

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**WATCHING BRIEF:
ALL SAINTS CHURCH
LOUGHTON
MILTON KEYNES**

NGR: SP 8375 3788

on behalf of the Vicar and Churchwardens of All Saints Church Loughton



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February 2010

ASC: 1252/LAS/1



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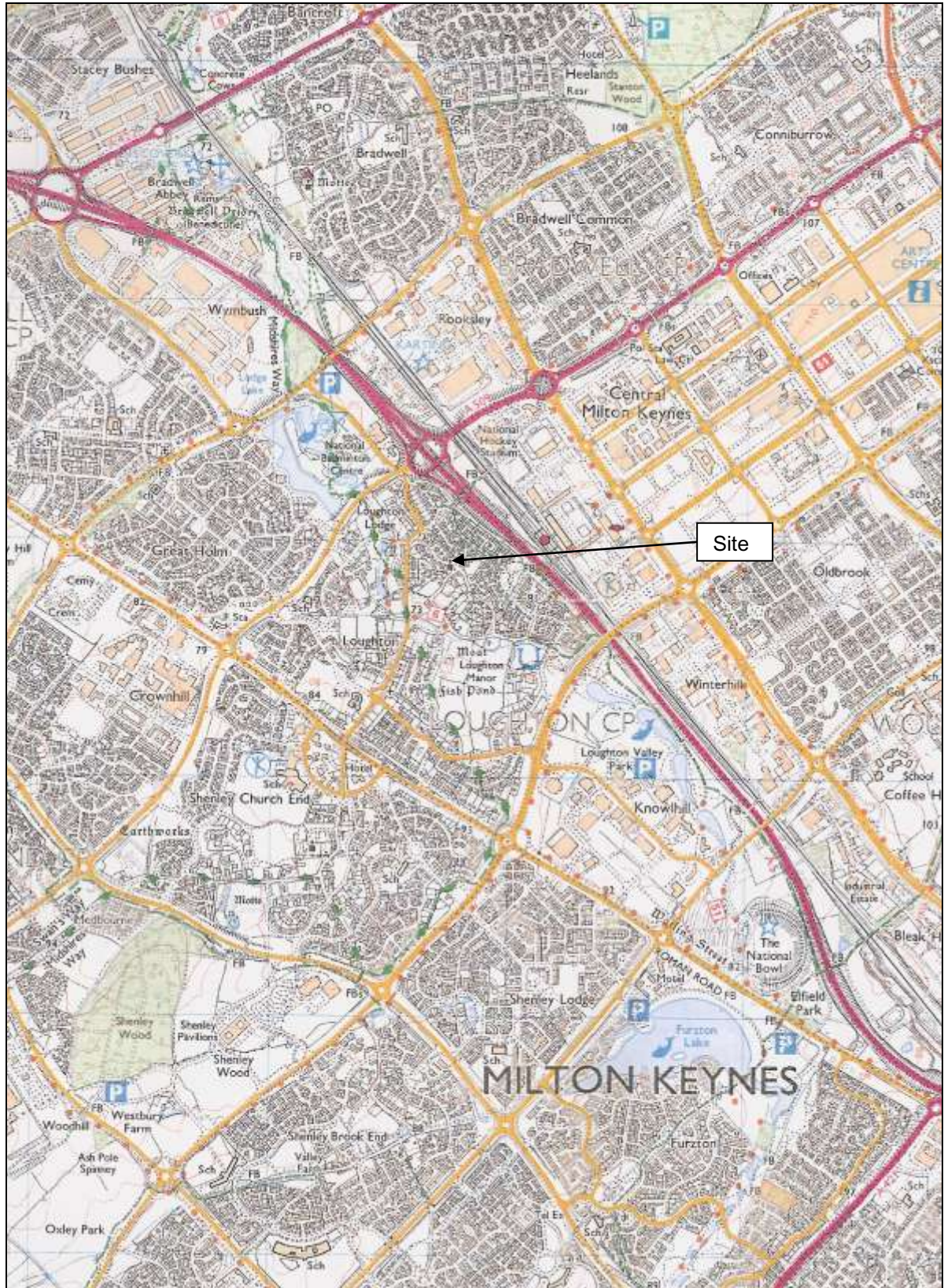


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

In January 2010 a watching brief was undertaken at All Saints Church, Loughton, Milton Keynes as part of a faculty from the Chancellor of the Diocesan of Oxford.

All Saints is a Grade II listed building, consisting of a nave, chancel, south chapel and south aisle, south porch and west tower. It was built between the 13th and 15th century and restored in the 19th century. A community room and associated service rooms were added to the north in 1994.*

The entire floor was removed during the present building works revealing several 19th century brick built burial chambers and tombs, three areas of redeposited burials and one fully articulated burial. The burial chamber in the chancel, which was that of the Smith family, was fully accessible by a set of brick steps. It contained four lead lined coffins and an empty shelf intended for a fifth burial was where the human remains recovered during the building works were re-interred. The burial chamber in the south aisle had been backfilled and had no steps into it. The vault had been truncated to accommodate the joists for the timber floor. It is thought that it belonged to the Hanstrapp family. The individual tombs in the chancel were under ledger slabs dedicated to members of the Crane and Athawes families and dating from the 17th and 19th centuries respectively.

The various brick built structures all appeared to date from the early 19th century and their construction clearly caused major disruption to the existing burials within the church. These remains were carefully reburied in three locations, all within timber coffins.

The exposed historic fabric of the building revealed little out of the ordinary. The foundations were between 200 and 550mm deep and consisted of the same density of Blisworth limestone as the main walls. The exception to this was the tower arch where the foundations were far more substantial.

1. Introduction

1.1 In January 2010 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a watching brief at All Saints Church, Loughton, Milton Keynes. The project was commissioned by the Vicar and Churchwardens, and was carried out according to the requirements generally set out by the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAA).

1.2 *Planning Background*

This watching brief was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), and under the terms of a faculty from the Chancellor of the Diocesan of Oxford.

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 ***The Site***

1.4.1 *Location & Description*

All Saints church is located in the village and parish of Loughton centred on National Grid Reference SP 8375 3788 (Fig. 1).

The churchyard is bounded to the north by Church Lane and to the south by School Lane. The two lanes meet to the east of the churchyard. There are private houses to the west of the churchyard.

The church, which is a Grade II* listed building, is built of limestone rubble with stone dressings. It consists of a chancel, nave, south chapel and aisle, south porch and a modern community room and associated service rooms to the north (Fig. 2). The listed building description is as follows:

C13-15, restored 1857 and 1886. Stone, nave and S. chapel lead roofs, chancel old tiles. Embattled W. tower, with C14 2-light belfry windows, deep corner buttresses and additional W. buttress almost blocking the W. window. S. porch, aisle and lady chapel C15 with offset buttresses, 4-light windows with some old glass in the heads. Interior: nave arcade of 2 bays continued with 1 bay between the chancel and S. chapel at E. end of the aisle. At the W. end of the nave are 2 transitional lancets, the tower arch is C14 supported on piers with 3 shafts with hood mould on corbels of carved heads. E. window of 2 lights, probably C13. Font also probably C13. Monuments: In the chancel is a brass to Hugh Parke, Rector, 1514, and on the S. wall a monument to Robert Crane, 1672, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and son of John Crane, Clerk of the Green Cloth to King Charles II who died in 1660, a panel in an architrave surround with scroll base, scroll pediment and cartouche of arms. Nearby is a monument to Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Tresham, wife of John Crane, d. 1624, a panel in eared architrave, entablature and cartouche of arms. On the W. wall of the S. aisle is an early C18 monument to the Hanstrapp family, a draped cartouche with swags, arms above and angels peeping out of the drapery on either side. RCHM II.p.181. MON.1.

1.4.2 *Geology & Topography*

The soils of the area belong to the Wickham 2 Association, which are characterised as *slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy over clayey, fine silty over clayey and clayey soils. Small areas of slowly permeable calcareous soils on steeper slopes over Jurassic and Cretaceous clay or mudstone* (Soil Survey 1983, Wickham 2,f).

1.4.3 *Proposed Development*

The works include the installation of a new floor over new insulating material and under floor heating.

