ST HELEN'S CHURCH, BARMBY ON THE MARSH, EAST YORKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January 2021, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by James Innerdale, architect, on behalf of the Friends of Friendless Churches, to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during external drainage works in the churchyard of St Helen's Church, Barmby on the Marsh, East Yorkshire (NGR SE 6901 2843 centred).

St Helen's Church is a small Grade II listed redundant church, located on the south side of South Street in the village of Barmby on the Marsh, c.6km west of Howden, immediately to the east of the confluence of the rivers Derwent and Ouse. The scope of the archaeological works was determined by a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI).

A total of six trenches were excavated between February and April 2021, around the chancel and along the western half of the south side of the nave. The watching brief uncovered no significant archaeological deposits or features. Most of the recorded deposits were either top soils or sub-soils, with a very small assemblage of disarticulated human bone fragments recovered from Trenches 3 and 5. Additionally in Trench 3, a short projecting section of rubble footings exposed beyond the rebuilt south-east corner of the nave may have belonged to an earlier buttress, which was removed as part of the chancel restoration works of 1870-71. A number of observations were also made regarding the standing structure of the nave's north and south elevations, particularly where they appear to potentially incorporate the remains of a much earlier church, perhaps the first chapel built at Barmby on the Marsh in or soon after 1388.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2021, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by James Innerdale, architect, on behalf of the Friends of Friendless Churches, to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during external drainage works in the churchyard of St Helen's Church, Barmby on the Marsh, East Yorkshire (NGR SE 6901 2843 centred) (see figure 1).
- 1.2 St Helen's Church is a small Grade II listed church, now redundant, located on the south side of South Street in the village of Barmby on the Marsh (see plate 1 and figure 2). The village lies c.6km west of Howden, immediately to the east of the confluence of the rivers Derwent and Ouse. The church is set back from the street frontage, and can be accessed only via a path running south from South Street. The churchyard, which is full but still owned by the Diocese of York and falls under Ecclesiastical Exemption, has a number of chest tombs and markers dating from the early 18th century, including a separately Grade II listed gravestone of Revd. William Burges. The churchyard is still used for burials.
- 1.3 The proposed drainage works were shown on an architect's drawing forming part of a Design, Access and Heritage Statement for the project (Innerdale 2020a). New drains were to be excavated along the north side of the church, either side of the north porch, and along the east and south sides of the chancel. Trial pits had previously indicated that the footings along the north side of the nave extended to c.530mm below the existing ground level, and 130mm below the level of the existing drainage channel. The new drainage was not to be laid below this depth and would connect to existing surface water drains, with no new drains, soakaways or similar features being required (Innerdale 2020b, 22). A later revision to the original proposals meant that trenches were only excavated along the north, east and south walls of the chancel, and along the south side of the nave to the west of the south porch. The relatively shallow depth of the excavations, their position, and the fact that they were replacing earlier drains meant that it was unlikely that any in situ burials would be encountered during the works. Nevertheless, it was considered that there was some potential to expose structural evidence relating to the walls of the nave, tower and chancel, which might shed light on the development of the 16th century church.
- 1.4 The archaeological work was a requirement of a Diocesan Faculty, and the scope was determined by an EDAS Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (see Appendix 2). In accordance with modern Ordnance Survey convention, the village name is not hyphenated in this report.

2 DIOCESAN FACULTY

- 2.1 A Diocesan Faculty for the drainage works was approved by the Diocese of York and issued on 19th January 2021 (ref. 2020-056070). It included various conditions for archaeological monitoring of the drainage works, as follows:
 - (1) Notice to archaeologist to be given 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 any commencement of any excavations on the site:

- (3) The Petitioners and their contractors to cooperate with 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 know, the archaeologist should obtain it from the local planning department).
- 2.2 It should be noted that the archaeological watching brief was confined to the external drainage work, and did not cover any other external or internal works to the church fabric or its roof.

3 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The archaeological recording was defined by an EDAS 'Written Scheme of Investigation' (see Appendix 2). This also considered advice produced by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists in relation to watching briefs (ClfA 2020), by English Heritage and the Church of England in relation to the treatment of human remains (EH/CoE 2005), and by the Association of Diocesan and Cathedral Archaeologists in relation to work in churchyards (ADCA 2004).
- 3.2 The aim of the archaeological recording was to record and recover information relating to the nature, date, depth, and significance of any archaeological features and deposits, and any human burials, which might be affected by the proposed excavations.
- 3.3 The drainage trenches were largely dug by hand, with a total of six trenches excavated around the church (see figure 5). These were numbered in a clockwise direction. Trench 1 measured 9.10m long and ran east-west along the north side of the chancel. At the north-east corner of the chancel, it met with Trench 2, which ran 7.60m south along the east side of the chancel. Trench 3 then ran west for 8.50m along the chancel's south side, with a short extension to the west end. Trench 4 was only 3.20m long, and was excavated in front of the south porch. Trench 5 had an angled alignment, extending generally west from the south-west corner of the south porch for 8.00m along the south side of the nave; this replaced a previously excavated but abandoned trench which had a more southerly alignment. Trench 6, also dug from the south-west corner of the south porch, had a straighter line to the west, and was 11.00m long broadly parallel but c.2m to the south of the Trench 5. All the trenches were typically 0.40m wide and between 0.40m-0.50m deep.
- 3.4 The excavations for the drainage works were monitored at intervals between the 15th February and 19th April 2021. An archaeologist was either present when the trenches were excavated or they were viewed immediately after excavation.
- 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. A total of 12 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 external works were marked

on general site plans at 1:50 scale, with appropriate sections at a scale of 1:10. Prior to the start of the drainage works, a temporary bench mark (TBM) was established on the paving stones to the immediate north of the north porch, and given a nominal height of 100m AD. Levels were then taken around the exterior of the church, to calculate ground surface levels relative to the TBM. It had been planned to tie this into the Ordnance Survey benchmark located on the north wall of the tower, it in the event it could not be located. A general digital photographic record was also made. The excavated material was, where possible, visually checked for archaeological finds.

