

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**WATCHING BRIEF:
ST MARY'S CHURCH
ASPENDEN
HERTFORDSHIRE**

NGR: SP 3536 2839

on behalf of Aspenden Parochial Church Council



Martin Cuthbert BA

May 2008

ASC: 1029/ASP/1r

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Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	ASP	<i>ASC Project No:</i>	1029
<i>OASIS ref:</i>	To be obtained	<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	N/A
<i>County:</i>	Hertfordshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Aspenden		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Aspenden		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 3536 2839		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	15m x 0.4m		
<i>Present use:</i>	Church grounds and graveyard		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Sewerage works		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	N/A		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	East Hertfordshire District Council		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	February/March 2008		
<i>Client:</i>	Aspenden Parochial Church Council St Mary's Church Aspenden Road Aspenden Hertfordshire		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Mrs Elizabeth Thomas		

Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	Martin Cuthbert	<i>Date:</i>	7 th May 2008
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<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	

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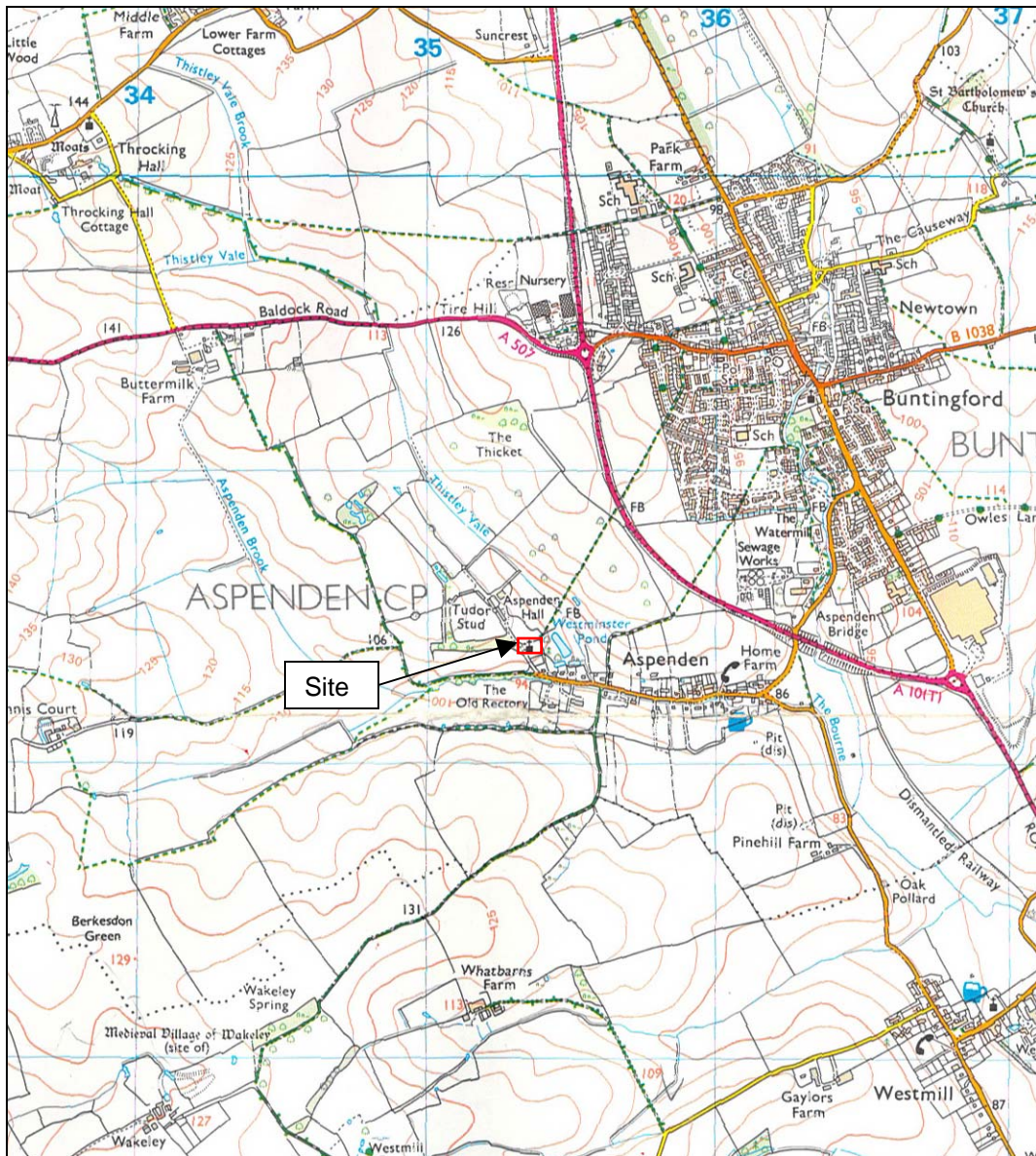


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

In February and March 2008 a watching brief was carried out at St Mary's Church, Aspenden, Hertfordshire, during groundworks associated with the installation of toilets and a kitchenette in the tower.

The only archaeological features observed during the groundworks were two burials, which were discovered in a single grave cut in the new cess pit. These remains were of a mature male and a younger female who may have been related. Both showed signs of severe physical hardship, but were of sufficient standing to have been buried in coffins. This and the depth of the burial suggest that the burials were of post-medieval date.

1. Introduction

1.1 In February and March 2008 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a watching brief at St Mary's Church, Aspenden, Hertfordshire. The project was commissioned by Aspenden Parochial Church Council and was carried out according to a brief prepared by David Baker, Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAA) for the Parish of Aspenden.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This watching brief was required as a response to proposals for the construction of a kitchen and bathroom within the church tower, and a sewer pipe and septic tank pit within the church grounds.

1.3 *Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd*

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd (ASC) is an independent archaeological practice providing a full range of archaeological services including consultancy, field evaluation, mitigation and post-excavation studies, historic building recording and analysis. ASC is recognised as a *Registered Archaeological Organisation* by the Institute of Field Archaeologists, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

1.4 *Management*

The assessment was managed by Karin Semmelmann BA MA AIFA, and was carried out under the overall direction of Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA

1.5 *The Site*

1.5.1 *Location & Description*

St Mary's Church is situated at NGR SP: 3636 2839 at the most western end of Aspenden Village just south of the grounds of Aspenden Hall this falls within the parish of Aspenden in East Hertfordshire (Fig. 1). The site is approximately square, covering an area of around c.0.55ha (Fig. 2), with access being obtained through the main gate on the west side of the church grounds. Services forming part of the proposed development included a mains cable

running into the church tower on the west side as well as a smaller electric cable and sewer pipe (Fig 3).

