

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**WATCHING BRIEF:
ST MARY & ST GILES CHURCH
STONY STRATFORD
MILTON KEYNES**

NGR: SP 7869 4047

on behalf of St Mary & St Giles Church



Carina Summerfield-Hill BA MSc

December 2010

ASC: 1295/SSC/2




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Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	SSC	<i>ASC Project No:</i>	1295
<i>OASIS ref:</i>	archaeol2-89307	<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	TBC
<i>County:</i>	Buckinghamshire (historic county)		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Stony Stratford		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Stony Stratford		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 7869 4047		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	c.95 sq. m		
<i>Present use:</i>	Church garden		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Construction of hall and associated facilities		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	08/01222/4		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Milton Keynes Council		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	10/05/10-29/11/10		
<i>Commissioned by:</i>	Rattee & Kett Ltd Digital Park Station Road Longstanton Cambs CB24 3FB		
<i>Client:</i>	St Mary & St Giles Church Church Street Stony Stratford Milton Keynes MK11 1BD		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Geoff Quinsee (Rattee & Kett)		

Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	Carina Summerfield-Hill	<i>Date:</i>	10/12/2010
<i>Revisions:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	
<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	10/12/2010

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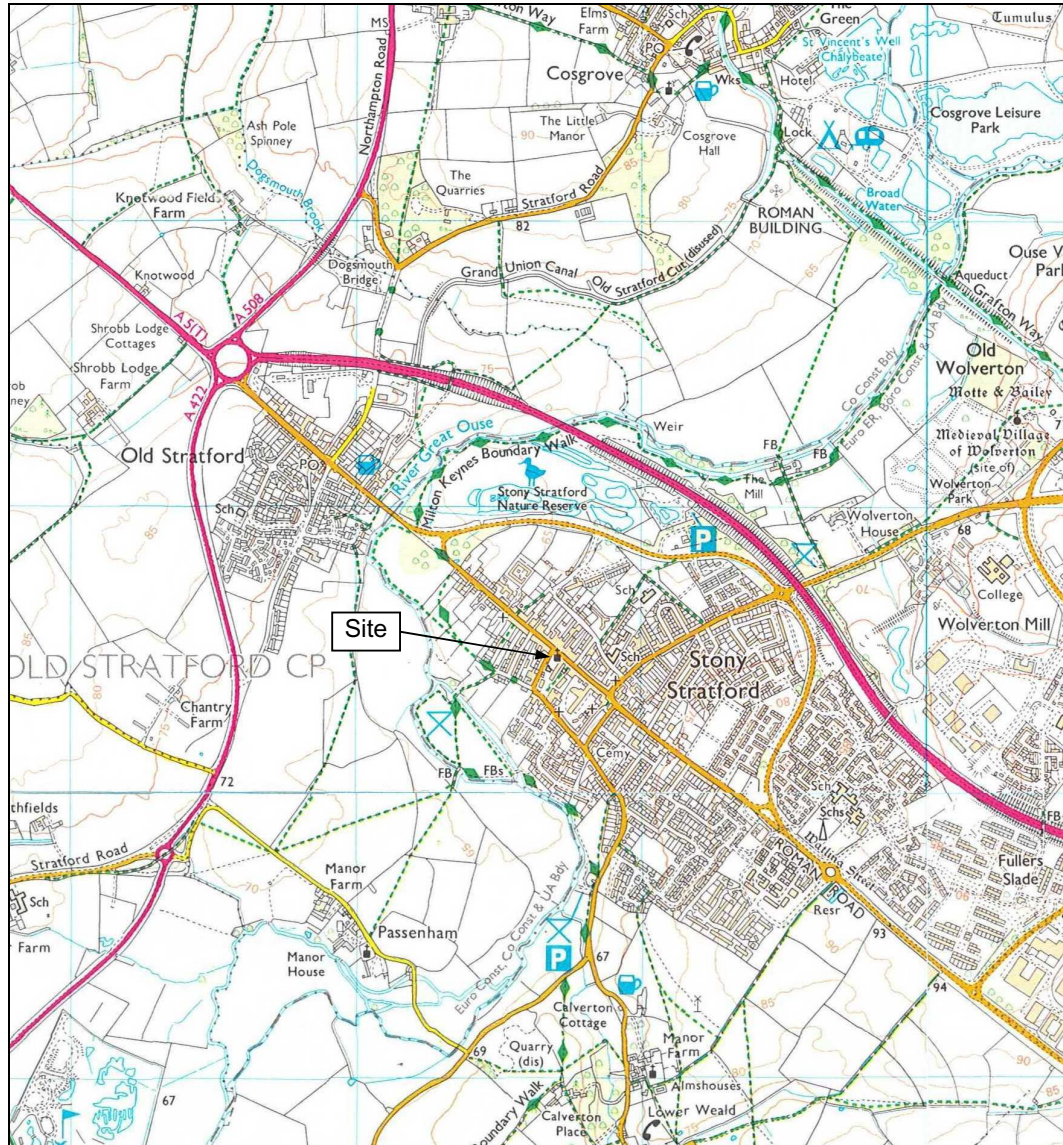


Figure 1: General location (*scale 1:25,000*)

Summary

Between May and November 2010 Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd carried out a watching brief at St Mary & St Giles Church, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes during the construction of an extension to the church. Little in the way of significant features, finds or deposits were observed, as the work entailed excavating through made/disturbed ground. A few disarticulated human remains were uncovered, along with post-medieval pottery sherds including one sherd of 19th century 'willow-pattern' pottery, glass and tile fragments, clay pipe stems and animal bone fragments.

