

**An Enhanced Archaeological Watching Brief
at St. John the Baptist Church, Southover High Street,
Southover, Lewes, East Sussex**

Planning Reference: LW/07/1339

**NGR: 541258 109635
(TQ 412096)**

**Project No: 3587
Site Code: SJB 08
Report No: 2009017
OASIS ID: archaeol6-56419**



**Kathryn Grant BA MSc AIFA
with contributions by Elke Raemen,
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**Archaeology South-East
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex
BN41 1DR**

**Tel: 01273 426830
Fax: 01273 420866
Email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
website: www.archaeologyse.co.uk**

Abstract

Between 17th November 2008 and 22nd April 2009 Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Mackellar Schwerdt Architects to undertake an archaeological watching brief at St John the Baptist Church, Southover High Street, Southover, Lewes (NGR 541258 109635) during works associated with the construction of a new Chapter House. The ground works revealed three phases of archaeology. The earliest, Phase 1 remains comprised the foundations of an east-west structure constructed in laminated layers of rammed chalk. These footings had been truncated and incorporated into the Phase 2 foundations for an east-west wall, over which were surviving remnants of a dressed superstructure containing re-used 14th-15th century architectural materials thought to be from the nearby Priory of St. Pancras (founded c.1077). The foundations of an internal wall returning to the north butted against this wall and had been truncated by the construction of the church tower in the 18th century. It is possible that the earliest structural remains pertain to the Cluniac 'hospitium' while the later remains correspond to a 14th-15th century phase when the building went out of use as a hospitium and became a parish church. Phase 3 encompasses post-medieval/modern burial activity: four brick tombs, twenty-nine inhumation burials and one charnel pit were revealed during the ground works. Natural chalk geology was encountered at a maximum height of 10.05m AOD, but had been entirely truncated in most areas during Phase 3 activity.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, was commissioned by Mackellar Schwerdt Architects to undertake an enhanced archaeological watching brief at St John the Baptist Church, Southover High Street, Southover, Lewes (centred at NGR 541258 109635: Figures 1 and 2) hereafter referred to as 'the site'.

- 1.1.1 The site is bounded by Southover High Street to the north and Cockshut Road to the west. The Lewes to Brighton railway line runs to the south of the site and separates the site from the standing remains of the Priory of St. Pancras (Figures 1 and 9).

1.2 Planning Background

- 1.2.1 Planning permission was obtained for the construction of a new Chapter House abutting the south-west corner of the existing church building and within the existing graveyard. The planning reference for the work was LW/07/1339. Other works included the creation of a footpath aligned east-west across the graveyard and the excavation of associated service runs. The ground works included general ground reduction to the formation level of the new build, the excavation of ground beams, a piled raft, associated service trenches and the foundation trench for the pathway. The masonry fabric of the church was also affected with an existing doorway adapted to incorporate a lowered threshold and the removal of some brick steps.

- 1.2.2 In 2006 and then in 2008, two archaeological evaluations were carried out at the site to assess its archaeological potential. During these stages of work, seven archaeological test-pits were excavated and revealed *in-situ* human remains and possible in-situ masonry. On the basis of these findings and following discussions with Vivienne Coad, Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAA) and East Sussex County Council (ESCC) planning archaeologist, it was recommended that an enhanced archaeological watching brief be undertaken on the intrusive ground works associated with the development.

- 1.2.3 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE 2008a) outlining the requirements of the Archaeological Watching Brief was submitted and duly approved by the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor. All work was carried out in accordance with this document (unless otherwise specified below) and the relevant *Standards and Guidance* of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), as well as with reference to East Sussex County Council's *Recommended Standard Archaeological Conditions*, henceforth referred to as The Standard Conditions.

1.3 Aims and Objectives

- 1.3.1 The general aim of the archaeological work was to monitor all intrusive groundworks and to ensure that any features, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest exposed during the excavations were recorded and interpreted to appropriate standards.

1.3.2 The specific questions raised as part of the project's research agenda were outlined in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE 2008a) as follows:

- Is there any evidence of activity pre-dating the foundation of the church?
- Is there any evidence of burials which are earlier than the post-medieval period, such as grave goods or pillow stones?
- Is there any evidence of the Cluniac Priory?
- Is there any evidence of earlier phases of the church building?
- Does the graveyard exhibit any spatial zoning patterns, such as an area exclusively for infant burials?

1.3.3 An addendum to the *WSI* was made on the completion of the first phase of work (reduction of the path and the new build to formation level) following a site-meeting with the County Archaeologists (Casper Johnson and Greg Chuter) and a representative from English Heritage (Paul Roberts). This addendum outlined the agreed procedure to be used for the second phase of work (excavation of piles, ground beams and service trenches) and included the methodology for the excavation of the revealed walls and surrounding contexts.

1.4 Scope of the Report

1.4.1 This report presents the findings of the watching brief undertaken at this site between 17th November 2008 and 17th March 2009 by Kathryn Grant, Diccon Hart, Dave Fallon and Sarah Porteus (Archaeological Field Officers). The project was managed by Darryl Palmer (Fieldwork), Jim Stevenson and Lucy Sibun (Post-excavation/Editing).

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Geology and Topography

- 2.1.1 The site is located on largely flat land at approximately 11.45m AOD.
- 2.1.2 The British Geological Survey (1:50000 series, Sheet 319 for Lewes) illustrates that the underlying geology of the site comprises of Upper and Middle Chalk.

2.2 Historical and Archaeological Overview

- 2.2.1 The site lies in an area of Lewes rich in historic standing buildings and known below-ground archaeological remains. The Historic Environment Records (HER's) for the vicinity of the site have been tabulated in Appendix II (App. Table 4). These have been summarised by period below:

2.2.2 Prehistoric

Little evidence for prehistoric activity has been found in Lewes, although this may be partly due to the effect of the urban context on fragile and ephemeral deposits. Scatters of residual flints have been found at various places across the town, including six Neolithic/Early Bronze Age examples, one of which was identified as a possible scraper, from Broomans Lane. A small assemblage of worked flint, mainly hard hammer waste flakes, but including a scraper and a retouched flake of Late Bronze Age type, were found in an evaluation in the town at the Lewes House site (ASE 2000). Additional scattered worked flints were discovered during a further phase of evaluation in 2005 (ASE 2006c). Later prehistoric evidence comprises a pit containing fire-cracked flint and dated to the Later Iron Age/Romano-British period, located to the west of Church Twitten, and associated with several undated postholes (ASE 2000). Further evidence, in the form of a NW-SE aligned Late Iron Age ditch (dated by a single unabraded sherd of East Sussex Ware within a later recut) and two large contemporary pits, was located in an evaluation trench situated north-west of All Saints Church (ASE 2005).

2.2.3 Romano-British

No significant evidence for Romano-British settlement has yet been discovered within the town, although there is some evidence for burials along the ridge. A scatter of artefacts have been found around the town, including pottery sherds in Friars Walk; three residual tiles found in a pit at the Clothkits site, Broomans Lane and a single residual sherd found in trial excavations in Broomans Lane in 1979 (Harris 2005). Stray finds of a Roman coin and pottery were found on recent excavations on the Baxters site (pers. comm. Simon Stevens, ASE).

2.2.4 Anglo-Saxon

Early and mid Saxon settlement around Lewes is limited to a throwing axe and seax (short sword) found in the High Street in 1899, and two pagan cemeteries on the edge of the town, although some residual 6th-7th century pottery was found within a medieval ditch on the western edge of the Lewes

House site (ASE 2005). The most significant Saxon site within the vicinity is probably the 6th century Saxonbury cemetery (EHNMR-626262) which is located approximately 500m west of the site and which may have had an associated settlement focused on the Southover ridge. In the later Saxon period, Lewes was established as a burh, a fortress established by Alfred the Great in 878-9 as a defence against Danish raiders, the defences and street pattern of which influenced the layout of the later town – recent excavations by ASE at Baxters Printworks located a large ditch on the west side of St Nicholas Lane which has been interpreted as the eastern (and previously unlocated) defensive ditch for the burh (pers. comm. Simon Stevens, ASE). The town developed rapidly as a trading centre, with a major mint recorded in the reign of Athelstan (924-39) – a major hoard was recently found on the eastern side of the Baxters Printworks site, comprising 17 silver pennies of Edward the Elder (899-924) (Clifford 2007). A Saxo-Norman pit was recently excavated on the Lewes House site (ASE 2005: Trench 11).

2.2.5 *Medieval*

Lewes was recorded in Domesday Book as a borough, containing 127 demesne burgage tenements (i.e. belonging directly to the lord of the manor), with a further 258 burgesses attached to other manors, suggesting a population of at least 900, and probably higher (Harris 2005). Lewes was granted by William the Conqueror to one of his most loyal commanders, William de Warenne, who built a large castle on the highest part of the ridge. The castle and town became the centre of the rape of Lewes, one of five (later six) administrative units in Sussex safeguarding the vital communication routes with Normandy. He also founded St Pancras' Priory, one of the largest Cluniac houses in England (see section 2.3). The original burghal defences were enlarged and capped with a stone wall (possibly as late as 1266, following the Battle of Lewes in 1264), traces of which still survive. The defended centre was enlarged to take in the eastern end of the ridge, with a new east gate built at the bottom of School Hill, with the Franciscan friary and waterfront beyond. The walled town developed on a regular grid pattern, with a main spine road (High Street) flanked by a parallel rear lane to the south.

Recent archaeological work in the vicinity of the site has highlighted the archaeological potential of Southover. A watching brief during redevelopment on a site located at the corner of Garden Street and Priory Street resulted in the discovery of a number of medieval pits and other features of a later date (ASE 2006b).

2.3 **The Church and the Priory of St. Pancras** (Figures 9 and 10)

2.3.1 The church lies within the precinct of the medieval Cluniac Priory at Southover, Lewes and although it is not situated within the area designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument, it was considered likely that below surface archaeological remains were likely to survive. The existing church is believed to have been located on the site of the Prior's Lodge. It is possible that the church originated as a late 12th century 'hospitium' or guesthouse of the nearby Priory of St. Pancras (Brent 2004; 96). The current fabric of the church incorporates 12th century features, and a mostly 14th century nave, an

unusual 18th century tower, and a chapel built in 1847 to house the remains of William de Warenne and his first wife Gundrada disturbed during the building of the Brighton to Lewes railway through the Priory in 1845 (*ibid.*) The chapel also houses Gundrada's Tournai marble grave slab, which has a fascinating history of its own (Anderson 1992).

- 2.3.2 Not only does the Priory add to the knowledge of the historic development of the town, but it also contributes to the history of the nation through its close links with the Norman conquerors and England's religious development. The Cluniac Priory of St. Pancras was founded by William de Warenne (who fought at Hastings and was rewarded by William the Conqueror with the Rape of Lewes and also built its castle) and his Flemish wife Gundrada, between the years 1078 and 1082 (Houghton 1983). The presence of earlier structures (notably adjacent to the north-east of the great monastic church and beneath the infirmary chapel) may indicate that it was built on the site of a Saxon monastic complex (as at Reading Abbey and Wenlock Priory) which may have gone out of use. The Priory subsequently became one of the largest monastic centres in southern England and at the time of the Dissolution was seen as a potentially lucrative addition to the royal revenue. Systematic demolition of the Priory began in 1538, although it is suggested that this task was partially left to nature and opportunist scavengers who removed building stone for use elsewhere (Anderson 1989: 49). By the time of the laying of a railway cutting through the site in 1845, it was in a poor condition. Ironically, as a direct result of this destructive swathe chancing upon the entombed remains of the founders, both local and national interest in the site was stimulated and thereby led to the first serious attempts at recording and preserving what remained. The Priory has been subject to numerous excavations and historical writings dating back over at least the last 150 years.
- 2.3.3 The earliest organised excavation (Lower 1847) took place in advance of the laying of the Brighton to Hastings railway line through the great monastic church and claustral buildings to its south in 1845. An unpublished excavation at the western end of the church was carried out by John Blaker around 1850 followed by much sporadic digging throughout the mid-19th century. William St John Hope (1886 and 1906) carried out the next organised excavations, ceasing his activities in 1902 in the same year that Nicholas Brakspear discovered the remains of a circular lavatorium on the south side of the Cloister. Excavations at the site did not resume until those of Richard Lewis, commencing in 1969, previously cited above (Lyne 1997). Lewis' excavations were the last to be carried out at the Priory, and ceased in 1982.
- 2.3.4 The churchyard of St. John the Baptist was the subject of a thorough graveyard survey, and subsequent analysis carried out under the auspices of the East Sussex Archaeology and Museums Project (Bareham 2003)

2.4 Previous Archaeological Work at the Site

- 2.4.1 A recent archaeological evaluation and initial watching brief were undertaken at the site itself. These phases of work comprised the excavation of seven archaeological test pits (Figure 7) which uncovered a moderate quantity of disarticulated human bone and associated iron coffin fittings, as well as

evidence of substantial reconstruction work on the church. The evaluation also resulted in the discovery of an *in situ* early 20th century burial at a depth of only 820mm below the current ground surface. The trenches located at least one, although probably two, substantial tombs, and/or a buried wall foundation with no surviving surface elements (ASE 2006c and 2008b).

