay topsoil, 0.2m thick, over a pale brown silty sandy clay subsoil, >1m in depth (Figure 5, Plate 10).

2.30 No cut graves, or other archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered in this trench.

2.31 A new drainage trench (ST2) was dug, linking the new extension to the existing main drain located in an open field to the south of the churchyard (Figure 2). The drain ran south-east from the tower and measured 28m in length and 0.3m in width. In the south-west corner of the churchyard the trench was excavated to a depth of 2m, which gradually decreased as the trench ran north-west, until, at its shallowest point against the tower wall, it measured 0.5m in depth.

2.32 The trench sections revealed dark grey sandy silty clay topsoil, 0.2m in depth, over a pale brown sandy silty clay subsoil, >1.8m in depth (Figure 5, Plate 11). The underlying natural clay was not reached in this trench.

2.33 No grave cuts or other archaeological features, deposits or finds were observed along its length.

New Doorway

2.34 In order to connect the new extension to the existing church, a new doorway was cut through the south wall of the nave. The new doorway was located approximately 1m to the east of the west end of the nave (Figure 2). The existing wall is brick faced on both the interior and exterior elevations.

External elevation

2.35 The exterior elevation of the south wall, [106], is constructed of red unfrosted bricks, laid in Flemish bond with lime mortar (Plate 12). The individual bricks measured 9" x 4" x 2½" (227mm x 101mm x 63mm). The measurements were taken in situ as no brick was available for collection.

2.36 Two test holes were created at different heights in the exterior wall by the removal of two bricks, in order to inspect the wall structure and define a methodology for the cutting of the doorway (Plate 13). Inspection of the test holes demonstrated that the facing brickwork was a single skin thick, with headers bonded to the material behind. They also revealed the possible survival of an earlier wall behind the brick facing (Plate 14).

2.37 An opening, measuring approximately 1.2m in width and 2.3m in height, was excavated through the wall using mechanical hand tools. Once the brick facing had been removed, the remains of an earlier wall, [105], were observed. This extended across the entire width of the opening and stood to a height of 1.3m. It consisted of a mixture of large Totternhoe stone blocks and smaller flint nodules in a lime mortar matrix (Figure *, Plates 15 & 16). Headers from the outer wall [106] had been butted into this earlier wall (Plate 17). This is likely to represent the rubble core to the medieval wall, which would probably have been faced with dressed stone.

2.38 Above the stone and flint wall was a roughly coursed brick wall, [108], (see Plate 15). This consisted of 14 courses of headers, bonded with lime mortar. The individual bricks measured 8½" x 4" x 2½" (215mm x 101mm x 63mm). A small number of Totternhoe stone blocks were also incorporated into the wall.

2.39 A void, 0.15m in height and extending across the width of the opening, was revealed at the base of wall [105] (see Plate 16). Fragments of heavily degraded wood were observed within this space, including a substantial piece which measured 0.5m in length and 0.06m in

depth. It is possible that this void represents the location of a sill beam, with fragments of wood surviving.

Internal elevation

2.40 Removal of the wall plaster from the internal elevation of the nave, across an area measuring 2m in width by 2m in height, revealed brick wall [103], which contained two distinct courses of Totternhoe stone blocks [104] (Plate 18). The brickwork consisted of red unfrogged bricks, laid in Flemish Bond with a lime mortar. The individual bricks differed slightly in size from those on the exterior wall and measured 8½” x 4” x 2½” (215mm x 101mm x 63mm).

2.41 The courses of Totternhoe stone were a single block deep and bonded with lime mortar. The individual stones ranged in size between 0.15 - 0.2m in height, 0.2 - 0.4m in length and 0.2m in width (Plate 19). These are likely to represent re-used stone, with the lower course possibly laid as a base for the later brick wall above. These stone courses were not visible on the external face of the wall.

2.42 Removal of the brick facing behind the plaster revealed significant rebuilding or repair to the internal face of the core (Plate 20). The lower part of the wall consisted of brickwork to approximately 0.5m in height. This was largely hidden by a layer of mortar and plaster. Above this the wall, between c.0.5m and 1m from the ground, the wall was similar to that exposed on the exterior, being constructed of Totternhoe stone and flint in a lime mortar matrix. A course of stone blocks had been laid on top of the early core, which supported wall [108].

2.43 The void observed below the exterior face of [105] was not apparent on the inner side.

3. Discussion

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING

3.1 In order to establish the archaeological and historical context for the site, the Central Bedfordshire and Luton Historic Environment Record (HER) was consulted (ref. 201516/282). The overview set out below has been drawn from the HER data, on-line records, our own files and other sources. The study area covers a radius of 500m from the centre of the site.

