

EXTERNAL DRAINAGE WORKS,  
ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, MAIN STREET,  
SEAMER, NORTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd  
18 Springdale Way  
Beverley  
East Yorkshire  
HU17 8NU

EXTERNAL DRAINAGE WORKS,  
ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, MAIN STREET,  
SEAMER, NORTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Report no: 2011/393.R01  
Version: Final  
Date: January 2014  
Author: Ed Dennison & Kate Dennett

Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd  
18 Springdale Way  
Beverley  
East Yorkshire  
HU17 8NU

On behalf of

St Martin's Church PCC  
c/o Wiles & Maguire Ltd  
The Danesmead Wing  
33 Fulford Cross  
York YO10 4PB

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF,  
EXTERNAL DRAINAGE WORKS,  
ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, MAIN STREET,  
SEAMER, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

**CONTENTS**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2	SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION .....	1
3	AIMS AND METHODOLOGY .....	1
4	OUTLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND .....	2
5	WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS .....	4
6	DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS.....	5
7	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	6
8	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	6

Appendices

1	List of Contexts
2	Diocesan Faculty

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In October 2010, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Andrew Wiles of Wiles and Maguire Ltd, on behalf of St Martin's Church PCC, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during external drainage works in the churchyard of St Martin's Church, Main Street, Seamer, North Yorkshire (NGR TA 01497 83379 centred). The watching brief was undertaken in two phases, in January 2011 and September 2013.

The archaeological work was made a condition of a Diocesan faculty, granted by the Diocese of York on 8th September 2009 and amended on 8th October 2010. One of the conditions (no. 5) of the amended faculty was that the archaeological watching brief should be restricted to those areas of the churchyard which the parish architect considered not to have been previously disturbed.

The watching brief produced little of archaeological interest, although the east side of an unmarked grave was disturbed by the excavation of an inspection chamber, dug a short distance from the north-west corner of the north aisle; one residual fragmented bone (a tibia) was noted. Some deposits associated with the construction or rebuilding of the west tower were also revealed, although little interpretation is possible given the small-scale nature of the excavations. Little of interest was noted in the drainage trenches excavated around the north-east corner of the vestry, although these were relatively shallow.

Other elements of the drainage scheme, including deeper pits for inspection chambers, part of a 20m long trench arch system, and a drainage run along the north side of the north aisle, were not subject to archaeological monitoring, in accordance with the Diocesan faculty, as these areas of the churchyard were considered to have been previously disturbed.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In October 2010, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Andrew Wiles of Wiles and Maguire Ltd, on behalf of St Martin's Church PCC, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during external drainage works in the churchyard of St Martin's Church, Main Street, Seamer, North Yorkshire (NGR TA 01497 83379 centred).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was made a condition of a Diocesan faculty, first granted by the Diocese of York on 8th September 2009. An amended faculty was subsequently issued on 8th October 2010 to take account of variations to the proposed drainage works (see Appendix 2). One of the conditions (no. 5) of the amended faculty was that the archaeological watching brief should be restricted to those areas of the churchyard which the architect and PCC considered not to have been previously disturbed.

## 2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 St Martin's Church lies towards the southern edge of the present village of Seamer, on the west side of Main Street, which is the B1261 road running from Staxton to East Ayton (see figure 1). The building is located on a slight rise and the burial ground extends all around the church; the south and east walls retain the higher ground of the churchyard. To the north and east there is residential development, while to the south is open agricultural/grazing land. Immediately to the west is the site of a former medieval manor house.
- 2.2 The church is a Grade I Listed Building (National Heritage List for England ref 1316472), and it lies within the Seamer Conservation Area, which was designated in 1985. The Conservation Area has since been the subject of a Character Appraisal with Management Proposals, which were adopted in July 2008 (Scarborough Borough Council 2008).

## 3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The archaeological watching brief was not defined by a specific 'Written Scheme of Investigation' or methods statement, although general advice produced by the Institute for Archaeologists in relation to watching briefs (IFA 1999) was followed. The aim of the work was to monitor those groundworks (topsoil stripping and excavation of foundation and service trenches) within previously undisturbed parts of the churchyard (as defined by the project architect), in order to record and recover information relating to the nature, date, depth and significance of any archaeological features or deposits, or burials, which might be present and which might be damaged by the proposed drainage works. Those groundworks not subject to the archaeological watching brief included sections of drainage runs and inspection chambers dug along the north side of the church, part of a trench arch system to the north of the tower, and drainage runs either side of the path leading to Main Street (see figure 2). Some of these works were to renew previous drains laid in the 1990s, in areas of the churchyard which had been cleared for new burials in the 1950s-60s, and so archaeological interest here was considered to be limited (Andrew Wiles, church architect, *pers. comm.*).
- 3.2 The monitored groundworks were excavated by the drainage contractor, using a tracked excavator with a 0.3m wide toothless bucket; a small spade was used to hand dig areas very close to the church walls. The work was monitored continuously by the archaeologist, in two separate phases. Phase 1, comprising

the excavation of two trenches in the angle of the west tower and north aisle (Trenches 1 and 2), took place on 2nd January 2011. Phase 2, comprising the excavation of a trench in the angle of the south porch and south wall of the nave (Trench 3) and two trenches off the north-east corner of the north vestry (Trenches 4 and 5), was undertaken on 30th September 2013.

