

# Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION: ST LAURENCE'S MEETING ROOM MARKET SQUARE WINSLOW BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

NGR: SP 76939 27610

on behalf of the PCC, St Laurence's Church, Winslow



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April 2011

ASC: 1269/WSL/2

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## **Site Data**

ASC project code:	WSL	ASC project no:		1269			
OASIS ref:	archaeol2-7	2968	Event/Accession no: AYBCM: 2010.197				
County:		Buckingl	namshire				
Village/Town:		Winslow					
Civil Parish:		Winslow	СР				
NGR (to 8 figs):		SP 76939	9 27610				
Extent of site:		c.60 sq n	1				
Present use:		Disused					
Planning proposal:		Construction of two-storey extension					
Planning application	ref/date:	09/00693/APP					
Local Planning Author	ority:	Aylesbury Vale District Council					
Date of fieldwork:		09/04/10-19/04/10					
Client:		PCC, St Laurence's Church					
		c/o Mrs R Hall					
		Churchwarden					
		32 Verney Road					
		Winslow					
		Bucks					
Contact name:		Rev. Belinda Searle-Barnes					

## **Internal Quality Check**

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# **CONTENTS**

Su	mmary	4
1.	Introduction	4
2.	Aims & Methods	8
3.	Archaeological & Historical Background	9
4.	Results	12
5.	Artefact Reports	24
6.	Conclusions	26
7.	Acknowledgements	28
8.	Archive	28
9.	References	29
Αŗ	opendices:	
1.	Excavation Summary Tables	31
2.	Finds Concordances	33
3.	List of Photographs	34
4.	Human osteological analysis	35
5.	Radiocarbon Dating analysis	42
	Pottery analysis	
7.	ASC OASIS Form	45
Fig	gures:	
1.	General location	3
2.	Site plan	6
3.	Development and excavation area	7
4.	Archaeological site plan	21
5.	Section drawings	22
6.	Section drawings	23
	ates:	
	over: Site prior to demolition, looking northwest	
	General site shot	
	SK008 cut by ditch 2	
	SK049 cut by ditch 2	
	Ditch 3 section [026], ditch 4 section [023], gully 1 section [021] and post-hole [028]	
	Ditch 2 section [010]	
	Ditch 1 section [042], pits section [044] and section [046]	
	Gully 1 section [038] and gully 2 section [040]	
	SK052	
	SK058	
	. Gully 2 section [032]	
	. Pit section [030]	
12	. Medieval cast copper alloy buckle	24

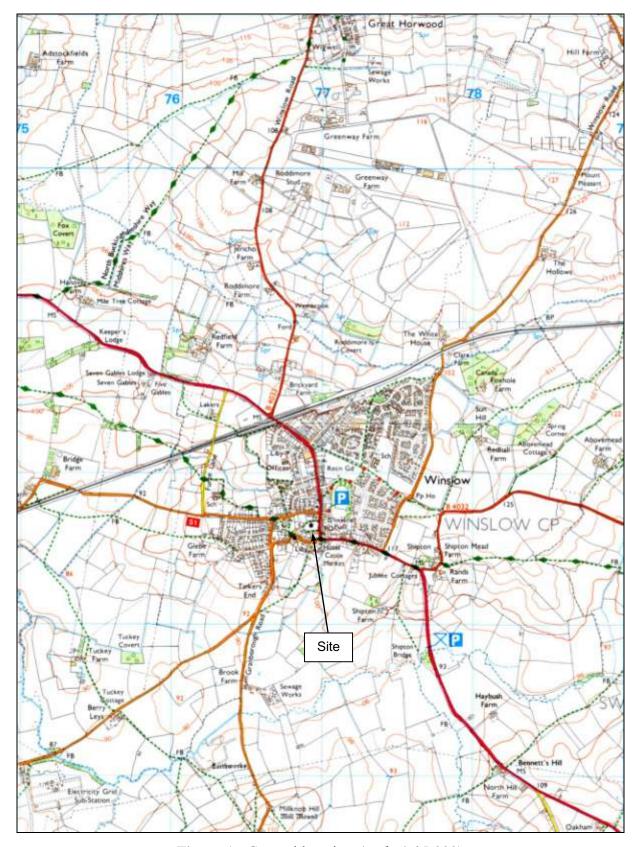


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

## **Summary**

In April 2010 Archaeological Services and Consultancy carried out an excavation at St Laurence's Meeting Room, Market Square, Winslow, Buckinghamshire in advance of a new extension. The excavation uncovered a number of archaeological features that included articulated Christian human burials dating from the late-Saxon to the post-medieval period, and a number of medieval and post-medieval linear ditches, gullies and pits. The excavation has identified a number of phases that can be linked to Anglo-Saxon and later activity on the site of St Laurence's Church, the alteration of the churchyard boundary and the land being divided up into medieval burgage plots.

## 1. Introduction

1.1 In April 2010 Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd (ASC) carried out an excavation at St Laurence's Meeting Room, Market Square, Winslow, Buckinghamshire. The project was commissioned by Winslow PCC, and was carried out according to a brief (Beckley 2010) prepared on behalf of the local planning authority (LPA), Aylesbury Vale District Council, by their archaeological advisor (AA), the Buckinghamshire County Archaeology Service, and a project design prepared by ASC (Zeepvat 2010). The relevant planning application reference is 09/00693/APP.

## 1.2 Planning Background

This excavation was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Statement 5* (PPS5), as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

### 1.3 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 Organisation* by the Institute for Archaeologists and is also accredited ISO 9001, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

#### 1.4 The Site

#### 1.4.1 Location & Description

The excavation site is located in the town and civil parish of Winslow, in the Aylesbury Vale district of Buckinghamshire (Fig. 1). The site lies on the north side of Market Square, c.35m south of the parish church, at the north end of St Laurence's Room, the parish meeting hall (Fig. 2). It is centred on NGR SP 79639 27620. The north boundary of the site also forms part of the south boundary of the churchyard.

The site lay on level ground at c.114m AOD, and comprised an unsurfaced yard area (c.37.5 sq m) with a beech tree at its centre, bounded to the south by a concrete apron following the north wall of the meeting room, and a low brick retaining wall with steps down to the adjacent courtyard. To the east was a brick garden wall, and to the north and west was timber fencing. Drainage manholes were present in the concrete apron.

## 1.4.2 Geology & Topography

Soils in the site area belong to the *Ashley Association*, described as "fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils, and slight seasonal waterlogging associated with similar but wetter soils, some calcareous and non-calcareous slowly permeable clayey soils" (Soil Survey 1983, 572q). This overlies *Weymouth Mudstone*, part of the *Oxford Clay Formation* (BGS, Sheet 219).

## 1.4.3 Proposed Development

The proposed development comprised demolition of the existing kitchen and WCs at the north end of St Laurence's Room (c.20 sq m), and construction of a two-storey extension on the same site, with a larger footprint (c.60 sq m) also extending over the grass area to the north and north-east (Fig. 3).

## 1.5 Previous Archaeological Work

No archaeological works have previously taken place on the excavation site. However, the brief (Beckley 2010, 5a) notes that in July 2002 a small number of disarticulated human bones representing more than one individual were discovered less than ten metres west of the proposed excavation area (HER 0235502).