- 2.4.2 In summary, much of the material encountered during the previous investigations was typical of a repeatedly used burial ground, with the digging of graves over a lengthy period resulting in the disarticulation of human bone and the scattering of coffin fittings within the graveyard soil. The bore-hole logs suggest that this activity has left up to c.2m of overburden overlying the 'natural' chalk. It is possible that the human bone recorded in the bore-hole samples was from undisturbed burials, previously protected by their depth (1.5m to 2.0m below the current ground surface). The exposure of short stretches of the foundations of the tower, the associated south-western buttress and part of the south aisle, allowed a record to be made of the masonry, but no clear conclusions can be drawn from such limited work. Arguably the most interesting element of the monitoring was the presence of buried chalk masonry in Test-Pit 7. The masonry was on a clear alignment with the south wall of the south aisle, and with similar masonry encountered during the previous archaeological work at the site, found at much the same depth in Test-Pit 3. Unfortunately, the stonework found in 2006 could not be investigated owing to the presence of an *in situ* burial above it, and that found during 2008 had been partially removed by a grave cut.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Methods Employed

- 3.1.1 Prior to the commencement of work, the area around the ground works was secured by the main contractor by means of Heras fencing covered with sheeting to ensure that potential exposures of human remains are obscured from public gaze in compliance with the Burial Act 1857.
- 3.1.2 An on-site meeting was arranged with the ESCC County Archaeologists, English Heritage and ASE, to discuss a revised procedure when substantial archaeological remains were uncovered. A *WSI Addendum* was prepared detailing specific methods to be used for the excavation and recording of these walls and related archaeological deposits. Hand-excavation by an archaeologist of the ground-beams located in the vicinity of the archaeology was deemed necessary to better understand the relationships and stratigraphy of the features and deposits. It was decided that structural remains would be manually excavated to the required level using single context methodology whereby each element was planned, recorded and removed individually.
- 3.1.3 Two extra site visits by an archaeologist were necessary towards the end of the programme of works due to problems with the consistency of the concrete used in the piles. This meant that the surrounding area of a couple of piles needed to be excavated so that the upper-part of the concrete could be removed for testing.
- 3.1.4 The final visit to site on 22nd April 2009 was undertaken to monitor the alterations made to the doorway of the South Aisle, which were necessary to accommodate the new doorway into the church from the new build. The works comprised the removal of the internal steps and the removal of stones within the foundations below the actual door. The archway surrounding the door was not affected by these works. The arch is being incorporated into the new building. The steps were removed so that the finished floor level within the new building is level with the existing floor level within the church. Photographs and drawings are stored within the archive for reference to these changes. An elevation of the south aisle wall before these works has been included within this report (Figure 8).
- 3.1.5 All ground reduction was carried out under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. The main area was reduced using a mini-digger fitted with a flat-bladed bucket. Excavation was also undertaken by hand and where archaeological features or deposits, grave cuts or articulated human remains were revealed, work was stopped and excavation was continued by the archaeologist. All spoil was scanned for the presence of any artefacts or disarticulated human remains. Where disarticulated human remains were encountered these were collected and handed to the church for reburial.
- 3.1.6 All archaeological deposits, features and finds were excavated and recorded in accordance with accepted professional standards (IFA 2000 & 2001, EH 1991) and the approved ASE *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE 2008a), using pro-forma context record sheets. Adequate time was made available for appropriate archaeological investigation and recording of the remains within

the limits of the works.

- 3.1.7 Archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20. Deposit colours were verified by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart. All deposits were levelled with respect to the nearest Ordnance Survey benchmark or using datum information as supplied by the client on site plans. For the purpose of context recording and differentiation, contexts revealed during the enhanced watching brief were numbered sequentially from 100. A photographic record of the work was made in monochrome, colour transparency and digital formats and is part of the site archive. Since the main deposits uncovered at the site comprised variations in cemetery soil, no environmental samples were collected.
- 3.1.8 Any *in-situ* human remains encountered during the works were carefully cleaned with small hand tools, recorded on standard ASE pro-forma record sheets, drawn as appropriate and photographed. The hand excavation and recording of buried individuals was undertaken with due respect and care and the area was screened from public view. Many of the burials were inter-cutting or partially overlaying each other and these were cleaned sufficiently to enable the skeletons to be distinguished and bagged separately. After appropriate recording, human remains were removed and placed in the custody of the church for re-interment in a suitable consecrated place of burial. *In-situ* human remains (and associated coffin furniture) were bagged and clearly marked in order to prevent mixing of individuals. Disarticulated human bone was collected and bagged separately before being given to the church for re-interment. Any skeletal remains lifted during the course of the excavations were re-interred within Tombs 2 and 4, which had been uncovered during the works and were partially preserved *in-situ*. This was at the behest of the Church and was carried out with the presence and blessing of the Rector, Steve Daughtery. No detailed analysis was carried out. The burials encountered during these works have been assigned Burial numbers within this report (essentially assembling the grave cut, coffin (if present), skeleton (if present) and grave fill contexts under one number) to make the description and discussion of these features clearer (see Appendix I).

3.2 The Ground Works (Figure 3)

3.2.1 The monitored works that were undertaken during the enhanced watching brief have been summarised here and illustrated in Figure 3:

- the excavation of a path on the approach to the new build from the west
- general ground reduction to formation level (at 10.47m AOD) within the area of the new build
- excavation of trenches for service runs (drainage) and the soakaway
- the test excavations of the proposed pile locations
- the excavation of the ground-beams in the footprint of the new build

3.2.2 *The Path*

The path measured approximately 2-2.5m in width and involved the reduction of the area through the removal of overburden to a maximum depth of 1.5m below ground surface (c.9.95m AOD) at the westernmost end. From this level

the path was graded in a gentle slope meandering eastwards towards the finished floor level of the new build (at c. 10.87m AOD). This ramped path was required to facilitate access of machinery during the ground works (hence the width) and to provide disabled access to the church on the completion of the new facilities. On arrival at the site for the first visit, a hole had been carefully created through the flint wall that separates the graveyard from the gardens of Church End.

3.2.3 *Main Area Ground Reduction*

The surface of the main area footprint for the proposed new build lay between 11.18m AOD in the south and 11.68m AOD in the north (by the tower). The formation level required for the construction of the new build was 10.47m AOD requiring a ground reduction of almost one meter. During these works abundant disarticulated human bones were recovered and bagged for re-interment. At this stage a couple of possible grave outlines were observed and planned so that the location of piles could be considered.

3.2.4 *Service Trenches*

As part of the development, the excavation of trenches for drainage was necessary. These trenches, measuring approximately 0.7m in width, were excavated to a depth of c.1.0m to 1.2m below formation level (at c. 9.27m AOD) from the NE corner of the new build (where the church tower meets the south aisle) to the western end of the path (trench 1) and from the SW corner of the South Aisle (trench 2) leading into the trench 1 as it passes the tower buttress.

3.2.5 *Piles*

The proposed locations of the piles were discussed at the onsite meeting with the County Archaeologists (Casper Johnson and Greg Chuter) and Mackellar Schwerdt Architects with regard to repositioning those that would impact on graves and features. To ensure that the concrete pile excavations did not disturb archaeological remains, the location of each pile was tested under archaeological supervision by pre-excavation with a 230mm augur borer and hand tools.

These excavations were undertaken by sub-contractors (Southern Piling) and were monitored by an archaeologist. Three of the piles (3, 7 and 11) were initially located over the eastern end of two possible graves (two of which were Burials 21 and 23 which were partially revealed during the ground beam excavations: section 4.6) and were therefore relocated c.0.2m to the east to avoid truncation during the actual piling. With these exceptions, the other piling locations revealed only disarticulated remains which were recovered for re-burial elsewhere.

3.2.6 *Ground-Beam Trenches*

The foundations of the new build required the excavation of ground-beam trenches, measuring 0.4m wide and 0.3m deep, in the footprint of the main area. The majority of these trenches were mechanically-excavated by the sub-contractors with a monitoring archaeologist, although the outcome of the

site meeting with the County Archaeologists specified (in the WSI *addendum*) that some trenches required hand-excavation by an archaeologist. The hand-excavated trenches have been indicated on Figure 3.

3.3 The Site Archive

3.3.1 The site archive is currently held at offices of ASE. The contents of the archive are tabulated below for reference in this report (Table 1).

3.3.2 Table 1: Quantification of the Site Archive

	Evaluation ASE: 2307	WB ASE: 3358	Enhanced WB ASE: 3587	TOTAL
Number of Contexts	28	20	140	188
No. of files/paper record	1 file	1 file	1 file	3 files
Plan and sections sheets	4	2	14	20 sheets
Bulk Samples	None	None	None	None
Photographs	1 b&w 13 digital colour	Digital	2 b&w films 2 colour films & 200 digital	3 b&w films 2 colour films 213 Digital
Bulk finds			1 box	

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 *Site-phasing* (Figures 4-7)

Three phases of archaeological activity were revealed during the ground works. Phase 1 relates to a rammed chalk structure and is the earliest activity observed at the site. Phase 2 pertains to a later medieval structure which contained re-used architectural material from the Priory. Phase 3 describes the more recent activity undertaken at the site, such as the inhumation burials and tombs. Within this results section the findings have been described by phase.

Figures 4, 5 and 6 illustrate the individual archaeological phases uncovered during the ground works. These have been illustrated on a multi-phase plan in Figure 7 to demonstrate the intricacies and complexity of the archaeology as it was revealed in plan. Appendix Tables 1 and 2 detail the recorded contexts and the Burial Register (in Appendix I).

4.1.2 *Natural geology and overburden*

The natural stratum [220] comprised white chalk bedrock and was encountered at a maximum height of approximately 1.4m (10.05m AOD) (at its shallowest/least truncated point along the path). Due to its significant depth, this was only encountered during the excavation of service runs, the piling test-excavations and in the boreholes undertaken during the initial watching brief at the site. No other ground works monitored reached depths sufficient to reveal natural.

A moderately compacted mixed cemetery soil [102] comprising whitish grey-brown loam with occasional inclusions of flint nodules, chalk flecks and disarticulated human bone, was revealed overlying natural chalk at an approximate depth of 10.75m AOD with a maximum thickness of c. 1.3m. Above this was a very similar cemetery soil [101], which was discernible by the looser consistency of the deposit and fewer chalk inclusions. This layer measured between 0.4m and 0.45m in thickness at a depth of c.11.15m AOD and was observed across the entire site. This context contained a thumb-rim of an oxidised jar (dating from c.1520-1620) and Nottingham stoneware bodysherds from a 19th century vessel. Soil such as this is often found in churchyards, where the ground has been disturbed frequently over the course of several centuries, often including episodes of raising or lowering of the ground level as necessary.

The topsoil across the site [100] comprised mid greyish brown loam with rare inclusions of brick, tile and chalk flecks and a covering of turf. This deposit varied from 0.2m to 0.3m in thickness, forming a fairly level surface across the area at approximately 11.45m AOD.

4.2 Phase 1: Structure 1 (Figures 4 and 7)

4.2.1 *Rammed Chalk Footings [136], [165], [180] & [181]*

Structure 1 was a substantial foundation on an east-west alignment, measuring nearly 1.0m in width, comprising laminated deposits of rammed chalk. The full depth of the foundation was not revealed during these ground works. When the initial layer [136] was uncovered by the South Aisle, it was thought to be a rammed chalk surface or floor, particularly due to its location within the east-west and north-south walls of Structure 2 (see 4.3). Cleaning of this potential floor surface revealed that the foundation was constructed in distinct layers or 'lifts' (e.g. [136] peeled off onto [165] – see photograph 4a on Figure 4). Further excavation and cleaning to the west revealed more of the rammed chalk foundations (individually numbered [165], [181] and [180] during excavation) which had been heavily truncated by a series of c. 18th century graves (Burials 13-17) (see photograph 4b on Figure 4). Structure 1 was truncated by Structure 2 and therefore predates, or is at least roughly contemporary, to it.

Rammed chalk construction has been uncovered at other sites in England and it is usually attributed to the medieval period, but has also been evidenced during the Roman period. This type of wall construction was also uncovered at the not too distant Balsdean Church in Rottingdean during excavations (see Web Source 2).

4.2.2 *Rammed Chalk with Flints [194]*

A further section of masonry [194] (Figure 4), comprising laminated layers of alternating rammed chalk and flints was observed along the northern edge of the site and had been clearly truncated by the construction of the tower in 1714. Due to the location of these remains and the incorporation of flint, which differs to the other rammed chalk uncovered at the site, it is worth considering the possibility that the remains uncovered within the ground-beam trench may in fact have been part of the original steeple foundations before it collapsed in 1698. Since only a small portion of this masonry survives, it is difficult to fully understand its original function and its association to other masonry uncovered at the site.

4.3 Phase 2: Structure 2 (Figures 5 and 7).

4.3.1 *The East-West Wall: Foundations [117] & [125]*

The westernmost end of the east-west wall was initially uncovered during the reduction of the main area to the required formation level (at 10.47m AOD) revealing only the chalk rubble foundations [117] (same as [125]). This part of the wall was also observed during the initial watching brief in TP7. The eastern stretch of this E-W wall was revealed underlying large stone slabs located under the door to the South Aisle of the church (Figure 8). This part was uncovered during the excavation of Burial 8, which truncated the chalk foundations. The E-W wall of Structure 2 (measuring 0.8m wide) was constructed on a foundation of roughly hewn chalk blocks [167] (one course at top of foundations/base of superstructure on external face) and mixed

chalk rubble [125] bonded with a yellowish grey sandy mortar.

4.3.2 *The East-West Wall: Superstructure [134], [163] & [164]*

A superstructure comprising a dressed limestone/sandstone and Caen Stone north-facing internal face [164], rubble core [163] and south-facing external face consisting of flint-faced blocks and green sandstone blocks [134], survived at the easternmost section of this wall. It is possible that part of the superstructure was removed when Burial 8 was cut, with further possible truncations during the laying of stone slabs leading to the South Aisle door. The materials and style adopted in the external walls of the south aisle seem to emulate the external part of the superstructure [134]. Elevations of the structure can be seen on Figure 5. There is only one surviving course of the alternate flint-faced and greensand stone blocks in the extant wall. The flint-faced blocks consisted of approximately fourteen roughly-knapped flints arranged in a rectangular-shaped block measuring 600x200x250mm. The greensand stone blocks were rectangular and measured 500x200x250mm. The internal face was difficult to see clearly until single-context excavation began to remove the dressed lime plaster covering the stones. The internal face [164] comprised an array of re-used materials consisting of Caen stone, 12th -13th century Quarr stones (ashlar and irregular blocks), floor tiles, and 13th century window surrounds (see section 5. for more detail) as illustrated in Elevation 2 on Figure 5. The E-W wall was truncated by Tomb 2 (cut [153]) at the eastern end and burials 7 and 13 at the western end (Figure 7). Figure 5 illustrates the structure as different components were revealed during the stages of single-context excavation.

4.3.3 *The North-South Wall: Foundations [135]*

The north-south orientated wall [135] (the internal return of Structure 2) comprised only chalk rubble foundations bonded with a very hard yellow sandy mortar. This compacted mortar made the excavation of the wall extremely difficult. Figure 5 illustrates the wall after the removal of some of this mortar, which was required to reduce the foundations to formation level. A re-used moulded piece of Eastbourne Greensand (marked 'F' on Figure 5) with chamfer and hollow was uncovered at the southern end of this wall, where it butts up against the E-W orientated external wall. Five large roughly-hewn sub-square chalk blocks, measuring approximately 0.30m² - 0.40m² were revealed during reduction of the foundations. No superstructure survives for this wall.

4.3.4 *Other Findings Relating to Structure 2*

During the excavation of the service trench for the drainage along the path (Figure 7), a possible segment of wall foundations [239] (construction cut 240) was uncovered at a depth of c.9.70m AOD. Its alignment with the western end of [117] suggests that it may have been a north-south return. The foundations comprised chalk rubble with flints and measured approximately 1m in width and extended to the limit of excavation 8.35m AOD. The limits and depth of the trench made it difficult to investigate the relationship between [117] and this wall segment, which had also been truncated by [121] (Burial 7). It is also possible that this wall is a return of Structure 1, which has been almost entirely truncated by burials at this end.

