

St Michael's Church Stockton Warwickshire



Archaeological Watching Brief Report



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SUMMARY

In November and December 2007, and February and April 2008, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at St Michael's Church, Stockton, Warwickshire (NGR: 44373 26360). The work was commissioned by Acanthus Clews Architects on behalf of the Incumbent and Church Wardens. Oxford Archaeology were attendant on John Harris and Sons of Stratford Ltd., who carried out the building works, which comprised the excavation of footings for an extension to the south side of the west tower (to provide lavatory facilities and a store), installation of a mezzanine floor and kitchen in the tower, removal and re-levelling of the church floor prior to the laying of new under-floor heating system, excavation of a ramp to the north porch, and the provision of new mains services in the south-west churchyard.

The watching brief on the excavation of footings for the new extension revealed a layer of disturbed graveyard soil, from which a small amount of charnel (representing at least one adult and three juveniles) was recovered, as well as two in situ adult burials, one coffined (dating it to the post-medieval period, not excavated), and one heavily truncated, but undated. In addition, where the excavation was deepened, the top of the undisturbed burial horizon was reached, and a further adult burial of unknown date was revealed, but not excavated. The original medieval foundation walls for the south wall of the west tower, the west wall of the south aisle and the buttress between them, were also revealed.

The intra-mural works revealed a number of features relating to 19th century rebuilding and alterations, including brick floor support walls and the footings for the arcade columns. In addition, a number of the original medieval features were revealed, including tiled floor surfaces, paved stone flooring, a respond base and a doorway in the south wall of the south aisle, which had been blocked in 1873.

During the excavation of the service trench within the churchyard, four earth cut graves, and a probable fifth, heavily disturbed one, were revealed, all five containing single adult inhumations. The date of these burials, whether medieval or post-medieval, could not be ascertained.

No significant archaeological deposits were reached during the excavation for the disabled access ramp, although the footing for the 19th century north porch step was revealed.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 In November and December 2007, and February and April 2008, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief within the church and churchyard of St Michael's Church, Stockton, Warwickshire. The work was commissioned by Acanthus Clews Architects on behalf of the Incumbent and Church Wardens. John Harris and Sons of Stratford Ltd. carried out the ground works in

respect of a planning application for a an extension to the south side of the west tower (to provide lavatory facilities and a store), installation of a mezzanine floor and kitchen in the tower, a new under-floor heating system and excavation of a ramp to the north porch, as well as the provision of new mains services in the south-west churchyard.

1.1.2 A project brief was set by the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAA) detailing the requirements for an Archaeological Investigation during these works. These comprised:

- Examination of available maps, aerial photographs, documentary sources and other relevant background material.
- Buildings recording, including a detailed photographic record of those parts of the church interior affected by the works.
- Investigation and recording of all archaeological contexts and artefacts disturbed or exposed
- Recording of headstones and other funerary monuments directly affected by the works

1.1.3 OA prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation detailing how it would meet the requirements of the brief (OA 2007).

1.2 **Geology and topography**

1.2.1 The site is situated on the east side of Rectory Close, in the south east area of the village of Stockton, Warwickshire (NGR 44373 26360) (Fig. 1). The underlying geology of the area is Blue (lower) Lias (Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 184 (Warwick; 1984).

1.3 **Archaeological and historical background**

Introduction

1.3.1 A visit was made to the Warwickshire County Record Office in order to carry out a search of historical and archaeological information pertaining to the village of Stockton and the church of St Michael itself. A number of literary resources, including the Victoria County History series (Page 1908), were studied, and a search of historic maps was also carried out. Maps detailing the area of Stockton were very limited; the record office held no tithe map nor any estate or enclosure maps, either because none were ever made, or (in the case of estate maps which may have been made privately), were never deposited with the record office. Old photographs and a number of written documents, relating to the 19th century alterations to the church were also viewed. The record office held very few aerial photographs of the area, and these were at such a scale as to be of little use to this research.

The village of Stockton

- 1.3.2 Stockton is a village and civil parish in the Stratford-on-Avon district of Warwickshire and lies two miles north-east of Southam (Salzman 1951, 226). It occupies a low hill in the gently sloping countryside of south-eastern Warwickshire but has no prominent natural features, and the courses of its numerous small streams were much disturbed by the construction of the Oxford canal which runs along the edge of the parish (*ibid.*, 226). A number of large, conspicuous blocks of rock, brought during the glacial period, are found across the county of Warwickshire, the largest of which attracted much attention (Doubleday and Page 1904, 26). One of these, a large, Charnwood granite boulder, nearly two tons in mass, stands within rails at the entrance to the village of Stockton (Murray 1899, 66; Doubleday and Page 1904, 26). Stockton is also famous for the discovery of a fine specimen of an Ichthyosaurus, recovered from a Blue Lias stone pit in 1898 (Murray 1899, 66; Doubleday and Page 1904, 26).
- 1.3.3 The village can demonstrate a 13th century or earlier foundation date, being described, in 1272, as *Stocton* in the Warwickshire Feet of Fines (1195-1284) (cited in Gover et al 1936). It is possible that the name comes from the Old English, *stocctun*, meaning 'stump enclosure' (*ibid.*). The old name *stocck-haeme* for the inhabitants of Stockton survives in the field name *Stochemehull* in the neighbouring parish, Southam (*ibid.*). Stockton does not figure in the Domesday Book, but it is thought likely to have formed part of the large and valuable manor of Long Itchington (Salzman 1951, 226).
- 1.3.4 Cement-making was a major industry of the 19th and 20th centuries in the vicinity of Rugby and Stockton (Slater 1981, 97). The lime and cement works were already extensive in Stockton by 1850, and as a result, there was a massive population increase, Stockton being almost the only industrial area in this part of the county (Cave 1976, 49-50). During the 19th century, the population trebled (*ibid.*, 49-50; Salzman 1951, 226), and the predominantly industrial character of the village is shown by the adoption of the name 'Blue Lias' for one of its inns (Salzman 1951, 226). Firstly the Grand Union Canal, and subsequently the railways, enabled the heavy and bulky raw materials (limestone and clay) to be transhipped (*ibid.* 226; Slater 1981, 97). The greater part of the concrete for the Thames Embankment came from Stockton (Murray 1899, 66). When the works closed, the groups of terraced, industrial houses became desirable residences near the parish church of St Michael (Cave 1976, 50).

The Church and Churchyard

- 1.3.5 St Michael's Church is a Grade II listed building and stands in a small churchyard on the south side of the village (Salzman 1951, 227). The church comprises a chancel, nave, north and south aisles, west tower, vestry and north porch, the majority of which were built of locally quarried blue lias stone by W. Slater in the 19th century. The present church stands on the footprint of the original medieval church (Pevsner and Wedgwood 1966 404-5). The 14th century chancel (partly restored in 1809) and

15th century tower are the remaining original features of the earlier church (Salzman 1951, 227). The nave and north aisle were built in 1863 and the south aisle in 1873 (*ibid.*, Cave 1973, 50; Cox 1930, 143). A document dating to January 9th 1873 (Warwickshire Record Office reference DR 193/40) acknowledges the previous rebuilding of the central aisle and the construction of a north aisle, by the then deceased Rev. Charles Pilkington. It discusses the costs for the rebuilding of the south aisle and its roof, to make it symmetrical - in terms of the number and style of windows - to the north aisle, including the proposal for blocking the doorway in the south wall of the south aisle. The total proposed cost for these works was £200.

1.3.6 An article reprinted from the 'Leamington Spa Courier', dated June 28th 1912, written by the Ven. Archdeacon Colley, Rector of Stockton (Warwickshire Record Office reference DR 193/70) was also viewed. This gave a short archaeological and architectural history of the church, summarised below. Before the north aisle was built in 1863, the remains of the side altar of the chapel for the church military indwellers of the moated Preceptory of the Knights-Templar, lay to east of the chancel. Remains of the aforementioned moat are shown in a field to the south-east of the church, on the second edition 1888 and 1905 Ordnance Survey maps (Warwickshire Sheet XL.NE). The Knights-Templar were among the most famous of the Western Christian military orders, an organisation which lasted around two centuries in the Middle Ages. The order was founded in 1118/19 in the aftermath of the First Crusade and they played a significant role in the defence of the Christian settlements in Palestine and Syria and in the administration of the Kingdom of Jerusalem (Friar 2003, 443). By the end of the 13th century, the Templars had become established in almost every European kingdom, but in 1308, based on the circulation of strange stories about their 'secret rites,' and their failure to mobilise their considerable resources in 1291 following the fall of the Acre, Philip IV of France started a movement to suppress the Templars and many were arrested and killed on the grounds of alleged heresy, sorcery, sodomy and corruption (*ibid.*, 443).

1.3.7 Reverend Archdeacon Colley's article of 1912 also detailed that, before the north aisle and porch were built, the entrance into the church was through a door in the west wall of the tower, now blocked but still visible (Plate 1), beneath the stained glass window of 'Heaven's champion slaying the dragon'. When the north porch was added, it was known as the 'Devil's Door',

"aspected to the cold quarter of the arctic circle, for Satan unseen now arriving from his over-warm climate to enjoy by way of change an agreeable chill, and have some respite from the fierce scorchings of perdition when loitering outside, on business bent, covertly to watch for those who did not come to church.... a convenient position for Satan's preferred, cooler observation of rebellious, unrepenting sinners not attending Mass" (Ven. Archdeacon Colley 1912).

1.3.8 A black and white photograph viewed at the record office (Warwickshire Record Office reference DR 193/74) shows the south-western side of the churchyard and clearly shows at least one upstanding grave stone directly within the footprint of the proposed new extension between the west wall of the south aisle and the south wall of

the tower. From the photograph, it appears that the tombstone was that of Edward Rawbone and his wife Elizabeth, who died in 1892 and 1902, respectively, and one of the grave memorials (Memorial 28) that was moved prior to the building of the new extension (see Section 3.3.2). The same area was photographed just prior to the works in this area, and shows Memorial 28, as well as others (recumbant) that have been moved.

2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 To identify and record the presence/absence, extent, condition, quality and date of archaeological remains in the areas affected by the development, particularly pertaining to structural remains of the earlier church, and intra- and extramural burials.
- 2.1.2 To preserve by record any archaeological deposits or features that may be disturbed or destroyed during the course of any ground works.
- 2.1.3 To exhume any inhumations that may be above the level of impact of the ground works for later reburial.
- 2.1.4 To make available the results of the archaeological investigation.

2.2 Methodology

Area of extension, south side of west tower (Fig. 2)

- 2.2.1 The mechanical excavation of the area of the extension between the south wall of the west tower and the west wall of the south aisle was undertaken under archaeological supervision. This was undertaken using a mini-digger fitted with a toothless bucket until the presence of human skeletal remains was established. These were recorded and lifted by hand before allowing machining to continue excavation. The human skeletal remains lifted during the excavations were re-buried within the area of the extension, prior to the laying of concrete.

Grave memorials

- 2.2.2 The grave memorials impacted by the development, including the headstones that had been reused as steps in the churchyard path (Plate 2), and those within the area of the extension to the south side of the west tower (Plate 3), were recorded following the guidelines set out by Mytum (2002). The results are presented in Section 3.3.2.

Intra-mural works

- 2.2.3 The removal of the internal church floor was carried out partly by hand, to remove the York stone paving slabs and the brick floor support walls, and partly using a mini-digger fitted with a 0.5 m wide toothed bucket, to remove the central aisle tiled floor and all underlying rubble. Once the presence of archaeology was established, the remainder was excavated/cleaned by hand and recorded.