- 3.6 A very small assemblage of disarticulated fragments of human bone were recovered from Trenches 3 and 5; these were re-interred as close as possible to the area where they were found. A mixed assemblage of modern and post medieval pottery and modern tile, and a few fragments of animal bone, were also recovered from the same trenches; these were not retained. In accordance with current East Riding of Yorkshire Museum policy for 'no finds' archives, no project archive was deposited with the museum, although site notes, plans and photographs have been retained by EDAS (site code SHB 21).
- 3.7 In addition to monitoring the drainage works, a section of the south elevation of the church's nave was drawn at a scale of 1:50 to show the remains of the earlier chapel/church structure contained within it, in case these turned out to be relevant to the results of the watching brief. Similar, but less extensive, remains in the north nave elevation were also photographed, but were not drawn.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The church is a Grade II Listed Building, first listed on 16th December 1966 (National Heritage List for England 1160126), and was declared redundant by the Diocese of York in 2007. The Listed Building description reads: "GV II Church. c1600 nave. C18 tower, C19 chancel. Limestone rubble and dressed stone with Welsh slate roof to nave, brick tower with copper roof, dressed limestone and plain tile roof to chancel. West tower, 5-bay nave with south and north porches, 2-bay chancel. Fine 3-stage tower, articulated by bands, with board door to south, fixed window to west and slatted belfry openings to each face. All openings set back under segmental arches. Dentilled eaves. Domed ogee roof. Nave north side: C18 gabled porch with keyed round-headed doorway. 2-light and 3-light square-headed trefoiled cusped windows, mainly restored. South side is similar except that porch doorway has imposts and keystone. Chancel: trefoiled lancets to north and south, with pointed east window of 3 lights in geometric style. Angle buttresses. Stone coped gable."
- 4.2 The recently published Victoria County History volume (Crouch 2019), which covers the parish of Barmby on the Marsh, includes some useful information on the church, although the dates provided are sometimes at odds with the Listing description.
- 4.3 In 1388, a letter licensing a new chapel at Barmby was issued by the archdeacon of the East Riding during an archiepiscopal vacancy. It was to be served by a chaplain or chaplains saying mass for the inhabitants on a suitable site in or near the village. The chapel was to be funded out of the prebend of Barmby and Asselby. A chaplain was subsequently recorded at Barmby in 1414, and in 1428 an untaxed church (i.e. a church with no revenue of its own) was noted in the village. In the 1470s Richard Garlthorpe endowed Howden parish with lands in support of the chapel at Barmby and other unspecified charitable works (Crouch

2019, 53). In 1489, the structure built in the late 14th century was succeeded by a more ambitious chapel dedicated to St Helen, for which (along with the rights of burial and baptism) the inhabitants of Barmby had petitioned to Rome. The reason given was that Barmby was separated from Howden by low-lying marshy land, so that winter flooding and other hazards often meant that the inhabitants could not reach Howden Minster to have infants baptised or to bury their dead. It is suggested that the nave of the existing church represents this 15th century enlargement, and that it preserves a trefoil-headed lancet of the period (Crouch 2019, 53). The chapel at Barmby survived the dissolution of the collegiate church at Howden and became a district ministry with an assistant curate; by 1582, the living of Barmby was set up as a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the vicar of Howden (Crouch 2019, 53).

- 4.4 In terms of the existing structure, Crouch states that St Helen's Church comprises a chancel, nave, west turret and north and south porches, and occupies a rise which would have made it a locally prominent feature since the medieval period; the site was presumably also chosen to minimise the risk of flooding. There is a persistent myth, dating back to the 19th century, that the chapel was originally the tithe barn of Barmby prebend, but there is no firm evidence for this and it is thought that the barn was actually located on the triangle of land between the rivers Ouse and Derwent (i.e. to the west of the church and village). Nothing is known of the first medieval chapel built in or around 1388, but it is possible that it stood on the site of the present church. The surviving medieval fabric appears to date from the late 15th century re-building, and is thought to represent a single cell structure probably with an internal division between nave and chancel (Crouch 2019, 54).
- 4.5 The present nave is of five bays. Its south wall, mostly mixed limestone rubble and squared freestone bocks belong to one of the two building periods of the medieval church (see plate 1). The remains of the nave's west wall are also medieval, as are its quoins. A trefoil-headed chamfered lancet re-set in the south-east corner of the nave's east gable clearly belonged to the 15th century chapel rebuild, as may also some of the sill stones and jambs of the otherwise Perpendicular south windows (Crouch 2019, 54). A medieval west tower was originally of timber with a spire and two bells. Described as being ruinous in 1773, it was taken down and replaced with the existing brick tower, which is of three stages separated by bands and topped by a copper-sheathed cupola in the form of an ogee, at a cost of £120 (see plate 2). It seems from the nave's west gable wall that its gables were rebuilt at a higher pitch at the same time, and the two porches were probably added at this time. In 1865 the chancel was described as being dilapidated and built of brick. Its date is unknown but it was not medieval, and it might possibly have been erected as late as 1785, together with the north and south porches and the brick buttress to the south wall of the nave. This chancel, and parts of the nave, were then completely rebuilt in 1870-71 as part of a scheme of renovations, along with new nave windows, east gable and roof, all to the designs of M E Hadfield and Sons of Glossop (Crouch 2019, 55); the new chancel was built of coursed and semi-dressed limestone with a tiled roof (see plate 3).
- 4.6 The church architect, James Innerdale, has noted that the nave has a mixture of both dressed limestone blocks and more roughly hewn rubblestone work, with the dressed blocks at a low level to the east of both the north and south porches. In addition, to the nave's south wall, there are two areas of lower rubble infill with straight joints suggesting earlier window or door openings, and also some graffiti, although this is difficult to read. Furthermore, the narrow chancel is not centrally placed in relation to the nave, although the significance of this is presently unclear (Innerdale 2020a).

The church is depicted on Jefferys' 1771 plan, seemingly without a chancel (see 4.7 figure 3A). More detail is provided by the 1844 tithe map (ERAO PE154/26) and the 1847 enclosure map (ERAO IA/9/1), although with a slightly stunted chancel on the Ordnance Survey 1853 6" to 1 mile map (Yorkshire sheet 237) (see figures 3B to 3D). The early 19th century maps show that the churchyard did not extend as far to the south as it now does, and that there was a large east-west building, presumably an agricultural barn, here as well as a long north-south range extending from the street frontage on the east side of the churchyard. There appears to have been a small extension to the south-west corner of the churchyard by 1853, to encompass 'St Helen's Well' (see figure 3D). The churchyard was expanded to the south in 1859 (Crouch 2019, 55), and the east-west barn was later demolished, as depicted on the 1890 map (see figure 3F). This map shows that the well lay just beyond the southern boundary of the churchyard, although in 1907 it is shown to be within it (see figure 3G). The well is thought to have been drained and backfilled during the late 1850s.

5 RESULTS OF THE WATCHING BRIEF

5.1 A description of the results of the watching brief is given below, based on the records made in the field. Finally, in the following text, 'modern' is used to denote features or phasing dating to after c.1945.