Although Structure 2 cuts through Structure 1, part of the rammed chalk remains under the foundations of Structure 2 (see elevation, Figure 8) which suggests that the later wall has incorporated the earlier foundations during its construction. Datable finds (e.g. CBM, and stone fragments) from the surrounding contexts [138] and [155] suggest that these walls were partially demolished in the late medieval/early post-medieval period (perhaps in the 18th century when the church tower was built).

The construction of the South Aisle of the church fully respected and incorporated both of the earlier structures which could be seen extending under the western wall (Figure 8).

4.4 Phase 3: Burials and Tombs (App. Tables 1 in Appendix I)

4.4.1 The Inhumation Burials (Figures 6 and 7)

Twenty-nine articulated or semi-articulated inhumation burials were identified during the enhanced watching brief, at heights of between 10.82m AOD (Burial 8) and 9.65m AOD (Burial 27). The burials were at depths of between 0.63m and 1.25m below current ground level in the main area of excavation, and between 0.9m and 1.8m below the surface of the pathway immediately west of the church. Burial 7 was an exception at its significant height of 11.17m AOD as tree-roots had clearly disturbed and shifted the skeletal remains. Burial 8 was fairly shallow, because it was cut into Structure 2.

Numerous disarticulated human bones and disturbed coffin fittings were retrieved during the ground works; these were bagged separately and re-interred elsewhere. Where possible, articulated skeletons were left in-situ: this was only practicable when the excavation in that area had ceased (e.g. optimum depth/formation level had been reached) so that the burial would not be disturbed. Human remains were only removed from their resting place if they were above the level of the ground reduction or within the excavation areas for the foundation trenches or drainage trench. In some circumstances (e.g. along the eastern ground-beam trench) part of the skeleton was relocated to the undisturbed part of the grave so that the remains could be preserved *in-situ*. Figure 6 shows the burial locations, detailing which were left in situ and which were removed for reburial.

All burials were aligned roughly east-west (with the head at the west in tradition Christian manner). Many of the burials were inter-cutting each other, but the level of intercutting and tiered/stacked burials (e.g. Burials 10 and 22) meant that phasing the burials was impracticable. Some of the burials had been truncated during the construction of tombs, which was particularly perceptible around the construction cuts where abundant fragments of disarticulated bone were revealed. Some ordering of the burials into rows is discernible from the plans.

Due to the mixed nature of the cemetery soil, the grave cuts for non-vaulted burials were difficult to see clearly, although most were recognised by either

the dark staining left behind after coffin decay or the slightly browner backfill. All of the burials and tombs were assigned grave cut context numbers since the initial excavation of the grave is indisputable regardless of whether it can be seen. The undisturbed natural strata were clearly distinguishable from the grave fills and general cemetery soil, so areas could be excavated with a high certainty that no further burials were present.

Although many of the burials included coffin fittings such as handles, nails and studs, the survival of wood and other organic materials within the graves was generally very poor, although in rare case these materials were apparent (e.g. Burials 9, 13 and 26 and particularly in Burial's 10 and 22). A full list of the burials containing coffin fittings can be found in Table 2 in Appendix I of this report.

Burials 1-7 were uncovered during the excavation of the path at a maximum depth of 1.3m below ground surface (10.15m AOD) and a minimum depth of 11.17m AOD.

The height of Burial 8 (located below large stone slabs next to the door of the South Aisle) at 10.82m AOD meant that the grave needed to be cleaned, recorded and excavated so that the skeletal remains could be re-interred in an area outside of the development. The grave was cut into the east-west wall of Structure 2 (Figure 5) and contained a young juvenile skeleton (less than 3 years old at the time of death). It is possible that this part of the superstructure was removed when this grave was cut. The grave fill contained a piece of post-medieval peg-tile and two glass sherds from the base of a mid 17th–early 18th century wine bottle.

A little to the west of Burial 8 was the grave of an adult female individual (Burial 9) uncovered at 10.67m AOD. The lower part of this skeleton was revealed in TP3 during the evaluation stage. Due to the specifications outlined in the *WSI* (ASE 2006) for the evaluation these remains were left *in-situ* and covered over with backfill. The evaluation revealed an iron coffin plate which read ‘...died 15th day of.... 1902....Aged 73 Years...’ and was encountered at a height of 10.68m AOD, also 0.82m below the ground surface. The survival of this plate had in turn preserved part of the coffin wood overlying the skeleton. During the enhanced watching brief, it was necessary to fully expose, record and lift these remains, because they were 0.18m above the required formation level. This burial was interesting because the coffin [148] had been placed directly onto some stone slabs which had been used to cover Tomb 2.

Burial 10 was uncovered along the western perimeter of the main area at 10.78m AOD (Figure 6) and was significantly shallow. Only the lower part of the skeleton (legs and feet) was uncovered. To avoid further disturbance of the burial, the lower part of the grave was cleaned, recorded and then re-located to the upper part of the grave where it was recovered and preserved *in-situ*. The excavation of the ground-beam later revealed an earlier burial (Burial 22) directly underneath, which may explain the considerable height of Burial 10.

Two closely positioned graves containing the skeletal remains of an adult female (Burial 11) and a young infant (Burial 12) were uncovered at 10.52m

AOD and 10.58m AOD respectively, in the north of the site close to the south wall of the church tower (Figure 6). The grave fill [173] in Burial 12 contained three mid 18th-mid 19th century wine bottle bodysherds. The close proximity and level of these graves may suggest that the individuals were related to each other (e.g. mother and child). Both of these burials were cleaned, recorded and excavated for re-burial elsewhere.

A grave containing an adult male individual (Burial 15) (Figure 6) was disturbed at 10.37m AOD during the excavation of the service trenches resulting in the lifting of the remains for re-burial elsewhere.

Burials 25-28 (and Burials 7, 13 and 24) were revealed during the excavation of the drainage trench along the path (Figure 6). However, only the skeleton (an older adult male) in Burial 25 was directly impacted by the trench and therefore, required full-excavation. Although the grave cuts and backfill for the other burials were observed in the trench sections (and were therefore recorded), since they were not impacted by the works, the burials could be preserved *in situ*.

4.4.2 **The Tombs** (Figures 6 and 7)

Four tombs were encountered during these ground works. The above-ground monuments associated with these and the gravestones for other burials within the working area were temporarily relocated to a different area of the churchyard by a specialist contractor during the works. Plans for these to be permanently re-instated along the southern boundary wall on the western side of the cemetery are proposed. During ground reduction works, the roofs and walls of each of the tombs were reduced as necessary to accommodate the formation level of the new build. The burials within them were deep enough that they did not need to be disturbed and were preserved *in-situ*.

Tomb 1 [131] was a brick-built vaulted barrel tomb measuring 2.5m in length and 1.5m in width, comprising red-brick. During construction this tomb seems to have cut through several articulated graves as abundant disarticulated human bone fragments were recovered from the backfill surrounding the tomb. The top of the roof was at 11.12m AOD, which meant that it was overlying the formation level by 0.65m. The tomb was filled with pea-grit and then the domed roof and upper courses of brickwork were collapsed to reduce the vault to formation level.

Tomb 2 [144] was a brick-lined, tiered burial vault with sufficient room for 6 horizontally-stacked coffins. It measured 2.40x0.60mx2.50m (to the top of the decayed coffin furniture and skeletal remains). The building materials comprised regular-shaped, red bricks which were stretcher coursed and bonded with light grey mortar. The actual tomb was built in a very tight construction cut [153] which was coffin-shaped. The tomb was sealed with four stone slabs which were overlain by Burial 9. It is interesting that this individual (identified as female) was buried over the top of the tomb rather than within it, since it is likely that the tomb contained the remains of only three or four coffins (based on the number of iron coffin supports). Perhaps this individual bore no relation to those individuals buried within the tomb. It is also possible that the individual was associated with Burial 15 which was

adjacent to the north. The building materials comprised regular-shaped, red bricks which were stretcher coursed and bonded with light grey mortar. The actual tomb was built in a very tight construction cut [153] which was coffin-shaped. Several disarticulated bones were uncovered around the construction cut for the tomb. In the middle of the programme of works this tomb was used to re-inter the accrued human remains with the blessing of the Rector, Steve Daughtery.

Tomb 3 [143] was a brick-lined 2-tiered burial vault measuring 2.50x1.10x1.00m (to the top of the decayed coffin furniture and skeletal remains). The building materials comprised regular-shaped, red bricks which were stretcher coursed and bonded with light grey mortar. The actual tomb was built in a very tight construction cut [151] which was coffin-shaped and sealed with three large stone slabs. The internal walls were coated/lined with a black material with a grainy appearance. Several disarticulated bones were uncovered around the construction cut for the tomb.

Tomb 4 [197] was also a brick-lined 2-tiered burial vault (very similar to Tomb 3) measuring c.1.00m wide (length unknown as only partially revealed) and 1.00m deep (to the top of the decayed coffin furniture and skeletal remains). The building materials comprised regular-shaped, red bricks which were stretcher coursed and bonded with light grey mortar. The black-lining on the internal walls was again present. Like Tomb 3, it was built in a very tight construction cut [196] which was coffin-shaped and sealed with three large stone slabs. This tomb was used towards the end of the programme of works to re-inter the remainder of exhumed human remains with the blessing of the Rector, Steve Daughtery.

4.4.3 **The Charnel Pit** (Figures 6 and 7)

During the hand-excavation of the north-south ground-beam along the eastern edge of site (by the South Aisle) a cut pit feature packed with disarticulated human bones was uncovered. A further pit, also crammed with bones, was revealed in the north-east corner (where the South Aisle meets the tower). Further excavation demonstrated that these individually numbered features were likely to be one large charnel pit. Part of the pit was preserved in-situ, although some of the disarticulated remains needed to be removed due to their location within the ground-beam trench.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Overview

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the enhanced watching brief at St. John the Baptist Church, Southover. A summary can be found in Table 4 in Appendix I. All bulk finds were washed and dried by context. Materials were bagged by type and pottery marked with site code and context.

5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 The archaeological work recovered only five sherds of pottery weighing 158g, from three individually numbered contexts. Despite this the material does not show extensive signs of abrasion and it appears not to have been repeatedly reworked. Context [101] produced three sherds. The largest (103g) consists of the rim of an oxidised jar in fine hard-fired earthenware with deliberately reduced surfaces and a horizontal applied thumbed strip below the neck. The vessel is likely to date to between c. 1520 and 1620. The other two sherds in this context (37g) consist of bodysherds of Nottingham stoneware with impressed rouletted symbol decoration. The sherds are likely to be from the same 18th- century vessel.

5.2.2 A single sherd (11g) of glazed red earthenware jar was recovered from context [113]. The internal glaze is very dark brown/black and the vessel can only be placed in a wide chronological bracket between the mid 16th and mid 18th centuries (though the later half is probably more likely). The only other sherd from the site was recovered from [155]. This consists of a whiteware bodysherd tempered with abundant medium/coarse sand and with a yellow internal glaze. The exact source is uncertain, though Surrey is a possibility. Whatever the source, the vessel is of early/mid 16th- to 17th- century date.

5.3 The Geological Material by Luke Barber (incorporating comments by David & Barbara Martin)

5.3.1 The work recovered 12 pieces of stone, weighing 112.62kg, from three individually numbered contexts. All have been fully recorded on pro forma for the archive. By far the majority of the pieces (seven/105.5kg) consist of re-used architectural fragments recovered from wall [164]. All these pieces have similar adhering lime mortar with irregular chalk to 50mm and sparse flint grits to 4mm, often filling the moulded decoration and/or covering tooled faces. Three different stone types are represented. A single piece of Eastbourne Upper Greensand is present (10kg) (labelled C in Figure 5: Elevation 2) which appears to be a broken and eroded wall corbel/joist support of D-sectioned profile and measuring 140mm thick. Some 100mm of its upper surface is roughly pecked to help key it into the wall – the remaining 80mm of its upper face, which would have protruded from the wall, being smooth. Three pieces of Quarr stone (labelled E on Figure 5: Elevation 2) were also recovered from wall [164]. These include an ashlar block with fine oblique tooling (210 x 210 x 180mm: 13.5kg) and an irregular block (16.5kg) with rounded/worn edges measuring 290 x 280 x 130mm. The final piece of Quarr from [164] consists of a semicircular respond (shaft) with vertical

tooling (labelled D on Figure 5: Plan and Elevation 1), measuring 270 x 185mm in plan, by 140mm tall (12kg). A 12th- to early 13th- century date is likely. The last stone type reused in wall [164] is represented by three pieces of Caen stone (one labelled A in Figure 5: Elevation 2). An ashlar block (16.5kg), measuring 260+ x 222 x 175mm, with fine oblique tooling was recovered along with two virtually identical high quality decorated mouldings. The latter (20 and 21kg) consist of a keeled roll and three ¼ hollows and are likely to be from 13th- century window surrounds (labelled B in Figure 5: Elevation 2). The reuse of such material make it probable that the wall that re-used these stones was not built until the 14th to 15th centuries at the earliest.

5.3.2 The only other stone from the site was recovered from contexts [135] and [138]. The former contained a small reused moulded piece of Eastbourne Greensand with chamfer and hollow (6.75kg) (labelled F on Figure 5: Plan). The piece has whitewash adhering to the decorative sides but also mortar adhering to its faced sides suggesting it has been re-used. Context [138] produced four pieces of Horsham stone roofing slab (370g). Such roofing material is more typical of the later medieval to early post-medieval period in the town.

5.4 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

5.4.1 A total of 47 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing a total of 7735g were recovered from ten contexts (Table 5). The material was of Medieval and post-medieval date, with both floor and roof tiles represented.