- 3.3 Trench 1, c.0.35m wide and sloping downwards slightly to the north, was cut from the north side of the tower, adjacent to the west corner buttress, up to a maximum depth of 0.70m below ground level (BGL); it measured c.5.80m long. Initially cut to only 0.26m wide at its base, adjacent to the tower wall, the trench was later widened to 0.37m at this point, to allow for repositioning and angling of a hole drilled through the tower wall from the interior. Trench 2, of generally the same width and 3.20m long, was cut to a maximum of 0.75m deep BGL and sloped down from the west wall of the north aisle. Both trenches joined at a pit, 0.75m deep BGL, for the insertion of an inspection chamber. The soil in this area was very loose and unstable, and so no attempt was made to cut vertical sides for the pit, which would be usual for archaeological recording.
- 3.4 Trench 3, up to 1.05m wide and 2.50m long, and running north-west/south-east, was cut to a maximum depth of 0.64m BGL through the banked up soil and subsoil at the junction of the south porch and the south wall of the nave, in order to reach an undamaged area of pipe, where a new junction could be made. Trenches 4 and 5 were up to 0.80m wide, and were cut to a maximum depth of 0.40m BGL immediately east and north of the vestry walls. The trenches joined and the excavation was extended for a further 2.00m north, to the site of a new inspection chamber which been previously excavated to a maximum depth of c.0.80m. It was noted that Trench 4 was very close to two grave stones which were leaning to the west, towards the trench, but no movement was apparent.
- 3.5 Following standard archaeological procedures, each discrete stratigraphic entity (e.g. a cut, fill or layer) was assigned an individual three digit context number and detailed information was recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. A total of 31 archaeological contexts were recorded (see Appendix 1). In-house recording and quality control procedures ensured that all recorded information was cross-referenced as appropriate. The positions of the monitored groundworks were marked on a general site plan at 1:100 scale, with more detailed plans at 1:20 scale, and one section sketch drawing was produced at 1:10 scale. A photographic record was maintained using a digital camera.
- 3.6 No archaeological finds or significant results were recovered or obtained from the watching brief. No archive for the project was therefore deposited with a registered museum, although site notes, plans and photographs have been retained by EDAS (site code SMS 11).

## 4 OUTLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The church of St. Martin consists of a 4-bay nave and clerestory, a north aisle and chancel, with a chantry and vestry on the north side, a 3 storey west tower and a south porch; it is built of dressed sandstone with a stone flag roof. The original 12th century church was aisleless, and a central tower was evidently first contemplated, but was probably never erected. The essentially medieval church was re-roofed with some restoration in 1885-89 by C Hodgson Fowler. The following description is taken from the Listed Building description, the Victoria County History entry (Russell & Clapham 1968), and Pevsner (2002, 335-336).

- 4.2 The chancel is of two periods, the west part being of mid 12th century date. It appears to have formed the base to the original central tower, the walls here being considerably thicker than in the contemporary work in the nave, while the chancel arch has been cracked and distorted by a superincumbent weight. In addition to this, the external stringcourse on the north side indicates that the 12th century eastern buttresses occupied the same position as the existing 15th century buttresses, which would make the space beneath the tower a square of about 16ft. The head of an original 12th century window opening remains in the north wall, which has been cut away in the 15th century to form an opening into the small chapel on the north side. The chancel arch is a good example of 12th century work, recessed in three orders with roll mouldings on the angles. The outer order is further ornamented with a series of small fluted pallets, one to each voussoir, while the responds have side shafts, the inner one being cut back a short distance below the capital when the rood screen and stair were erected, in c.1480. The eastern tower arch with the sanctuary was pulled down in the 15th century and the existing east end erected, the 12th century masonry being largely used in the rebuilding. The east window of three lights contains restored tracery, and in the south wall is a square-headed window of the same date and a small piscina. On the north side of the chancel is a small vestry of late 15th century date entered by a door within the altar rails. It is roofed with a pointed barrel vault and has a two-light east window and a fireplace across the north-west angle.
- 4.3 The original 12th century nave remains largely intact. It is four bays long, the exterior being divided up by flat buttresses and faced with ashlar. Internally, the walls are divided vertically by a plain string course chamfered on the lower edge, and forming a sill to the windows. The four windows on the north side remain entire, as do two with the blocked head of a third on the south. They are plain single lights with a roll moulding to the arch and a deep rebate to the internal jamb, which is only occupied by a side shaft in the eastern window on the north side. The south door has a semicircular head and is now recessed in two orders with side shafts with fluted capitals. Originally it had a third order, of which only the base remains, and it was finished with a gabled pediment, but both these features were cut away when the south porch was added in the 15th century. Considerable alterations were made to the nave in the 14th and 15th centuries. A large three-light window was inserted in c.1350 in the eastern part of the south wall, probably to light an altar of which the piscina remains beneath it. A second window was subsequently cut further west in the same wall in the 18th century. About 1480 the north aisle was added, the arcade was built into the existing wall piece by piece and two large masses of 12th century masonry were allowed to stand after the alterations were complete, throwing the four arches out of the centres of the 12th century windows above them. The arcade rises rather above the early stringcourse and the lower parts of the windows were consequently blocked up. The later work is poorly executed, and the two-light aisle windows have plain uncusped heads. This aisle was continued one bay east beyond the nave, forming a small chapel, of which the east window is now blocked.
- 4.4 The three stage west tower is an entirely 19th century work, taking the place of a ruined structure rising as high as the nave parapet only. It had massive clasping buttresses at the angles and was apparently of late 12th century date. The upper stages were rebuilt in c.1840.
- 4.5 Beneath the chancel arch is a Jacobean rood screen, five bays wide, the central bay or doorway being arched with two shields in the spandrels, repeated also on the east face. The first is charged with the arms of Napier quartered with Menteith; on the other is painted a crest of a bird standing on a hat gules. As Sir Robert