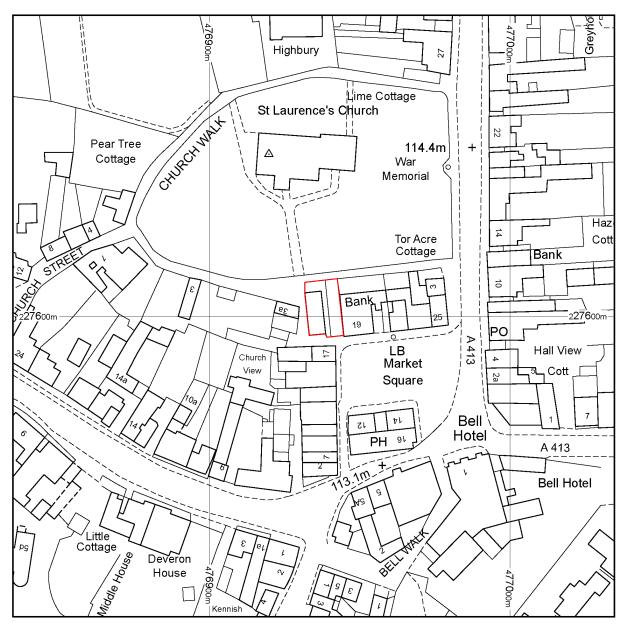
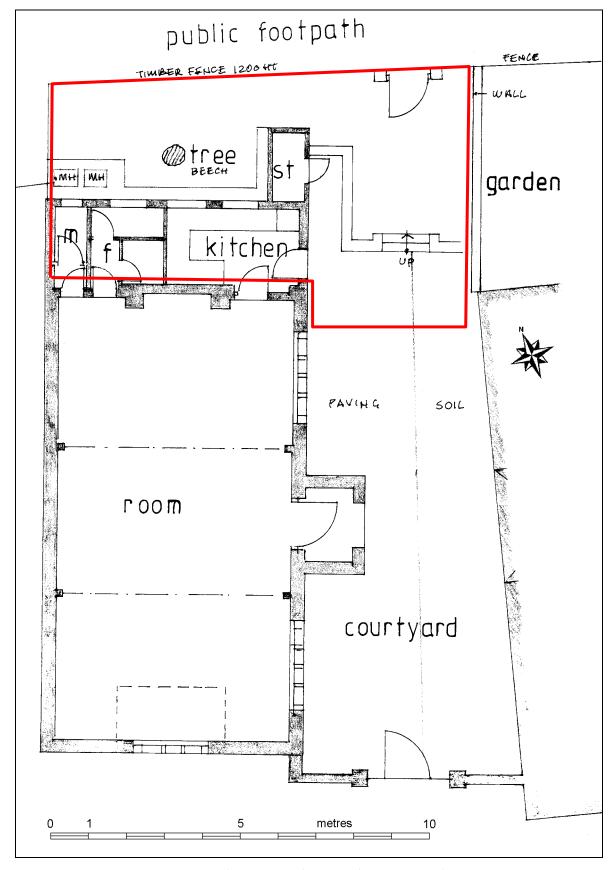


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:1250)



**Figure 3:** Development and excavation area (scale 1:100)

## 2. Aims & Methods

#### 2.1 *Aims*

As described in the project design (Section 3.1), the aims of the excavation were to gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of burial of important archaeological remains within the area of study. Particular attention was to be paid to the potential for occupation evidence, property boundaries and commercial or industrial activities associated with the Saxon or medieval settlement. The following specific objectives were identified:

- To investigate the potential for buried human remains.
- To establish the potential for medieval remains relating to the historic market place, or late Saxon/Norman remains predating it.

#### 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 project design (Section 3.3), which required:

• The footprint of the proposed extension to be excavated, and any archaeological features, deposits or finds to be excavated by hand and fully recorded and samples taken.

#### 2.4 Constraints

The contractors commenced the initial mechanical stripping of the site prior to the arrival of an archaeologist. However the remaining works were carried out in line with the project design and no constraints were encountered on the project.

## 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. The focus of interest in this instance is likely to lie in the Saxon and medieval periods.

This section has been compiled with information from the Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Record (HER), including a partial draft of the study being undertaken for the Buckinghamshire Historic Towns project, and ASC's library.

## 3.2 **Prehistoric & Iron Age** (before AD43)

Evidence for prehistoric and Iron Age activity is comparatively sparse in this part of Aylesbury Vale. Palaeolithic activity is suggested by the reputed discovery of an Acheulian flint flake of uncertain provenance (HER 0589100000) from a peat bed in Winslow. The HER holds no records indicating Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age or Iron Age activity in the vicinity of the site.

### 3.3 **Roman** (AD43-c.450)

During the Roman period, Winslow and the surrounding area fell within the territory of the *Catuvellauni*. The nearest town was *Magiovinium*, 12km to the north-east, and the road westwards from *Magiovinium* to Alcester (Oxon.) passed *c*.4km north of Winslow. The only Roman site recorded in the parish is at Shipton Farm, 0.6km south-east of the site, where 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup>-century pottery and 4<sup>th</sup>-century coins have been recovered (HER 007500000). A coin of Vespasian (HER 0759000000) was discovered in a garden in Missenden Road, 0.4km west of the site.

### 3.4 **Saxon** (c.450-1066)

The earliest Saxon activity is represented by at least four inhumation burials dated to the  $5^{th}$  and  $6^{th}$  centuries discovered at Haynes Pit (HER 0160501000), c.0.7km south west of the site.

The earliest documentary reference to Winslow is to a grant of land in AD792 at Winslow (*Wuineshauue*), Salden (*Scuccan hlaw*) or *Fenntun* with Horwood and *Lygetune* (Luton?) by Offa, King of Mercia, to the monastery of St Albans (Sawyer 1968, no.138). Whether this grant comprised the whole area of the *vill* (township) is uncertain.

The name Winslow is derived from *Wines-hlaw*, which has been interpreted as meaning 'Wines hill' (Mawer & Stenton 1925: 75). However, Reed (1979: 56) includes it within those names that have been derived from *lowe* or *hlaw*, meaning 'burial mound'. There is no extant physical evidence of a burial mound in the surrounding area, although an entry in the 1509 court roll implies that one was located to the east of Winslow, in Shipton Field.

Winslow has been suggested as a Royal residence of Mercian kings (Lipscomb 1847: 3, 543) although this is possibly a romantic construct of Victorian antiquaries. John Cowley, surgeon of Winslow, possessed a Saxon coin hoard (HER 0511700000,

051170001, Clear 1894), which was reputedly found c.0.7km east of the site at Dene Hill, the possible site of an  $8^{th}$ -century Royal Palace or Manor (HER 0511700000, 0511701000). Unfortunately the coins are no longer available for examination, as the collection was dispersed following Cowley's death in 1856.

## 3.5 *Medieval* (1066-1500)

In the Domesday Survey of 1086 Winslow is entered under the possessions of St Albans Abbey (Morris 1978, section 8.3). At that date, the settlement had a taxable population of 25 (17 villagers, 5 smallholders and 3 serfs) and its value had remained unchanged at £11 13s 4d with a tax assessment of 15 hides (*ibid*). The Domesday Survey makes no mention of a priest or church.

Neither Offa's grant nor the Domesday Survey entry provides any definitive evidence that Winslow was a nucleated settlement. Pottery of 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>-century date has been recovered on the north-western outskirts of the town (HER 0758000000), and it is assumed that the settlement was in existence by the 11<sup>th</sup> century, although this has never been conclusively demonstrated.

The Church of St Lawrence is the earliest surviving building in the town, and although much altered in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, it retains elements dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century (HER 0235500000). The circular plan of the churchyard suggests earlier ecclesiastical activity.

In 1235 a market was granted by Henry III and laid out to the south of the church (Reed 1979: 112). Market places are often found next to churchyards in small towns that expanded in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. For example at Toddington (Beds) a large marketplace adjoined the churchyard (Morris 1989: 212-213). At Llanelli and Haverfordwest, markets were held in or near churchyards (Schofield and Vince, 1994:46-47). At King's Lynn the market abutted onto the church of St Margaret, and at Northampton the market is found north of All Saints Church (Steane 1984: 125).

At Winslow it appears that the market place encroached on the south side of the churchyard. Evidence for this encroachment is provided by the discovery of a small number of disarticulated bones representing more than one individual less than ten metres west of the excavation site, south of the present churchyard boundary (HER 0235502). It has been suggested that these human remains derive from a former pauper's graveyard on the edge of the churchyard (Kidd 2002).

In the Hundred Rolls of 1279 Winslow is described as a 'borough' with ten burgesses (Levett 1938: 182). The burgesses would have held rectangular plots of land fronting the main street, a form of plot evident to the east of the church on the High Street. This area is referred to as *New Town* in early court rolls, and the thin rectangular plots stand in marked contrast to the more irregular pattern that lies to the south and southwest of the church, in the vicinity of the development site. Plots tended to be laid out using a standard width called a 'perch', a unit measuring 16½ ft or about 5 metres. Subdivision of plots or amalgamation was also common (Hindle 1990: 52-55). This is highlighted in the local court book entries for Winslow, which state that by 1342 burgage plots were split up into the following measurements: 'in length 165 feet and in width 17 feet at one end and 23 feet in the middle and 40 feet at the other end' and 'in length 108 feet and in width 18 feet at one end and 17 feet at the other end' (www.winslow-history.org.uk).

It has been suggested that the original main thoroughfare may have been aligned east-west following the approximate line of Horn Street and Sheep Street, and that the High Street became the principal street only after reorganisation of the town to accommodate the market (Reed 1979: 112). Archaeological evaluations at 10 High Street (Network Archaeology 2001, 2003) and 30 High Street (ASC 2003), did not reveal any evidence confirming the presence of burgage plots, and concluded that post-medieval landscaping and construction may have severely truncated or removed medieval features.

### 3.6 *Post-Medieval* (1500-1900)

Historically significant vernacular buildings in Winslow date from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, and are concentrated in the High Street, Horn Street, Market Place, The Walk and Bell Walk. Of particular note are the Bell Hotel (HER 1016600000) and the George Inn (HER 1017700000), both substantial timber-framed structures located at the junction of Horn Street and the High Street. None of the buildings adjoining the excavation site are listed as being of historical or architectural significance.