1.5.2 *Geology & Topography*

The soils in the area comprise the *Melford Association*, which consists of “*deep well drained fine loamy over clayey, course loamy over clayey and fine loamy soils.*” (Soil Survey 1983; 571o). The underlying geology comprises “undifferentiated glaciofluvial deposits, chalky sand and gravel” (BGS, Sheet 221). The site is sloping north to south and the benchmark located on the church reads a height of 103.1169m OD.

1.5.3 *Proposed Development*

The proposed works intend to incorporate toilet and kitchen facilities within the church tower. This includes associated drainage works that run out of the tower and through into the church grounds and into a septic tank pit (Fig.3).

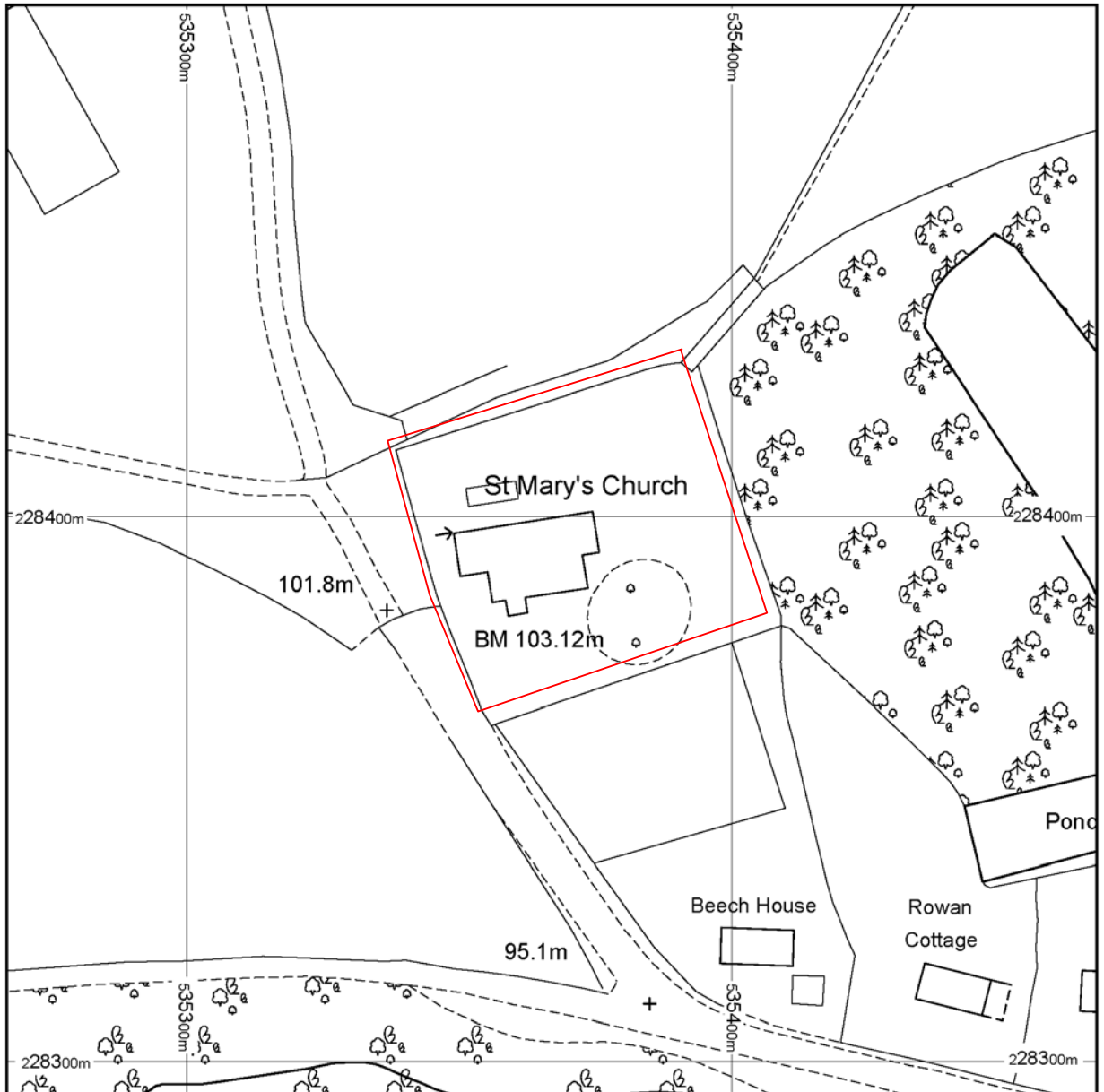


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:1250)

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 Aims

As described in the brief (Section 2), the aims of the watching brief were:

- To assess the risk that archaeological remains might be disturbed in the course of the development works, and to record any structures, deposits or articulated human remains encountered.

2.2 Standards

The work conformed to the relevant sections of the Institute of Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), to the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 Methods

The work was carried out according to the brief (Section 3), which required:

- A continuing watching brief on any ground disturbance outside the church.
- Preparation of a report (this document)
- Deposition of the project archive

2.4 Constraints

No groundworks were needed within the church tower as a 400mm deep recess had been discovered under the floorboards.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

- 3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods but the focus of interest is likely to lie in the Medieval and Post Medieval periods.
- 3.2 St Mary's church is a Grade 1 listed building and its history can potentially be traced back to as early as the Domesday Survey (1086). A priest is mentioned in the survey as one of the inhabitants of the Manor of Aspenden. The proximity of the church and manor and the fact the Laws of King Athelstan stated that a Thane should have a church on his estate, suggest that the church was a late Saxon manorial foundation.
- 3.3 The chancel and nave are *c.*11th century although appear to be on a different alignment. Within the chancel a small round-headed Saxon window is present. The chancel was partially rebuilt and lengthened to the east in the 13th century, with the south aisle and west tower following in *c.*1340 and *c.*1390 respectively
- 3.4 It was not until the late 15th century that more work was carried out on the church which involved the building of the southeast chapel, the nave being heightened and new roofs added to the nave and chancel. The final addition to the main fabric of the church was the insertion of a low-side window into the north chancel wall in *c.*1525 (Pevsner 1977, 77-78).
- 3.5 The relatively small confines of the grave yard, combined with the fact that it would have been in use for over a thousand years, suggests that a fairly large number of medieval and post-medieval burials could be present.