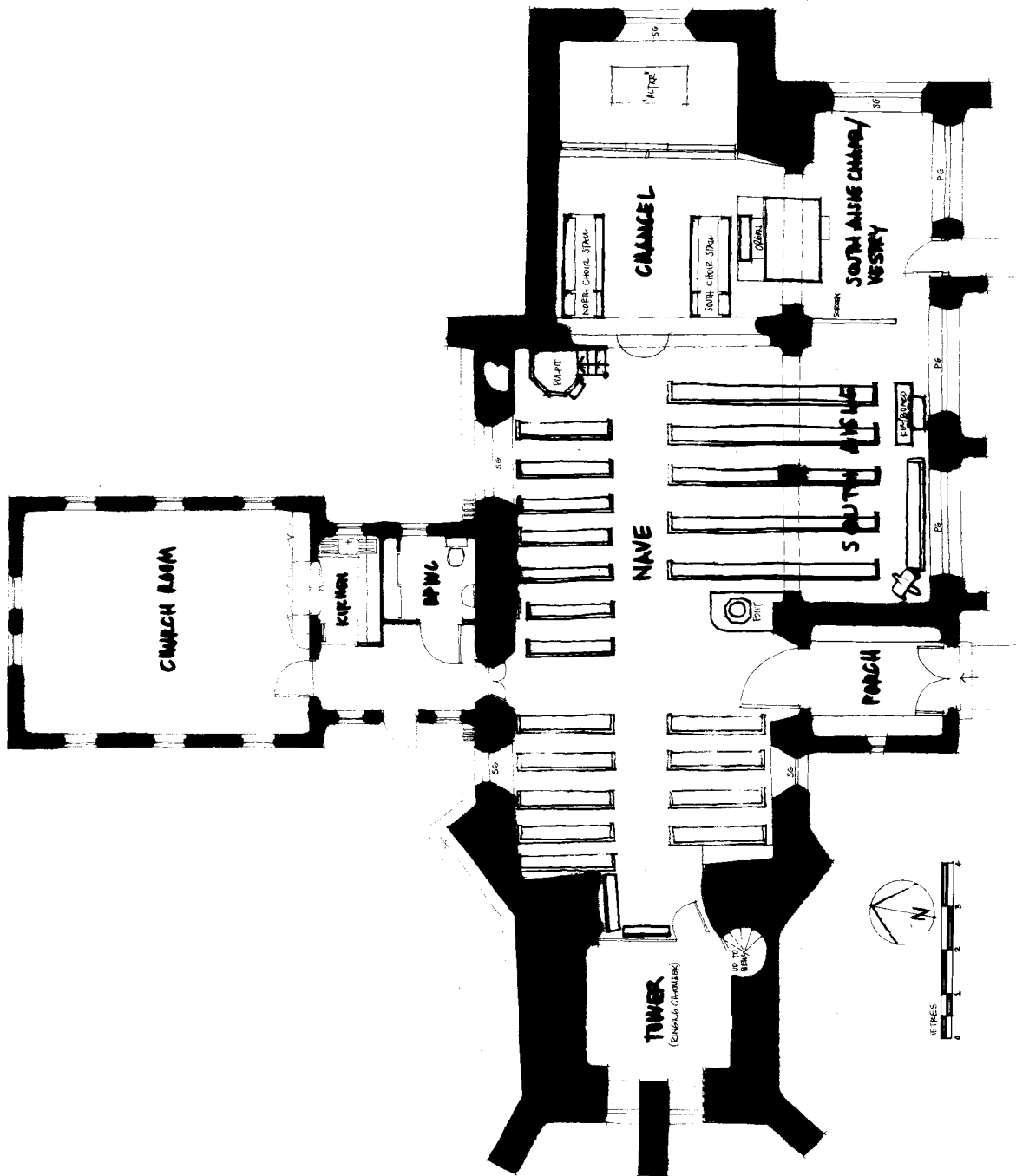


Figure 2: Church plan (scale as shown)
(Drawing courtesy of Stern Thom Fehler Architects)

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 *Aims*

The aims of the watching brief were:

- To determine the character of the fabric (above and below ground) of the building
- To determine the presence of any remains of earlier buildings
- To record burial vaults and graves
- To determine the extent to which human remains survive in the affected area
- To signal, before work proceeds, the discovery of an archaeological find for which further action is required
- To provide a report and ordered archive on the investigation

2.2 *Standards*

The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 *Methods*

The work was carried out according to the requirements previously set out by the DAA on similar projects, which included:

- A watching brief on the ground reduction within the church
- The production of an illustrated report

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available background to the church and its environs.

This section has been compiled with information from Buckinghamshire Centre for Local Studies, the Internet and ASC's own library.

3.2 The earliest documentary evidence for the church dates from 1219. The advowson was initially held by the lords of the Manor of Great Loughton, which suggests that the church may have been founded by John de Loughton or one of his ancestors. A church was also recorded in Little Loughton in 1219, which was also held by a branch of the Loughton family. The advowson of both churches was united in the early 15th century and acquired by Trinity College, Cambridge in the 17th century (VCH online). The college still holds some documents in the archive.

3.3 The chancel and nave are early 13th century, albeit with later alterations. The south aisle, south chapel, porch and west tower were added in the 14th and 15th century. The nave walls were heightened and the roof rebuilt when the aisle was added (RCHME 1913: 181; VCH online).

3.4 The chancel was heavily restored *c.*1700 when the Hanslapp family held Little Loughton Manor and shortly after the Crane family relinquished their holding of Great Loughton Manor. Both families are commemorated in memorial plaques on the walls and their remains buried within the church.

3.5 Later restoration programmes are said to have occurred in 1851, 1857 and 1886 (VCH online; Images of England Ref 45840). The Royal Commission of Historic Monuments of England noted a stone in the porch, which was inscribed with the date 1826. This was considered to indicate a restoration of the church (1913:181).

3.6 A new community centre with associated service rooms was added to the north of the church in 1994.

3.7 The church has a number of memorial plaques and ledger slabs, predominantly within the chancel and nave, but also on the west wall of the south aisle. The oldest surviving memorial is a brass to Hugh Park, a rector of the church who died in 1485. This lies in the sanctuary to the north of a broken ledger slab dedicated to Elizabeth and John Crane dating from the late 17th century. Immediately south of this is an ornate and well preserved slab commemorating Mary and John Crane who died 1624 and 1660 respectively. The inscriptions of these and the other slabs are transcribed in (Appendix 3).

3.8 Three members of the Athawe family are also commemorated on the same ledger slab that holds Hugh Parke's brass: Rev John Athawes who died in 1864 aged 69, his wife Miriam who died in 1849 aged 42 and their 13 month old daughter Mary Jane who died in 1848. The initials E.A and S.J.A are inscribed on a slab to the west of the sanctuary step, which commemorate two more Athawes children who died in 1835 and 1840 respectively. Another child, John Athawes born in 1837, survived and became a

first class cricketer with Marleybone Cricket Club in 1860 (www.cricinfo.com/england/content/player/8895.html).

- 3.0 A ledger slab dedicated to Jeremiah Gawthorn aged 70 and Jeremiah Gawthorn aged 31 lies in the nave to the northeast of the font. To the east of the slab is another smaller one that appears to be dedicated to the wife of one of the above.
- 4.0 Memorial plaques in the chapel are dedicated to various members of the Crane family including Robert Crane, Senior Fellow of Trinity College, his father John Crane and his two wives, Mary and Felice. An 18th century monument to the Hanslapp family is located on the west wall of the south aisle.

4. Results

4.1 *General*

The floor was removed in its entirety and the underlying ground reduced to an overall depth of 550mm below the present floor level. This was largely made up of a very loose silty sandy matrix with some patches of stiff clay. The latter was particularly evident in the northern part of the nave and the south chapel.

4.2 *Flooring* (Fig. 3; Plates 1-2)

The flooring to be replaced consisted of timber boards under the seating and paving bricks in the main walkways. There were three areas of concrete immediately to the north of the door in the south chapel, in the southwest corner of the nave and the southeast corner of the chancel. There was also a small area of clay fired pammets in the south chapel. These materials are catalogued in detail in Appendix 2.

Many of the bricks used for the dwarf supporting walls for the suspended timber floor were *c.* 23 x 11 x 3cm (9 x 4¼ x 1¼ inches) and appeared to be early 19th century, as did some of the timber flooring. Later flooring episodes are evidenced in the 19th and early 20th century timber floor and the cemented areas.