5.4.2 Table 2: CBM by date, fabric and form per context.

Context	Forms present and date	Fabric	Count	Weight
102	Late med-early PM Pegtile (residual), PM Vase?	T3, T5	2	202
108	Late med-early PM and PM Pegtile (residual) and pantile.	T3, T1, T4, V	7	330
110	Late med-early PM floor tile (residual), PM pegtile.	FT1, T1	2	53
113	Late med-early PM pegtile	T3	1	30
129	PM pegtile	T1	1	88
135	PM pegtile (may be intrusive), Late med-early PM floor tile (reused)	T1, FT2	8	1187
138	Late med-early PM floor tile (reused), PM pegtile,	FT1, FT3, V, T1, Nr FT1	8	1595
155	Late med-early PM floor tile (reused), PM pegtile,	FT1, Nr FT1, FT2, T2, T1, V.	10	2614
164	Late med-early PM floor tile (reused)	FT1, FT2	7	1637

5.4.3 *Later Medieval – Early post-medieval.*

Later Medieval to early post-medieval tile was represented by five different fabric types (Table 6). A total of seventeen late Medieval to early post-medieval floor tiles were represented in the sample dating from the 15th to 17th century. Splash glazing was present on the surface and sides of ten floor

tiles. One complete splash glazed tile had 107mm square dimensions with a thickness of 27mm, thickness of the splash glazed tiles ranged from 24 to 35mm. No glaze was present on the upper surface of two tiles, these were the largest of the tiles measuring in excess of 150mm in width with a thickness of 30mm. Possible tin glazing was identified on the abraded upper surfaces of four tiles, two green and one yellow from contexts [135], [138], and [155]. The tin glazed tiles also appeared to have small pre-firing nail holes in the corner of the upper surface, these holes may be from nails used to hold the clay in position during the trimming of the clay from the edges. The tin glazed tiles may be examples of English Delft and measure approximately 105mm square with a thickness of 30mm. The majority of the floor tiles have heavily abraded upper surfaces indicating use as flooring at some stage. However the vast majority of the medieval floor tiles have been reused and mortared on all sides for incorporation into structures, this is noted for tiles from contexts [135], [138], [155], and exemplified in the dressed superstructure [164]. Medieval pegtile fabric T3 was identified in contexts [102], [108], and [113], in the first two contexts the material was residual and occurred with post-medieval fabric, the abraded fragment from [113] may also be residual.

5.4.4 Table 3: Late Medieval to early post-medieval fabric types and form.

Fabric	Form	Description	Date
FT1	Floor tile	Orange coarse sandy fabric. Sparse coarse black and red iron rich inclusions and moderate fine white mica and moderate to abundant medium sized quartz. Moderate fine white chalk inclusions. Green Glazed/ splash glaze.	C15th-C17th
Nr FT1	Floor tile	Silty version of FT1. Sub group of FT1	C15th-C17th
FT2	Floor tile	Pale pinkish brown fabric. Abundant white calcareous speckling, sparse coarse black iron rich inclusions up to 2.5mm and sparse medium to coarse quartz. Moderate coarse red silt balls. Some green splash glaze	C15th-C17th.
FT3	Floor tile	Orange fabric near FT1 but with abundant medium to coarse poorly sorted quartz inclusions. Unglazed.	C15th-C17th
T3	Pegtile	Orange, fine silty fabric. Sparse very coarse quartz, moderate poorly sorted quartz, sparse medium sized white calcareous inclusions and red iron rich silt inclusions. Reduced.	C15th-C17th

5.4.5 *Post-medieval*

Post-medieval CBM was represented by four fabric types and consisted of roof tile, both pegtile, a single fragment of probable pantile and a glazed stoneware vessel (Table 7). The most abundant roof tile fabric, T1, had two diamond shaped poorly formed peg holes per tile and probably date to the 17th or 18th century and have an average thickness of 13mm. The single pantile fragment from context [108] is broadly of mid 17th to 19th century date. A vitrified pegtile fragment was recovered from context [108]. A single fragment of a squared box shaped 19th century stoneware vessel was recovered from context [102]. The vessel has a yellowish brown glazed interior and smoothed plain exterior with a thickness of 18mm. The vessel is possibly a crude vase for holding flowers at the graveside.

4.6 Table 4: Post-medieval fabric types and form.

Fabric	Form	Description	Date
T1	Pegtile	Orange poorly mixed fabric with abundant cream silt marbling. Sparse coarse iron rich inclusions and coarse red iron rich silt inclusions. Diamond shaped poorly formed peg holes, 2 per pegtile.	C17th-C18th
T2	Pegtile	Reddish Orange fabric. Moderate voids with moderate fine quartz and sparse black coarse iron rich and sparse silt inclusions. Square peg hole, well formed.	C18th-C20th
T4	Pantile	Orange fine silty fabric. Sparse fine quartz, sparse coarse white calcareous inclusions up to 3mm.	Mid C17th-C20th
T5	Vase?	Pale cream silt fabric. Moderate very coarse stoneware and very coarse black iron rich inclusions with moderate coarse quartz. Tin glaze?	C19th

5.4.7 Mortar Samples

Mortar samples weighing a total of 1644g were taken from two contexts, the foundation of the north to south orientated wall [135], and from the internal face of the east to west orientated wall [137]. Both samples were of a clean white lime mortar with abundant coarse rounded sand inclusions, flint within the sand suggests the source is probably local. The sample from [135] also contains sparse organic inclusions, possibly straw, which may be accidental and large chalk inclusions up to 5mm. It has not been possible to date the mortar with any accuracy as the mortar type is common throughout the Medieval period and later.

5.4.8 Significance and Potential

The glazed later medieval or early post-medieval floor tiles are of interest and should be retained for comparison with other sites.

5.5 The Clay Tobacco Pipe by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 A total of four clay tobacco pipe (CTP) fragments were produced by the excavations. The earliest pieces were recovered from deposit [155] and consist of two plain stem fragments of late 17th- to early 18th-century date. It is likely that these finds are residual as a result of abundant grave-digging within the area. Grave fill [129] (Burial 8) contained a mid 18th- to 19th-century plain stem fragment as well as a plain bowl fragment of later 18th- to early 19th-century date.

5.6 The Glass by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 The earliest fragments consist of two globular “onion” wine bottle base fragments, both from the same bottle. The fragments date to the mid 17th to early 18th century and were recovered from grave fill [129] (Burial 8).

5.6.2 In addition, three wine bottle body sherds of mid 18th- to mid 19th-century date were recovered from grave fill [173] (Burial 12).

5.7 The Ironwork by Elke Raemen

5.7.1 Four general purpose nail fragments were recovered from masonry ([125] and [165]). In addition, an iron possible decorative mount (RF <1>) from a railing was recovered from deposit [101]. The piece (wt 142g) is of 18th- to 19th-century date.

5.7.2 *Significance and Potential*

The assemblage is too small to be of potential for further analysis. No further work is required. It is recommended the assemblage be discarded.

6.0 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

6.1 A reminder of the site specific questions of the project's research agenda as outlined in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (ASE 2008) is set out below:

- Is there any evidence of activity pre-dating the foundation of the church?
- Is there any evidence of burials which are earlier than the post-medieval period, such as grave goods or pillow stones?
- Is there any evidence of the Cluniac Priory?
- Is there any evidence of earlier phases of the church building?
- Does the graveyard exhibit any spatial zoning patterns, such as an area exclusively for infant burials?

Each of these issues will be addressed in turn below.

6.2 Evidence of activity pre-dating the foundation of the church was uncovered during the ground works. The earliest remains uncovered at the site were the rammed chalk wall foundations, referred to as Structure 1 within this report. Although there is no secure date for this wall, we know that it either predates the later Structure 2 or is at least roughly contemporary with it. Comparative evidence of these rammed chalk foundations were evidenced at the coincidentally named St. John the Baptist Church at Little Yeldham, (Web Source 1) and during excavations at the Norman Chapel at Balsdean, Rottingdean (Web Source 2). Since the existing church is believed to have been located on the site of the Prior's Lodge, it is possible that these walls formed part of the original 'hospitium' or guesthouse of the nearby 12th century Cluniac Priory of St. Pancras, the proximity of which can be seen on Figures 1 and 9. The 'hospitium' seems to have been re-structured at a later date when it went out of use, and was converted into a church parish. This is postulated to have happened when the new hospital of St. James was built nearby (see Salzman 1973; 48).

6.3 Figure 10 reproduces two earlier plans of the church: one found in *'The Victorian History of the Counties of England'* (Salzman 1973: 49) and the other in Brent's *'Pre-Georgian Lewes'* (Brent 2004: 97). Both plans show the position of surviving late 12th century pillars and arches in forming an east to west arcade currently dividing the nave from the south aisle. It is suggested that this arcade originally continued westwards from the west wall of the south aisle, as indicated by the continuation of the dashed line on both plans. It is worth considering the possibility that masonry [194] may represent a surviving section of these foundations. However, it is also possible that this masonry represents the steeple foundations.

6.4 The later plan (Brent 2004) shows an additional, parallel wall foundation, extending westwards from the southern wall of the south aisle. The position of this wall appears to correspond to the location of the east-west phase 2 structure. Based on the evidence of reused architectural and CBM fragments within the later Phase 2 east-west wall, in addition to the medieval date of the

mortar sample, This structure is likely to have been constructed around the 14th-15th centuries (perhaps when the original steeple was erected). In 1698 the old steeple collapsed and work began on the new tower in 1714 and was completed in 1738. It is likely that the demolition layers (e.g. [138], [141] and [155]) uncovered in the area around the walls, South Aisle and tower during the watching brief, relate to this phase and may include building material from the collapsed steeple. It is perhaps necessary to consider the possibility that Structure 2 is the remnants of the original steeple for the church.

- 6.5** The southern external wall of the South Aisle of the existing church is thought to have been a 16th century addition (therefore post-dissolution and after the devastation of the Priory of St. Pancras in 1538), which seems to have incorporated building materials and style from the Priory: 'tradition states that the flint and stone chequer adorning the aisle of Southover Church came from the Priory' (Brent 2004; 201). Such materials were also used in the earlier east-west wall uncovered during the ground works, so this seems to be a fashionable and frequently recreated style. These 16th century developments seem to have retained the existing foundations, which remain *in-situ* under the church to this day. Research suggests (Brent 2004; 97; Salzman 1973; 49) that the western wall of the South Aisle was rebuilt in the 17th-18th centuries (Figure10).
- 6.6** Whilst burials in cemeteries are often hard to date accurately in the absence of headstones and burial records, the limited dating evidence revealed within the graves uncovered during these works (e.g. clay pipes, glass, pottery sherds) suggests that the majority probably date from the late 18th century onwards. It is probable that the charnel pit was roughly contemporary to these burials, but it is possible that the bones were dug-up during the construction of the church tower (1714-1738), the tombs or other burials in the graveyard. As far as can be reasonably deduced from the findings during the watching brief, no apparent burials predate the revealed walls and foundations. No grave goods or pillow stones were revealed during the ground works.
- 6.7** There is no apparent special zoning within the graveyard, although the inhumation burials and tombs are arranged in clear rows. No specific burial pattern was exhibited in the graveyard: adult and infant individuals are likely to have been buried in terms of family relations rather than adult/child grouping in allotted areas.

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APPENDIX I:
App. Table 1: LIST OF RECORDED CONTEXTS

No.	Type	Description	Feature	Deposit Dimensions (max) (l)length, (w)width, (t)thickness	Height m.AOD
100	Deposit	Topsoil- loose grey brown loam	-	(t)0.3m	11.45
101	Deposit	Upper cemetery soil-loose whitish grey-brown loam with occ. flint nodules, freq. chalk flecks & disarticulated bone	-	(t)0.45m	11.15
102	Deposit	Lower cemetery soil-mod. compact, whitish grey-brown silty loam with occ. flint nodules, freq. chalk flecks and disarticulated bone	-	(t)c.1.3m	10.75
103	Grave Cut	For Sk.104 Truncates 106	BURIAL 1	(l)2.1m/(w)0.7m	-
104	Skeleton	Adult – partial	BURIAL 1	-	10.35
105	Grave Fill	Grey-brown silt (very similar to 101)	BURIAL 1	-	-
106	Grave Cut	For Sk.107 Truncated by 103	BURIAL 2	(l)2.1m/(w)0.7m	-
107	Skeleton	Adult – Male + coffin nails & 1 handle	BURIAL 2	-	10.15
108	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 2	-	-
109	Grave Cut	Delineated by corroded/decayed coffin remains – NO SKELETON	BURIAL 3	(l)2.0m/(w)0.7m	10.35
110	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 3	-	-
111	Grave Cut	For Sk.112	BURIAL 4	(l)1.25m/(w)0.7m	-
112	Skeleton	Infant <3yrs – well preserved	BURIAL 4	-	10.25
113	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 4	-	-
114	Grave Cut	For Sk.115	BURIAL 5	(l) ? / (w)0.7m	-
115	Skeleton	Adult – left in-situ as extends under baulk	BURIAL 5	-	10.30
116	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 5	-	-
117	Masonry	E-W wall (western segment) Cut [161] / See also 125	STRUCTURE 2 (chalk foundations)	(l)3.25/(w)1.0m/ (t)0.2m	10.61
118	Grave Cut	For Sk. 119	BURIAL 6	(Not fully revealed)	-
119	Skeleton	Skull only – seen in section for path (revealed due to section weathering)	BURIAL 6		10.55
120	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 6	-	-
121	Grave Cut	For Sk. 122 Heavily disturbed by roots	BURIAL 7 (above Burial 24)	(Not fully revealed)	-
122	Skeleton	Adult – partial	BURIAL 7	-	11.17
123	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 7	-	-
124	Construction Cut	For E-W wall/Structure 2 (eastern segment)	STRUCTURE 2 (cut)	-	
125	Masonry	E-W wall (eastern	STRUCTURE	(l)3.25m/(w)c.1.0m	11.20

		segment) Cut [124] / See also 117	(chalk foundations)		
126	Grave Cut	For Sk. 128	BURIAL 8	(l)1.2m/(w)0.7m	-
127	Coffin	Nails & handle (Fe) Illegible name plate Degraded wood fragments	BURIAL 8	-	-
128	Skeleton	Infant <3yrs	BURIAL 8	-	10.82
129	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 8	-	-
130	Construction Cut	For Tomb 1 [131]	TOMB 1	-	
131	Brick Vaulted Tomb	Red-brick vaulted tomb Stretcher coursed Contains c.3 frag.coffins	TOMB 1	(l)2.5m/(w)1.5m/ (t)1.0m (to top of contents)	11.12
132	Backfill	Light greyish yellow sandy silt – much disartic.bone	TOMB 1	-	
133	Construction Cut	For N-S wall/Structure 2	STRUCTURE 2 (cut)	-	
134	Masonry	Exterior Flint- faced/Green Sandstone - E-W Wall Over 125	STRUCTURE 2 (superstructure)	Flint blocks: 600x 200x250mm G.S.stone blocks: 500x200x250mm	11.23
135	Masonry	N-S Wall	STRUCTURE 2 (foundations only)	(l)1.8m/(w)0.6m	10.83
136	Masonry	Rammed chalk at east (upper laminated layer)	STRUCTURE 1 (Rammed Chalk Foundations)	Area: 0.85mx1.7m	10.75
137	Deposit	Lime-Plaster debris (over 136 from 164)		(t)0.02-0.03m	10.77
138	Deposit	Mixed demolition debris		Area: 2.8mx1.7m	10.68
139	Masonry	N-S Foundation for S.Aisle	SOUTH AISLE	c.2.8m revealed (up to 136)	10.73
140	Masonry	E-W Foundation for Tower - random courses of roughly squared chalk – below 142/Pos.same as 139	TOWER	Blocks: 100mm ³ to 300mm ³	-
141	Deposit	Chalk Deposit/demolition – light greyish white loose chalk frags	-	Area: 3.70mxc.2.00m (t)0.50m	11.18
142	Masonry	Limestone Foundation for Tower – single course re- used (well-dressed squared Ashlars and column segments with poss.toolmarks/sawing) – uppermost course of found.for tower – over 140	TOWER	Blocks: 260x210mm & 200x130mm	11.16
143	Brick Tomb	Red Brick Tomb Covered with stone slabs	TOMB 3	(l)2.5m(w)1.10m/ (t)1.0m (to top of contents)	10.66
144	Brick Tomb	Red Brick Tomb Covered with stone slabs	TOMB 2	(l)2.4m/(w)0.6m/ (t)2.5 (to top of contents)	10.64
145	Grave Cut	For Sk. 146	BURIAL 9	(l)1.8m/(w)5.5m	-
146	Skeleton	Adult - female	BURIAL 9	-	10.67
147	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 9	-	-
148	Coffin	For Sk. 146	BURIAL 9	-	-
149	Deposit	(same as 141 but W. of 135)	-	-	-
150	-	VOID	-	-	