- The earliest indication of activity within the study area is in the form of prehistoric hut circles (HER 10629), found in a field c.230m to the north. A large triple bank earthwork of unknown age, possibly prehistoric, runs across Whipsnade Green and is c.320m in length (HER 20049).
- A Roman coin was discovered on Whipsnade Green, 324m to the south-west, by a metal detectorist in 2005, (HER 18823). It is a silver denarius of Marcus Aurelius (161-180 AD) minted in Rome.
- The site is located near to the historic core of the medieval village of Whipsnade, 250m to the west (HER 16965).
- A hollow-way, marking the medieval road from Markyate to Whipsnade lies c.340m to the east of site.
- The church of St Mary Magdalene is a Grade II* listed building. It is first mentioned in documentary sources in the 13th century. The church consists of a brick-built chancel, nave and west tower. The tower is 16th-century work, with a west doorway of re-used stone dating to c.1480. The rest of the church is 18th century, and the only old fittings are a 17th century pulpit and altar rails. The chancel was added in 1866. The only evidence of the earlier church is at the north-east corner of the nave where earlier flint/cobble/brick foundations can be seen.
- The Victoria County History for Bedfordshire notes the list of Rectors at Whipsnade to date back to 1220, with the appointment of “Ralph, chaplain” (VCH, Vol III, 1912).
- The earliest cartographic evidence for the church is shown on the OS 25 inch map of 1880 and indicates the present church (National Library of Scotland)
- Five other listed buildings are located within the study area, all of them listed as Grade II:
 - Hill Grange (HER 6029) lies 193m to the north (Listing 1159785). It is a timber-framed house dating from 17th century, altered during the 18th century.
 - The Old Hunters Lodge Public House (HER 6028) lies 270m to the north-east (Listing 1321289). It dates to the early to mid-17th century.
 - The Old Rectory (HER 6030) lies 83m to the north-east (Listing 1114771). It is a 17th century timber framed building with 19th and 20th century additions and alterations.
 - Rosemary Cottage, (HER 6971) lies 320m to the west (Listing 1321290). It is 18th century or earlier thatched cottage.
 - 1 & 2 Goldon Row Yew Tree Cottage (HER 6969) lies 265m to the west (Listing 1159791). It is a 17th century building with 19th century alterations.

- There are several surviving post-medieval buildings in the vicinity, dating from the 17th century through to the 19th century. The closest of these is Church Farm, 60m to the west. It is a model farm complex including 18th to 19th century barns and a 19th century farmhouse. There are 11 other unlisted post-medieval buildings of interest within the village, including several cottages, a 19th century schoolhouse, a Methodist chapel and a public well-house.

RESEARCH AIMS

3.2 The aims of the investigation have been:

- to identify any remains that are liable to be threatened by the development and establish their location, depth, extent, date, character and condition;
- to ensure that an appropriate strategy for the mitigation of damage or destruction of such remains by the development is adopted.

3.3 It was considered that the investigation had the potential to contribute to a greater understanding of the origins of the church, and the wider settlement of Whipsnade, from the prehistoric period onwards.

COLLECTED DATA

3.4 The fieldwork for the present project consisted of the monitoring of the development groundworks, which comprised the excavation of footings trenches and services in the churchyard, together with the creation of an opening for a new doorway through the south wall of the nave.

3.5 The groundworks demonstrated a consistent stratigraphy of grass covered topsoil, 0.20m in depth, above a cemetery soil over 1m in depth. The natural clay was only encountered at the northern end of the churchyard, below the soil bank and within the footprint of the new extension.

3.6 Fragments of disarticulated human bone were recovered from the cemetery soil during the excavations. These were retained onsite and given to the vicar for later reburial. A single adult inhumation, probably of a male aged between 20 and 40, was encountered in Soakaway 2. There was no evidence for a grave cut and no finds were present to date the burial. The bones were lifted and handed to the vicar for reburial.

3.7 A new opening was created through the south wall of the nave, allowing access from the new extension. Removal of the post-medieval brick skin to the external elevation revealed part of the medieval wall to the church, [105], which stood to a maximum height of 1.3m. This had been constructed of Totternhoe stone blocks and flints in a lime mortar matrix. It is likely that this represents the rubble core, which would have been faced with dressed stone. A course of stone blocks [104] had been laid on top of [105] on the north side, but this was not visible on the south side.

3.8 Removal of the plaster and brick facing to the internal elevation appeared to show that the inner face of the early core to the wall had been significantly repaired. Its lower part had been replaced by brickwork, covered with a layer of mortar and plaster. An area approximately 0.5m in height had survived above this, which supported a course of stone blocks, laid as a base for a later brick wall [108].

3.9 Further evidence for the earlier wall was observed in a footings trench for the new extension. This revealed flint and chalk rubble below the brick facing to the external elevation.

The early wall sat directly above the natural clay and was encountered at a depth of 0.5m below the present ground level. No evidence for a foundation cut was observed in the footings trench.

