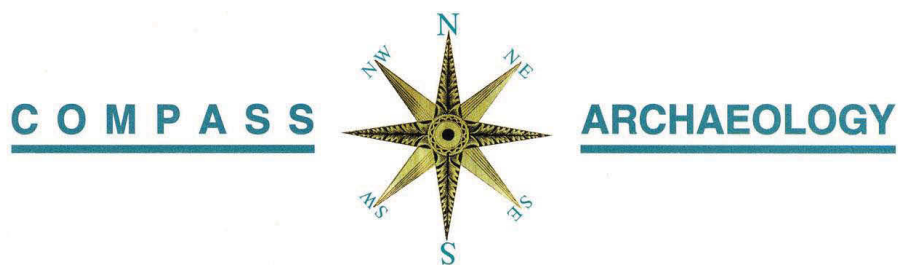


ST ANNE'S CHURCH
KEW GREEN, KEW
LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

August 2007



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LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SITE CODE: ANK07
SITE CENTRE NGR: TQ 18964 77489

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August 2007

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief took place at St Anne's Church, Kew, London Borough of Richmond between July-October 2007. Archaeological monitoring was undertaken on contractors groundworks and refurbishment in two areas – the forecourt to the west of the church (including the paved area beneath the existing portico) and the porch on the south side of the Church.

A scaled drawing record of the existing paving beneath the portico, including identification of possible re-used grave slabs, was carried out prior to the commencement of groundworks. Drainage installation works in the tarmac forecourt were observed, exposing shallow made-ground layers and natural clay and gravels. Reduction of the tarmac forecourt exposed the same sequence, with modern made-ground layers stripped to a depth of some 250mm, exposing the natural clay in places.

Lifting of the slab-paving beneath the portico was observed in full. To the north, a section of red-brick, lightly mortared wall foundation was exposed and considered to be the remains of the boundary wall contemporary with the 1805 – 1837 phase of the church. A further section of wall foundation was observed to the south, representing a continuation of the existing boundary wall. This observation suggests that the existing wall continued beyond its current limits at some point, and was cut short to create a wider opening across the front of the portico.

The lifting of a large 1.9m by 0.9m slab, situated immediately outside the southern most entrance exposed a brick-built vaulted burial vault with solid brick steps leading to a bricked up archway entrance. Using modern and contemporary sources, the vault was identified as belonging to a Hobbs family, with the earliest definite burial belonging to a Mrs Mary Hobbs in 1813.

Refurbishment of the south porch involved the excavation of two trenches for a new retaining wall either side of a central pathway. These excavations produced a moderate quantity of disarticulated human remains within a mixed cemetery soil, and one area of in-situ remains in the form of lower legs, ankles and feet of an adult protruding from the east facing section of the western trench. All human remains were re-interred in the same trenches. Examples of re-used worked stone were recovered from the existing retaining wall, three pieces showed obvious evidence of carving although their original use was unclear.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken at St Anne's Church, Kew Green. The work was attached to two planning consents for external projects (planning Refs DC/VIC/06/FUL/FUL and DC/VIC/06/1153/FUL/FUL).
- 1.2 The watching brief was commissioned by Child Graddon Lewis, as architects acting on behalf of the Parochial Church Council of St Anne's Church.
- 1.3 The site was centred at NGR TQ 18964 77489 (See Figure 1)
- 1.4 The archaeological watching brief included a preliminary inspection of the site, followed by the monitoring of contractors groundworks, involving the landscaping and refurbishment of two areas: in front of the west front of the Church, and within a much smaller area adjacent to the south porch.

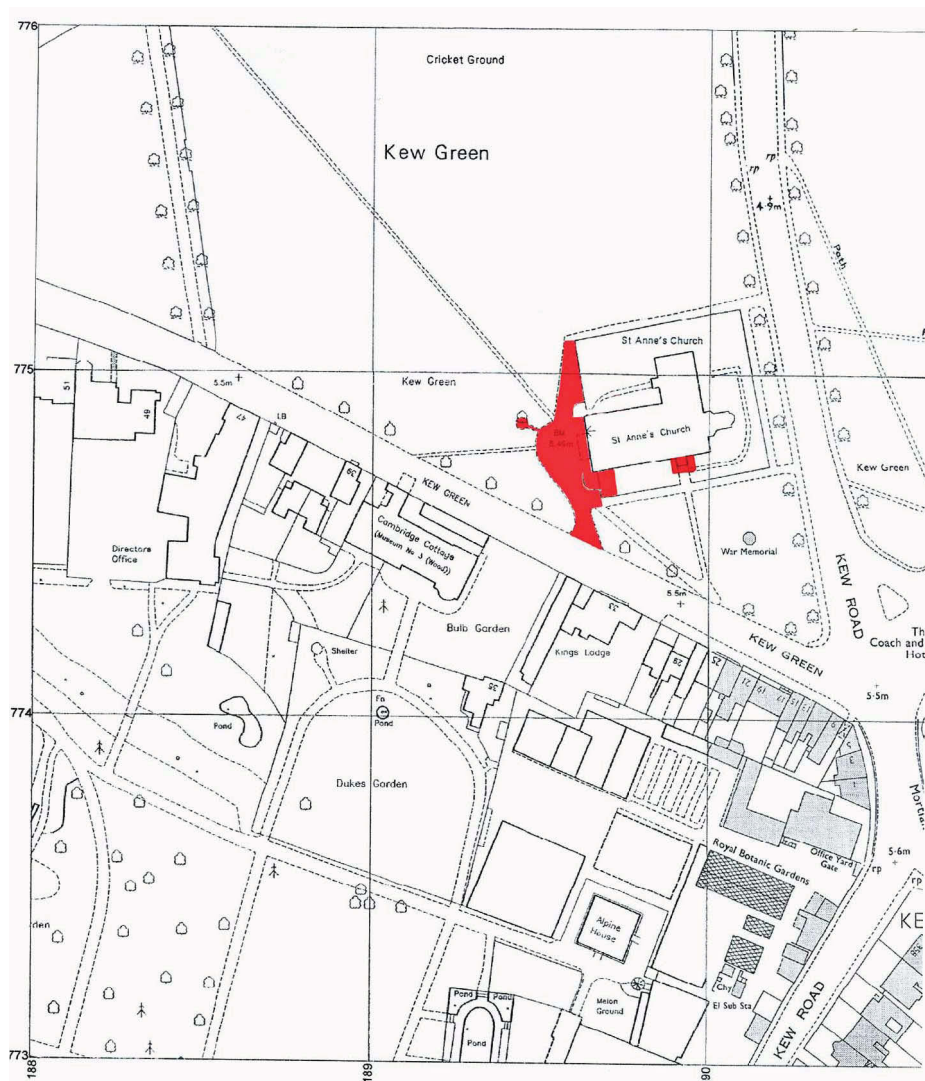


Figure 1: Site location and affected area, based on the Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map (Plan sheets TQ 1877 and 1977) © Crown Copyright.

2. Acknowledgements

- 2.1** Compass Archaeology is grateful to Child Graddon Lewis and the Rector Nigel Worn for commissioning the report.
- 2.2** The on-site work was carried out by Rosie Cummings of Compass Archaeology, with additional support from Geoff Potter and Gill King.

3. Background

3.1 Location and Geology

St Anne's Church stands on level ground on Kew Green, some 250m south of the River Thames and approximately centred at NGR TQ 1897 7749. The ground levels in the area of groundworks range from 5.055m to 5.32m OD (see Figure 1 above).

The British Geological Survey indicates that the site overlies a natural ground surface of River Terrace gravel.

3.2 Historical Background

The original church of St Anne's was built in 1714, following the donation of land by the then monarch, Queen Anne. The chapel was consecrated on the 12th May 1714 by the Bishop of Winchester as part of the parish of Kingston. The original building consisted of a small rectangle measuring 54 feet by 27 feet (see Figure 2), but was subsequently extended and altered due to the substantial growth of the surrounding settlement and population. Kew Palace, earlier known as the Whitehouse, was the principle residence of the Prince of Wales. When George III ascended to the throne in 1760, the Kew house became his country residence. Kew (which in 1788 became a parish in its own right) was historically associated with the royal court.

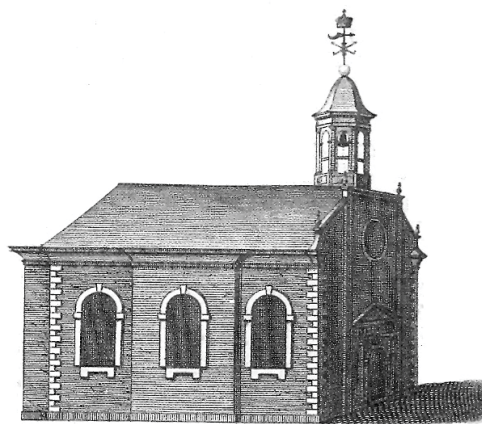


Figure 2: The early church c. 1714. (Reproduced from St Anne's Church, Kew Green: Visitors Handbook 1993.