Development of the Church

- 5.2 As already noted above, the church developed in a number of different stages. The first chapel was built in or soon after 1388, presumably on the same site as the present building. Crouch states that there is nothing left of this chapel and that it was replaced in 1489 by a larger chapel, with a churchyard. However, confusingly, he also states that the south nave wall of the present church belongs to one of the two building periods of the medieval church (Crouch 2019, 54); he presumably means the second 1489 phase. The late 15th century structure is suggested to have been a single cell building with an internal division between nave and chancel (Crouch 2019, 54). It was provided with a wooden tower with spire at the west end of the nave. The Listed Building description gives the date of the nave as c.1600.
- 5.3 The medieval west tower was ruinous in 1773 and so was replaced by the existing three stage brick tower (see plate 2). The north and south porches, and the brick buttresses to the south nave wall, were added in 1785. It is not known when the first chancel was built, but Crouch speculates that this too may have been as late as 1785; there does not appear to be a chancel on Jefferys' 1771 plan (see figure 3A), although this should not be taken conclusive proof. This chancel was built of brick, but was in poor condition by 1865; a large chancel is evident on the 1844 and 1847 plans, although it is rather stunted in 1853 (see figures 3B to 3D). It was completely rebuilt in 1870-71 as part of a scheme of renovations, along with new nave windows, east gable and roof (Crouch 2019, 55), and so is presumably as shown on the 1890 map (see figure 3F and plate 3). It is noticeable that the rebuilt chancel is not placed centrally to the nave; this is especially obvious when viewed internally (Innerdale 2020a).

The North and South Elevations of the Nave (see figure 4)

5.4 The north elevation of the nave rises from a chamfered plinth, although for much of its length this was rendered and so any constructional phases were obscured. For c.13.50m of the north elevation, both to the east and west of the north porch, there

are dressed limestone blocks (including Magnesian limestone) rising to c.1m above the top of the chamfered plinth; above the blocks, the elevation is generally built of less-well squared rubble. The limestone blocks are sometimes well coursed, although often they are not (see plate 4). Some 2.10m to the east of the north porch, there appears be a straight joint within the dressed blocks. The removal of the stucco plaster to the north porch, built in 1785, also revealed some interesting detail. The front of the porch is of brick, although the west and east sides are built of both rubble and pieces of dressed stone (see plate 5); presumably the front has a brick 'skin' because it is the more visible elevation through which people entered and left the church. To the west of the porch, the limestone blocks rise on average to c.0.50m above the chamfered plinth. They appear to end c.2.80m to the west of the porch, where there may be a staggered joint. At the west end of the elevation, where render has been removed or fallen off, the plinth can be seen to be of brick, beneath the chamfer (see plate 6).

- 5.5 The south elevation of the nave was drawn at a scale of 1:50, as well as being photographed, as the earlier masonry here incorporates more recognisable structural features than on the north elevation. Much of the nave's south elevation also rises from a chamfered plinth, although towards the west end of the elevation, it appears to have been cut back and the wall face rendered over. It is also noticeable that, in plan, this part of the nave's south wall does not appear to run quite parallel to the opposite, north, wall. The plinth is set at a slightly higher position to the west of the south porch than to the east, and, where the wall face below the plinth is visible, it is constructed from rubble.
- 5.6 For c.12m of the elevation, either side of the south porch, there are what appear to be the remains of an earlier, smaller nave structure. As with the north elevation, much of this is built from dressed limestone blocks (including Magnesian limestone), generally neatly coursed, rising to c.1.80m above the top of the chamfered plinth, but additionally incorporating several openings blocked with rubble. Above the limestone blocks, and to the west end of the elevation, the nave is built of roughly coursed rubble; at the east end, it is built of very similar small coursed limestone as that seen to the chancel, and so it is assumed that this part of the nave was also rebuilt in 1870-71. The limestone blocks only extend c.0.55m to the west of the south porch, but below the window here there may be an opening blocked with rubble which is at least 1.65m wide; the base of the opening is set c.0.75m above the chamfered plinth (see plate 8).
- 5.7 The south porch, built in 1785, is built completely of brick (see plate 9). It covers an earlier doorway with a segmental head the quoins to the west jamb of the doorway retain a number of carved crosses (see plate 7). Such crosses are often found around the south door or porch of a church, and are fairly ubiquitous in terms of their distribution throughout the country; no clear interpretation for their presence has been found, although they may well be associated with recording agreements or ceremonies, or the movement of people and burials through the church doorway (Champion 2015, 63-69).
- To the east of the porch, the limestone blocks of the south wall of the nave contain two openings, blocked with rubble, set beneath the existing windows either side of a later brick buttress; the blocked openings have an average width of 1.25m, with bases set c.0.50m above the chamfered plinth (see plates 10 and 11). The three stones forming the east jamb of the western opening retain much graffiti, almost all in the form of initials, none of which appears significantly earlier than the late 18th or 19th centuries. Some of the graffiti that can be read are 'G Comb 1830', 'W G', 'E B', 'I W' and 'J P', although most are now illegible (see plate 12).

The Drainage Works (see figures 5 and 6)

Prior to the start of the watching brief, the majority of the areas where the drains were to be excavated were formed by narrow, concave, concrete surfaces which sloped down towards existing surface drains (see plate 13). These were broken out and removed before any excavation could take place. However, to the west of the south porch, the alignments of two trenches (Trenches 5 and 6) were to be excavated through a grassed surface. There was little overall variation in the ground level around the church - at the north-west corner of the nave, it was 100.03m AD, at the south-west corner of the nave 99.89m AD, at the north-east corner of the chancel 100.40m AD and at the south-east corner of the chancel 99.72m AD; these heights are all relative to the 100m AD temporary bench mark placed outside the north porch. All the trenches were backfilled with gravel once the works had been completed.

Trench 1

- 5.10 Trench 1 ran for a distance of 9.10m along the north wall of the chancel before turning through 90 degrees at the east end to become Trench 2. The trench was 0.40m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.50m below ground level (BGL). The actual excavation was not monitored, but it was viewed immediately after. An existing salt-glazed drain, opposite a down pipe towards the east end of the trench, was initially exposed before the main excavation took place. A short 1.40m long and 0.30m wide soakaway extension was also excavated to a depth of 0.43m BGL off the centre of the north side of the main trench.
- 5.11 The uppermost deposit encountered, forming the ground surface at between c.100.20m and 100.40m AD, was a loose dark grey-black soft friable clayey sand topsoil (101) c.0.20m thick containing some brick and building debris at higher levels. Below this was a friable brown clayey silt (102), at least 0.25m thick and continuing below the base of the trench. In the south end of the short soakaway trench, the clayey sand topsoil (101) overlay a friable brown clay silt (103) containing much pale brown sand, gravel and small fragments of chalk, tile and brick, particularly close to the church (see Section 1 on figure 6). This deposit was at least 0.20m thick and also continued below the base of the trench.