1. Introduction

1.1 Between May and November 2010 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a watching brief at St Mary & St Giles Church, High Street, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes. The project was commissioned by *Ratte & Kett Ltd* on behalf of *St Mary & St Giles Church*, and was carried out according to a project design prepared by ASC (Zeepvat 2010) following discussions with the Archaeological Officer, Milton Keynes Council (MKCAO). The relevant planning application reference is 08/01222/4.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This watching brief was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), 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 site is situated in Stony Stratford in the administrative district of Milton Keynes, within the historic county of Buckinghamshire, and is centred on NGR SP 7869 4047 (Fig. 1). It is located close to the centre of Stony Stratford, on the south-west side of the High Street at its junction with Church Street. The proposed development site is on the north side of the church, within an area currently laid to grass and flower beds. Access to the site is from Church Street.

1.4.2 *Geology & Topography*

The site is level and lies at an elevation of c.66m OD. As it is within an urban area, soils have not been mapped in detail, though they are likely to belong to the Hanslope Association. These consist of "slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils, with some slowly permeable non-calcareous clayey soils" (Soil

Survey 1983, 411d). The underlying geology comprises first terrace gravels (BGS 202).

1.4.3 Proposed Development

The proposed development comprises demolition of the existing boiler room, and construction of an extension to the church comprising a new boiler room, toilets and a hall (Fig. 3). The footprint of the development covers c.95 sq. m.

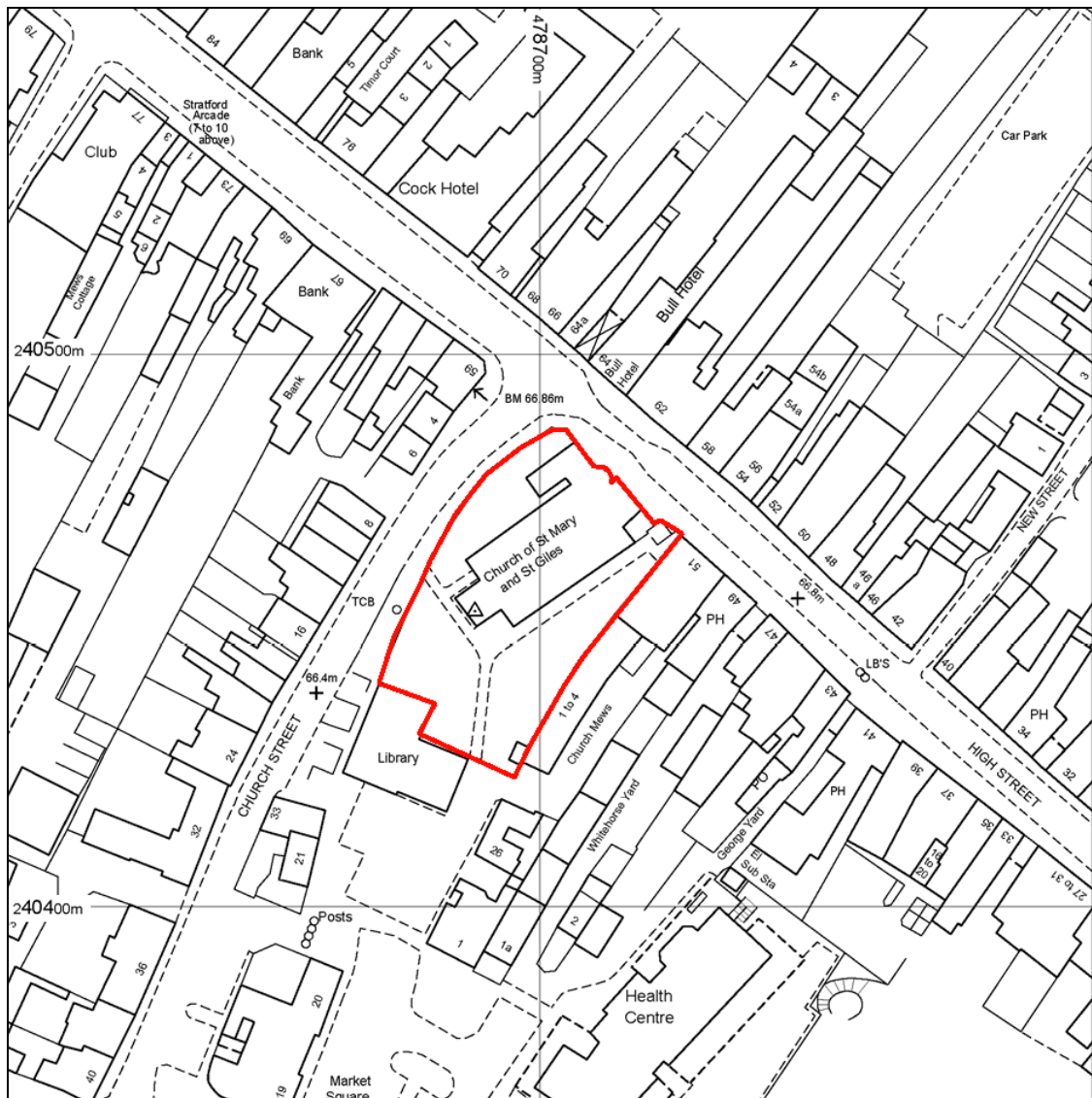


Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:1,250)