The Oxford and Bletchley branch line of the London & North Western Railway opened in 1850 and ran just north of Winslow. Winslow expanded northwards towards the station on the branch, although in comparison to many other towns the presence of the railway appears to have had little impact on its size (Leleux 1984: 39).

## 3.7 *Modern* (1900-present)

Winslow saw little expansion until the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, when a number of houses were built on its western margin around Back Lane. The 1960s saw a major reform in England's railway infrastructure and Winslow's railway connection was closed during the Beeching reforms of the late 1960s. Subsequent residential expansion has taken place, mainly on the east side of the town. Despite this, Winslow remains relatively small: in 1991 the population was only 4005 (Pevsner *et al* 2004: 754).

The St Laurence Room was built by Norman McCorquodale of Winslow Hall and given to the church and people of Winslow in 1912. It is believed that two church cottages were demolished to make way for it. The First Edition Ordnance Survey 25" Sheet for 1899 shows the whole site as being covered by a building or buildings, with the exception of a small garden area at the north end.

## 4. Results

#### 4.1 General

The site area measured c.60 sq m and was mechanically excavated with a toothless ditching bucket to a maximum depth of c.1.65m (Plate 1). The general stratigraphy comprised:

0 - 250mm topsoil (001) consisting of dark brown, soft silty clay loam; 250-850mm max ground (002), consisting of tarmac, hoggin and bricks; 850-1650mm max subsoil (003) consisting of mid-dark brown silty clay with occasional brick and tile fragments;

Natural strata (004) consisting of light orange sand and orangey yellow clay.

The excavation uncovered seven articulated/partially articulated Christian burials (see Appendix 4 for osteological analysis), a posthole, three ditches, three pits and two gullies (see Appendix 1 for excavation summary tables).

## 4.2 *Phasing* (Figs 4-6; Plates 1-11)

The following phases of archaeological activity have been identified on the site on the basis of radiocarbon dates obtained for two of the human burials, SK008 and SK052 (Appendix 5), pottery analysis (Appendix 6) and stratigraphic evidence.

## 4.3 *Phase 1* (Figs 4-5; Plate 2-4)

The first phase of the site was represented by five human burials forming part of a cemetery (SK008, SK055, SK049, SK016 and SK013). The burials were laid out in an extended, supine position orientated roughly west-east with the head to the west. The burials comprised two older adult males, one older adult female and two adults, sex unknown. Four of the burials (SK008, SK055, SK049 and SK016) were concentrated towards the western end of the site, with a further burial (SK013) towards the eastern end. Burial SK008 had a radiocarbon date of 1005±40 BP, calibrated to give a 95.4% probability of AD 900-1160. SK008 was cut by boundary ditch 2 (Plate 2). Pottery deriving from ditch 2 indicated a date range between the mid 14<sup>th</sup> and early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Burials SK055, SK049 (Plate 3) and SK016 were also cut by ditch 2, and therefore pre-date the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century. SK013 had a similar alignment and depth to the above burials, and was cut by ditch 3 (ditches 2 and 3 both belong to Phase 2).

A posthole (section [028]) was excavated towards the east of the site. It was truncated by ditch 3 and gully 1 (Plate 4) which may also belong to Phase 1:

**Posthole (Section [028]):** A sub-circular, U-shaped posthole measuring  $c.0.34 \times 0.38$ m in diameter, and c.0.10m in depth. The posthole contained a naturally silted single fill (029) of mid dark brown soft moderate silty sandy clay with rare small subrounded pebbles, and one sherd of mid  $14^{th}$  – early  $16^{th}$  century reduced ware pottery (TLMS3). As this was probably intrusive the stratigraphic relationships were relied upon to date this feature.

### 4.4 *Phase 2* (Figs 4-6; Plates 4-6)

During Phase 2 the southern boundary of the churchyard had shifted to a more northerly alignment. This change appears to have taken place by the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century, presumably when the site no longer formed part of the cemetery. Ditches 2 (Plate 5) and 3 (Plate 4), and pits [044] and [046] (Plate 6) appear to belong to this phase, suggesting burgage plots had been laid out along the north side of the market place.

**Ditch 2 (Sections [005] & [010]):** An NNE-SSW orientated ditch that extended beyond the limit of excavation at both ends. Section [005] measured *c*.1.38 in width, and 1.40m max in depth. It contained a single naturally silted fill (006) of mid brown, friable silty clay with occasional small sub-angular stones and flint, and frequent rooting. Sherds of mid 14<sup>th</sup> to early 16<sup>th</sup> century reduced ware pottery (TLMS3) were recovered from it. Section [005] cut grave [007] and was also cut by grave [051]. Section [010] of the same ditch measured *c*.1.29m in width, and 0.42m in depth (Plate 5). It contained a single fill (011) of mid-brown orange, moderately soft, firm silty sandy clay, with occasional medium sub-angular stones and frequent rooting. Finds of mid 14<sup>th</sup> to early 16<sup>th</sup> century reduced ware pottery (TLMS3) and cattle bones were recovered. Ditch section [010] cut grave [015].

**Ditch 3 (Sections [026] & [034]):** An NNE-SSW orientated ditch that extended beyond the limit of excavation at both ends. Section [026] (Plate 4) measured c.1.6m in width, and 0.66m in depth. It contained a naturally silted single fill (027) of mid brown orange/beige soft to moderate silty sandy clay with rare small sub-rounded pebbles, occasional rooting, and sheep bones. Section [026] truncated post-hole section [028]. Ditch 3 also cut burial SK013 and was truncated by gullies 1 and 2. Due to modern disturbance at the SSW end of the ditch, it was not clear whether ditches 3 and 4 cut or were cut by ditch 1.

**Pit [044]:** A possible pit, extending beyond the limit of excavation. Truncated by possible ditch [042] (Plate 6). The pit measured >0.3m in depth. It contained a naturally silted single fill (045) consisting of mid brown orange and dark brown moderately firm silty sandy clay with rare flecks of charcoal and occasional small subangular pebbles and rooting. It is possible that pit [044] cut pit [046], although this was not clear in section.

**Pit [046]:** A possible pit, extending beyond the limit of excavation. Truncated by possible ditch [042] (Plate 6). The pit measured >0.42m in depth. It contained a naturally silted single fill (047) consisting of mid brown orange moderate to firm silty clay with rare small chalk inclusions, occasional small sub-angular flint and flecks of charcoal. Finds comprised mid 14<sup>th</sup> to early 16<sup>th</sup> century reduced ware pottery (TLMS3), cattle and sheep bone, and ceramic building material (CBM). Pit [046] may have been cut by pit [044], although this was not clear in section.

### 4.5 *Phase 3* (Figs 4-5; Plate 4)

Phase 3 is represented by the re-cutting of ditch 3, designated ditch 4 (Plate 4):

**Ditch 4 [023]:** A U-shaped ditch orientated NNE-SSW, extending beyond the limit of excavation at both ends. Section [023] (Plate 4) measured 0.8-1.0m in width and 0.34-0.43m in depth, and contained two fills (024 & 025). The primary fill (024) was c.0.9m deep and comprised mid-dark brown, soft moderate silty sandy clay with frequent flecks of charcoal, medium sub-rounded pebbles and occasional rooting.

Secondary fill (025) measured 0.30-0.35m in depth and consisted of mid brown orange soft moderate silty sandy clay with occasional flecks of charcoal, small sub-rounded pebbles, rooting and cattle bone. Ditch 4 was truncated by gullies 1 and 2.

### 4.6 **Phase 4** (Figs 4-5; Plates 4 & 7)

This phase was represented by gully 1, which follows the same alignment as ditches 3 and 4.

**Gully 1 [021] & [038]:** A gully orientated NNE-SSW extending beyond the limit of excavation at both ends. Section [021] was U-shaped and measured 0.25-0.30m in width and c.0.1m in depth. It contained a single fill (022) of naturally silted dark brown/black soft to moderate silty sandy clay with rare small sub-rounded pebbles, occasional rooting, and some cattle bone. The gully was cut into the fills of ditches 3 & 4, and also truncated posthole section [028] (Plate 4). Gully 1 was cut by gully 2 (Plate 7), though at the southern end modern disturbance made it impossible to determine the relationship between gully 1 and ditch 1.