Service trench (Fig. 2; Fig. 4)

- 2.2.4 The service trenching within the churchyard was undertaken under archaeological supervision, using a mini-digger fitted with a 0.5m toothless bucket. The ground was reduced in spits until the presence of inhumations was established.
- 2.2.5 Each grave group, comprising the grave cut and fill (where defined), associated skeleton, coffin and coffin fittings was assigned a unique context number. Skeletons and any remains of associated coffins and coffin fittings lying within the development area were hand excavated and lifted with due care and regard to the sensitivities involved. Only skeletal remains exposed in the trench were excavated, thus skeletons were not excavated beyond the limits of the trench.
- 2.2.6 All excavation, recording and lifting of human remains was undertaken in accordance with the methods detailed in the *OA Fieldwork Manual* (Wilkinson 1992).
- 2.2.7 Following their rapid examination on site by a qualified osteoarchaeologist, all human remains were re-buried in a suitable location within the trench (from whence they came), prior to it being backfilled.

Disabled access ramp (Fig. 2)

- 2.2.8 The excavation of the area for the disabled access ramp to the north porch was carried out by hand, by the groundsmen of John Harris and Sons. The bricks of the blue brick path were levered out using a hammer and chisel, and the underlying bedding layer and subsoil was removed by shovel and spade. A photographic record was made of the works and the deposits encountered were recorded.

Archaeological recording

- 2.2.9 Plans showing the archaeological features, including human burials, revealed during each of the watching brief stages were drawn at a scale of 1:20. A representative section of the service trench was also drawn at this scale. All excavated features were digitally photographed and a general photographic record of the work, including black and white, and colour slides, was also made. Recording followed procedures detailed in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (Wilkinson 1992). Building recording was also undertaken, and any walls that were to be directly affected by the works were fully recorded, including a detailed photographic record prior to commencement of the works.

3 RESULTS**3.1 Description of deposits**

Area of extension, south side of west tower (Fig. 2)

- 3.1.1 The area of the extension comprised a square measuring 4.5 m by 4.5 m, in the angle between the west wall of the south aisle and the south wall of the tower. This area was excavated to a depth of 0.5 m to 0.6 m (starting at 0.5 m at the north-east corner, deepening slightly to 0.6 m at the south-west). The stratigraphy encountered was consistent throughout the area, comprising a loose, dark grey brown loam topsoil (1), with small limestone fragments (0.25 m thick), overlying a 0.2 m thick layer of made ground, comprising brick, tile and large limestone fragments, in a yellow brown sandy clay matrix (2). It is probable that deposit 2 was formed during the construction of the south aisle (c. 1873) or during the construction of the path to the south.
- 3.1.2 Underlying this made ground layer (2), was a layer of disturbed graveyard soil (3), a friable, yellow brown sandy clay with small limestone fragments, c. 0.15 m thick. This context contained a small amount of charnel (7) at a depth of 0.4 and 0.60 m below the present ground level. The charnel (7) represented a minimum number of four individuals - at least one adult (probably male), a perinate, an infant (6 months - 1 year) and an older child (6 - 12 years). An *in situ* skeleton (6) was also revealed within the graveyard soil, at 0.4 - 0.55 m below the present ground level. It was aligned west - east. The burial was assigned arbitrary cut (4) and fill (5) numbers, as the actual edges of the grave could not be defined due to the similarity of the fill to the graveyard soil through which the grave was cut. Only the right lower leg (tibia and fibula), ankle (tarsals) and foot bones (metatarsals, phalanges) of skeleton 6 remained (Plate 4), the grave apparently having been heavily truncated, possibly by another grave cut. Some of the charnel (7) may in fact have been within the fill (5) of this grave, but it was all assigned to the general disturbed, graveyard soil (3), as this could not be ascertained.
- 3.1.3 A second west - east aligned, *in situ* burial was also revealed within the graveyard soil (3). This post-medieval burial included a coffin (17), of which the top of the south edge was visible, along with three coffin nails and a grip (possibly associated). The dimensions of the coffin were 0.37 m in width, and 1.08 m in length. Part of the skull of the skeleton (16) within was also visible, but at 0.6 m below the present ground level, this lay below the level of impact and therefore was not excavated. The dimensions of the coffin however, indicate that this was a subadult.
- 3.1.4 Along the west and south edges of the square extension area, a 0.6 m wide, deeper trench (the footings for the extension) was excavated to a depth of 0.8 m below ground level. This allowed the full thickness of the disturbed graveyard soil (3) to be seen (0.15 m), and revealed the top of the underlying, undisturbed burial horizon (15) - a much more compact, slightly paler, yellowish-brown sandy clay. Within this layer (15), approximately 1.5 m south of the south-west corner of the tower, the lower legs of a west - east aligned, *in situ* adult burial were revealed, but this was below the level of impact and was not recorded in any detail.

- 3.1.5 The walls that were to be directly affected by the building of the new extension were fully recorded. The south wall of the west tower (9) was 3.7 m in length east - west between buttresses. It comprised orange and pink sandstone blocks, measuring *c.* 0.2-0.3m by *c.* 0.3-0.4m and *c.* 0.6 by 0.3 by 0.44 m respectively, bonded with a soft, cream coloured, lime based primary mortar (Plate 5). This mortar had been re-pointed in patches with a harder pinkish sandy mortar. The foundation wall (8) for wall 9 was revealed during the excavation. This comprised five visible courses of roughly hewn, greyish and yellow sandstone blocks, measuring 0.16-0.27 by 0.08-0.14 m (Plate 6). The composition of the bond, if any, was not ascertained.
- 3.1.6 The buttress (11) in the corner between the south wall of the west tower and the west wall of the south aisle comprised the same orange and pink sandstone blocks as those of wall (9) (Plate 7). Its north-south elevation measured 0.6 m in width, and its east-west elevation 0.8 m wide. This buttress and wall 9 are contemporary. The foundation wall (10) for buttress 11 was also revealed during the excavation (Plate 6). It is contemporary with, and identical to, the foundation (8) for wall 9, comprising roughly hewn greyish limestone blocks.
- 3.1.7 The west facing wall of the south aisle (13), built in 1873, abutted buttress (11), and comprised cream coloured sandstone/limestone blocks measuring *c.* 0.3-0.35m by *c.* 0.1-0.15 m (Plate 8). The bond was a soft, crumbly, lime-based mortar, with additional later re-pointing with a pink sandy mortar. The overall north-south elevation of the wall measured 3.6 m in width. Three decorative string courses of pinkish-orange sandstone blocks, were also recorded at 1.1 m, 2.15 m and 2.9 m from ground level. This wall also held a stained glass window, depicting Saint Mary (Plate 9), which was removed to be reinstated in the west wall of the new extension. This window had an intra-mural sandstone sill, measuring 0.8 m in length, 0.22 m in width and 0.23 m thick. It was a roughly made single skin arch that used headers, brick rubble and a pinkish sandy mortar. The internal make up of the wall itself was revealed upon the removal of the window. It was found to comprise brick and stone rubble and mortar with a single skin of stone, *c.* 0.2 m thick. The foundation for this wall (12) (Plate 10), revealed during the excavation for the new extension footings, was contemporary with the foundation walls 8 and 10, for the south wall of the west tower (9) and buttress 11, respectively. Later intra-mural works revealed that parts of the lower halves of the walls of the south aisle may be the original medieval walls, their external surfaces having been refaced to match the newly rebuilt upper halves (see Section 3.1.17).

Intra-mural works (Fig. 3)

- 3.1.8 The wooden floor boards, York stone paved walkways (101) (orientated east - west in the north and south aisles, and north - south from the north porch), the decorative tiled flooring along the central aisle area (103) and the modern concrete slabs in the west end of the north aisle (102), were removed to reveal a series of 19th century, brick dwarf walls (100). Wooden joists running along the top of these walls acted as floor supports. These walls were approximately 0.42 m in height, just a single brick length (0.23 m) in width, and generally comprised three to four courses of bricks, laid

in varying positions (i.e. some were laid on their largest side whilst others were laid on their edge) (Plate 11). These were bonded with a fairly brittle, whitish grey sandy mortar. A representative length of one of these floor support walls is shown in the south aisle in Figure 3.

- 3.1.9 The brick floor support wall (117) that extended beneath the entire north edge of the south aisle walkway, differed from the other floor support walls (100), in that fairly large, sandstone blocks had been built in at intervals along it (varying from between 0.79 m and 2.3 m apart). The maximum block size was 0.20 m x 0.35 m x 0.57 m (Plate 12). Upon disassembling the wall, these stone blocks were found to be fragments of dressed masonry, probably from the original medieval building. They included at least three fragments of what appeared to be parts of the old, octagonal arcade columns or column bases (Plate 13). It is possible that these stones were built into the floor support to act as 'pad stones', used to distribute the overlying weight of the floor and the pressure from its use as a walkway, but why this particular floor support should include these is unclear. The course of wall 117 is depicted in Figure 3, where mortar from the wall adhered to the tiles of floor 107 (see Section 3.1.18), after the wall was removed.
- 3.1.10 Loose rubble (112) filled the voids beneath the floor surface created by the floor support walls (100 and 117). This rubble mainly consisted of sandstone, along with fragments of brick, tile, glass, wood, clay tobacco pipe and a small amount of animal bone, and had probably been deposited as a make-up layer for the 19th century floor surfaces.
- 3.1.11 Upon clearing the rubble (112), a number of other features were revealed, including the plinths and footings (105) of the present 19th century arcade columns. Each plinth comprised a single course of red bricks creating a square platform, roughly 0.8 m x 0.8 m, onto which the column base was set. Each plinth was set onto a square, stone and concrete footing or foundation, of roughly 1.1 m x 1.1 m (Fig. 3 and Plate 14).
- 3.1.12 Two of the column footings in the north arcade (the two immediately west of the walkway from the north porch) were set on top of a length (at least 4.36 m, east - west) of rough, limestone masonry (118), approximately 0.65 m - 0.70 m wide (Fig. 3). When the church was largely rebuilt in the 19th century, it was founded upon the medieval footprint. It is possible that this stretch of masonry was part of an original medieval wall footing, possibly forming part of the north wall of the nave, as it is thought that the original church had no north aisle, the present aisle and porch having been built in 1863. However, it should be considered that its overall width may be too slight for it to have been the nave wall.
- 3.1.13 At the eastern end of the south aisle, the 19th century respond - a half pillar, built against the wall at the end of the arcade (Child 1976, 47) - was found to partly overlie the remains of an original, medieval column or respond base and plinth (111) (Fig. 3 and Plate 15). Unlike the other 19th century columns, this respond was not set upon a brick plinth, but was simply set onto thin, grey stone slabs, approximately 0.06 m

thick, which overlay the original medieval base. The revealed medieval masonry comprised a squared, sandstone slab plinth with bevelled edges, approximately 0.07 m thick, and 0.64 m wide (north-south), overlain by what appeared to be an octagonal sandstone slab base, approximately 0.1 m thick, and 0.54 m wide. The other respond bases located on either side of the door into the west tower, and the respond on the north side of the chancel did not appear to be set upon original medieval respond bases, but rested upon 19th century brick plinths set upon square concrete and stone footings as seen with the other column bases.