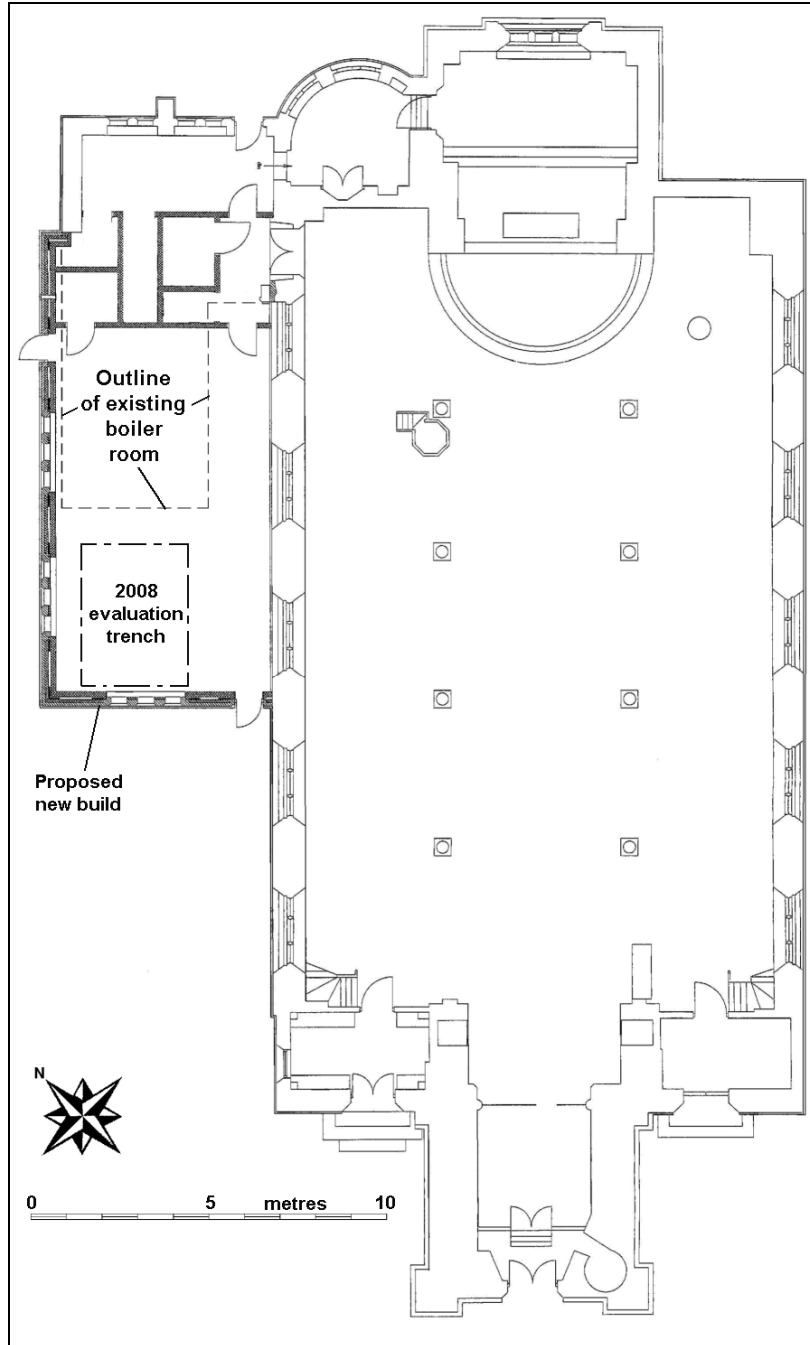


Figure 3: Proposed development and previous archaeological work (*scale 1:200*)

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 Aims

In line with the project design, the aims of the project were:

- To determine the location, extent, date, nature, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains observed on site.
- To ensure that the raft foundation for the extension is constructed as proposed, and the underlying archaeological remains are protected.

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

In line with the project design, the methods to be adopted for this project were:

- Soil and overburden stripping under archaeological supervision;
- The rapid investigation and recording of any archaeological features or deposits present, including adequate provision of both drawn and photographic records;
- Subsoil stripping under archaeological supervision;
- The examination of any service and foundation trenches and the subsequent recording of any exposed archaeological remains, including adequate provision of both drawn and photographic records;
- Rapid examination of spoil-heaps for archaeological material;
- A programme of post-fieldwork analysis, archiving, and publication.

2.4 Constraints

The works were carried out with full co-operation of the client and in line with the project design. No constraints were encountered.

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.

This section has been compiled with information from readily available sources.

3.2 ***Prehistoric*** (before 600BC)

Stony Stratford and the wider area of Milton Keynes have been represented in the archaeological record as far back as the Mesolithic period, with flint and stone implements from the Ouse and Ouzel valleys and flints from the Bradwell Brook valley at Bancroft, c.3.5km east of Stony Stratford (Zeepvat 2002, 9).

