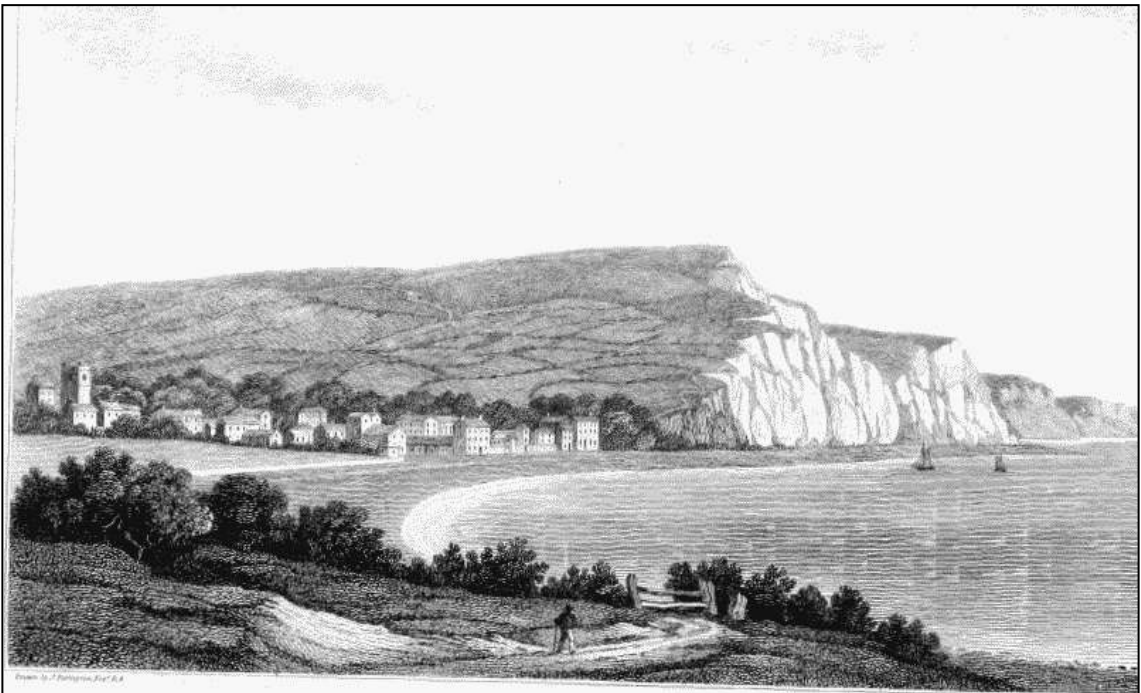


CHURCH of ST.GILES & ST.NICHOLAS SIDMOUTH DEVON

Results of an Archaeological Monitoring & Recording



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Church of St. Giles and St. Nicholas, Sidmouth, Devon

**Church of St. Giles & St. Nicholas
Sidmouth
Devon**

Results of an Archaeological Monitoring & Recording

For

John Scott

Of

Oliver West & John Scott Architects Ltd (the Agent)

By



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October 2015

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Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological monitoring and recording carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the Church of St Giles and St Nicholas, Sidmouth, Devon during ground works associated with an extension for welfare purposes on the north side of the tower and improved and associated drainage.

A substantial amount of ground disturbance had occurred through the 19th and 20th centuries.

Similarities of foundations in the north aisle to earlier identified interior foundations may indicate that the original c.14th century north aisle was longer than originally thought and indicates that the foundations were reused when the north aisle was rebuilt in the late 19th century.

Graves that pre-date the 15th century builds of the church appear to be on a more north-east by south-west alignment compared to the later burials, which include late 18th-mid 19th century 'barrel tombs'. These tombs are associated with weathered plaques on the north-west buttress of the tower (transcripts of the inscriptions are held by the church). Similar examples were uncovered in earlier excavations within the church. As discovered in the south transept in earlier archaeological work, infant burials are associated by close proximity to the structure of the church with at least one intact example by the north aisle and another of re-deposited remains against the tower.

Other than the northern section of the footing trench, the new extension to the church will leave archaeological features intact as the level of formation was within made-ground layers or on the horizon with the buried subsoil. The arched tops of the 'barrel tombs' were removed and the tombs capped over, leaving the remains within undisturbed.

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1.0 Introduction

Location:	Church of St. Giles and St. Nicholas
Parish:	Sidmouth
County:	Devon
NGR:	SY 12554 87374

1.1. Project Background

This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring and recording carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the Church of St. Giles and St. Nicholas, Sidmouth, Devon (Figure 1). The work was commissioned by John Scott of Oliver West and John Scott Architects Ltd. (the Agent) in order to record any buried archaeological features and deposits that would be affected by ground works associated with the contraction of an extension to the church and associated drainage works.

1.2. Topographical and Geological Background

Sidmouth is c.20km east of Exeter and south of the A3052, on the coast and predominantly on the western side of the River Sid. The Church of St. Giles and St Nicholas is in a central southern location of Sidmouth, immediately north of Church Street and c.169m from the coast to the south. The area subject to the proposed development is on a square of land between the north side of the tower and west end of the north aisle with a trench excavated along the north side of the church for the services. The site is at a height of c.8.83m AOD.

The site itself is within an area of urban development, however, the predominant local soils of this area are the reddish fine loamy or fine silty over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging of the Whimple 3 association (SSEW 1983); these overlie the sedimentary bedrock of the Otter Sandstone Formation, formed in the Triassic Period (BGS 2014).

1.3. Historical Background

Sidmouth (HER no.112079), in the Hundred of East Budleigh and Deanery of Aylesbeare is on the sea coast at the mouth of the river Sid, from which it takes its name. Sidmouth (Sedemude) is referred to in the Domesday Book as having a salt production site that belonged to Ottery St Mary, which had belonged to the church prior to the Norman Conquest and in 1086 had been granted by the king to the Church of Sainte-Marie of Rouen. The lands of Sidmouth are recorded by the Victorian antiquarian Peter Orlando Hutchinson as belonging to the nearer Domesday manor of Otterton, which before the conquest was held by Countess Gytha and was granted by William the Conqueror to the abbey at Mont St Michel in Normandy, who established a priory at Otterton. The earliest record in the priory's cartulary is dated 1175 and relates to a vicar at Sidmouth, William, indicating that a church existed at Sidmouth at this time. In the 13th century Sidmouth was a borough and market town governed by a portreeve. In the 15th century Sidmouth was passed to the Monastery of Syon until the dissolution when it was leased to Gosnell, Sir William Periam and Mainwaring. Its tithes were passed and sold between Mainwaring to the warden and fellows of Wadham College, Oxford and then after the land-tax redemption-act they passed to Rev. William Jenkins, who was incumbent of the vicarage. In the early 17th century Christopher Mainwaring Esq. sold the estate to Edmund Prideaux Bart. In 1778 it was sold to a Thomas Jenkins Esq., whose son of the same name held it in the early 19th century. Sidmouth was a famous fishing town, although the fisheries were declining in

the late 18th century, by which time the town grew rapidly as a regency resort through the late 18th and early 19th century. The character of the town, particularly the sea side esplanade, reflects this era, for which many of the buildings are now listed.

The Grade II* Listed parish church of St Nicholas and St Giles in Sidmouth (HER no.MDV11052) was confirmed in 1206 by Bishop Marshall to the Abbey Montis Sancti Michaelis in Periculo Maris (Abbey of St Michael in Normandy/ the church of St Michael's of Monte Tuba in France). The church, although being confirmed in 1206, seems to have been dedicated in 1259 by Bishop Walter Bronescope to St Giles. The St Nicholas' association comes from the register of the dedication in Exeter that states the event occurred the day after St Nicholas' day. The perpendicular tower was built in 1433 along with most of the church and the whole church other than the tower was rebuilt in 1859-60 by William White. It is constructed of local limestone with Bath stone dressings and slate roofs. The early church was probably built with stone from North Coombe Quarries, Salcombe Regis, while the 19th century rebuilding is likely to have used stone from South Down Quarry in the same parish. Parts of the original Norman church, predominantly the chancel, were utilized by P.O. Hutchinson in his house to the north-west. The Devon Heritage Centre has written and drawn records of alterations made to the church since the late 17th century, including the addition of the south aisle and William White's 1859-60 restoration, of which P.O. Hutchinson took photographs and made drawings. A detailed documentary history of the church was produced by Keystone Historic Building Consultants in 2002.

1.4. Archaeological Background

Archaeological evaluation and monitoring and recording were carried out inside the church in 2004 and 2009 by Stewart Brown Associates in advance of and during the re-ordering of the internal arrangements of the church and the replacement of the floor surface. In 2004 three small trenches were excavated in the church nave and crossing, both of which were rebuilt in the 1860's. These exposed mortared stone footings belonging to the south wall of the former medieval church chancel; an 18th or 19th century grave and a second possible grave cut; and a graveyard soil within the existing church, but to the south of the former medieval chancel. This soil contained numerous bones from disturbed infant burials and a single articulated skeleton of a one to two year old infant (Brown 2004). In 2007 a drainage ditch being excavated in the churchyard identified unstratified bone found above a previously laid drainage pipe (Glover 2007). In 2009 Stuart Brown Associates conducted archaeological monitoring and recording within the church during renovations pertaining to the floor. This excavation revealed wall foundations dating to the earliest stone church (possibly 12th century) and three later medieval phases. This early church and phases are likely to have first been comprised of nave, tower and sanctuary, to which transepts and later a north aisle were added. In the 15th century a chancel replaced the tower and sanctuary and the present tower was built at the west end. A south aisle was added in 1822. The majority of the medieval floor levels and stratified deposits associated with the foundations were removed during groundworks associated with the restoration of the church in 1859. The 2009 works also exposed six brick-vaulted burial chambers dating to the late 18th and early 19th centuries and a number of other grave cuts (Brown 2009).

The Devon Historic Environment Record (HER) lists five historical assets within the church; a World War II marble memorial plaque in the west porch (HER No.MDV107076); a 15th century stained glass window in the vestry depicting the wounds of Christ (MDV11053); a memorial to a William Blackwell, 1792, outside the south transept (MDV11054); the findspot of an 18th century church plate and flagon (MDV44014); and, a now missing, ancient octagonal font that was identified in a stone mason's yard in 1833 (MDV11055). Outside the church the HER lists; Sidmouth war memorial (MDV104394); a prehistoric, small round-ended thumb scraper findspot (MDV11008); a presumed pre-reformation burial ground belonging to the chapel identified in 1868 when drainage was being laid down and a large deposit of preserved human bones was disturbed at a depth of c.5-6ft

(MDV11067); and 15th-16th century stocks that were restored and displayed in the market and now the museum adjacent to the church. It also lists a number of Grade II Listed buildings, mostly 19th and 20th century in date adjacent to the church, including; The Anchor Inn to the east; Fortfield View and Numbers 6 and 7 Church Street to the south; and Amyatts Terrace, Hope Cottage (Sidmouth Museum), Harston and the War Memorial Service Men's Club to the west.