Trench 2

Trench 2 ran for 7.60m along the east wall of the chancel, its north and south ends connecting with Trench 1 and Trench 3 respectively; it was 0.40m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of c.0.40m BGL. Once again, this trench was inspected immediately after excavation. The uppermost deposit, forming the ground surface at between 100.11m and c.99.72m AD, was the same loose dark grey-black friable clayey sand topsoil (101) seen in Trench 1, and this continued beyond the base of the trench (see plate 14).

Trench 3

5.13 Trench 3 ran for a distance of 8.50m along the south wall of the chancel before turning to the south for 1.80m and then back to the west again for a further 1.00m around the south-east corner of the nave. The trench was 0.40m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.59m BGL at the west end. The excavation of most of Trench 3 was not monitored, but it was viewed immediately after excavation.

5.14 The uppermost deposit, forming the ground surface at an average of c.99.64m AD. was the same dark grey-black friable clayey sand topsoil (101) observed in Trenches 1 and 2 (see plate 15). This had an average depth of c.0.44m, and contained frequent building debris, occasional post-medieval and modern pottery, a small unmarked modern glass jar, and a very small assemblage of disarticulated animal and human bone fragments. At the west end of the trench, an existing saltglazed drain ran along the southern return; this was subsequently removed. In this area, the previously cement-rendered limestone rubble footings (105) and underlying sandstone footings (106) of the south wall of the chancel were revealed, and the slightly greater depth of excavation showed that they were bedded on a layer of firm yellow-brown clay (107), at least 0.14m thick, which extended below the base of the trench (see Section 2 on figure 6). At the south-east corner of the nave, the footings extended for a similar depth, but also projected outwards from the face of the plinth by c.0.40m (see Section 3 on figure 6) (see plate 16); the footings (106) extended to the base of the trench here and incorporated a large block of flint (108). It is possible that this projecting section represents the footings of the south-east corner of the nave or a buttress, before this area was re-built in 1870-71.

Trench 4

- 5.15 This trench was monitored as it was being dug. It had a total length of 3.20m and ran across the front of the south porch, before continuing west as Trench 6. The trench was 0.30m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.40m BGL.
- 5.16 The uppermost deposit encountered, forming the ground surface at an average of c.99.75m AD, was the same dark grey-black friable clayey sand topsoil (101) observed in Trenches 1, 2 and 3. In the north end of the trench, this deposit was at least 0.40m thick and continued below the base of the trench. Outside the south door, at a depth of 0.20m below ground level, were three dressed paving stones, 0.12m thick, which were laid over a consolidated deposit of dark grey-black clayey sand containing some small brick fragments and other building debris (112) (see plate 17).

Trench 5

- 5.17 As noted above, an initial alignment of Trench 5 was excavated but was never used and was later backfilled. A new alignment was subsequently excavated on a similar line but closer to the wall of the nave, and this was monitored. The trench started at the south-west corner of the south porch and ran north-west for c.4m before turning to the west to run along the south wall of the nave for a further c.4m. The trench was 0.30m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m BGL. The ground level here was typically 99.81m AD.
- 5.18 The uppermost deposit encountered, forming the ground surface at between c.99.77m and 99.80m AD, was a loose dark grey sandy topsoil (109) with few inclusions, up to 0.25m thick, containing some fragments of disarticulated human and animal fragments as well as modern pottery and tile. This deposit overlay a loose mid-dark brown silty sand subsoil (110), at least 0.20m thick, also containing fragments of bone, modern pottery and tile; this deposit continued below the base of the trench. Within the western part of the trench, for a length of c.4.00mm, a mixed deposit (111) formed from 109 and 110 had been re-deposited alongside the nave wall (see Section 6 on figure 6) (see plate 18). As part of the works, a short section of the loose footings (104) from the central part of the nave wall beneath the plinth was removed; the footings continued beneath the base of the

trench. Earlier salt-glazed pipes, placed on a brick plinth, were exposed at the trench's western end, running from an existing downpipe in a south-west direction away from the church.

Trench 6

- 5.19 The excavation of Trench 6 was also monitored. It started at the west end of Trench 4 and ran west for c.11.00m, following a slightly curvilinear route and turning north at the western end to join an existing salt-glazed drainage pipe (see plate 19). The trench was an average 0.40m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m BGL at the western end.
- 5.20 The uppermost deposit encountered, forming the ground surface at between c.99.77m and 99.80m AD, was the same loose dark grey sand topsoil (109) with few inclusions, typically 0.20m thick, as seen in Trench 5; this deposit also contained some fragments of disarticulated animal bone and modern pottery and tile. It again overlay a loose mid-dark brown silty sand subsoil (110), at least 0.25m thick, which continued below the base of the trench (see Section 5 on figure 6).

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The monitoring of the external drainage works at St Helen's Church uncovered no significant archaeological deposits or features. Most of the recorded contexts were either top soils or sub-soils, with a very small assemblage of disarticulated human bone fragments recovered from Trench 3 dug along the south side of the chancel and Trench 5 dug along the south side of the nave to the west of the south porch. Additionally, in Trench 3, a projecting section of rubble footings (106) exposed beyond the rebuilt south-east corner of the nave may have belonged to an earlier buttress, which was removed as part of the chancel restoration works of 1870-71.
- 6.2 In terms of the above-ground fabric, the limestone blocks visible in the north and south elevations of the nave are potentially the remnants of the first chapel, built in or soon after 1388. Those to the lower parts of the north elevation do not preserve any clearly recognisable structural features, and it is possible that they were reused here when the nave was enlarged in 1489 to provide a relatively level base upon which to build the rubble stonework above. However, the more extensive limestone blocks to the south elevation do appear to remain in situ, and to represent a building that was at least c.12m long, with two probable blocked windows to the east of the later south porch and another possible example to the If this fabric does belong to the original late 14th century chapel, the doorway that is covered by the south porch may also form part of it. The misaligned south wall of the nave, when compared to the north wall, is also surely significant. Therefore, although this early medieval fabric may be part of the 1489 chapel (as suggested by the Victoria County History and the Listed Building description), the possibility that it represents the remains of the late 14th century chapel cannot, at present, be discounted.
- 6.3 The use of the limestone blocks for the late 14th century chapel is interesting in that at almost exactly the same time, just over two miles to the north-east, Wressle Castle was being built with similar material. Although the quality of the masonry at Wressle is far higher and much more extensive than that which survives at Barmby, it has been suggested that much of the Wressle stone came from a quarry near Tadcaster (Hislop 2007, 47) and therefore could have been supplied by river, given the proximity of the River Derwent. One could imagine that similar

supply and transportation was also used for the earliest phase of St Helen's Church.