3.10 Wall [108], above [105], was constructed of roughly coursed bricks laid in header bond with lime mortar. The bricks were similar in size and appearance to the interior brick facing suggesting that they may be contemporary. A single course of reused Totternhoe stone was visible on the inner side within the brickwork.

3.11 A void was observed below the external face of wall [105], but was not visible on the inner face. This contained degraded wood fragments which may represent the remains of a sill beam. It is possible that the sill beam originally extended the width of the wall, but later repairs have removed the evidence on the northern side.

3.12 The foundations to the 16th century church tower were exposed in Test Pit 1, and these were constructed of red handmade bricks bonded with dry mortar.

CONCLUSIONS

3.13 It was considered that the investigation on the present site had the potential to contribute to a greater understanding of the origins of the church from the medieval period onwards.

3.14 Apart from a single articulated skeleton, revealed during the excavation of Soakaway 2, and fragments of disarticulated human bone, no archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the course of the groundworks on the present site. Examination of the skeleton suggested that the individual was a male, aged between 20 and 40. All human bone was handed to the vicar for reburial in the churchyard.

3.15 Evidence for the partial survival of the rubble core to the wall of the medieval church was encountered in two places during the present project. It was exposed during the creation of a new opening at the western end of the south wall. Here the wall stood to approximately 1.3m in height above the present ground level on the southern side. The early wall was also encountered further to the east of the new opening, at approximately 0.50m below ground level, in a footings trench for the new extension.

3.16 It is possible that the medieval church had a sill beam. A void was encountered below the outer face of [105]. This contained a number of fragments of degraded wood.

3.17 A roughly coursed brick wall, [108], had been built on top of the medieval wall. On the inner side this apparently sprang from a course of stone blocks, which had probably been reused from the original wall. A further course of stone blocks was incorporated into [108] at a higher level. It is possible that the earlier stone and flint wall had either fallen into disrepair or had been intentionally demolished and the wall rebuilt in brick. It was then faced with bricks laid in Flemish bond.

3.18 It is probable that the brick facing to the south wall is contemporary with the rebuilding of the wall. The bricks used, particularly on the internal elevation, are very similar to those used in the core of the wall.

3.19 No other features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance were observed during the course of this work.

Confidence Rating

3.20 Conditions on site were generally acceptable for the identification and recording of any potential archaeological remains, and as such there are no circumstances which would lead to a confidence rating for the work which was less than *High*.

4. Schedule of site visits

| Date | Staff | Hours | Phase | Comments |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| 07/03/2016 | GAJ | 12 | 1 | Monitoring on test pits & SMR |
| 07/10/2016 | GAJ | 4 | 2 | Monitoring of drainage |
| 18/10/2016 | DRP | 4 | 2 | Inspection of new doorway (external) |
| 21/10/2016 | DRP | 4 | 2 | Inspection of drainage connected to new footpath |
| 27/10/2016 | DRP | 8 | 2 | Monitoring of new doorway (external) |
| 31/10/2016 | DRP | 10 | 2 | Monitoring of soakaway |
| 01/11/2016 | DRP | 10 | 2 | Monitoring of soakaway |
| 02/11/2016 | DRP | 11 | 2 | Monitoring of drainage |
| 03/11/2016 | DRP | 9 | 2 | Monitoring of internal wall removal for new doorway |

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National Library of Scotland: <http://www>. <http://maps.nls.uk/>