Napier, junior, only acquired the manor in 1631, the screen cannot be earlier than that date. The pulpit is mainly modern, but has some excellent Tudor panelling, and the old communion table, of 17th century date, is now in the vestry. The monuments are not of great importance. In the north chapel is a lengthy inscription on brass to Lucy wife to Sir Henry Gate, who died in 1577, tracing her descent from Edward III. On the floor of the same chapel is the casement of a large brass with a single figure and canopy. In the chancel is a brass inscription to the Rev. John Lisle, who died in 1694, with his coat of arms, two others to Stephen Lee, 1736, and James Galpin, 1751, and a casement of two figures under a canopy.

- 4.6 Within the surrounding graveyard, a large number of grave marker stones have at some time been moved from their original position and placed vertically but extremely close together, adjacent to the north boundary wall. It is understood from the PCC and the church architect that the northern part of the graveyard was cleared some 50 years ago, to allow for new burials.

## 5 RESULTS FROM THE WATCHING BRIEF (see figure 3)

### Phase 1 (Trenches 1 and 2)

- 5.1 Evidence of previous renovation work was visible only c.0.08m below the turf in both trenches, which were excavated to depths of 0.70m-0.75m BGL. A loose brown loam containing fragments of ceramic roof tile of both dark grey and red fabrics (013) was present at the east end of Trench 2 together with a large fragment of dressed stone (c.0.35m long) probably part of a former mullion or window head, immediately above; also present in this deposit was a single, plain, clay pipe stem fragment of probable 19th century date. Ceramic roof tile of a red fabric was also present at the south end of Trench 1 together with slate and compacted lime mortar (007). A more extensive deposit, up to 0.18m thick and consisting of small pieces of sandstone rubble, with occasional cobbles and ceramic roof tile fragments in a loose dark brown loam background (002), seen through most of the length of Trench 1 may also relate to the re-roofing and renovation work carried out in the late 19th century.
- 5.2 In the base of the south end of Trench 1, a single sherd of pottery was found embedded in what appeared to be a fairly compacted deposit of cobbles and fragmented sandstone rubble, all bound with a very firm brown loam (005), extending c.1.5m north from the north side of the tower, and butting up to the foundations (006); the top of the rubble/cobbles lay at 0.60m BGL. The plain unglazed sherd was Staxton ware of late 12th to early 15th century date (Peter Didsbury, *pers. comm.*), and was from the body of a thin-walled, wheel thrown vessel. The foundations of the tower (006) were overlain by the compacted lime mortar deposit (007) noted above (see plate 1), and there was also a thin layer of sticky white chalky marl (003) adjacent to this side of the tower. A possible cut with a bowl-shaped section (015), excavated through the loose dark brown loam (002) and the underlying subsoil (010), was only partially visible here, filled with a friable dark brown loam (004). This cut, and the underlying rubble deposit (005), may both be related to the building or rebuilding of the tower, but it was not possible to determine any precise relationship from such a limited view presented by the excavation. The friable/loose brown loam subsoil (010) was also exposed in the bottom of the rest of Trenches 1 and 2.
- 5.3 The excavation of the west side of the inspection pit at the junction of Trenches 1 and 2 cut through what appeared to be an unmarked grave, exposing the upper layers of the backfill (008, 009, 012) and possibly the remains of a brick base for a



previously demolished table or chest tomb monument (see plate 3). The grave was formed by vertical-sided cut c.1.20m wide (014), and a single, very small, sherd of blue and white glazed pottery, of 19th or early 20th century date was noted in the upper backfill (012).

- 5.4 No human bone was present in Trenches 1 or 2, and only one residual fragmented bone (a tibia) was noted in the inspection pit, within the primary grave backfill deposit (009). This was reburied in Trench 1.

### **Phase 2 (Trenches 3, 4 and 5)**

- 5.5 The excavation of Trench 3 partially exposed the ashlar foundation of the south wall of the nave (023/029), but no other archaeological features of interest were noted. A glazed ceramic drainage pipe, 0.13m wide (021), ran south-east from a gully (026) in the angle of the nave and south porch; two other plastic pipes (022 and 025) fed into this gully. The ceramic drain was probably contained within a cut (027), although this was not really visible in the surrounding red-brown loam which also contained fragments of brick, stone, bone, tile and drain pipe (024) (see plates 4 and 5). A number of residual fragments of human bone were exposed in the trench, and these were collected together and re-buried in the base of the excavation.
- 5.6 Trench 4, dug along the east side of the vestry, exposed a friable dark brown loam containing occasional fragments of brick, glass, stone, slate and bone, up to 0.40m deep (016), immediately below the soil and turf. This deposit, which extended into Trench 5, appeared to be a relatively modern soil, deposited after recently completed drainage works in the vicinity. At the south end of Trench 4 was a small spread of limestone rubble and stone/tile fragments of an unknown depth, in a loose dark brown loam (017). Again, this is likely to relate to earlier drainage works in the vicinity. Within the trench was a glazed ceramic drain (019), 0.13m wide (see plate 2), the north end of which appeared to connect another similar drain (018) in Trench 5 (see plate 6); the latter ran east from a gully (028). The limestone foundation of the east wall of the vestry (031) was occasionally exposed in Trench 4, but no other features of archaeological interest were exposed by these groundworks.