4. Results

4.1 General

One test pit, one trench and a cess pit were excavated with a mini digger prior to the laying of the sewer pipe and installation of a septic tank (Fig. 3). Each area of excavation had a different stratigraphic make-up. Throughout the site there was a large amount of ground disturbance, probably due to levelling of the site that occurred before and during differing phases of church construction. No archaeological finds or pottery was observed in the test pit or trench or on the spoil heaps, which were visually scanned.

4.2 Test Pit (Fig 3, Plates 2,3 and 6)

Situated 1.5m west of the church tower this was hand dug at the point where the drainage pipe would turn 90° and continue south. An electric cable ran through the test pit running north-south as well as a clay drainage pipe. No archaeological remains were observed and the natural geology was not reached.

The test pit measured:

- 900mm x 600mm and 600mm deep

And consisted of:

- 100mm of silty clay topsoil with occasional flint nodules
- 500mm of re-deposited, mid brown-beige, silty clay

4.3 Trench (Fig 3, Plates 5, 6 and 7)

The trench ran between the test pit and the cess pit, and was machine excavated. Services within the trench included a large electric cable that crossed the trench twice, and a scaffold pipe containing electrics at the northern end. No archaeological remains were observed and the natural geology was not reached.

The trench was:

- 10.2 metres long x 400mm wide x 800mm deep.

And consisted of:

- 300mm of silty clay topsoil with occasional flint nodules
- 500mm of re-deposited mid brown-beige, firm, silty clay with frequent chalk and flint nodules

4.4 Cess Pit (Fig 3, 4 and 5, Plates 7-11)

The cess pit was located at the southern end of the trench. The pit was machine excavated to a depth of 2m and then hand dug to a depth of 2.20m. It was roughly 2.2m in diameter and sub circular in plan.

The stratigraphy consisted of:

- 300mm of silty clay topsoil with occasional flint nodules
- 1.3m of re-deposited mid brown-beige, firm, silty clay with frequent chalk and flint nodules

- 600mm of natural geology, which was a compact, yellowish brown, clayey sand with very frequent chalky gravel inclusions.

Machining stopped at a depth of 1.10m, as two bodies were uncovered. The grave cut could be seen in section and is shown in Figure 5.

Skeleton 0006 (Fig 4, Plates 8-19)

Skeleton 0006 was a female aged between 16-20 years. Markings on the spinal cord indicated the individual suffered from biological stress in early childhood but no other pathological signs of ill health were present on the surviving skeleton.

Skeleton 0007 (Fig 4, Plates 8 and 10)

Skeleton 0007 was a male aged between 36-51 years. Due to the lack of dental remains further age indicators could not be used, although it is likely the individual falls into the older age range. This conclusion is supported by the severe osteoarthritis discovered on both hip joints, the condition being most severe on the right.

Both skeletons were discovered within the same grave cut [0004], indicating that they were buried at much the same time. The burials were accompanied by coffin nails, a coffin bracket and handle (Plate 11).

Pottery fragments discovered in context 0009 were of Hertfordshire Grey Ware. This was common between 1170-1350AD, when the church was rebuilt and expanded. One sherd of Hertfordshire Grey Ware was also found in the grave fill (0005), which is likely to have been redeposited when the graves were backfilled.

4.5 **French Drain** (Fig 3, Plate 12).

The French drain was machine excavated along the north side of the church tower.

The drain was:

- 5.2m long x 800mm wide x 500mm deep

And consisted of

- 500mm of re-deposited topsoil

The trench revealed the concrete that had apparently been applied to the stone wall in the 1960s to counter the damp problem.