151	Construction Cut	Cut for 143	TOMB 3	(close around tomb)	-
152	Backfill	Backfill around 143 – abundant disarticulated human bone	TOMB 3	-	-
153	Construction Cut	Cut for 144	TOMB 2	(close around tomb)	-
154	Backfill	Backfill around 144 – abundant disarticulated human bone	TOMB 2	-	-
155	Deposit	Mixed demolition debris	-	-	-
156	-	VOID	-	-	-
157	Grave Cut	For Sk. 159	BURIAL 10 (above Burial 22)	(w)0.7m (length unknown)	-
158	Coffin	For Sk. 159	BURIAL 10	-	-
159	Skeleton	Adult	BURIAL 10	-	10.78
160	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 10	-	-
161	Construction Cut	For E-W wall –eastern section (foundations 125)	STRUCTURE 2 (foundations 125)	(close around wall)	-
162	Masonry	W quoins of S. Aisle	SOUTH AISLE	-	11.45+
163	Masonry	Rubble core of E-W wall (between 134 and 164)	STRUCTURE 2 (superstructure)	-	11.20
164	Masonry	Dressed internal face of E-W wall – Reused Caen and Quarr stone, med.floor tile, reused window moulds – dressed with lime-plaster wash	STRUCTURE 2 (superstructure)	-	11.16
165	Masonry	Rammed chalk at east (laminated layer) Below 135	STRUCTURE 1 (Rammed Chalk Foundations)	Area: 0.85mx1.7m	10.62
166	Masonry	Chalk foundations	TOWER BUTTRESS	(l)2.2m/(w)0.3m	10.82
167	Masonry	Roughly hewn chalk blocks – E-W wall	STRUCTURE 2 (foundations)		10.98
168	Grave Cut	For Sk. 169	BURIAL 11	(l)2.0m/(w)0.7m	10.52
169	Skeleton	Adult	BURIAL 11	-	-
170	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 11	-	-
171	Grave Cut	For Sk. 172	BURIAL 12	(l)0.6m/(w)0.3m	10.58
172	Skeleton	Young Infant c.1 year	BURIAL 12	-	-
173	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 12	-	-
174	Grave Cut	For Sk. 221 (truncates 117 and 180)	BURIAL 13	(w)0.6m (length unknown)	-
175	Grave Fill	Same as 105 with more chalk inclusions	BURIAL 13	-	-
176	Grave Cut	No skeleton revealed (truncates 180)	BURIAL 14	(w)0.6m (length unknown)	-
177	Grave Fill	Same as 175	BURIAL 14	-	-
178	Grave Cut	For Sk. 195 (truncates 180 & 181)	BURIAL 15	(l)2.0m/(w)0.7m	-
179	Grave Fill	Same as 175	BURIAL 15	-	-
180	Masonry	Rammed Chalk Foundations	STRUCTURE 1	Area: 1.8mx1.2m (truncated & not bottomed)	10.74
181	Masonry	Rammed Chalk Foundations	STRUCTURE 1	Area: 2.0mx1.1m	10.54
182	Grave Cut	No skeleton revealed (truncated by Burial 17/truncates slightly edge of Burial 15)	BURIAL 16	(l)c.1.8m (width unknown)	10.54

183	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 16	-	-
184	Grave Cut	No skeleton revealed (truncated by Tomb 3)	BURIAL 17	(l)c.1.8m (width unknown)	10.54
185	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 17	-	-
186	-	VOID	-	-	-
187	-	VOID	-	-	-
188	Cut	Cut for Charnel Pit Cut into 138	CHARNEL PIT (Same as 192)	(l)2.6m,(w)0.8m, (t) 0.25m	10.36
189	Deposit/Fill	Disarticulated Bones in [188]	CHARNEL PIT	-	-
190	Deposit	Ashen Fill in [188]	CHARNEL PIT	-	-
191	Cut	Cut for Charnel Pit	CHARNEL PIT (Same as 188)	(l)2.6m,(w)0.8m, (t) 0.25m	10.36
192	Deposit/Fill	Disarticulated Bones in [191]	CHARNEL PIT	-	-
193	Fill	Ashen Fill in [191]	CHARNEL PIT	-	-
194	Masonry	Rammed chalk and Flint Foundations	?	-	10.69
195	Skeleton	Adult Sk. In [178]	BURIAL 15	-	10.37
196	Construction Cut	For 197	TOMB 4	(close around tomb)	-
197	Brick Tomb	2-tier brick tomb	TOMB 4	(l)not fully revealed/(w)0.6m/(t)1.0 (to top of contents)	10.20
198	Backfill	Light brownish grey sandy silt – much disartic. bone	TOMB 4	-	-
199	Grave Cut	For Sk. 200	BURIAL 18	(l)2.0m, (w)0.7m	-
200	Skeleton	Adult in 199	BURIAL 18	-	10.20
201	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 18	-	-
202	Grave Cut	For sk. 203	BURIAL 19	(l)2.0m, (w)0.7m	-
203	Skeleton	Adult in 202	BURIAL 19	-	10.20
204	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 19	-	-
205	Grave Cut	For sk.206	BURIAL 20	(l)2.0m, (w)0.7m	-
206	Skeleton	Adult in 205	BURIAL 20	-	10.20
207	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 20	-	-
208	Grave Cut	For sk 209	BURIAL 21	(l)2.0m, (w)0.7m	-
209	Skeleton	Adult in 208	BURIAL 21	-	10.22
210	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 21	-	-
211	Grave Cut	For Sk. 213	BURIAL 22 (below Burial 10)	-	-
212	Coffin	Degraded wood & 1 handle (Fe)	BURIAL 22	-	-
213	Skeleton	Sk under 157	BURIAL 22	-	10.22
214	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 22	-	-
215	Grave Cut	For Sk. 216	BURIAL 23	(l)2.0m, (w)0.7m	-
216	Skeleton	Adult sk. in 215	BURIAL 23	-	10.22
217	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 23	-	-
218	Coffin	2 handles & 3 nails (Fe)	BURIAL 21	-	-
219	Coffin	For 112	BURIAL 4	-	-
220	Natural	Natural Chalk Strata	NATURAL GEOLOGY	-	10.05
221	Skeleton	Sk. In [174] – left in-situ	BURIAL 13	-	10.22
222	Coffin	For sk. 221	BURIAL 13	-	-
223	Coffin	For Sk. 209	BURIAL 21	-	-
224	Grave Cut	No Skeleton revealed (truncates 117)	BURIAL 24 (below Burial 7)	(l) unknown, (w) 0.57m	10.73
225	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 24	-	-
226	Grave Cut	For Sk. 227	BURIAL 25	(l) 2.1m, (w)0.75m	-
227	Skeleton	Adult/ older male	BURIAL 25	-	10.05
228	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 25	-	-
229	Grave Cut	For coffin 230 – Sk not	BURIAL 26	(l) c.1.5m, (w) unknown	-

		revealed			
230	Coffin	Degraded wood at foot end and side	BURIAL 26	-	9.85
231	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 26	-	-
232	Grave Cut	For Sk. 233	BURIAL 27	Not fully revealed	-
233	Skeleton	Adult/sex unknown (only skull revealed in section)	BURIAL 27	-	9.65
234	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 27	-	-
235	Grave Cut	No Skeleton revealed	BURIAL 28	Not fully revealed	9.95
236	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 28	-	-
237	Grave Cut	No Skeleton revealed (grave positioned underneath Burial 4)	BURIAL 29	(l) 1.4m, (w) c.0.6m	10.05
238	Grave Fill	Same as 105	BURIAL 29	-	-
239	Masonry	Chalk and flint foundations	STRUCTURE 2	(l) unknown, (w) c.1m (t) 0.9m min.	9.70
240	Construction Cut	For 241 – possible return of 117	STRUCTURE 2	-	-

App. Table 2: BURIAL REGISTER

Human Remains Methodology: For the purposes of this report, this assessment has been based upon visual observations only. The sex of individuals was assessed using morphological features of the skull and pelvis (Bukistra and Ubelaker 1994). If no other diagnostic elements were available then the size of the long bones (e.g. whether they are particularly robust or gracile) was used to assess the probability of a male or female skeleton. The age of individuals was estimated by assessing skeletal size and epiphyseal fusion. For further distinction of the adult age groups, a visual assessment of the auricular and pubic symphyseal surfaces was used (Bukistra and Ubelaker 1994; White and Folkens 2005). Subadult age estimations were based on the length of long bones and on the stage of epiphyseal closure.

BURIAL NUMBER	CUT	FILL	COFFIN	SKELETON/BURIAL DETAILS
1	103	105	n/a 2 nails & 1 handle	Context [104] – ADULT/ sex unknown (diagnostic elements were too fragmented) Bones Present: some ribs, left humerus (no distal end), left ulna, pelvis, left femoral & tibial and fibula mid-shafts, right distal ulna and radius, right femur, right tibia and fibula mid-shafts, some hand and feet bones. Observations: E-W, Supine position, Sk. was fragmentary, likely to have been disturbed Relationships: truncates Burial 2
2	106	108	n/a	Context [107] – ADULT/ Male (based on pelvic and skull observations) Bones present: complete skeleton Observations: E-W, supine position, well preserved, robust. Relationships: truncated by Burial 1
3	109	110	n/a	NO SKELETON PRESENT – grave cut delineated by corroded/decayed coffin remains. Observations: small size of grave cut indicates probable child burial – heavy rooting in area suggests likely disturbance of grave. Relationships: none recorded
4	111	113	219 Many nails, decorated pieces & degraded wood	Context [112] – INFANT <3yrs. Bones Present: Several unfused bones including skull fragments, ribs, long bones and pelvic fragments (illium) Observations: E-W, supine position, well preserved considering small, delicate bones, 1m below surface Relationships: none recorded
5	114	116	n/a	Context [115] – ADULT/ sex unknown(diagnostic elements were too fragmented) Bones Present: (Mixed-up/disturbed by roots) skull fragments, some long bone

BURIAL NUMBER	CUT	FILL	COFFIN	SKELETON/BURIAL DETAILS
				shafts, ribs, some vertebrae, pelvic fragments, some hand and feet bones. Observations: sk. was preserved <i>in-situ</i> as it extends under the baulk, V. disturbed by roots Relationships: none recorded
6	118	120	n/a	Context [119] – ADULT/ Female (based on skull observations) Bones Present: skull only! Observations: this skull was found in the section along the path after weathering and is likely to have been part of a burial – the skull needed to be removed as it was likely to have fallen out of the section. Relationships: none recorded
7	121	123	n/a	Context [122] – ADULT/ sex unknown (no diagnostic elements uncovered) Bones Present: Left radius, left femur and part of pelvis Observations: E-W, grave disturbed by tree roots, may relate to memorial 30. Relationships: truncates wall foundations 117
8	126	129	127	Context [128] – INFANT<3yrs. Bones Present: Almost complete - several unfused bones including skull fragments, ribs, long bones and pelvic fragments (illum) Observations: E-W, supine position Relationships: grave cut into wall foundations 125 – likely to have removed part of superstructure. Date: 18 th -19 th century clay pipe and plain bowl fragments + 17 th -18 th century globular “onion” wine bottle base fragments
9	145	147	148 – degraded wooden board over torso area	Context [146] – ADULT/ Female (based on pelvic and skull observations) Bones Present: complete skeleton Observations: E-W, supine position, lying on stone slabs covering Tomb 2 (also uncovered during the excavation of TP3 in the evaluation). Relationships: none recorded
10	157	160	158 – Plastic lined (very unusual) coffin with collapsed roof	Context [159] – ADULT/ sex unknown (no diagnostic elements uncovered) Bones Present: Only legs and feet revealed Observations: E-W, supine position, probably relates to memorial 92 Relationships: above Burial 22
11	168	170	n/a	Context [169] – ADULT/ Female (based on pelvic and skull observations) Bones Present: complete skeleton (skull removed prior to excavation therefore not

BURIAL NUMBER	CUT	FILL	COFFIN	SKELETON/BURIAL DETAILS
				in photograph) Observations: E-W, supine position, located near tower next to (north of) child Burial 12. Relationships: none recorded but adjacent (north of) to Burial 12
12	171	173	n/a 3 nails & 1 small handle	Context [172] – YOUNG INFANT c.1 yr Bones Present: long bones, unfused epiphyses, cranial fragments, ribs, vertebrae, some hand and feet bones Observations: E-W, supine position, next to (south of) adult female, located near tower. Relationships: none recorded but adjacent (to south) of Burial 11. Date: 18 th -19 th century wine bottle body sherds
13	174	175	222 Well preserved wood – collapsed lid – only partially revealed – 2 handles & several nails also observed	Context [221] – ADULT/ sex unknown (no diagnostic elements uncovered) Bones Present: only legs and feet revealed Observations: E-W, supine position, revealed during ring-beam excavation along western edge, preserved <i>in-situ</i> under concrete (collapsed coffin lid between), level of ring-beam was raised to facilitate. Relationships: Truncates Structures 1[117] and 2 [180-1]
14	176	177	n/a	NO SKELETON REVEALED– clear grave cut in chalk foundations Relationships: Truncates Structure 2 [180-1]
15	178	179	n/a	Context [195] – ADULT/ Male (based on pelvic and skull observations) Bones present: Most bones present, but in crumbly fragmented condition Observations: E-W, supine, uncovered during the excavation of drainage trench 2 Relationships: Truncates edge of Burial 16 and Structure 2 [180-1]
16	182	183	n/a	NO SKELETON REVEALED– clear grave cut in chalk foundations Observations: Skeleton likely to have removed by truncation Relationships: Truncated slightly by Burial 16 and then almost entirely by Burial 17 Also truncates Structure 2 [180-1]
17	184	185	n/a	NO SKELETON REVEALED– clear grave cut in chalk foundations Observations: Skeleton likely to have removed by truncation Relationships: Heavily truncates Burial 16 (probably removed skeleton) and truncated by the construction of Tomb 3. Also truncates Structure 2 [180-1]
18	199	201	n/a	Context [200] – ADULT/ sex unknown (no diagnostic elements uncovered) Bones Present: only legs and feet revealed