- 3.1.14 Also at the eastern end of the south aisle, an area of *in situ* tiled flooring (106) was revealed below the rubble (112) (Fig. 3 and Plate 16). These tiles were 135 mm x 135 mm square, and roughly 32 mm thick (see Section 3.3.5 - 3.3.17). The tiles were arranged in straight, north - south or east - west rows. A maximum extent of 18 tiles (2.46 m) (north - south) and 11 tiles (1.52 m) (east-west) remained *in situ*. These tiles had no decoration or glaze. A thin layer (approximately 0.008 m) of soft, whitish lime mortar was visible where tiles were missing. This acted as a bedding layer for the tiled floor. Although in straight lines, the tile arrangement was not square to the present south aisle walls (east wall and east end of south wall), confirming that these tiles predated the construction of the south aisle, built in 1873. The gap between the eastern edge of the tiled surface and the eastern wall of the south aisle, created by the slightly different alignments of the two, had been filled in with a mixture of broken tiles from the disturbed areas of 106 and 107 (discussed below, Section 3.1.18), and stone slab fragments.
- 3.1.15 Bounding the northern edge of tiled surface 106, were the remains of a paved surface 108, which comprised two east - west rows of rectangular, sandstone slabs (roughly 0.29 m wide slabs), bounded on the northern edge by a row of narrower sandstone slabs (0.16 m wide), creating a total width (north - south) of 0.74 m, and a total length (east - west) of 1.64 m (Fig. 3 and Plate 17). The level and orientation of 108 and 106 suggest a contemporary medieval date. This paved surface appeared to be the medieval equivalent of the 19th century York stone paved walkway along the south aisle. The upper surfaces of the slabs were worn very smooth, consistent with this being a walkway. It also appeared to be contemporary with the original medieval respond base (111). The level of the tiles (106) and the paved surface (108) was roughly equal, at approximately 0.25 m below the current church ground level, the latter resting on a reddish brown, loose dusty layer (114). The original, full extent westward of both the tiled surface (106) and associated bedding layers, and the paved surface (108) was unclear, due to disturbance and truncation by the 19th century works. Their original extent eastwards was also unclear, as a number of tiles and paving slabs appear to have been removed during the construction of the 19th century south aisle.
- 3.1.16 At the western edge of the south aisle, a number of grey sandstone paving slabs (119) were exposed beneath the rubble (112), extending along the west, and west end of the south walls (Fig. 3). The maximum slab size was *c.* 0.56 m by 0.6 m, and the maximum extent of the slabs was 3.35 m east - west, and 2.2 m north - south. A

number of the slabs were cracked or broken, but with the fragments still *in situ*. The upper surfaces of the slabs were notably very smooth, indicating that this may be the remains of a well used floor surface.

- 3.1.17 In the south wall of the south aisle, roughly in line with the north porch, a blocked doorway (104) was revealed after the removal of the wall plaster (Plate 18). The doorway was positioned below, although not directly below, one of the south aisle windows. The jamb stones (the masonry blocks forming the side of the doorway) comprised large whitish-grey, well-hewn, square limestone blocks, up to 0.4 m in width. The width of the doorway measured 1.62 m. The doorway itself had been filled in with six courses of limestone blocks, up to the base of the present window sill. The upper three courses were roughly hewn, yellow and greyish-white limestone blocks, up to 0.45 m by 0.15 m in size. The lower three comprised slightly smaller, rougher limestone blocks. The bond was a rough, grey, hard concreted mortar. Below the lowest course of stones, at 1.09 m below the base of the window sill, a layer of thinner, well-hewn grey limestone slabs was revealed, flush with the overlying blocking stones. These slabs were *c.* 0.13 m thick, with a maximum length of *c.* 0.6 m. Below these slabs, a layer of thicker (0.18 m), well hewn limestone slabs (up to 0.76 m in length) were revealed, protruding out into the south aisle, *c.* 0.16 m from the edge of the overlying slabs. A further slab (0.07 m thick and 0.54 m in length) was revealed below these, protruding *c.* 0.22 m from the above layer. These lower three layers of well hewn stone slabs were likely to be the remains of the steps into the church before the doorway was blocked (Plate 19), for which there is documentary evidence dating it to 1873 (see Section 1.3.5).
- 3.1.18 Still within the south aisle, just 0.4 m further to the west of the western extent of 106 and 108, another tiled floor surface 107 was revealed beneath the rubble (112), at 0.42 m below the ground surface. These tiles were smaller than those of surface 106, *c.* 111 mm by 111 mm, and *c.* 25 mm thick, some glazed and/or patterned (see Section 3.3.5 - 3.3.17 and Plate 20). They were set into a very thin (4 mm), soft, lime mortar bedding. In contrast to tiled floor surface 106, these tiles were arranged in north-east - south-west/north-west - south-east rows, but a north-south aligned row along the eastern extent, creating a border, indicated that this was the original eastern extent of this area of tiles. Along the southern extent of this area of tiles, a number of the tiles had been halved, creating a straight, east-west edge, indicating that this too, was the original extent. The maximum remaining tiled area within the south aisle measured 1.65 m (north - south), by 4.06 m (east - west), but again, large areas were disturbed and truncated by the 19th century works. It is worth noting that the tiles displaying the most patterning and/or glaze, were those along the original edge of the extent of the tiles. Many of the other tiles showed faint traces of pattern or glaze, or simply were plain, most likely the result of this tiled walkway having been well used and worn.
- 3.1.19 The same tiled floor surface (107) was present elsewhere within the church, predominantly paving the central aisle, where an area 8 m (east - west) by 1.27 m (north - south) survived. This area was bounded by a straight, east - west row of tiles

along the north and south edges, marking the original limits (Plate 21). In addition, a small area of tiles (1.3 m east - west x 1.26 m north - south), at the very west end of the central aisle area in front of the tower had survived. As with the main area of tiles along the central aisle, in line with the walkway from the north porch, another stretch of tiles was revealed. This measured 2.1 m (north - south) by 1.23 m (east - west) and extended as far south as the pillars on the south side of the nave. The western edge showed the halved tiles, creating a straight edge, as seen along the south edge of the tiles within the south aisle. Again, it was noted that the majority of the tiles appeared to be plain, or had only very faint traces of patterning or glaze, with those displaying the most, along the edges of the walkways. An equivalent stretch of tiles was not present extending northwards towards the north porch. Instead, the bounding row of east-west tiles continued straight across the line of the north - south walkway. In conjunction with the presence of the rough stone footings (118), of possible medieval date, this further supports the view that in the medieval period, no north aisle existed. No tiled surface was revealed within the north aisle. Layer 115 lay directly below the rubble (112), the same layer underlying tiled floor surfaces 106 and 107, and their associated bedding layers, and paved surfaces 108 and 119.

- 3.1.20 In the northern half of the nave, opposite the north porch, another of floor surface (116) was revealed below rubble (112). This comprised a small 1.35 m (east - west) by 1.65 m (north - south), area of randomly arranged bricks and tiles, the latter identical to those of floor 107. This surface appeared to butt against the northern edge of surface 107. It seems likely that 116 was either a later area of repair of original floor surface 107 or, more probable, given that 116 butted against what appeared to be edging tiles of 107, a later addition altogether. It almost mirrors and lies exactly opposite, the north - south stretch of tiles (107) in the south side of the nave.
- 3.1.21 Layer 115 was a compact, dark grey-brown, clay-loam soil, with fairly frequent chalk fragments. With the exception of a small area within the south aisle, this layer was not excavated as it lay beneath the level of impact. Within the south aisle, between tiled floor 107 and the south wall, this layer (115) was truncated by an elongated (north - south) feature (109). This feature measured 1.25 m in width (east - west), with only 1.38 m of its length visible (between the south wall and the south edge of tiled surface 107). The fill (110) of the feature comprised a dark brown, fairly compact clayey soil with frequent chalk inclusions. A small number of brick fragments were present within the top of the fill, but it is likely that these had been pressed in from the overlying 19th century rubble. In order to properly define the edges of this cut, the area was thoroughly cleaned, and the layer underlying 115, a very compact, red sandy deposit (113), was revealed on either side of the cut feature. Layer 115 was found to be 0.12 m thick in this area. Neither the cut feature (109) or the red sandy layer (113) were explored further, as these lay below the level of impact, but a possible explanation for the cut feature is that it is a robber trench.
- 3.1.22 Insertion of the mezzanine floor itself, did not reveal any archaeological structures/deposits, as it was inserted over the existing plaster on the walls of the

tower. The opening of the access door to the mezzanine floor revealed the fabric of the NW-SE section of wall crossing the south-west corner of the tower, and enclosing the internal spiral-staircase. This was constructed of sandstone blocks and lime mortar. Other than this, there was nothing of archaeological significance. Plates 22 to 24 show the tower prior to, during and after the insertion of the mezzanine floor and access door.

Service trench (south-west churchyard) (Fig. 4)

- 3.1.23 The service trench was located on the south-west side of the church and measured approximately 0.5 m in width and just over 14 m in length. The trench was orientated east to west, extending from the south-west corner of the newly built extension, along the east-west path, to the pavement of Rectory Close (Fig. 2). The steps at the west end of the path, down to the pavement were temporarily removed. The depth of the trench was maintained at approximately 1-1.2 m below ground level, but 3 m from the western end it deepened down to the pavement level. The minimum depth required for link up to the mains services below the road surface was 3 m, although the maximum depth reached within the boundary of the churchyard was c. 1.6 m. A steep fall in the trench, to required maximum depth, was created outside the boundary of the churchyard.
- 3.1.24 A light bluish-grey, blue lias bedrock (209), was encountered at a depth of c. 1.25 m below ground level. Overlying this was the graveyard soil (202), a firm, compact, dark yellowish-brown silty clay, with very occasional small sandstone fragments and chalk flecks. Its average depth measured c. 0.6m, and was present throughout the trench. Four earth-cut graves, and possibly a fifth, very disturbed one, cut this deposit. The date of these burials could not be ascertained. Coffins were present (see Section 3.1.29), but were represented only by iron nails and a small fragment of an iron corner bracket. The graveyard soil was overlain by a layer of subsoil (201), (0.64 m thick on average), a fairly compact, dark greyish-brown silty clay. This contained occasional small fragments of yellow and red sandstone, and very occasional sub-rounded flint fragments. This deposit was also present throughout the trench, and was sealed by the east-west aligned path (200), which was constructed of blue bricks, overlying a hardcore bedding layer. The total thickness of the path and its bedding layer was 0.12 m.

The graves

- 3.1.25 The four earth cut graves (203, 204, 205 and 207), were all sub-rectangular in shape, and were aligned roughly west-east, with the exception of grave 204, which was on more of a north-west to south-east alignment. The shallowest surviving grave (204) was encountered at a depth of c. 0.76 m below the modern ground surface. Of the four definite graves, the deepest grave (205) (Plate 25) was encountered at a depth of 0.87 m below the ground surface. A probable fifth grave (206), that was heavily disturbed, was revealed at a depth of c. 1.0 m.

- 3.1.26 Possible grave 206 was situated *c.* 1.0 m from the eastern end of the trench. Graves 203, 204 and 205 were clustered together and were intercutting. These lay 2.5 m westwards of grave 206. Grave 207 was situated much further westwards along the trench, *c.* 5-5.5 m from 203, 204 and 205.
- 3.1.27 The graves had been backfilled with redeposited graveyard soil, making identification of grave cuts problematic. Nevertheless, in most cases the edges of the grave cuts could be defined, from slight differences in colour and compaction between the grave fill and the soil through which they were cut. Possible disturbed grave 206 was the only grave where the cut could not be defined. The full width of the three of the graves (203, 204 and 207), was revealed within the limits of the trench, and these were 0.47 m, 0.44 m and 0.52 m respectively. The full length of two of the graves (205 and 207), was also revealed, and these were 1.58 m and 1.36 m respectively.
- 3.1.28 Human skeletal remains were recovered from all of the graves, including possible grave 206. This latter grave contained the skull, right shoulder and upper vertebrae of an adult. These elements had been heavily disturbed, although some parts appeared to be semi-articulated, which one would not expect of a simple charnel deposit. It seemed more likely, therefore, that these were indeed the remains of an *in situ* burial, albeit very disturbed and truncated, possibly by a later unidentified grave. Only grave 207 was revealed in its entirety, although its left and right sides were revealed, recorded and removed separately. Its left side was revealed initially (Plate 26), but after its removal, the trench was widened slightly in this area, revealing the right side of the skeleton (Plate 27). Only the lower arms and hands, pelvis and upper parts of the femora of skeleton 203 were present, the lower part of the body possibly having been truncated by a later unidentified grave, and the upper body truncated by graves 204 and 205. Only the legs and feet of skeleton 204 were revealed, the upper body lying beyond the northern baulk of the trench, and only the very left side of skeleton 205 was revealed, the right side lying beyond the southern baulk of the trench.
- 3.1.29 All skeletons were lying in a supine position (on their back), with their heads at the west ends of the graves. In the north-west to south-east aligned grave (204), the skull lay at the north-west end of the grave. Observations relating to the positions of the skeletons were limited by the fact that only one (207) was exposed in its entirety. Arm positions could be observed for three of the skeletons. Skeletons 203 and 207 had the hands placed over the pelvis, and the left arm of skeleton 205 was straight, by the side of the body. A further observation of skeleton 207, despite slight disturbance along its left side, was that the legs were flexed slightly at the knee, and the right arm (and probably the left) at the elbow (Plates 26 and 27). Such a position may indicate that the individual had been overweight during life. The width of the grave (the widest of the three graves available for measurement) may also support this.