Earlier floors were revealed during the ground reduction, including a randomly set and probably medieval clunch floor in the tower. Evidence for limestone floors were found in the chancel, south aisle and south chapel. What appeared to be a remaining fragment of limestone flooring against the arcade column was 0.05m deep. This was immediately below the present floor level, but the limestone floor in the chancel was 0.45m lower. This could suggest that there may have been little difference in floor height between the chancel and the main body of the church at one time.

4.3 *Grave stones* (Fig. 4; Plates 3-5)

Two grave stones were discovered side by side to the northeast of the font. They were orientated north (foot) to south (head) and covered the entrance to a burial vault. The eastern grave stone measured 1.40 x 0.55 x 0.10m (55 x 21 x 3⅞ inches) and was inscribed on both sides. The upper face was dedicated to John Newman who died in 1766 aged 12 (see Appendix 3). The underside was less easy to read. It commemorated Richard (indecipherable surname) and appeared to be dated March 18th 1805. The lower 40cm of the stone had bolster marks and there were chisel marks on the narrow sides of the stone. It did not appear to have been used as a headstone, but was clearly intended as such.

The western stone measured 1.44 x 0.63 x 0.09m (56½ x 24¾ x 3½ inches). It displayed the same sorts of tool marks as its neighbour but had similarly been untried as a headstone. The underside of this stone was dedicated to Edward and Ann Watson who died within 9 months of each other in 1744 (see Appendix 3). The stones covered the stairs to a burial vault immediately to the east (see Section 4.4).

4.4 *Burial vaults* (Plates 6-18)

One of the two burial vaults discovered during the groundworks could be accessed by the brick stair sealed by the grave stones described above. The interior of the burial

chamber was 2.15m north-south x 1.84m east-west and at least 1.24m deep. It had two coffins one above the other in the southern recess, a single burial in the northern recess and a large coffin in the middle of the floor. All the burials were in lead lined timber coffins. Metal plaques, crests and lead strip decoration were evident on the central coffin and the upper one in the southern recess. Both these coffins contained a Francis Smith. Francis Smith senior (d. 1844 aged 60) lay in the middle coffin and his son (d. December 5th 1841 aged 20) to the south. The younger Francis Smith was identifiable by the metal plaque in the central panel of the coffin lid. The metal plaque in the upper panel had angels on either side. The only visible plaque on the middle coffin was in the central panel. In contrast to his son's plaques, this was rectangular with a triangular head.

The brickwork in the vault is set in an English bond whilst that in the walls adjoining the steps displays an irregular bond. Some of the bricks in the arch have horizontal skintlings, which indicate that they are handmade some time after the late 18th century. Some cement mortar was apparent in the arch, but this was by no means the norm and likely to indicate later repair. There was a distinct butt joint between the chamber walls and the eastern end of the staircase walls. The brickwork in the chamber and the arch appeared to be of similar date and colour, but the bricks used for the stairs were clearly later.

A small brick wall one course wide to the north and south of the vault formed the basis for the timber floor. The bricks to the north were unmortared and measured 22 x 12 x 6 cm (8⁵/₈ x 4³/₄ x 2¹/₄ inches). The bricks at the western end of the steps had been set in a soldier course.

The second burial vault was located in the southwest corner of the south aisle. It was 2.20 x 2.20m and backfilled with the silty sandy matrix found elsewhere in the church. There was no stair to the burial chamber and it is not known how many burials it contained. The brickwork was set in a lime mortar and the bricks, which were 21.5 x 15 x 8 cm (8¹/₂ x 5⁷/₈ x 3¹/₈ inches), were shades of red. The upper part of the vault had been truncated and channels cut into it, presumably to accommodate the joists for the timber floor. A small rectangular hole had been opened at the western end during previous works to the church, possibly to investigate the vault. The building of the vault had disturbed the footings of the arcade column to the north of it. The brickwork of the vault capping lay beneath the broken limestone base of the column.

Three further burial chambers were revealed in the chancel. One of these was located in the centre of the sanctuary floor between the sanctuary step and the altar. This was approximately 2.20 x 0.55m and was made of red bricks measuring 22.5 x 6cm (8⁷/₈ x 2³/₈ inches). The bricks had horizontal skintlings and were set in a lime mortar. The brickwork blocking the western end of the tomb was not bonded to the vault, and an internal inspection revealed the vault was in fact L-shaped, with an additional burial area to the northeast of the chancel. The remains of a coffin lid and a single burial were also visible. These were all left *in situ*.

The two remaining burials within brick structures were immediately west of the sanctuary step, along the north wall of the chancel. The northern one was approximately 1.70 x 0.55m and made of handmade bricks with horizontal skintlings.

The bricks were 21 x 10 cm (8¼ x 3⅞ inches). The vault of the southern tomb was heavily truncated and was abutted by brickwork to the south and the west. The bricks making up the vault were 21 x 6.5cm (8¼ x 2½ inches) and those to the south of the vault were 21 x 10 cm (8¼ x 3⅞ inches).

4.5 *Articulated burials* (Plate 19-20)

A single fully articulated burial was recovered from the south chapel. It was orientated west to east and had been buried in front of the chapel door some 60cm from the south wall. The skull and arms had been disturbed by the groundworkers but all the remains were recovered and briefly analysed on site. The burial was that of a mature male, probably in his 30s and approximately 1.70m tall. Two nails were found in close proximity to the remains, but there was no other evidence for a coffined burial. An osteological analysis of the remains can be found in Appendix 4.

Another articulated burial was encountered immediately below the sanctuary step. Other than the skull, which would have been disturbed by the ground reduction, the remains were left *in situ*. This was located c.30cm north of the south chancel wall.

4.6 *Disarticulated remains* (Plates 20-24)

An area of charnel was revealed to the south of the two brick tombs in the chancel. Amongst the human remains were six skulls, some coffin handles and fragmented timber. The timber was found in a line to the south of the remains, approximately 3.25 metres from the north chancel wall. The skulls were in fairly good condition, although one displayed a crystalline deposit on the crown, possibly the result of the original burial environment. They all had feminine traits such as gracile brow, but two may have been of juveniles.

A second area of redeposited human remains was revealed in the southeast corner of the sanctuary. This included a group of three skulls lying in very close proximity to each other at a depth of c.55cm below floor level. Timber remains and staining could be seen to the south and east of these, but the full extent of the timber casket that these undoubtedly represented could not be established. Two further skulls were revealed a little to the north and west of the skull group. All the skulls had female characteristics. The entire charnel area covered 1.34 x 1.78m.

A third area of redeposition was found to the north of the font. A group of four highly disturbed skulls was found in an area measuring 1.0 x 0.65m. Coffin handles and nails attest to the presence of a coffin, but no timber fragments or staining were in evidence. A little to the west of the group of skulls was half a skull and some small bones. What remained of this skull had male characteristics and one of the skulls within the group was small enough to indicate a child.

Three isolated skulls were also found during the groundworks. Two were located within the chancel on either side of a ridge of compacted soil (see Section 4.7). The third was against the south wall of the nave, approximately 50cm east of the tower. Those in the chancel were largely intact but that in the nave was badly damaged.

A relatively small number of disarticulated remains were recovered from throughout the church. Some had initially been buried in the churchyard and their remains become part of the intramural assemblage when the south chapel was built. This was most

apparent in the vertebrae discovered beneath the south wall of the south chapel c.1.45m from the east wall.

4.7 **Ridge** (Plate 20)

A ridge of compacted soil was excavated, which followed the line of the south wall of the chancel across the south chapel bay. The ridge was 2.10m long and 0.30m wide at the eastern end tapering to approximately 0.07m wide at the western end where it turned northwards. There was a short return to the south c.1.70m from the east end.

4.8 **Historic building fabric** (Plates 25-30)

The ground reduction revealed the footings of all the composite parts of the church, with the exception of the interior of the tower. As is typical of many medieval and some Victorian churches, these were seen to be shallow throughout, reaching a maximum depth of between 0.20 and 0.30m with the exception of the south aisle, where it occasionally reached a depth of 0.55m. The only consistent exception was the tower arch where they were at least 0.55m deep, 0.40+m wide and appeared to be stepped. The common factor to all the foundations was the use of limestone rubble.