7 REFERENCES

ERAO = East Riding Archive Office

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- No 4 Plan of the Township of Barmby on the Marsh in the East Riding of the County of York (ERAO IA/9/1)
- 1853 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map Yorkshire sheet 237 (surveyed 1849)
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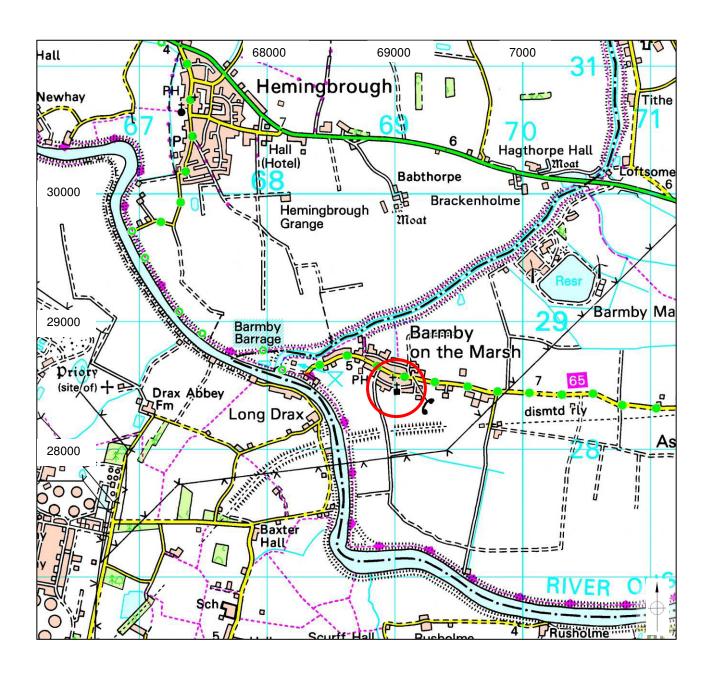
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Innerdale, J 2020b St Helen's Church, Barmby-on-the-Marsh, North Yorkshire: Specification and Schedule of Works for Roof Repairs, Masonry Repairs and Re-Pointing And Rainwater & Drainage Works

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

8.1 The archaeological watching brief was commissioned by the Friends of Friendless Churches, and thanks are due to Rachel Morley and the church architect James

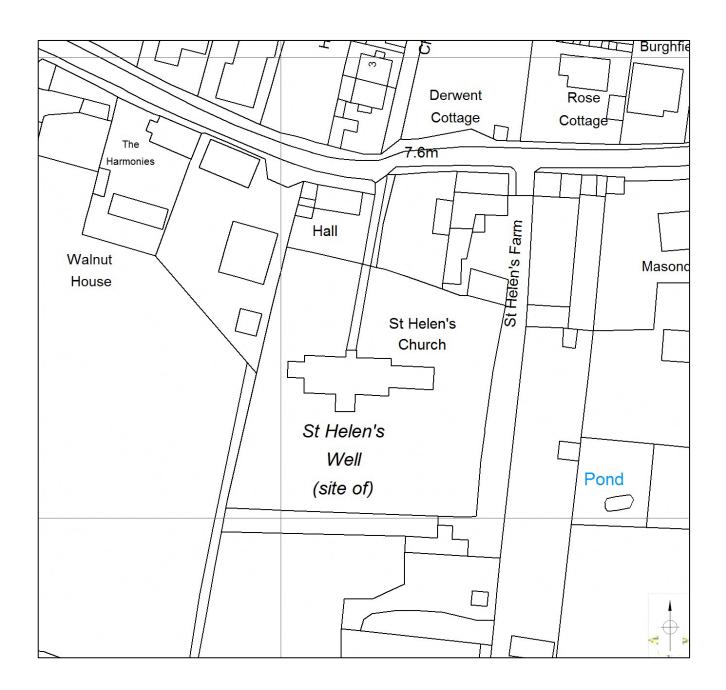
Innerdale. The site contractors were White Rose Conservation of Ricall, and their help and co-operation is also acknowledged. The archaeological recording was undertaken by Shaun Richardson and Richard Coates, and the final report was produced by Ed Dennison, who retains responsibility for any errors or inconsistencies.

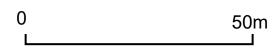




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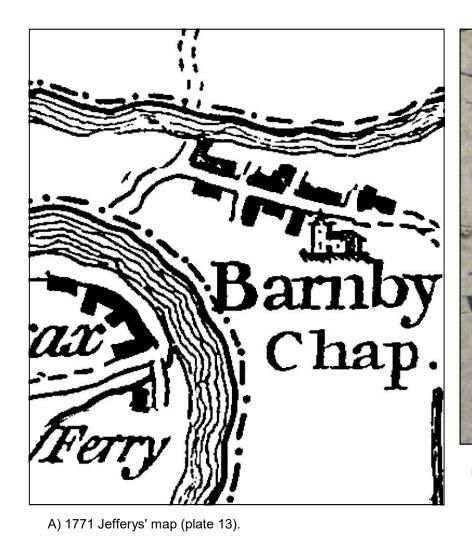
PROJECT		
ST HELEN'S CHURCH, BARMBY		
GENERAL LOCATION		
AS SHOWN	OCT 2021	
EDAS	FIGURE 1	



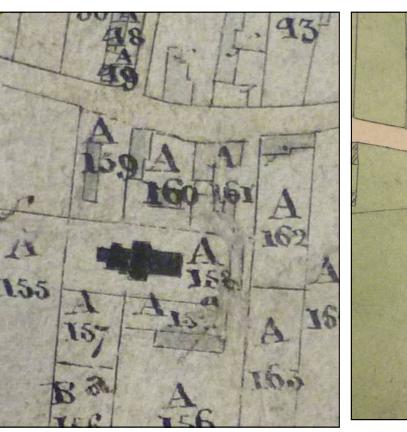


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PROJECT		
ST HELEN'S CHURCH, BARMBY		
DETAILED LAYOUT		
AS SHOWN	OCT 2021	
EDAS	FIGURE 2	



B) 1844 tithe map (ERAO PE154/26).



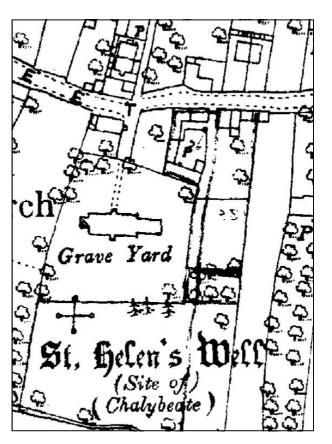
C) 1847 enclosure plan (ERAO IA/9/1).