### 4.7 **Phase 5** (Fig. 4; Plates 8 & 9)

Phase 5 is represented by two burials, SK052 and SK058, laid out in an extended, supine position orientated west-east with the head to the west. The burials comprised one older adult female and one older child, sex unknown. Burial SK052 (Plate 8) had a radiocarbon date of 445±40 BP, calibrated to give a 95.4% probability of AD 1400-1620. Burial SK052 cut ditch 2, section [005]. SK058 (Plate 9) may also belong to this period as the burial was in close proximity to SK052, at a similar level and on the same alignment.

### 4.8 **Phase 6** (Figs 4-6; Plates 6, 7 & 10)

Phase 6 comprises ditch 1 (Plate 6) and gully 2 (Plates 7 & 10) which were parallel to one another:

**Ditch 1 (Section [042]):** A possible ditch orientated ESE-WNW. The full profile was not visible from the excavated section as the ditch extended beyond the limit of excavation. The ditch measured *c*.0.43m in depth, and contained one fill (043), a deliberate but gradual backfill, consisting of dark brown/green moderate to firm silty clay with occasional sub-angular flint and stones and occasional rooting. Finds comprised Brill/Boarstall ware pottery (MS9) dating between 13<sup>th</sup> - ?17<sup>th</sup> century, cattle and chicken? bone, oyster shell and ceramic building material (CBM). Section [042] truncated possible pits [044] & [046] (Plate 6). Towards the western end of the ditch an area of modern disturbance obscured the relationship between ditch 1 and ditches 3 and 4.

**Gully 2 [032], [036] & [040]:** A shallow gully orientated ESE-WNW, extending beyond the limit of excavation towards the ESE. At the WNW end of the gully modern disturbance was present. Beyond the disturbance the gully was not visible suggesting either that the gully terminated within the area of modern disturbance or had been truncated by it. Section [032] (Plate 10) measured 0.53m in width, and 0.07m in depth. The gully contained one naturally silted fill (033), consisting of middark brown/grey, friable silty clay, fairly sterile with rare flecks of chalk and minor rooting. There were no finds. Gully 2 cut gully 1 (Plate 7) and truncated ditch 3.

## 4.9 *Undetermined Phases* (Figs 4-5; Plate 11)

Pit [030] (Plate 11) and a quantity of disarticulated human remains could not be accurately phased:

**Pit [030]:** A sub-circular, undated feature, cut by modern footings. The pit was  $c.0.4\times0.7$ m in diameter, and 0.17m in depth. It contained a single fill (031), probably the result of dumping. Fill (031) consisted of dark black/brown, friable silty clay with occasional small sub-angular stones and flecks of charcoal (Plate 11). No finds were recovered.

## Disarticulated Skulls [SK018, SK019 & SK020]/Disarticulated Human Remains:

Three concentrations of disarticulated skull fragments and a moderate amount of disarticulated human remains were recovered from the excavation. As the burials were no longer in situ, they could not be accurately dated.



**Plate 1:** General site shot (scale  $2 \times 2m$ )



Plate 2: SK008 cut by ditch 2 section [005] (scale 2m)



Plate 3: SK049 cut by ditch 2 (scale 1m)

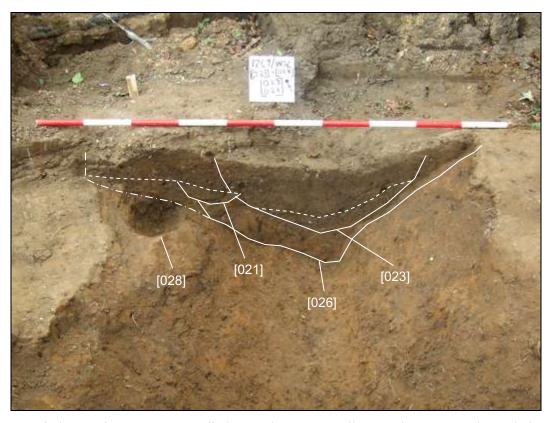


Plate 4: Ditch 3 section [026], re-cut ditch 4 section [023], gully 1 section [021] and post-hole [028] (scale 2m)



Plate 5: Ditch 2 section [010] (scale 1m)



**Plate 6:** Ditch 1 [042], pits [044] and [046] (scale 1m)



Plate 7: Gully 1 section [038] and gully 2 section [040] (scale 250mm)



**Plate 8:** SK052 (scale 1m)



**Plate 9:** SK058 (scale 1m)



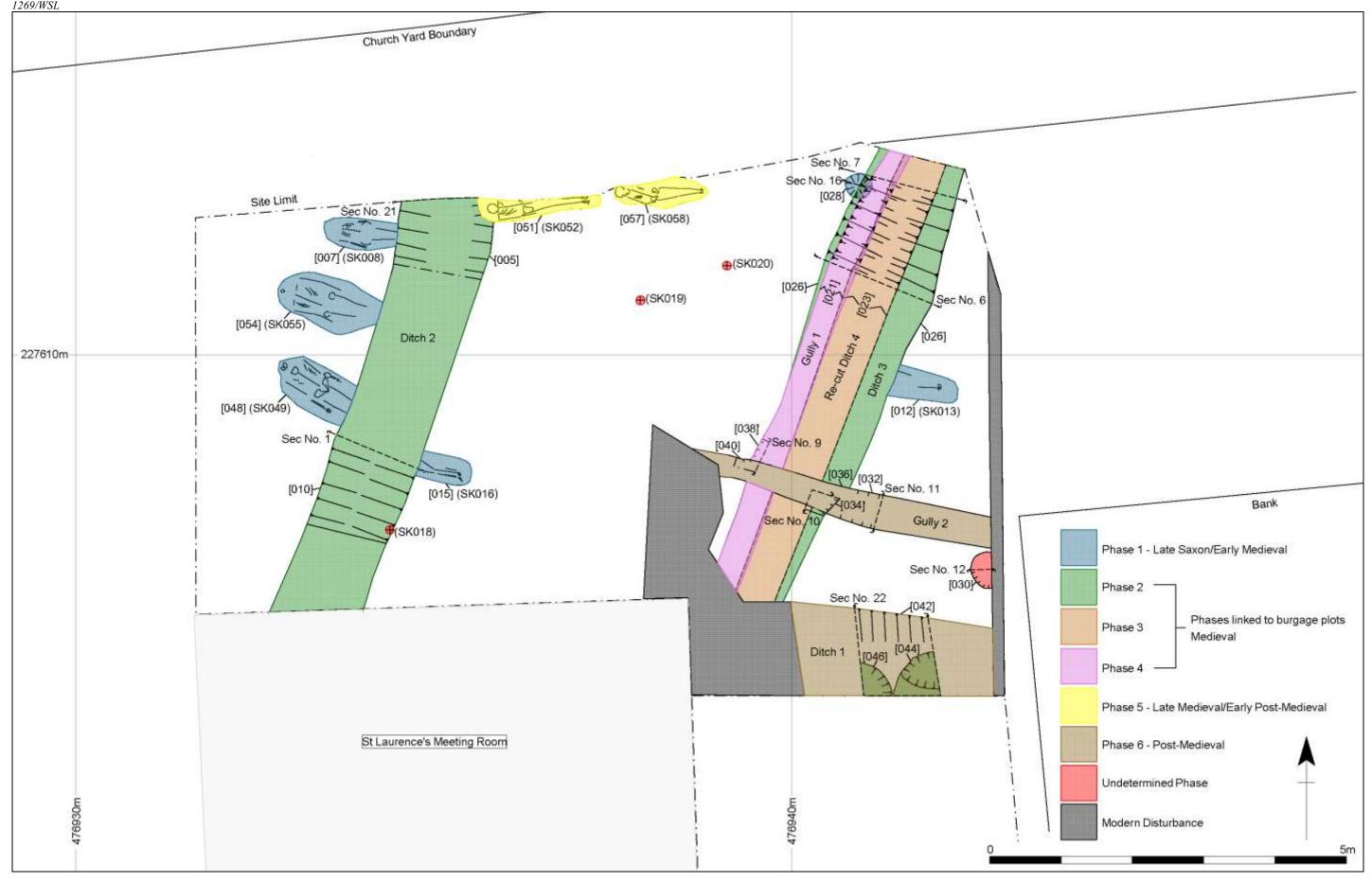
**Plate 10:** Gully 2 section [032] (scale 250mm)



Plate 11: Pit [030] (scale 250mm)