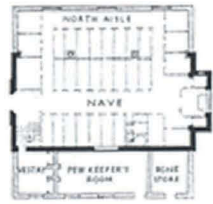
In 1770, the first extension of St Anne's was undertaken at the King's expense, and by the design of Joshua Kirby. A north aisle was added with columns in place of the original wall, and an extension was constructed on the south side. A further enlargement took place in 1805, when a new south aisle was constructed to match that of the north and a gallery supported on cast iron columns was built for the sole use of the King, his family and the Royal household. Sir Jeffrey Wyattville designed further alterations in 1837, under the patronage of King William IV. The nave and aisles were extended by a further bay, and the Royal Gallery and portico were moved to their present position, creating a new room. In 1851 a mausoleum was added at the east end, and in 1882 an elaborate extension of the east end was undertaken. A new chancel, an extension to the nave and aisles, and the porch on the south side were created. In 1902 a choir vestry was added on the north-east side of the church and was then extended again in 1979. Finally, in 1988, the current nave altar was established (See Figure 3: major extensions).

Removal of paving during a watching brief in 2003 produced a number of pieces of reused stonework. These included three grave slabs (two dated to 1767 and 1807-9) and two other pieces of architectural masonry (Compass Archaeology 2003).

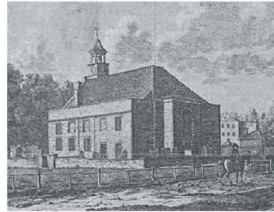
There were no other significant finds and no evidence for either *in situ* or disturbed human remains. The ramp excavation – an area approximately 4m by 1.5m in plan and up to 0.5m deep – revealed only recent made ground, primarily a compact dark sandy silt with frequent ash/clinker and occasional brick and tile fragments. Construction of a new soak away c. 1m deep on lower ground just outside the cemetery exposed a truncated sandy subsoil with occasional ceramic flecks, overlying natural silty sand and gravels some 0.5m below the present ground surface.

4. The Proposed Scheme

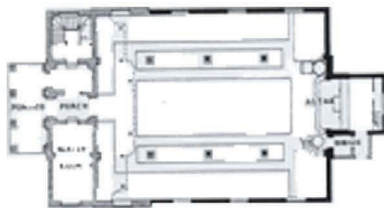
- 4.1** The project architect supplied plans, sections and elevations describing the existing layout and proposed works. The proposals involved landscaping and refurbishment within two areas, the forecourt in front of the west front of the Church and within a much smaller area adjacent to the south porch, as detailed below. These works were undertaken as two separate programs.



1770



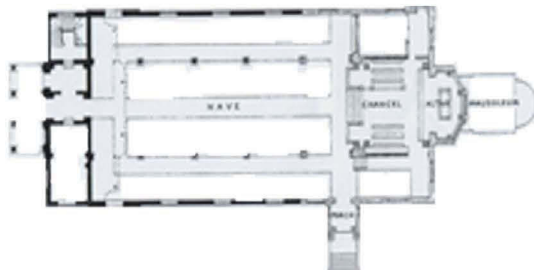
1805



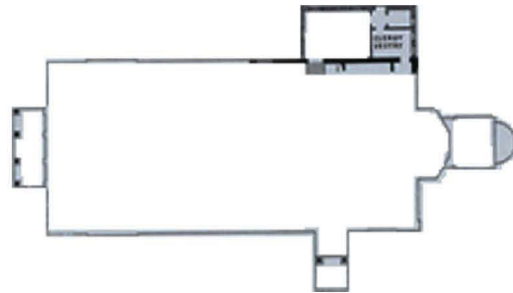
1837



1851



1884



1902

Figure 3: Major phases of alteration and extension. Diagrams reproduced from Cassidy: 1986.

4.2 Planning Ref. DC/VIC/06/1153/FUL/FUL: *Provide new access ramp, resurface area to front of church and re-levelling forecourt. New circular seat.... replacement gate and new cycle stands.* The forecourt together with the paving below the Church portico occupy a roughly semicircular area with overall dimensions of about 50m north-south by 14m east-west. The principal groundworks here involved a reduction in the finished surface level of the forecourt, by up to about 400mm in the central area and towards the western perimeter. A shallow drainage channel was also constructed at the western boundary, together with repositioning of one existing manhole at the edge of the portico. In the area adjacent to the Church the finished levels of paving were to be similar to or very slightly above the present surface. At the southwest corner of the Church the existing steps up to the graveyard were replaced by an access ramp, approximately 1.5m in width by 4.5m in length. This also involved some localised excavation/ re-levelling, although the original proposal to relocate two gravestones was thought unnecessary during the course of the works.

4.3 Planning Ref. DC/VIC/06/1149/FUL/FUL: *Restoration of south porch and entrance piers, re-levelling path and re-align steps.* The external area affected by these works measures some 6m by 4m in plan. The existing path from the perimeter gate to porch were remodeled to create a flush access ramp into the Church. In practice this required a finished surface level with the existing path at the perimeter wall, and some 150mm higher at the entrance to the porch. Steps leading up from either side of the entrance path to the adjacent graveyard were also remodeled and cut back slightly (by c 250mm), although due to the higher path level the existing three steps were replaced by two. Finally, new dwarf retaining walls were constructed either side of the entrance path and steps.

5. Methods and Objectives of the watching brief

5.1 Standards

5.1.1 The field and post-excavation work was carried out in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (in particular, *Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork, Guidance Paper 3*). Works also conformed to the Institute of Field Archaeologists (Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs). Overall management of the project was undertaken by a full member of the Institute.

5.2 Fieldwork

5.2.1 A preliminary site visit was made prior to the commencement of ground works in order to examine the *in situ* paving and other stonework, including the two gravestones that were originally to be moved at the southwest corner of the Church. Particular attention was given to evidence of reused stone (for example grave slabs and markers), and a brief photographic and drawn record was made prior to disturbance.

5.2.2 Prior to the start of works application was made for a DCA license to cover the potential disturbance of human remains in areas outside the established

graveyard, if not covered by Faculty (Licence No: 07-00030 Date: 25.04.07). Although there was no evidence for these, it was considered a reasonable precaution.

- 5.2.3 Where *in situ* paving and stonework was removed a further examination was made for potentially reused material. For example, some stones may have appeared flat and unmarked but in fact were laid face down and therefore obscured. Any reused material previously identified was also more fully recorded on removal, by scale drawing and/or photography.
- 5.2.4 Thereafter, the archaeological watching brief took place during the contractor's groundwork, and basically involved one archaeologist on site as required to monitor works and to investigate and record any archaeological remains.
- 5.2.5 Any *in situ* human remains discovered were avoided and worked round, by means of localised revision of the groundworks. The minimum archaeological record was therefore undertaken.

5.3 Methodology

Archaeological deposits and features were investigated and recorded in stratigraphic sequence, and where appropriate finds dating and environmental evidence recovered.

Archaeological contexts and features were recorded as appropriate on *pro-forma* sheets and/or drawn in plan or section, generally at scales of 1:10 or 1:20. The investigations were recorded on a general site plan and related to the Ordnance Survey Grid. The fieldwork record was supplemented as appropriate by 35mm and/or digital photography.

During excavation spoil from archaeological levels was, if requested, deposited separately, in such a way as to facilitate examination.

The recording system followed the procedures set out in the Museum of London recording manual. By agreement, the recording and drawing sheets used were directly compatible with those developed by the Museum.

6. Post Excavation work

The fieldwork was followed by off-site assessment and compilation of a report, and by ordering and deposition of the site archive.

6.1 Finds and samples

Finds and samples are treated in accordance with the appropriate guidelines, including the Museum of London's '*Standards for the Preparation of Finds to be permanently retained by the Museum of London*'. Finds and artifacts are retained and bagged with unique numbers related to the context record, although building material may be discarded once an assessment has been made.

It was anticipated that the soil would yield some displaced and fragmentary human bone. This was collected within a single receptacle for reburial, at a location within the cemetery agreed with the Church. It was assumed that *in situ* burials would not be removed and therefore no provision was made for this.

6.2 The site archive

The records of the watching brief will be ordered in line with MoL *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archaeological Archives* and will be deposited within a reasonable period in the Museum of London Archaeological Archive. The integrity of the site archive should be maintained, and the landowner will be urged to donate any archaeological finds to the Museum.

7. The Archaeological Watching Brief

The results of the archaeological watching brief, undertaken between July and October 2007 will be presented under three separate phases of work: groundworks and drainage installation in the western forecourt, leveling and restoration of the paved portico, and releveling and restoration of the south porch. Significant archaeological results will be discussed in detail within each section, and a summary will be presented at the conclusion of this report.

7.1 Western Forecourt: Drainage Installation and Groundworks

The existing tarmac forecourt to the west of the church (see Figure 4) was reduced by a maximum of 400mm using a mechanical excavator. The tarmac and base were removed to an average depth of 200mm, exposing a shallow layer of modern made ground beneath. No archaeological finds or features were exposed during the course of this work. Following reduction, the area was resurfaced with a tarmac sub base, over sprayed with a heritage gravel finish.

Localised excavations for drainage purposes included a shallow gully running around the edge of the forecourt, drain piping across the forecourt and drain connection points within the tarmac area. The existing rainwater channel running north-south adjacent to the edge of the portico paving was removed. The existing brick-built soakaway located on the south side of the forecourt was opened, exposing brickwork in a severe state of disrepair. The existing soakaway was reinforced with a concrete cap, and concrete and gravel surround. A new soakaway was excavated to the north, still within the tarmac forecourt. The initial excavation was sunk to a depth of 1m below the existing ground surface. The overlying tarmac was laid on a shallow gravel base, overlying a mixed layer of mid brown-orange sterile gravel to a shallow depth of some 150mm. Approximately 300mm of mid-brown grey gravels in a silty soil matrix were exposed below. Modern brick inclusions and pebbles were observed within this deposit, which probably represents ground make-up contemporary with the existing tarmac surface. Mid-orange brown clay natural was exposed below, beginning some 450mm below the existing ground surface, and exposed in section for a further 550mm (see Figure 5).