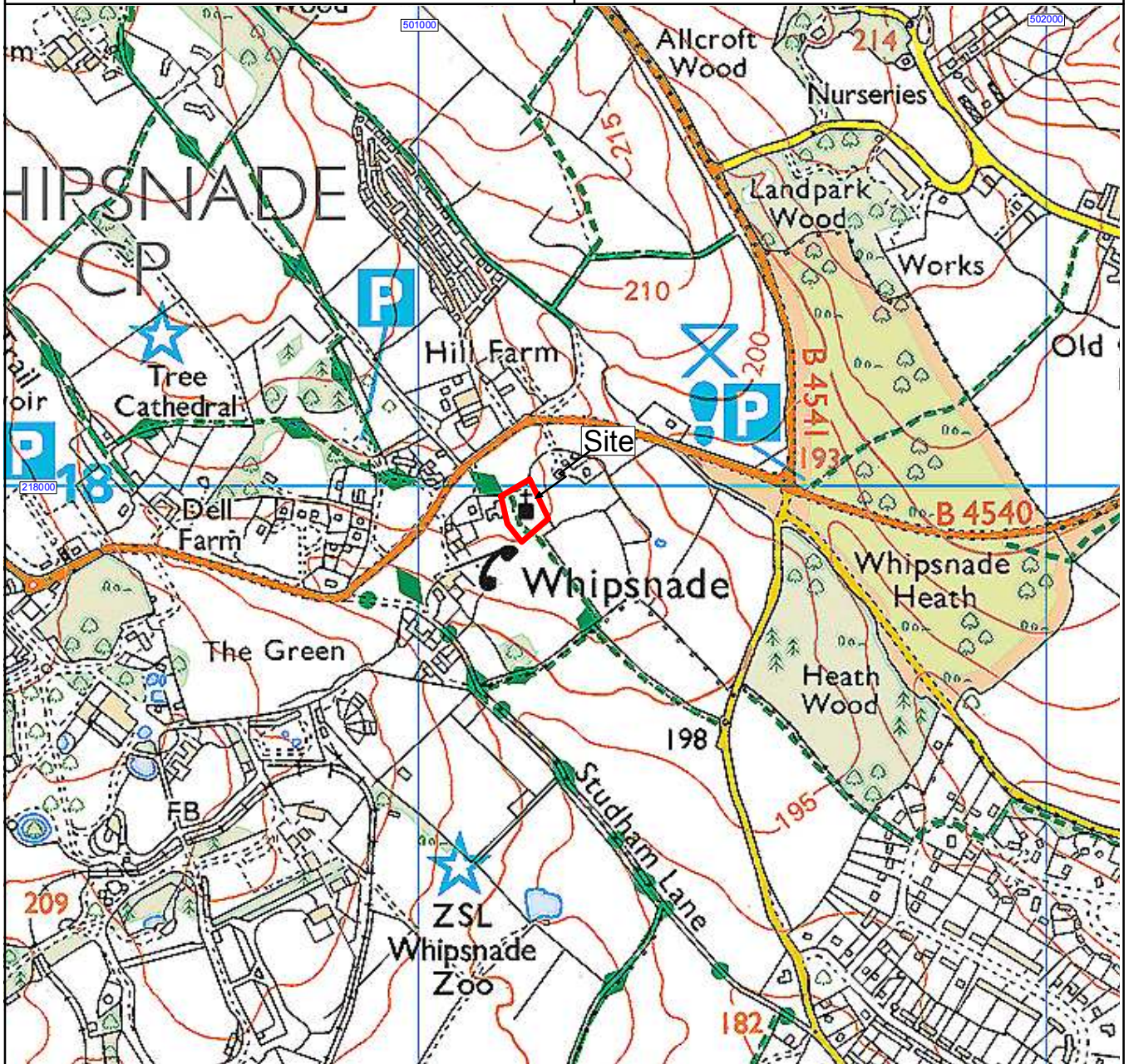
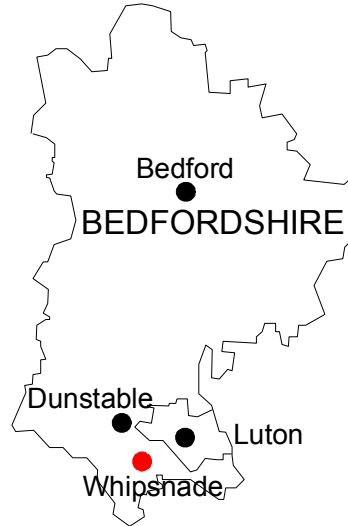
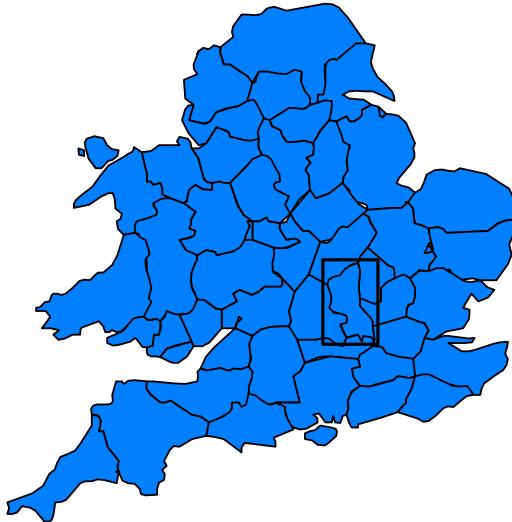
Oake M, Luke M, Dawson M, Edgeworth M and Murphy P (2007) *Bedfordshire Archaeology – Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy*. Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph 9

Soil Survey of England & Wales (SSEW) 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales – Sheet 4, Eastern England*. SSEW: Rothamsted, Harpenden