St Laurence's Meeting Room, Market Square, Winslow, Bucks
1269/WSL

Excavation Report



**Figure 4:** Archaeological site plan (scale 1:50)

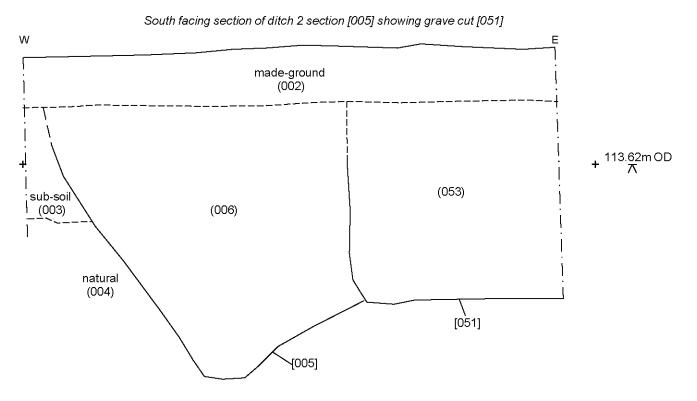
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(027)

[028]

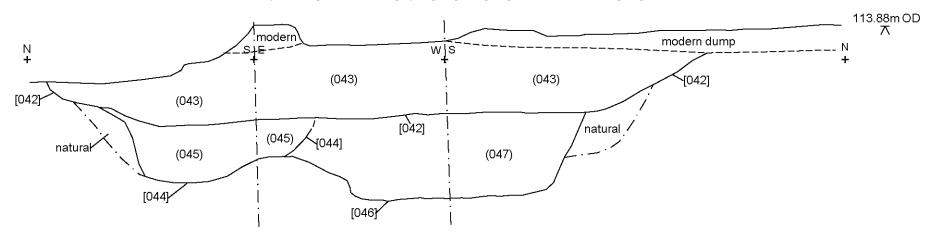
St Laurence's Meeting Room, Market Square, Winslow, Bucks
1269/WSL

## Section no. 21



### Section no. 22

Multiple facing section through pits [044] and [046] and ditch 1 section [042]





**Figure 6:** Section drawings (scale 1:20)

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# 5. Artefact Reports

#### 5.1 Buckle

Towards the southeast of the site, in the vicinity of ditch 1, a medieval cast copper alloy buckle, with the pin (Plate 12), was found within the sub-soil (003). The Portable Antiquities Scheme describes the same type of buckle found at Covington, Cambridgeshire as an 'oval single loop buckle with bevelled edges, lipped outer edge and integral forked spacer ...dark grey-green patina'

(www.finds.org.uk/database/search/results/old\_findID/DENO-B71332/).

The buckle measured 36mm in length, width across frame 21.5mm, width across ends of forked spacers 14mm, thickness across frame 1.5mm, thickness across forked spacers 1.9mm, weight 3g. The buckle was dated to c.1350-1450.



**Plate 12:** Medieval cast copper alloy buckle (*scale 50mm*)

## 5.2 Animal Bone and Oyster Shells

Animal bones deriving from sheep, cattle and possibly chicken were recovered from ditches 1-4; gully 1 and pit [046] (Appendix 2). The site is in the centre of Winslow directly on the market place in close proximity to Sheep and Horn Street. As street names can provide information about the status and the trades carried out on them, Sheep and Horn Street, suggest an association with livestock (Hindle 1990:32). The animal remains recovered from the site are likely to have resulted from domestic consumption.

Oyster shells were recovered from ditch 1 and an unstratified context. These are ubiquitous on medieval sites, and are associated with domestic consumption (Appendix 2).

## 5.3 Ceramic Building Material and Iron Nail

A small quantity of tile fragments were recovered from Ditch 1 and Pit [046], and an iron nail was found from an unstratified context (Appendix 2). Accurate dating of these items was not possible.

## 6. Conclusions

The excavation revealed two distinct phases of Christian burials and a moderate amount of undated disarticulated human remains. A series of NNE-SSW ditch alignments, one of which with successive re-cuts, along with a number of pits, gully, posthole and a possible ditch.

The earliest phase of activity identified on the site was associated with five human burials dated to the late Saxon/early medieval period. These probably form part of the cemetery associated with St Laurence's Church, and reinforce the suggestion that the southern boundary of the churchyard originally ran to the south of its present location, as originally indicated by the burials found to the west of the site in 2002.

The posthole associated with phase 1 may have been linked to agricultural activity or the pasturing of animals in churchyards which was often practised (Morris 1989: 326). During the medieval period churchyards were regarded as places of social activity and could be used as a public meeting place or market, which may have entailed the occasional erection of structures for functions (Rodwell 2005:167).

The second phase of activity comprises the excavation of ditches 2 and 3, and pits [044] and [046]. The ditches are probably associated with the development of the market square, following the grant of a market charter in 1235. The size of burgage plots were based on the perch, roughly 16½ ft or 5m. The plots were longer than they were wide and a width of 2-3 perches was the norm (Hindle 1990: 52-55). The subdivision of land plots was common and the Winslow Court Rolls by 1342 mention such a division, defining the plots as 'in length 165 feet and in width 17 feet at one end and 23 feet in the middle and 40 feet at the other end' and 'in length 108 feet and in width 18 feet at one end and 17 feet at the other end' (www.winslow-history.org.uk). The distance between ditches 2 and 3, approximating to one perch, and the size and alignment of both features, strongly suggest that these are 14th century or earlier burgage plot boundaries. The ditches are likely to have been in use for some time as ditch 3 was recut (ditch 4, phase 3) and again by Gully 1 (phase 4) before the boundaries became redundant.

A further phase of burial activity, designated phase 5, postdates the use of the site as a secular burgage plot. Two burials (SK052 & SK058), one of which cut the infilled ditch 2, were interred at the northern boundary of the site. Burial SK052 had a radiocarbon calibrated date of AD 1400-1620. They are on a different alignment to the earlier burials and may have been laid out in relation to the present southern churchyard boundary. However, it is unclear why these individuals were buried on land that had apparently passed out of church use. In the medieval period it was common for a range of individuals, such as suicides, excommunicates, felons and those who had generally not lived in communion with the church, to be barred from burial on consecrated ground (http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/03071a.htm; Puckle 1926). It is intriguing that the location of these burials was within what must have been the commercial/residential heart of the town. The human remains found to the immediate west of the development were considered to have been from a pauper's grave, and were undated (Kidd 2002). These remains may have been interred within the churchyard before the market was laid out. However, if they post-date the realignment of the churchyard boundary, like SK052 & SK058, it could suggest that a greater number of extra-mural burials were laid in unconsecrated ground in this area.

The features at the southern end of the site were only partially excavated, and are thought to consist of two pits [044] and [046] cut by a possible ditch (ditch 1). The pottery evidence is limited as pit [046] contained a single sherd of mid 14<sup>th</sup> – early 16<sup>th</sup> century reduced ware pottery (TLMS3), and ditch 1 contained a sherd of 13<sup>th</sup>-?17<sup>th</sup> century Brill/Boarstall ware pottery (MS9). Nothing can fully determine the function of such features, although the two possible pits are typical of those found to the rear of most medieval plots. One possibility regarding ditch 1 is that it relates to an earlier building that stood on the site prior to St Laurence's Meeting Room, which was built in 1912. The 1879-1880 OS map depicts a building on the site, with a similar alignment to ditch 1. Gully 2 is also on a similar alignment to ditch 1 and may therefore be associated with it.

## **Confidence Rating**

The works were carried out in line with the project design and with good site conditions. Therefore the results are given a high confidence rating.

## 7 Acknowledgements

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The project was managed for ASC by Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by Carina Summerfield-Hill BA MSc, Calli Rouse BA PIFA, Martin Cuthbert BA PIFA and David Kaye BA AIFA. The report was prepared by Carina Summerfield-Hill and edited by Karin Semmelmann.

## 8 Archive

- 9.1 The project archive will comprise:
  - 1. Brief
  - 2. Project Design
  - 3. Initial Report
  - 4. Clients site plans
  - 5. Site records
  - 6. Finds records
  - 7. Finds
  - 8. Site record drawings
  - 9. List of photographs
  - 10. B/W prints & negatives
  - 11. Original specialist reports and supporting information
  - 12. CDROM with copies of all digital files.
- 9.2 The archive will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum.

## 9 References

## Standards & Specifications

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- IFA 2000a Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct.
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Soil Survey 1983 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend (Harpenden).

Steane, J. M 1984 *The Archaeology of Medieval England and Wales*. University of Georgia Press (Athens).