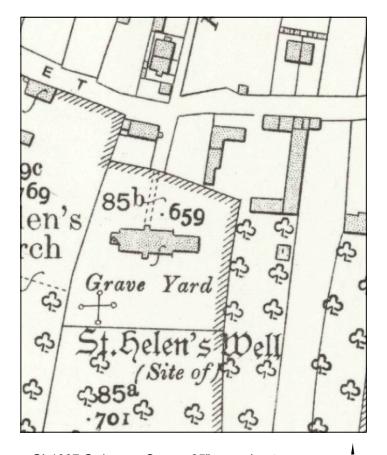
D) 1853 Ordnance Survey 6" map sheet 237, surveyed 1849.



E) 1866 altered apportionment map (ERAO PE154/27).

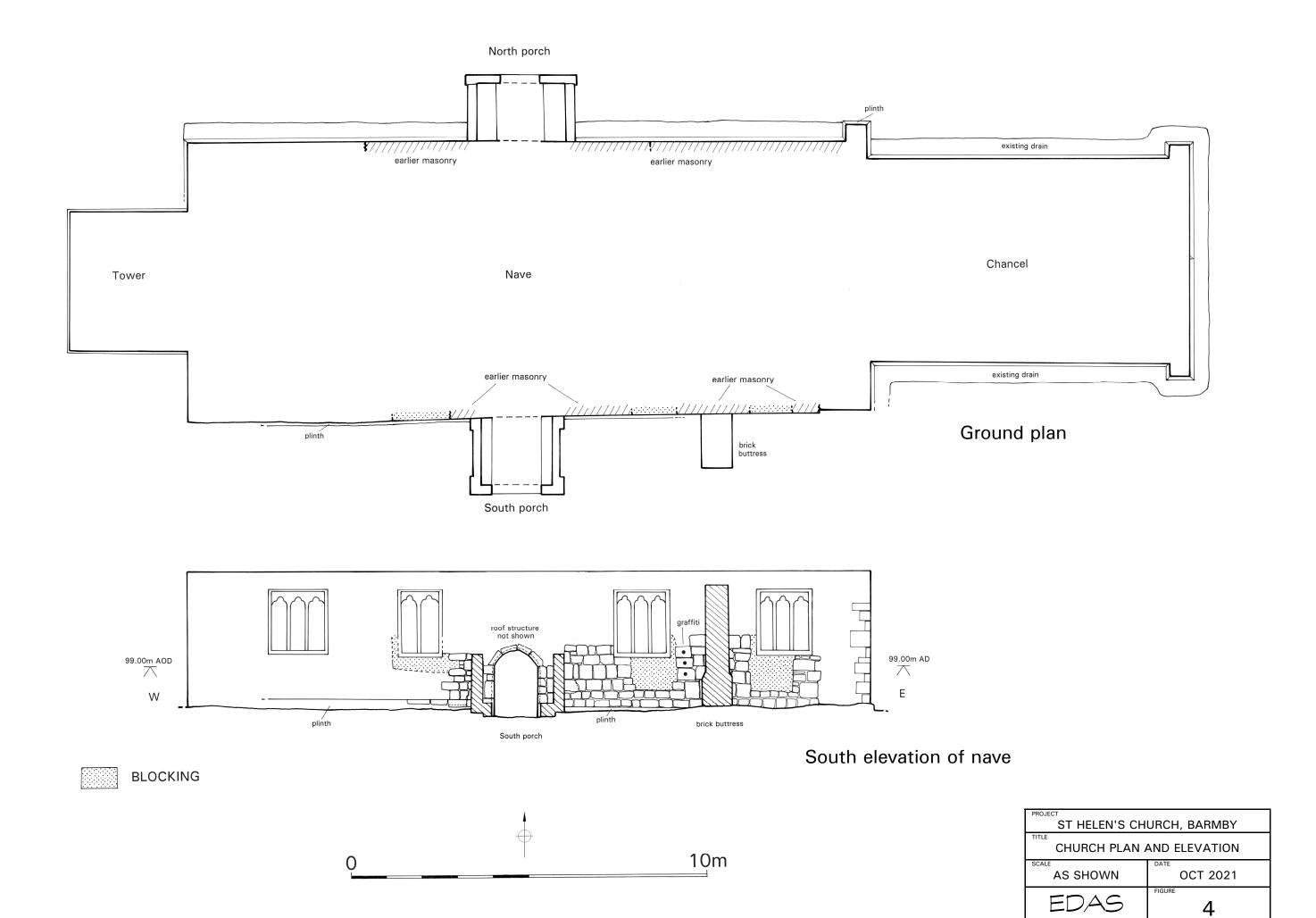


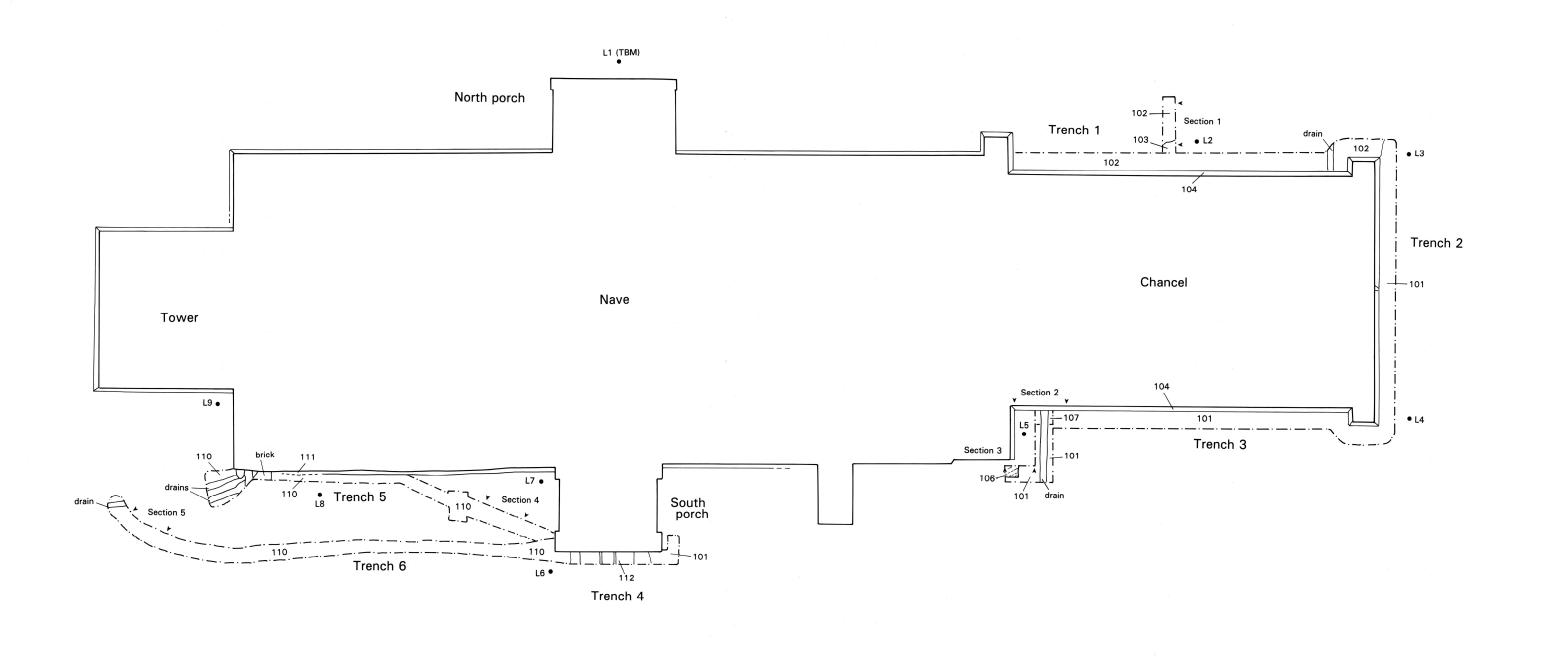
F) 1890 Ordnance Survey 25" map sheet 237/2, surveyed 1889.