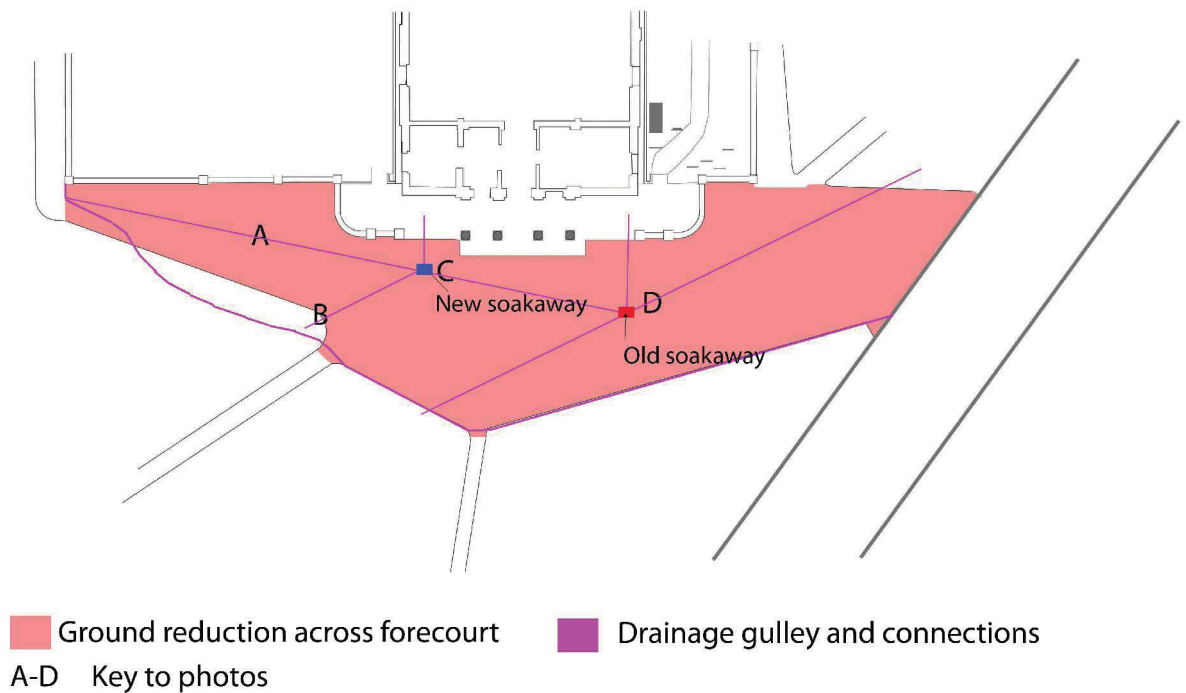


Figure 4: Drainage works in forecourt, based on plans provided by Child Graddon Lewis Architects & Design. Key to photos refers to Figure 5 below.

Gulley pipes in plastic casings were sunk some 0.6m below the existing ground surface, laid within wider cuts and backfilled with a grey gravel and concrete mix. The same sequence of tarmac, bedding and shallow ground makeup was observed where these excavations occurred within the tarmac forecourt. Where gulley cuts were sunk at the edges of the tarmac area, or within the turfed areas to the west, turf and shallow topsoil were exposed in section, overlying the same sterile clay natural. This sequence was also observed in the small area surrounding the Norwegian Maple tree to the west of the forecourt. A new pathway was laid between the two, with shallow excavations in a circular surround, to allow for the construction of a new circular seat.

No archaeological finds or features were observed in any of the forecourt ground-works. The surrounding gulley was reinforced with a brick surround following the completion of groundworks, and the area has since been fully re-tarmaced at the appropriate level.



A – Section of gully excavation within tarmac forecourt (0.2m scale).



B – Section of gully excavation with turf area to west (0.2m scale).



C - Section of new soakaway excavation showing shallow made-ground overlying clay natural (1m scale).



D – Old soakaway with concrete reinforcement (1m scale).

Figure 5: Photographs of groundworks within the tarmac forecourt, refer to Figure 4.

7.2 Leveling and Restoration of the Paved Portico

7.2.1 Prior to the commencement of works within the paved area beneath the portico, a preliminary visit was made in order to record the existing paving. An accurate scaled plan of the paved area was made, noting differing materials and possibly re-used monumental stone and grave slabs. Figure 6 (below) shows the results of this survey, identifying the areas of interest and specifically the slabs which were more closely examined during the lifting and re-leveling of the area.

The existing paving consisted mainly of York stone slabs, the majority of which were in relatively good condition. Slabs with significant cracking or damage were discarded, while the rest were salvaged and re-laid as part of the final refurbishment. A large section of paving to the north of the northernmost door consisted of concrete slabs, all of which were discarded and replaced with reclaimed York stone to match the rest of the scheme.

Three slabs were identified as grave slabs – the slab lain east-west in front of the southern most door is discussed in more detail below. A slab orientated north-south and lain adjacent to the west wall, north of the portico, was identified through characteristic molding. The upper left hand corner was cut and curved, as shown in Figure 7. Unfortunately, a vent was sunk through the centre of the slab, and a large section of concrete repair showed adjacent to a horizontal crack. What inscription survived was heavily abraded and unreadable. A further grave slab, measuring 2.1m in length by 0.9m in width was observed orientated east-west and laid adjacent to the west wall of the church (see Figure 8). However, while the grave slab showed no significant damage, the inscription was again heavily abraded. Only the first, uppermost, line of the inscription was legible, reading “*In Memory of*”. However, a survey of monumental inscriptions produced by the East Surrey Family History Society in 1988 provides further detail, presumably the inscription was less abraded at this time. The record from 1988 lists: “*A flat stone slab in pavement abutting west wall of church*” the inscription, again only partially legible, is listed as: *In Memory / of / (---) Ann Thomas / (---- --) / Edward (?) Thomas / ((Thomas Mrs Ann wife of Edward 18 Mch 18-8)).*”

A further three slabs, to the south of that attributed to the ‘Thomas’ family were identified as possible reused grave slabs. The size and fabric (limestone) of these slabs set them apart from the surrounding York Stone paving, but there were no visible inscriptions or moldings on any of them. Interestingly, the accompanying plan to the above mentioned *Survey of Monumental Inscriptions* from the 1980’s, shows a further four slabs south of the ‘Thomas’ family, but these bore little similarity to the position and size of the existing slabs today. Three of the four slabs listed in this survey are unidentified or ‘anon’, but the northernmost of the four is attributed to a ‘Humphrey’. Unfortunately, it is unclear whether this refers to the first name or surname of the original owner, as only the single name and a date of 1711 (unclear as regards birth or death) were legible.

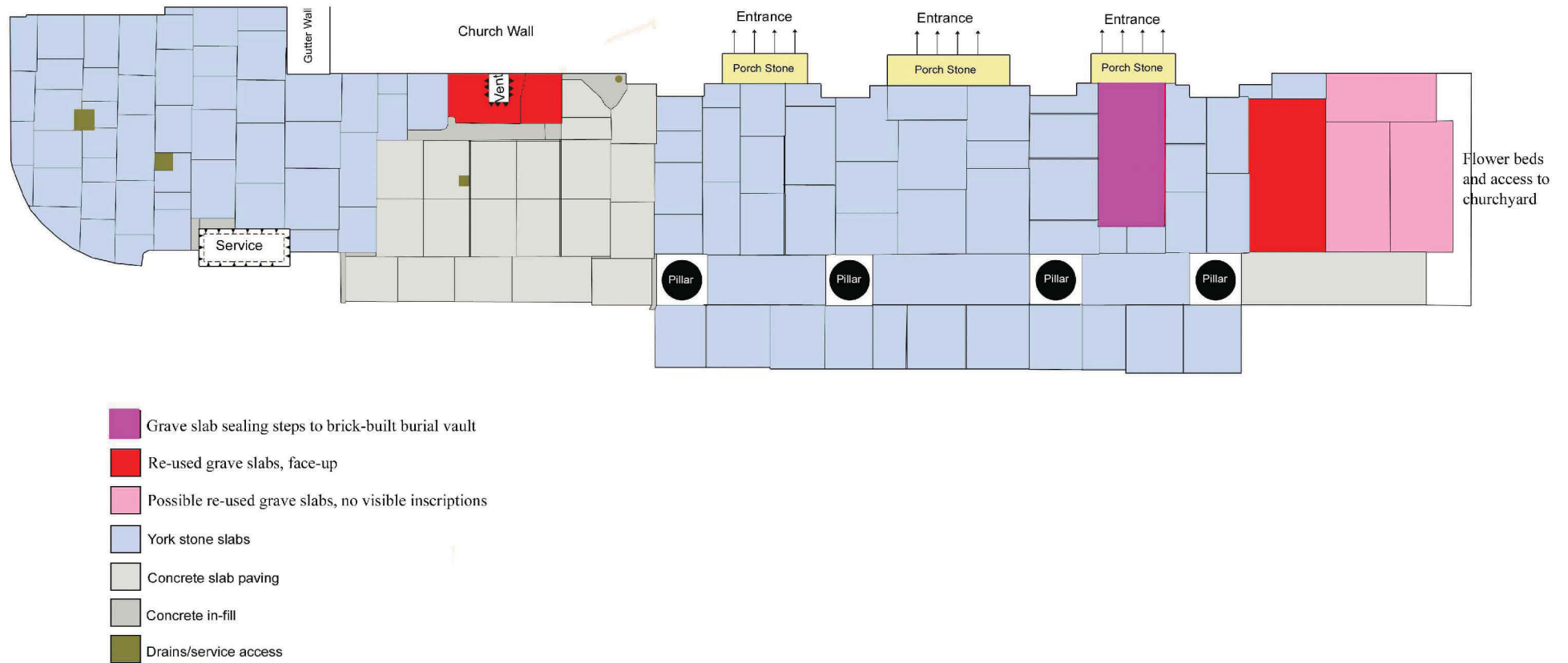


Figure 6: Scaled plan of paving prior to refurbishment. Showing differing types of paving, services, identified grave slabs and location of slab sealing burial vault (discussed in more detail below).