## **6 CONCLUSIONS**

- 6.1 The watching brief carried out during some of the drainage works at St Martin's Church in January 2011 and September 2013 produced little of archaeological interest, although the east side of an unmarked grave was disturbed by the excavation of an inspection chamber, dug a short distance from the north-west corner of the north aisle; one residual fragmented bone (a tibia) was noted. Some deposits associated with the construction or rebuilding of the west tower were also revealed, although little interpretation is possible given the small-scale nature of the excavations. Little of interest was noted in the drainage trenches excavated around the north-east corner of the vestry, although these were relatively shallow.
- 6.2 It should be noted that other elements of the drainage works, including deeper pits for inspection chambers, part of a 20m long trench arch system and a drainage run along the north side of the north aisle, were not subject to archaeological monitoring, in accordance with the Diocesan faculty, as these parts of the churchyard were considered to have been previously disturbed.

## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

IfA (Institute for Archaeologists) 1999 *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (and subsequent revisions)

Pevsner, N 2002 *The Buildings of England: Yorkshire The North Riding*

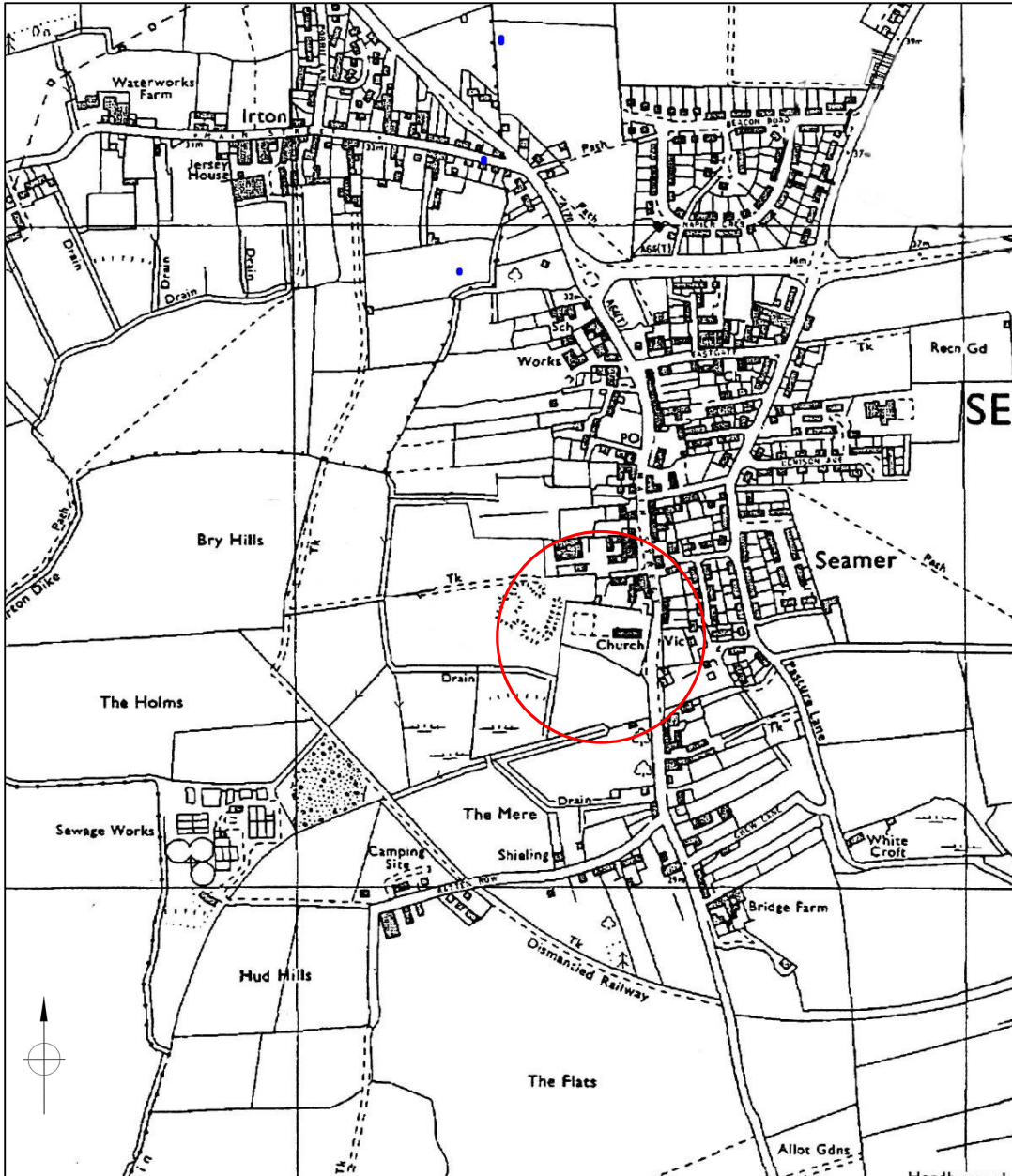
Russell, A & Clapham, A W 1968 "Seamer". In Page, W (ed) *Victoria County History of Yorkshire North Riding* volume 2, 483-489 (available online at <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=64696>)

Scarborough Borough Council 2008 *Seamer Conservation Area: Character Appraisal and Management Proposals Adopted 7 July 2008*