G) 1907 Ordnance Survey 25" map sheet 237/2, revised 1905.

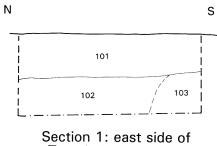
PROJECT		
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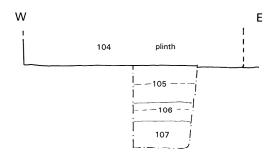


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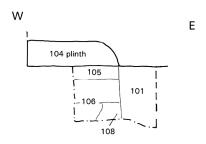
ST HELEN'S CHURCH, BARMBY		
WATCHING BRIEF PLAN		
AS SHOWN	OCT 2021	
EDAS	FIGURE 5	



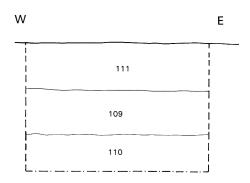
Section 1: east side of Trench 1 extension



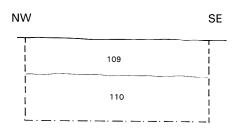
Section 2: west end of Trench 3



Section 3: west end of Trench 3



Section 4: north side of Trench 5



Section 5: north side of Trench 6



PROJECT				
ST HELEN'S CHURCH, BARMBY				
TITLE				
WATCHING BRIEF SECTIONS				
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7.0 0.10 1111				
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Plate 1: St Helen's Church, looking N.



Plate 2: St Helen's Church, showing 18th century brick tower, looking NE.



Plate 3: St Helen's Church, showing 1870-71 chancel, looking NW.



Plate 4: Earlier masonry to north wall of nave, east of the north porch, looking SW.



Plate 5: North porch after removal of stucco plaster, showing different fabrics, looking SE.



Plate 6: Brick plinth at west end of nave, looking SW.



Plate 7: Carved crosses to west jamb of south doorway within porch, looking N.



Plate 8: Earlier masonry and blocked opening to south wall of nave, west of south porch, looking NE.



Plate 9: South porch, with stucco removed and undergoing repair, looking NW.



Plate 10: Earlier masonry and blocked opening to south wall of nave, east of south porch, looking N.



Plate 11: Earlier masonry and blocked opening to south wall of nave, east of brick buttress, looking N.

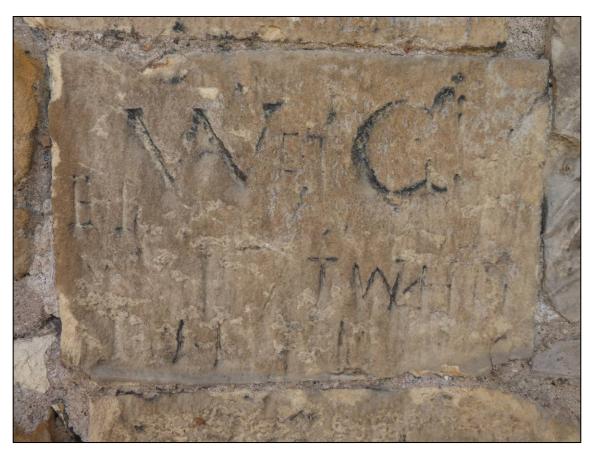


Plate 12: Graffiti on earlier masonry to south wall of nave, east of south porch, looking N.



Plate 13: Existing drainage channel along east side of chancel, looking NW.



Plate 14: Excavated drainage channel (Trench 2) along east side of chancel, looking SW.



Plate 15: Excavated drainage channel (Trench 3) along south side of chancel, looking NW.



Plate 16: West end of Trench 3, showing projecting footings of south-east corner of nave (106), looking W.



Plate 17: Excavated Trench 4 in front of south porch, showing paving stones (112), looking NW.



Plate 18: East end of excavated Trench 5, looking SE.



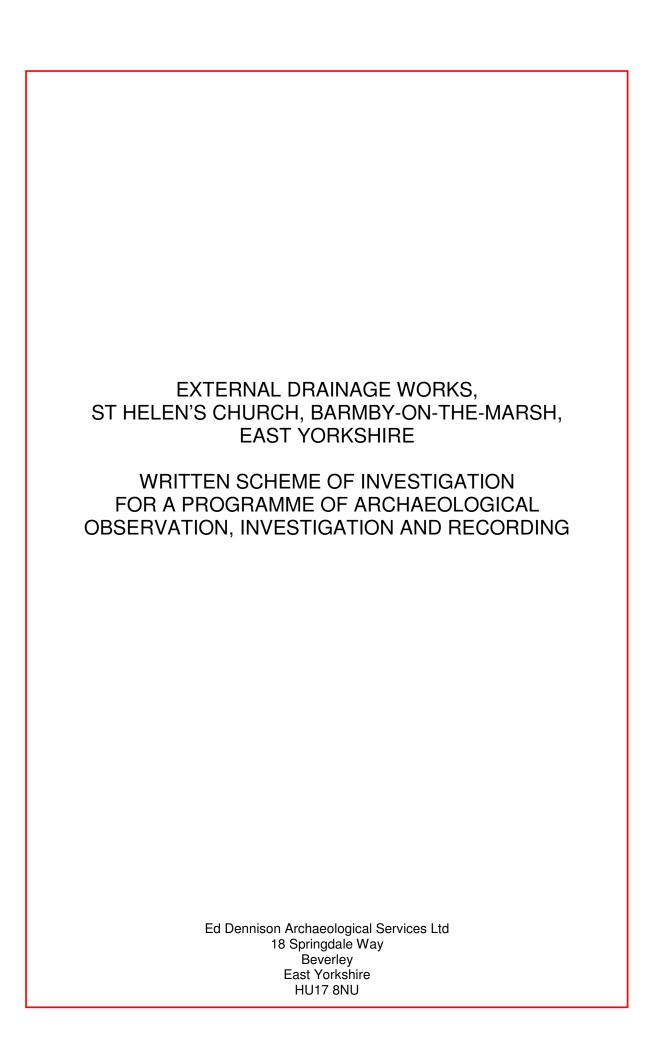
Plate 19: Excavated Trench 6, running west from south porch, looking E.

