

**St Mary Magdalene Church
Hullavington
Wiltshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
Hullavington PCC


CA Project: 4418
CA Report: 13455

July 2013

St Mary Magdalene Church
Hullavington
Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

CA Project: 4418
CA Report: 13455

prepared by	Tom Weavill, Project Supervisor
date	12 July 2013
checked by	Richard Young, Project Manager
date	22 July 2013
approved by	Mark Collard, Head of Contracts
signed	
date	25 July 2013
issue	01

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

© Cotswold Archaeology

<p>Cirencester Building 11 Kemble Enterprise Park Kemble, Cirencester Gloucestershire, GL7 6BQ t. 01285 771022 f. 01285 771033</p>	<p>Milton Keynes Unit 4 Cromwell Business Centre Howard Way, Newport Pagnell MK16 9QS t. 01908 218320</p>	<p>Andover Office 49 Basepoint Business Centre Caxton Close, Andover Hampshire, SP10 3FG t. 01264 326549</p>
e. enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk		

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
<i>The site</i>	3
<i>Archaeological background</i>	3
<i>Archaeological objectives</i>	4
<i>Methodology</i>	4
2. RESULTS (FIGS 2).....	5
3. DISCUSSION.....	6
4. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	7
5. REFERENCES.....	7
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	8
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	9
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM	10

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Fig. 2 The site, showing location of engineering trenches (1:500)



SUMMARY

Project Name: St Mary Magdalene Church
Location: Hullavington
NGR: ST 89432 82046
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 8 July 2013
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum
Site Code: SMH 13

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during the excavation of five engineering trenches at St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington, Wiltshire.

The foundations of the extant 12th-century nave, the 1880 tower and the boundary wall of the churchyard were partially exposed. Reworked soils were revealed beneath the floor of the nave and outside the church. Possible evidence of Victorian renovation activity was also identified below a former limestone slab floor surface.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In July 2013 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Hullavington PCC at St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington, Wiltshire (centred on NGR: ST 89432 82046; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to accompany Faculty and planning applications for works to the church. The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the excavation of engineering trenches.
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2013) and approved by Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, archaeological advisor to Wiltshire Council. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2009), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Wiltshire* (WCC 1995) and the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006).

The site

- 1.3 The church and surrounding graveyard at Hullavington cover an area of approximately 250m² and lie at approximately 100m AOD.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Cornbrash Formation Limestone of the Jurassic era with no overlying superficial deposits (BGS 2013). The geological substrate was not encountered in any of the engineering trenches.

Archaeological background

- 1.6 The church is located within the core of the medieval settlement of Hullavington, which appears in the Domesday book as 'Hunlavintone', or Hunlaf's farm (Mawer and Stenton 1970). There is known to have been a church in Hullavington since the early 12th century when it passed from the Mortimer family to the abbey of St Victor-en-Caux. The manor and church passed to Eton College in 1443 and stayed with them until 1958. The nave and chancel are 12th century and the chapels date to the 13th century, the north chapel being similar to those at nearby Sherston and

Luckington (Pevsner 1975). The original tower was 14th century. The church underwent a major renovation in 1880 when the west tower and many of the windows were constructed.

Archaeological objectives

1.7 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
- at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

Methodology

1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2013). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising the hand excavation of five engineering trenches (Fig. 2).

1.9 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).

1.10 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.



2. RESULTS (FIG 2)

Trench 1

- 2.1 Trench 1 measured 1m in length, 0.8m in width and 0.75m in depth and was excavated within the church at the western end of the 12th century nave. The earliest deposit encountered within Trench 1 was 103 a dark greyish brown clayey silt reworked soil which produced several fragments of a disarticulated human skull which were reburied with the trench. Covering 103 was fine yellowish grey sand 102 which produced post-medieval ceramic building material and an iron pew nail. Deposit 102 also contained fragments of limestone rubble, timber fragments and several limestone roof tiles which were not retained. Laid on top of 102 was 101, a limestone slab floor surface which was covered by the current brick floor surface 100.

Trench 2

- 2.2 Trench 2 measured 1m in length, 0.8m in width and 0.55m in depth and lay outside the church. The earliest feature within trench 2 was 202, the limestone foundations of the 1800 church tower. Butting against 202 was light brown sandy clay 201. Covering 201 was gravel surface/drain 200.

Trench 3

- 2.3 Trench 3 measured 1.5m in length, 1.1m in width with a maximum depth of 0.55 with a drainage pipe cutting longitudinally through the centre, separating the eastern and western areas of the trench. The earliest feature encountered to the north of the pipe was the foundations of the northern wall of the nave 303. Poured against the wall of the nave was concrete 302, which was cut by the drainage pipes 301.
- 2.4 The earliest deposit encountered to the south of the pipe was light greyish brown clayey silt reworked soil 305. This was covered by topsoil 304, which was cut by the drainage pipes 301. The pipe cut was filled by gravel 300.

Trench 4

- 2.5 Trench 4 measured 1.2m in length, 0.6m in width and 1m in depth. The earliest deposit revealed was light greyish brown clayey silt reworked soil 401 with frequent limestone and slate fragment inclusions. This was covered by topsoil 400.