### Internet Resources

The Portable Antiquities Scheme:

http://www.finds.org.uk/database/search/results/old\_findID/DENO-B71332/

http://www.winslow-history.org.uk

http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/03071a.htm

# **Appendix 1: Excavation Summary Tables**

**Context Register** 

Context	Context Register							
Context	Type	Description						
001	Deposit	Topsoil						
002	Deposit	Made-ground						
003	Deposit	Sub-soil						
004	Deposit	Natural strata						
005	Cut	Cut of ditch						
006	Fill	Fill of ditch [005]						
007	Cut	Cut of grave						
008	SK	Skeleton in grave [007]						
009	Fill	Fill of grave [007]						
010	Cut	Cut of ditch						
011	Fill	Fill of ditch [010]						
012	Cut	Cut of grave						
013	SK	Skeleton in grave [012]						
014	Fill	Fill of grave [012]						
015	Cut	Cut of grave						
016	SK	Skeleton in grave [015]						
017	Fill	Fill of grave [015]						
018	SK	Skull only						
019	SK	Skull only						
020	SK	Skull only						
021	Cut	Cut of gully						
022	Fill	Fill of gully [021]						
023	Cut	Re-cut of ditch						
023	Fill	Fill of re-cut of ditch [023]						
025	Fill	Secondary fill of re-cut of ditch [023]						
025	Cut	Cut of ditch						
020	Fill	Fill of ditch [026]						
028	Cut	Cut of posthole						
020	Fill							
030	Cut	Fill of posthole [028]						
		Cut of pit						
031	Fill	Fill of pit [031]						
032	Cut	Cut of gully						
033	Fill	Fill of gully [032]						
034	Cut	Cut of ditch						
035	Fill	Fill of ditch [034]						
036	Cut	Cut of gully						
037	Fill	Fill of gully [036]						
038	Cut	Cut of gully						
039	Fill	Fill of gully [038]						
040	Cut	Cut of gully						
041	Fill	Fill of gully [040]						
042	Cut	Cut of ditch						
043	Fill	Fill of ditch [042]						
044	Cut	Cut of pit						
045	Fill	Fill of pit [044]						
046	Cut	Cut of pit						
047	Fill	Fill of pit [046]						
048	Cut	Cut of grave						
049	SK	Skeleton in grave [048]						
050	Fill	Fill of grave [048]						
051	Cut	Cut of grave						

052	SK	Skeleton in grave [051]
053	Fill	Fill of grave [051]
054	Cut	Cut of grave
055	SK	Skeleton in grave [055]
056	Fill	Fill of grave [054]
057	Cut	Cut of grave
058	SK	Skeleton in grave [058]
059	Fill	Fill of grave [057]

**Plan Register** 

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Details
1	2	1:20	Ditch [010]
1	3	1:10	SK008 & Ditch [005]
1	4	1:10	SK016
1	5	1:10	SK013
1	8	1:20	Gully [021], Ditches [023] & [026]
2	13	1:10	Gullies [038] & [040]
2	14	1:10	Gully [024] & Ditch [032]
2	15	1:10	Pit [030]
2	17	1:10	SK049
2	18	1:10	SK055
2	19	1:10	SK058
2	20	1:10	SK052 & Ditch [005]
3	23	1:20	Ditch [005] & Grave [051]

**Section Register** 

beenon register	cetton register								
Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Contexts						
1	1	1:10	Ditch [010]						
1	6	1:10	Ditches [026] & [023], Gully [021]						
1	7	1:10	Ditches [026] & [23] , Gully [021]						
1	9	1:10	Gullies [038] & [040]						
1	10	1:10	Ditch [034], Gully [036]						
1	11	1:10	Gully [032]						
1	12	1:10	Pit [030]						
2	16	1:10	Posthole [028]						
3	21	1:20	Ditch [005], Grave [051]						
3	22	1:20	Pits [044] & [046], Ditch [042]						

Sample Register

Sample No	Context No	Sample Type	Quantity
1	(024)	Bulk & Pollen	Bulk: 10 Litres
2	(025)	Bulk & Pollen	Bulk: 30 Litres
3	(027)	Bulk & Pollen	Bulk: 10 Litres
4	(011)	Bulk & Pollen	Bulk: 30 Litres
5	(043)	Bulk	20 Litres

# **Appendix 2: Finds Concordance**

Context	Pottery		Anim	al Bone	S	nell	Otl	ner Finds	
	(no)	(g)	(no)	(g)	(no)	(g)	Туре	(no)	(g)
(006)	1	9					Human bone frags (skull)	4	33
(011)	1	32	14	211			Human bone frags (femur, humerus, skull)	6	282
(022)			1	110					
(025)			4	80			Human bone frags (right and left tibia)	5	158
(027)			4	94			Human bone frags	2	118
(029)	1	7					•		
(043)	1	20	5	332	3	16	СВМ	1	106
(047)	1	24	4	343			СВМ	1	66
							Human bone frag (femur)	1	42
(053)							Human bone frag (humerus)	1	81
(059)	1	4							
General: Unstratified	1	10	3	16	1	21	Iron Nail	1	26
Onstratilled							Buckle	1	
Unstratified surface finds near to [032]	1	6							
Unstratified surface finds near to [038]	1	4							

Note: All human bone remains have been reburied in the grounds of St Laurence's Church.

# **Appendix 3: List of Photographs**

		e's Room, Market Square, Winslow, Bucks SITE NO/CODE: 1269/WSL						
Shot No. B&W	Shot No. Digital	Subject						
1	1	Pre-ex general site view, looking SW (scale 2×2m) (12/04/10)						
2	2	Pre-ex general site view, looking S (scale 2×2m) (12/04/10)						
3	3	Pre-ex general site view, looking NE (scale 2×2m) (12/04/10)						
4	4	SK008, grave [007] & ditch [005], looking W (scale 2m) (12/04/10)						
5	5	SK008, grave [007] & ditch [005], looking S (scale 2m) (12/04/10)						
6	6	SK008, grave [007] detail, looking S (scale 1.2m (12/04/10)						
	7	SK008, grave [007] & ditch [005] with planning points, looking S (scale 2m) (12/04/10)						
7	8	SSW facing section of ditch [010], looking N (scale 1m) (12/04/10)						
8	9	SK016, grave [015] with planning points, looking W (scale 1m) (13/04/10)						
9	10	S facing section of the edge of excavation and ditch [005], looking N (scale 1m & 2m) (13/04/10)						
10	11	SK013, looking W (scale 1m) (13/04/10)						
	12	General working shot, looking N (14/04/10)						
	13	General site shot, looking S (14/04/10)						
11 & 12	14	NNE facing section of ditch [026], re-cut ditch [023] & gully [021], looking SSW (scale 2m) (14/04/10)						
13 & 14	15	SSW facing section of ditch [026], re-cut ditch [023], post-hole [028] & gully [021], looking NNE (scale 2m) (14/04/10)						
15	16	South facing section of pit [030], looking N (scale 500mm) (15/04/10)						
16	17	WNW facing section of gully [032], looking ESE (scale 500mm) (15/04/10)						
17	18	ESE facing section of ditch [034] & gully [036], looking WNW (scale 500mm) (15/04/10)						
18	19	NW facing section of gully's [038] & [040], looking SE (scale 500mm) (15/04/10)						
19	20	W facing section of ditch [042] & pit [044], looking E (scale 1m) (16/04/10)						
20	21	N facing section of ditch [042] & pits [044] [046], looking S (scale 1m) (16/04/10)						
	22	N facing section of ditch [042] & pits [044] [046], looking S (scale 1m) (16/04/10)						
21	23	E facing section of ditch [042] & pit [046], looking W (scale 1m) (16/04/10)						
	24	E facing section of ditch [042] & pit [046], looking W (scale 1m) (16/04/10)						
22	25	SK049, grave [048] with planning points, looking N (scale 1m) (16/04/10)						
	26	General working shot						
23	27	S facing section of ditch [005] & grave [051], looking N (scale 2m) (16/04/10)						
24	28	SK055, grave [054] with planning points, looking S (scale 1m) (16/04/10)						
25	29	SK052, grave [051], looking W (scale 1m) (19/04/10)						
	30	SK052, grave [051] with planning points, looking W (scale 1m) (19/04/10)						
26	31	SK058, grave [057] with planning points, looking S (scale 1m) (19/04/10)						
Ì	32	SK058, grave [057] with planning points, looking S (scale 1m) (19/04/10)						

# **Appendix 4: Human Osteological Analysis**

(Carina Summerfield-Hill BA MSc)

#### Introduction

A total of seven articulated/partially articulated human burials were excavated, as well as three incomplete skulls (Tables 1 & 2) and a moderate level of disarticulated human remains. The articulated burials were aligned W-E, suggesting Christian burials, with grave cuts visible. There was no evidence for coffin fittings.