Evidence of settlement within this area appears from the Neolithic period onwards, with sites such as that discovered at Stacey Bushes, 3km south-east of Stony Stratford. Evidence of human activity in the Bronze Age is provided by ring ditches (ploughed out round barrows) found throughout the Ouse valley, the nearest being at Warren Farm, 1.5km east of the site (Green 1974). An isolated find of a Bronze Age socketed axe is recorded from Stony Stratford (Croft & Mynard 1993, 7).

3.3 ***Iron Age*** (600BC-AD43)

The Iron Age provides the most complete example of prehistoric settlement distribution in the Milton Keynes area. Settlement is still largely related to the river valleys as before, though evidence of it has been found in a much wider range of topographic settings (Zeepvat 2002, 9). Iron Age pottery has been found at Kiln Farm and close to the present bridge crossing the Ouse at Old Stratford.

3.4 ***Roman*** (AD43-c.450)

During the Roman period the Milton Keynes area lay within the tribal canton of the *Catuvellauni*, with its capital at *Verulamium* (St Albans). The major Roman road from London to Chester, later known as *Watling Street*, followed the same alignment as the present High Street, crossing the Ouse by a bridge or ford. Roman activity within Stony Stratford is evident with the Roman road known as *Watling Street*, which passes through the centre of Stony Stratford, on the line of the present day High Street. The river crossing appears to have had some religious significance, evidenced by quantities of Roman coins and some votive objects found by metal detectorists on land adjoining Buckingham Road, from the same general area from which the Old Stratford headress, now in the British Museum, was recovered (Zeepvat 2002, 10).

3.5 ***Saxon & Medieval*** (c.450-1500)

The origins of the present settlement at Stony Stratford are not well understood. It is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey (1086), and Brown (1987, 3) records that the earliest mentions of Stony Stratford place it in Northamptonshire (probably a confusion with *Old Stratford*, which may be the older settlement). The present town, probably the *Little Stratford* referred to in the Eyre Roll of 1227, outgrew the original

settlement, taking its name, much in the same way that the name of Wolverton transferred from the older settlement to the new.

Neither of the two manors at Stony Stratford is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. The west side of the town was originally part of Calverton Manor, which is first recorded as a separate manor in 1257 and was sunbifeduated by the Earls of Oxford. The east side of the town formed part of the manor of Wolverton, which ranked as a separate manor in the 16th century (VCH 1927, 479). Hugh de Vere, Earl of Oxford and Lord of the Manor of Calverton, was granted a fair at his manor in Stony Stratford in 1257, to be held around the feast of St. Giles. His son acquired not only 40 acres of land from John of Wolverton, but also a grant for an annual fair and a weekly market in 1290 (*ibid*, 58). By 1792 there were three annual fairs, dwindling to only one by 1888 (VCH 1927, 479).

It is recorded that King John stayed in Stony Stratford in 1215, as did Edward I in 1290 when the funeral cortege for his wife, Eleanor of Castile, processed to Westminster for burial. It has been argued that in the absence of a monastic house to provide accommodation, the royal parties are likely to have stayed in inns (*ibid*, 73). The Eleanor Cross, erected in honour of Queen Eleanor, was destroyed in the 17th century. The church of St Mary & St Giles is known to have originated as a chapel around 1202, possibly to serve travellers along Watling Street.

By the time Edward IV came to Stony Stratford in 1464 there were several inns in the town including The Cock and The Bull (*ibid*, 133). In 1520 the Cock Hotel was given to the town under Thomas Piggot's will to set up a charity to fund the repair of the bridge and causeway over the river. The bridge was a major concern to the town as it had to be well maintained to ensure the trade on which the town had been built, namely as a commercial centre for the surrounding villages and a posting station for travellers. In 1801 the hotel was sold by the trustees of the charity set up by Thomas Piggot, raising £900 to maintain the road, which was carrying on average 35 coaches, 4 wagons and 359 animals every day in the previous year (Brown 1987, 14). The old bridge collapsed under the weight of a heavy wagon and was replaced in 1835 along with a Toll House that survived just 22 years (*ibid*. 16)

3.6 ***Post-Medieval & Modern*** (1500-present)

There were two major fires in the town in the 18th century. The first in 1736 destroyed 53 houses and the second, only 6 years later, took the church and 113 houses with it (VCH 1927, 476). The Cock Hotel is thought to have been rebuilt following this conflagration. It was used for a number of local activities including the dance classes held by Joseph Hamblin, who also ran a ladies seminary at the corner of Market Street (Brown 1987, 42). He is said to have been the model for the character of Mr Turveydrop in Charles Dickens' *Bleak House* (Markham 1975, 145).

Most of the existing structure of the church of St Mary & St Giles dates from the late 18th century, though the Lady Chapel and present boiler room are of 20th-century date. 19th-century maps of Stony Stratford show that, prior to the widening of Market Street (now Church Street), there were buildings, presumably shops or houses, on the north-west side of the church in the area of the proposed extension, fronting the High Street and/or Market Street.

The arrival of the railway in the mid 19th century allowed a further service to develop from the hotel; a coach service between The Cock and Wolverton Station. This was replaced by a tram in 1887, which carried up to 700 passengers per day. Two of the wagons could be taken off the rails once the tram had reached Stony Stratford and be transported around town by horses. The tram was used until 1926 (*ibid.* 199-201, 203).