BURIAL NUMBER	CUT	FILL	COFFIN	SKELETON/BURIAL DETAILS
				Observations: uncovered during excavation of ground-beam along eastern edge – re-located to upper part of sk. to be preserved <i>in-situ</i> Relationships: none recorded
19	202	204	n/a	Context [203] - ADULT/ sex unknown (no diagnostic elements uncovered) Bones Present: only legs and feet revealed Observations: uncovered during excavation of ground-beam along eastern edge – re-located to upper part of sk. to be preserved <i>in-situ</i> Relationships: none recorded
20	205	207	n/a	Context [206] - ADULT/ sex unknown (no diagnostic elements uncovered) Bones Present: only legs and feet revealed Observations: E-W, supine position, uncovered during excavation of ground- beam along eastern edge – re-located to upper part of sk. to be preserved <i>in-situ</i> Relationships: none recorded
21	208	210	223 2 handles & 3 nails (Fe)	Context [209] - ADULT/ sex unknown (no diagnostic elements uncovered) Bones Present: only right leg and foot revealed Observations: E-W, supine position, revealed during ring-beam excavations, sk. preserved <i>in-situ</i> , steel frame adjusted to facilitate burial, Pile 7 also moved slightly east to avoid truncating grave. Relationships: none recorded
22	211	214	212 Degraded wood & 1 handle (Fe)– poss.survived due to protection from Burial 10	Context [213] - ADULT/ sex unknown (no diagnostic elements uncovered) Bones Present: only lower legs and feet revealed Observations: E-W, supine position, legs and feet moved back into baulk to be preserved <i>in-situ</i> , uncovered in during western ground-beam excavation Relationships: below Burial 10
23	215	217	n/a	Context [216] – ADULT/ sex unknown Bones Present: only left leg and foot revealed Observations: E-W, supine position, revealed during ring-beam excavations, sk. preserved <i>in-situ</i> , steel frame adjusted to facilitate burial, pile 11 also moved slightly east to avoid truncating grave. Relationships: none recorded
24	224	225	n/a	NO SKELETON REVEALED Observations: skeleton may well be beyond depth of ground-beam but may have been disturbed by the tree roots

BURIAL NUMBER	CUT	FILL	COFFIN	SKELETON/BURIAL DETAILS
				Relationships: Truncates wall foundations [117]
25	226	228	n/a	Context [227] – ADULT/ older male (based on pelvic and skull observations) Bones Present: Most bones present, but in crumbly fragmented condition Observations: E-W, supine position, revealed in service trench 1 Pathology: the vertebral column showed signs of abnormal fusion (possible ankylosing spondylitis) as well as signs of 'lipping', probably indicative of osteoarthritis. Relationships: none recorded
26	229	232	230 (degraded wood at the foot end and along the side)	NO SKELETON REVEALED Observations: E-W grave, only the degraded wood on the foot end and side of the coffin were seen in the section of the service trench. Looked like a fairly small grave so poss. for a child. Relationships: None recorded
27	232	234	n/a	Context [233] – ADULT/ sex unknown (no diagnostic elements uncovered) Bones Present: only skull seen in section Observations: E-W, probably supine position, revealed during service trench excavation, left in situ Relationships: none recorded
28	235	236	n/a	NO SKELETON REVEALED Observations: E-W, edge of grave seen in section of service trench, but skeleton not disturbed. Skeleton left <i>in situ</i> . Relationships: none recorded
29	237	238	n/a	NO SKELETON REVEALED Observations: E-W, edge of grave seen in section of service trench, but skeleton not disturbed. Small size of grave indicates a possible child burial. Skeleton left <i>in situ</i> . Relationships: Positioned underneath Burial 4 and truncates [241]

APPENDIX II

App. Table 3: QUANTIFICATION OF FINDS

Context	Pot	wt (g)	CBM	wt (g)	Stone	wt (g)	Fe	wt (g)	Glass	wt (g)	CTP	wt (g)	Mortar	wt (g)	Stone	wt (g) & (kg)
101	3	138														
108			7	332												
110			2	54												
/113	1	10	1	30												
125							3	14								
129			1	186					2	452	2	8				
135			8	1124									2	1266	1	6.75kg
137													8	404		
138			7	2404	4	398									1	370g
155	1	8	11	2668							2	10				
164			6	1636											7	105.5kg
165							1	4								
173									3	8						

APPENDIX III

App. Table 4: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORDS (HER's)
(ASE 2007: pp23-26)

Site/LB No.	SMR/LB No.	NGR (TQ)	Description	Period
1	EES14055 , 14047, 14087	4175 1007	Excavations behind Lewes House, between 2000 and 2005, revealed important Late Iron Age/Early Roman ditch and pits; Anglo-Saxon features and extensive evidence of medieval activity of 12 th -14 th century date, particularly on the S side of Broomans Lane. Residual Late Bronze Age flints also recovered.	Iron Age/ Roman, Anglo- Saxon, Medieval
2	EES14056	4171 1002	Excavations on land between Church Twitten and Walwers Lane in 2000, revealed a Late Iron Age/Early Roman pit, associated with five undated post-holes, and a general spread of 13 th -14 th century features.	Iron Age/ Roman, Medieval
3	MES7183	4163 1015	Coin of Tiberius and two boar tusks discovered prior to 1824, at 34-37 High Street.	Roman
4	-	4163 1010	Late Anglo-Saxon coin hoard recovered from pit during excavations at Baxter's Printworks in 2007. Several pits of Anglo-Saxon through to Post-Medieval date were also found, as well as Medieval building remains and stray finds of Roman coins and pottery (<i>pers comm.</i> S. Stevens, 18.05.07)	Roman, Anglo- Saxon, Medieval, Post- Medieval
5	TQ 41 SW MES7001	4151 1010	Anglo-Saxon metalwork recovered in 1899 on site of Crown court extension. 6 th century Iron fransisca and a late 7 th -8 th century iron seax.	Anglo- Saxon
6	EES14146	4157 1014	14 th century cellar recorded beneath Lewes Town Hall. Evidence of another, contemporary cellar to the east, associated with a separate tenement.	Medieval
7	TQ 41 SW 41 MES1616 EES9493 EES9081 EES13960	41 11	Site of Grey Friars, Franciscan friary, founded before 1241 and dissolved 1538. Several inhumations recovered in the vicinity, and the remains of the cloister church, sacristy and chapter house were excavated on Friar's Walk in 1996 (TQ4184 1019).	Medieval
8	EES9077	4155 1029	Excavations in 1971, on the site of the Co-operative Society Dairy, revealed the remains of 12 th -14 th century pits and a small copper smithing furnace.	Medieval

Site/LB No.	SMR/LB No.	NGR (TQ)	Description	Period
9	EES9088 EES9089	416 104	13 th -14 th century pits identified in North Street, in 1970s.	Medieval
10	TQ 41 SW 126 MES1770?	4171 1014	Medieval and Post-Medieval pits revealed during excavations behind Broomans House in 1978. Residual finds of possible Neolithic/Bronze Age flints and Roman pottery also recovered.	Medieval/ Post-Medieval
11	EES9573/ 9080	418 102	Investigations at 40-41 Friar's Walk during 1976, revealed remains of Medieval occupation of 12 th -14 th century date, and foundations of Post-Medieval buildings. Residual sherds of Roman pottery also found.	Medieval/ Post-Medieval
12	TQ 41 SW 117 EES9498	4177 1011	Excavation in Friar's Walk, 1989, on site of former Clothkits building, revealed series of medieval pits and furnace. Also residual flints of Neolithic/Bronze Age date and residual Roman tile.	Medieval
13	EES13957	41736 10148	Traces of Medieval and Post-Medieval occupation, including a possible Medieval oven, excavated in 1978 at Clothkits Warehouse, Broomans Lane. Area landscaped in 18 th century.	Medieval/ Post-Medieval
14	EES14103	4152 1036	An 11 th -12 th century feature recorded during excavation in St Johns Street, surviving beneath later, 19 th century building remains.	Medieval/ Post-Medieval
15	MES7372	4166 1026	Two 12 th -13 th century pits and a post-medieval well excavated at East Street in 2002.	Medieval/ Post-Medieval
16	TQ 41 SW 105 MES1556	4155 1014	Star Inn (site of): Medieval building with 18 th century façade.	Medieval/ Post-Medieval
17	EES13997	4172 1026	Post-Medieval pits and linear features revealed during evaluation of land at 1-2 Albion Street. Generally 17 th -19 th century.	Post-Medieval
18	MES7266	4167 1006	Subterranean structure (possible icehouse), surveyed in 2003. Measures 1.6m x 5.8m, with short lobby entrance.	19 th century

Site/LB No.	SMR/LB No.	NGR (TQ)	Description	Period
19	-	41755 10150	Subterranean structure (possible icehouse?), known locally as a wine cellar, set into E side of garden terrace behind 20/21 High Street. Cartographic sources (OS 1:1250, TQ41 10SE, 1971) indicate a rectangular structure, measuring about 6m N-S by 4m E-W, with a short lobby entrance at its NE corner, previously opening onto Fuller's Passage. Brick-arched entrance now blocked, and garden above is currently overgrown, so no further inspection possible. Maps suggest it may be attached to an additional structure to the south.	Undated
20	-	41766 10156	One of two subterranean Casualty Stations in Lewes during WWII (the other was at Market Tower). Fitted out with 24 bunks, and is said to have been located in the basement of 'Fuller's' at 19A High Street (Elliston 1995: 92) - may extend further south, beneath the car park in Fuller's Passage (<i>pers.comm.</i> Ben Phillips). Patients were lowered down by means of a hand-operated lift, made by Every's Ironworks.	Post-Medieval
21	LB292986	41703 10128	Wall on west side of Brooman's Lane. 18 th century, patched in 19 th and 20 th centuries. <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	18 th century
22	TQ 41 SW 85 MES1583 LB293018	41940 10228	Cliffe Bridge: brick and stone humped back bridge, designed by Nicholas Dubois. Reconstructed 1932. <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	18 th century (1727)
23	LB293112	41820 10203	11 High Street. With C20 extension. <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	18 th century (1770)
24	LB293113	41808 10202	13/13a High Street <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	19 th century
25	LB293114	41796 10202	14 High Street. 19 th century shop-front. <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	18 th century
26	LB293115	41773 10194	17 High Street <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	19 th century (1874)
27	LB293116	41764 10191	18/18a High Street <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	18 th century (1780)
28	LB293117	41757 10190	19 High Street <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	18 th century (1780)
29	LB293118	41738 10179	22 High Street. C20 century bowed shop-front. <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	18 th century
30	LB293119	41726 10173	23 High Street <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	18 th century

Site/LB No.	SMR/LB No.	NGR (TQ)	Description	Period
31	LB293120	41680 10157	30 and 31 High Street <i>Grade II Listed Building</i>	18 th /19 th century (c.1800)
32	TQ 41 SW 86 MES1584 LB293121- 293124	4166 1015	Lewes House, 32 High Street. Grade II listed walls and former stables to rear. <i>Grade II* Listed Building</i>	18 th century
33	TQ 41 SW 87 MES1585 LB293125, 293473, 293474	4164 1014	School Hill House, 33 High Street. Grade II listed walls and former stables to rear. <i>Grade II* Listed Building</i>	18 th century
34	TQ 41 SW 92 MES1590 LB293231	4158 1016	The Crown Hotel, High Street. <i>Grade II* Listed Building</i>	18 th century
35	SAM ES380	4174 1035	Lewes Town Wall, section called Green Wall <i>Scheduled Ancient Monument</i>	Medieval

App. Table 5: SMR Summary Form

Site Code	SJB 08					
Identification Name and Address	St. John the Baptist's Church, Southover					
County, District &/or Borough	Lewes, East Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	TQ 412 096					
Geology	Chalk					
Arch. South-East Project Number	3587					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other Churchyard		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. 17/11/08 – 16/03/09	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Mackeller Schwerdt Architects					
Project Manager	Darryl Palmer					
Project Supervisor	Kathryn Grant					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Other Modern		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p>Between 17th November 2008 and 22nd April 2009 Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Mackellar Schwerdt Architects to undertake an archaeological watching brief at St John the Baptist Church, Southover High Street, Southover, Lewes (NGR 541258 109635) during works associated with the construction of a new Chapter House. The ground works revealed three phases of archaeology. The earliest, Phase 1 remains comprised the foundations of an east-west structure constructed in laminated layers of rammed chalk. These footings had been truncated and incorporated into the Phase 2 foundations for an east-west wall, over which were surviving remnants of a dressed superstructure containing re-used 14th-15th century architectural materials from the nearby Priory of St. Pancras (founded c.1077). The foundations of an internal wall returning to the north butted against this wall and had been truncated by the construction of the church tower in the 18th century. It is possible that the earliest structural remains pertain to the Cluniac 'hospitium' while the later remains correspond to a 14th-15th century phase when the building went out of use as a hospitium and became a parish church. Phase 3 encompasses post-medieval/modern burial activity: four brick tombs, twenty-nine inhumation burials and one charnel pit were revealed during the ground works. Natural chalk geology was encountered at a maximum height of 10.05m AOD, but had been entirely truncated in most areas during Phase 3 activity.</p>						

App. Table 6: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-56419

Project details

Project name	St. John the Baptist Church, Southover, Lewes, East Sussex
Short description of the project	Between 17th November 2008 and 22nd April 2009 Archaeology South-East was commissioned by Mackellar Schwerdt Architects to undertake an archaeological watching brief at St John the Baptist Church, Southover High Street, Southover, Lewes (NGR 541258 109635) during works associated with the construction of a new Chapter House. The ground works revealed three phases of archaeology. The earliest, Phase 1 remains comprised the foundations of an east-west structure constructed in laminated layers of rammed chalk. These footings had been truncated and incorporated into the Phase 2 foundations for an east-west wall, over which were surviving remnants of a dressed superstructure containing re-used 14th-15th century architectural materials from the nearby Priory of St. Pancras (founded c.1077). The foundations of an internal wall returning to the north butted against this wall and had been truncated by the construction of the church tower in the 18th century. It is possible that the earliest structural remains pertain to the Cluniac 'hospitium' while the later remains correspond to a 14th-15th century phase when the building went out of use as a hospitium and became a parish church. Phase 3 encompasses post-medieval/modern burial activity: four brick tombs, twenty-nine inhumation burials and one charnel pit were revealed during the ground works. Natural chalk geology was encountered at a maximum height of 10.05m AOD, but had been entirely truncated in most areas during Phase 3 activity.
Project dates	Start: 17-11-2008 End: 22-04-2009
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	SJB08 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	3587 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 4 - Churchyard
Monument type	WALLS Medieval