## 8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

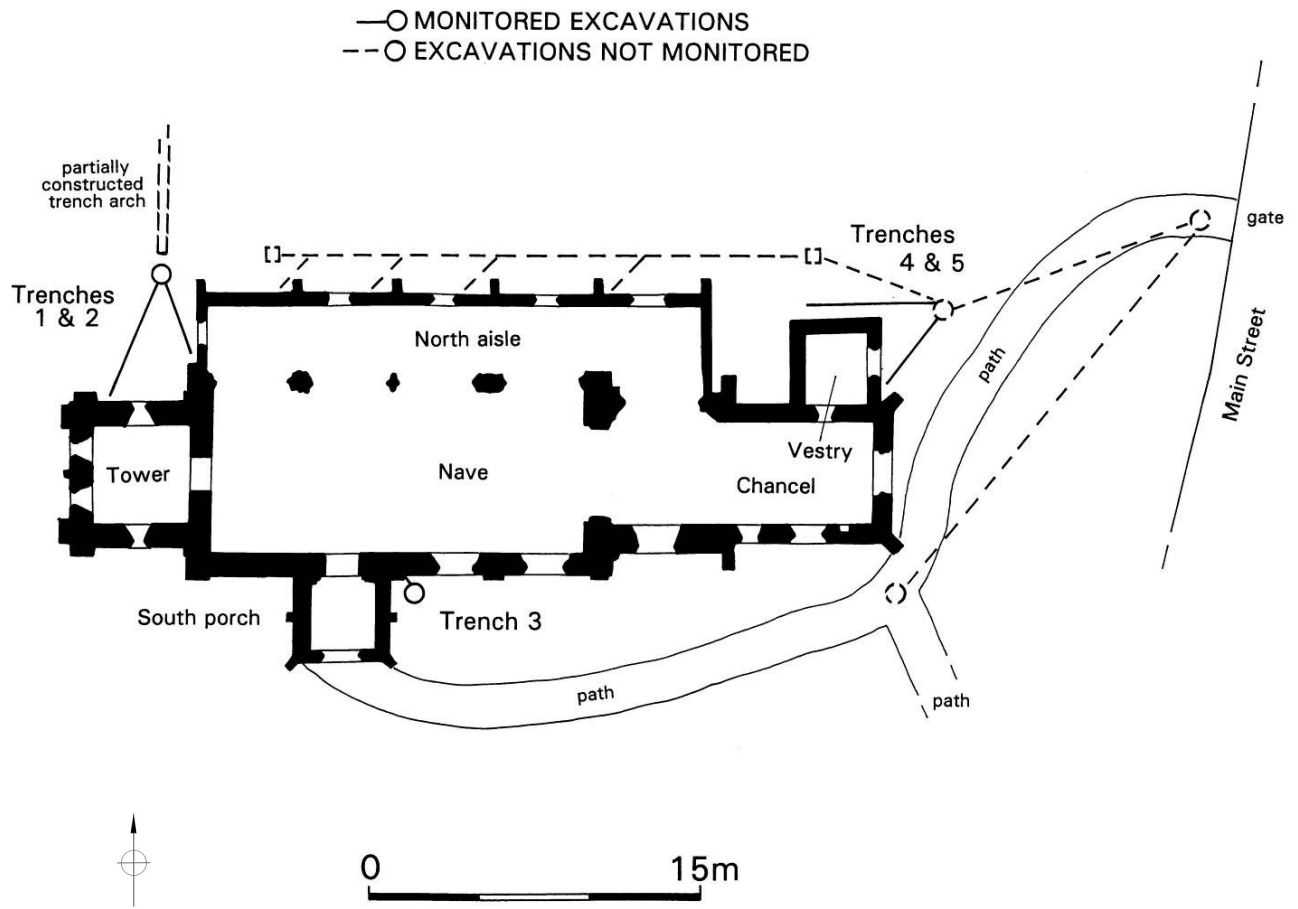
8.1 The archaeological watching brief was commissioned by Andrew Wiles of Wiles and Maguire Ltd (church architects) and funded by St Martin's Church PCC. EDAS would like to thank these individuals and the site contractors for their co-operation in carrying out the work.

8.2 The site recording was undertaken by Kate Dennett on behalf of EDAS, and she produced the fieldwork records. Ed Dennison produced the final report and drawings, and the responsibility for any errors or inconsistencies remains with him.