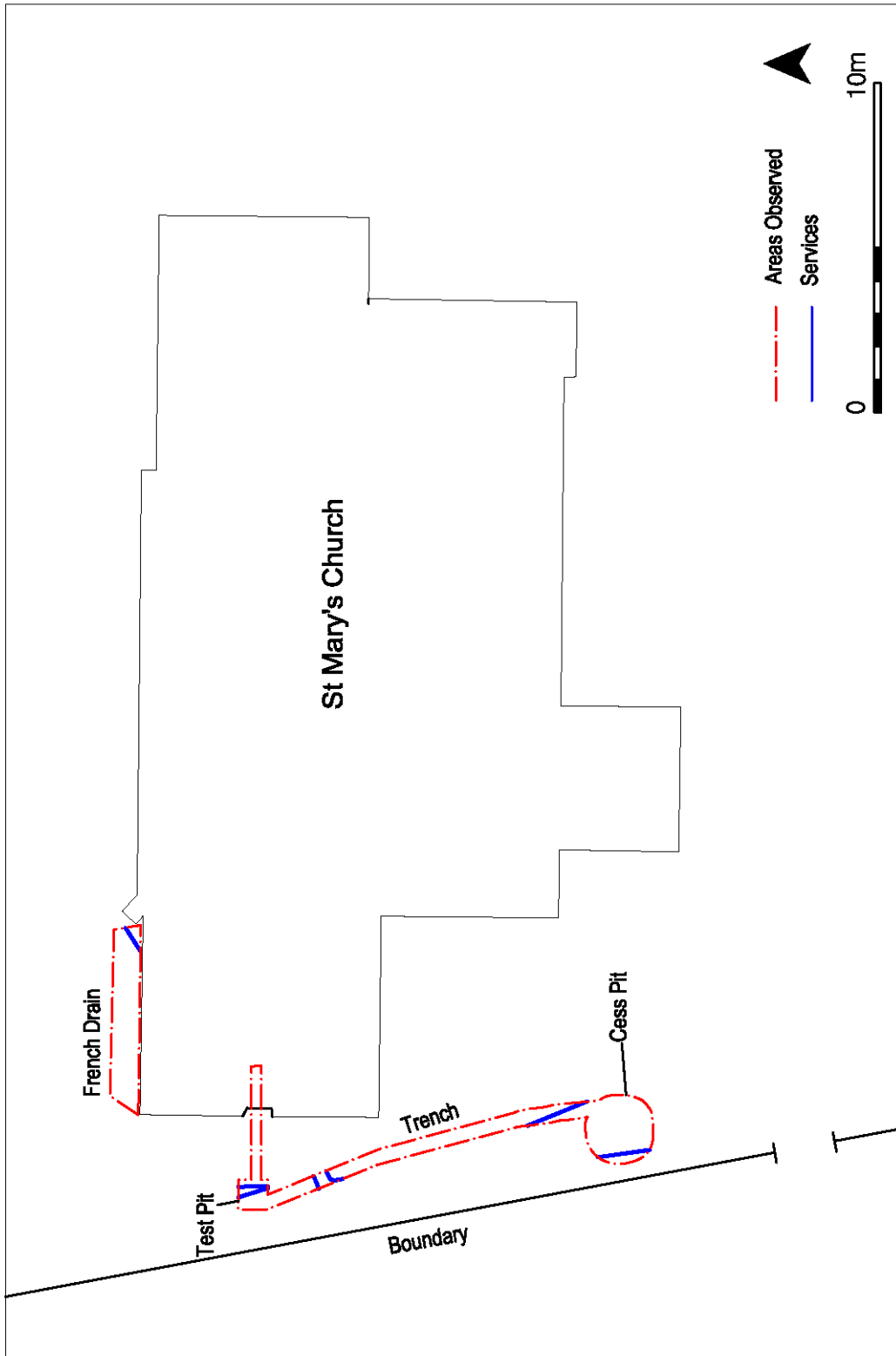


Figure 3: Areas observed (scale 1:200)

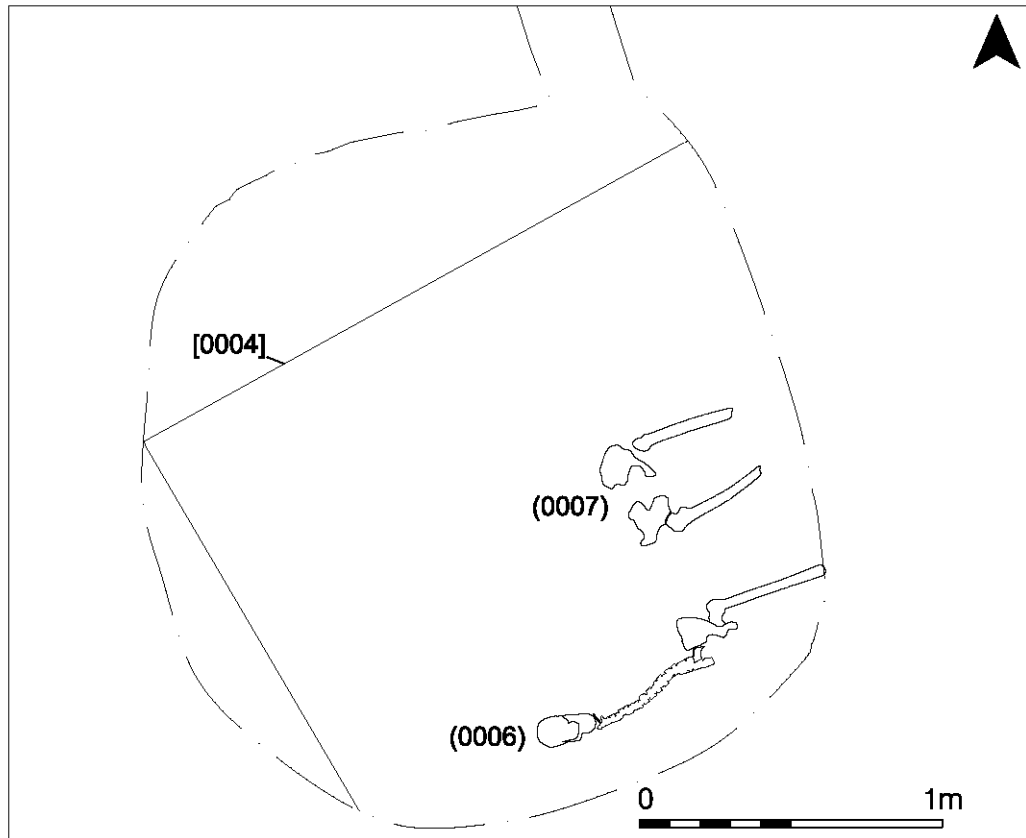


Figure 4: Plan of cess pit and skeletons (scale 1:25)

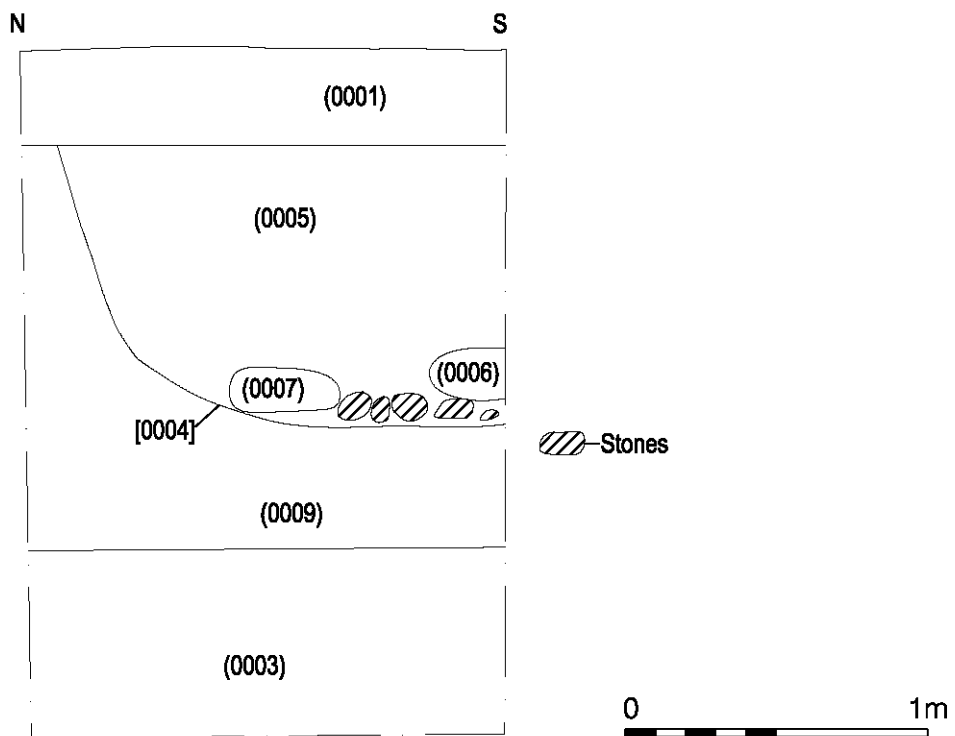


Figure 5: Cess pit section (scale 1:25)