Figure 7: Slab orientated north-south and lain adjacent to the west wall, showing curved upper left hand corner and significant damage including a vent cut through the slab.



Figure 8: Slab orientated east-west adjacent to west wall of church, inset detail showing heavily worn inscription, slab supposedly references a Thomas family.

7.2.2 Where possible, the slabs were lifted by hand and retained or discarded as necessary. The bigger slabs were lifted using a vacuum suction machine attached to the arm of mechanical excavator. Slabs were wetted, the suction pads positioned, then the vacuum initiated and the slab lifted (see Figure 9).

On lifting, the slabs exposed shallow sand and gravel bedding, yellow-orange in colour and containing occasional brick and glass inclusions (see Figure 9). This makeup was exposed across the full length of the forecourt where slabs were removed, although more modern gravel was exposed beneath the isolated area of concrete slabs.

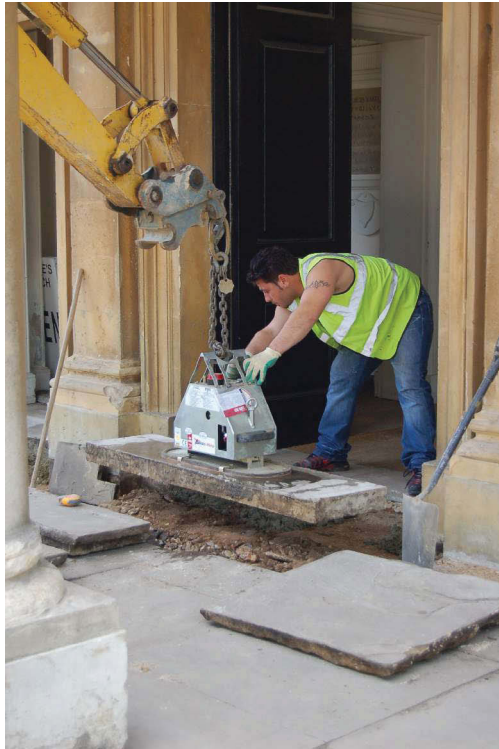


Figure 9: Slab lifting using a vacuum suction machine attached to the arm of a mechanical excavator and by hand, exposing shallow sand and gravel bedding below.

7.2.3 Following the lifting of slabs on the south side of the porch covered area, two shallow drainage channels were excavated from the church wall heading west to join with the drainage installation discussed above (see Figure 10)

Trench A was excavated from a circular drain located 1.07m west of the Church wall, running north-west for 1.5m before turning due west for 2.11m and connecting with the existing drainage. The trench was excavated using a small mechanical excavator to a depth of 0.8m below exposed ground beneath the slabs, at a width of 0.55m.

Trench B was observed for 2.55m, beginning at the church wall and running west, excavated to *c* 1m at a width of 0.6m

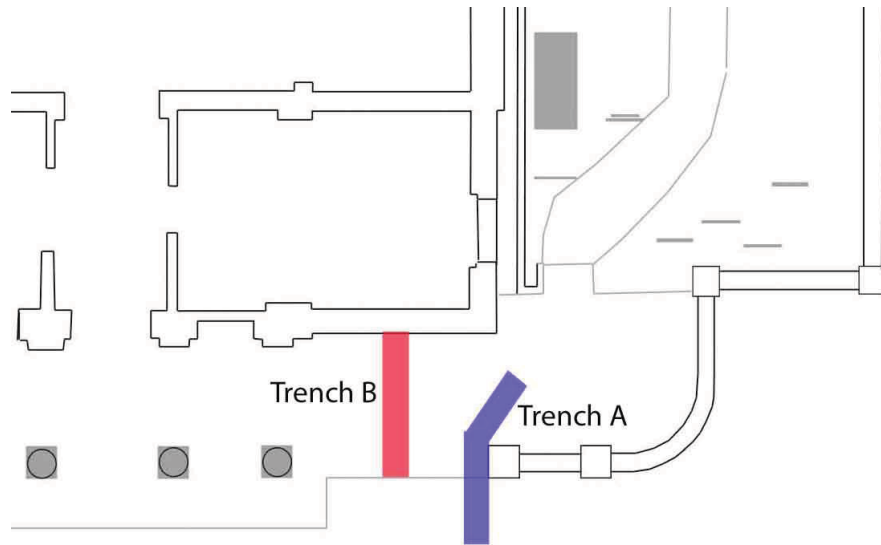


Figure 10: Plan of south-west corner of church and boundary wall, showing location of drainage installation trenches.

In both trenches shallow sand and gravel made ground was exposed (forming the base below the paving slabs), with a mixed mid-brown silty sub-soil below. Natural sterile clay was exposed in the base of both trenches. Sections of brick wall foundation were also exposed in both trenches, of the same fabric and construction as the existing boundary wall. In trench A the brickwork crossed the trench in alignment with the existing wall, exposed for a further 5 courses below the existing ground level and at the same width of *c* 0.5m (see Figure 11). In Trench B the opposing section was exposed, in the east facing section at the terminal of the trench. In this trench four courses of regular on-bed brickwork (of the same construction as the existing wall) were exposed, with a narrow step towards the base and a single course of bricks laid end-on (see Figure 12).



Figure 11: Section of brickwork exposed in Trench A, north facing section, 0.4m scale.



Figure 12: Section of brickwork exposed in east facing section of Trench B, 0.4m scale.

Both trenches appear to have exposed the same stretch of wall, which again appears to be the continuation, at foundation level, of the existing boundary wall. This suggests that the boundary wall would originally have continued on its present alignment, with a stretch of wall connecting the two existing terminals on the north and south sides of the portico, but presumably with an entrance into the churchyard. The present position of the portico, protruding from the main church building, was established in 1837 during a phase of extension and alteration to the church. Prints from the early 20th century show the boundary wall in its existing position and dimensions, but with wrought iron railings across the gap (see Figure 13). The exposed foundations therefore, suggest that the boundary wall extended further than it currently stands when originally constructed, presumably in 1837.

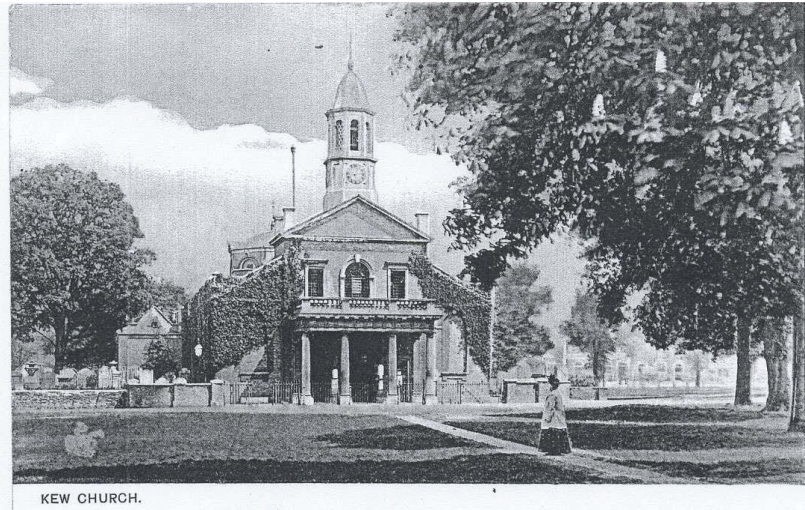


Figure 13: Early 20th century postcard showing wrought iron railing connecting the two terminals of the boundary wall (Richmond Local Studies Library).

7.2.4 Beneath the slabs at the north end of the portico covered area, a 3.2m section of brick-wall foundation was exposed. The wall was orientated north-south, situated opposite the north entrance in the west wall of the church. The foundation survived to an average of 0.5m in width, and was exposed as a single course in plan and heavily abraded. The bricks were reddish orange in colour, unfrogged and very degraded, bonded with a grey-white chalky mortar and laid on-bed. In plan, the wall curved towards the north-east, similar to that of the existing boundary wall but further east (see Figure 14).