3.7 *Previous Archaeological Work*

In April 2008 ASC carried out an evaluation at St Mary and St Giles Church, to inform the proposed development (Richards 2008). A brick lined well and a stone lined cess-pit, containing a substantial assemblage of 19th century artefacts were revealed. A north-south aligned wall was also observed bounding a compacted sand floor layer found to overlie a broken, reused gravestone and a deposit of dark soil containing fragments of pottery of medieval to 18th century date. These features were interpreted as the remains of one of the buildings shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1880. No archaeological features predating the 18th century were observed.

4. Results

- 4.1 The mechanical and hand excavation of the footing trench, associated services and pathway were monitored.

The stratigraphy observed consisted of *c.*0.9m max of made-ground comprising mid brown, friable, silty clay with moderate small sub-angular stones. The natural strata was not breached.

4.2 ***Ground Reduction and Footing trench***

An area of *c.*91.50 sq. m was reduced to a depth of *c.*0.5m max within the footprint of the new development. Towards the centre of this the outline of the demolished 20th century boiler room was visible (Plate 1).

Towards the northeast end of the area disarticulated human remains comprising a skull and pelvis were uncovered. Towards the northwest end of the boiler room, a disarticulate skull was uncovered. The remainder of the area revealed few disarticulated human bone fragments along with post-medieval glass and pottery fragments. These were retained by the church. A possible post-medieval pit was also uncovered towards the northeast end of the area. This was heavily truncated by the mechanical excavator and was deemed to be of little significance.

The footing trench (Fig. 4; Plate 2 & 3) measured between 0.6-0.8m wide, dug to a depth between 0.53-0.80m BGL (below ground level), within made-ground. A disarticulated human skull, adult male, was uncovered *c.*0.70m BGL within the northeast corner of the footing trench. Further disarticulated human remains were recovered within the northwest section of the footing trench.

The southeast section of the footing trench exposed the church foundations (Plate 4). The footings comprised extended to a depth of *c.*0.23m BGL, underlying which was *c.*0.23m max of mottled light brown/yellow friable silty sand, beneath which were either two courses of unbonded sandstone *c.*0.26m in depth or made-ground of mid brown, friable silty clay.

4.3 ***Associated Services and Pathway***

The majority of the associated services were excavated within the footing trench or tapped into known services within disturbed ground. One service trench was observed towards the northeast end of the new build area (Fig. 4; Plate 5). The trench was orientated southwest-northeast and measured *c.*2m in length cut to a depth of *c.*0.2m into made-ground, uncovering one disarticulated human bone.

The hand excavation of a pathway to the northwest and south of the new extension was partly observed (Fig. 4; Plate 6). The observed area measured *c.*15.50 sq. m cut to a maximum depth of *c.*0.2m BGL within made-ground containing few disarticulated human remains, tile fragments, animal bone, clay pipe stems and a sherd of 19th century 'willow-pattern' pottery. All were retained by the church. A service trench was also hand excavated across the observed area to a depth of *c.*0.9m BGL, following

the line of a known service trench through made/disturbed ground. The pathway continued further to the south to a maximum depth of 150mm.



Plate 1: Ground reduction and outline of boiler room, looking southeast (*scale 1×1m*)



Plate 2: Northwest side of footing trench, looking northeast (*scale 2×1m*)



Plate 3: Southeast facing section of northwest side of footing trench (*scale 1×1m*)



Plate 4: Northwest facing section of church footings (*scale 1×1m*)



Plate 5: Service trench, looking east (*scale 1×1m*)



Plate 6: Pathway to the northwest of the new extension, looking northeast (*scale 1×1m*)