Plate 1: St Mary's Church, Aspenden, facing North



Plate 2: Test pit and drainage run into tower, facing East



Plate 3: Test pit, facing North



Plate 4: Drainage run under church tower doorway, facing East



Plate 5: Test pit and trench, facing South



Plate 6: Cess pit and trench, facing North



Plate 7: Cess pit, facing East



Plate 8: Skeleton 0006 and 0007, vertical shot



Plate 9: Skeleton 0006, facing South



Plate 10: Skeleton 0007, facing South



Plate 11: Coffin Handle from (0005)



Plate 12: French drain, facing East

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The heavily disturbed ground encountered on the site is typical of any ancient churchyard, where burials have taken place over a number of centuries and later building work has occurred to the church and to provide modern services.
- 5.2 No archaeological finds or features were observed in the test pit and trench, largely due to their shallow depth and the fact that both were excavated in made ground.
- 5.3 The two burials were discovered in the same grave cut, which could suggest that they were related. Both burials showed signs of physical and biological hardship; the male suffered from osteo-arthritis, possibly due to extreme physical labour, and the female from periods of malnutrition in childhood. The pathological indicators, along with the presence of coffin furniture and the depth of burial all suggest that these were post-medieval burials.
- 5.4 The medieval pottery encountered on the site is likely to have been deposited during one or other of the medieval building programmes.
- 5.5 The weather and general work conditions were good and generally took place in dry and overcast weather conditions. Full co-operation was received from the contractors and a high degree of confidence is attached to the results of the evaluation.

6. Acknowledgements

The watching brief was commissioned by *Aspenden Parochial Church Council*, and David Baker monitored the project on behalf of St Albans Diocesan council. The writer is grateful to the former churchwarden Mrs Elizabeth Thomas for her assistance. Thanks are also due to Dick Wyatt the contractor who undertook the work. The project was managed for ASC by Karin Semmelmann MA AIFA. The human bone was reported on by Harriet Jacklin (ULAS). The report was prepared by Martin Cuthbert BA and edited by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Initial Report
3. Clients site plans
4. Site Monitoring Sheets
5. Finds records
6. Site record drawings
7. List of photographs
8. B/W prints & negatives
9. Original specialist reports and supporting information
10. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Hertford Museum.

8. References

Standards & Specifications

ALGAO 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper **14**.

EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition. English Heritage (London).

IFA 2000a Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.

IFA 2000b Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*.

IFA 2001 Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds)*.

Secondary Sources

BGS *British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid & Drift Geology*.

Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).

Pevsner, N and Cherry B, 1953, *The Buildings of England, Hertfordshire*, Penguin.

Appendix 1: Monitoring Sheets

A.S.C. LTD		ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD				
Project: Aspenden church		Project No/Code: 1029 / ASP		Sheet: 1 of		
		Date of visit: 18/2/08				
Client/Developer						
Contact: Richard (builder) 07977 138744		Phone:				
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 07:30 left office.		Finish: 13:00		
Completed by:						
Development Type:						
Footings	Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines	Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: dry - COLD but sunny						
Observations: Services within church do not penetrate ground so firework is laying on made up ground under the floorboards. in a void off about 270mm. Fire trench 2m long, 300mm wide 500mm deep. tower Pipe trench runs out of under door of church into a hole. N-S 900mm x 600mm (Eval pit A) 4+ 600mm deep. Eval pit A has an electric cable running thru in N-S direction. approx 200mm deep. And a possible sewer pipe at 600mm depth running NNW-SSE.						
Comments: ? continuation of trench waiting on phone call giving 24hr notice by hand.						



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: Aspenden Church.		Project No/Code: 1029 / ASM	Sheet: 2 of
		Date of visit: 3/3/08	
Client/Developer			
Contact:		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 08.45. left office	Finish: 16:30 - office.	
Completed by:			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: dry cold + sunny.			
Observations:			
Observed pipe trench being excavated with mini digger. pipe trench runs from the test pit A - south-down hill to the septic tank point.			
Trench = 10.2m - length		Topsoil - 300mm - sticky clay 70%	
400mm - width			
800mm - depth.			
See sketch sheet 4 position in relation to church. Services - A number were encountered. These include a large electric cable crossing the trench twice. a scaffold pipe containing electrics at the N. end of the trench.			
Septic tank trench was begun at end of day two bodies encountered - continue on 4/3/08			
Comments: uncover bodies, photograph, record and I/A - to be done on 4/3/08.			
Sketch sheet showing trench and trench dimensions to be done as well.			



A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: <i>Aspenden Church,</i>		Project No/Code: <i>1029 / ASM</i>	Sheet: <i>3</i> of
		Date of visit: <i>4/3/06</i>	
Client/Developer			
Contact:		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: <i>07:15 left office.</i>	Finish: <i>04:15 - office.</i>	
Completed by:			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: <i>dry cold + sunny.</i>			
Observations: <i>Continuation of skeleton recording and removal. Skeletons recorded photographed + removed removed See skeleton sheets + context sheets + sketch plans</i>			
<i>septic tank pit: width (W-E) = 2m</i>			
<i>length (N-S) = 2m</i>			
<i>depth of bodies (0006 + 0007) = 1.10m</i>			
<i>natural at 1.6m</i>			
<i>overall depth = 2m</i>			
Comments: <i>Continue digging septic tank pit.</i>			