Two rectangular openings were revealed in the footings of the north wall of the nave. One was approximately 0.55m west of the opening to the rood screen stair. It was 0.28m wide and 0.17m high. The other opening, which was 0.33m wide and 0.26m high, was located 1.12m west of the north door. Both appeared to be as deep as the wall itself and may have been for ventilating the timber floor.

The western arcade column was seen to stand on a limestone base, but the south side of the chancel arch to its east was also underpinned by red brickwork set in cement mortar. This would indicate a modern repair programme, which also included the construction of a short supporting grey brick pillar to the west of it.

The base of the sanctuary step was also revealed 2.20m west of the east wall of the chancel. It was a single course deep and had a platform or step, 0.45m north-south x 0.73m east-west, 1.58m from the north chancel wall. The wall extended as far as the southern end of the brick tomb.

Directly opposite the step was the brick pillar base of an altar. This was 0.61m deep and 0.68m long and made from red bricks measuring 22 x 10.5 x 5.5cm (8⁵/₈ x 4¹/₈ x 2¹/₈) set in a stretcher bond using lime mortar. Between this and the northeast corner of the east chancel wall was a length of brickwork just two courses high.

Two timbers were recovered in the altar area. One was 48 x 14 x 11cm and had two square holes containing nails, one of which held an attached timber fragment. The other, which was 44 x 10 x 9m, had a centrally housed tenon at one end. It is not clear what the purpose of either of these timbers was.

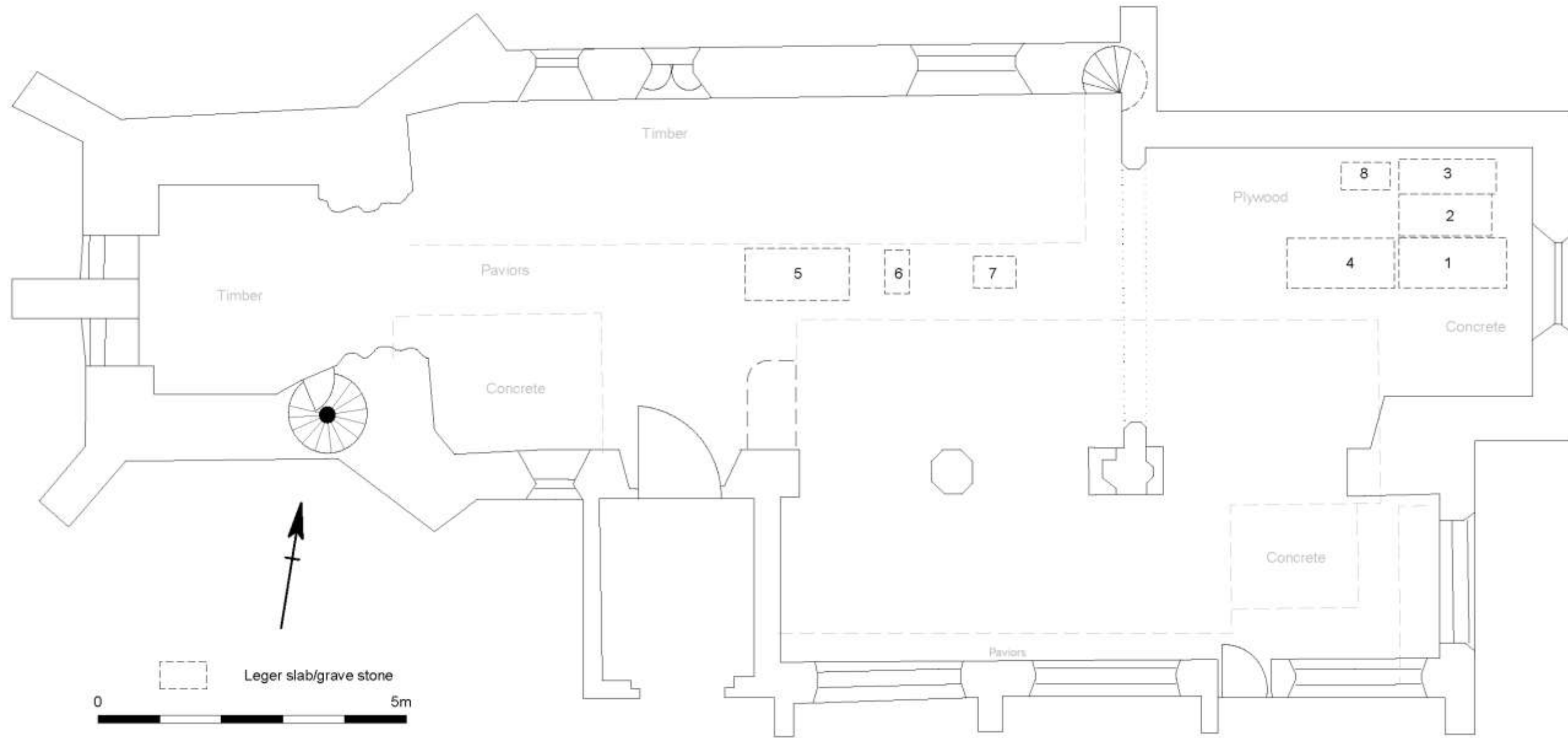


Figure 3: Flooring materials & ledger slabs (scale 1:75)

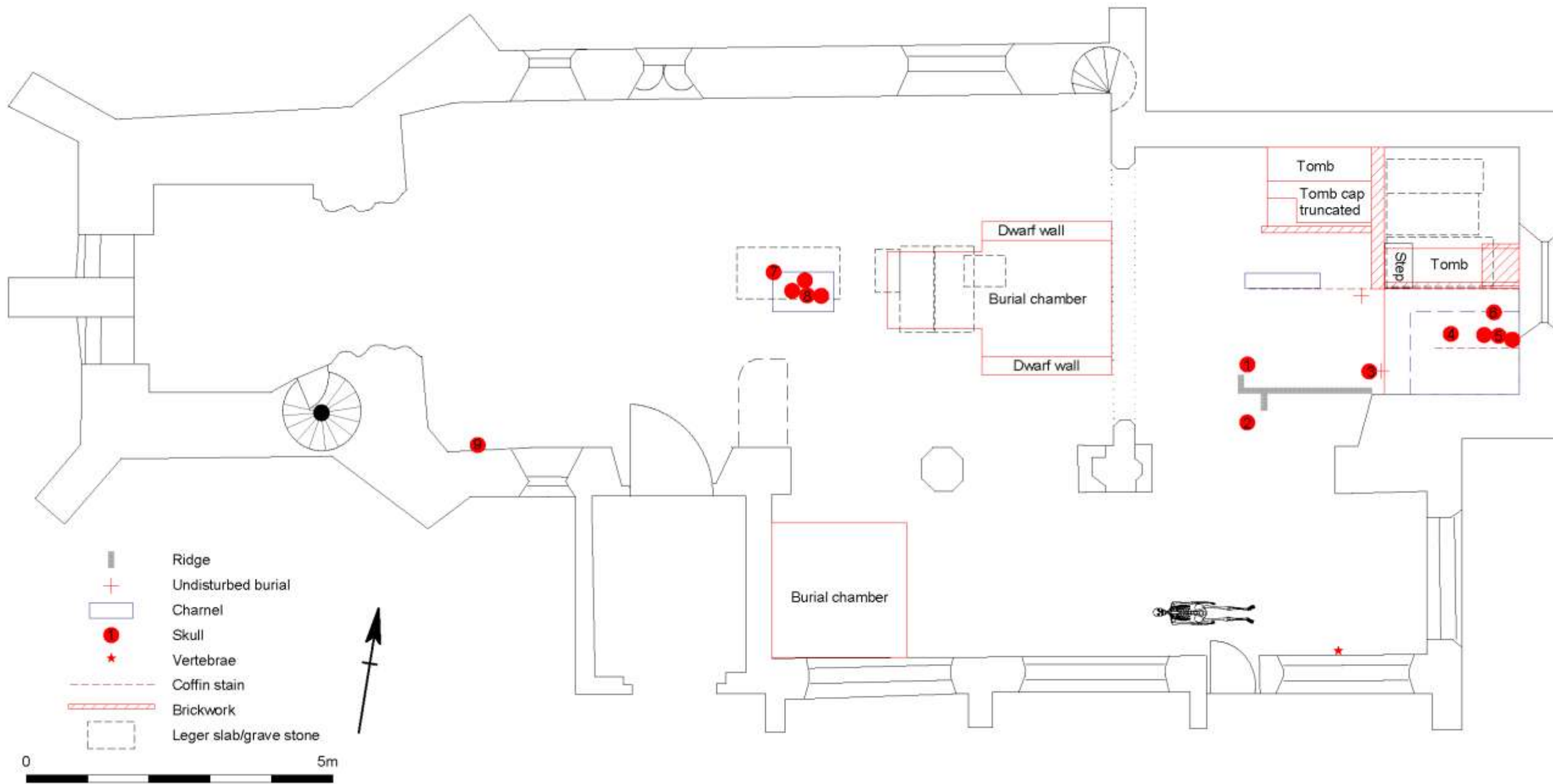


Figure 4: Archaeological remains (scale 1:75)