Coffins

- 3.1.30 Three of the four burials (204, 205 and 207) were associated with coffins. Three corroded iron nails and a possible iron bracket fragment was recovered from grave (204), a single iron nail was recovered from grave (205) and a corroded iron nail was

adhered to the right tibia of skeleton (207). These finds indicate that these individuals were buried in plain or unadorned wooden coffins.

3.2 The human skeletal remains

Methodology

3.2.1 Data on the completeness, condition, age, sex, stature and immediately obvious pathology were recorded for each skeleton where possible (Table 1). This recording was undertaken on-site by qualified osteoarchaeologists. Recording of adult age and sex was based on the recommendations set out by Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994), Brickley and McKinley (2004) and Bass (1995, 26). Stature was estimated by measuring the maximum lengths of the long bones and applying these to the relevant formulae devised by Trotter (1970) for white males and females. Only gross pathological lesions were recorded.

Results (Table 1)

3.2.2 A total of five skeletons, including the remains from probable disturbed grave 206, were recovered. All were adult, one of which was identified as a young adult. Two were identified as definite males, one as a possible male and one as a possible female. The sex of skeleton 206 could not be determined. The overall preservation of the remains was good to excellent, meaning that bone surfaces had suffered minimal post mortem surface erosion.

3.2.3 Living stature could be estimated for two of the skeletons, 204 and 205. Skeleton 204 was estimated to have been 173.12 cm tall, using the measurement of the tibia (the most reliable measurement available). Skeleton 205 was estimated to have been 173.27 cm tall, using the measurement of the femur (the most reliable measurement available). The mean male stature calculated for the later medieval period is 171 cm (Roberts and Cox 2003, 396), therefore both skeletons 204 and 205 were above average height for the period.

3.2.4 Pathology was noted for only one of the skeletons. Skeleton 207 had marginal osteophytes (new bone growth) on the left humeral head, indicative of joint disease. Joint disease, in the form of osteoarthritis, was also observed on the skeleton's lumbar vertebrae. Here, the changes manifested as marginal osteophytes, porosity and altered joint contours. There are many factors that may cause osteoarthritis, including activity, trauma or simply old age. In addition, this individual had heavy dental calculus (tartar), probably indicative of poor dental hygiene.

Table 1 Osteological data

Burial no.	Completeness (%)	Condition	Age	Sex	Stature (cm)	Bone measured for stature	Pathology
203	25-50 %	Excellent	YOUNG ADULT (18-25)	? Female	-	-	-

			years)				
204	<25 %	Excellent	ADULT (age undetermined)	? Male	173.12 (+/- 3.37); 169.87 (+/- 3.29); 170.40 (+/- 3.29)	Right/left tibia (both 37.5 cm); left fibula (36.6 cm); right fibula (36.8 cm) (respectively)	-
205	25-50 %	Good	ADULT (age undetermined)	Male	178.25 (+/- 4.05); 173.27 (+/- 3.27); 179.42 (+/- 3.37)	Left humerus (35 cm); left femur (47 cm); left tibia (40 cm) (respectively)	-
206	< 25 %	Good	ADULT (age undetermined)	?	-	-	-
207	>75 %	Good	ADULT (age undetermined)	Male	-	-	Heavy dental calculus; marginal osteophytes on the left humeral head; marginal osteophytes, porosity and joint contour change of the lumbar vertebral bodies

Condition (after McKinley 2004): Excellent = excellent cortical preservation, little to no erosion (IFA grades 0-1); Good = slight erosion of cortical surface (IFA grades 2-3)

Disabled access ramp

3.2.5 The final area of intrusive building work to be undertaken was the excavation in front of the north porch, in preparation for the building of a new disabled access ramp. This access was to be merged with the north-west to south-east path that leads to the north porch, where it then splits into two arms, one south-westwards and one south-eastwards, around either side of the church (Fig. 2 and Plate 28). The maximum required excavation depth (directly at the entrance to the porch) was 0.3 m. The initial stage of these works entailed the excavation of a 1.2 m wide strip, c. 3.25 m in length

(east to west), against the front of the porch step (303), to the maximum required depth (Plate 29). An archaeologist was in attendance during the ground reduction.

- 3.2.6 The blue bricks of path 300 were lifted by hand. The bricks were uniform in size (0.235 m x 0.011 m x 0.075 m), and the dimensions of the north-west to south-east orientated path were *c.* 1.75 m wide and *c.* 30 m in length. The two arms of the path that extended around either side of the church differed from the north-west to south-east orientated stretch of path in that they included large concrete slabs as well as the blue bricks. The bedding layer for the path (301), comprised a light pinkish-brown sand, with frequent patches of much darker, almost blackish-brown soil, and varied in thickness between 0.02 and 0.035 m. This bedding layer directly overlay the subsoil (302), a fairly soft, tenacious mid-light greyish brown, sandy clay. This contained occasional, sub-angular lumps of pinkish sandstone, up to 0.11 by 0.15 m in size, and very occasional small flint pebbles. A maximum thickness of 0.22 m was revealed within the excavated area but the base of the deposit was not reached. No archaeological deposits or finds were recovered.
- 3.2.7 The excavation of this area did allow the footing for the porch step (303) to be viewed (Plate 30). The upper part of the step itself comprised 0.35 m wide concrete slabs, 0.055 m thick, and these were set upon a low red brick and roughly hewn, yellowish limestone block footing. Many of the bricks used were incomplete. A light brown, very soft, sandy mortar formed the bond for the footing. The maximum dimensions of the step including the footing were 1.66 m in length (east - west), 0.35 m wide and 0.31 m in height. In addition to the footing of the porch step, the stone bases for the cast iron 'boot scrapers', on either side of the porch door, were revealed (Plate 31).
- 3.2.8 From the northern edge of the excavated strip, the depth of excavation gradually decreased, towards the north-west for approximately 4 - 5 m, up to the level of the path. From the east and west sides of the excavated strip, the depth also gradually decreased to meet the level of the arms of the path extending around either side of the church. As expected, due to the decreasing depth, no archaeologically significant deposits were encountered during the expansion of the initially excavated strip in front of the porch.

3.3 Finds

Finds from the area of the extension on the south side of the west tower

- 3.3.1 The human skeletal remains revealed during the excavation of the extension area were analysed on site and reburied. In addition, nine coffin nails and a single medieval pot fragment were recovered from the disturbed graveyard soil (3). These were photographed but not retained or analysed further.

The grave memorials

- 3.3.2 Eleven grave memorials, most of which had probably been relocated at some point in the past, were moved in order to carry out the work on the new extension to the south

side of the west tower, including three (18, 19 and 20) that had been used as steps in the churchyard path. A catalogue of the memorials is presented below. A ? indicates where the inscription was illegible.

Catalogue of grave memorials

Structure number: 18

Type: Headstone

Style: Slightly curved top

Decoration: Incised, vertical rectangle text panel with rounded shoulders and semicircular central feature

Inscription: Sacred / To the Memory of / JOHN GIBBINS / who died Nov^r 24th / 1829 Aged 65 / also ESTHER BLOXHAM / & SARAH BRADSHAW / Daughters of / JOHN & MARY GIBBINS / ESTHER died Aug (??) / 1816 Aged 24 / SARAH died Aug 18th / 1818 Aged 29 years

Comments: Inscription incised, Roman style lettering. Headstone reused as step in churchyard path

Structure number: 19

Type: Headstone

Style: Slightly curved top

Decoration: Vertical rectangle text panel with concave shoulders and semicircular central feature. Text panel defined as a raised, flat, panel

Inscription: Only faint traces or inscribed text visible, indecipherable

Comments: Headstone reused as step in churchyard path

Structure number: 20

Type: Headstone

Style: Slightly curved top

Decoration: -

Inscription: -

Comments: Headstone reused as step in churchyard path. Broken into 4 fragments

Structure number: 21

Type: Headstone

Style: Round top

Decoration: Incised, vertical rectangle text panel with round top

Inscription: IN / MEMORY OF / JOSEPH BECK / and MARY his wife / He died Jan 11 1867 / AGED 65 / Feb 22 186(?)5 / AGED 64 / ALSO OF / JOHN their Son / who died April 26 1864 / AGED 37

Comments: Inscription incised, Roman style lettering. Headstone broken into 2 fragments

Structure number: 22

Type: Headstone

Style: Flat top with semicircular central feature and concave shoulders

Decoration: Eye-shaped text panel (slightly convex) in the semicircular central feature at the top of the stone

Inscription: In Affectionate Remembrance [within eye-shaped text panel] / OF ELIZA [inscribed in a curved line below eye-shaped text panel] / THE BELOVED WIFE OF / JAMES MULES / Primitive Methodist Minister / WHO FELL ASLEEP IN JESUS / JANUARY 21 1851 / THE 28th YEAR OF HER AGE / He said unto her ? / ? and the life/

JOHN, CHAPTER ? / ALSO OF ELIZA ANN / THEIR DAUGHTER / WHO DIED MAY 9
1851 / AGED 15 WEEKS

Comments: Inscription incised, Roman style lettering. Headstone broken into 2 fragments

Structure number: 23

Type: Headstone

Style: Slightly curved top

Decoration: Unknown

Inscription: Faint traces of incised text, illegible

Comments: Very weathered/high lichen coverage. Bottom of stone missing

Structure number: 24

Type: Headstone

Style: Slightly curved top

Decoration: Incised, vertical rectangle text panel with Gothic pointed top and Gothic pointed shoulders

Inscription: TO THE MEMORY OF / ANN Wife of / JOSEPH EAGLES / WHO DIED
JUNE 18 1856 / Aged 65 Years / ALSO OF / JOSEPH EAGLES / WHO DIED FEB 6 1857?
/ Aged 82 Years / BELOVED ? ? ? THE LORD

Comments: Inscription incised, some in Roman style, some in Gothic style.

Structure number: 25

Type: Headstone

Style: Slightly curved top

Decoration: Relief-outlined triangular panel at top of stone, no decoration/inscription visible

Inscription: Faint, incised text just visible, illegible except ?1857

Comments: Very weathered/high lichen coverage

Structure number: 26

Type: Headstone

Style: Triangular with ringed cross on top

Decoration: Gothic style ringed cross

Inscription: In / Loving Memory of / EDWARD SMITH / WHO DIED FEBy 11th 1900 /
AGED 82 YEARS / UNTIL THE DAY DAWNS AND THE SHADOWS (?FLEE) AWAY /
?

Comments: Inscription incised, some in Roman style, some in Gothic style

Structure number: 27

Type: Headstone

Style: Gothic pointed top with indented sides

Decoration: Across the top of the stone is a decorative motif within an inset panel, with Gothic pointed top and curved base with slightly rounded central feature. The decorative motif includes a dove, surrounded by flowers, leaves and grapes.

Inscription: In Affectionate Remembrance / Of / JANE / THE BELOVED WIFE OF /
GEORGE CLEAVER / WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE MARCH 13TH 1906 / AGED 76
YEARS / PEACE, PERFECT PEACE / Also of / George Cleaver / WHO DEPARTED THIS
LIFE JAN 31ST 1909 / AGED 74 YEARS

Comments: Inscription raised inlaid (?lead lettering), Roman and Gothic style

Structure number: 28

Type: Headstone

Style: Gothic pointed top with indented sides

Decoration: Flowers (possibly spring, including lily of the valley) and ivy, within a circular, inset panel at the top of the stone, with two smaller, sub-triangular, inset panels either side, with leaf decoration (all relief)

Inscription: In Loving Memory of [above the decoration, at the top of the stone] / [below decoration] EDWARD RAWBONE / WHO ENTERED INTO REST DEC. 30, 1892 / AGED 65 YEARS / ALSO / ELIZABETH / WIFE OF THE ABOVE / WHO PASSED PEACEFULLY AWAY AUG, 19, 1902 / AGED 83 YEARS / "BLESSED ARE THE DEAD"

Comments: Inscription inlaid (?lead lettering), Sans serif style lettering. White marble headstone. Mason's name incised at bottom left of the stone - C.L. TAYLOR.COV.