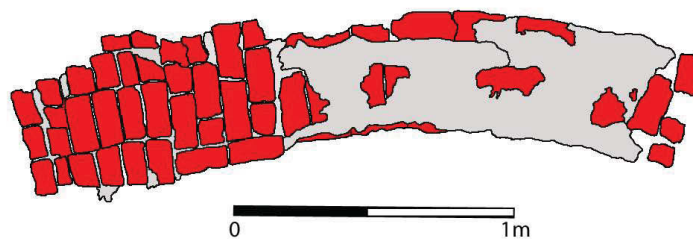


Figure 14: Photo and plan of brick foundations exposed outside north door.

The location of the wall, approximately 1m from the existing church wall, suggests it belongs to an earlier phase of the building. The current location of the portico (protruding significantly from the main building) was established in 1837, under the direction of Sir Jeffrey Wyattville. The exposed foundation then, must have been constructed prior to the extension of 1837, and was likely demolished at this time.

A plan of the church, locating the tombs and indicating a proposed extension by Tyrell, was made in 1830 and marks the position of the boundary wall (Surrey History Centre, Kew Parish Church Records 3782/1). This plan matches perfectly with a drawn record of the exposed wall, and establishes it as belong to the period between 1805 and 1837, contemporary with the first construction of the portico in its eastern position, and demolished in the extension of 1837 (see Figure 15).

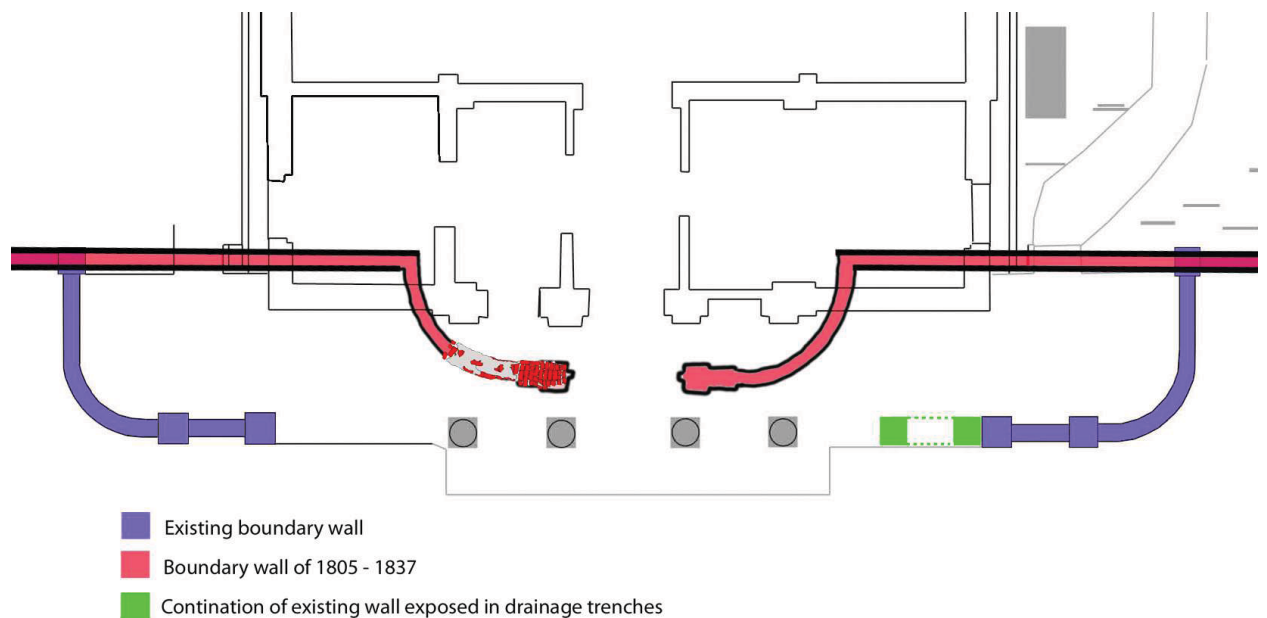


Figure 15: Plan of western face of church showing the location of the existing boundary wall and the earlier wall c1805 based on contemporary plans. Inset with locations of wall foundations exposed during the watching brief.

7.2.5 The slab marked in pink on Figure 6 measured 1.85m by 0.9m and was orientated east-west, lain directly in front of the southern most door beneath the portico. The stone was identified as a grave slab by the heavily abraded inscriptions surviving on its surface, which unfortunately were largely illegible (see Figure 16).



Figure 16: Photographs showing the grave slab sealing the burial vault *in-situ* and a sample of the heavily worn inscription.

When lifted with vacuum suction, the slab was found to seal a set of brick-built steps leading to a bricked-up archway, situated almost directly below the southern doorway. Two bricks were removed from the bricked-up entrance to establish the presence and nature of the blocked structure. A brick-built burial vault was exposed behind the bricked archway, containing two intact lead coffins, one definite and one possible collapsed lead coffin, and a collapsed wooden coffin. The tomb had a vaulted ceiling, approximately 2m high and an estimated 3m in width and length. Due to the presence of lead coffins, the vault was not entered for health and safety reasons. Flash photography was used to capture images of the interior before the entrance was resealed and the empty stairwell backfilled with gravel.

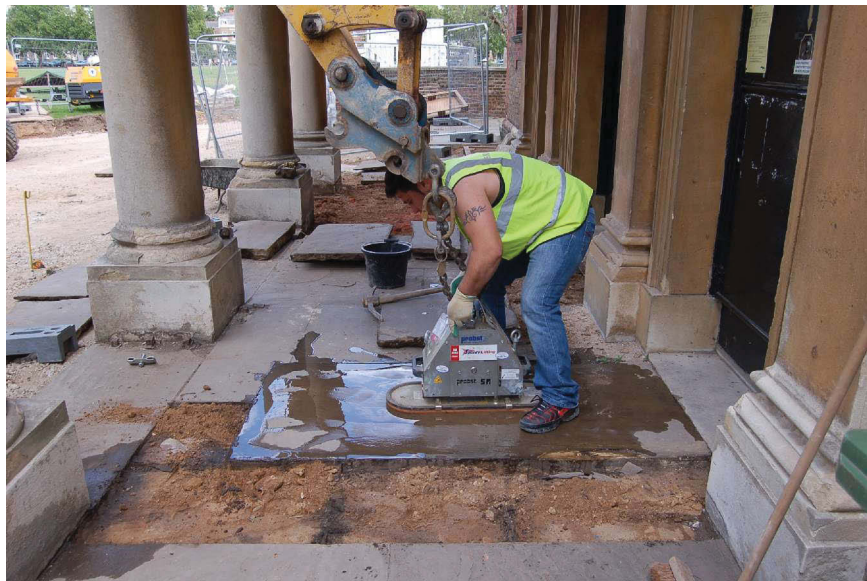


Figure 17: Lifting the grave slab using vacuum suction.



Figure 18: Brick built steps exposed below grave slab, leading to bricked up archway entrance into burial vault.

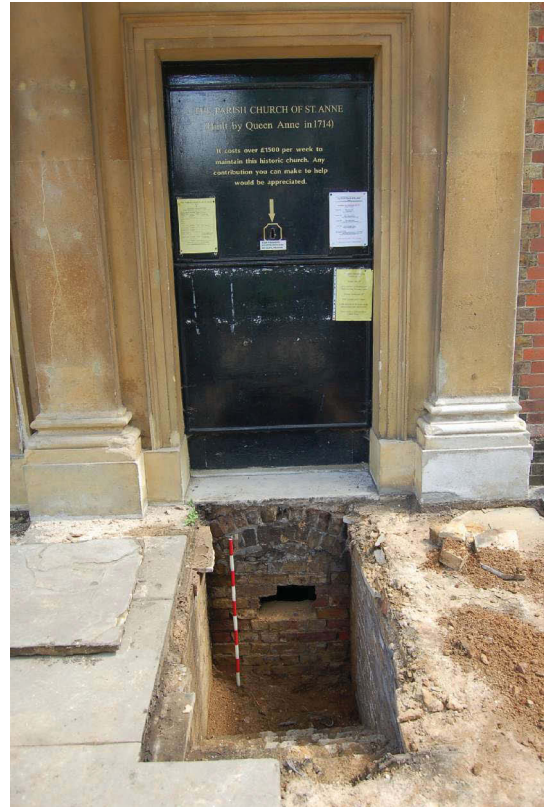


Figure 19: Views of the bricked up arched entrance into the burial vault below the southern door.



Figure 20: Inside the burial vault using flash photography, showing two intact lead coffins, collapsed coffins beneath and a partial wooden coffin to the right.

The resulting photographs, while hardly ideal, provided adequate information for an assessment of the vault and its contents. The coffins were orientated east-west, apparently in two stacks directly in front of the archway, with a single wooden coffin in the southern side. The two apparent stacks were both of lead coffins, and in both cases the lower coffins appeared to have collapsed beneath the weight of the upper. The two upper coffins were in good condition, were of adult dimensions and fairly elaborate in their decoration. The coffin directly in front of the archway was both the most visible and the best condition. Four rows of pins were inlaid around the edges of the lid and a flat plaque rested centrally, with two spurs of pins above and below. A crest or piece of elaborate decoration was visible at both the head and feet end of the coffin. The presence of lead coffins, and the degree of decoration and elaboration suggests that some considerable wealth must have belonged to the deceased. Interestingly, two bricks were visible within the vault which appeared to have been pushed in from the walls – suggesting that the vault had been accessed at a previous time.