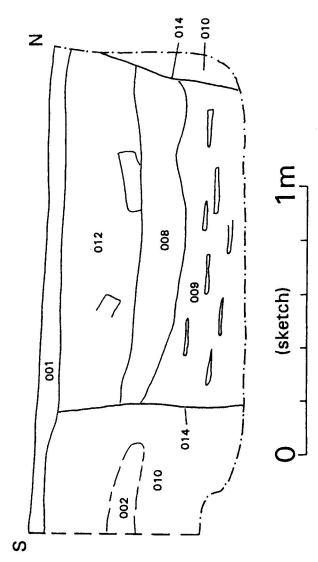
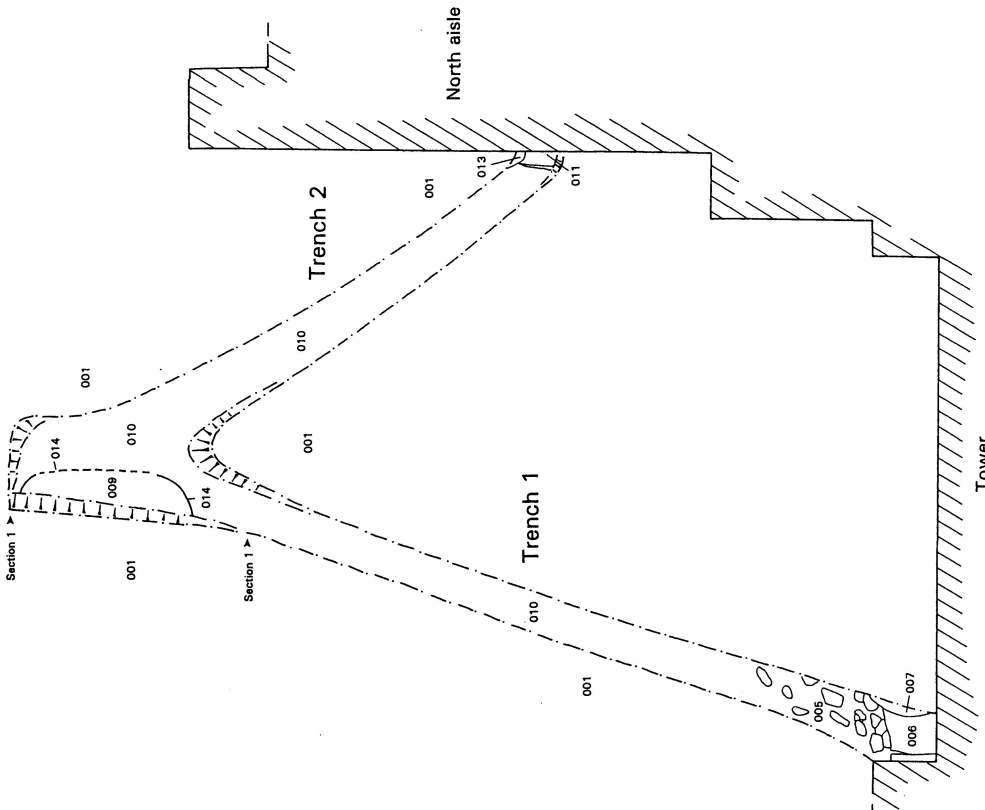
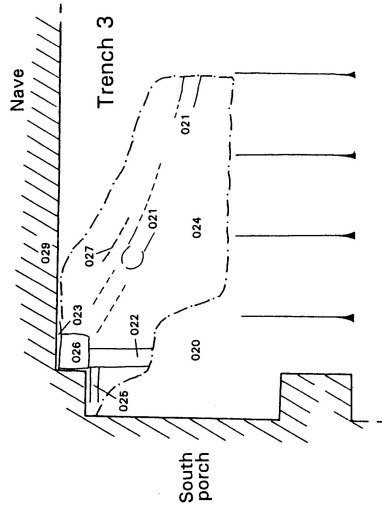
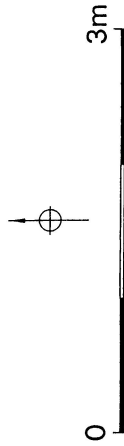
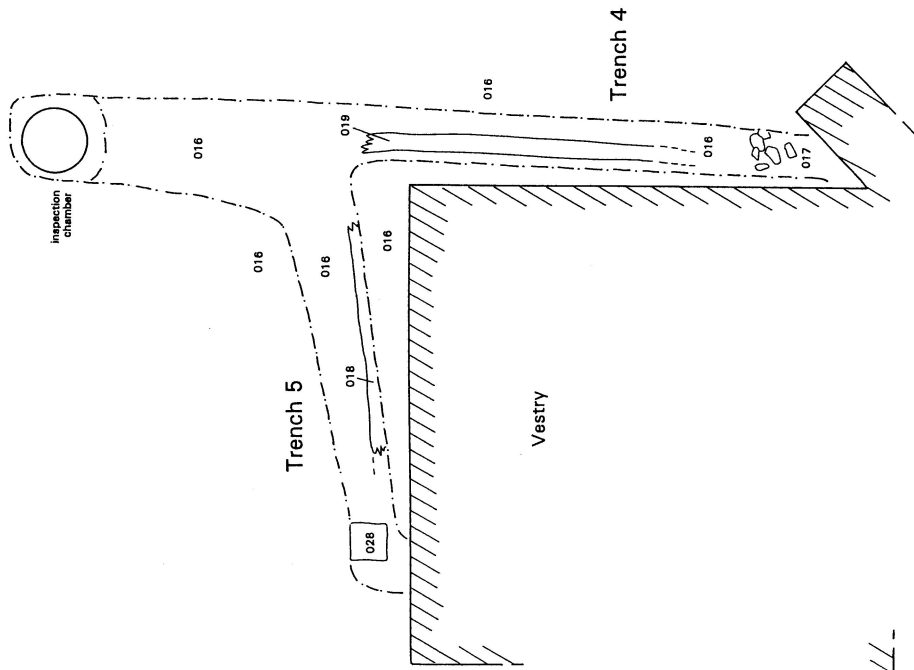
© Crown copyright and Database rights  
 Ordnance Survey Licence 100013825 (2014).

PROJECT		ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, SEAMER	
TITLE		GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	DATE	NTS	JAN 2014
EDAS		FIGURE	1



Based on drawings provided by Wiles & Maguire Ltd.