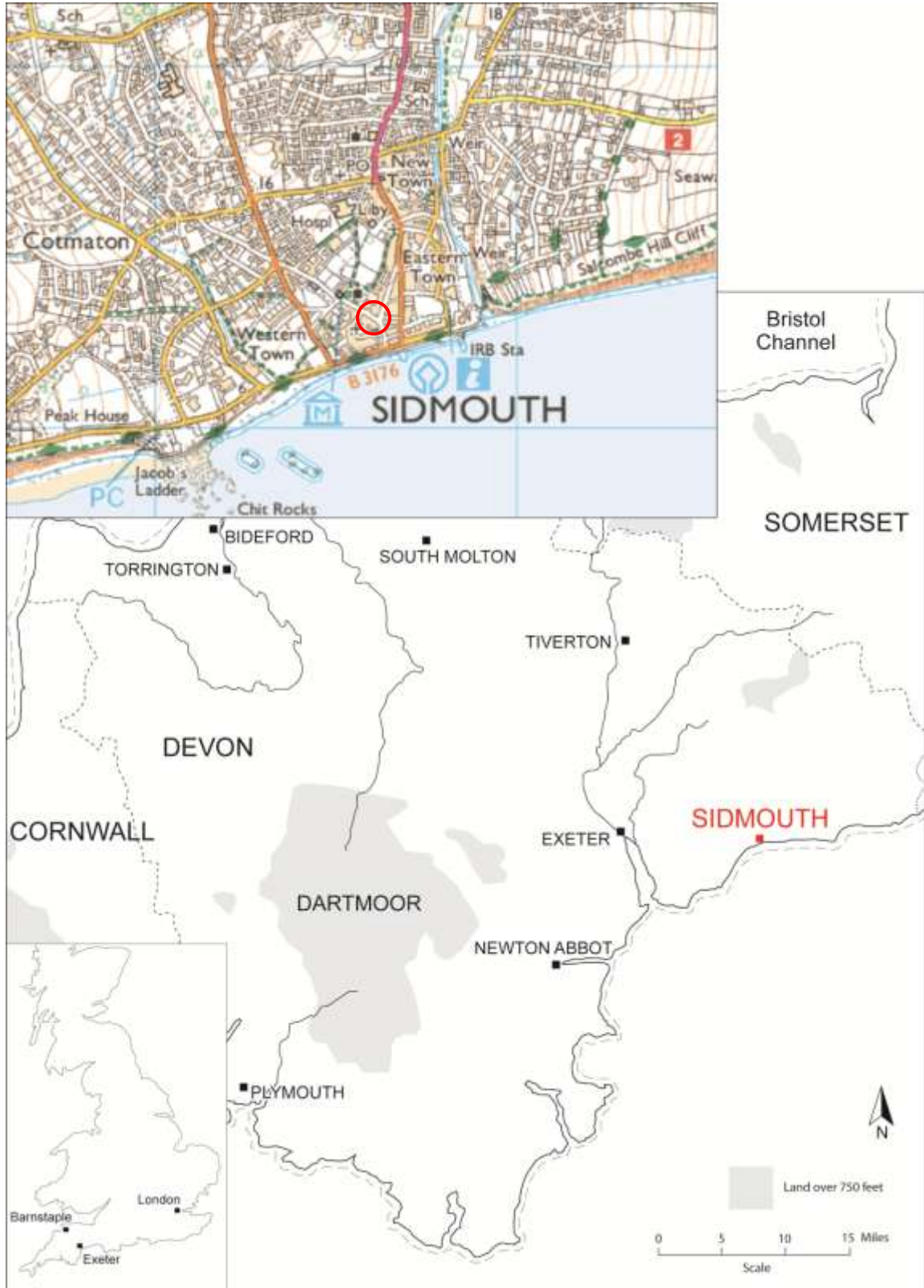


Figure 1: Site location (the site is circled in red).

1.5. Methodology

The archaeological monitoring and recording was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) devised in consultation with Stephen Reed of the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET) and The Reverend Martin Fletcher, the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (see Appendix 1).

A site visit was undertaken in May 2015, prior to works commencing to record and photograph the box tombs which were to be moved as part of the development. The archaeological monitoring and recording took place during September and October 2015. During the ground reduction the presence of two brick built 'barrel' tombs/vaults necessitated alterations to the intended foundations of the extension. The arched tops of these vaults had to be removed but the remains within were preserved *in situ* and the tombs capped. The process left the contents of the graves undamaged and relatively undisturbed and in good preservation within their original tombs. This work was undertaken by a 2.6 tonne tracked mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision to the depth of formation or *in situ* weathered natural using a toothless grading bucket. Grave cuts were recorded in plan and exposed archaeological deposits were excavated by hand and recorded in accordance with the WSI and ClfA guidelines. Levels in the area of the extension were tied into a known datum on the tower of the church, which was at a height of 8.83m AOD.

A site plan showing the location of the drainage trench, footing trench and reduced area can be seen in Figure 13.

2.0 Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

2.1. Introduction to the Monitoring and Recording

The groundworks subject to monitoring and recording included a 0.30m wide drainage trench along the footpath on the north-side of the church and reduction of the ground level in the area between the tower and the north aisle (c.5m×5m) and the excavation of footing trenches, up to 0.60m wide, in the same area (see Figure 13).

The drainage trench revealed at least ten grave cuts and two brick built tombs as well as a substantial amount of disturbed ground associated with earlier drainage schemes, services and groundworks.

Where possible the area designated for the extension to the church was reduced to the level of formation/over-dig level, c.0.50m below the proposed finished floor level. Where structures (brick-built vaults) were encountered they were reduced to just below finished floor level and capped in order to preserve the human and artefactual remains contained within in situ. Footing trenches for the external walls were also excavated to a relevant depth, such as the base of any abutting structures. In this area nine grave cuts were identified, including an infant burial and two brick built vaults/'barrel tombs'; one of which contained one/two burials; the other, four burials, including an infant. A number of disturbed skeletal deposits were also encountered close to the footings of the church and edges of the barrel tombs. An undated socket and modern features, including a stone plinth, concrete post, drainage, mortared slate surface, earth cables for the lightening conductor and made-ground layers were encountered. Foundations of the west end of the north aisle and north side of the tower were also exposed.

The natural across the site was made up of a band of mid yellow-red, compact clay that overlaid a mid brownish-yellow, compact rounded clay-gravel/stone.

A detailed context list can be found in Appendix 2 and a complete list of finds in Appendix 3. A complete set of supporting photographs can be seen in Appendix 5.

2.2. Site inspection

The area subject to the proposed development is located on the land between the north side of the tower and west side of the north aisle. A footpath runs across the north-west part of this area, the rest of which is covered in grass. Three chest tombs were aligned alongside the tower and three grave stones and a concrete slab were leaning against the north aisle. The western wall of the north aisle has been built against the north-east buttress of the tower and contains central stained glass window; the earth cable of the churches lightening conductor ran down the tower in the south-east corner of the site; and two plaques were attached to the western face of the north-west buttress of the tower.

The eastern chest tomb was the lowest, 0.40m high, and least fine with a modest engraved slab on top and side panels with beaded edges. It had a 0.16m thick base on top of a cement slab. The middle chest tomb was 1.10m high with inscribed panels on either side, of which the east facing panel is partially legible – *'Sacred/ In memory of/ John Dennis/ who died/.....'*. The panels had incised edges and beaded edges in their corners. The lid was broken and had rounded edges and corners with a pediment/step around the edge. The base looks like skirting with a bead design overlaid on a flat slab. The western chest tomb was the same as the middle one in style but slightly

lower as it had no base slab. In general it was also slightly less weathered. It was only inscribed on its western face – ‘*To the memory of/ Liza/ Wife of John Tuckwill/ of...*’.

Only a partial part of the southern grave stone was legible ‘*William Fa_c...*’

Church records transcribes the Plaques located against the tower thusly –

‘(a) *Thomas Hodge, died 8-9-1802, age 59/ (b) Grace Hodge, died 2-6-1823, age 73, widow of (a)/ (c) Thomas Stokes Hodge, died 26-5-1842, age 63, son of (a)/ (d) Mary Ann Hodge (nee Blake), died 12-12-1853, age 71, widow of (c)*’.

And

‘(a) *Ann Durrell Hodge, died 8-12-1836, age 21, wife of Thomas Stokes Hodge and daughter of late Capt. Leake of Belmont, Ireland and granddaughter of late Capt. Durrell, RN./ (b) Ann Durrell Hodge, died ?-1-1837, age 10 weeks, Daughter of (a)*’.

2.3. Drainage Trench

<i>Trench: 0.30x66m, aligned east to west (see Figure 13)</i>		
<i>Stratigraphy</i>		
<i>Context</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Description</i>
<147>	0.05-0.10m	Existing tarmac footpath and bedding layers.
(148)	0.06-0.12m	Bedding layers and old gravel footpath.
(149)	0.19-0.60m	Disturbed ground layers; including the existing pipe trench and/or a mid yellow-brown, friable sandy-silt with frequent slate and mortar.
(120)	0.35-0.51m	Subsoil. Graveyard soil: mid yellow-brown, friable-soft clay-silt with occasional medium rounded stones. Cut by grave cuts.
(119)	Below a depth of c.0.93m	Natural. Mid yellow-red, compact clay band over a mid brownish-yellow, compact rounded clay-gravel/stone.

Table 1: Stratigraphy in drainage trench.

The drainage trench totalled c.66m in length and was 0.30m wide. It was excavated from a service junction east of the church, through the footpath running around the north side of the church and connected to four down pipes along its course. The trench varied in depth according to the necessary fall of the drainage pipe and varying ground level and ranged between 0.83m and 0.95m. The majority of the drainage trench followed the course of a pre-existing drainage pipe that was replaced. For this reason the majority of the trench exposed disturbed soil layers.

At the eastern end of the trench were four service pipes (gas and possibly electric) and a brick built vault, c.3m in length, the outside edge of which was visible in the southern section of the trench. Beyond the eastern extent of the church, although much of the ground had already been disturbed, no grave cuts were identified. Over the next c.25m running westward were at least 10 grave cuts and a machine-made brick built vault, all orientated approximately east-west. It had white-washed walls with a black painted upper coarse and slate capping. The vault was 0.60m wide at its east/foot end, 2.25m long and was c.1.30m deep. Although it was not the width of two coffins it contained two skeletons apparently side by side. The vault was left in situ and unopened with the drain pipe passed through bore-holes made in either end of the vault. A second junction point was located east of the brick vault between which, c.5m of the trench, was disturbed ground associated with junction boxes and services located against the north side of the church. Subsoil (120) occurs and is cut by grave cuts from a depth of c.0.35m and bones within these graves become apparent at a depth of c.0.85m. The fill of the graves was typically mid grey-brown, soft clay-silts.

West of the brick vault, c.15m of the trench was not monitored. Most of this section was comprised of Disturbed ground (149), which occurred to a depth of at least 0.60m along the trench. However disturbed burials were frequently encountered and human bone was frequently encountered along the unmonitored section of trench. The extreme western end of the trench only revealed disturbed ground and did not go deep enough to reveal any archaeological features or grave cuts.

2.4. Area of Church Extension

<i>Area of church extension: c.5.85×6m (see Figures 13, 14 and 15)</i>			
<i>Stratigraphy</i>			
<i>Context</i>		<i>Depth</i>	<i>Description</i>
(111)	(100)	0.03m / 0.19m	Tarmac footpath on west half of area / Topsoil on east half of area.
(112)		0.03m	Tarmac bedding for Footpath (111).
(113)	(101)	0.05m/ 0.14m	Compact yellow stony layer beneath footpath / debris rich made-ground layer beneath topsoil.
(114)		0.05m	Grey gritty buried footpath.
(115)	{102}{103} (110)	0.04m / 0.15m	Yellow gritty bedding layer or old footpath beneath footpath / stone surfaces and mortar layers beneath (101).
(116)	(105)	0.14m	Made-ground layer, mid grey-brown, friable sandy-silt with frequent mortar and stone debris / (105) equates to (116) and (117) combined.
(117)		0.13m	Made-ground layer, mid brown, friable clay-silt with frequent slate rubble.
(106)=(109)		0.20m	Demolition layer, dark grey sandy-silt with abundant slate 'meal' and moderate mortar fragments and slate and stone rubble, then loose when broken slatey layer.
(118)		0.12m	Demolition layer, mid brown-grey, friable-soft clay-silt with frequent demolition grit.
(120)=(129)		0.35-0.51m	Subsoil, mid mottled reddish-yellow-brown, soft-firm clay-silt with occasional medium rounded stones and moderate roots, graveyard soil.
(119)		-	Natural, light-mid reddish-yellow compact clay band with occasional sand over a mid brownish-yellow, compact rounded clay-gravel/stone.