It seems a fairly safe assumption to suggest that the grave slab sealing the vault records the identities of the deceased within the coffins. Unfortunately, as mentioned above, the inscriptions were heavily worn and unreadable. However, the monumental inscriptions survey referred to above (East Surrey Family History Society, 1988) lists a “*Flat stone slab, under portico by west door*” and details the following partial inscription:

(-----) THOMAS (?) /
 (Next line illegible) (-----) 1801 /
 (7 illegible lines follow)
 (----)10 (-----)
 ((V. P. HOBBS))
 ((HOBBS Mrs Mary 11 July 1813 Joseph Esq 1816 age 78
 Joseph Esq 7 Mch 1838))

The survey also refers to a related plaque inscription inside the church (see Figure 21), “*South aisle, white marble & black slate wall tablet decorated with draped urn*”. This plaque is still within the church and reads:

*Beneath this church are deposited
 the remains of
 JOSEPH HOBBS Esqr
 Late of Mortimer Street, London
 and of Kew Green
 who departed this life March 7th 1838
 Aged 62 years
 This tablet is erected to his memory
 As the last token of sincere love and esteem
 By his affectionate widow*



Figure 21: Marble plaque on the wall of the south aisle in St Anne’s Church, referring to the remains of Joseph Hobbs.

The ‘Hobbs’ family, therefore, seem to be the general occupants of the exposed burial vault. A plan of the church from 1830, discussed above, gives the locations and family names of the major vaults. Vault F on the plan matches the position of the vault exposed during the slab lifting, the name provided being: *Mrs Mary Hobbs* and the date, *July 11th, 1813*. Whether or not this is the earliest burial within the vault is unclear, but it serves as a useful contemporary source in confirming the vault as belonging to the Hobbs family (Figure 22).

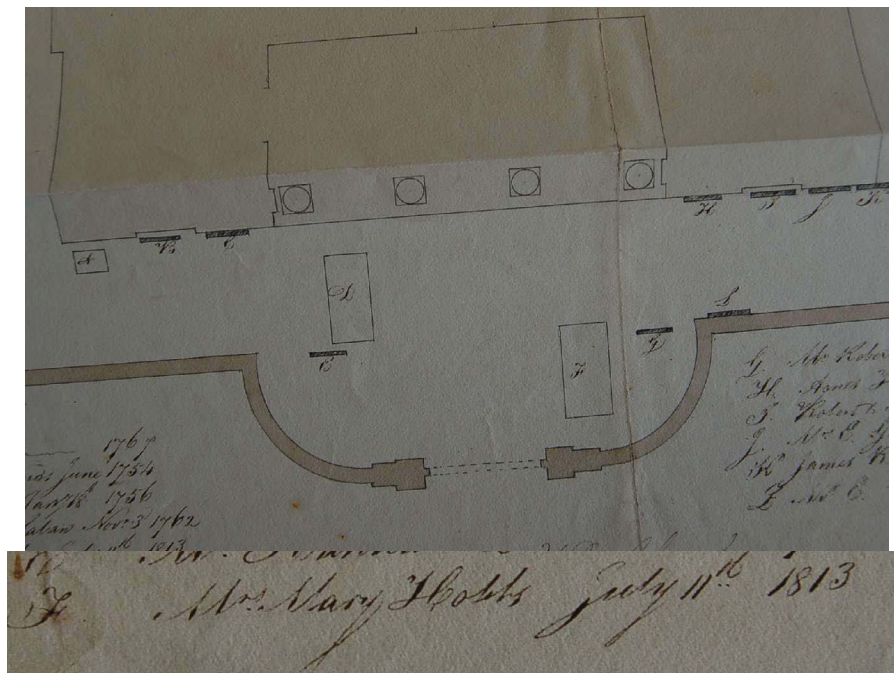


Figure 22: Excerpts from a plan of the church c 1830 showing the location of the burial vault and listing the name Mrs Mary Hobbs.

Based on the above source of 1830, combined with the record from 1988 and the surviving plaque within the church, at least four names with usable supporting information can be identified. Where both the date of death/burial and the age at death are known, the year of birth can be calculated:

Name	Date of Death/Burial	Age at Death	Calculated Year of Birth
V. P. Hobbs	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Mrs Mary Hobbs	11 th July 1813	Unknown	Unknown
Joseph Hobbs Esq (1)	1816	78	1738
Joseph Hobbs Esq (2)	7 th March 1838	62	1776

Table 1

The summarised information presented in the table above was used a basis of reference against the surviving Parish Records from St Anne's Church. Unfortunately, these records (held primarily in the Surrey History Centre) are incomplete as those covering the period between 1791 to 1845 were stolen in the mid 19th century and have never been recovered. Typically, these records would be the most useful in continuing research into the Hobbs family and their burial vault at St Anne's, and thus their absence is rather problematic. However, birth and burial records from the years preceding 1791 do survive, copied into a parish book by a Reverend Mr Bellamy. The surname Hobbs is listed on a number of occasions, a summary of these entries is presented in the following table, with Figure 23 showing a sample of the originals written in the latter part of the 18th century, in the hand of Rev. Bellamy:

Christenings

Year	Date	Names
1733	April 15 th	Mary, Daughter of Edward and Ann Hobbs
1734	March 14 th	Ann, Daughter of Edward and Ann Hobbs
1737	May 8 th	John, Son of Edward and Ann Hobbs
1738	March 11 th	Joseph, Son of Edward and Ann Hobbs
1741	October 9 th	Edward, Son of Edward and Ann Hobbs
1743	March 24 th	Jane, Daughter of Edward and Ann Hobbs
1745	September 29 th	Michael, Son of Edward and Ann Hobbs
1750	January 25 th	John and James, Sons of Edward and Ann Hobbs
1755	April 11 th	Robert, Son of Edward and Ann Hobbs

Table 2

Burials

Year	Date	Names
1748	June 21 st	John Hobbs
1758	July 25 th	Ann Hobbs
1759	May 15 th	Edward Hobbs

Table 3

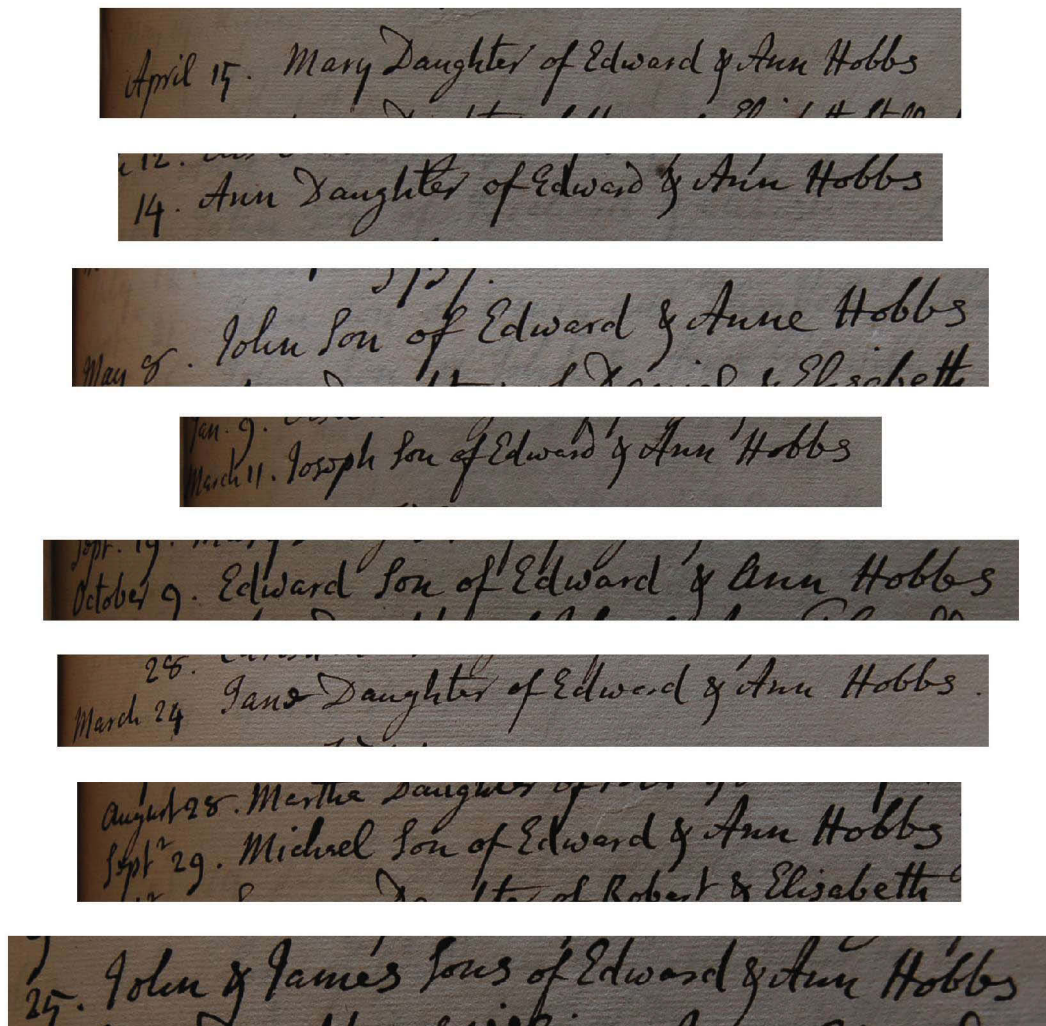


Figure 23: Samples St Anne's records from the 18th century.