PROJECT		ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, SEAMER	
TITLE		MONITORED EXCAVATIONS	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JAN 2014
EDAS		FIGURE	2



Section 1: North end of west side of Trench 1

PROJECT	ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, SEAMER		
TITLE	WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	JAN 2014
	EDAS	FIGURE	3





Plate 1: South end of Trench 1, showing foundations (006) of north side of tower, looking S.



Plate 2: Excavation of Trench 4 showing drainage pipe (019), looking N.



Plate 3: Grave cut (014) and backfill (008, 009 & 012) exposed in west side of inspection chamber pit at north end of Trench 1, looking W.





Plate 4: Excavation of Trench 3, looking W.



Plate 5: Excavation of Trench 3, showing drain pipe (021), looking E.



Plate 6: Old drain pipe (018) exposed in trench 5, looking W.

## **APPENDIX 1**



## APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

<i>Context</i>	<i>Description and Interpretation</i>	<i>Area of site</i>
001	Friable dark brown loam with fragments of stone, glass, brick and tile, up to 0.30m thick - topsoil and turf.	T1
002	Friable/loose dark brown loam with frequent sandstone fragments and occasional cobbles and ceramic roof tile fragments, c.0.18m thick. Possibly same as 013.	T1
003	Firm loam with sticky creamy white chalky marl, 0.08m thick, adjacent to N wall of tower.	T1
004	Friable dark brown loam with occasional small stones, c.0.30m thick in E side of trench. Backfill of cut 015.	T1
005	Very firm brown loam with frequent cobbles, stones and sandstone fragments, in base of trench, 0.60m BGL. Single piece of Staxtonware (12th-early 15th century) pottery.	T1
006	Foundation of N wall of tower, only partially exposed.	T1
007	Compacted creamy grey lime mortar with moderate amounts of slate and red roof tile, overlying foundation 006.	T1
008	Firm creamy yellow fine sand containing very fine sandy gravel, 0.17m thick, in W side of pit - may be part of backfill of unmarked grave and/or base for a former chest or table monument.	T1 pit
009	Compacted brown loam containing yellow-brown clay lumps, more than 0.25m thick, in base of W side of pit - backfill of grave?	T1 pit
010	Friable/loose brown loam with occasional small stones and cobbles, up to 0.3m thick - subsoil.	T1/T2
011	Foundation of W wall of N aisle, only partially exposed.	T2
012	Friable/loose dark brown loam with occasional small limestone fragments, c.0.25m thick, containing 19th/20th century bricks and tiny piece of 19th century blue & white pottery - upper backfill former unmarked gravel with remains of demolished monument.	T1 pit
013	Loose brown loam with frequent limestone and roof tile fragments (dark grey & red ceramic), a c.0.35m long piece of former ?mullion - recent renovation material, and one piece of 19th century clay pipe stem.	T2
014	Vertical sided cut for unmarked grave, exposed in W side of T1 pit, only partially visible, c.1.20m wide.	T1 pit
015	Possible cut with bowl shaped profile, through 002 and 010, only partially visible adjacent to tower, c.0.6m deep?	T1
016	Friable dark brown loam with occasional fragments of brick, glass, stone, slate and bone, up to 0.40m deep - modern soil deposited since previous drainage works.	T4/5
017	Friable/loose dark brown loam with limestone rubble and stone/tile fragments, unknown depth - dump from previous drainage works.	T4
018	Glazed ceramic drain, 0.13m wide, partly exposed in new trench, running E from gully 028 and E end appearing to join with 019, 0.33m BGL.	T5
019	Glazed ceramic drain, 0.13m wide, previously repaired, N end appearing to join with 018, 0.20m-0.35m BGL.	T4
020	Firm dry grey-brown loam with moderate small fragments of brick, stone, bone and ceramic drain, c.0.30m thick - relatively modern deposit.	T3
021	Glazed ceramic drain, 0.13m wide, running NW-SE from gully 026, within presumed cut 027.	T3
022	Plastic drain pipe, 0.12m wide, bringing water to gully 026.	T3
023	Foundation of S wall of nave, limestone ashlar, partially exposed.	T3
024	Firm but friable red-brown loam with fragments of brick, stone, bone, tile and drain pipe, more than 0.37m thick - subsoil.	T3
025	Narrow plastic drain pipe, running from downpipe, c.0.10m wide.	T3
026	Metal gully cover in angle of walls, 0.26m square, linked to drains 021, 022 and 025.	T3
027	Presumed linear cut for pipe 021, but not really visible.	T3

028	Metal gully cover in angle of walls, 0.26m square, linked to drain 018.	T5
029	Limestone ashlar S wall of nave, overlying foundation 023.	T3
030	Limestone ashlar of E wall of vestry, overlying foundation 031.	T4
031	Limestone foundation of E wall of vestry, not fully exposed.	T4

## APPENDIX 2

LIONEL P. M. LENNOX, LL.B.

SOLICITOR AND NOTARY PUBLIC

Legal Secretary to the Archbishop of York  
Registrar of the Province and Diocese of York

Provincial and Diocesan Registry  
Stamford House  
Piccadilly, York YO1 9PP  
Tel: 01904 623487  
DX: 65206 YORK 6

Mr A Wiles  
Wiles and Maguire  
The Danesmead Wing  
33 Fulford Cross  
York  
YO10 4PB



direct fax 01904 561470  
your ref  
our ref LL/HB  
date 08 October 2010

Dear Mr Wiles

**Seamer, St Martin**  
**Faculty granted 9 September 2009 – re-ordering**

I refer to your application dated 21 September to amend the Faculty granted 8.9.09. The Petition and accompanying papers together with the application to amend were passed to the Chancellor for his consideration. I enclose a copy of the Chancellor's letter to me dated 4 October. In accordance with the Chancellor's letter the Amended Faculty was sealed and issued today and the original sent to the Reverend Laura McWilliams. I enclose a duplicate copy for your retention.