Table 2: Stratigraphy in area of church extension.

The stratigraphy in this area varied beneath the footpath, grass and in the southern half of the grassy area. In the grass area the whole area was overlaid by Topsoil (100), which overlaid Made-ground (101). Stone Plinth {104} was abutted by and within Made-ground (101). Made-ground (101) overlaid Surfaces {102} and {103} and Layer (110) in the eastern part of the area and across the rest of the site in overlaid Made-ground (105). Made Ground (105) overlaid Made-ground (106). Made-ground (106) overlaid Disturbed Subsoil (118), which overlaid Subsoil (120) in the eastern half of the area and Natural (119) in the western half of the area. Subsoil (120) overlaid Natural (119) and appeared to abut the north aisle Foundations {138}. Beneath the footpath in the extension area; the tarmac Footpath (111) overlaid a Bedding Layer (112). This overlaid a series of sequential gravel footpath surfaces (113), (114) and (115) from top to bottom. Layer (115) overlaid Made-ground (116), which overlaid Made-ground (117). Made-grounds (116) and (117) equate to Made-ground (105) and these overlaid Made-ground (106).

The grass covered section of this area was the first to be reduced. In this area Topsoil (100) overlaid Debris Layer (101), which was cut by a modern post. In the east section of this area Debris Layer (101) overlaid a mortary Layer (110) and mortared slate and stone Surfaces {102} and {103}. Surfaces {103} and Layer (110) had been disturbed and cut in places by modern features including a post and concrete slabs. Surface {102} was comprised of large stones laid into soil and bonded over with mortar to form a flat surface. The mortar contained human long bones. A large number of roof slates were included within the upper debris layers. These were typically 100-150mm×80-100mm with 5mm bore pegholes.



Figure 2: Site shot, mid-excavation showing stone plinth and barrel tombs; viewed from the north (1m scale).

Stone plinth {104} was 0.89m wide, 1.56m long and 0.60m thick (0.20m the fine finished top and 0.40m of a roughly bonded base/foundation). It was bonded together with a light-mid brown buff lime mortar with coal inclusions as in the masonry to the south mentioned above (Surface (102)). It had a relatively rough foundation and a squared upper section forming the plinth. Its eastern section was overlaid with concrete that held the grave stones against the north aisle in place. The top of Stone plinth {104} was 600mm higher than the ground level on the south side of the tower. To the north of Stone plinth {104} was Made-ground (105), 0.30m deep, a mixed brown earth, buff brown slightly silty-sand deposit with frequent flecks of mortar and slate fragments up to 50mm across and occasional animal bone (cattle teeth). Made Ground (105) equates to made-grounds (116) and (117) combined. Made-ground (105) overlaid Made-ground (106), a layer of soft slaty grey sandy-silt with frequent slate meal and moderate mortary fragments. Made-ground (106) abutted the north aisle (Figures 2 and 3).



Figure 3: Site shot mid excavation; viewed from the north-west (2m scale).

A sondage was excavated into the south-west corner of the area to establish the depth of the footings of the tower. The area between the barrel tombs and the tower had been disturbed. In this area Made-ground (109), which equated to Made-ground (106) overlaid disturbed/redeposited Subsoil (129) and Backfill (130). Backfill (130) appears to be re-deposited soil from previous drainage works that overlaid the top of the tower Foundations {137}. It contained a concentrated deposit of infant bones that indicates a disturbed/truncated infant burial. Subsoil (129), which may equate to Subsoil (120), overlaid Grave Fill (133), natural and the towers north-west buttress Foundations {136}. The north aisle foundations are shallower than the tower foundations and less well consolidated with a crumbly lime based mortar. The tower foundations generally have larger stone and are more densely packed in place with very little in the way of a buff sandy bond (see Figures 4 and 5).



Figure 4: Southern foundations of north aisle and grave cuts; viewed from the north-west (2m scale).



Figure 5: Foundations of north-western buttress to the tower; viewed from the east (1m scale).

When reduced to formation level nine graves were visible in the church extension area; [121], [123], [125], [127], [132], [139], [141], [143] and [145]. Some of these had been truncated by later groundworks and features including barrel tombs {107} and {108}. At formation level the grave cuts had been partially truncated to a level above the skeletal remains (e.g. Figure 6). In the footing trenches the graves were truncated to a greater depth, although some of these had already been disturbed by other grave cuts or later groundworks.



Figure 6: Grave Cut [121] and west facing section in central test pit; viewed from the west (1m scale).

Of the grave cuts there seem to be three general phases; an adult size grave, [141], which is the only one visibly cutting the compact gravel natural was orientated west-north-west by east-south-east. This was cut by an adult grave orientated west-south-west by east-north-east, which was in turn cut by the construction of the north aisle. The grave Cuts [123] and [132] were also orientated west-south-west by east-north-east and these were both cut by graves that were more closely aligned parallel to the church, approximately east-west. Grave Cut [123] was cut by Grave Cut [121] and Grave Cut [132] was cut by Barrel Tomb {107}. Where visible these adult grave cuts were between 0.65m and 0.80m wide. The western half of the site within the footings trench had mostly suffered ground disturbance to the formation level and the grave cuts became unclear and had been truncated. A large amount of re-deposited adult bones had been re-deposited between the Barrel Tomb {108} and the foundations of the tower. This is indicative of the truncation of earlier burials for the construction of the tomb. An infant burial, Grave Cut [139], 0.35m×0.56m was located against the west wall of the north aisle; an infant bone was noted near to the top of the revealed cut. South of this was grave cut [127], which may be a truncated more shallow grave or a truncated infant burial based on its size, although no remains were present in the fill. Infant remains were identified that had been re-deposited against the foundations of the tower and its north-west buttress. These had most likely been disturbed during maintenance to the drainage.

2.4.1. The Barrel Tombs – Detailed Description

Due to the desire to avoid disturbance to the barrel tombs and avoid potential contamination from the degrading lead coffin in Barrel Tomb {108} best observations and measurements were made without fully entering the tombs. A detailed hand annotated site sketch of the barrel tombs can be seen in Appendix 4.

Barrel Tomb {108} abutted the footings of the north-east buttress of the tower. These footings had been rendered over. The tomb was 1m deep to floor level with an additional 0.40m above within the arch of the 'barrel' vault roof and 2.15m by 1.86m wide. The entrance to the tomb was in the north end of its west wall. This had been bricked-up during the use of Barrel Tomb {107}. The internal walls of Barrel Tomb {108} had been lightly plastered or heavily white-washed. A short wall, one brick wide and bowing out to the north (coffin-shaped) spanned the floor of the tomb from east to west. From this, six flat iron bars ran to the north and south walls of the tomb (three on each side). The southern bars were c.0.05m wide and the northern bars were c.0.08m wide and c.0.12m thick. They did not run parallel/perpendicular to the tomb structure. These bars supported a lead coffin in the middle of the chamber. The lead coffin was relatively plain with hatched scoring on its north side. A wooden coffin appears to have been placed above the lead coffin, which may have warped (depressed) the lead coffin beneath and broken its lid. The wooden coffin is now represented by a number of rivets, iron coffin handles and degraded wood fragments. There appeared to be some pale leather on these upper coffins that may have been an interior trim. A roof slate was on the iron bar in the north-west corner on which the footprint of a small child's coffin could be seen. A similar slate overlaid with decayed wood and possible textile could be seen in the south-east corner. Below the iron bars on either side of the bowed wall were the remains of wooden coffins, including rivets and a cranium on the south side of the wall. North of the bowed wall a burial chamber had been excavated into the base of the tomb, which was spanned by three iron bars and had soil overlaying it and infilling it along with coffin wood. Bricks were also noted to the side of this chamber that may have raised an overlying coffin. A copper alloy 'goblet', c.0.08m×0.15m, was observed at the western end of the chamber and left undisturbed, in situ. The chamber walls were built of a single line (stretcher bond) of soft, but well prepared hand-made brick. The arch was two bricks thick in a Flemish bond, although was thinner near the entrance. They had been bonded in a hard brittle light grey mortar.

Barrel Tomb {107} abutted Barrel Tomb {108} and the foundations of the north-west buttress of the tower. It was 1.10m deep, 1.18m wide and 2.8m long. The west wall of the tomb uses the end of Barrel Tomb {108} and uses frogged bricks bonded in a harder pink-grey mortar to seal the entrance to Barrel Tomb {108}. The entrance in the western end of the tomb was blocked from the floor level with brick then a large stone slab above. The floor of the tomb appeared to be concrete, although most of the footprint was obscured as a brick built tomb with mortared slate lid, which supported a coffin, took up most of the footprint. The coffin was mostly decayed and had included copper alloy fittings and shield. Four iron rings for flower arranging were also visible. The skull was visible and coffin handles that had fallen to the side of the tomb. The walls of the tomb were lightly white-washed. The top of the extreme west end of the tomb had been removed and flat slate slabs overlaid during the construction of the church path (See Figures 7 to 12).

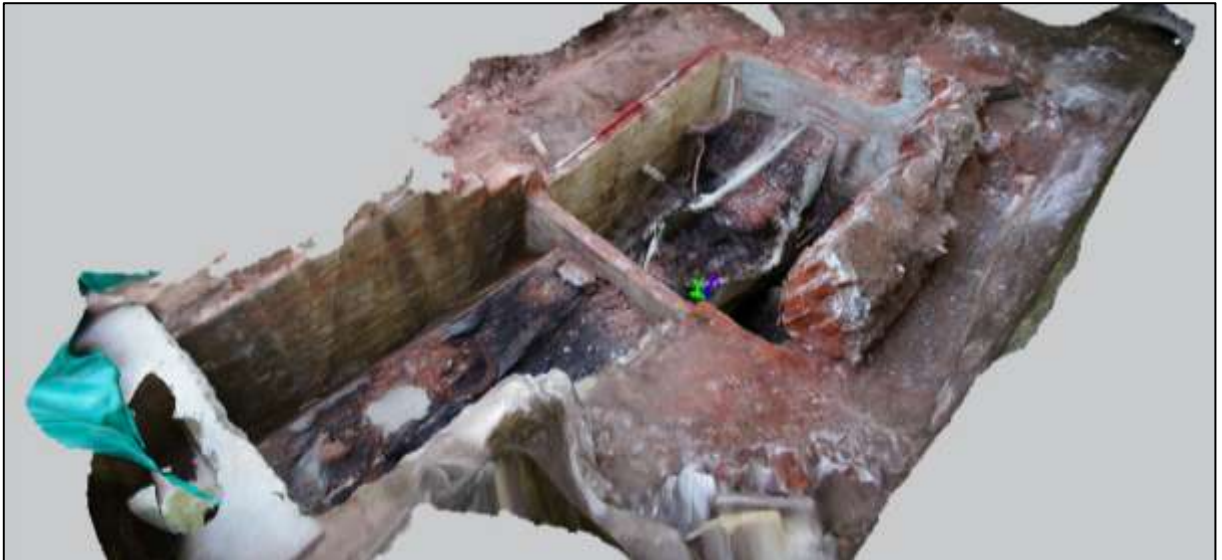


Figure 7: 3D Composite Photograph of Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from the south-west (2m scale).