Trench 5

- 2.6 Trench 5 measured 1.2m in length, 0.6m in width and 0.65m in depth. The earliest feature in the trench was the foundations of the extant boundary wall of the churchyard 502. This was constructed of roughly worked limestone slabs, approximately 0.25m in length and 0.05m in thickness. This was butted by light greyish brown clayey silt reworked soil 501 from which an iron rotary key and 18th to 19th-century pottery were recovered. Deposit 501 was covered by topsoil 500.

The Finds

- 2.7 Artefactual material was recorded from two deposits, layers 102 and 501. An iron rotary key from deposit 501 might date as early as the later medieval period, although a post-medieval is more likely. An iron nail from deposit 102 retains traces of minerally-preserved wood and may be a pew nail. A single glazed earthenware sherd from deposit 501 and a tile or drain fragment from deposit 102 probably date after c. 1700.

3. DISCUSSION

The Church

- 3.1 The below ground parts of the extant western wall and foundations of the 12th-century nave was exposed in Trench 3. However the base of the foundations was not reached due to the later concrete layer 302 which butted against the foundations remaining unexcavated.
- 3.2 Trench 2 exposed the below ground elements of the extant 1880 tower wall and foundations. The base of the foundations was not reached and the presence of any remains associated with the original 14th-century tower could not be determined.
- 3.3 Reworked soil is present below the Victorian church floor within the 12th century nave. However it remains uncertain whether it pre-dates, is contemporary with or is later than the 12th-century nave. Deposit 102, which contained limestone rubble, roof tiles and timber fragments may represent a part of the major renovation works undertaken in 1880. These works included the demolition of the 14th-century tower at the western end of the church. This deposit then appeared to have been used as bedding for a limestone slab floor, later covered with the current brick floor surface.

The Graveyard

- 3.4 The reworked soils encountered in Trenches 2, 4 and 5 did not contain any human bone but do appear to have been reworked during the post-medieval period evident by the presence of 18th to 19th-century pottery in deposit 501.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Tom Weavill, who also wrote the report. The illustrations were prepared by Tom Weavill and Jon Bennett and Tom Weavill. The archive has been compiled by Tom Weavill and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young

5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2013 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 28 June 2013.

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 *St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Mawer, A. and Stenton, FM. (eds) 1970 *The Place-names of Wiltshire*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Pevsner, N. 1975 rev. *The Buildings of England: Wiltshire*. Harmondsworth, Penguin Books



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Masonry		Floor surface	Black/blue bricks forming the extant floor surface of the church	>1	>0.8	0.07	
1	101	Masonry		Floor surface	Limestone slab floor surface	>1	>0.8	0.08	
1	102	Layer		Deposit	Fine yellowish grey sand	>1	>0.8	0.30	Pmed
1	103	Layer		Graveyard soil	Dark greyish brown clayey silt	>1	>0.8	>0.3	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
2	200	Layer		Surface/drain	Gravel	>1	>0.8	0.45	Modern
2	201	Layer		Deposit	Light brown sandy clay	>1	>0.8	>0.1	
2	202	Masonry		Wall	Extant limestone block wall and foundation of church tower	>1		>0.55 (bpgl)	1880

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
3	300	Layer	301	Fill of drain	Gravel	>1.5	>1.1	0.4	Modern
3	301	Cut		Drain	Cut of modern drain	>1.5	>1.1	0.4	Modern
3	302	Layer		Deposit	Concrete	>1.5	>0.66	unexcavated	
3	303	Masonry		Wall	Extant limestone wall and foundation of nave	>1.5		>0.4 (bpgl)	C12
3	304	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey clayey silt	>1.5	>1.1	0.1	
3	305	Layer		Graveyard soil	Light greyish brown clayey silt with frequent limestone fragment and occasional slate fragment inclusions	>1.5	>1.1	>0.45	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey clayey silt	>1.2	>0.6	0.2	
4	401	Layer		Graveyard soil	Light greyish brown clayey silt with frequent limestone fragment and occasional slate fragment inclusions	>1.2	>0.6	>0.8	

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey clayey silt	>1.2	>0.6	0.2	Modern
5	501	Layer		Graveyard soil	Light greyish brown clayey silt with frequent limestone fragment and occasional slate fragment inclusions	>1.2	>0.6	>0.45	C18-C19
5	502	Masonry		Wall	Extant boundary wall constructed of roughly worked limestone slabs	>1.2	>0.6	>0.65 (bpgl)	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Spot-date
102	Post-medieval ceramic building material; curved tile/pipe	1	31	Pmed
	Iron nail (200mm)	1	-	
	Iron object: strip	1	-	
501	Post-medieval pottery: clear glazed earthenware	1	42	C18-C19
	Iron object; rotary key	1	-	