Plate 1: Brick, timber & cement flooring in the nave



Plate 2: Clunch floor in the tower



Plate 3: Grave stones & Smith vault looking east



Plate 4: Inscription to Edward & Ann Watson on western grave stone



Plate 5: Inscription to John Newman on eastern grave stone



Plate 6: Steps into the burial chamber looking west



Plate 7: Interior of burial chamber looking east



Plate 8: Burial chamber looking southeast



Plate 9: Southern recess of burial chamber



Plate 10: Northern recess of burial chamber



Plate 11: Detail of metal plaques and lead strips on Francis Smith the younger's coffin



Plate 12: Detail of Francis Smith the elder's coffin



Plate 13: Detail of brickwork in the Smith burial vault



Plate 14: Smith burial vault and brick walls to support the timber floors on either side



Plate 15: Burial vault in the south aisle



Plate 16: South aisle vault and truncated arcade column to the north



Plate 17: Sanctuary showing brick tomb



Plate 18: Brick tombs in the chancel looking east



Plate 19: Articulated burial in the south chapel



Plate 20: Skull of articulated burial under sanctuary



Plate 21: Remains south of the brick tombs in the chancel



Plate 22: Group of skulls in the chancel



Plate 23: Group of skulls and other remains in the sanctuary



Plate 24: Remains to the northeast of the font



Plate 25: South chapel south wall fabric



Plate 26: South chancel wall fabric



Plate 27: Base of tower arch



Plate 28: Brickwork supporting south side of chancel arch



Plate 29: Sanctuary step and brick altar base



Plate 30: Timbers found in altar area

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The building fabric that was exposed during the groundworks did not reveal anything unusual, nor did it further our understanding of the history of the building. However, the discovery of the ridge of compacted soil in the chancel area could be more significant. It abutted and followed the line of the south wall of the sanctuary and could indicate the earlier south chancel wall before it was removed. If that is the case, the return at the southern end of the ridge could indicate a former entrance into the church. This could have been a priest's door or, if the chancel was the earliest and only part of the church for a while, the main door into the building. Although this hypothesis could not be further explored during this investigation, further research may be able to prove or refute it.
- 5.2 There was evidence for an earlier limestone floor in the chancel, south aisle and nave and a clunch floor was found in the tower. Clunch, which is a more durable type of chalk suitable for building, was a commonly used material in the medieval period, largely as it was easy to extract and carve. The nearest available source of good quality clunch was from the Totternhoe quarries, some 16 miles southeast of Loughton. It was used as early as 1169 for the construction of Windsor castle and continued to be a favoured building material throughout the medieval period (Salzman 1952: 131). The use of clunch here is of interest as a more robust limestone was clearly locally available and used for the main body of the church. It is possible that more detailed historical research could find some documentary evidence to suggest why this particular stone had been chosen. In the meantime, we can only speculate whether it was recycled from an earlier building within the vicinity, or whether it had been specifically bought for purpose.
- 5.3 The extensive intra mural burial activity in the 19th century was largely unexpected. The ledger slabs and memorial plaques clearly indicated burials within the church, but the large burial chambers had not been recorded either within the church or in any surviving documents examined for this report.
- The brick tombs and chambers all appeared to have been built in the early 19th century. The brickwork was similar throughout, despite the slight variance in brick size, which was not uncommon in hand made bricks. The only burial vault that could be identified beyond doubt was that for the Smith family in the nave where the coffins of both Francis Smith, father and son, were clearly marked. Although there are a couple of headstones in the churchyard for members of the Smith family, no memorial plaque or similar had been put up in the church itself.
- 5.4 The burial register records the death of the elder Francis Smith as occurring on October 11th 1844. He was born in 1786 and the parish records detail that he was a churchwarden between 1814 and 1820 and was later surveyor of the highways and possibly also the guardian of the parish. He was active on the parish council until his death. It was observed that although he kept very tidy accounts, all of which were approved by his colleagues on the council, his estate was found to owe £36 in rates when he died. This was promptly paid.

- 5.5 Francis Smith married Sophia Wilmer in 1810 and they had four children; Louisa, Emma, Hugh and Francis. Hugh went on to become a vicar and died in Brackley in 1893. Emma married John Gardner and gave birth to Francis Gardner in Loughton in 1845. Louisa and Francis both died before their 21st birthday. Although the burials within the vaults are not recorded, it is possible that the other two burials are Louisa (d.1830) and possibly Sophia who died in Newport Pagnell in 1872. Other contenders could be another Hugh Smith who died April 11th 1841 aged 21, Thomas Smith who died October 25th 1835 aged 80 or William Smith, churchwarden before Francis Smith and probably his father. Further documentary research could well clarify the relationship between the various members of the Smith family and identify the remaining burials.
- 5.6 The burial chamber in the south aisle is quite possibly that of the Hanslapp family, whose memorial plaque is on the wall above. The Hanslapps owned Great Loughton manor from 1697 until at least 1746. However, between then and 1813 by which time the manor had passed to Mr Gee, little is known of the manor or the family. As the brickwork appears to be early 19th century it could be argued that the vault belonged to another family or that the Hanslapps lived in Loughton for longer than previously thought, whether or not they owned the manor.
- 5.7 The individual tombs in the chancel are possibly those of the Athawes children who were commemorated in the ledger slab above the graves. However, the burial(s) within the sanctuary tomb raise the most speculation. This was the most sought after burial location within the church in the medieval period and beyond. It was considered the most sacred spot and worthy of only the most deserving. In the medieval context, this would clearly have been the priest or possibly even local saint. The most likely medieval contender for such a spot would have been Hugh Parke, whose brass lay on the chancel floor. Later it became more commonplace for a wealthy local, such as the Lord of the Manor, to be able to buy this burial spot. In Loughton the local worthy was undoubtedly Robert Crane originally of Little Loughton Manor and senior fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge to which he granted the advowson of the church in the 1660s. At least six members of the Crane family were commemorated in ledger slabs in the chancel and sanctuary floors and their remains were almost certainly encountered either within the tombs or within the charnel areas. However, as the bricks used to build the tomb in the sanctuary had horizontal skintlings, which was a common feature after c.1770, it seems more likely that the tomb was built on the site of the Crane burials, and their remains were redeposited to the south of the sanctuary. The burial spot of Hugh Parke, rector in the 15th century remains unknown, but it is quite possible that the Crane appropriated his burial place in the 17th century.
- 5.8 A similar narrative of redeposition can be proposed for the group of burial between the font and the Smith's burial chamber. A ledger slab commemorating two Gawthorns overlay the site of this charnel group and two other ledger slabs lay to the east. It is most likely that the building of the burial chamber caused the removal of earlier burials in the area and their subsequent reburial as a group beneath the Gawthorn slab.
- 5.9 It must be conceded that the identification of the burials other than those of the Smiths is highly speculative. It is not known whether the ledger slabs were still in their original location or whether they too had been relocated during the 19th century rebuilding and reflooring programme. Any number of burials could also have taken place in the church without any associated memorial plaques or ledger slabs, and it

could be these individuals whose remains were discovered during the ground reduction. Regardless of the possible permutations, the basic premise behind the speculation of the identity of these individuals remains sound. There were burials within the church before the brick tombs and chambers were built in the early 19th century. The building programme(s) caused a tremendous amount of disturbance to these burials and to the fabric of the church. The human remains that were disturbed had to be reburied and the three chancel groups all have evidence for being encoffined and buried as a group. The damage to the column adjacent to the aisle tomb was less severe than that done to the chancel arch by the Smith burial chamber. Whilst only the base of the former was hacked away, the northern side of the column supporting the chancel arch, which was adjacent to the southeast corner of the chamber had to be reinforced by two brick pillars. The brickwork in the northern end of the east wall of the chancel may also be reinforcement due to the construction of the tomb in the sanctuary. However, it is also possible that it could be the outer wall of the burial chamber if it is actually L-shaped.