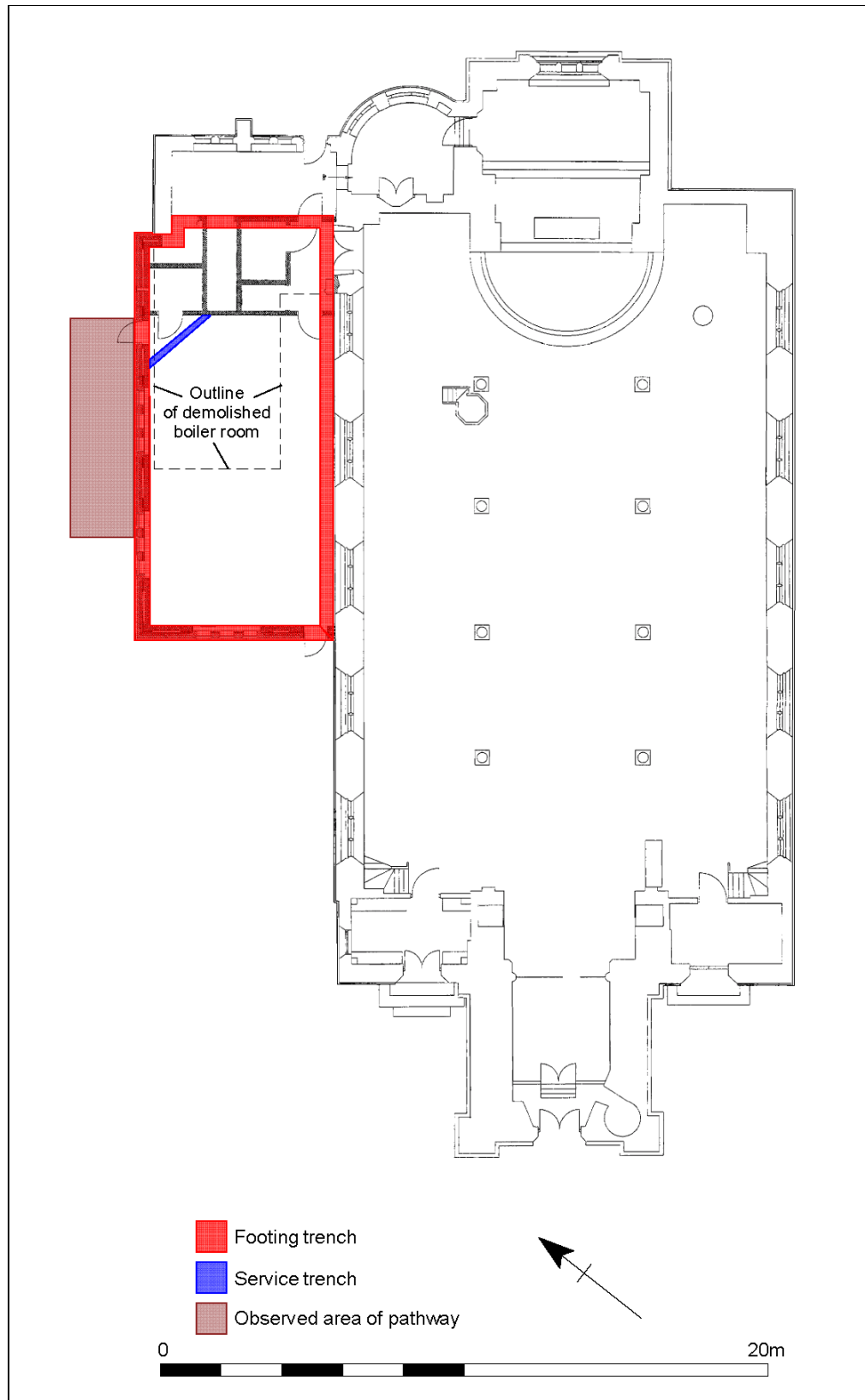


Figure 4: Plan of footing trench, observed service trench and part of pathway (*scale 1:200*)

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The project uncovered little in the way of significant features, finds or deposits. The work entailed excavating through made/disturbed ground, partly related to the now demolished 20th century boiler room. Few disarticulated human remains were uncovered, along with post-medieval pottery sherds including one sherd of 19th century 'willow-pattern' pottery, glass and tile fragments, clay pipe stems and animal bone fragments. Such finds are most likely associated with the buildings shown on the 1st Edition OS map of 1880 that were identified in the 2008 evaluation.

It is clear from the watching brief that excavations for the footings of the demolished boiler room, and for related services, had previously truncated or removed any further evidence for earlier buildings in that area.

5.2 *Confidence Rating*

The works were carried out with full co-operation of the client and in line with the project design. The results are therefore given a high confidence rating.

6. Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by *Rattee & Kett Ltd* on behalf of *St Mary and St Giles Church*. The writer is grateful to Geoff Quinsee for his assistance. The project was monitored by Milton Keynes Council Archaeological Officer Nick Crank on behalf of the local planning authority.

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

7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Project Design
2. Initial Report
3. Clients site plans
4. Site Monitoring Sheets
5. List of photographs
6. B/W prints & negatives
7. 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)*.
- Zeepvat B 2010 *Project Design for an Archaeological Watching Brief at St Mary & St Giles Church, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes*. Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd, ASC: 1295/SSC/1.

Secondary Sources

- BGS *British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid & Drift Geology*.
- Brown, Dr O F 1987 *Stony Stratford: the Town on the Road*. Wolverton & District Archaeol. Soc. (Wolverton).
- Croft, R A & Mynard, D C 1993 *The Changing Landscape of Milton Keynes*. Buckinghamshire Archaeol. Soc. Monog. Ser. 5 (Aylesbury)
- Green, H S 1974 'Early Bronze Age burial, territory and population in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, and the Great Ouse valley', *Archaeol. J.* **131**, 75-139.
- Markham, Sir F 1974 *History of Milton Keynes and district*, vol. 2 (Luton).
- Richards, J 2008 *Archaeological Evaluation: St Mary & St Giles' Church, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes*. ASC report ref. ASC/960/SSC/2.
- Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).
- VCH 1927 *The Victoria History of the County of Buckingham*, vol. 4 (London).
- Zeepvat, R 2002 *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of London Road Garage, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes*. ASC report ref. ASC/392/SLR02/1.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