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington, Wiltshire	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during the excavation of five engineering trenches at St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington, Wiltshire.</p> <p>The foundations of the extant 12th-century nave, the 1880 tower and the boundary wall of the churchyard were partially exposed. Reworked soils were revealed beneath the floor of the nave and outside the church. Possible evidence of Victorian renovation activity was also identified below a former limestone slab floor surface.</p>	
Project dates	8 July 2013	
Project type	Watching brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington, Wiltshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	250m ²	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	ST 89432 82046	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Hullavington PCC/Wiltshire Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Tom Weavill	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	Metalwork, pottery
Paper	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	Trench sheets, digital photo register
Digital	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 <i>St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington, Wiltshire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i>. CA typescript report 13455</p>		



Cirencester 01285 771022
 Milton Keynes 01908 218320
 Andover 01264 326549
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington
Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE

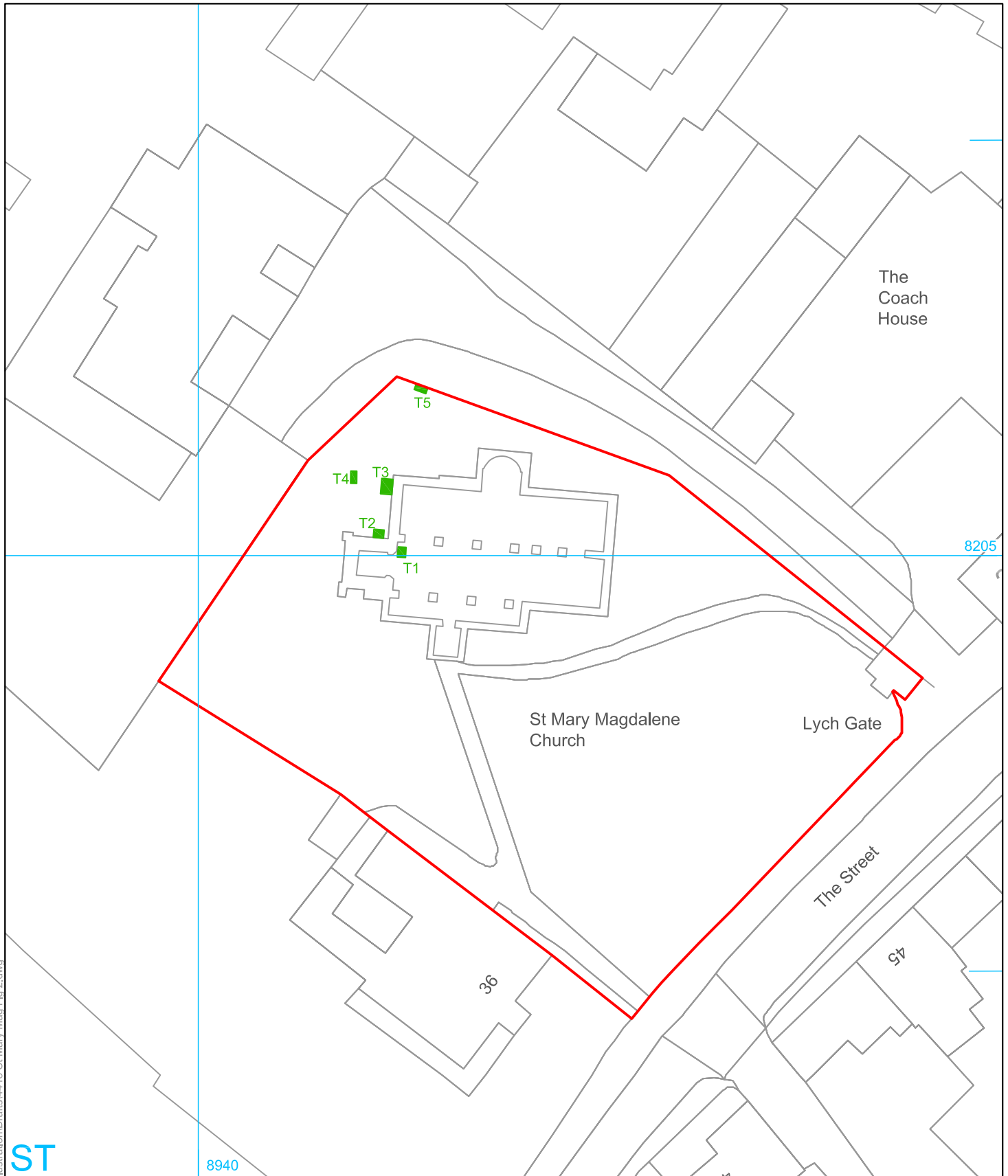
Site location plan

Reproduced from the 2012 Ordnance Survey Explorer map with
 the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller
 of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright
 Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109

PROJECT NO. 4418 DATE 22-07-2013
 DRAWN BY JB REVISION 00
 APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1



ST

8940

8205

36

45

- site
- engineering trenches



Cirencester 01285 771022
 Milton Keynes 01908 218320
 Andover 01264 326549
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 St Mary Magdalene Church, Hullavington, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan, showing location of engineering trenches

PROJECT NO.	4418	DATE	22-07-2013	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	TW	REVISION	00	2
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A4	1:500	