The assessment of sex of the individuals was based, where possible, on the morphological characteristics of the skull and pelvic regions (Schwartz 1995: 280-281; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994). Individuals that could not be confidently sexed, due to a lack of preservation or immature in age are termed 'Sex Unknown'. The assessment of the age of the individuals was based primarily from epiphyseal fusion of the long bones (Schwartz 1995: 185-222), and where possible the auricular surface (Lovejoy *et al.* 1985), dental development (Ubelaker 1978), and molar wear (Brothwell 1965). Stature was also estimated, depending on the level of preservation, using the femur/stature ratio (Feldesman *et al.*, 1990). Ages are categorised as younger child (0-5), older child (6-11), adolescent (12-18), adult (18+), younger adult (20-35), older adult (35-50), and mature adult (50+). Individuals who could not be confidently aged, due to a lack of preservation are termed 'Age Unkown' (note: the term child and adult are used when preservation does not allow a more precise age range to be assigned). The sample comprised:

- 2 × Older Adult Males
- 2 × Older Adult Females
- 3 × Adults/ Sex Unknown
- 1 × Older Child/Sex Unknown
- 2 × Age/Sex Unknown

## Preservation

Heavy tree rooting was present in some areas of the site causing fragmentation and surface degradation of the human remains. Burials SK016, SK049, SK055, SK008 were cut by ditch 2 and burial SK013 was cut by ditch 3 thus reducing the level of completeness. Out of the seven articulated/partially articulated burials two were almost complete, while five ranged between 10-70% in completeness. The three disarticulated skulls and general disarticulated human remains also illustrate further disturbance in the area.

### **Pathology**

The identification of any abnormalities present on the bone/teeth of the articulated individuals was assessed so as to build up a fuller picture of the health of past populations. However due to poor preservation it was difficult to fully assess whether pathology was present or not.

A common form of pathology that is often preserved in the archaeological record is associated with the dentition. Two forms are present within the sample:

• Ante-mortem tooth loss (AMTL) whereby the loss of the tooth occurs during lifetime, and is linked to the age, diet and oral hygiene of the individual (Roberts & Manchester 2005: 73-74).

• Dental carries occur in the form of small opaque spots on the teeth surface or as cavities. An infectious and transmissible disease that is caused by the fermentation of food by bacteria that is present on the teeth as plaque (Roberts & Manchester 2005:65-71).

Anti-mortem-tooth-loss (AMTL) was present on burial SK052, having occurred a considerable amount of time before the individual had died as the bone was fully healed and smooth. Two small round caries, 1mm × 1mm in diameter, were also present on SK052 on the buccal side of the LM<sup>3</sup>.

No further pathologies were observed on the remains.

#### Stature Estimation

The stature for two of the individuals was estimated by measuring the femur. Burial SK008, an older adult female, was estimated at 151-152cm (c.4' 11½") in height (based from both the right and left femur). Burial SK049, an older adult male, was estimated at 182cm (c.5' 11½") in height (based from the right femur only due to poor preservation).

#### Conclusion

No evidence for the causes of death was present on the skeletons. This is common as disease and internal organ failure will often leave no trace on the skeleton. From such a small sample, with an absence of complete burials, no detailed statistical analysis can be carried out, and no full conclusions as to the demography and health of the population may by confidently reached. All that can be stated is that, as is common today, there was evidence of dental pathology in the form of AMTL and tooth carries.

Upon completion of the project the remains were reburied in the grounds of St Laurence's Church.

## ABBREVIATIONS TO TABLES 1-2:

BLE Burial extends beyond the limit of excavation

CA Cut by archaeological feature

M Male

F Female

BGL Below ground level

#### Permanent dentition:-

I Incisors

C Canines

P Premolars

M Molars

Table 1. Skeletal Analysis

SK	CONDITION	%	AGE	SEX	AGEING METHODS/ PATHOLOGY	STATURE
008	Articulated burial, skull area disturbed and lower legs cut by ditch section [005], bone fragmentary, surface cracking.	>60% CA	Older Adult	F	Bones present fully fused = 18+ yrs old.  Right and Left Auricular Surface – transverse organization lacking, dense bone forming = 40's.	Left femur: 404mm × 3.74 = 151cm Right femur: 407mm × 3.74 = 152cm
013	Partly articulated burial, highly disturbed, cut by ditch section [026], and bone in fair condition.	<10% CA	Adult	?	Bones present fully fused = 18+ yrs old.	
016	Partly articulated burial, cut by ditch section [010], and bone in fair condition.	<25% CA	Adult	?	Bones present fully fused = 18+ yrs old.	
018	Fragments of skull and mandible, highly disturbed burial found near to ditch section [010] which may have caused disarticulation, bone surface badly damaged due to heaving tree rooting in area.	<10%	Adult	?	Dentition: LPM <sub>2</sub> LM <sub>1</sub> LM <sub>2</sub> LM <sub>3</sub> severely worn = 45+ yrs old.	
019	Fragments of skull, highly disturbed burial.	<5%	?	?		
020	Fragments of skull, highly disturbed burial, and bone surface degraded.	<5%	?	?		
049	Articulated burial, cut by ditch section [005], evidence of bone fragmentation, bone surface damaged due to heavy tree rooting in area.	c.70% CA	Older Adult	М	Bones present fully fused = 18+ yrs old.  Right and Left Auricular Surface – loss of billowing, little transverse organization = late 30's.	Right femur: 487mm × 3.74 = 182cm

SK	CONDITION	%	AGE	SEX	AGEING METHODS/ PATHOLOGY	STATURE
052	Articulated burial, cuts ditch section [005], fairly good bone preservation with evidence of fragmentation.	c.80% BLE	Older Adult	F	Bones present full fused = 18+ yrs old.  Dentition: Mandible:- L1 <sub>2</sub> present, LC severely worn down to root, LM <sub>3</sub> crown/enamel completely worn down only part of root remains, LP <sub>1</sub> LP <sub>2</sub> lost ante-mortem, LM <sub>1</sub> LM <sub>2</sub> RI <sub>1</sub> RI <sub>2</sub> RC lost postmortem, RP <sub>1</sub> RP <sub>2</sub> RM <sub>1</sub> RM <sub>2</sub> lost ante-mortem bone now fully healed, RM <sub>3</sub> at distal side crown/enamel completely worn down to root = 45+ yrs old.  Dentition: Maxilla:- LM <sup>3</sup> heavy wear, two small carries on buccal side, LM <sup>1</sup> LM <sup>2</sup> lost antemortem, LP <sup>2</sup> present with severe surface wear, LI <sup>1</sup> lost antemortem, LC severe surface wear, LI lost antemortem = 45+ yrs old.	
055	Articulated burial, cut by ditch section [005], poor bone condition due to heavy tree rooting in the area, fragmentation and bone surface degraded.	c.65% CA	Older Adult	M	Bones present fully fused = 18+ yrs old.  Right and left auricular surface – loss of billowing, weak transverse organization = mid 30's.  Dentition: Mandible:- Teeth present – Ll <sub>2</sub> LC LP <sub>1</sub> LP <sub>2</sub> LM <sub>1</sub> LM <sub>2</sub> . Right and left M <sub>3</sub> unerupted. RM2 present whilst remaining dentition is lost post-mortem. Very severe surface wear on teeth present.	

SK	CONDITION	%	AGE	SEX	AGEING METHODS/ PATHOLOGY	STATURE
058	Articulated burial, fairly good bone preservation, undisturbed burial.	c.85% BLE	Older Child	?	Long bones/pelvis unfused = <15 yrs old.  Vertebral bodies fused to arches = >9 yrs old.  Mixed dentition of both deciduous and permanent teeth. 1st molars present = c.9-10 ± 24 months yrs old.	

Table 2. Burial data and levels (OD metres)

SK	Grave Type/Finds	Date	SKULL	SACRUM	FEET	OTHER
008	-No visible evidence for grave type - coffin/shroud? -Grave cut visible [007] - No finds	Radiocarbon Age BP: 1005±40 with a 68.2% probability between 980- 1150AD  Calibrated radiocarbon date gave a 95.4% probability of 900-1160AD	113.016			Lower legs: 113.011
013	-No visible evidence for grave type - coffin/shroud? -Grave cut visible [012] - No finds	Saxon?				Upper leg: 113.712
016	- No visible evidence for grave type - coffin/shroud? - Grave cut visible [015] - No finds	Saxon?			113.728	Knees: 113.741
018	- No visible evidence for grave type - coffin/shroud? - Burial disarticulated no visible grave cut -No finds	Medieval?	113.727			

SK	Grave Type/Finds	Date	SKULL	SACRUM	FEET	OTHER
019	- No visible evidence for grave type - coffin/shroud? -Burial disarticulated no visible grave cut - No finds	Medieval?	113.118			
020	<ul> <li>No visible evidence for grave type - coffin/shroud?</li> <li>Burial disarticulated no visible grave cut</li> <li>No finds</li> </ul>	Medieval?	113.824			
049	- No visible evidence for grave type – coffin/shroud? - Grave cut visible [048] - No finds	Saxon?	113.738	113.698		Lower legs: 113.685
052	- No visible evidence for grave type – coffin/shroud? - Grave cut visible [051] - No finds	Radiocarbon Age BP: 445±40 68.2% probability between 1420-1470AD Calibrated radiocarbon: 95.4% probability of 1400-1620AD	113.726	113.639	113.573	
055	<ul> <li>No visible evidence for grave type – coffin/shroud?</li> <li>Grave cut visible [054]</li> <li>No finds</li> </ul>	Saxon?	113.746	113.714		Lower legs: 113.733
058	- No visible evidence for grave type – coffin/shroud? - Grave cut visible [057] - No finds	Saxon? Medieval?	113.559	113.487	113.499	

## References

Brothwell, D.R. 1965 *Digging Up Bones*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press. In Bass, W 2005 *Human Osteology A Laboratory and Field Manuel*. Special publication no. 2 of the Missouri Archaeological Society Inc, p. 299.