Victoria County History: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk>

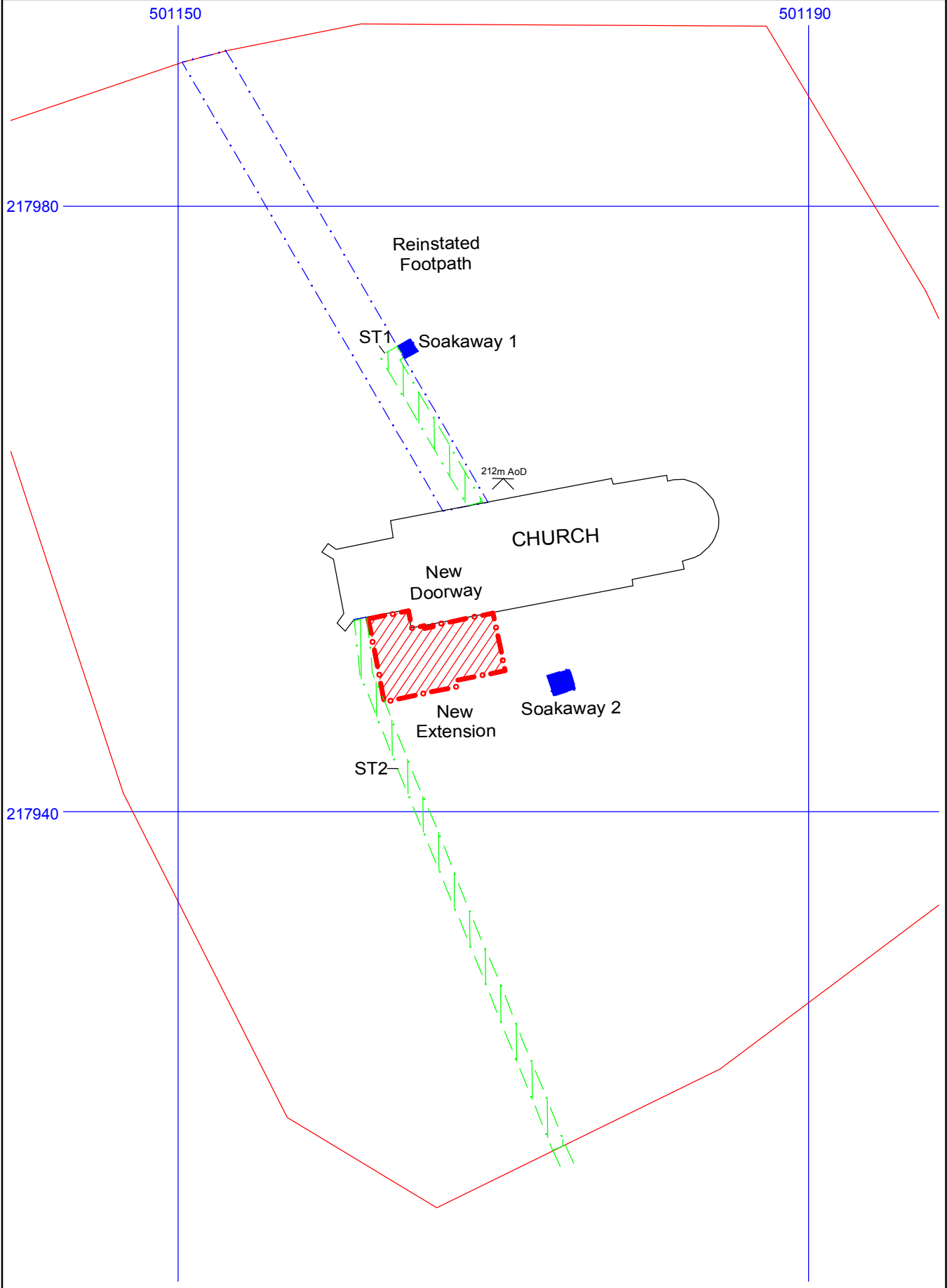
6. Illustrations

| | |
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| , | |



Site Location

Scale 1:10000



Site Layout

Scale 1:350

501160

501170

501180

217960

217950

CHURCH

New
Extension

Foundation [102]