Monument type HUMAN BURIALS Post Medieval

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Project location

Country England

Site location EAST SUSSEX LEWES LEWES St. John the Baptist Church, Sothover high street, Southover, Lewes, East Sussex

Postcode BN7 1JH

Site coordinates TQ 412 096 50.8680608130 0.00685889339468 50 52 05 N 000 00 24 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 9.47m Max: 9.47m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South East

Project brief originator Archaeology South East

Project design originator Mackellar Schwerdt Architects

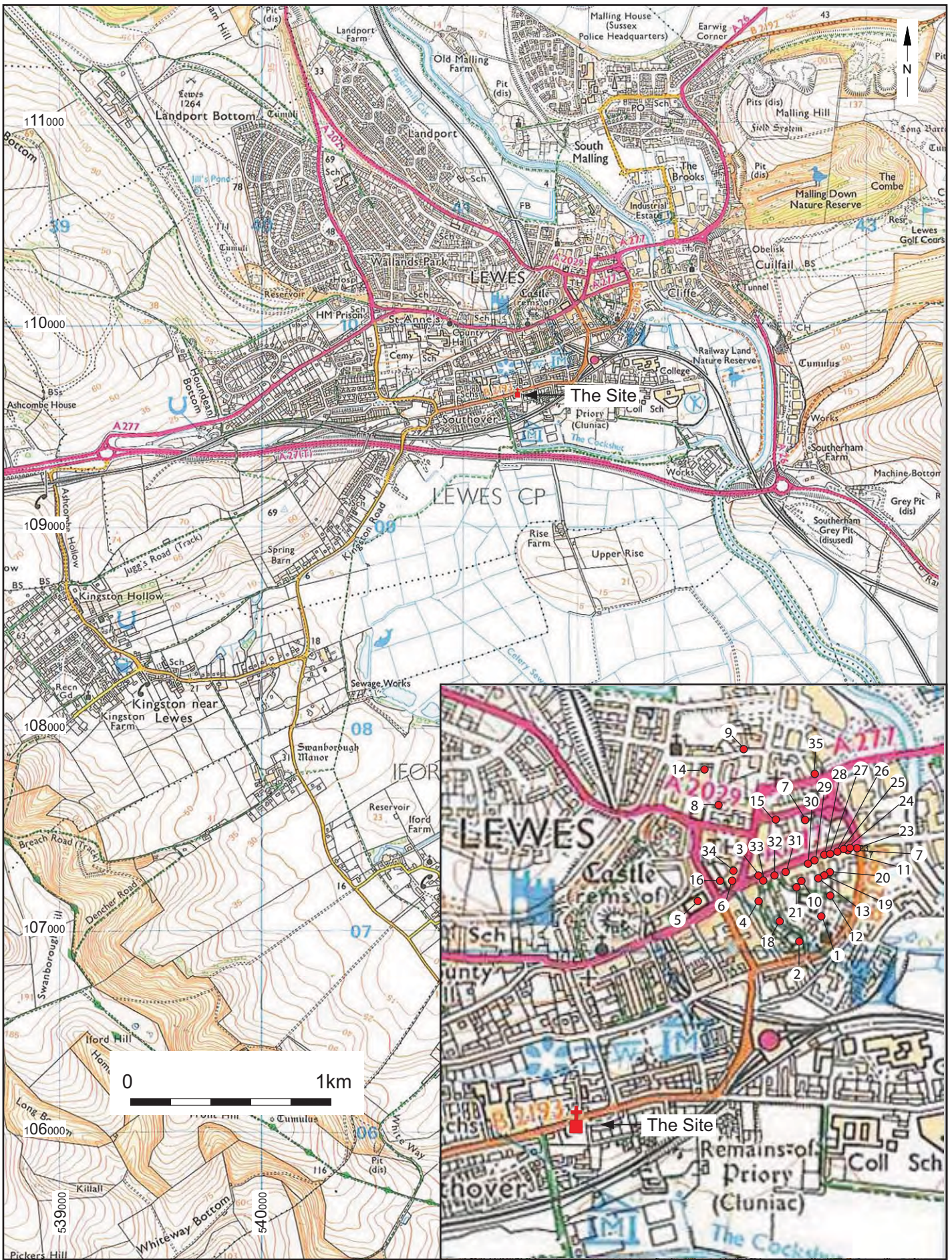
Project director/manager Darryl Palmer

Project supervisor Kathryn Grant

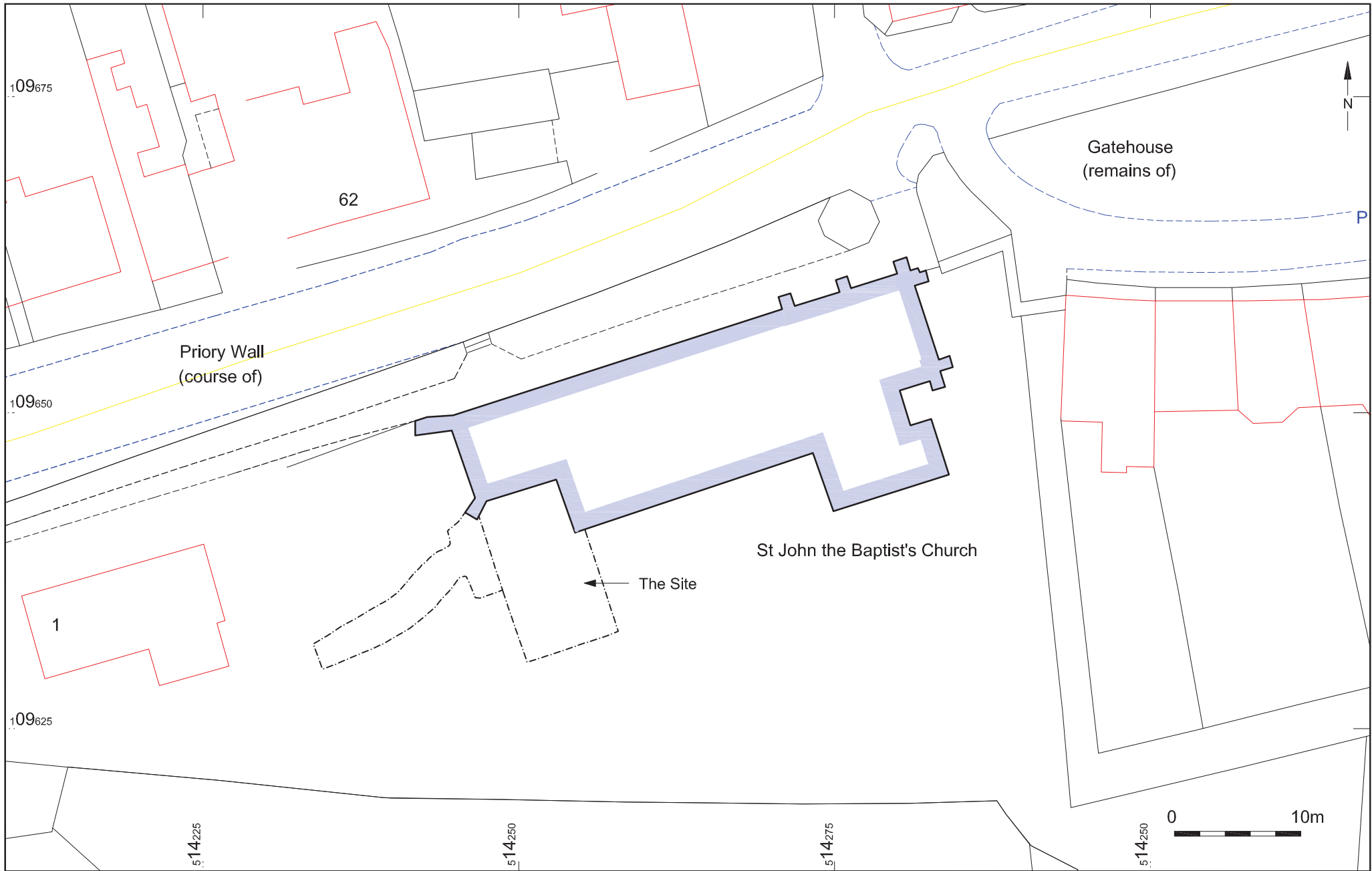
Type of sponsor/funding body Diocese

Entered by Kathryn Grant (Kathryn.Grant@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 26 May 2009



© Archaeology South-East		St John the Baptist Church, Southover, Lewes	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 3587	May 2009	Site Location Plan with HER data	
Report Ref: 2009017	Drawn by: HLF		



© Archaeology South-East		St John the Baptist Church, Southover, Lewes	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 3587	May 2009	Site Plan	
Report Ref: 2009017	Drawn by: HLF		



© Archaeology South-East		St John the Baptist Church, Southover, Lewes	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 3587	May 2009	Monitored Groundworks	
Report Ref: 2009017	Drawn by: HLF		



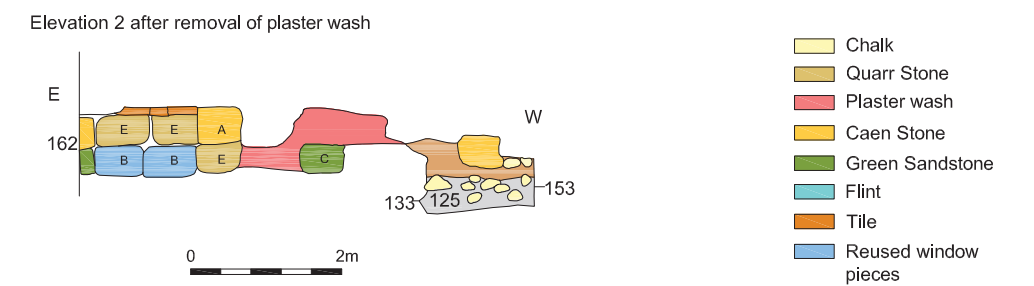
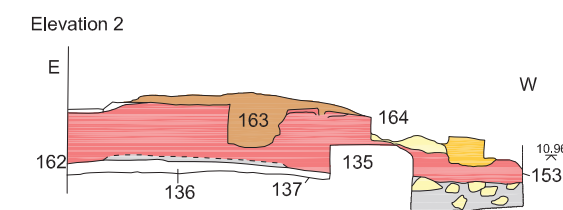
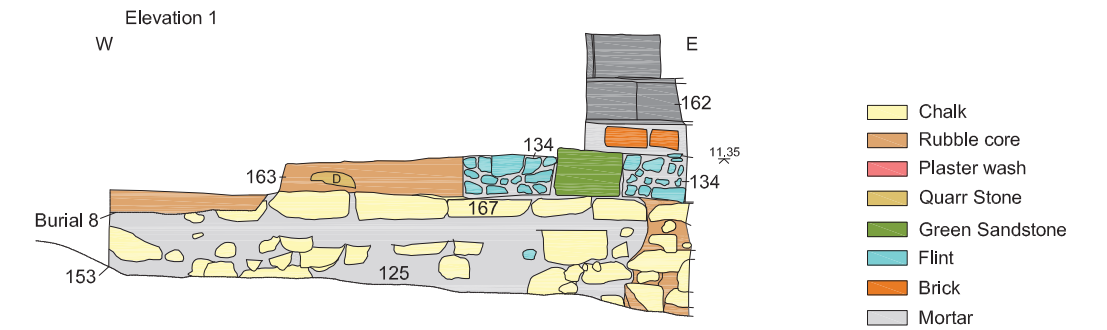
Photograph 4a