A.S.C. LTD

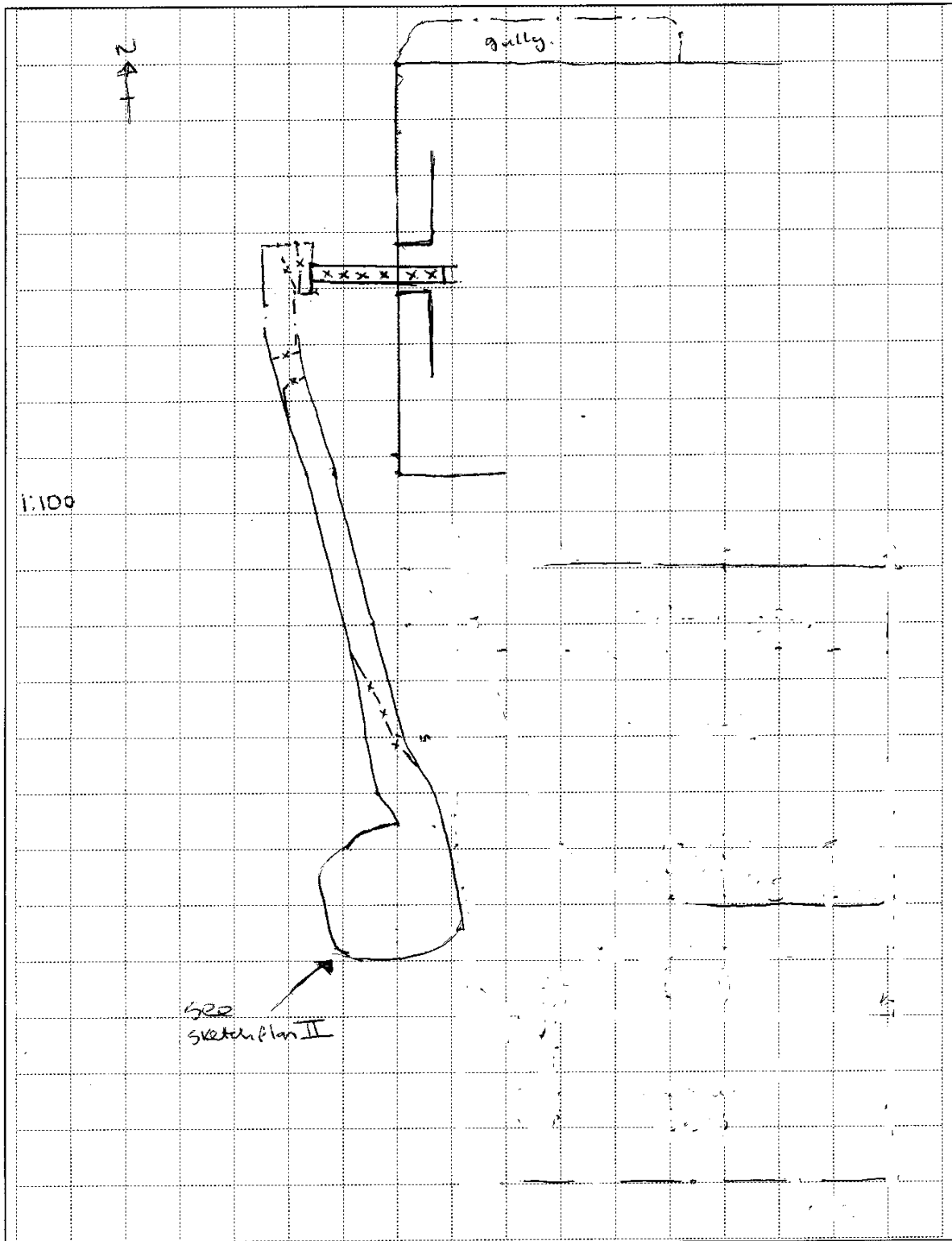
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: 1029/ASP		Project No/Code: 1	Sheet: 4 of
Aspenden church.		Date of visit: 5/3/06	
Client/Developer			
Contact:		Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 07:15 left office	Finish:	
Completed by:			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roads	Levelling
			Quarrying
			Pipelines
			Other (specify):
Site & weather conditions: dry + sunny.			
Observations: continuing excavating septic tank pit. All made up ground.			
Pit section = Topsoil - 400mm			
Subsoil - N/A			
400mm → 160mm			
made up ground -			
natural 1.6m+			
Topsoil - silty ^{-clay} _{20%} mid ^{-dark} brown loam, occ flint nodules max 60mm			
80%, freq root activity; soft, friable			
made up ground - silty - clay freq - occ flint nodules 60-150mm			
80% 40% / moderate - firm			
freq chalk nodules max 60mm			
occ root disturbance.			
yellow-mid brown			
Comments: watch machine dig trench gully finish sheets.			