Finds from rubble deposit 112

- 3.3.3 The finds recovered from rubble deposit 112, which filled the voids beneath the church floor, consisted mainly of sandstone rubble, but fragments of brick, burnt clay, glass, wood, clay tobacco pipe, corroded iron nails and a few animal bone fragments were also present, probably all dating to the 19th century. These were not retained. In addition, a number of tiles and tile fragments, apparently from the medieval floor surfaces 106 and 107, were present within the rubble, almost certainly having been disturbed during building of the 19th century flooring and associated floor supports (100). A number of these tiles were retained for analysis (Section 3.3.5 - 3.3.17).

Finds from the service trench

- 3.3.4 A small amount of animal bone and disarticulated human bone (charnel) were recovered from the subsoil (201) and the graveyard soil (202). These were not analysed or retained, and were reburied within the trench.

The tiles by Leigh Allen

Introduction

- 3.3.5 A total of 130 medieval ceramic floor tiles were retained from the archaeological investigation carried out at St. Michael's Church, Stockton. The assemblage comprises a sample of the various forms encountered in contexts 107 and 112 including examples of patterned tiles of different designs.
- 3.3.6 The tiles have been recorded in Appendix 2. Context information; complete dimensions and the presence of any glaze or decoration has been noted. Six types have been identified (described below). The Type 1 tiles were recovered from rubble deposit 112 and are almost certainly from tiled floor surface 106. Types 2, 3, 4 and 6 are from tiled floor surface 107, some of which were taken from *in situ* tiled areas, others from rubble deposit 112. Type 5 tiles were also from rubble deposit 112.

Results

Type 1 (17 examples)

- 3.3.7 A square tile with straight sides. The tile measures 135mm x 135mm and has a thickness of c.32mm. The fabric is reddish brown and is fairly coarse; the underside

of the tile is very rough. Type 1 tiles are plain and undecorated, many examples have mortar attached to the edges and base, some also have large quantities of mortar on the upper surface.

Type 2 (92 examples)

3.3.8 A square tile with slightly chamfered edges. The tile measures c.110mm x c.110mm (although the range lies between 108mm-114mm) with a thickness of 25mm. The fabric is orange/red brown in colour (finer than type 1) and is hard fired. The base and edges of this type have patches of dark green/black glaze on them. Many examples also have mortar adhering to the base and sides. The tiles of this type are subdivided into types A-C depending on how the upper surface is treated

2 A. Plain undecorated (16 examples)

2 B. Varying degrees of glaze, in most cases this is very worn and patchy but would have been the same green/black glaze that appears in patches on the sides and base (48 examples).

2 C. Patterned tiles (see below for detail) 28 examples

Type 3 (14 examples)

3.3.9 A triangular tile formed by cutting the square type 2 tiles across the diagonal. One example illustrates how this was done. The tile was deeply scored across the diagonal before firing (probably to make it easier to stack in the kiln) and was then broken into two after firing. As a product of the type 2 tiles they have exactly the same characteristics except that the green/black glaze on the upper surface survives intact. These triangular tiles obviously formed an edge or border and show less wear than the square type 2 tiles which would have made up the main walkway /pavement and subsequently show a much greater degree of wear.

Type 4 (1 example)

3.3.10 An oblong tile formed by splitting a square type 2 tile in half or even quarters. One example survives it is one half of a type 2 tile with a deep score on the upper surface where it was probably going to be formed into a quarter tile.

Type 5 (2 examples)

3.3.11 A square tile measuring 114mm x 114mm with a thickness of 22mm and with a patchy yellow glaze on the upper surface. There are 2 small nail holes in opposite corners of the upper face, characteristic of Flemish tiles. These were caused by the use of a nailed board as a template in trimming the tiles.

Type 6 (1 example)

3.3.12 A triangular tile with yellow glaze on the upper surface.

Patterned tiles (Type 2C)(Plate 32)

3.3.13 A total of 28 tiles/tile fragments have an inlaid decoration on the upper surface. This type of decoration is formed by stamping an impressed design on to the pliable clay before it is fired and filling the impression with white pipe clay. A powdered lead ore glaze is then applied and finally the tile is fired to produce a glazed tile with a yellow pattern on a brown background. Clay suitable for making all types of tiles exists in many parts of the country but the white 'pipe clay' for the slip is much more local, Coventry became the centre for a fairly important patterned tile industry from the end of the 13th century. There are 18 tiles with a clear and identifiable inlaid pattern, the remaining 10 are too worn to be identified. There are 13 designs that can paralleled with examples from the Coventry area.

3.3.14 Most common (6 examples) are tiles with heraldic shields bearing the coat of arms of the Beauchamp family and the Clare family. Tiles with this design are known from Astley Church rebuild by Sir Thomas Astley, whose wife was the sister of the first Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (Chatwin 1940, Fig. 23, Nos 1-3). Examples are also known from Coventry, St Johns and St Michael's and from Kenilworth (Chatwin 1940, Fig.24, No.19 and Fig. 25, 1-4). There are 2 examples of tiles decorated with an eagle with its wings displayed, probably meant for Coventry Priory but also the same as that given for Earl Leofric (husband of Lady Godiva, interred in Coventry). Examples of this design are known from Coventry Priory, Coventry St Marys Hall and Coventry St Michael's (Chatwin 1940, Fig. 25, Nos.6-8).

3.3.15 There are also a number of tiles (5 examples) present that would have formed part of a larger design, groups of four or even sixteen tiles. There are three examples of designs that have a flowing pattern running round a circular band. One has conventional foliage at the centre and spandrels (Chatwin 1940, fig. 18); the second has a trefoil design outside the band (Chatwin 1940, fig.9, Nos.1 and 3); and the third has a rose with the letters 'a' and 'm' (for Ave Maria) inside the band. (Chatwin 1940, fig. 9. No.12.). Other examples of these patterns are known from Burton Dassett Church, Maxstoke Priory (founded in 1336), Kenilworth and St John's, Coventry.

3.3.16 Two slightly more elaborately patterned tiles forming part of a larger design have a triple arched pattern with foliage inside and out. Similar designs are known from Coventry, St John's and St Michael's (Chatwin 1940, fig 20, No.s 11 and 12).

3.3.17 Lastly there is a broken fragment with a very worn design that bears faint traces of an animal and is part of a ragged staff, bear and rose design an example of which is known from Coventry St. John's (Chatwin 1940, Fig.38, No.12).

Statement of potential

3.3.18 The majority of the tile assemblage was recovered from context 112, a rubble deposit overlying an area of *in situ* Medieval tiled floor (107). Many of the tiles have mortar attached to their edges and underside and some have mortar on the upper surface

where they were evidently covered over during the 19th century alterations to the church. The inlaid patterned tiles form an interesting and attractive group and include examples of heraldic motifs associated with the noble families of Warwickshire. Examples of tiles that would have formed part of 4 or even 16 tile designs hint at the elaborate design of the original floor. Many of the decorated tiles can be paralleled with examples of the same design from religious and domestic buildings in the Coventry area and were obviously manufactured in the locality although a kiln site can not be identified. There are a couple of patterns (Plate 33) that have not been paralleled in Coventry and may these well come from across the county boundary in Northamptonshire.

Further work

3.3.19 Parallels should be sought for those inlaid pattern tiles that do not appear in Chatwin's Warwickshire Corpus.

3.4 Palaeo-environmental remains

3.4.1 No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental sampling were observed during the course of the watching brief on the excavation.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Area of extension, south side of west tower

4.1.1 The excavation for the footings of the new extension between the west tower and the south aisle revealed a number of archaeologically significant deposits. A layer of made ground comprising brick, tile and large limestone fragments, which probably related to the 1873 construction of the south aisle or the 19th century path to the south, overlay the layer of disturbed graveyard soil, which produced an amount of charnel, representing a minimum number of four individuals, three subadults - an infant (6 months - 1 year), an older child (6 - 12 years) and a perinate (c. 40 weeks gestation) - and an adult (probably male). A partial articulated adult skeleton (6), orientated west - east, was also present within the graveyard soil (3), but this had been heavily truncated. The very top of a second west - east aligned burial was also revealed within this deposit, and this burial included the remains of a coffin (17). Part of the skull of the skeleton (16) within, was revealed but not excavated, as it lay below the level of impact, but the coffin dimensions indicated that it may have been a subadult. In the deeper trenches surrounding the west and south edges of the square extension area, the top of the undisturbed burial horizon (15) was revealed, and a further west - east aligned adult burial was revealed, but again it lay below the level of impact so was not fully excavated.

4.1.2 In total, this area revealed the remains of at least seven individuals, three, probably four (including (16), of which were subadults. Despite the overall small number of individuals represented, the high proportion of subadults is worthy of note. Gilchrist and Sloane (2005, 67) highlight that zoning of burials by age is evident in some medieval churchyards. In a presumed lay cemetery of the Augustinian priory of

Saints Peter and Paul, Taunton, Somerset, excavations to the immediate south-west of the church uncovered 20 infants (*ibid.*). Infant burials have been noted to cluster around features such as porches, paths or boundary walls (*ibid.*), and indeed this area of excavation was particularly close to the tower and south aisle of the church. Only one of the skeletons (16) could be dated to the post-medieval period by its associated coffin (17), but whether the other skeletons dated to the medieval or post-medieval periods was unclear.

- 4.1.3 The excavation also revealed the foundation walls of the south wall of the west tower, the buttress in the corner between the tower and the south aisle, and the west wall of the south aisle. The west tower and buttress were contemporary, extant features of the 15th century, and their foundation walls 8 and 10, respectively, were found to be contemporary with the foundation wall 12 for the west wall of the south aisle. From documentary evidence, this is known to have been built in 1873. This indicated that 19th century builders of the south aisle built it directly on the footprint of the medieval south aisle. The internal make-up of the 19th century west wall of the south aisle was also revealed when the stained glass window was removed.

Intra-mural works

- 4.1.4 The watching brief on the intra-mural works revealed a number of 19th century deposits and structures. The removal of the flooring revealed a series of 19th century brick dwarf walls with wooden joists running along the top, acting as floor supports (100). One of these (117), running below the north edge of the south aisle, had sandstone blocks built into it, at varying intervals along it, possibly to act as 'pad stones', which distribute the weight placed upon the wall. Why this wall support and none of the others had these built into it was unclear, but it is possible that the overlying walkway in this area was heavily used, hence the need for extra support. It was very interesting to note that the sandstone blocks that had been used were fragments of dressed masonry, including parts of octagonal columns/bases, most likely robbed from the original medieval building.
- 4.1.5 Loose rubble (112) had been used to fill the voids between the floor surface and the support walls, and this included fragments of 19th century brick, glass, wood, clay tobacco pipe and animal bone, as well tile/tile fragments from the medieval floor surfaces disturbed during the 19th century works. Removal of this rubble revealed the 19th century arcade column brick plinths and stone/concrete footings.
- 4.1.6 A number of original medieval deposits and structures were also revealed, which gave a valuable insight into the layout of the original church. It was known from documentary evidence that the church, during medieval times, had no north aisle or porch. Two of the 19th century column footings in the north arcade were found to be set upon a length of rough stone masonry (118), approximately 0.65 - 0.70 m in width, and it is possible that this represents the remains of the north wall of the medieval church.
- 4.1.7 One of the original medieval respond bases (111) was also revealed, on the south side of the chancel. The 19th century respond base had been built directly over it, albeit

displaced slightly to the east. A relatively small area of tiled surface (106), (2.46 m north - south, 1.52 m east - west), was revealed at the eastern end of the south aisle, bounded on its northern edge by a paved surface (108), possibly a walkway. These two features appeared to be contemporary, and the northern edge of the paved walkway appeared to respect the medieval respond base (111), indicating that all of these features were part of the medieval church.