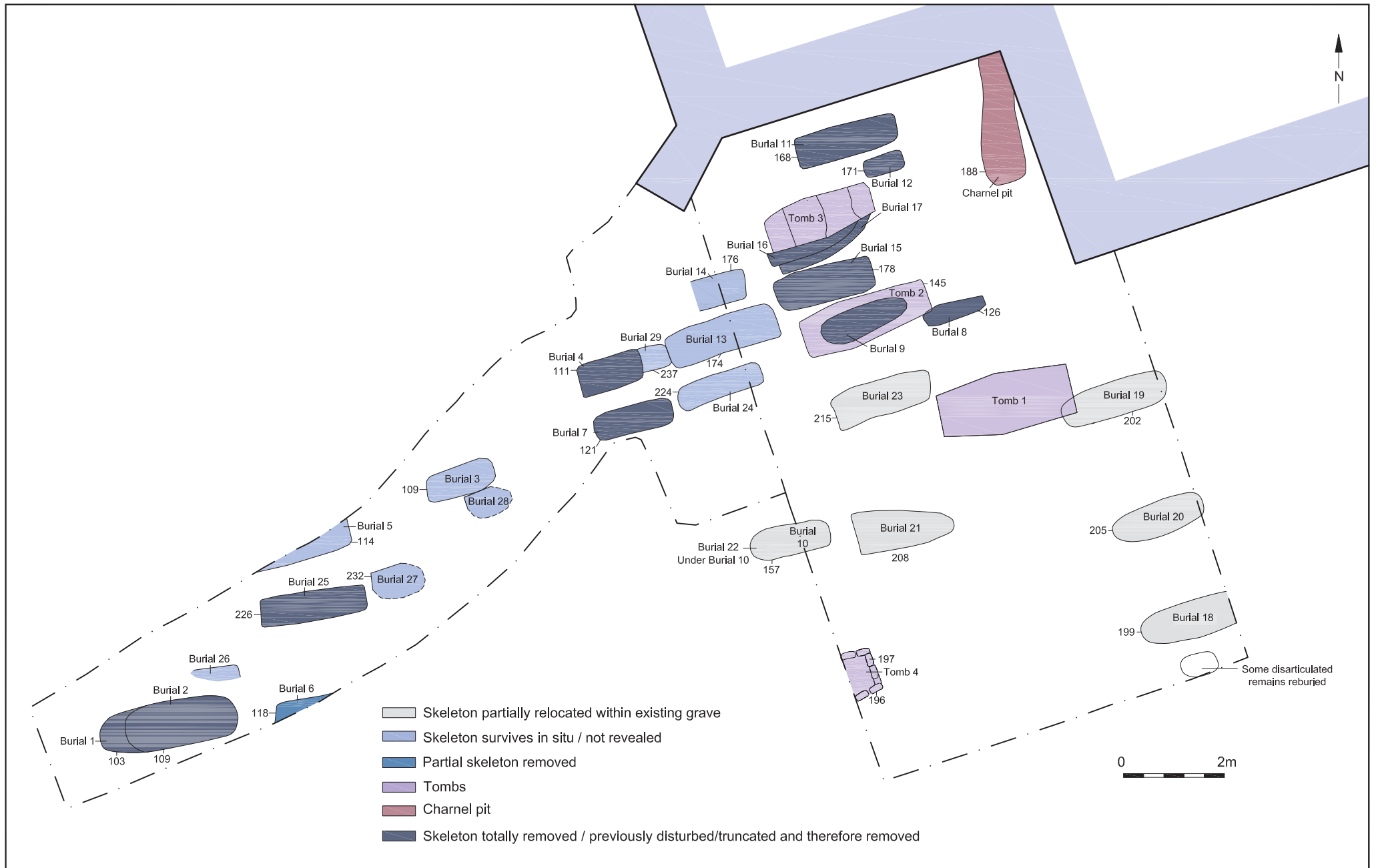
Photograph 4a

Photograph 4b

Photograph 4b



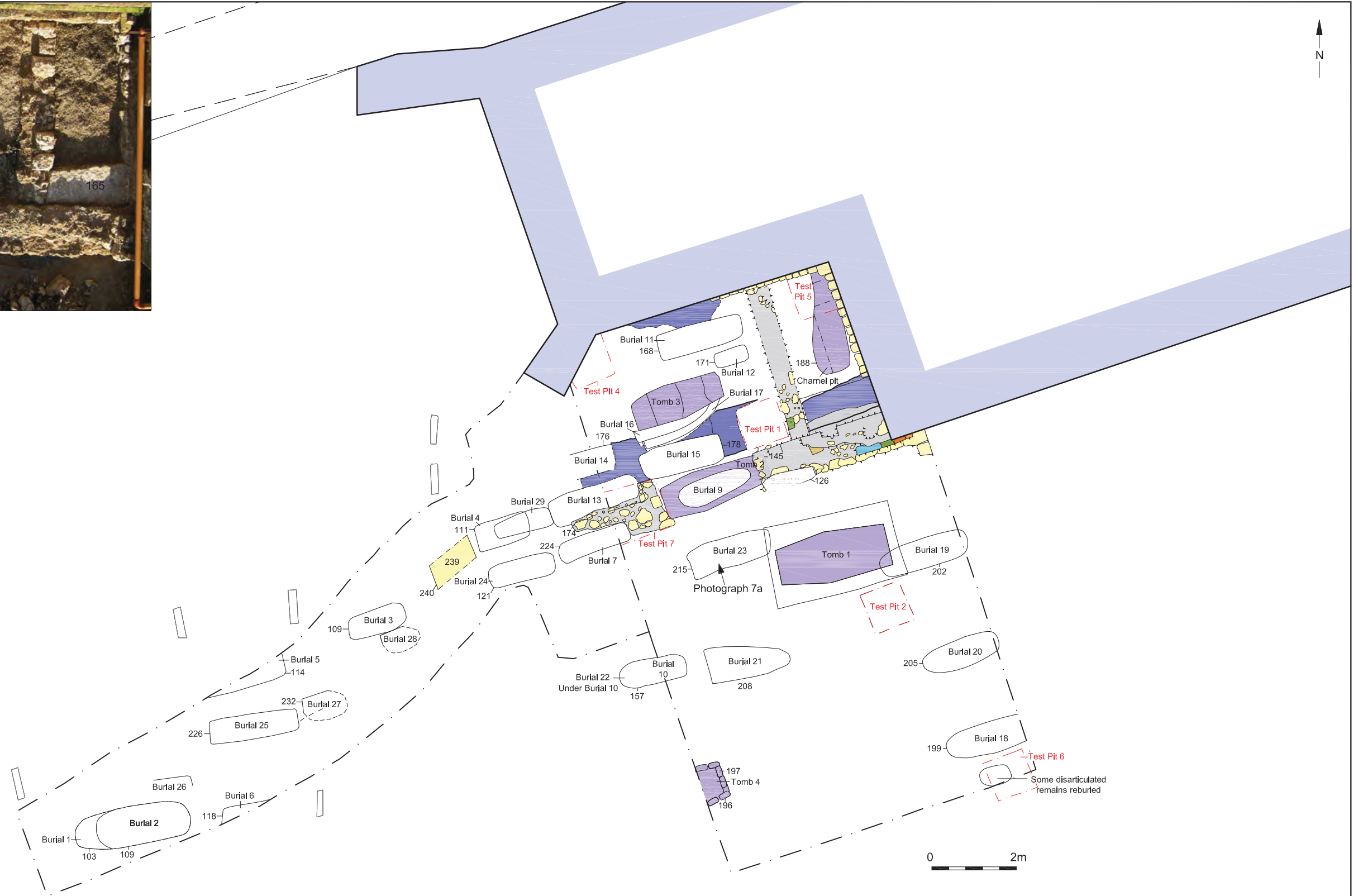




© Archaeology South-East		St John the Baptist Church, Southover, Lewes	Fig.6
Project Ref: 3587	May 2009	Phase 3	
Report Ref: 2009017	Drawn by: HLF		



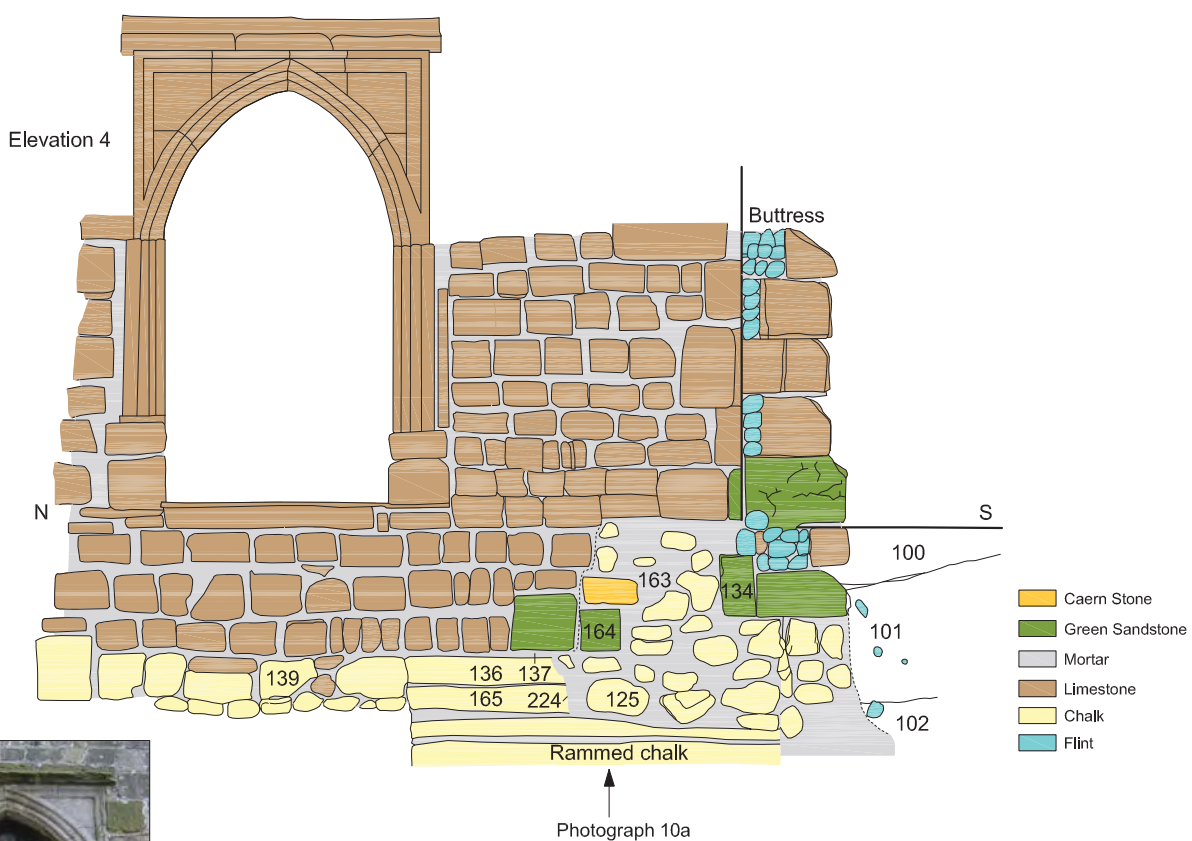
Photograph 7a



- Wall
- Chalk
- Mortar
- Green Sandstone
- Flint
- Brick
- Tombs & Chamel pit
- Test pits from previous archaeological work



Photograph 10a

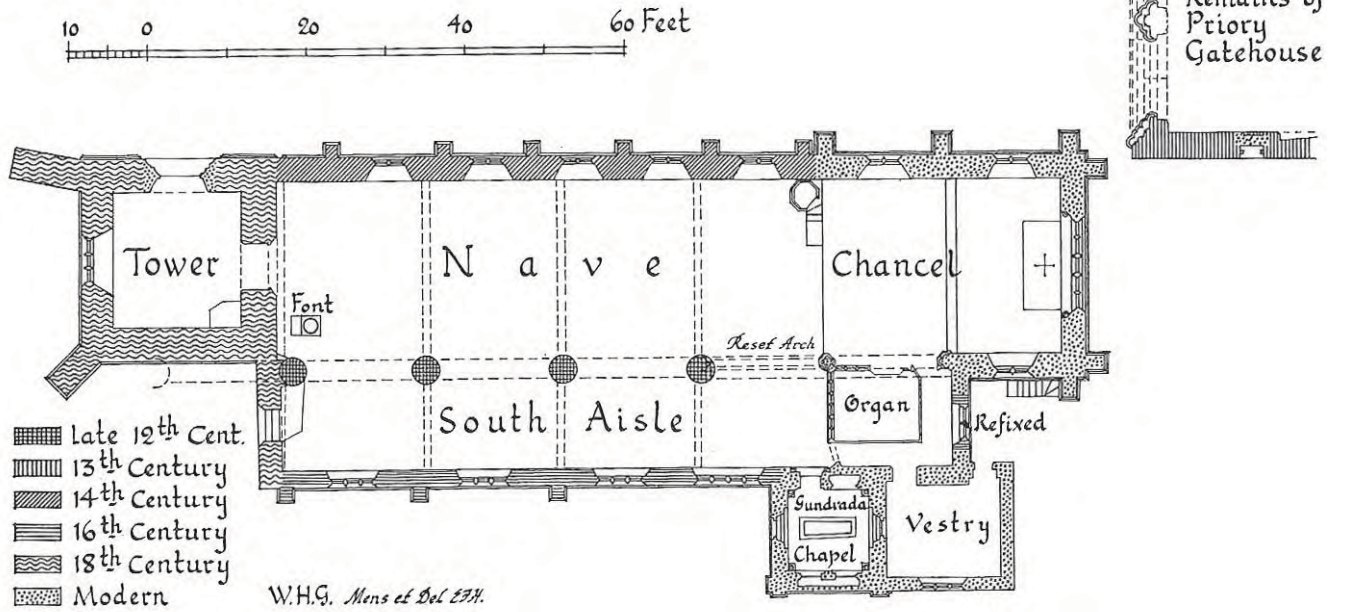


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© Archaeology South-East		St John the Baptist Church, Southover, Lewes	Fig. 8
Project Ref: 3587	May 2009	Elevation of South Aisle	
Report Ref: 2009017	Drawn by: HLF		

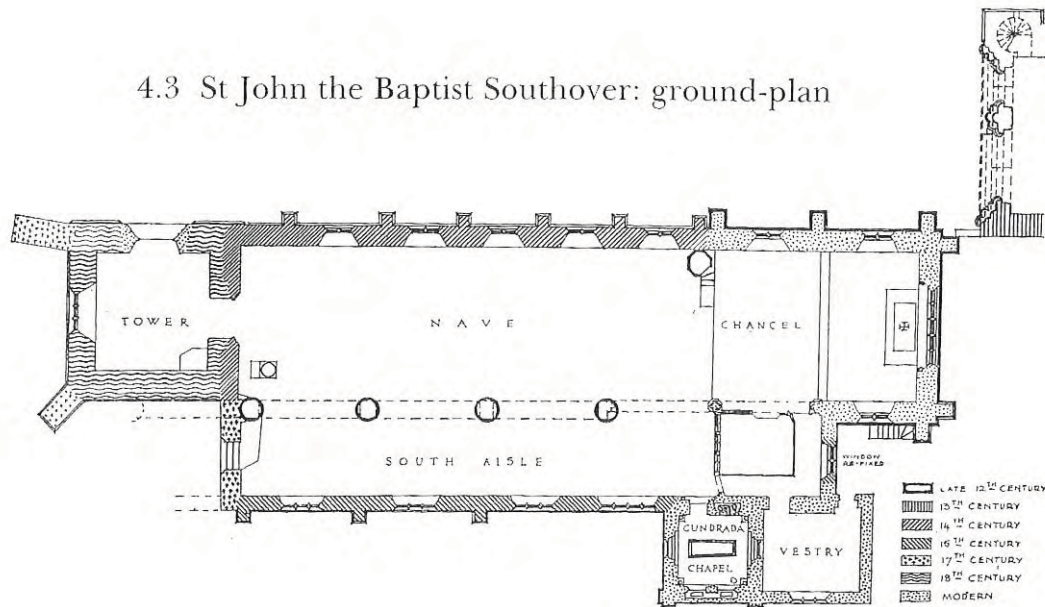


PARISH CHURCH of ST. JOHN *the* BAPTIST SOUTHOVER



Salzman, L (ed) 1973. The Victorian History of the Counties of England: Sussex. Vol. 7: the Rape of Lewes. Dawsons of Pall Mall, Folkestone and London.

4.3 St John the Baptist Southover: ground-plan



Brent, C. 2004- Pre-Georgian Lewes c.980-1714, the emergence of a country town. Lewes: Colin Brent Brooks.

© Archaeology South-East		Southover, Lewes	Fig. 10
Project Ref: 3587	April 2009	Plans of Church	
Report Ref: 2009017	Drawn by: HLF		

Head Office
Units 1 & 2
2 Chapel Place
Portslade
East Sussex BN41 1DR
Tel: +44(0)1273 426830 Fax:+44(0)1273 420866
email: fau@ucl.ac.uk
Web: www.archaeologyse.co.uk



London Office
Centre for Applied Archaeology
Institute of Archaeology
University College London
31-34 Gordon Square, London, WC1 0PY
Tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778 Fax:+44(0)20 7383 2572
Web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

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