Figure 8: Barrel tomb {107}, opened; viewed from the north (1m scale).



Figure 9: Barrel tomb {108}, opened; viewed from the north (1m & 2m scale).



Figure 10: 3D Composite Photograph of Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from the north-east (2m scale).



Figure 11: 3D Composite Photograph of Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from the east (1m & 2m scale).



Figure 12: 3D Composite Photograph of Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from above and the north (1m & 2m scale).

Church of St. Giles and St. Nicholas, Sidmouth, Devon

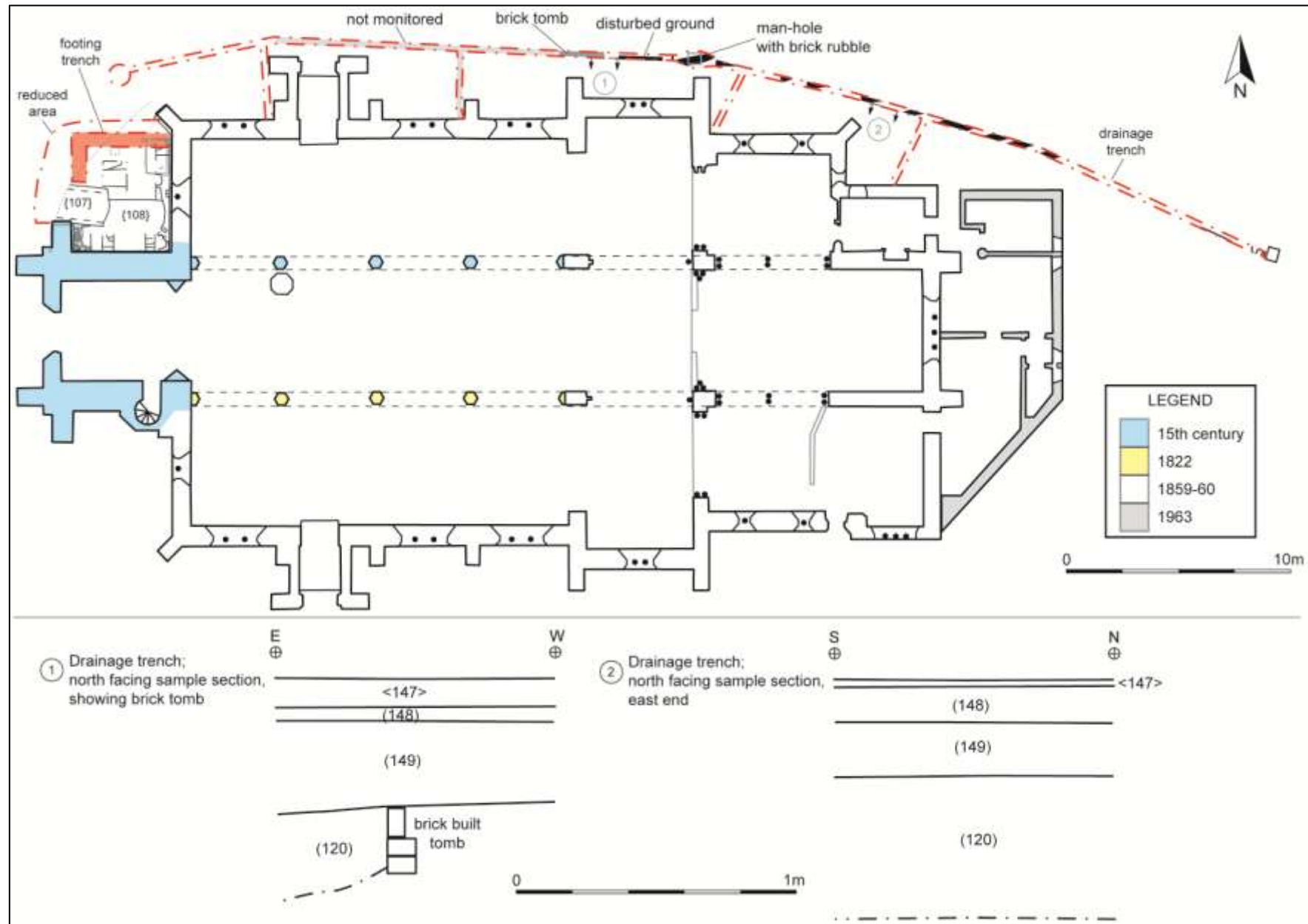


Figure 13: Site plan; showing location of drainage trench with sample sections and located features/grave-cuts, footing trench and reduced area.

Church of St. Giles and St. Nicholas, Sidmouth, Devon

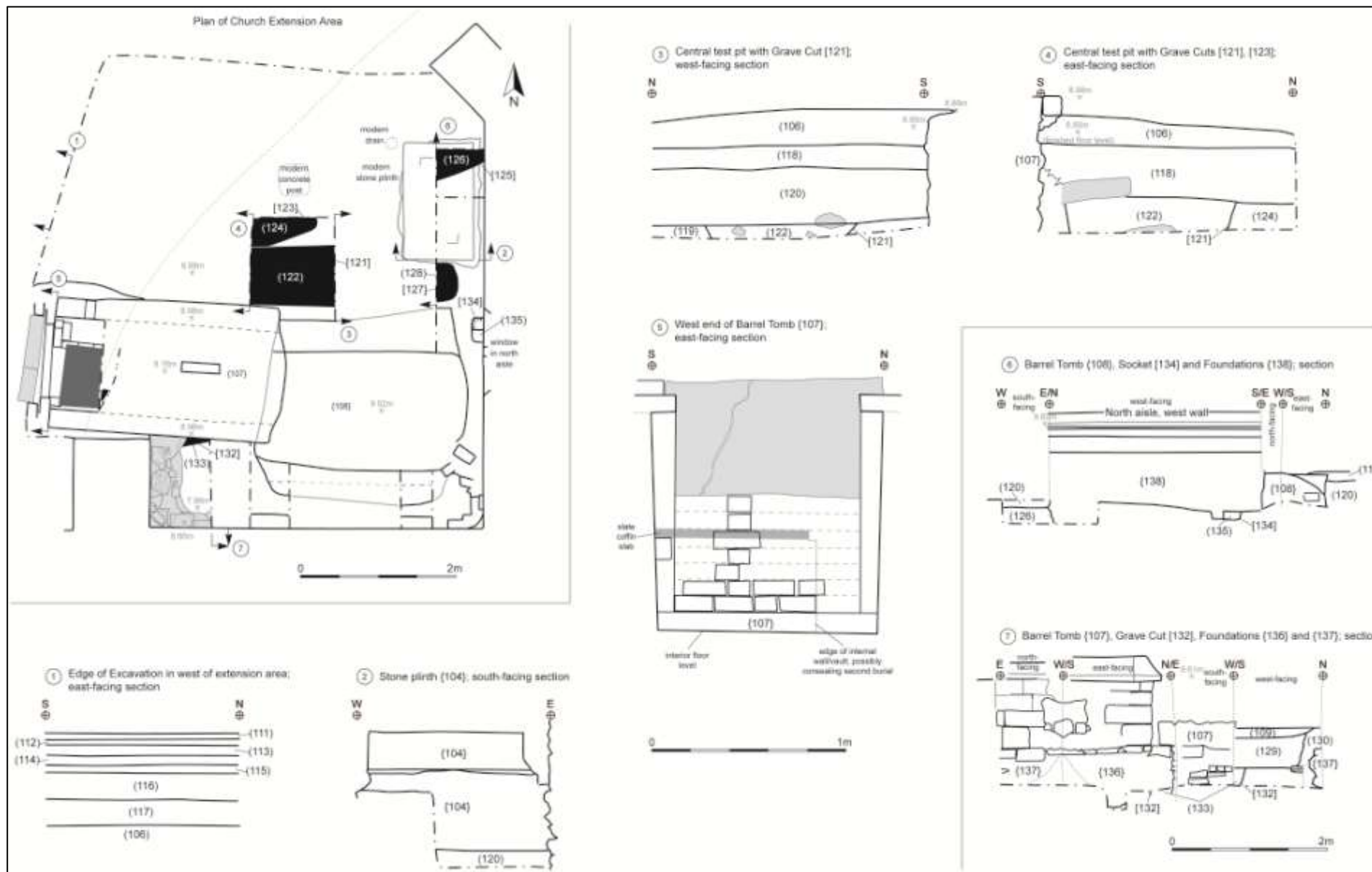


Figure 14: Area of church extension, mid-excavation; plan and section drawings.

Church of St. Giles and St. Nicholas, Sidmouth, Devon

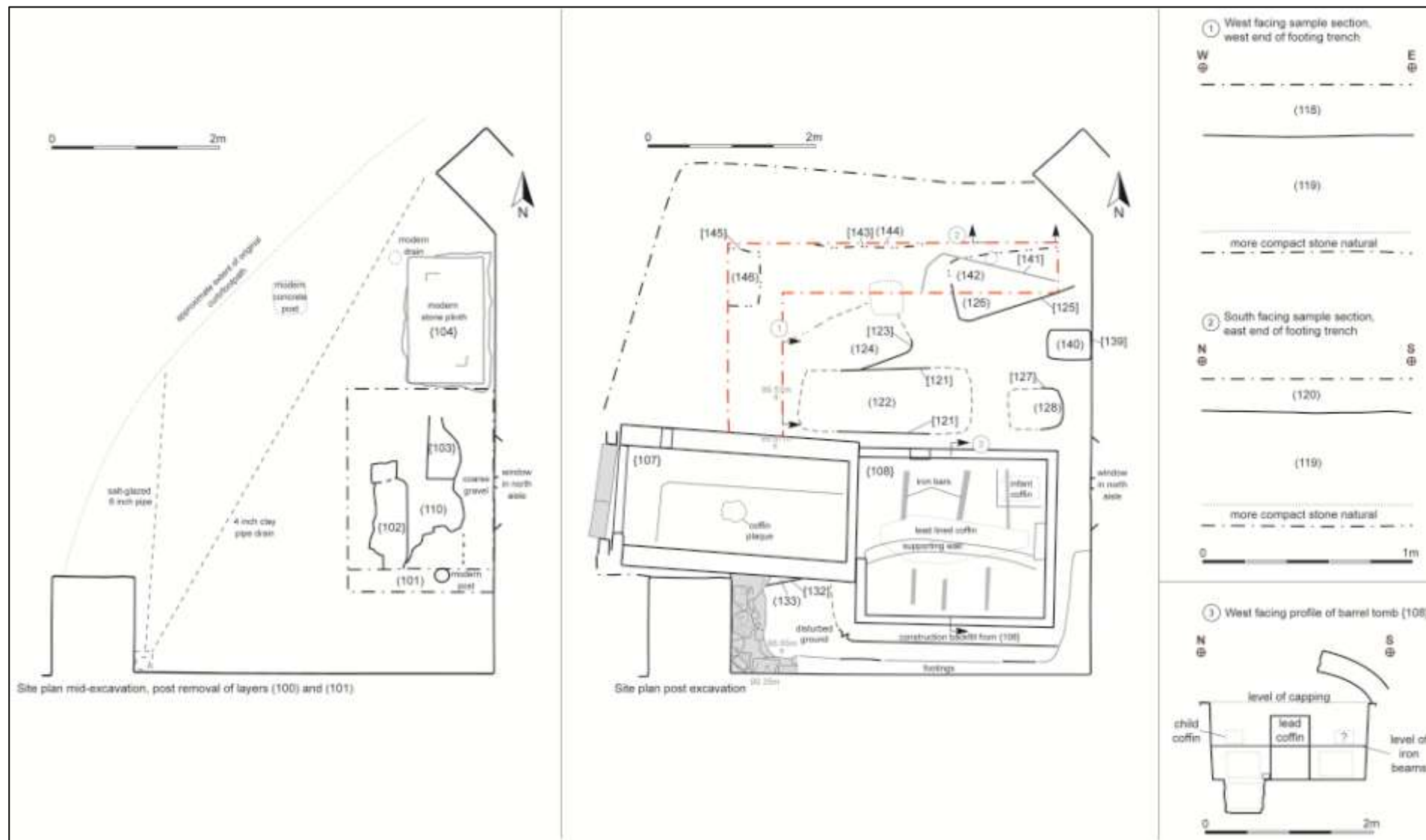


Figure 15: Early mid-excavation plan of church extension area and post-excavation plan, including post-excavation profile and section drawings.