4.1.8 At *c.* 0.24-0.25 m below the modern floor surface level, surfaces (106) and (108) were somewhat higher than the other tiled surface revealed (107). Much of this tiled surface (107) was preserved, predominantly below the central aisle, but also below the north - south walkway in line with the north porch, as well as in the south aisle. There was much disturbance of the tiles in the south aisle, as a result of the 19th century works, hence fragments of tile were present within rubble deposit 112. The tiles of floor 107 were different to those of floor 106, in that they were smaller in size, and some were patterned and/or glazed, whereas those of 106 were plain. In addition, the orientation of the tiles differed between the two floor surfaces - in 106 the tiles were arranged in north - south rows, whilst those of 107 were arranged in diagonal rows (north-west to south-east / north-east to south-west). The depth below floor level of tiled floor surface 107, was measured at *c.* 0.43 m, 0.18 m deeper than surfaces 106 and 108, and whilst the actual relationship between surfaces 106/108 and 107 could not be ascertained, there are at least two hypotheses as to their relationship. One possibility is that 107 represents an earlier medieval phase. If 108 was indeed a paved walkway, one would expect it to have continued westwards along the south aisle, as might tiled floor surface 106. The difference in depth between the two floor phases would have then have allowed 106 and 108 to directly overlies 107, perhaps with a levelling layer (possibly 114) between them. An alternative suggestion is that 107 is contemporary with 106 and 108. It is possible that instead of continuing westwards, the paved surface (108) turned at a right angle, southwards, along the eastern edge of tiled floor surface (still *in situ*) to form a sort of border around tiled surface 106, creating a floor surface raised from the rest of the flooring (107).

4.1.9 A further probable floor surface (119) was revealed, at the west end of the south aisle. This comprised grey sandstone paving slabs, but only those along the edges of west wall and west end of the south wall survived *in situ*. Its full extent, and the relationship of this surface to the other floor surfaces was not able to be ascertained, but it is assumed to be of medieval date, given its depth below the modern floor level.

4.1.10 The doorway in the south wall of the south aisle (104), is known to have been blocked *c.* 1873, during the rebuilding of the south aisle. The doorway's appearance, and the fact that the surviving steps dropped roughly to the level of the medieval tiled surface (107), indicate that this doorway was probably part of the original medieval south aisle. If this is the case, its presence reveals that during the 1873 rebuilding, the wall (at least the lower half) was not demolished completely. This was not recognised during the extra-mural excavation for the new extension, as the lower half

of the walls appear simply to have been re-faced on their external surfaces, to match the newly built upper half.

Service trench

- 4.1.11 The service trench on the south-west side of the church revealed four definite earth-cut graves, and the remains of a probable fifth, heavily disturbed one. Aside from burial 204, which was aligned roughly north-west to south-east, the graves were aligned west - east. The different alignment of burial 204 is probably not significant. This burial was the latest of the three intercutting burials (203, 204 and 205), intercutting each other, and one might imagine that on revealing the remains of earlier burials, the grave digger of 204 may have changed the position of the grave slightly, to minimise any further disturbance. Alternatively, something as simple as a large rock within the soil, could give cause to adjust the position of the burial. The limited area revealed within such a narrow trench precludes any firm conclusion on the organisation of the cemetery in this area, but it is proposed that the cluster of three burials together, and the fact that there was quite a large gap between these, and adjacent burials to the east and west, may indicate that the cemetery was organised in north - south rows of roughly west - east aligned burials, as is often seen in other cemeteries. Alternatively, the cluster of burials may represent a family group.
- 4.1.12 Each grave contained a single inhumation. They were all adult, but only one could be assigned to a more specific age category (203), which was a young adult, between 18 and 25 years of age. This tentatively supports the suggestion that infants and children were buried in a separate area closer to the church. The sex of four of the five individuals could be determined. Two were male, one a probable male and one a probable female.
- 4.1.13 Three of the burials had associated coffins. They were represented by a total of five corroded iron coffin nails and a small fragment of a corroded iron corner bracket. These coffins may be medieval or early post-medieval in date. From the thirteenth century onwards, it became common to transport, if not to bury the corpse in a plain wooden coffin (Binski 1996, 55). Prior to this, uncoffined, shroud burial was the norm (*ibid.* 55). Coffin fittings more commonly associated with later post-medieval burials (late 17th to 19th century) include metal grips, grip plates, departum plates and upholstery studs, none of which were recovered from service trench burials. Their absence suggests that the burials pre-dated this period. However, it must also be considered that the lack of coffin fittings recovered may equally indicate coffins of lower status burials of the 18th to 19th century (Litten 1991, 88).

Disabled access ramp

- 4.1.14 Aside from revealing the footing for the north porch step (303), built in *c.* 1863, the excavation for the new disabled access ramp revealed no archaeologically significant deposits or finds.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Context</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Height/ thickness</i>	<i>Width</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Finds</i>
Extension area stage						
1	Layer	0.25 m	-	-	Topsoil	
2	Layer	0.20 m	-	-	Made ground	
3	Layer	0.15 m	4.5 m	4.5 m	Disturbed graveyard soil	Charnel deposit 7, coffin nails
4	Cut	-	-	-	Grave cut (edges not defined)	
5	Fill	0.15 m	4.5 m	4.5 m	Fill of grave cut 4	Skeleton 6
6	Skeleton	-	-	-	Adult, right lower leg and foot only. Within grave cut 4	
7	Charnel deposit	-	-	-	Charnel - adult and subadult bone, within graveyard soil 3	
8	Masonry	-	-	c. 3.0 m	Foundation wall for west tower	
9	Masonry	-	-	c. 3.0 m	South wall of west tower, overlying foundation 8	
10	Masonry	-	-	0.72 m	Foundation wall for buttress 11	
11	Masonry	-	0.58 m	0.72 m	Buttress, overlying foundation wall 10	
12	Masonry	-	-	2.45 m +	Foundation for wall 13	
13	Masonry	-	-	c.3.20 m	West facing wall of south aisle, abutting buttress 11	
14	VOID					
15	Layer	-	-	-	Undisturbed burial horizon, visible only in excavated footings for extension walls	
16	Skeleton	-	-	-	Only part of skull revealed, not excavated. Within coffin 17	
17	Coffin	-	-	-	Coffin, E-W aligned	
18	Structure	0.07 m	0.77 m	1.77 m	Grave headstone, reused as step in churchyard path	

19	Structure	0.07 m	0.69 m	1.51 m	Grave headstone, reused as step in churchyard path	
20	Structure	0.07 m	0.66 m	1.35 m	Grave headstone, reused as step in churchyard path	
21	Structure	0.07 m	0.69 m	1.66 m	Grave headstone, in area of extension	
22	Structure	0.07 m	0.80 m	1.42 m	Grave headstone, in area of extension	
23	Structure	0.07 m	0.81 m	0.86 m (bottom part missing)	Grave headstone, in area of extension	
24	Structure	0.08 m	0.73 m	1.65 m	Grave headstone, in area of extension	
25	Structure	0.07 m	0.74 m	1.68 m	Grave headstone, in area of extension	
26	Structure	0.07 m	0.73 m	1.76 m	Grave headstone, in area of extension	
27	Structure	0.07 m	0.80 m	c. 1.60 m	Grave headstone, in area of extension	
28	Structure	0.09 m	0.75 m	1.81 m	Grave headstone, in area of extension	
Intra-mural works stage						
100	Masonry	0.42 m	0.23 m	-	19th century brick floor support walls	
101	Layer	0.07 m	1.62 m	-	York stone paving slabs along walkway areas (N & S aisles, E-W from N porch)	
102	Layer	-	2.31 m	4.46 m	Modern concrete paving slabs, floor surface in NW corner of church	
103	Layer	-	1.43 m	-	0.11 x 0.11 m decorative square quarry tiles (red/white/black) Floor surface, central aisle only	
104	Masonry	-	1.62 m	-	Blocked up south doorway and steps	
105	Masonry	c. 0.17 m	0.73 m	0.95 m	19th century arcade column foundations (brick)	
106	Layer	0.034 m	1.58 m	2.47 m	Medieval tiled floor surface, E end of S aisle. Tiles: 0.135 x 0.135 m	

107	Layer	0.023 m	-	-	Medieval tiled floor surface, seen in S and central aisles. Tiles: 0.11 x 0.11 m, some glazed and/or patterned	
108	Layer	-	0.74 m	1.64 m	Paved surface, sandstone slabs ?medieval. E end of S aisle	
109	Cut	-	1.26 m	1.38 m +	Possible N-S linear cut	
110	Fill	-	1.26 m	1.38 m +	Fill of 109	
111	Masonry	0.18 m +	0.22 m +	0.64 m	?Medieval column base, S side of front of chancel	
112	Layer	<0.30 m	-	-	Made ground rubble layer, predominantly sandstone, present between brick floor support walls 100	Brick, tile, glass, wood, clay tobacco pipe, animal bone, corroded iron nails etc.
113	Layer	-	1.36 m	2.10 m	Compact, red sandy layer. Cut by 109	
114	Layer	0.07 m	0.74 m +	2.47 m	Red, dusty levelling layer below tiled floor 106	
115	Layer	-	-	-	Compact soil and rubble layer, below medieval tiled flooring. Probably make-up/levelling layer	
116	Layer	-	1.35 m	1.65 m	Later continuation of medieval tiled floor 107, from N edge of nave, northwards (in line with north porch and 104), mixture of bricks and reused tiles	
117	Masonry	0.34 m	0.23 m	-	19th century brick floor support wall with reused, medieval dressed stone blocks built in at regular intervals to act as pad-stones. S aisle, S edge of E-W walkway	
118	Masonry	-	0.7 m	4.36 m	?Medieval wall footing (E-W), below present north arcade	
Service trench stage						
200	Structure	0.12 m	1.40 m	-	E-W path and associated bedding layers	
201	Layer	0.64 m	-	-	Subsoil	Animal bone, human bone (charnel)

202	Layer	0.6 m	-	-	Graveyard soil	Animal bone, human bone (charnel)
203	Grave group	-	0.47 m	0.65 m +	Grave cut, fill and skeleton. E-W adult burial	
204	Grave group	-	0.44 m	0.9 m +	Grave cut, fill and skeleton. E-W adult burial	
205	Grave group	-	0.2 m+	1.58 m	Grave cut, fill and skeleton. E-W adult burial	
206	Charnel	-	-	-	Charnel deposit, MNI 1	
207	Grave group	-	0.52 m	1.36 m	Grave cut, fill and skeleton. E-W adult burial	
208	Deposit	-	-	-	Charnel recovered from spoil	
209	Layer	-	-	-	Natural, blue lias stone	
Disabled access ramp stage						
300	Structure	0.075 m	1.75 m	c.30 m	SE-NW blue brick path	
301	Layer	0.2-0.35 m	1.75 m	c.30 m	Bedding layer for path 300	
302	Layer	0.22 m +	-	-	Subsoil	
303	Structure	0.31 m	0.35 m	1.66 m	North porch step (inc. upper concrete slabs and brick footing)	