- 5.10 The nature and location of the burials attest to the hierarchical structure of earlier communities worshipping within Loughton church. Thus the vicar and the lord of the manor have their graves close to the altar, the former churchwarden is buried against the chancel arch and another influential local family had a vault in the south aisle. What remains enigmatic is the final manifestation of these vaults. The only vault that was easily accessible was the Smith chamber, which had later 19th century brick steps leading down into it. The steps were so steep that it would have been extremely difficult to lower a coffin into the chamber that way. This and the date of the brickwork suggest that the steps were built after the Francis Smith had been laid to rest there in 1848. The assumption is that the steps were built as an integral part of the chamber, but it seems to modern eyes to have little practical purpose other than providing access for the living into the crypt. Victorian ingenuity overcame a similar problem in Whithyam, Sussex, though, in that a wooden slide with integral rollers was built to lower lead lined coffins into the Sackville vault (Friar 1995:470). Certainly the Smith vault still had room for one more coffin on the northern ledge and a similar arrangement may have been available here. Certainly the edge of the steps was clearly marked in the bricks set on edge; a device used by Thomas Raynor in Thaxted Essex in 1618 (*ibid*).
- 5.11 The burial chamber in the south aisle was inaccessible having no steps and being backfilled with soil. It was in these respects the complete antithesis of the Smith chamber and could indicate two very practical aspects to burial practices. The chamber may well have been backfilled as it was full and no further access was required. Whether the backfill was entirely the soft silty sandy matrix visible at the top or whether the chamber had initially been sealed with clay or rammed chalk to stifle the smell is not known (cf. Rodwell1981:147). The second aspect is that any existing steps may have been removed once the chamber was sealed, which would have allowed more burials to take place in the church. The only other complete burial encountered to the south of the nave, though, was that in front of the south door.
- 5.12 The hiatus of burial activity post-dating the mid-late 19th century was put to an end when all the human remains recovered during this building programme were interred in the Smith vault with a brief ceremony on January 25th 2010.

6. Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by David Thom on behalf of the vicar and churchwardens of All Saints Church, Loughton. The writer is grateful to David Thom, architect and churchwarden for his assistance. Thanks are also due to Tom, Derek, Gordon, Scottie, and the other members of the Newport Construction team for their help, patience and exemplary team work during the groundworks. The background research was aided by the staff of the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies and Joyce Hill, also of Newport Construction.

The project was managed for ASC by Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by Karin Semmelmann and Carina Summerfield-Hill BA MSC. The report was prepared by Karin Semmelmann and edited by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

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

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum.

8. References

Standards & Specifications

- 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)*.

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Appendix 1: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: All Saints Church Loughton			SITE NO/CODE: 1252/LAS
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	X	X	Ledger slabs in the chancel
2	X	X	Mary & John Crane slab
3	X	X	Elizabeth & John Crane slab
4	X	X	Hugh Parke and Miriam, Mary Jane and Rev. John Athawes slab
5	X	X	Felicie and Robert Crane slab
6	X	X	E & SJ Athawes slab
7	X	X	View westwards into the nave
8	X	X	Slab with no visible inscription
9	X	X	Broken slab commemorating Gawthrop
10	X	X	Jeremiah Gawthorn slab
11	X	X	Opening to rood stairs
12	X	X	View into south aisle
13	X	X	West end of nave
14	X	X	Tower: west wall
15	X	X	Nave looking eastwards
16	X	X	Grave slabs over the Smith vault entrance
17	X	X	Inscription to John Newman
18	X	X	Slabs over vault entrance looking east
19	X	X	Slabs over vault entrance looking north
20	X	X	Lifting the eastern grave slab over the vault entrance
21	X	X	First view of the steps
22	X	X	View into the vault from the top of the steps
23	X	X	Coffins within the Smith vault looking east
24	X	X	Top of the steps leading to Smith vault
25	X	X	North wall of the Smith vault steps
26	X	X	Detail of slab over vault entrance
27	X	X	Inscription to Edward & Ann Watson
28	X	X	Vault in south aisle
29	X	X	Vault in south aisle
30	X	X	Brickwork beneath south column of chancel arch
31	X	X	South arcade
32	X	X	Smith vault capping being cleaned
33	X	X	Smith vault capping and brick walls for supporting the timber floor to N &
34	X	X	Northeast corner of vault in the south aisle and neighbouring arcade column
35	X	X	Northeast corner of vault in the south aisle and neighbouring arcade column
36	X	X	Northeast corner of vault in the south aisle and neighbouring arcade column
37	X	X	Northeast corner of vault in the south aisle and neighbouring arcade column
38	X	X	Smith vault after south wall supporting timber floor had been removed
39	X	X	Francis Smith the younger's coffin
40	X	X	Detail of Smith burial chamber looking southeast
41	X	X	Northern recess of Smith burial chamber
42	X	X	Detail of Francis Smith's coffin
43	X	X	Clunch floor in the tower
44	X	X	Crest on Francis Smith the younger's coffin
45	X	X	Coffin handle and plaque from the burial chamber
46	X	X	Coffin handle from the Smith burial chamber
47	X	X	Detail of Francis Smith the younger's coffin furniture

48	X	X	Plaque on Francis the top panel of Francis Smith the younger's coffin
49	X	X	Plaque on Francis the middle panel of Francis Smith the younger's coffin
50	X	X	Detail of Francis Smith the elder's coffin
51	X	X	Brick tomb and human remains in the chancel
52	X	X	Detail of human remains to the south of the chancel tombs
53	X	X	Detail of human remains to the south of the chancel tombs
54	X	X	Detail of human remains to the south of the chancel tombs
55	X	X	Detail of human remains to the south of the chancel tombs
56	X	X	Detail of human remains to the south of the chancel tombs
57	X	X	Detail of human remains to the south of the chancel tombs
58	X	X	Detail of human remains to the south of the chancel tombs
59	X	X	Articulated burial in the south chapel
60	X	X	Articulated burial in the south chapel
61	X	X	Details of vertebrae of the articulated burial
62	X	X	Details of vertebrae of the articulated burial
63	X	X	Details of vertebrae of the articulated burial
64	X	X	Coffin nail associated with the articulated burial
65	X	X	Skull of articulated burial at the southern end of the sanctuary
66	X	X	Sanctuary showing location of the above skull
67	X	X	View east showing tombs, burials, sanctuary step & ridge of compacted soil
68	X	X	South aisle south wall
69	X	X	Human remains in sanctuary looking south
70	X	X	Human remains and brick altar bas looking east
71	X	X	Skull and pelvic bone in sanctuary charnel group
72	X	X	Skull and pelvic bone in sanctuary charnel group in relation to altar base
73	X	X	Three skulls against east sanctuary wall
74	X	X	Three skulls and associated remains against east sanctuary wall
75	X	X	General view of the sanctuary being cleared
76	X	X	Timbers found in altar area
77	X	X	Details of smaller timber found in altar area
78	X	X	Brick tombs in the chancel and sanctuary
79	X	X	Detail of brick tombs in the chancel looking east
80	X	X	Detail of brick tombs in the chancel looking northwest
81	X	X	Chancel and sanctuary
82	X	X	Detail of north end of the sanctuary
83	X	X	Brick tomb in sanctuary looking north
84	X	X	Detail of brick tomb in sanctuary looking north
85	X	X	Detail of south chancel wall footings
86	X	X	Human remains northeast of the font
87	X	X	Human remains northeast of the font
88	X	X	Human remains northeast of the font
89	X	X	Human remains northeast of the font
90	X	X	Northwest corner of the nave
91	X	X	Skull against the southwest corner of the nave
92	X	X	Southern footings of the tower arch

Appendix 2: Summary of flooring materials by David Thom

Introduction

The main circulation areas are of paving bricks, with the seating areas being wooden boards formed as suspended timber floors. There are eight memorials laid into the solid parts of the floor, and some of these are related to wall mounted memorials nearby. Three separate areas of the floor are sand/cement screed over a concrete base, and there is a small area of fired clay pammets in the Vestry.