Based on the calculations made in Table 1, Joseph Hobbs (1) would have been born in 1738, a date that matches that of Joseph, Son of Edward and Ann as listed in the birth records for March 11th 1738. If this is the same Joseph Hobbs as the individual supposedly interred within the exposed burial vault (and it should be noted that despite the corresponding dates this remains a supposition) then the additional family records, and others recovered from the parish archives, can be used to gather further information about the individual and his family.

Based on the birth records, Joseph Hobbs (1) was born on March 11th 1738, the fourth of ten children born to Edward and Ann Hobbs of Kew. Papers from a legal case between 1755 and 1759, in which one William Corner was accused of appropriating funds in his position as curate (Surrey History Centre Item ref: 3030/2/52-142), refer to an Edward Hobbs as a witness for the prosecution. His profession is given as ‘...gardener of Kew Green, (parish clerk since 1749)...’ and his age at the time of testimony was 48. If this is the same Edward Hobbs, father of Joseph, then he died in the latter year of these legal proceedings (according to the burial record transcribed in Table 3). No marriage record was found for his marriage to Ann, nor were birth records found for either individual – this may be due to missing records, or simply that both the marriage and births were registered in different parishes.

Presuming the Edward Hobbs listed in the legal papers described above is the same individual as the one assumed to be Joseph’s father, then his profession as a gardener is of some interest. Four 18th century Apprenticeship Indentures (held in the Surrey History Centre, Item ref: 3030/11) refer to individuals of the Hobbs name. Edward, Michael, James and Robert are all names that match those of the children of Edward and Ann listed in the birth section of the parish records. Again, while it seems fairly certain, it remains presumption that the individuals referred to in these separate records are the same.

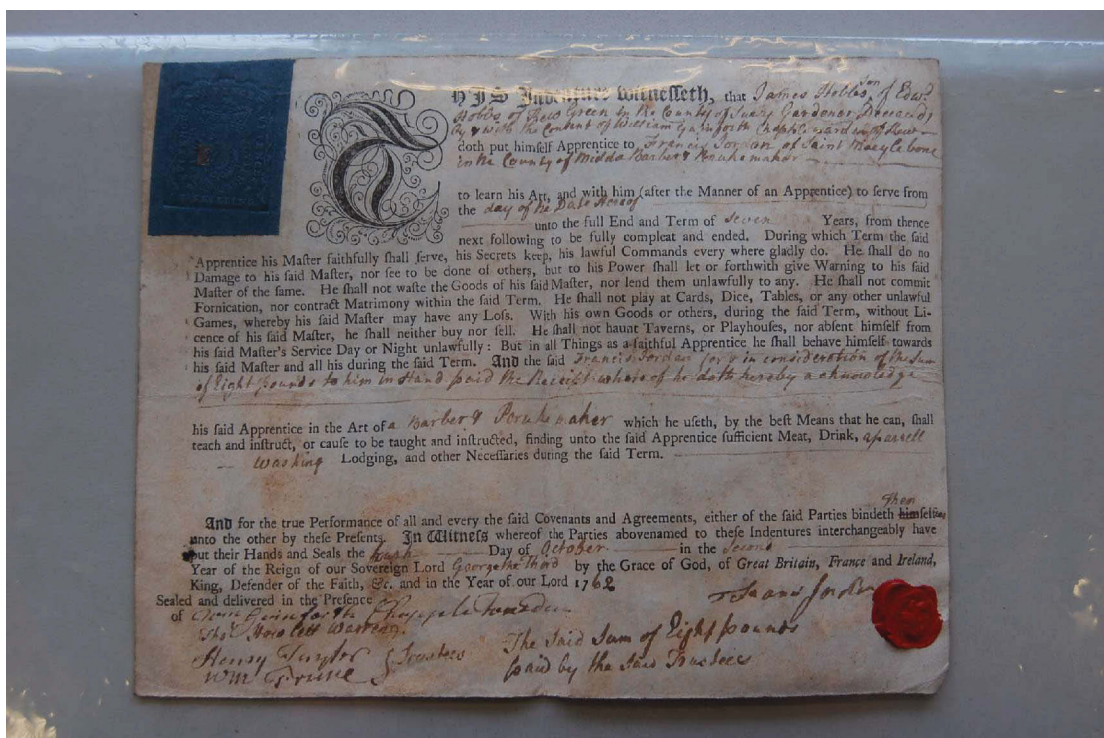


Figure 24: Example of Apprenticeship Indenture from 1762, James Hobbs of Kew to Francis Jordan of St Marylebone, Middlesex, barber and peruke maker dated 10th October.

Comparison between the dates on the Apprenticeship Indentures with the dates of birth of the Hobbs boys allows an age at apprenticeship to be surmised:

Name	Year of Apprenticeship	Year of Birth	Surmised Age at Apprenticeship
Edward Hobbs	1755	1741	14
Michael Hobbs	1759	1745	14
James Hobbs	1762	1750	12
Robert Hobbs	1765	1755	10

At age 10, Robert Hobbs seems rather young to be taking up an apprenticeship, although following a profession at this age was by no means unheard of. The nature of the apprenticeships is of some interest, a bricklayer, a mariner, a barber and peruke maker, and a butcher. These professions were not particularly wealthy or upper class, nor was that of their father Edward the gardener, they seem at odds to a family with the means of maintaining their own burial vault and affording relatively elaborate coffins. This suggests that the family's fortunes took a turn for the better, presumably in the lifetime of Joseph Hobbs (1). Unfortunately, the surviving records from Kew parish contain no further information on his occupation or family – largely due to significant quantity of missing records. His marriage for example is unknown, nor is it clear whether or not he fathered children. Due to the absence of records, presumption must come to the fore – based on the dates of death of the other two known occupants of the tomb it is quite possible that Mrs Mary Hobbs was Joseph's (1) wife (dying three years earlier), and that Joseph Hobbs (2) was his son. In the latter case, based on the calculated years of birth for the two Joseph's, the father (Joseph 1) was 38 years of age when Joseph (2) was born, a fairly probable age difference.

One further point of interest necessitates a final look at Joseph Hobbs' (1) siblings. Edward and Ann appear to have produced two sons named John – the first on May 18th 1737, and the second on January 25th 1750 (presumably twin of James who was christened on the same day). A burial record for a John Hobbs lists the occasion as June 21st 1748. It seems quite likely that the first born John and the John buried in 1748 are the same, and thus Joseph's elder brother and first born son of Edward and Ann, died at age 11.

7.3 Re-leveling and Restoration of the South Porch

Prior to the commencement of works on the south porch a brief photographic survey was taken to record the paved footpath, steps and retaining wall. Various pieces of moulded, re-used stone were observed in the retaining wall, these are discussed in more detail below.



Figure 25: Images of the south porch, retaining walls and steps prior to refurbishment.

- 7.3.1** The laying of a new paved pathway between the boundary wall and the entrance in the south porch required the removal of the existing paving and the releveling of the area. The existing paving was removed exposing a shallow sand and gravel bedding layer overlying a heavily disturbed cemetery soil containing moderate quantities of disarticulated human bone. Forty-two fragments were recovered, including fragments of pelvis, the ball joint from an adult femur, three identifiable fragments of adult tibia and a complete adult fibula. All of the disarticulated bone was reburied in the base of the newly excavated wall footing trench prior to backfilling.
- 7.3.2** The construction of two new retaining walls either side of the pathway and new steps leading up to the churchyard required the excavation of two foundation trenches. The trenches were 0.6m in width running either side of

the central pathway and excavated to 0.88m below the existing cemetery level (0.67m below existing path level). Mid-brown grey topsoil was exposed for some 350mm, exposing the sand and gravel pathway bedding below. Cemetery soil, of a mid-orange brown silty clay (probably re-deposited and churned natural) with gravel inclusions, was exposed for the remaining depth of both trenches.

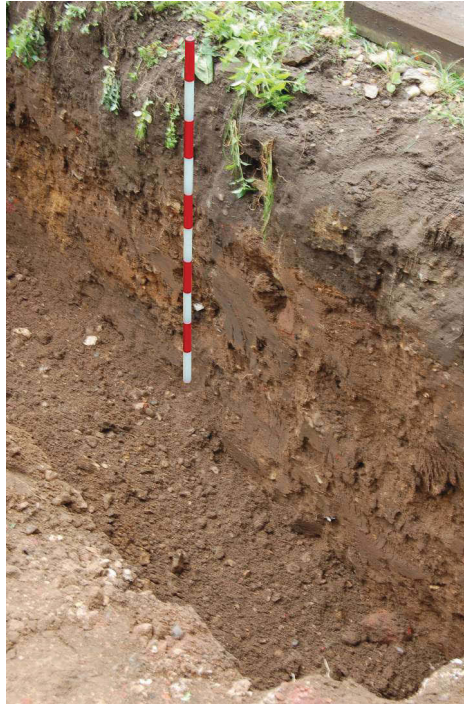


Figure 26: East facing section of western foundation trench.