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A.S.C. LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: ST MARY'S + ST GILES CHURCH		Project No/Code: 12.95 / SSC		Sheet: 2 of 7	
STONY STRATFORD		Date of visit: 11/5/10			
Client/Developer					
Contact:				Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 8.15		Finish: 3.15	
Completed by: CR					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services	Roads	Levelling ✓	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):					
Site & weather conditions: CLEAR, DM					
Observations:					
OBSERVED GROUND REDUCTION ACROSS 3/4S OF THE SITE. GROUND REDUCED BY MAX OF 0.5M.					
AREA OF DIAPARTICULATED BONE (INC SKULL + PELVIS) FOUND AT E END OF AREA (SEE SKETCH). BONES WITHIN MADE GROUND - MAY REPRESENT BURIAL DISTURBED DURING CONSTRUCTION OF NOW DEMOLISHED ANNEXE.					
FURTHER SKULL (CRUSHED) FOUND AT E END OF BOILER ROOM/CELLAR (OUTSIDE OF CELLAR) MAY REPRESENT BURIAL TRUNCATED WHEN BOILER ROOM WAS BUILT.					
DISARTICULATED FRAGS ^{OPN GLASS / POT (NOT KEPT)} RECOVERED FROM ACROSS SITE. THE MOST OF LEVELLING DID NOT GO BELOW MADE GROUND.					
POSS PM PIT OBSERVED IN NE CORNER OF EXISTING BDG - SEE SKETCH - DISAPPEARED DURING MACHINING					
Comments:					
GROUND REDUCTION WILL BE FINISHED TOMORROW					

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: ST MARYS + ST GILES CHURCH		Project No/Code: 1295/SSC		Sheet: 4 of 7	
STONY STRATFORD		Date of visit: 14/05/10			
Client/Developer					
Contact:				Phone:	
Duration of Visit (Inc. travel):		Start: 7:45		Finish: 15:00	
Completed by: CS					
Development Type:					
Footings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):					
Site & weather conditions: GOOD, DRY WEATHER / SITE CONDITIONS					
Observations:					
OBSERVED THE FOOTINGS FOR THE NEW BUILD INTO MADE-GROUND / DISTURBED.					
SEE SKETCH SHEET					
NW FOOTING TRENCH:- 0.53m BGL DEPTH					
TURF: 0.14m DEPTH; DISTURBED/MADE-GROUND:					
c. 0.41m DEPTH MID BROWN, FRIABLE, SILTY, CLAY					
MODERATE SMALL SUB-ANGULAR STONES,					
MODERN BRICKS, DRAINAGE PIPE, LIGHT YELLOW SANDY DEPOSITS.					
NE FOOTING TRENCH:- 0.70m BGL DEPTH					
Floor:- 0.30m DEPTH					
MADE-GROUND:- 0.50m DEPTH, LIGHT BROWN, LOOSE / FRIABLE / SILTY.					
Comments:					
SW END OF FOOTING TRENCH TO BE CARRIED OUT ON MON 17 th MAY 2010					
CHURCH FOOTINGS VISIBLE AT SE SECTION OF FOOTING TRENCH :- COMPOSED c. 0.21m (D) MOTTLED LIGHT BROWN/YELLOW FRIABLE SANDY SILT UNDERLYING WHICH WAS SANDSTONE c. 0.26m (D)					



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: ST MARY ST GILES CHURCH		Project No/Code: 1295 1 SSC		Sheet: 5 of 7	
Stony Stratford		Date of visit: 17/5/10			
Client/Developer					
Contact:				Phone:	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):		Start: 8am		Finish: 10.00	
Completed by: CR					
Development Type:					
Footings ✓	Services ✓	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):					
Site & weather conditions:					
Observations:					
2.4 - 1.8 -					
E 0.3 W 0.6					
OBSERVED FOOTING AT W END OF SITE. GROUND REDUCED BY C.O.3m INTO MADE GROUND. POSS FOOTINGS (BRICK + LIMESTONE) OBSERVED IN W SIDE OF REDUCTION, 2-4m FROM CHURCH WALL, MEASURING 1.8m ACROSS.					
FURTHER 1/2hr VISIT IN AFTERNOON - WATCHED INITIAL DRAINAGE RUN C.2m LONG & C.O.2m DEEP INTO MADE GROUND. 1 DISARTICULATED BONE RECOVERED.					
Comments:					
EXTERNAL DRAINAGE RUN WILL BE EXCAVATED ONCE BUILDING HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED - THEY WILL CALL BEFOREHAND					

A.S.C. LTD		ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD			
Project: ST MARY + ST GILES, STONY STRATFORD		Project No/Code: 1295 / SSC		Sheet: 6 of 7	
Client/Developer		Date of visit: 19/05/10			
Contact:		Phone:			
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 8.45	Finish: 10.00			
Completed by: BS2.					
Development Type:					
Footings	Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roads	Levelling	Quarrying	Pipelines
Other (specify):					
Site & weather conditions: FINE, BRIGHT.					
Observations:					
EXCAVATION OF SHALLOW TRENCH ON WITHIN SOUTH SIDE OF NEW BUILDING, FOR CENTRAL HEATING PIPES.					
TRENCH CUT THROUGHOUT ITS LENGTH THROUGH DISTURBED GROUND AND FOOTINGS FOR PREVIOUS BRICK HOUSE, NO ARCH. FINDS OR FEATURES.					
Comments: LAST VISIT?					