Consideration of the flooring materials in detail

The floor comprises a number of materials of different ages and condition, and these are described below in broadly chronological order of age, the oldest first:

Memorials:

These are the oldest flooring materials in the church. A list with inscriptions is appended at the end of the study. The oldest is that of Hugh Parke 1485; the most recent those of three of the Athawes family.

Brick paving:

The bricks are 230mm long, 112mm wide and 30mm thick of fired clay, laid without pointing and bedding in half lap stretcher bond on a dry-bound mortar mix possibly containing cement as well as lime and sand. The bedding is easily disturbed. Their colour en-masse is predominantly yellow with some red/orange in colour. They appear to be machine made and have no identification marks on the underside. The tops have worn at the arrises and about 25% are cracked or broken. There are about 2000 in all. They are probably of white gault clay origin. They have been tested for water absorption and found to be fairly porous and water retentive and unsuitable for external use. It is considered that they date from the C19th, possibly having been imported by rail.

Pammets: (by organ, in middle of Chancel/Vestry arch).

The pammets are approximately 240mm square of fired clay laid in strong mortar, so none have been lifted to determine their thickness. Colour ranges from yellow to red/orange. They are unglazed. Their extent is approximately one metre square. Date unknown; could be outcast from another building.

Oak and Elm boarding: (North side of Aisle up to centre of north door)

Comprises a suspended timber floor with an underfloor void of some 400mm depth, the boards supported on joists set on brick sleeper walls, but with no wall plates. The underfloor void is ventilated by air bricks in the north and south walls of the Nave. The boards are some 200 to 250mm wide approximately 22mm thick plain edged and fixed with iron nails. There has been much replacement of boards and their surface is very irregular and disjointed. The boards are of constant width but do not appear to have been machine sawn for thickness. The pews are fixed to the boards by a combination of metal angle brackets and timber blocks. The boards are finished in dark brown and black stain. Date early C19th.

Pine boarding: (North side of Aisle, from centre of north door, to west wall)

The irregular joint line between this and the previous area of boarding was hidden by a pew which stood in this area prior to construction of the Church Room Extension. The boards are

125mm wide and 20mm thick but not tongued and grooved, and appear to be machine prepared. They are finished in brown stain most of which has worn off. Date, late C19th.

Pine boarding: (South side of Nave and most of South Aisle extending approximately one metre into the South Aisle Chapel).

The boards are 100mm wide and 20mm thick, not tongued and grooved, but machine sawn and planed smooth. They are finished with black stain, much of which has worn off. Date, early C20th.

Concrete to part of dais at east end:

Approximately half of the dais comprises memorials 1, 2 and 3, and the remainder is of concrete or screed incised to appear to be stone slabs. The nosing of the dais is of stone slabs. Date, late C19th/early C20th possibly laid when the Athawes memorials were added.

Screeded area in east end of South Aisle Chapel:

An area of approximately 4.5m² of sand cement screed with a surface hardener/anti-dust coating slightly yellow in colour which has worn off where walked upon. Abuts areas of mortared brick and pammets. Similar in appearance to next area.

Screeded area in south west corner of Nave, from South door to west wall:

Church records show this as a repair from the 1970s when the previous suspended timber floor was found to contain extensive dry rot. The present floor finish is a sand-cement screed and there is evidence of a polythene damp proof membrane beneath it, turned up next to the adjacent brick flooring. The surface of the screed was treated with a dust sealer which has worn off in the trafficked areas. It is possible that area 8 above was similarly dealt with at the same time because the materials and finishes are similar.

Tower floor:

A suspended timber floor of 120mm wide x 21mm thick machine sawn and planed pine boards on joists, covered with carpet. Date, probably late C19th. This floor is at a lower level than the nave by some 100mm.

Conclusions

With the exception of the Memorials, the flooring materials are not of exceptional age or quality. The timber materials, where not affected by wood boring insects could be re-used in suitable locations. The bricks might also be used in another location or possibly as an edging to the floor to maintain some continuity in flooring materials.

Appendix 3: Table of Ledger slab & grave stone inscriptions by David Thom

<p>1 Crane: At east end of chancel centrally. Slate; Inscription (under Coat of Arms in shield): HEERE UNDER INTERRED RESTETH MARY Y^E WIFE OF JOHN CRANE OF LOUGHTON ESQ WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE Y^E 15TH OF MARCH 1624 AS ABOVE APPEARETH* HER LYES Y^E BODY OF JOHN CRANE ESQ: Y^E HUSBAND OF Y^E S^D MARY CHEIFE CLERKE OF Y^E GREEN CLOTH TO KING CHARLES Y^E SECOND BURIED 17TH OF JAN 1660 AGED 84 YEARS *”Above appeareth” relates to a wall monument on the south wall of the Chancel: Underneath was buried y^c 16th day of Feb: in y^c year 1672 y^c body of Robert Crane D^r of Civil Lawes and one of y^c Senior fellows of Trinity College Cambridge, son of John Crane Esq cheife clerke of the Green Cloth to King Charls the Second who was also buried here in the year of our Lord 1660</p>
<p>2 Crane: At east end of chancel to north of No1 above; Stone; broken into two pieces; Inscription of the west part worn away save for some letters on the north edge. Towards the middle, just at the break “Elizabeth” (Crane). Then below on eastern half of stone: Here also lyeth the body of the said John Crane- Gent died November ?8th 1685 in the 73rd year of his age</p>
<p>3 Athawes: at east end of chancel by north wall; with brass of monk (tonsured) standing at prayer, with Latin inscription under in Gothic Black Letter typeface. (not recorded). Then inscription of capital letters only of three persons: M A; M J A; J A one beneath the other. These are respectively Miriam Athawes; Mary Jane Athawes; and Rev John Athawes a previous Rector of the Parish. This is evidenced by a wall plaque above, on the north wall of the Chancel inscribed: 1st Jan 1849 aged 42 Miriam Athawes; Mary Jane Athawes 14th April 1848 aged 13 months; Rev John Athawes 31 years Rector died 21 May 1864 aged 69.</p>
<p>4 Crane: centre of chancel west of chancel step; of slate with three brass shields (one removed) and brass plaque inscribed: IN SPEM RESURRECTIONIS Depositu hic iacet corpus FELICIE CRANE de Loughton vidve cvivs vita & obitus Matrimorio Munumto a latere Borealihuius templi plenivs memorantuc NOMINE NATURA PIETATE ET FUNERE FELIX IN CHRISTO VIXI NUBSSQ3 QUIESCO RESURGAM OB 7 SEPT 1622 Then below cut into the slate: Here also lyeth buried y^c body of Robert Crane D of y^c civill laws & c as above aged 60 years</p>
<p>5 Gawthorn 1: Cracked; Stone; Inscribed: In Memory of Mr? JEREMIAH GAWTHORN of this Parifh who departed thif life December 2nd 1760 Aged 70 years. But to the Righteous hath Hope in his death. Alfo JEREMIAH GAWTHORN late of C.....? Nephew to (of?) the above Died December? aged 31 (?) years.</p>
<p>6 Gawthorp 2: Stone Broken corner: Only name, just visible, some other lettering but not decipherable – could be: ... wife of</p>
<p>7 Unknown: No Inscription visible Removal of stone and excavation revealed two further larger ledger slabs one inscribed in memory of John son of Richard and Penelope Newman. This was lifted and found to be inscribed differently on the reverse. A second stone beside this was inscribed on the buried face*. Both ledgers orientated south (head) /north and used to cover steps leading down into a brick arched vault containing four lead lined timber coffins, two on the south side, stacked, one in the middle (very large) and one to the north. The middle and upper south coffins bore metal plates painted to name Francis Smith and Frances Smith died //1840. Two others not identified. All coffins of similar style with cut-out lead strip decoration.</p>
<p>8 At north edge of chancel, west of step a stone slab 23” wide x 33 1/4” long engraved : E A DIED APRIL 25th 1835 and below S J A 1840 Both these persons are referred to in wall plaques adjacent and above, being Athawes children.</p>
<p>9 At west end of south aisle abutting south wall a brick built, brick arched vault roughly beneath the Hanslapp wall memorial. Top of arch has been trimmed away and cut into to accommodate joists and floor boards which were placed over. Hole found in top of arch, approx 600mm from south wall face. Brick wall closing east end, but part of east edge of arch broken away.</p>