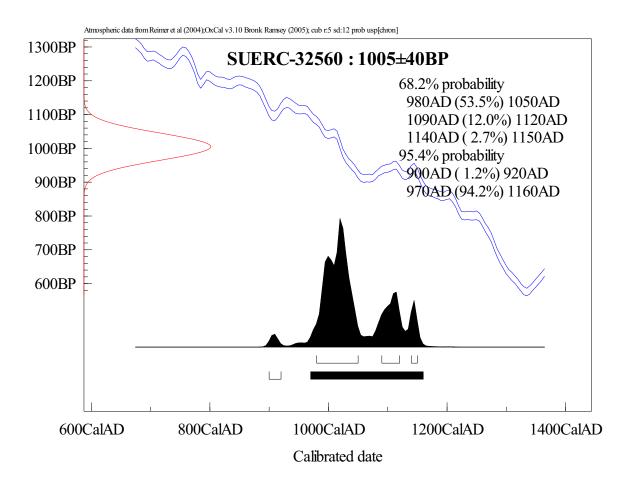
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## **Appendix 5: Radiocarbon Dating Analysis**

(Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre)

Radiocarbon dating samples were taken from two of the burials, SK008 and SK052. Burial SK008 was cut by ditch section [005], while SK052 cuts ditch section [005]. The results indicate that SK008 had a radiocarbon age of 1005±40 BP (before AD1950) with a 68.2% probability of dating to AD980-1150. The calibrated radiocarbon date gave a 95.4% probability of AD900-1160. Burial SK052 had a radiocarbon age of 445±40 BP with a 68.2% probability of dating to AD1420-1470. The calibrated radiocarbon age gave a 95.4% probability of AD1400-1620. In general terms SK008 dates to the late Saxon/early medieval period, while SK052 dates to the late medieval/early post-medieval period.



**Figure 1:** Calibration plot for SK008

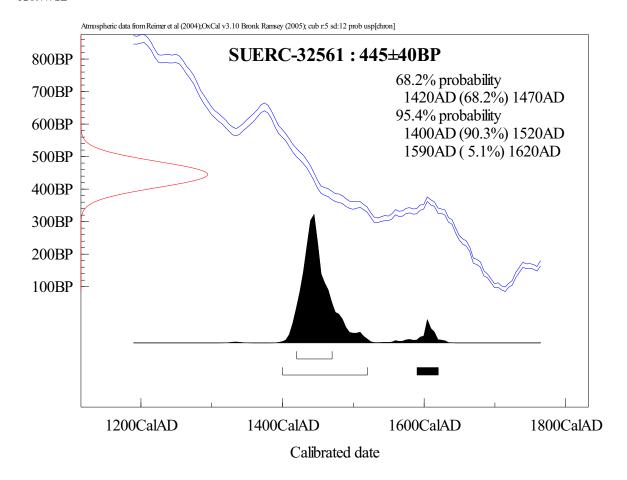


Figure 2: Calibration plot for SK052

## **Appendix 6: Pottery Analysis**

(Paul Blinkhorn)

The pottery assemblage comprised 9 sherds with a total weight of 122g. It was all medieval, and indicates that there was activity at the site from the  $13^{th} - 14^{th}$  centuries, and probably throughout the late medieval period.

The assemblage was recorded using the coding system of the Milton Keynes Archaeological Unit type-series (e.g. Mynard and Zeepvat 1992; Zeepvat *et al.* 1994), as follows:

MS6: Potterspury Ware, AD1250 - 1600. 2 sherds, 10g.

MS9: Brill/Boarstall Ware. 1200-?1600. 2 sherds, 331g.

TLMS3: Late Medieval Reduced Ware. Mid 14th - early 16th century. 4 sherds, 77g.

In addition, the following ware, not included in the Milton Keynes type-series, were noted:

OXAC: *Cotswolds-type ware*: 11<sup>th</sup> – mid 13<sup>th</sup> century. Oxfordshire fabric OXAC ((Mellor 1994). Abundant oolitic limestone with some rounded ironstone and occasional quartz. Glazed tripod. 1 sherds, 4g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The pottery is all types which are well-known in west Buckinghamshire and north Oxfordshire. The sherds were all fairly large and in very good condition, and appear generally reliably stratified. Most were bodysherds from jars or jugs, and a single rimsherd from a jar was also present. The assemblage appears entirely of a domestic nature.

**Table 1:** Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

	OX	AC	M	S9	M	S6	TLN	MS3	
Context	No	W	No	W	No	W	No	W	Date
		t		t		t		t	
Unstratified (U/S)			1	11					13thC
6							1	11	M14thC
11							1	32	M14thC
29							1	10	M14thC
U/S near to 32					1	5			M13thC
U/S near to 38	1	4							11thC?
43			1	20					13thC
47							1	24	M14thC
59					1	5			M13thC
Total	1	4	2	31	2	10	4	77	

#### References

Mellor, M, 1994 Oxford Pottery: A Synthesis of middle and late Saxon, medieval and early post-medieval pottery in the Oxford Region *Oxoniensia* **59**, 17-217.

Mynard, DC and Zeepvat RJ, 1992 Great Linford Bucks Archaeol Soc Monog Ser 3.

Zeepvat, RJ, Roberts, JS and King, NA, 1994 *Caldecotte, Milton Keynes. Excavation and Fieldwork* 1966-91 Bucks Archaeol Soc Monog Ser **4**.

# **Appendix 7: ASC OASIS Form**

PROJECT DETAILS									
Project Name:	St Laurence's Meeting Room		OASIS reference:	archaeol2-72968					
Short Description:  In April 2010 Archaeological Services and Consultancy carried out an excavation at St Laurence's Meeting Room, Market Square, Winslow, Buckinghamshire in advance of a new extension. The excavation uncovered a number of archaeological features that included articulated Christian human burials dating from the late-Saxon to the post-medieval period, and a number of medieval and post-medieval linear ditches, gullies and pits. The excavation has identified a number of phases that can be linked to Anglo-Saxon and later activity on the site of St Laurence's Church, the alteration of the churchyard boundary and the land being divided up into medieval burgage plots.									
Project Type:	Excavation								
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	SMR: 0235502		Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	None					
Current land use:	Disused		Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	No					
Monument type:	Churchyard		Monument period:	Saxon - post-medieval					
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	Medieval buckle								
	PROJECT LOCATION								
County:	Buckinghamshire		rence: (8 figs min)	SP 76939 27610					
Site address: (+ postcode if known)		St Laurence's Meeting Room, Market Square, Winslow, Buckinghamshire, MK18 3AB							
Study area: (sq. m. / h	c.60 sq m Height		DD: (metres)	c.114 m AOD					
	PROJECT	CREATO	RS						
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consu	Itancy Ltd							
Project brief originator:	Ruth Beckley (BCAS)	Project	design originator:	Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA (ASC)					
Project Manager:	Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA	Supervisor:		Carina Summerfield-Hill BA MSc					
Sponsor / funding body:	PCC St Laurence's Church								
	PROJEC	CT DATE							
Fieldwork start date:	09/04/10	Fieldwork end date:		19/04/10					
	PROJECT	ARCHIVE	:S						
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)							
Physical:	5 11 1 11 0 1	Buckle, pottery, animal bone, shell, iron nail, CBM							
Paper:	Buckinghamshire County Museum (AYBCM: 2010.197)	PD, report including specialist reports, site paperwork, b&w photographs and negatives							
Digital:	(ATBCIVI. 2010.197)	All digita	All digital files onto a CD including digital photographs						
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)									
Title:	Archaeological Excavation: St Laurence's Meeting Room, Market Square, Winslow, Buckinghamshire								
Serial title & volume:	·								
Author(s):	Carina Summerfield-Hill BA MSc								
Page nos	45	Date:		07/04/11					