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD MONITORING RECORD

Project: ST MARY + ST GILES CHURCH, STONY STRATFORD		Project No/Code: 1295 /SSC	Sheet: 7 of 7
Client/Developer		Date of visit: 29/11/10	
Contact: MARTIN		Phone: 07811148256	
Duration of Visit (inc. travel):	Start: 9:00	Finish: 13:00	
Completed by: CS			
Development Type:			
Footings	Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roads	Other (specify): PATHWAY
Levelling			
Quarrying			
Pipelines			
Site & weather conditions: GOOD SITE CONDITIONS, FROSTY WEATHER			
Observations:			
OBSERVED THE HAND EXCAVATION OF A PATHWAY TO THE NW OF THE NEW EXTENSION.			
PATHWAY MEASURED C.15.50 SPm TO A MAXIMUM DEPTH OF C.0.20m BELOW GROUND LEVEL. THE STRATIGRAPHY COMPRISED DISTURBED/MADE-GROUND OF A MUD BROWN, SOFT, SILTY CLAY WITH FREQUENT TILE FRAGMENTS, FEW DISMEMBERED HUMAN BONE, ANIMAL BONE, CLAY PIPE STEMS, POTTERY (WILLOWPATTERN).			
A SERVICE TRENCH WAS ALSO HAND EXCAVATED TO A DEPTH OF C.0.90m BELOW GROUND LEVEL, THAT FOLLOWED THE PATH OF A KNOWN SERVICE, THEREFORE GROUND WAS ALREADY DISTURBED.			
Comments:			
PATHWAY WILL CONTINUE FURTHER SOUTH AT A LATER DATE ONLY TO A DEPTH OF 150mm.			
NO SIGNIFICANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, FINDS OR DEPOSITS WERE OBSERVED.			

Appendix 2: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: St Mary & St Giles' Church, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes			SITE NO/CODE: 1296/SSC
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	✓	✓	Disarticulated bone in situ, looking south east (scale 0.2m)
2	✓	✓	Post medieval pit, looking north east (scale 1m)
3	✓	✓	Drain, looking north (scale 1m)
4		✓	Drain, looking north
5		✓	Former footings, looking south east (scale 1m)
6		✓	Working shot, looking south (scale 1m)
7	✓	✓	Evaluation trench, looking south east (scale 1m)
8		✓	General site shot, looking north east (scale 1m)
9		✓	General site shot, looking south east (scale 1m)
10		✓	General site shot, looking south east (scale 1m)
11		✓	Skull fragment (scale 0.2m)
12		✓	Skull fragment (scale 0.2m)
13		✓	Pelvis fragment (scale 0.2m)
14		✓	Maxilla fragment (scale 0.2m)
15		✓	Footing trench section, looking south west (scale 1m)
16	✓	✓	Footing trench section, looking south west (scale 1m)
17		✓	Footing trench section, looking south west (scale 1m)
18		✓	Footing trench, looking south west (scale 1m)
19	✓	✓	Drainage trench, looking west (scale 1m)
20		✓	Drainage trench, looking west (scale 1m)
21		✓	Drainage trench, looking east (scale 1m)
22	✓	✓	Footing trench section, looking north west (scale 1m)
23	✓	✓	Footing trench, looking north east (scale 2x 1m)
24	✓	✓	Church footings, looking southeast (scale 2x 1m)
25	✓	✓	Church footings, looking southeast (scale 2x 1m)
26		✓	Church footings, looking southeast (scale 2x 1m)
27		✓	Church footings, looking north east (scale 2x 1m)
28		✓	Footing trench, looking north (scale 1m)
29		✓	Footing trench, looking north east (scale 1m)
30	✓	✓	Footing trench, looking north east (scale 2x 1m)
31	✓	✓	Footing trench, looking north east (scale 2x 1m)
32		✓	Pathway trench, north-west of the new extension (scale 1m)

Appendix 3: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	St Mary & St Giles' Church, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes	OASIS reference:	archaeol2-89307
Short Description:	Between May and November 2010 Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd carried out a watching brief at St Mary & St Giles Church, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes during the construction of an extension to the church. Little in the way of significant features, finds or deposits were observed, as the work entailed excavating through made/disturbed ground. A few disarticulated human remains were uncovered, along with post-medieval pottery sherds including one sherd of 19 th century 'willow-pattern' pottery, glass and tile fragments, clay pipe stems and animal bone fragments.		
Project Type:	Watching Brief		
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	Yes (ASC: 960/SSC/2 - Evaluation)	Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	Listed Grade B
Current land use:	Church garden	Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	Unknown
Monument type:	Church	Monument period:	Late 18 th century
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	Disarticulated human remains, 19 th century pottery sherds, tile and glass fragments, clay pipe stems and animal bone – all retained by the church		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Buckinghamshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	SP 7869 4047
Site address: (+ postcode if known)	St Mary & St Giles' Church, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK11 1BD		
Study area: (sq. m. / ha)	c.95 sq. m	Height OD: (metres)	c.66m OD
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	Milton Keynes Council Archaeological Officer	Project design originator:	Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA (ASC Ltd)
Project Manager:	Karin Semmelmann MA MIFA (ASC Ltd)	Supervisor:	Calli Rouse BA PIFA & Carina Summerfield-Hill BA MSc (ASC Ltd)
Sponsor / funding body:	St Mary & St Giles Church		
PROJECT DATE			
Fieldwork start date:	10/05/10	Fieldwork end date:	29/11/10
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Buckinghamshire County Museum	None (retained by church)	
Paper:		PD, report, site records, plans, b&w photos and negatives	
Digital:		1 cd containing all digital data	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Watching Brief: St Mary & St Giles Church, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. ASC: 1295/SSC/2		
Author(s):	Carina Summerfield-Hill BA MSc		
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