SKETCH SHEET

Site Name: 1029/ASP	Site Code:	Orientation:
Context: 1:100 overall plan		



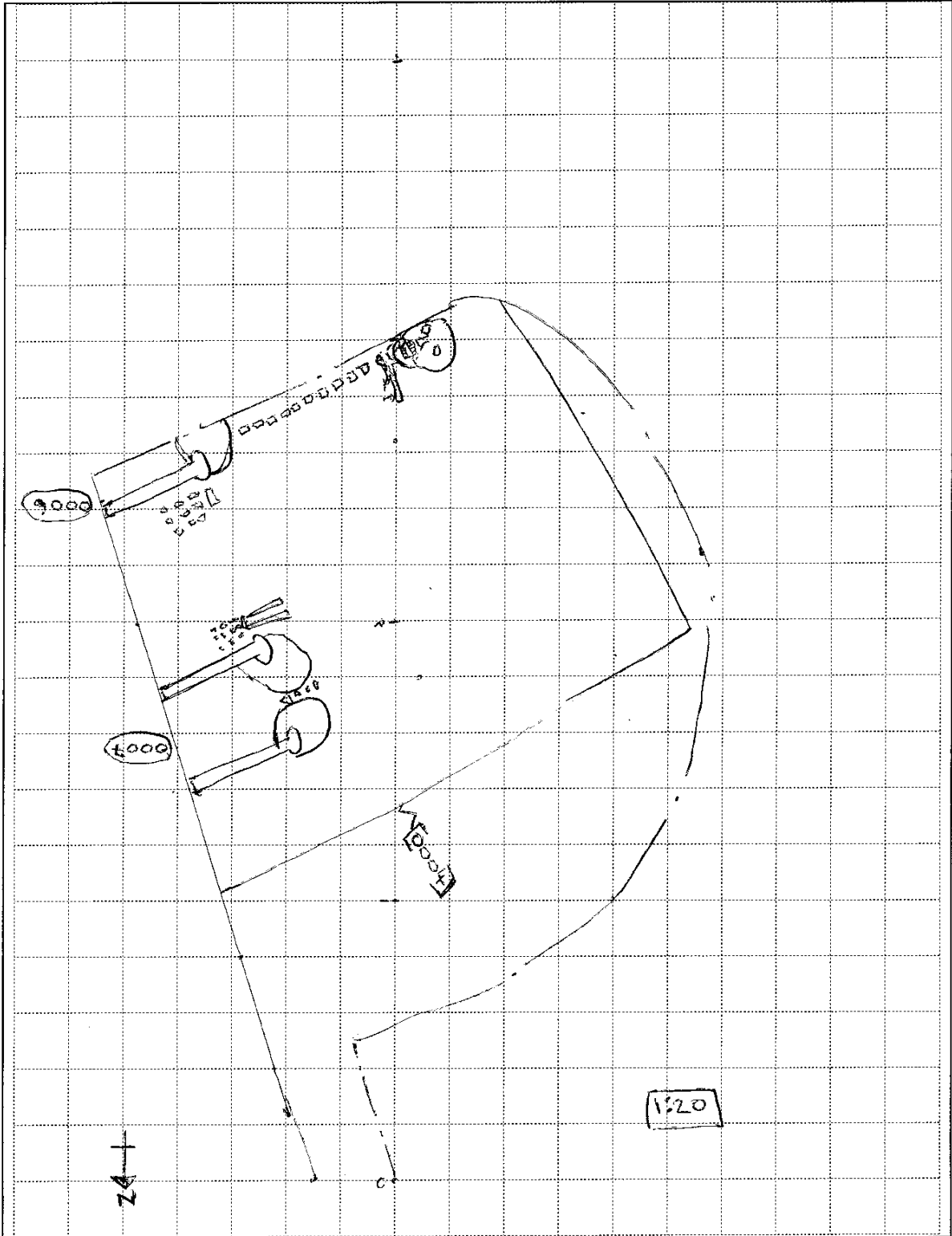
RECORDING NOTES

Recorded by: M.C	Date: 15/2/08	Digitised by:	Date:	Sheet number: of
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SKETCH SHEET

Site Name:	1029 / ASM	Site Code:	Orientation:
Context:	septic tank pit.		



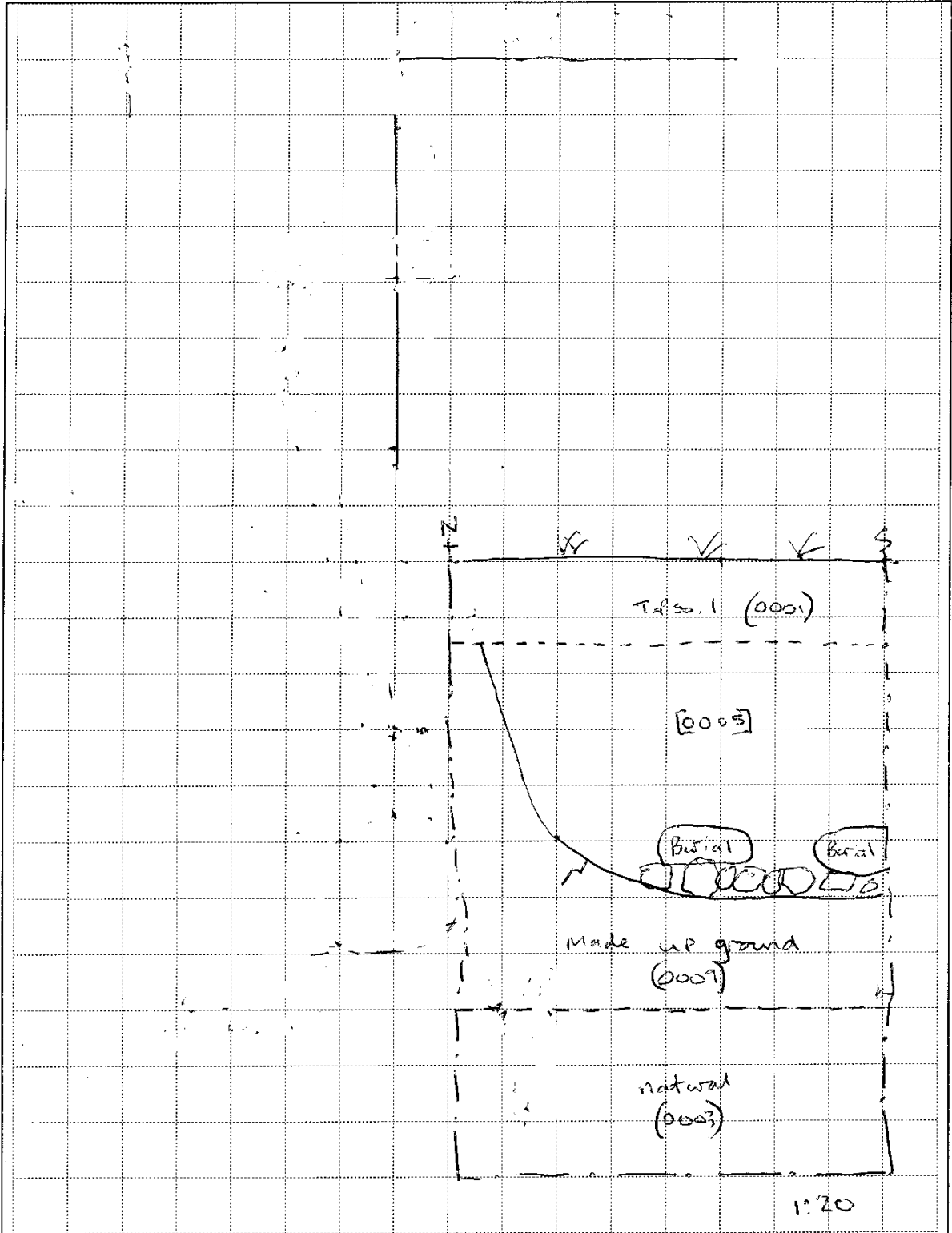
RECORDING NOTES

Recorded by:	M.C	Date:	4/3/08	Digitised by:		Date:		Sheet number:	of
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SKETCH SHEET

Site Name: 1029 / ASP	Site Code:	Orientation:
Context: septic tank section.		