2.5. Finds Summary

Very few stratified finds were recovered during the evaluation. Most of the material culture on site consisted of building debris and rubble within the made ground layers above the subsoil layers, which themselves had been disturbed. A detailed finds concordance can be found in Appendix 3.

The unstratified finds were recovered from the overlaying made-ground layers, most of which had been disturbed by modern drainage, a lightning conductor plate and rods and posts and pads. These finds included 16th-19th century pottery (×5 sherds, 117g), roof and floor tiles, slate fragments including roof slates, oyster shell, a glass marble and a wooden object. Subsoil (120) contained; ×2 fragments (11g) of clay pipe stem (one 18th century), ×1 oyster shell (7g), ×1 fragment (26g) of glazed floor tile, ×1 fragment (289g) of South Somerset type ridge tile and ×1 sherd (1g) of 17th century Bristol and Staffordshire yellow glazed ware. Subsoil (129) contained ×1 sherd (22g) 18th century South Somerset ware pottery and ×1 fragment of floor tile.

The unstratified finds are indicative of a site that has seen groundworks and disturbance from the 16th century to the present day. The subsoil appears to have been buried after later developments to the church.

3.0 Discussion and Conclusion

3.1. Discussion

3.1.1. Drainage Trench

Firstly the Drainage trench identifies a possible ancient eastern boundary to the graveyard. Although a possible tomb is built east of the modern east extension to the church, no grave cuts were discernible east of this end of the church and it may have always been a parcel of land associated with the/a property immediately north-east of the church. However, the majority of this section of the drainage trench was excavated through disturbed ground and followed the line of an existing pipe trench. Any human remains may have already been removed. Regardless, no grave cuts were apparent in the base of the trench. At least ten grave cuts were identified within the trench, each aligned approximately east-west and a single brick built tomb, for which an adjacent grave slab, just off of the footpath seems to be a likely candidate for its grave marker. It was not legible during the site visit.

3.1.2. 19th and 20th Century Surfaces

Plinth {104} is probably associated with a pad for a stair case that is shown on a plan of the church in 1822 and the pre-renovation 1859 plan by Hutchinson. It appears to have been removed during the late 19th century renovations and layers that seal and abut it also directly overlaid the relatively modern surfaces {102}, {103} and (110). These may have equated to pads or bases for the grave monuments/chest tombs, moved to this location c.1920 from the site of the War Memorial. Surface {102} contained human bone in its mortar, which indicates it disturbed earlier deposits and that it was perhaps installed in a hurry with little reverence. That these surfaces are sealed by the made-ground layers that seal plinth {104} re-affirms that they had to be buried in the late 19th century or later.

Demolition layer (118) and Made-ground (106) were laid down between or after the construction of the barrel tombs as they either abut or partially overlay these. These layers may be related to early 19th century maintenance associated with the staircase depicted on an 1822 plan of the church or represent made-ground that abuts earlier features such as the barrel tombs and wall foundations relating to the substantial 1859-60 renovations.

Any layers above (106) will have been laid down in the late 19th century renovations (1859-60) or later.

3.1.3. Foundations

The lack of discernible construction cuts and construction cut backfill for the foundations suggests that the foundations fully fill their respective cuts and that the ground around them has been disturbed, removed and re-deposited. In some areas excavations for graves and drainage will have truncated earlier deposits that were cut to build the walls. Multiple phases of build (see Brown 2009) itself will have disturbed the ground.

The tower was built in the 15th century and has clearly different and more substantial foundations than those revealed from the 12th-14th phases during interior church ground works (see Brown 2009). The north aisle clearly abuts the buttress of the tower, therefore was constructed

sometime later in or after the 15th century. However, the foundations of the north aisle, which included Salcombe stone and large pebbles and lime mortar, are similar in form, style and construction to the earlier phases of the church. Based on photographs in Brown's 2009 report the 13th century foundations are the most similar. It may be that the 14th century north aisle was longer than originally interpreted from the evidence within the church or that the foundations were simply re-used in the later 15th century north aisle that abuts the tower. In either case it appears probable that the 19th century renovations re-used the existing footings. This re-use may explain the relatively poor consolidation of the foundations of the north aisle.

3.1.4. Cut Graves

Of the graves identified in the area of the church extension three are aligned more north-east by south-west than true east-west. All of these occur beneath the subsoil; one is cut by the tower foundations and a barrel tomb; one is cut by the north aisle foundations and a later east-west orientated grave; the last is also cut by a later east-west aligned grave. As the tower was built in the 15th century and all of these graves are cut by later features and of the same alignment they are probably from a 14th century or earlier phase of the church.

The infant burials that are intact respect the existing walls of the church and the disturbed deposits of infant remains indicate a shallow depth in some instances. These burials are all post 15th century. In 2004 and 2009 (Brown) post-medieval infant burials were uncovered in the south transept that dated to before the area was enclosed by the 19th century building. Most of these examples were disarticulated and the graves had been frequently cut through by later graves. That the examples north of the tower are fewer reflect that the area south of the transept was the predominant burial ground for infants, and that the north side of the church was the less popular side on which to bury ones loved ones.

3.1.5. Barrel Tombs

The eastern barrel tomb, {108}, was the earliest of the two barrel tombs. Similar hand-made 'brick-vaulted chambers' were identified inside the church in 2009 (Brown) that were dated to the late 18th and early 19th centuries. These vaults contained lead coffins, of which some had wooden outer coverings. It is possible that the lead coffin in Barrel Tomb {108} was wood lined and warped naturally over time. The larger of vaults inside were designed to hold four coffins, two tiers of two. Barrel Tomb {108}, contained four adult burials and a child burial; which would coincide with one of the plaques on the north-west buttress of the tower that is dedicated to the Hodge family.

The western barrel tomb, {107} abutted and partially overlaid Barrel tomb {108} and is more likely from a later phase of these constructions; probably the early-mid 19th century. The later possible date is indicated by the frogged bricks and quality of mortar bonding. A second plaque adjacent to the one mentioned above, on the north-west buttress of the tower is dedicated to further members of the Hodge family. As in the case of Barrel Tomb {108} this would conveniently marry-up with the evidence at hand.

Both tombs abut builds of the church and cut 18th century subsoils'. Barrel Tomb {108} was partially overlaid by Made-ground (106), which would imply that this surface was laid down in the in the 19th century, perhaps at a time associated with the staircase or later. Any later layers would be associated with the 1859-60 renovations to the church.

3.2. Conclusion

The archaeological monitoring and recording revealed a substantial amount of made-ground layers associated with phases of redevelopment of the church in the 19th century.

The graveyard may never have extended beyond the north-east limit of the church yard, although frequent disturbed ground from earlier drainage makes drawing significant conclusions from observations of the drainage trench tentative at best.

Similarities of foundations in the north aisle to earlier identified interior foundations may indicate that the original c.14th century north aisle was longer than originally thought and demonstrates that the foundations were reused when the north aisle was rebuilt in the late 19th century.

Graves that pre-date the 15th century builds of the church appear to be on a more north-east by south-west alignment compared to the later burials, which include late 18th-mid 19th century 'barrel tombs'. These tombs are associated with weathered plaques on the north-west buttress of the tower (transcripts of the inscriptions are held by the church). Similar tombs were uncovered in earlier excavations within the church.

As noted in earlier archaeological work in the south transept, infant burials are associated by close proximity to the structure of the church with at least one intact example by the north aisle and another of re-deposited remains against the tower.

Other than the northern section of the footing trench, the new extension to the church will leave archaeological features intact as the level of formation was within made-ground layers or on the horizon with the buried subsoil. The arched tops of the 'barrel tombs' were removed and the tombs capped over, leaving the remains within undisturbed.

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Brown, S. 2009: *St Nicholas and St Giles Church, Sidmouth, Archaeological Monitoring and Recording* (Report – Monitoring and Recording).

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Appendix 1

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING AT ST. GILES AND ST. NICHOLAS, SIDMOUTH, DEVON.

Location: St. Giles and St. Nicholas
Parish: Sidmouth
County: Devon
NGR: SY 12554 87374
Planning Application no: 13/2659/FUL
Proposal: Single Storey extension to church to provide WC accommodation
Date: 19th February 2015

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document forms a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been produced by South West Archaeology (SWARCH) at the request of John Scott of Oliver West and John Scott Architects Ltd (the Agent). It sets out the methodology for archaeological monitoring and recording to be undertaken during all groundworks associated with the construction of the extension to the church and the associated drainage works, and for related off site analysis and reporting. The WSI and the schedule of work it proposes were drawn up in consultation with Stephen Reed of the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).

1.2 In accordance with paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework (2012)*, and the Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, consent has been granted, conditional upon a programme of archaeological work being undertaken. Condition 5 requires that:

No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the approved scheme, or such other details as may be subsequently agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

To ensure that an appropriate record is made of archaeological evidence that may be affected by the development in accordance with Policy EN7 (Nationally and Locally Important Archaeological Sites) of the East Devon Local Plan.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Medieval manor of Sidmouth formed part of a large estate centred on nearby Otterton. The estate was granted by William the Conqueror to the abbey at Mont St Michel in Normandy, who established a priory at Otterton to oversee their property. The earliest surviving record preserved in the priory's catulary is dated 1175 and relates to a vicar at Sidmouth, one William, who was to pay an annual rent to the prior for a small landholding which demonstrates there was already a church in Sidmouth by this time. Fragments of the Norman structure were recovered and recorded during the Victorian restoration.

The church was formally consecrated in 1259 and dedicated to St. Giles. The association with St. Nicholas appears to have arisen from a misunderstanding of the consecration record in the Bishop's Register in Exeter, which records that the ceremony occurred the day after St. Nicholas' day.

The Devon Heritage Centre has written and drawn records of alterations made to the church since the late 17th century, including the addition of the south aisle and William White's 1859-60 restoration.

A documentary history of the church was produced by Keystone Historic Building Consultants in 2002. Archaeological evaluation and monitoring and recording was carried out in 2004 and 2009 by Stewart Brown Associates in advance of and during the re-ordering of the internal arrangements of the church and the replacement of the floor surface.

3.0 AIMS

3.1 The principal objectives of the work will be to:

- 3.1.1 To monitor groundworks associated with the development to allow any exposed archaeological deposits to be investigated and recorded.
- 3.1.4 To analyse and report on the results of the project as appropriate.