In the western trench, 0.87m below the cemetery level, *in-situ* human remains were exposed orientated east-west. The lower legs, ankles and feet of an adult were exposed protruding from the east facing section. These remains presented no obstacle to the construction of the retaining wall and were thus left undisturbed.



Figure 27: *in-situ* human remains in the western foundation trench.

7.3.3 Seventeen pieces of re-used stone were removed from the existing retaining walls prior to ground-works. All of these were photographed and dimensions recorded. Four pieces showed obvious signs of molding or carving and are described in more detail below.

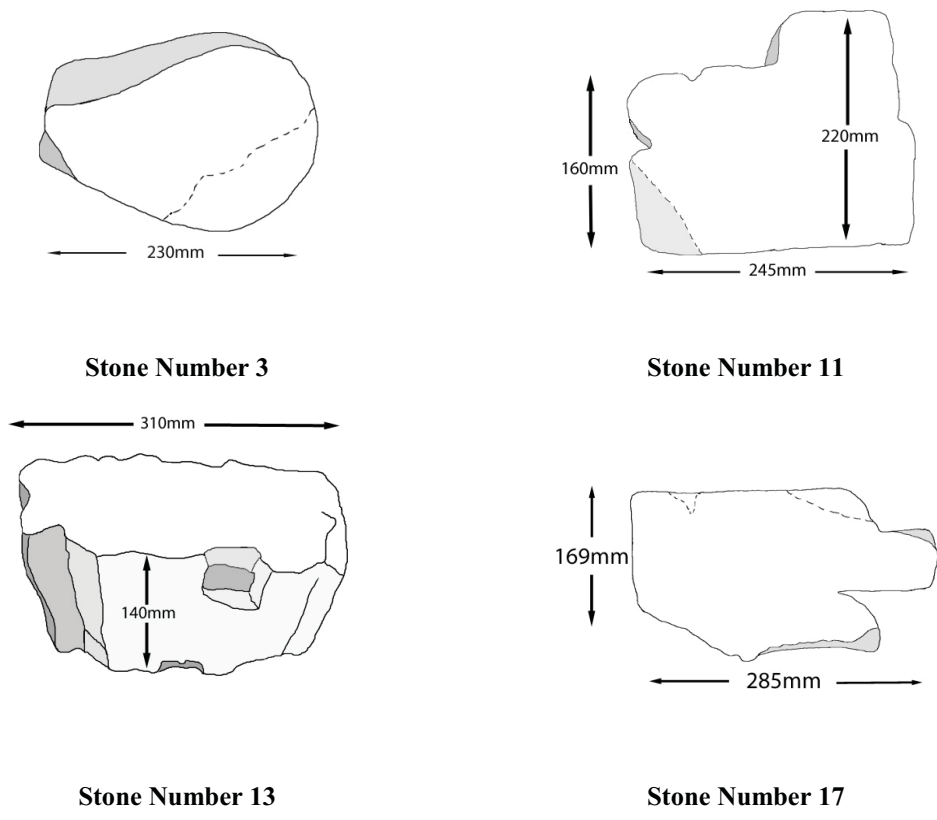



















Figure 28: Drawings of worked stone fragments.

Figure 29: Dimensions and images of monumental and architectural stone fragments recovered from the existing retaining walls either side of the central pathway leading to the south porch.

Number	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Images
1	180	150	145	

Number	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Images
2	140	170	150	
3	220	170	160	
4	320	260	230	
5	200	110	100	
6	200	180	210	
7	220	180	190	
8	230	220	200	

Number	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Images
9	260	220	160	
10	230	230	190	
11	250	180	230	
12	450	270	250	
13	350	180	140	
14	340	240	180	
15	220	210	180	

Number	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Images
16	230	230	180	
17	360	200	150	

8. Summary of the Archaeological Results

The archaeological watching brief produced some interesting evidence of the earlier architectural phases of the church. A section of boundary wall exposed beneath the portico paving to the north was identified as contemporary with the 1805 extension to the church building. This was demolished in 1837 when the portico structure was moved west, and a new boundary wall was constructed, the majority of which still stands. However, a continuation of the existing wall was exposed at foundation level within two drainage installation trenches, suggesting that this wall continued beyond its current extent when originally constructed. The wall was apparently cut shorter, and the gap between the two terminals either side of portico was widened, possibly to make way for the wrought iron railings visible in prints and photographs of the early 20th century.

A burial vault exposed beneath a grave slab adjacent to the southern most door beneath the portico was identified as belonging to a Hobbs family, with the earliest definite date of burial at 1813. The Hobbs family was traced back to the early 18th century through burial and christening records held by the Surrey History Centre. Unfortunately a large number of records relating to St Anne's Church are missing, stolen in the mid 19th century.

Disarticulated and *in-situ* human remains were recorded during the excavation of two foundation trenches for new retaining walls either side of the pathway leading to the south porch. Work in this area also produced various pieces of reused carved stone, probably monumental or architectural stonework relating to the church building.

Bibliography

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Cassidy, G, 1986. *The architectural history of St. Anne's Church, Kew Green.*
Richmond Local History Society, Paper no.3.

Compass Archaeology. 2003. *St Anne's Church Kew Green, Kew, London Borough of Richmond: An Archaeological Watching Brief.* Unpublished report.

Compass Archaeology. 2007. *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief at St Anne's Church Kew Green, TW9 3AA. London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames.*

East Surrey Family History Society, 1988. *Monumental Inscriptions 1714-1987. The Parish Church of St Anne, Kew Green* (transcript).

Perkins, R. 1993. *St Anne's Church, Kew Green.*

Richmond Local Studies Library

A series of un-sourced prints and photographs of St Anne's Church were consulted and reproduced within this document.

The Parish Church of Kew: The Historic Chapel of St Anne's of Kew Green: Visitors Leaflet 1942.

Surrey History Centre

Kew, St Anne's Parish Records: 1682-1975. Collection Ref: 3030.

St Anne's Kew: Additional Parish Records: 1774-1931: Collection Ref: 3782.

Appendix I: OASIS Data Collection Form

Project details

Project name	St Anne's Church, Kew Green, London Borough of Richmond: An Archaeological Watching Brief
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was carried out during drainage works and refurbishment at St Anne's Parish Church, Kew Green. The work was monitored in three phases: levelling and drainage works in the western forecourt, levelling and refurbishment of the paved area beneath the portico, and leveling and restoration of the south porch. Two earlier phases of boundary wall were exposed beneath the paving under the portico, reflecting alterations to the church building in 1805 and 1837 respectively. A brick-built burial vault was sealed beneath a grave slab adjacent to the south door of the in the west porch, and modern and contemporary records were used to identify the owners as the Hobbs family of Kew - the earliest definite burial dating to 1813. Disarticulated and in-situ human remains were observed in trenching in the south porch area. Shallow made ground layers were observed in the west forecourt, overlying clay natural.
Project dates	Start: 09-07-2007 End: 08-10-2007
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	ANK07 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 4 - Churchyard
Monument type	BOUNDARY WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	BOUNDARY WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	HUMAN REMAINS Post Medieval
Monument type	BURIAL VAULT Post Medieval
Monument type	COFFIN Post Medieval
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES RICHMOND AND KEW St Anne's Church, Kew Green.
Postcode	TW9 3AA
Study area	0.30 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 18964 77489 51.4833309832 -0.286538522488 51 28 59 N 000 17 11 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
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Project brief originator	Compass Archaeology
Project design originator	English Heritage/Department of Environment
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Project supervisor	Rosie Cummings
Type of sponsor/funding body	Parochial Church Council
Name of sponsor/funding body	PCC of St Anne's Church Kew

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London Archive
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Drawing','Map','Photograph','Plan','Report','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	St Anne's Church Kew Green: An Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cummings, R
Date	2007
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Compass Archaeology, 5-7 Southwark Street, London.
Description	Report outlining the work undertaken during the archaeological watching and the results. Text, photographs and illustrations.
Entered by	Rosie Cummings (rosiecummings@aol.com)
Entered on	1 November 2007

Appendix II: London Archaeologist publication summary.

Site Address:	St Anne's Church, Kew Green, Kew, London Borough of Richmond.
Project type:	Watching brief.
Dates of Fieldwork:	9 th July to 8 th October 2007.
Site Code:	ANK07
Supervisor:	Rosie Cummings
NGR:	TQ 18964 77489
Funding Body:	The PCC of St Anne's Church.

Drainage installation works in the tarmac forecourt exposed shallow made-ground layers and natural clay and gravels. Below the portico paving to the north, a section of red-brick, lightly mortared wall foundation was exposed considered to be the remains of the boundary wall contemporary with the 1805 – 1837 phase of the church. A further section of wall foundation was observed to the south, representing a continuation of the existing boundary wall (constructed in 1837), suggesting it originally extended beyond its current limits. The lifting of a large slab, situated immediately outside the southern most entrance exposed a brick-built vaulted burial vault with solid brick steps leading to a bricked up archway entrance. Using modern and contemporary sources, the vault was identified as belonging to a Hobbs family, with the earliest definite burial belonging to a Mrs Mary Hobbs in 1813. Excavations at the South Porch produced a moderate quantity of disarticulated human remains within a mixed cemetery soil, and one area of in-situ remains in the form of lower legs, ankles and feet of an adult. All human remains were re-interred in the same trenches. Examples of re-used monumental stone were recovered from the existing retaining wall, three pieces showed obvious evidence of carving although their original use was unclear.