APPENDIX 2 RECORD OF THE TILE ASSEMBLAGE

<i>Context</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Condition</i>	<i>Surface treatment</i>	<i>Tile type</i>
112	135 x 135	Reddish Brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	135 x 132	Orange soft	Complete	Plain	1
112	135 x 135	Orange soft	Complete	Plain	1
112	135 x 137	Reddish Brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	134 x 138	Reddish Brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	134 x 138	Reddish Brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	133 x 136	Reddish Brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	133 x 135	Reddish Brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	132 x 135	Reddish Brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	135 x 135	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	136 x 136	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	136 x 136	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	135 x 135	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	? x ?	Orange soft	Fragment	Plain	1
112	? x ?	Orange soft	Fragment	Plain	1
112	135 x 135	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	1
112	139 x ?	Orange brown	Fragment	Plain	1
112	111 x 112	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	2A
112	111 x 111	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	2A
112	111 x 111	Reddish Brown	Complete	Plain	2A
112	112 x 112	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	2A
112	110 x 110	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	2A
112	112 x 112	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	2A
112	111 x 111	Orange red	Complete	Plain	2A
112	111 x ?	Orange red	Fragment	Plain	2A
112	108 x 108	Orange red	Fragment	Plain	2A
112	111 x 111	Orange red	Fragment	Plain	2A
112	108 x ?	Orange red	Fragment	Plain	2A
112	? x ?	Orange red	Fragment	Plain	2A
112	110 x ?	Orange red	Fragment	Plain	2A
112	112 x 110	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	2A
112	110 x 110	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	2A
107	108 x 108	Orange brown	Complete	Plain	2A
112	111 x 112	Reddish brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	105 x 111	Reddish brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	111 x 111	Reddish brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	111 x 108	Reddish brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	110 x 111	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	110 x 108	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	110 x 111	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	112 x 111	Reddish brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	112 x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
112	112 x 114	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	112 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	108 x 108	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B

112	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	110 x 114	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	110 x ?	Orange brown	Fragment	Plain	2B
112	? x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
112	110 x 111	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed (worn)	2B
112	110 x ?	Reddish Brown	fragment	Glazed (worn)	2B
112	112 x 112	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	110 x 112	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	112 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	? x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
112	? x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
112	112 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	113 x 115	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	112 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	110 x 108	Orange brown	Complete	Glazed (worn)	2B
112	110 x ?	Orange brown	Fragment	Glazed (worn)	2B
112	112 x 111	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	113 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	112 x 111	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	111 x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
112	112 x 114	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
112	109 x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
107	110 x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
112	112 x 110	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed (worn)	2B
112	112 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed (worn)	2B
112	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
107	110 x 110	Reddish brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
107	110 x 110	Reddish brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
107	112 x 110	Reddish brown	Complete	Glazed (worn)	2B
112	112 x 110	Orange brown	Complete	Glazed (worn)	2B
112	? x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
112	110 x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
112	? x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Glazed	2B
107	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
107	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	2B
112	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed cut across the diagonal to form 2 triangular tiles	2B/3
107	112 x 105	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (illegible)	2C
107	111 x ?	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (bear, rose and ragged staff)	2C
112	? x ?	Reddish Brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern	2C
112	111 x 111	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern	2C
112	110 x 112	Reddish Brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (eagle)	2C
107	111 x 112	Reddish Brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (illegible)	2C
107	112 x 108	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern	2C

				(illegible)	
107	108 x ?	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (illegible)	2C
112	112 x 112	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (heraldic)	2C
112	112 x 110	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (heraldic)	2C
112	110 x 108	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (letters in quadrants)	2C
112	110 x 108	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (Foliage in the round)	2C
112	110 x 108	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (heraldic)	2C
112	112 x 110	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (illegible)	2C
107	108 x 108	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (Foliage in the round)	2C
107	112 x 112	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (Foliage in the round)	2C
107	110 x 110	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (Flowers in quadrants)	2C
107	110 x 110	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (triple arch with foliage)	2C
107	112 x 108	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (triple arch with foliage)	2C
107	112 x 112	Reddish brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (Sun burst v.worn)	2C
107	110 x 113	Reddish Brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (eagle)	2C
107	110 x 112	Reddish Brown	Complete	Inlaid pattern (cross keys)	2C
107	? x ?	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (illegible)	2C
107	? x ?	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (illegible)	2C
107	? x ?	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (illegible)	2C
107	111 x 112	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (heraldic)	2C
107	110 x 111	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (heraldic)	2C
107	108 x 111	Reddish brown	Fragment	Inlaid pattern (heraldic)	2C
112	102 x 108 x 142	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
112	104 x 105	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3

112	110 x 107	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
112	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
112	110 x 105	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
107	108 x 105	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
107	110 x 108	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
107	105 x 105	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
107	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
107	108 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
107	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
107	113 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
107	124 x 124	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	3
112	117 x 55	Orange brown	Complete	Glazed	4
112	114 x 114	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed	5
112	113 x 113	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed (yellow)	5
107	110 x 110	Reddish Brown	Complete	Glazed (yellow)	6

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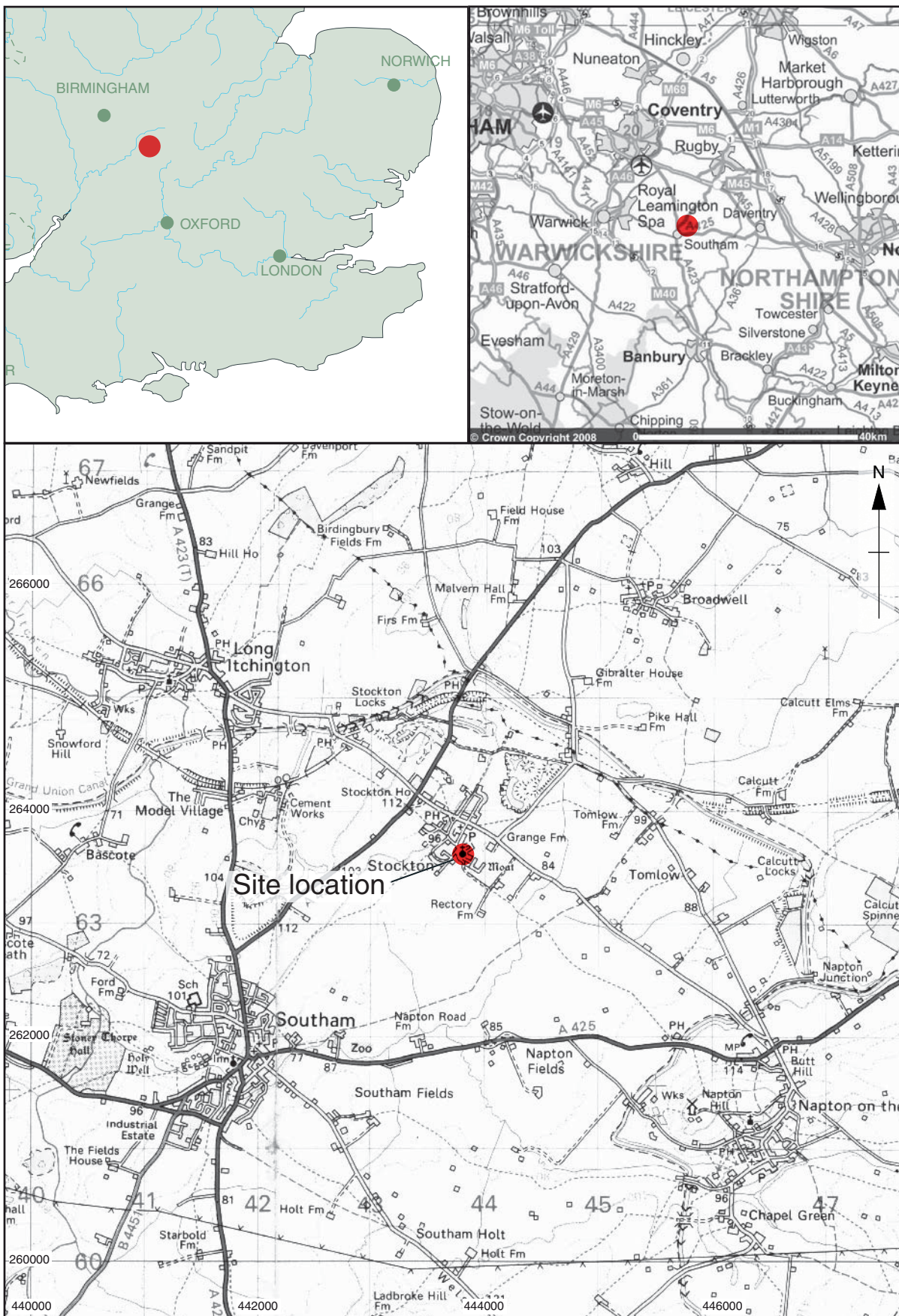
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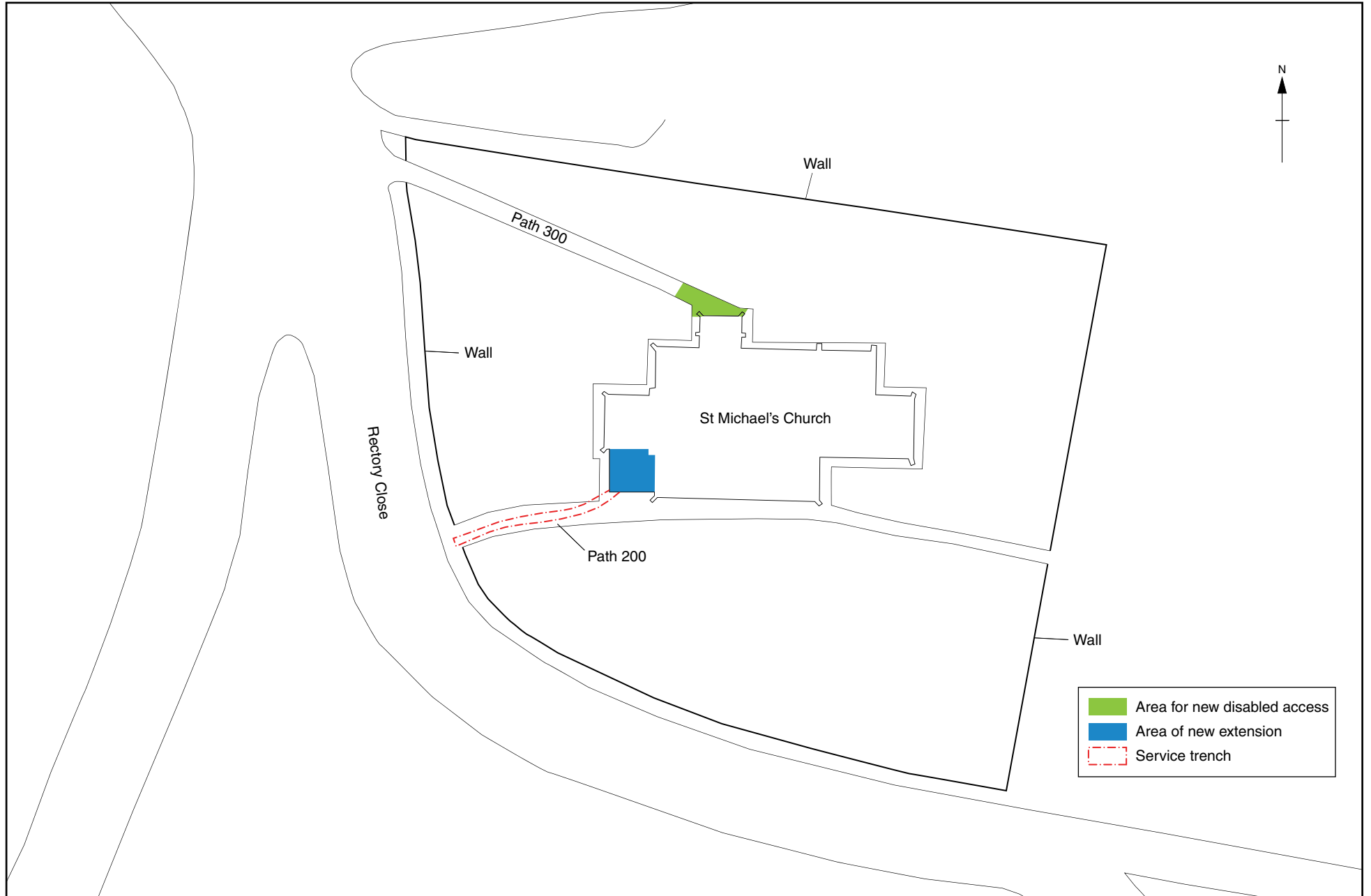
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APPENDIX 4 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**Site name:** St Michael's Church, Stockton, Warwickshire**Site code:** STSTMC07**Grid reference:** 44373 26360**Type of watching brief:** Recording of features revealed during development of the church, including an extension on the south side of the tower, ramp to the north porch, new mezzanine flooring and kitchen within the tower, under-floor heating and provision of new mains services in the churchyard.**Date and duration of project:** November - December 2007, February and April 2008**Area of site:** Area of new extension: 5.1 x 5.1m; Intra-mural: c. 16 m (east-west) x 13.5 m (north-south), Service trench: 0.5 x 14 m; Area for disabled access ramp: c. 3.5 x 5 m**Summary of results:** Archaeological deposits revealed in area of new extension: charnel (representing 1 adult, 3 juveniles), and 3 *in situ* burials, at least one post-medieval; Intra-mural deposits: 19th century structures inc. floor support walls and column bases, and medieval structures including tiled and paved floor surfaces, a respond base and a doorway, blocked in 19th century; Service trench: 4 earth-cut graves, and a probable fifth, heavily disturbed grave, each containing single adult inhumations (date unknown); Area for disabled access ramp: footing for 19th century porch step**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES. Holding museum and accession number to be confirmed