4.0 METHOD

4.1 Comprehensive archaeological monitoring and recording (present during all groundworks):

All groundworks will be undertaken by a 360° tracked or wheeled JCB-type mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket where possible, **under the supervision and control of the site archaeologist**, to the depth of formation, the surface of *in situ* subsoil/weathered natural or archaeological deposits whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence. Should archaeological deposits be exposed, machining will cease in that area to allow the site

archaeologist to investigate the exposed deposits. The work shall be carried out in accordance with the IfA *Standard and guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (1994), as amended (2008).

Should archaeological features and deposits be exposed, they will be excavated by the site archaeologist by hand:

- 4.1.1 The archaeological work will be carried out in accordance with the ClfA *Standard and Guidance Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014), *Standard and Guidance Archaeological Excavation* (2014), and *Standard and Guidance Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014).
 - 4.1.2 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts.
 - 4.1.3 All excavation of exposed archaeological features shall be carried out by hand, stratigraphically, and fully recorded by context to IfA guidelines.
 - 4.1.4 If archaeological features are exposed, then they will be fully excavated and recorded.
 - 4.1.5 Should the above percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined, full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts.
Any variation of the above or decisions regarding expansion will be considered in consultation with the Client and DCHET
 - 4.1.6 In exceptional circumstances where materials of a particularly compact nature are encountered, these may be removed with a toothed bucket, subject to agreement with archaeological staff on site.
 - 4.1.7 Should archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains be exposed, the site archaeologist will investigate, record and sample such deposits.
 - 4.1.8 A Faculty for dealing with human remains has been applied for, the specification clause for which is: *Any unarticulated and small human remains found during excavation are to be passed to the Rector for reburial in the churchyard. In the event of articulated remains being uncovered the architect and archaeologist are to be informed immediately and instructions sought.* If articulated human remains are revealed, they must be left *in-situ*, covered and protected. Removal will only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal will be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.
 - 4.1.9 Any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork, will be dealt with according to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2nd Revision) (Dept for Culture Media and Sport). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures must be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 4.2 The Client will provide SWARCH with details of the location of existing services and of proposed groundworks within the site area, and of the proposed construction programme.
- 4.3 Health and Safety requirements will be observed at all times by any archaeological staff working on site, particularly when working with machinery. As a minimum: high-visibility jackets, safety helmets and protective footwear will be worn.
- 4.3.1 Appropriate PPE will be employed at all times.
 - 4.3.2 The site archaeologist will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the Client.
 - 4.3.3 If the depth of trenching exceeds 1.2 metres the trench sides will need to be shored or stepped to enable the archaeologist to examine and if appropriate record the section of the trench. The provision of such measures will be the responsibility of the client.
- 4.4 If significant or complex archaeological remains are uncovered, SWARCH will liaise with the client and DCHET to determine the most satisfactory way to proceed.
- 5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING**
- 5.1 This will be based on IfA guidelines and those advised by DCHET and will consist of:
- 5.1.1 Standardised single context recording sheets, survey drawings in plan, section and profile at 1:10, 1:20, 1: 50 and 1:100 as appropriate and digital photography.
 - 5.1.2 Survey and location of features.
 - 5.1.3 Labelling and bagging of finds on site, post-1800 unstratified pottery may be discarded on site after a representative sample has been retained.
- Any variation of the above shall be agreed in consultation with the DCHET.
- 5.2 A photographic record of the excavation will be prepared. This will include photographs illustrating the principal features and finds discovered, in detail and in context. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. All photographs of archaeological detail will feature an appropriately-sized scale. The photographic record for the excavations will be digital and will be uploaded according to the archive guidelines in 8.2.

- 5.4 Should suitable deposits be exposed (e.g. palaeoenvironmental), then scientific assessment/ analysis/dating techniques will be applied to further understand their nature/date and to establish appropriate sampling procedures. The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on other aspects of the investigations can be called upon. Should deposits be exposed that contain palaeoenvironmental or datable elements appropriate sampling and post-excavation analysis strategies will be initiated. On-site sampling and post-excavation assessment and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with English Heritage's guidance in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation 2002* and if necessary with reference to and with advice from the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor.
- 6.0 REPORTING**
- 6.1 The type of report produced will be agreed with the HET in view of the results. If a full report is produced it will include the following elements:
- 6.1.1 A report number, date and the OASIS record number;
 - 6.1.2 A copy of this WSI;
 - 6.1.3 A summary of the project's background;
 - 6.1.4 A description and illustration of the site location;
 - 6.1.5 A methodology of the works undertaken, and an evaluation of that methodology;
 - 6.1.6 Plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
 - 6.1.7 A summary of the project's results;
 - 6.1.8 An interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
 - 6.1.9 A summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
 - 6.1.10 A location plan and overall site plan including the location of areas subject to archaeological recording;
 - 6.1.11 The results of the historic building recording that shall include a written description and analysis of the historic fabric of the building, appropriately;
 - 6.1.12 Detailed plans of areas of the site in which archaeological features are recognised along with adequate OD spot height information. These will be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans will show the site and features/deposits in relation to north. Archaeologically sterile areas will not be illustrated unless this can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
 - 6.1.13 Section drawings of deposits and features, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and must show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile areas will not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
 - 6.1.14 A description of any remains and deposits identified including an interpretation of their character and significance;
 - 6.1.15 Assessment and analysis, as appropriate, of significant artefacts, environmental and scientific samples;
 - 6.1.16 Discussion of the archaeological deposits encountered and their context;
 - 6.1.17 A consideration of the evidence within its wider context;
 - 6.1.18 Site matrices where appropriate;
 - 6.1.19 Photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features of historic or architectural significance and deposits referred to in the text. All photographs will contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
 - 6.1.20 A consideration of evidence within its wider context;
 - 6.1.21 A summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
 - 6.1.22 Specialist assessment or analysis reports where undertaken.
- 6.2 DCHET will receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork, dependant on the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc, the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then an interim report will be produced and a revised submission date for the final report agreed with the HET.
- 6.3 Should the development proceed in a staged manner, with each stage requiring archaeological fieldwork, and where a period of more than three months between each stage is anticipated or occurs, then SWARCH will prepare an interim illustrated summary report at the end of each stage. The report will set out the results of that phase of archaeological works, including the results of any specialist assessment or analysis undertaken. The report will be produced within three months of completion of each phase of fieldwork. At the completion of the final stage of the fieldwork an overarching report setting out the results of all stages of work will be prepared. HET would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork - dependent upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HET will be informed of this, an interim report will be produced within three months of the completion of the final stage of fieldwork, and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between the HET and SWARCH.

- 6.4 Where excavations reveal significant archaeological remains with the potential to yield important information about the site and its environment, then a formal Post-Excavation Report and revised Written Scheme of Investigation may be required. This document may also fulfil the requirement for an interim report if a substantial publication delay is anticipated. This document will include the following elements:
- 6.4.1 A summary of the project and its background;
 - 6.4.2 A plan showing the location of the site, and plans showing the location of archaeological features and artefactual or palaeoenvironmental deposits;
 - 6.4.3 Research aims and objectives;
 - 6.4.4 A method statement, outlining how these aims and objectives will be achieved;
 - 6.4.5 Detail the tasks to be undertaken;
 - 6.4.6 The results of specialist assessment reports;
 - 6.4.7 The project team;
 - 6.4.8 The overall timetable, including monitoring points with HET;
 - 6.4.9 Detail of the journal in which the material will be published.

HET will receive a draft of this report within three months of the completion of the fieldwork, specialist reports allowing.

- 6.5 Where the exposure of archaeological, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental remains is limited or of little significance reporting will follow on directly from the field work - see 6.3 above. Should particularly significant archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains, finds and/or deposits be encountered, then these, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance in paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2012). If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements – including any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with the HET.
- 6.6 Post Excavation Assessment, Analysis and Project Designs for further work:
Where excavations reveal archaeological, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental deposits that have potential for yielding important information about the site or its environs, through specialist assessment and analysis, this assessment work will be undertaken and reported on in a separate formal Post-Excavation Assessment and Project Design. This document may also fulfil the role of an interim report if a substantial publication delay is expected. This document will be produced within three months of completion of the fieldwork - specialist input allowing - and agreed with the HET.
- 6.7 A copy of the report detailing the results of these investigations will be submitted to the OASIS (*Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations*) database under reference Southwes1-204395 within 3 months of completion of fieldwork.

7.0 MONITORING

- 7.1.1 SWARCH shall agree monitoring arrangements with the HET and give two weeks' notice, unless a shorter period is agreed, of commencement of the fieldwork. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made.
- 7.1.2 Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the site archive and finds, and the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report
- 7.1.3 SWARCH will notify the HET upon completion of the fieldwork stage of these works.

8.0 ARCHIVE

- 8.1 On completion of the project an ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/morphe-project-managers-guide/>). The digital element of the archive will be transferred to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) for long-term curation. A reference number will be obtained from the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM), with regard deposition of the material (finds) element of any archive created by these works.
- 8.2 The archive will consist of two elements, the digital archive and the material archive.
- 8.2.1 The digital archive, including digital copies of all relevant written and drawn records and photographs, will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) and in compliance with their standards and requirements.
 - 8.2.2 The material archive, comprising the retained artefacts/samples and the hardcopy paper record (if requested) will be cleaned (or otherwise treated), ordered, recorded, packed and boxed in accordance with the deposition standards of the RAMM, and in a timely fashion.
 - 8.2.3 If the RAMM wishes to retain the hardcopy paper archive, it will be deposited with the rest of the material archive under the same accession number. Should the RAMM decline the hardcopy paper archive, that archive will be offered to other appropriate museum bodies or the HET. If a suitable third party cannot be found, the hardcopy paper archive will be retained by SWARCH for 3 years and then destroyed.

- 8.3 SWARCH will, on behalf of the RAMM obtain a written agreement from the landowner to transfer title to all items in the material archive to the receiving museum.
- 8.4 If ownership of all or any of the finds is to remain with the landowner, provision and agreement must be made for the time-limited retention of the material and its full analysis and recording, by appropriate specialists.
- 8.5 SWARCH will notify the HET upon the completion of:
i) deposition of the digital archive with the ADS, and
ii) deposition of the material (finds) archive with the museum.
- 8.6 The condition placed upon this development will not be regarded as discharged until the report has been produced and submitted to the HET and the LPA, the site archive deposited and the OASIS form completed.
- 8.7 There will not be a requirement to prepare an archive for fieldwork projects that do not expose deposits of archaeological interest and yield little or no artefactual material. The results of these projects will be held by the HER in the form of the report submitted by SWARCH and the creation of an OASIS entry and uploading of the report. This process would be agreed with the HET and completed prior to the condition being discharged.
- 8.8 The archive will be completed within 3 months of the completion of the final report.

9.0 CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORY PROTECTED SPECIES

Even where groundworks are being undertaken under the direct control and supervision of SWARCH personnel, it remains the responsibility of the Client - in consultation with SWARCH, the applicant or agent - to ensure that the required archaeological works do not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites etc.

10.0 PERSONNEL & MONITORING

- 10.1 The project will be managed by Dr. Samuel Walls; the archaeological monitoring will be undertaken by SWARCH personnel with appropriate expertise and experience. Where necessary, appropriate specialist advice will be sought (see list of consultant specialists in Appendix 1 below).