RECORDING NOTES

Recorded by: M.C.	Date: 5/3/08	Digitised by:	Date:	Sheet number: of
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Appendix 2: Finds Concordance

Context	Pottery		Bone (Human)		Other Finds	
	(n.o.)	(g)	(n.o.)	(g)	Type	(n.o)
0005	1	51	28	495	F.E. bracelet (s.f. 0008) Coffin handle Coffin nails	1 1 14
0006					Partial skeleton	1
0007					Partial skeleton	1
0009	11	632			F.E. coffin handle	1
U/S	1	48			Roof tile (260g)	1

Appendix 3: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: St Mary's Church, Aspenden			SITE NO/CODE: 1029/ASP
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	✓		Test pit A, facing E
2	✓	✓	Test pit A, facing N
3		✓	Test pit A, facing N
4		✓	Pipe trench running into church tower, 1m scale, facing E
5		✓	General shot of Test pit A
6		✓	Test pit A and Pipe trench running into church tower, 1m scale, facing E
7		✓	Test pit A and Pipe trench running into church tower, 1m scale, facing E
8		✓	General shot of Test pit A
9		✓	General shot of Church
10		✓	General shot of Church
11		✓	Skeleton 0007 legs only, 1 m scale, facing S
12		✓	Skeletons 0006 and 0007, 1 m scale, facing S
13		✓	Skeleton 0006 legs only, 1 m scale, facing S
14	✓	✓	Skeletons 0006 and 0007, 1 m scale, vertical shot
15	✓		Skeletons 0006 and 0007, 1 m scale, vertical shot
16	✓	✓	Skeleton 0007 possibly out of focus, 1 m scale, vertical shot
17	✓		Skeleton 0007 possibly out of focus, 1 m scale, vertical shot
18	✓	✓	Skeleton 0006, 1 m scale, facing S
19	✓	✓	Skeleton 0006, 1 m scale, facing S
20	✓	✓	Pipe trench, 2x1 m scale, facing N
21		✓	Pipe trench, 2x1 m scale, facing N
22	✓	✓	Test pit A and pipe trench, 2x1 m scale, facing S
23	✓		Septic tank pit, 2m scale, facing E
24	✓		Septic tank pit, 2 m scale, facing E
25	✓	✓	Septic tank pit, 2 m scale, facing E
26	✓	✓	Septic tank pit, 2 m scale, facing E
27		✓	Septic tank pit and pipe trench, 2x1m scale, facing N
28		✓	Septic tank pit and pipe trench, 2x1m scale, facing N
29	✓	✓	French gully, 2x1m scale
30		✓	French gully, 2x1m scale
31		✓	General shot of machine at work
32		✓	General shot of machine at work
33		✓	General shot of machine at work

Appendix 3: Skeletal Analysis

By Harriet Jacklin (University of Leicester Archaeological Services)

1 Skeletal Analysis

1.1 Age

For a reliable estimate of age a number of different age indicators have been assessed. These are: dental eruption, dental attrition, epiphyseal fusion and long bone length. Age related pathology and skeletal completeness has also been considered and the varying reliability of these different methods has been taken into account.

1.2 Sex

For a reliable estimate of sex a number of different age indicators have been assessed. These are: pelvis (*sciatic notch, ventral arc, ischiopubic ramus, subpubic concavity, preauricular sulcus*), cranium (*supra-orbital ridge, nuchal crest, mastoid process, mental eminence*), femoral and humeral head measurements, size of clavicle and of sacrum. Overall size and morphology has also been considered and the varying reliability of these different methods has been taken into account.

1.3 SK0006

Age at Death: Adolescent: 16 to 20 Years Old*.

There is a slight discrepancy between dental age (12.5 – 16.5 years) and epiphyseal fusion age (18 – 20 years). Although dental age is usually regarded as the most accurate, it is clear that all the fusion ages match and the long bone lengths correlate with the fusion ages. It is therefore considered that the eruption rate may have been affected by a congenital abnormality, which has affected the eruption rate, if full analysis had been commissioned, then a dental x ray would have been taken as standard.

Sex: Female*

Although it is unwise to age adolescent remains, all surviving sex indicators confirm a 'female' sex estimation.

Pathological Analysis: Schmorl's nodes and hypoplasia lines.

Two cases of schmorl's nodes affecting the inferior surface of two thoracic vertebrae. Hypoplasia lines (affecting dentition) have also been found which indicate that the individual suffered from biological stress in early childhood.

No other pathological signs of ill-health are present on the surviving skeletal material; there is no other evidence of pathology or trauma, metabolic or endocrine disorders and no other congenital/ developmental variants.

Dental Health : Caries.

Four large caries with significant pulp exposure and four pin-hole caries.

1.4 SK0007

Age at Death: Middle-Older Adult: 36 to 51+ Years Old*.

All epiphyses are fused indicating an age of over 30 years old. In addition the pubic symphysis indicates an age of 34-86 years. A number of age related conditions have also been considered. Unfortunately, due to the lack of surviving dentition and poor preservation of the remains, further age indicators could not be taken into account, although it is likely the individual falls into the older age range.

Sex: Male

Pathological Analysis: Lumbar sacralisation and osteoarthritis.

Severe osteophyte growth has been found affecting the anterior margin of S1 (sacrum) leading to fusion with L5 inferior margin (lumbar vertebrae). Severe osteoarthritis has also been found affecting both left and right hip joints (left and right acetabulum and left and right femoral heads). The condition is most severe on the right.

Appendix 4: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	St Mary's Church, Aspenden, Hertfordshire.		
Short Description:	<p><i>In February and March 2008 a watching brief was carried out at St Mary's Church, Aspenden, Hertfordshire, during groundworks associated with the installation of toilets and a kitchenette in the tower.</i></p> <p><i>The only archaeological features observed during the groundworks were two burials, which were discovered in a single grave cut in the new cess pit. These remains were of a mature male and a younger female who may have been related. Both showed signs of severe physical hardship, but were of sufficient standing to have been buried in coffins. This and the depth of the burial suggest that the burials were of post-medieval date.</i></p>		
Project Type: (indicate all that apply)	Watching Brief		
Site status: (eg. none, SAM, Listed)	Grade 1 Listed	Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	Images of England number: 159712
Current land use:	Church Grounds	Future work: (yes / no / unknown)	No
Monument type:	Church	Monument period:	Medieval-Post Medieval
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	Two post-medieval burials with coffin furniture		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Hertfordshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	SP 3536 2839
District:	Aspenden	Parish:	Aspenden
Site address: (with postcode if known)	St Mary's Church, Aspenden, Hertfordshire		
Study area: (sq. m. or ha)	0.55 ha	Height OD: (metres)	103.12m
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	N/a	Project design originator:	N/a
Project Manager:	Karin Semmelmann	Director/Supervisor:	Bob Zeepvat
Sponsor / funding body:	Aspenden Parochial Church Council		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	18/02/2008	End date:	05/03/2008
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	N/a	N/a	
Paper:	Hertford Museum	Report, field notes, architects drawings, photos	
Digital:	Hertford Museum	CD containing digital photos and report	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Watching Brief Report, St Mary's Church, Aspenden.		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1029/ASP/1		
Author(s):	Martin Cuthbert BA		
Page nos	30	Date:	11/04/2008