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Figure 1: Site location



Not to scale

Figure 2: Site plan

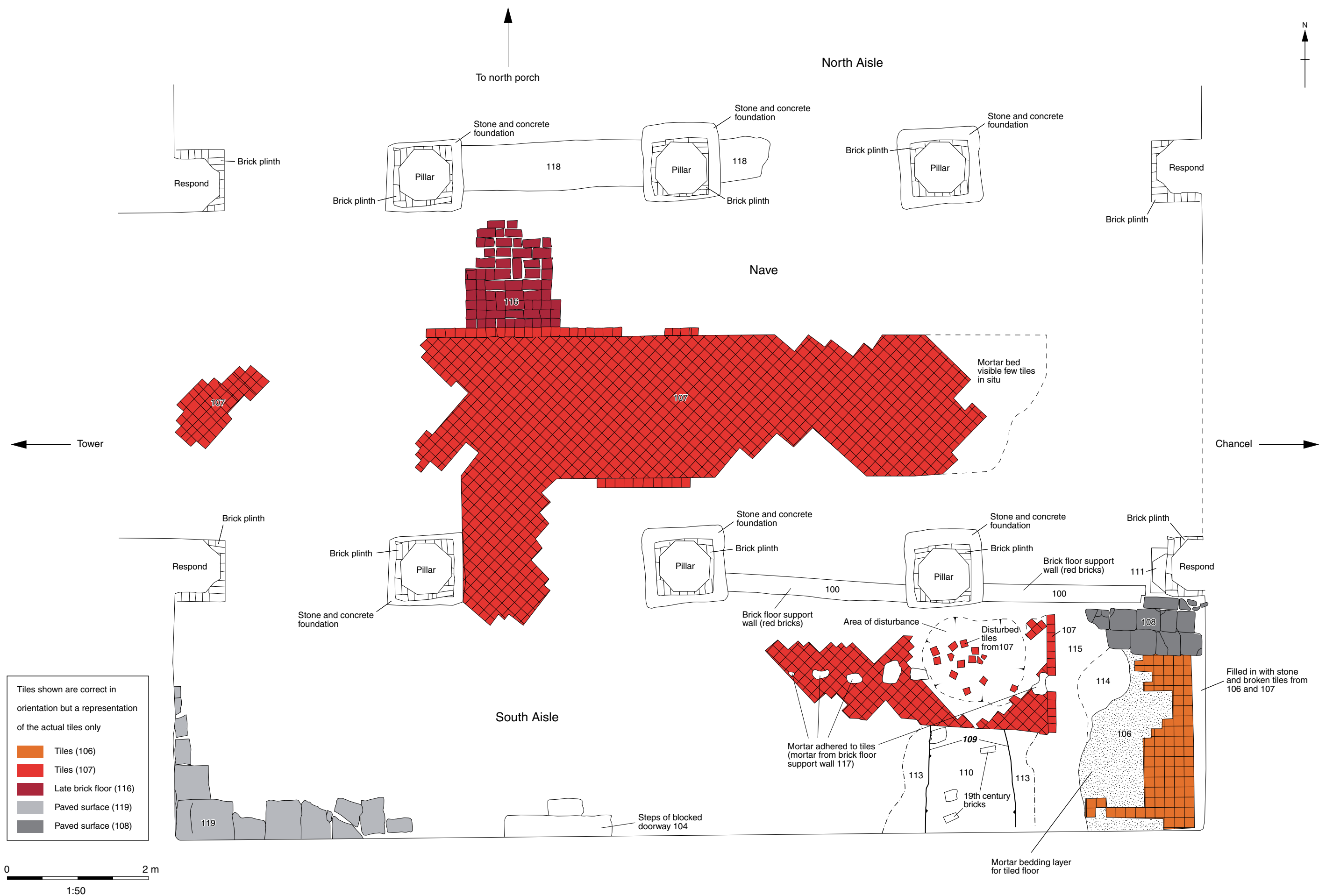


Figure 3: Plan showing the intra-mural archaeological features, including medieval tiled surface 107

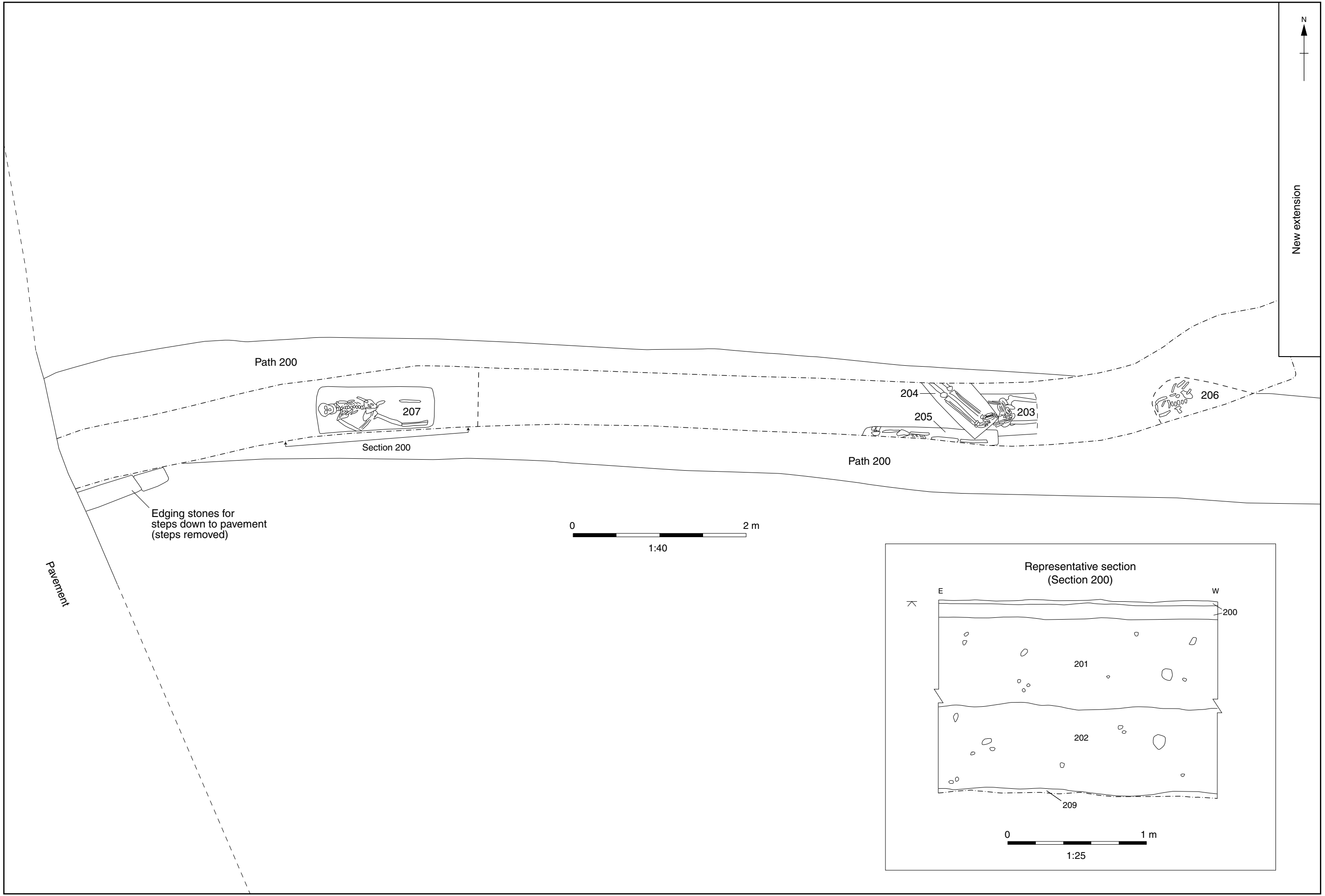


Figure 4: Plan showing the service trench and the location of the burials. Inset: representative section



Plate 1: West tower, looking south-west. Note the blocked doorway below the stained glass window



Plate 2: Grave memorial stones 18, 19 and 20 used as steps in path (looking north)



Plate 3: Area of new extension in the corner between the west tower and south aisle (looking north-east), note the standing grave stone (Memorial 28) and other recumbent stones (Photo: J. Parkhouse)



Plate 4: Skeleton 6 (leg and foot only). Note the charnel (skull) next to the foot



Plate 5: South wall of west tower (9) (looking north)



Plate 6: Foundation 8, for wall 9 and foundation 10, for buttress 11 (looking east)



Plate 7: Buttrass 11 (looking north-east)



Plate 8: West facing wall of south aisle (13) (looking east)



Plate 9: Stained glass window in wall 13 (looking west)



Plate 10: Foundation 12, for wall 13 (looking east)



Plate 11: A brick floor support wall (100)



Plate 12: Brick floor support wall 117. Note the dressed masonry built into it (looking north)



Plate 13: Fragment of dressed masonry, probably column/column base from wall 117



Plate 14: 19th century column base. Note the brick plinth and stone/concrete footing



Plate 15: Medieval respond/column base 111, underlying the 19th century respond (looking east)



Plate 16: Part of tiled floor surface 106 (looking south). Note the broken tiles and stone used to fill the gap along the eastern edge



Plate 17: Paved surface 108 (looking east)



Plate 18: Blocked doorway 104 in south wall of south aisle (looking south)



Plate 19: Steps of blocked doorway 104 (looking south)



Plate 20: Area of patterned and glazed tiles in floor surface 107 (south edge of tiled area in south aisle)



Plate 21: Tiled floor 107 in central aisle (looking east). Note the east-west aligned row of tiles along the northern edge



Plate 22: Tower (looking west), with mezzanine floor partially inserted



Plate 23: Tower (looking west), new access door to mezzanine floor partially opened



Plate 24: Tower (looking west), after completion of mezzanine floor and new access door



Plate 25: Burial 205 (looking west)



Plate 26: Left side of burial 207 (looking west)



Plate 27: Right side of burial 207 (looking west). Note the position of the arm and leg



Plate 28: View south-east towards north porch, prior to the removal of the path (300)



Plate 29: Partially excavated strip in front of north porch (looking west)



Plate 30: Footing of porch step 303 (looking south)



Plate 31: Boot scraper on east side of north porch door (looking south-east). Note the stone footing



Plate 32: Examples of inlaid decoration tiles from floor 107



0 5 cm



0 5 cm

Plate 33: Tiles from floor surface 107, patterns not paralleled in Chatwin (1940)



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