Natalie Boyd

South West Archaeology

The Old Dairy, Hacche Lane Business Park, Pathfield Business Park, South Molton, Devon EX36 3LH Telephone: 01769 573555 email: mail@swarch.net

Appendix 1 – List of specialists

Building recording

Richard Parker 11 Toronto Road, St James, Exeter. EX4 6LE. Tel: 07763 248241

Conservation

Alison Hopper Bishop the Royal Albert Memorial Museum Conservation service

a.hopperbishop@exeter.gov.uk

Richard and Helena Jaeschke 2 Bydown Cottages, Swimbridge, Barnstaple EX32 0QD

mrshjaeschke@email.msn.com

Tel: 01271 830891

Curatorial

Thomas Cadbury Curator of Antiquities Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Bradninch Offices, Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter EX4 3LS Tel: 01392 665356

Bone

Human & Animal Wendy Howard Department of Archaeology, Laver Building, University of Exeter, North Park Road, Exeter EX4 4QE
w.j.howard@exeter.ac.uk Tel: 01392 269330

Lithics

Martin Tingle Higher Brownston, Brownston, Modbury, Devon, PL21 OSQ martin@mtingle.freemove.co.uk

Palaeoenvironmental/Organic

Wood identification Dana Challinor Tel: 01869 810150 dana.challinor@tiscali.co.uk

Plant macro-fossils Julie Jones juliedjones@blueyonder.co.uk

Pollen analysis Ralph Fyfe Room 211, 8 Kirkby Place, Drake Circus, Plymouth, Devon, PL4 8AA

Pottery

Prehistoric Henrietta Quinnell 39D Polsloe Road, Exeter EX1 2DN Tel: 01392 433214

Roman Alex Croom, Keeper of Archaeology Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums, Arbeia Roman Fort and Museum, Baring Street, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE332BB Tel: (0191) 454 4093 alex.croom@twmuseums.org.uk

Medieval John Allan, 22, Rivermead Road Exeter EX2 4RL Tel: 01392 256154 john.p.allan@btinternet.com

Post Medieval Graham Langman Exeter, EX1 2UF Tel: 01392 215900 email: su1429@eclipse.co.uk

Church of St. Giles and St. Nicholas, Sidmouth, Devon

Appendix 2
Context List

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	RELATIONSHIPS	DEPTH/THICKNESS	SPOT DATE
(100)	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark brown-grey, friable sandy-silt.		
(101)	<i>Made-ground</i>	Debris layers.		
{102}	<i>Surface</i>	A poorly constructed stone/'masonry' surface of large rounded cobbles (200-300mm dia.) laid onto a soil and mortared in place. Human bones were within the mortar. A northern section to this was twice the depth. It had relatively straight east and west sides.		
{103}	<i>Surface</i>	Similar to {102}.		
{104}	<i>Structure</i>	Stone built plinth. Possibly for removed stair? or tomb monument.		
(105)	<i>Made-ground</i>	Mid buff-brown, friable sandy-silt with abundant flecks of mortar, slate fragments (<50mm dia.) and occasional animal bone (cattle teeth), re-deposited soil.		
(106)	<i>Demolition layer</i>	Dark grey sandy-silt with abundant slate 'meal' and moderate mortary fragments and slate and stone rubble, then loose when broken slatey layer. Abuts build of aisle. Possibly crushed and spread and associated with 1859-60 build or earlier?		
{107}	<i>Structure</i>	Brick built 'barrel' tomb. Most bricks similar to those in {108} but more pale 'orangey' with pinkish-grey brittle mortar with large lime inclusions (2-3mm dia.) Internal brick was frogged (c.23x11x7cm). Orientated east-west. Tomb = c.1.10m deep, top = 11cm thick (one brick).		
{108}	<i>Structure</i>	Brick built 'barrel' tomb. Mortared brick vault. Hand-made, unfrogged bricks – rich off-red, well sorted with occasional inclusions, brittle mortar (grey with large lime inclusions (2-3mm dia.)). Blocking was harder, slightly purple-red with the same mortar as in {107}. Orientated east-west. Tomb = c.1-1.40m deep with additional 0.40m cut in base, top = 27cm thick (two bricks) with mortar covering. Internal measurements of 6x7 foot (2.15x1.86m).		
(109)	<i>Demolition layer</i>	Slatey 'surface' in south-west corner of the area near to buttress. As (106), a compacted friable 'meal'.		
(110)	<i>Made-ground</i>	Mortary band/spread that seems to define the edge of the backfill on the south side of Barrel tomb {108}.		
(111)	<i>Footpath</i>	Existing tarmac footpath in extension area.		
(112)	<i>Bedding layer</i>	Tarmac bedding for Footpath (111).		
(113)	<i>Buried path/bedding</i>	Compact yellow stony layer.		
(114)	<i>Buried path</i>	Grey gritty buried footpath.		
(115)	<i>Buried path/bedding</i>	Yellow gritty bedding layer or old footpath.		
(116)	<i>Made-ground</i>	Mid grey-brown, friable sandy-silt with frequent mortar and stone debris. Soil and debris layer.		

Church of St. Giles and St. Nicholas, Sidmouth, Devon

(117)	<i>Made-ground</i>	Mid brown, friable clay-silt with frequent slate rubble.	Overlaid (106); Overlain by (116); Equates to (105)	0.13m	C19-C20
(118)	<i>Demolition layer</i>	Mid brown-grey, friable-soft clay-silt with frequent demolition grit.	Overlaid (120); Overlain by (106)	0.12m	C19
(119)	<i>Natural</i>	Light-mid reddish-yellow compact clay band with occasional sand over a mid brownish-yellow, compact rounded clay-gravel/stone.	Cut by graves; Overlaid by (120)	-	-
(120)	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid mottled reddish-yellow-brown, soft-firm clay-silt with occasional medium rounded stones and moderate roots, graveyard soil, cut by graves. Cut in some cases by graves from between 0.35-0.40m from the surface with bones visible in the graves c.0.90m down from the surface.	Overlaid (102); Cut by graves; Overlain by (148)	0.35-0.51m	<C19
[121]	<i>Cut of grave</i>	Near vertical sides, not bottomed. Orientated east-west.	Cut (124), Contained (122)	-	-
(122)	<i>Fill of grave</i>	Mottled mid red-brown, firm silt-clay with human bone.	Fill of [121]; Overlain by (120)	-	-
[123]	<i>Cut of grave</i>	Near vertical sides, not bottomed. Orientated north-east by south-west.	Cut (119), Contained (124)	-	-
(124)	<i>Fill of grave</i>	Mottled mid red-brown, soft silt-clay with human bone and occasional grit.	Fill of [123]; Overlain by (120)	-	-
[125]	<i>Cut of grave</i>	Near vertical sides, not bottomed. Orientated north-east by south-west.	Cut (142), Contained (126)	-	-
(126)	<i>Fill of grave</i>	Mottled mid pink-brown, friable-firm silt-clay with human bone and occasional charcoal flecks.	Fill of [125]; Overlain by (120)	-	-
[127]	<i>Cut of grave</i>	Near vertical sides, not bottomed. No human bone, presumed more shallow and truncated grave or infant burial. Orientated east-west.	Cut (119), Contained (128)	-	-
(128)	<i>Fill of grave</i>	Dark grey-brown, soft clay-silt.	Fill of [127]; Overlain by (120)	-	-
(129)	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid red-brown, soft-silt clay, probable more disturbed equivalent of (120). Disturbed/re-deposited.	Overlaid (133); Overlain by (109)		
(130)	<i>Backfill</i>	Construction/disturbed cut back fill. Mid brown-grey gritty friable clay-silt with moderate slate fragments. Disturbed ground due to drainage maintenance around the tower. Contained infant remains that had been disturbed and re-deposited.	Overlaid {137}; Overlain by (109)	0.35m	C19
131	<i>VOID</i>	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
[132]	<i>Cut of grave</i>	Near vertical sides, not bottomed. Orientated north-east by south-west.	Cut (119), Contained (133)	-	-
(133)	<i>Fill of grave</i>	Mottled mid red-brown, soft silt-clay with occasional grit.	Fill of [132]; Overlain by (129)	-	-
[134]	<i>Cut of socket</i>	Rectangular socket with vertical sides, sharp concave break of slope and flat base, 0.40m×0.15+m.	Cuts (119); Contained (135)	0.10m	<C19
(135)	<i>Fill of socket</i>	Mid grey-brown, friable clay-silt with occasional medium sub-angular stone.	Fill of [134]; Cut by {138}	0.10m	<C19
{136}	<i>Foundation</i>	Rubble stone foundation of tower buttress, has generally larger stone than in {137}. No discernible construction cuts due to later developments and disturbance of ground/ fills cut below depth of natural. Stone is very well/densely packed in with a light buff sandy bonding/infill, although the stone is generally held in place by its own packing.	Abuts/tied into {137}	0.75m	C15
{137}	<i>Foundation</i>	Rubble stone foundation of tower. Similar to {136}	Abutted by/tied into {137}; Abutted by {138}	<0.75m	C15
{138}	<i>Foundation</i>	Rubble stone foundation of north aisle with voids, particularly lower down in the structure. Poorly/irregularly bonded with a crumbly pinkish-white lime (mortar).	Abuts {137}	0.92m	C15-C19
[139]	<i>Cut of grave</i>	Rectangular infant burial, 0.50m×0.35m. Not excavated. Orientated east-west.	Cut (119); Contained (140)	-	Post north aisle
(140)	<i>Fill of grave</i>	Mid grey-brown, soft clay-silt with small infant bones noted on surface.	Fill of [139]; Overlain by (120)	-	Post north aisle
[141]	<i>Cut of</i>	Revealed in plan, sub-rectangular. Orientated south-east by north-west.	Cuts (119); Contained (142)	-	-