Opening for
new doorway

TP1

TP2

Existing gravel drain

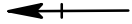
Existing gravel drain

Footings trench

Ground Reduction

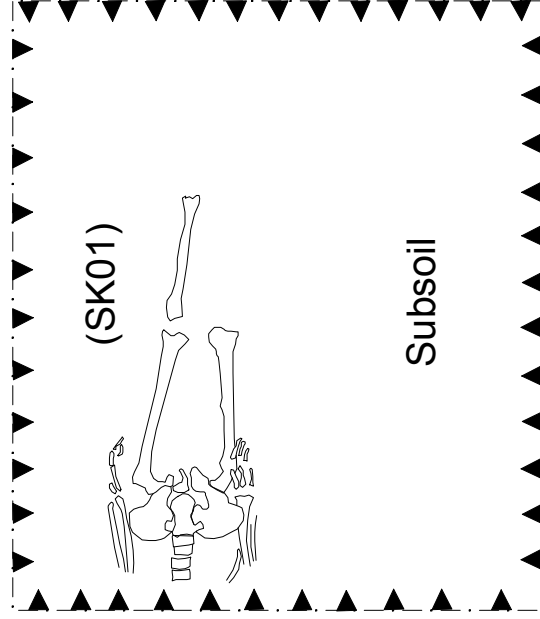
Approximate extent of bank

2.12m AOD

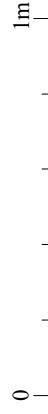
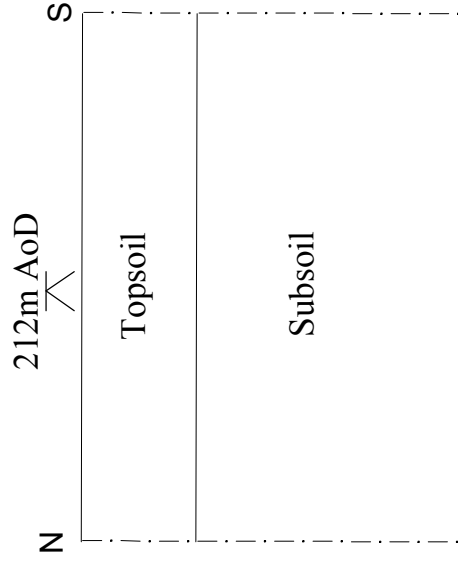


Extension Layout

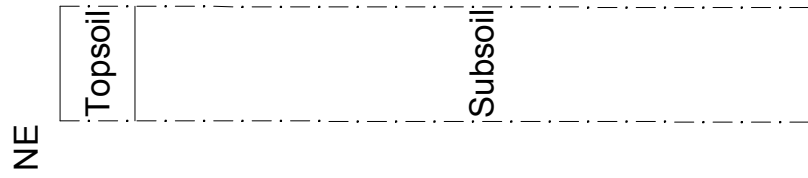
Soakaway 2



Indicative Section



Indicative Section -
Service Trench 2



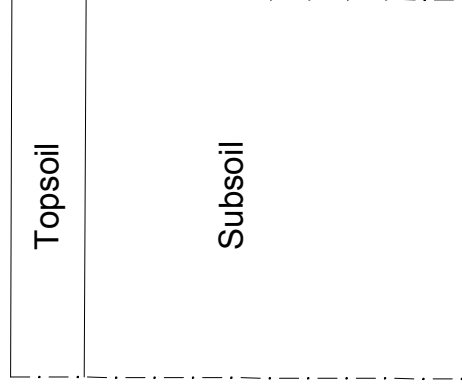
212m AoD



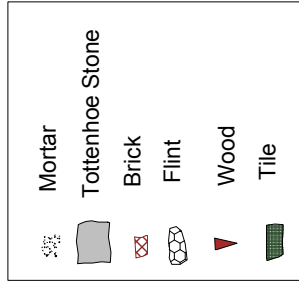
SW

NE

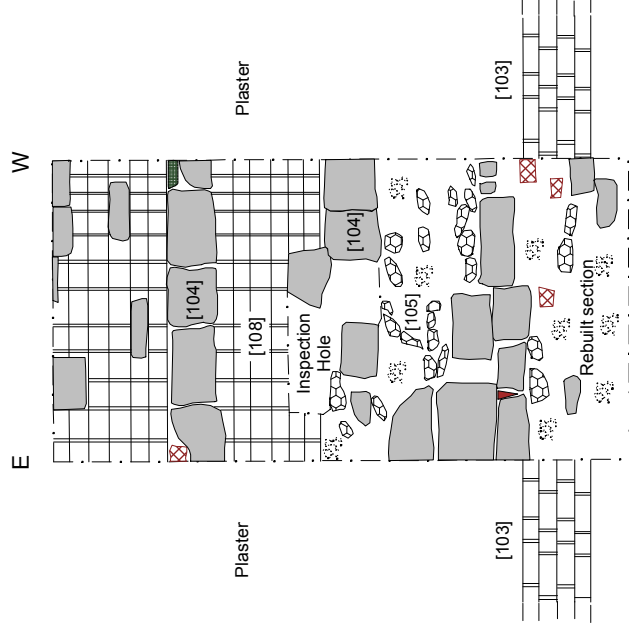
Indicative Section -
Service Trench 1



New doorway opening:
external elevation after
removal of facing bricks



New doorway opening:
internal elevation after
removal of facing bricks



212m AoD



New Doorway Elevations



Plate 001 - Test Pit 1 revealing the tower foundations [101], looking N



Plate 002 - Test Pit 2 revealing modern concrete plinth, looking N
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.



Plate 003 - Extension footprint excavated down to subsoil, looking E



Plate 004 - The excavated sondage, looking E
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.



Plate 005 - Reduction of western part of extension footprint, looking N



Plate 006 - Footings trench, showing earlier foundation [102], looking N
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.