*Stone slab 21" wide x 58" long x 3 5/8" thick with serpentine top edge, and carved decoration of a flower in a recessed scalloped frame inscription reads: In Memory| of John, son of | RICH^D & PENELOPE NEWMAN | died August 14th 1766 | Aged 12 years | Tho' in a moment snatched away | My life was but a spand | It was thy blefsed will O Lord | Directed by thy Hand | O' Father & Mother, Brother Dear | Mourn not for me I pray | *but in a season* (indistinct) which I enjoy | ?.....? without Delay |

The name etc lettering had been filled with a white substance, possibly lime putty

On the underside:

Here lieth intered the body of Edward Watson who died ye 4th Jany 1774. Aged 42 years. Also Ann his wife who died y2 6th September 1774. Aged 43 years. Adieu dear children. Orphans left to trusts (?) indential Eye but may our Lord your guardian be from now to all eternity

Second stone 26" wide x 58" long x 3 5/8" thick tooled on surface but no inscription. The inscription on the underside was less clear as it had been more susceptible to the humidity. It appears to commemorate Richard who died on March 18th 1805. The inscription had been filled with a black and then a white substance

Appendix 3: Osteological analysis by Carina Summerfield-Hill

A fully articulated burial was excavated in the south chapel and was rapidly analysed (Table 1). The morphological characteristics of the skull and pelvic regions (Schwartz 1995: 280-281; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994) indicated the burial to be that of a male. The epiphyseal fusion of the long bones (Schwartz 1995: 185-222), the auricular surface (Lovejoy *et al.* 1985) and pubic symphysis (Brooks and Suchey 1990) all pointed to an older adult in their 30s/40s.

There were pronounced muscle markings along the linea aspera (muscle attachment area) on both the right and left femurs. Pronounced muscle markings along the soleal line (muscle attachment area) and a slight thickening of the bone were also present on the right tibia, towards the proximal end of the bone. Such pronounced development of muscle markings indicate a high level of physical activity. The thickening of the bone is the result of the increased strain on the muscles.

Two of the thoracic vertebrae had osteophytes, which is indicative of a form of joint disease (Plate 1). These bony outgrowths develop in order to spread the load at the joint so it is better able to cope with the stress (Roberts and Manchester 2005:135).

Schmorl's nodes, another form of joint disease, were also present on the cervical vertebrae (Plate 2). The disease consists of indentations on the upper and lower surfaces of the vertebra; in this case the indentations were mainly present on the lower surface. The indentations are caused by a herniation of the intervertebral disc contents through the vertebral end plates, again due to mechanical stress. Trauma is one of the major causes of this condition (Schwartz 1995: 223-256; Roberts and Manchester 2005:140-141).

To conclude, the presence of mechanically induced joint disease along the spine, evidence of pronounced muscle markings and thickening of the bone in the lower limbs, point to the individual having a fairly physical lifestyle involving heavy manual work. The fact that the cervical vertebrae are affected points to the individual carrying heavy loads. Such manual activity traits are common in skeletal remains.

Table 1 – Articulated Burial

PRESERVATION	%	AGE	SEX	PATHOLOGY/AGEING METHODS						
Good bone preservation. Skull, right and left arms and hands disturbed by groundworks.	>80%	Older Adult	Male	<p>Pathology: Joint disease osteophytes on thoracic vertebrae, and Schmorls nodes on cervical vertebrae. Pronounced muscle markings present on right and left femurs and right tibia, as well as thickening of the bone around muscle attachment area on right tibia.</p> <p>Aging Methods: Bones fully fused – adult. Right and left public symphysis: Phase IV</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Mean Age</th> <th>S.D.</th> <th>95% Range</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>35.2</td> <td>9.4</td> <td>23-57</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Right and left auricular surface aged to 30/40 years of age.</p>	Mean Age	S.D.	95% Range	35.2	9.4	23-57
Mean Age	S.D.	95% Range								
35.2	9.4	23-57								

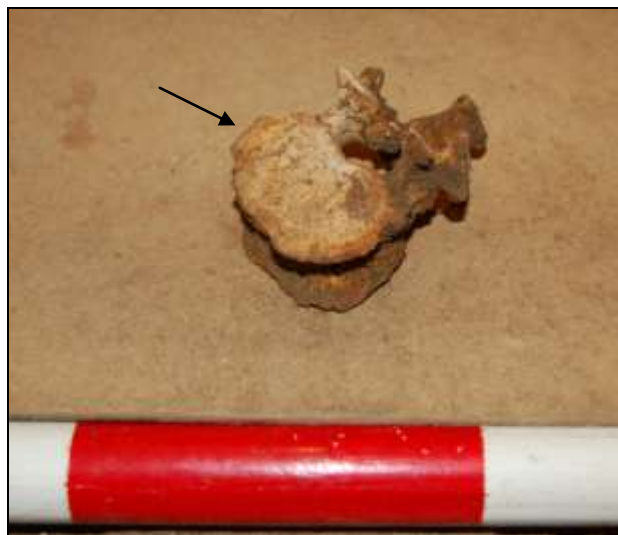


Plate 31: Osteophytes on the thoracic vertebrae



Plate 32: Schmorl's nodes on the cervical vertebrae

Appendix 5: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	All Saints Church, Loughton Milton Keynes	OASIS reference:	Archaeol2-71960
Short Description:	<p>In January 2010 Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd (ASC) carried out a watching brief at All Saints Church, Loughton, Milton Keynes as part of a faculty from the Chancellor of the Diocesan of Oxford.</p> <p>All Saints is a grade II* listed building, consisting of a nave, chancel, south chapel and south aisle, south porch and west tower. It was built between the 13th and 15th century and restored in the 19th century. A community room and associated service rooms were added to the north in 1994.</p> <p>The entire floor was removed during the present building works revealing several 19th century brick built burial chambers and tombs, three areas of redeposited burials and one fully articulated burial. The burial chamber in the chancel, which was that of the Smith family, was fully accessible by a set of brick steps. It contained four lead lined coffins and an empty shelf intended for a fifth burial was where the human remains recovered during the building works were re-interred. The burial chamber in the south aisle had been backfilled and had no steps into it. The vault had been truncated to accommodate the joists for the timber floor. It is thought that it belonged to the Hanslapp family. The individual tombs in the chancel were under ledger slabs dedicated to members of the Crane and Athawes families and dating from the 17th and 19th centuries respectively.</p> <p>The various brick built structures all appeared to date from the early 19th century and their construction clearly caused major disruption to the existing burials within the church. These remains were carefully reburied in three locations, all within timber coffins.</p> <p>The exposed historic fabric of the building revealed little out of the ordinary. The foundations were between 200 and 550mm deep and consisted of the same density of Blisworth limestone as the main walls. The exception to this was the tower arch where the foundations were far more substantial.</p>		
Project Type:	Watching brief		
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	ADS ref.NMR_NATINV-1304893.	Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	Grade II* listed (IoE ref. 45840)
Current land use:	Place of worship	Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	Unknown
Monument type:	Church	Monument period:	Medieval
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	Burial remains		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Buckinghamshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	SP 8375 3788
Site address: (+ postcode if known)	All Saints Church, Loughton, Milton Keynes MK5 8AS		
Study area: (sq. m. / ha)		Height OD: (metres)	
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	N/A	Project design originator:	N/A
Project Manager:	Karin Semmelmann	Director/Supervisor:	Karin Semmelmann
Sponsor / funding body:	Vicar & Churchwardens		

PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	15 th January 2010	End date:	25 th January 2010
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Buckinghamshire County Museum	N/A	
Paper:		Site notes, architects drawings, photos etc	
Digital:		1 CD	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Watching Brief: All Saints Church, Loughton, Milton Keynes		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1252/LAS/1		
Author(s):	Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA		
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