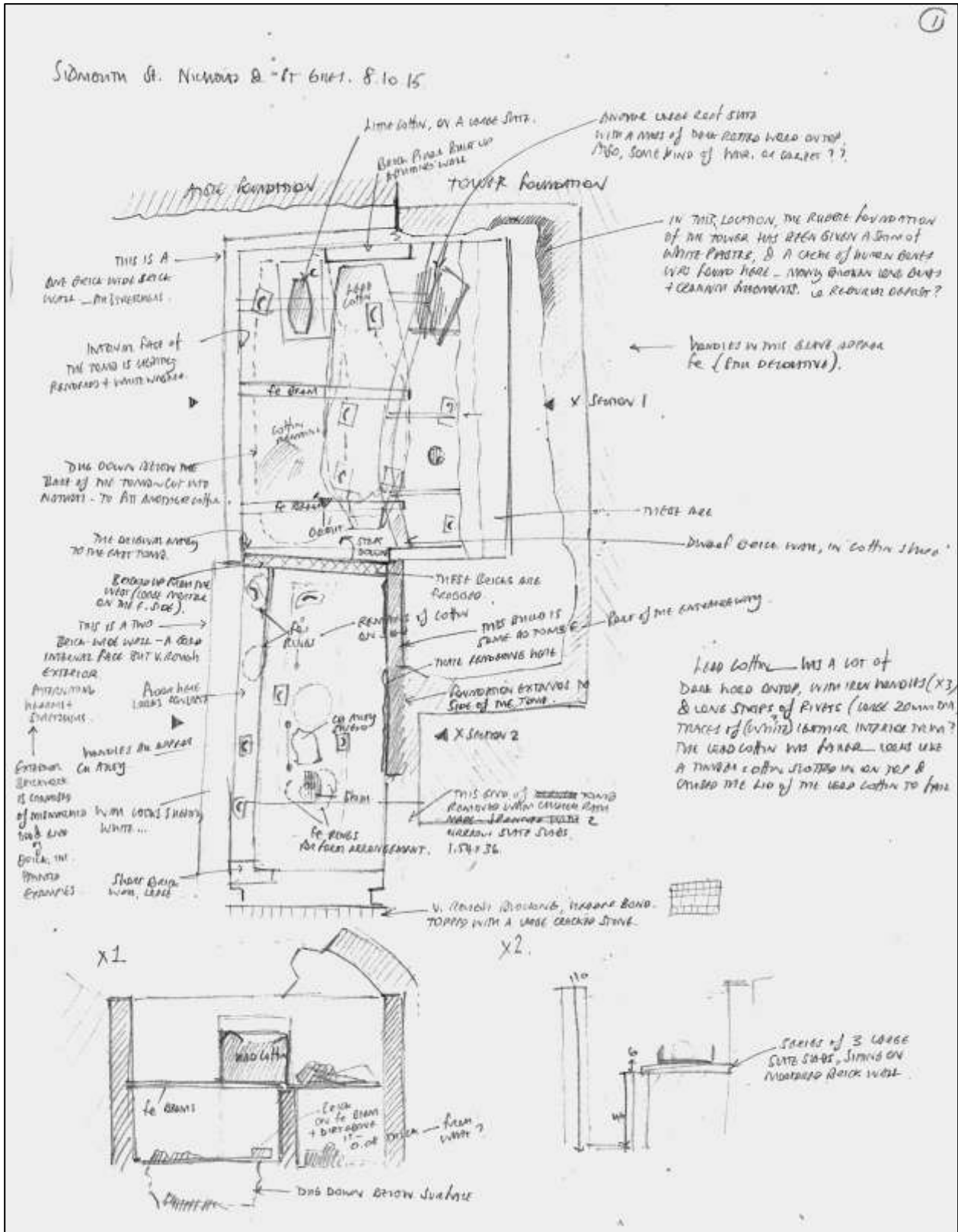
Church of St. Giles and St. Nicholas, Sidmouth, Devon

	<i>grave</i>				
(142)	<i>Fill of grave</i>	Mid grey-brown, soft-friable clay-silt with frequent grit.	Fill of [141]; Cut by [125]	-	-
[143]	<i>Cut of grave</i>	In section of footing trench, not fully exposed, human bone present. Orientated east-west.	Cut (119), Contained (144)	-	-
(144)	<i>Fill of grave</i>	Mottled mid red-brown, firm silt-clay with human bone.	Fill of [143]; Overlain by (120)	-	-
[145]	<i>Cut of grave</i>	In section of footing trench, not fully exposed. Orientated east-west.	Cut (119), Contained (146)	-	-
(146)	<i>Fill of grave</i>	Mottled mid red-brown, firm silt-clay with human bone.	Fill of [145]; Overlain by (120)	-	-
<147>	<i>Footpath</i>	Existing tarmac footpath and bedding layers.	Overlaid (147)	0.05-0.10m	C20-C21
(148)	<i>Buried path</i>	Bedding layers and old gravel footpath.	Overlaid (148); Overlain by <146>	0.06-0.12m	C20-C21
(149)	<i>Disturbed ground</i>	Includes the existing pipe trench and/or a mid yellow-brown, friable sandy-silt with frequent slate and mortar.	Overlaid (120); Overlain by (147)	0.19-0.60m	C20

Appendix 3 Finds Concordance

Context	Notes	POTTERY			OTHER			DATE
		Sherds	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frgs.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	
120	Subsoil	1	<1	Pottery – 17 th century Bristol & Staffordshire yellow glazed body sherd	1	7	Clay pipe stem -18 th century	C18
					1	4	Clay pipe stem	
					1	7	Oyster shell	
					1	26	Tile – glazed floor tile	
					1	289	Tile – South Somerset type ridge tile	
129	Subsoil	1	22	Pottery – 18 th century South Somerset ware body sherd	1	23	Tile – floor tile	C18
US	C19 and later Made-ground layers	1	45	Pottery – Bristol & Staffordshire yellow glazed base	1	6	Glass – marble	C17-C19
					5	162	Oyster shell	
		1	30	Pottery – 16 th -17 th century South Somerset ware body sherd	1	17	Slate - fragment	
					10	2507	Slate – roof slates	
		1	25	Pottery – South Somerset ware jar rim	4	308	Tile – floor tile (x2 with scoop – 1 glazed)	
					1	121	Tile – roof tile Totnes type with curving incised decoration	
		2	27	Pottery – White Refined Earthenware	1	363	Tile – ridge tile Totnes type – concreted	
1	15				Walnut finish, probably plastic – knob			
		7	150	C16-C19 types				

Appendix 4
Detailed Site Sketch of Barrel Tombs



Appendix 5
Additional Photos



Tower and west end of north aisle, pre-excavation; viewed from the south-west (no scale).



Chest tombs on north side of tower, pre-removal viewed; from the north-east (no scale).



Inscription on the western face of the western chest tomb; viewed from the north-west (no scale).



Middle grave stone against north-aisle; viewed from the west (0.5m scale).



Site mid excavation, showing stone plinth and barrel tombs; viewed from the north (1m scale).



Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, revealed during excavation; viewed from the west (1m scale).



Over-hang of western barrel tomb {107} abutting barrel tomb {108}; viewed from the east (1m scale).



Disturbed area where the tower meets the north aisle; viewed from the west (1m scale).



Western corner of area north of the tower; viewed from the east (1m scale).



Stone plinth {104} and gravestones against the north aisle; viewed from the west (1m scale).



Stone plinth {104}; viewed from the north-west (1m scale).



Southern face stone plinth {104} and its foundations; viewed from the south (1m scale).



Stone plinth {104}; viewed from the west (1m scale).



Grave Cuts [121] and [123] and east facing section in central test pit; viewed from the east (1m scale).



Grave Cut [121] and north facing section of barrel tombs; viewed from the north (1m scale).



Grave Cut [121] and north facing section of barrel tombs; viewed from the north (1m scale).



Foundations of north-western buttress to the tower; viewed from the east (1m scale).



Northern foundations of the tower; viewed from the north-west (1m scale).



Foundations of north-western buttress to the tower and barrel tomb {107}; viewed from the south (1m scale).



Southern foundations of north aisle and grave cuts; viewed from the west (2m scale).



Grave Cut [127] and Socket [134]; viewed from the west (1m scale).



Site shot mid excavation; viewed from the west (2m scale).



Site shot mid excavation; viewed from the north (2m scale).



Grave cut in the base of the drainage trench (east end); viewed from the south (1m scale).



Location of existing man-hole and brick rubble in drainage trench; viewed from the east (no scale).



Detail of exposed brick tomb in drainage trench (middle); viewed from the north (no scale).



Site shot, mid-excavation; viewed from the north (1m & 2m scale).



Sample section along western edge of excavated area; viewed from the east (1m scale).



View of entrance into Barrel tomb {107}; viewed from the east (1m scale).



View of the exposed western end of Barrel tomb {107}; viewed from the north-east (1m scale).



View of the exposed western end of Barrel tomb {107}; viewed from the west (1m scale).



Grave marker adjacent to brick-built tomb in drainage trench/footpath; viewed from the north (no scale).



Barrel tomb {108}, opened; viewed from the north-west (1m & 2m scale).



Disturbed area containing human remains in the south-east corner of the site; viewed from the west (1m scale).



Barrel tomb {108}, opened; viewed from the north-east (1m & 2m scale).



Barrel tomb {108}, opened; viewed from the south-west (1m & 2m scale).



Barrel tomb {108}, opened; viewed from the north (no scale).



North-west corner of Barrel tomb {108} opened; viewed from the north (partial 2m scale).



Infant burial in Barrel tomb {108}; viewed from the north (no scale).



Barrel tomb {107}, opened; viewed from the south-east (1m & 2m scale).



West end of Barrel tomb {107} opened; viewed from the east (1m scale).



Detail of coffin handle in Barrel tomb {107}; viewed from the north (no scale).



Detail of coffin handle in Barrel tomb {108}; viewed from the north (no scale).



Footing trench, post-excavation; viewed from the west (1m and 2m scale).



Build of Barrel tomb {107} in footing trench and capping; viewed from the north (1m scale).



Final reduced level north of the barrel tombs; viewed from the west (1m and 2m scale).



Site shot; post-excitation; viewed from the north (1m and 2m scale).



Infant grave [139]; viewed from the west (0.40m scale).



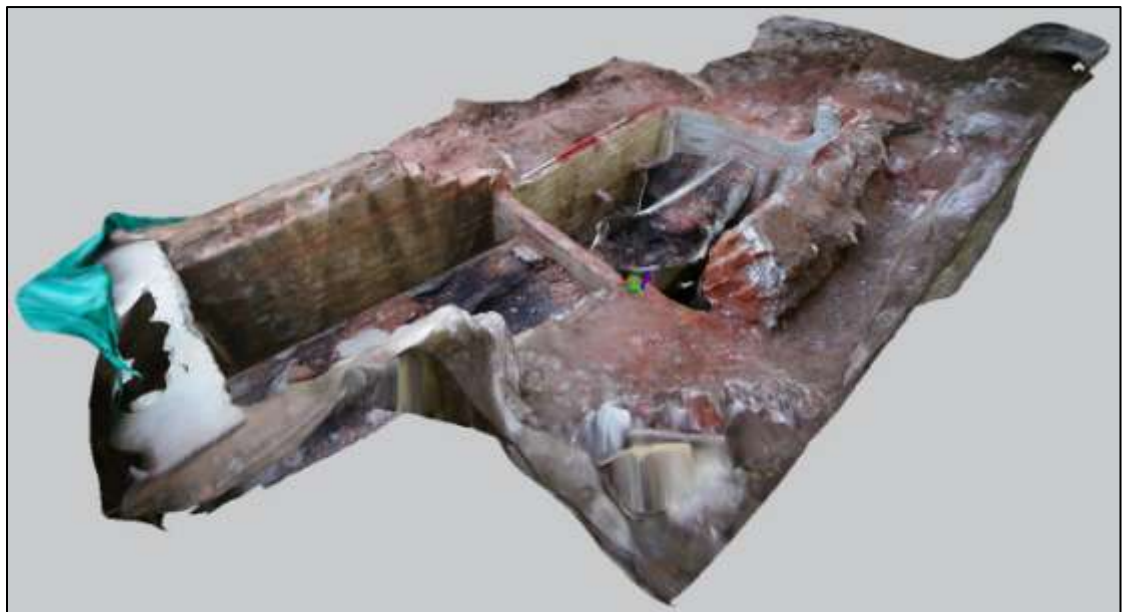
(Left): Window in the west end of the north aisle from within church; viewed from the east (no scale).
(Right): Area alongside north aisle footings; viewed from the north (1m scale).



(Left): Drainage trench (east end) along north side of church; viewed from the east (2m scale).
(Right): Brick-built tomb in drainage trench/footpath left in situ; viewed from the east (1m scale).



(Left): Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from the east (1m and 2m scale).
(Right): Barrel tomb {107}, opened; viewed from the east (no scale).



3D Composite Photograph of Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from the south-west (2m scale).



3D Composite Photograph of Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from the east (1m and 2m scale).



3D Composite Photograph of Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from the west (2m scale).



3D Composite Photograph of Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from the south-east (1&2m scales).



3D Composite Photograph of Barrel tombs {107} and {108}, opened; viewed from the north-west (2m scale).



3D Composite Photograph of Interior of Barrel tomb {108}; viewed from the east (1m scale).



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