Plate 007 - Soakaway 1, looking S

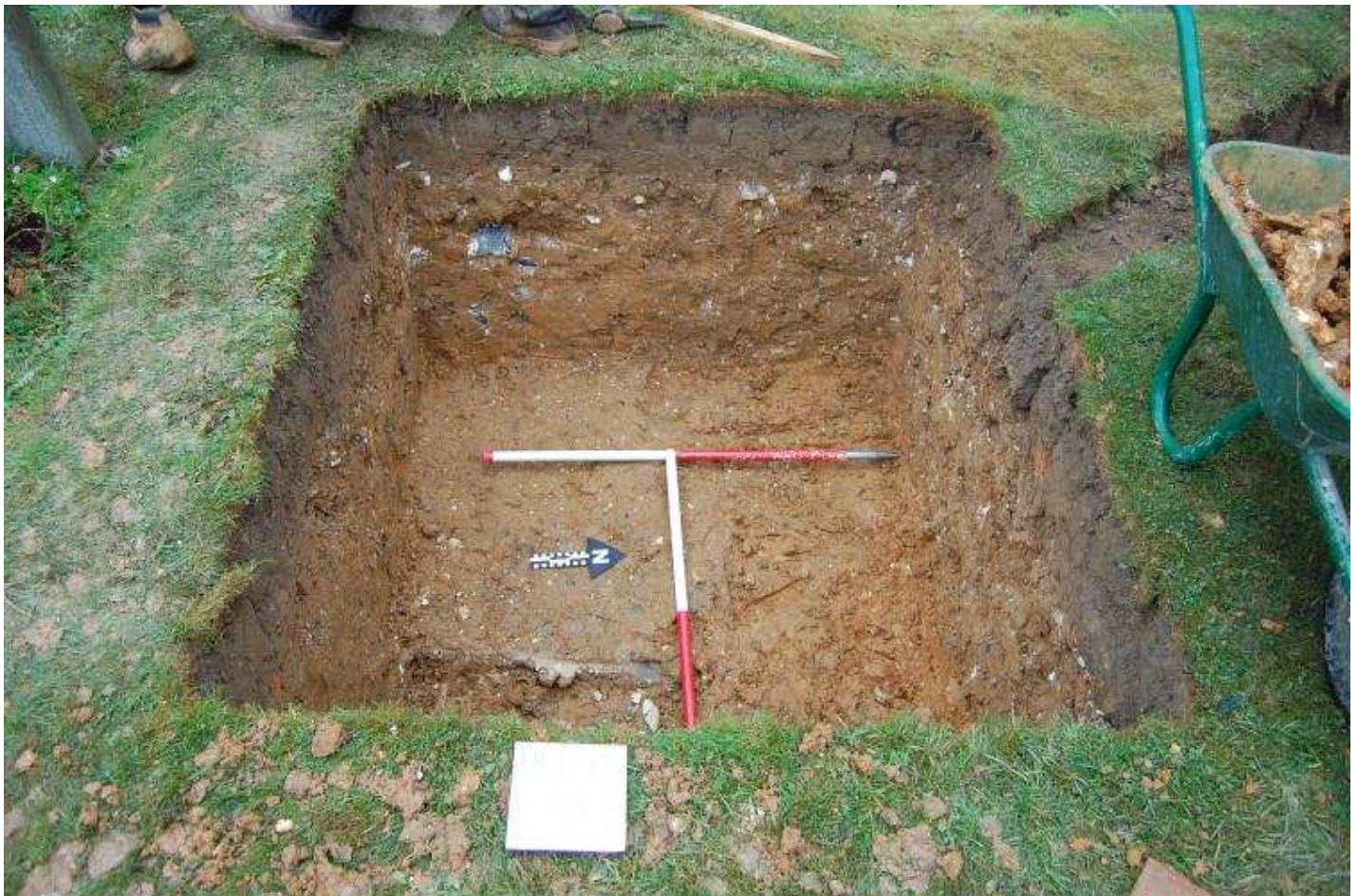


Plate 008 - Soakaway 2, looking W
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.