Yours sincerely

  
L P M Lennox

**From the Chancellor of the Diocese of York**

**The Worshipful Canon Peter Collier QC**



Lionel Lennox  
Diocesan Registrar  
Stamford House  
Piccadilly  
York  
YO1 9PP

DX 65206 York 6

4<sup>th</sup> October 2010

Dear Registrar

**Seamer, St Martin  
Amendment to faculty**

In this matter the Petitioners would wish to have an amendment to the faculty granted on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2009 permitting the installation of toilet facilities within the base of the tower of the church. The original drawings included a trench arch drainage system running south from the tower. The architects have now discovered that the achievable gradient to the south will be insufficient to achieve the desired result. They therefore ask to vary the faculty to permit the trench arch drainage system to run from the north side of the tower, through the churchyard between the rows of graves, between the head of one row and the feet of the adjacent row.

The Secretary to the DAC has commented that this would be quite acceptable.

The petitioners have also queried whether an archaeological watching brief is necessary for the whole of the excavation. The DAC Secretary observes that provided the assertion that the churchyard was dug over 50 years ago is correct then there is no need for there to be a watching brief for those portions provided that the areas not so dug over and the area within the tower are still the subject of such a brief.

I will therefore permit an amendment

1. to permit the introduction of a trench arch drainage system and the new electric and water conduit and pipes on the north side of the tower
2. to limit the AWB to such areas as the parish architect is satisfied on evidence produced to him were not dug over after 1950

3. to extend the period for completing the works for 12 months from the date of the variation

there will be a further condition to the faculty namely that the churchwardens shall enter the details of the trench arch drainage system and the routes of all pipes and cables on the churchyard plan within 14 days of the completion of the works.

Yours sincerely



Canon Peter Collier QC  
Chancellor

AMENDED

## FACULTY IN UNOPPOSED PROCEEDINGS

In the Consistory Court

The Diocese of York

Parish of Seamer

Church of St Martin

**The Worshipful Canon Peter N Collier QC**  
Chancellor of the Diocese and Official Principal of the Lord Archbishop of York

To: The Revd L J McWilliams, Mrs J Austin and Mr G Hall churchwardens

A petition presented by you has been submitted to the Registry of this Court together with designs, plans, photographs or other documents, requesting a Faculty authorising the works or other proposals specified in the petition.

And a public notice was duly displayed giving an opportunity to all persons interested to object and give reasons why a Faculty should not be granted and there are no objections under the Rules to the granting of a Faculty.

This Court now grants a Faculty, until further order, authorising you to carry out the works or other proposals in accordance with the designs, plans or other documents accompanying the petition and subject to the conditions set out in the Schedule below.

The works should be completed within **TWELVE MONTHS** from the date below or such further period as this Court may allow and the certificate of completion is to be sent to the Registry within the period allowed.

A copy of this Faculty is to be supplied by you to the architect or surveyor and contractors to be employed in respect of the authorised work before any work is commenced.

This Faculty is duly authenticated by the seal of this Court.

Dated 9 September 2009

Amended this 8 October 2010

.....  
L P M Lennox  
Registrar



## SCHEDULE

*Description of Works or Purposes and any conditions attached to the Faculty.*

At the Church of St Martin, Seamer (1) to repair the floor, introduce handrails and repair a step all to the south porch (2) to remove and dispose by sale of eight pews at the west end of the nave (3) to re-locate the font, without the present bottom step, further east within the western most bay of the nave (4) to introduce a kitchenette at the west end of the north aisle (5) to introduce tables and stackable upholstered chairs for use at the west end and (6) to introduce two WCs and a storage area within the base of the tower together with the associated drainage, plumbing, electrical and other works all in accordance with drawing nos SE1:01/100, SEA:01/300B, SEA:02/100, SEA:02/301 and SEA:-01/303 and letter dated 12 August 2009 (7) to permit the introduction of a trench arch drainage system and the new electric and water conduit and pipes on the north side of the tower in connection with drawing no SEA:02/312 dated June 2010 and letter dated 21 September 2010 by Wiles and Maguire Architects of York filed in the Registry of the Consistory Court of York SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:-

- (1) Notice shall be given to an archaeologist within 14 days that s/he is required to carry out an archaeological watching brief on the excavations;
- (2) The archaeologist shall be notified of the date for commencement of work no less than 3 weeks before the date of the commencement of any excavations on the site;
- (3) The Petitioners and their contractors shall cooperate with the archaeologist to enable him/her to do his/her work. This will include examination, recording and photographing.
- (4) Copies of the Archaeologist's final report shall be sent by him/her within 14 days of completion of the report to the following bodies:-
  - (i) The Parochial Church Council (for keeping with the church log book)
  - (ii) The Diocesan Advisory Committee (for its records)
  - (iii) The Diocesan Registry (for placing with the faculty papers)
  - (iv) The local Sites and Monuments Records office (if the address is not known the archaeologist should obtain it from the local authority planning department).
- (5) To limit the archaeological watching brief to such areas as the parish architect is satisfied on evidence produced to him were not dug over after 1950.
- (6) To extend the period for completing the works for twelve months from the date of the variation.