Plate 009 - Skeleton in Soakaway 2, looking W

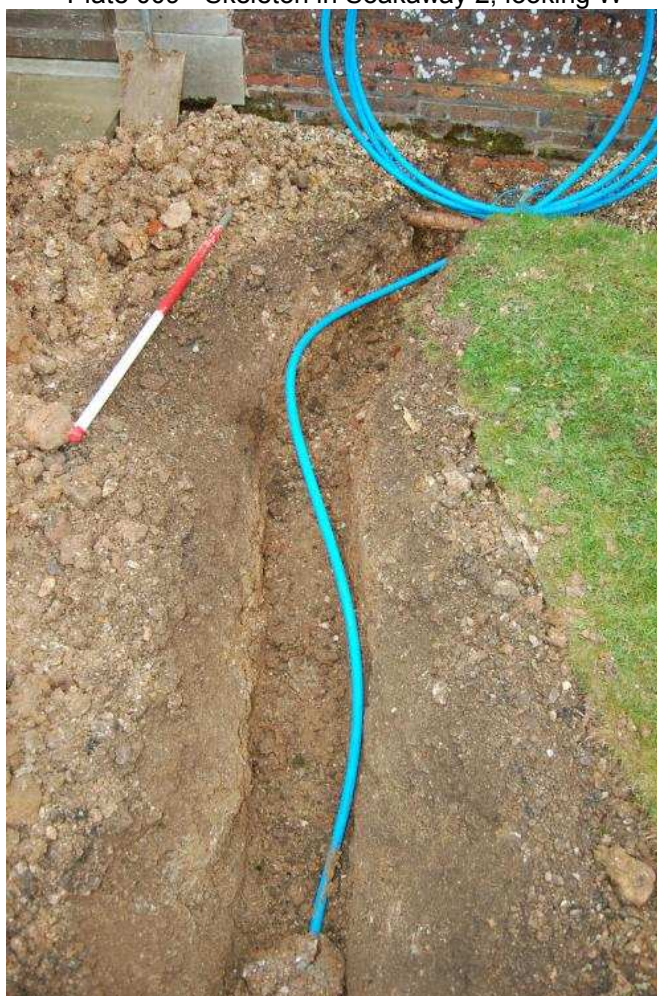


Plate 010 - ST1, looking S
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.



Plate 011 - ST2, looking N



Plate 012 - South wall of church, looking NE
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.



Plate 013 - Test holes for new doorway, looking N



Plate 014 - Test hole, showing earlier wall, looking NW
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.



Plate 015 - New doorway after removal of exterior brick facing



Plate 016 - Detail of wall [105], looking N
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.



Plate 017 - Section through south wall of nave, looking N



Plate 018 - S wall of nave after removal of plaster
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.



Plate 019 - Detail of stone coursing on internal elevation, looking W



Plate 020 - New doorway after removal of interior brick facing
(c) The Heritage Network Ltd.

Appendix 1

OASIS Data form

| OASIS ID: heritage1-240255 | |
|--|---|
| Project details | |
| Project name | St. Mary Magdalene Church, Whipsnade |
| Short description of the project | In response to a planning condition on the construction of an extension to the Church of St Mary Magdalene, Whipsnade, Bedfordshire, the Heritage Network was commissioned to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation on the groundworks for the new development and on the creation of a new opening for a doorway through the south wall of the nave. The recorded stratigraphy was consistent across the site, comprising dark grey topsoil above pale brown subsoil. The underlying natural clay was encountered close to the church, at a depth of 0.5m below the present ground level, but was not encountered elsewhere on the site. Apart from a single articulated skeleton, revealed during the excavation of Soakaway 2, and fragments of disarticulated human bone, no archaeological features, deposits or finds were encountered during the course of the groundworks on the present site. Examination of the skeleton suggested that the individual was a male, aged between 20 and 40. All human bone was handed to the vicar for reburial in the churchyard. |
| Project dates | Start: 07-03-2015 End: 03-11-2016 |
| Previous/future work | No / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | HN1249 - Contracting Unit No. |
| Any associated project reference codes | LTNMG 1178 - Museum Accession id |
| Any associated project reference codes | 1159770 – NHLE No. |
| Type of project | Recording project |
| Site status | Conservation Area |
| Site status | Listed Building |
| Current Land use | Community Service 1 - Community Buildings |
| Current Land use | Other 4 - Churchyard |
| Monument type | WALL Medieval |
| Monument type | WALL Post Medieval |
| Significant Finds | HUMAN BONE Uncertain |
| Significant Finds | BRICK Post Medieval |
| Significant Finds | STONE Medieval |
| Significant Finds | WOOD Medieval |
| Investigation type | ""Watching Brief"", ""Part Excavation"", ""Test-Pit Survey"" |
| Prompt | National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF |
| Project location | |
| Country | England |
| Site location | BEDFORDSHIRE SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE WHIPSNAD St. Mary Magdalene Church |

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Postcode | LU6 2LL |
| Study area | 4000 Square metres |
| Site coordinates | TL 01163 17950 51.85051742602 -0.531113876352 51 51 01 N 000 31 52 W Point |
| Project creators | |
| Name of Organisation | Heritage Network |
| Project brief originator | Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist) |
| Project design originator | Chris Turner |
| Project director/manager | David Hillelson |
| Project supervisor | Daniel Phillips |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | PCC |
| Project archives | |
| Digital Archive recipient | Luton Museum Service |
| Digital Media available | "Images raster / digital photography" |
| Paper Archive recipient | Luton Museum Service |
| Paper Media available | "Context sheet", "Diary", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section" |
| Project bibliography 1 | |
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE, Whipsnade, Bedfordshire |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Phillips, D. |
| Other bibliographic details | Report no.1038 |
| Date | 2016 |
| Issuer or publisher | Heritage Network |
| Place of issue or publication | Letchworth Garden City |
| Description | A4 booklet, green cover, comb bound, 14 text pages, 6 figures, 20 plates, |