APPENDIX 1 LIST OF CONTEXTS

APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS (SHB 21)

Context	Description and Interpretation	Area of Site
101	Loose dark grey-black soft friable clayey sand, with much small brick and other building material, up to 0.25m thick. 0.40m thick in T4. Some disarticulated animal and human bone in T3. Topsoil.	T1, T2, T3 & T4
102	Friable brown clay silt, up to 0.25m thick. Subsoil.	T1
103	Friable brown clay, with small fragments of the tile/chalk/brick especially close to the church, up to 0.20m thick. Mixed subsoil and rubble.	T1
104	Limestone plinth along N, E and S sides of chancel.	T1, T2 ,T3 & T4
105	Rubble limestone blocks along N, E and S sides of chancel.	Т3
106	Rubble stone and sandstone blocks, buried foundations of chancel, up to 0.23m thick.	Т3
107	Firm yellow-brown clay, up to 0.14m thick, below foundations 106.	Т3
108	Fragment of flint seen in buried foundations 106.	Т3
109	Loose dark grey sand, up to 0.25m thick, with some disarticulated human and animal bone, and modern pottery and tile. Topsoil.	T5 & T6
110	Loose mid-dark brown silty sand, more than 0.25m thick, with some disarticulated human and animal bone, and modern pottery and tile. Subsoil.	T5 & T6
111	Loose dark grey sand, c.0.25m thick. Re-deposited 109 and 110 adjacent to church wall.	T5
112	Stone pavers, 0.12m thick, laid on loose dark grey-black soft friable clayey sand, with some brick and building debris close to the church, c.0.20m thick. Pavers and consolidation layer below.	T4

APPENDIX 2 EDAS WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION



EXTERNAL DRAINAGE WORKS, ST HELEN'S CHURCH, BARMBY-ON-THE-MARSH, EAST YORKSHIRE: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) that will be carried out during groundworks associated with the excavation of external drainage works in the churchyard of St Helen's Church, Barmby-on-the-Marsh, East Yorkshire (NGR SE 6901 2843 centred). This WSI has been produced by Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS), on behalf of the Friends of Friendless Chuches, the owners of the building.

2 DIOCESAN FACULTY

- 2.1 A faculty for the external drainage works was approved by the Diocese of York on 19th January 2021. The only condition relates to archaeology, and states that:
 - (1) Notice to archaeologists to be given 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 to cooperate with archaeologist [sic] 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 Record Office (if the address is not known the archaeologist should obtain it from the local authority planning department).
- 2.2 In accordance with this condition, the archaeological watching brief will be confined to the external drainage work only, and will not monitor any other external or internal works to the church fabric.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

- 3.1 St Helen's Church is a small Grade II listed redundant church, on the south side of the village of Barmby-on-the-Marsh. The village lies c.6km west of Howden, immediately to the east of the confluence of the rivers Derwent and Ouse. The church is set back from the frontage on South Street, and can be accessed only via a track running south from the street.
- 3.2 The churchyard, which is full but is still owned by the Diocese of York and falls under Ecclesiastical Exemption, has a number of chest tombs and markers dating from the early 18th century, including a separately Grade II listed gravestone of Reverend Mr William Burges. The churchyard is still being used for burials. The Ordnance Survey 1853 6" to 1 mile map (sheet 237) shows the churchyard not to extend as far to the south of the church as it now does. The area occupied by the existing churchyard had a 'St Helen's Well' marked at the south-west corner, and in addition, there was a range of buildings along the eastern side of the churchyard,

adjacent to the track leading from South Street. The building range had been demolished by 1890, at which date the site of St Helen's Well is marked just beyond the southern boundary of the churchyard, although in 1907 it is again shown within it. The well is thought to have been drained and backfilled during the late 1850s.

- 3.3 The church has an interesting structural history. Parts of the building are thought to be late medieval in origin, with the nave apparently originating as a prebendal tithe barn. The church architect, James Innerdale, has noted that the nave has a mixture of both dressed limestone blocks and more roughly hewn rubblestone work, with the dressed blocks at a low level to the east of both the north and south porches. In addition, there are two areas of lower rubble infill with straight joints to the nave's south wall suggesting earlier window or door openings, and also some graffiti, although this is difficult to read. These possible blocked openings may either relate to the conversion of the tithe barn to form the chapel or perhaps to later restoration works. This conversion to a chapel took place during the 16th century, by the addition of a tower to the west end and a chancel to the east end; the narrow chancel is not central on the nave, although the significance of this is unclear. The wooden tower became ruinous and unsafe, and was taken down in 1773. The existing brick steeple was erected at a cost of £120, with porches also added during the 18th century. The church was restored in 1870 by Matthew Edison Hatfield of Glossop, at which time the chancel was rebuilt and the west gallery removed, and the church was refurbished by G H and J W Shaw. The furnishings and fittings are mostly of the late 19th or early 20th centuries (Innerdale 2020a).
- 3.4 The church is a Grade II Listed Building, first listed on 16th December 1966 (National Heritage List for England 1160126). The Listed Building description reads: "GV II Church. c1600 nave. C18 tower, C19 chancel. Limestone rubble and dressed stone with Welsh slate roof to nave, brick tower with copper roof, dressed limestone and plain tile roof to chancel. West tower, 5-bay nave with south and north porches, 2-bay chancel. Fine 3-stage.tower, articulated by bands, with board door to south, fixed window to west and slatted belfry openings to each face. All openings set back under segmental arches. Dentilled eaves. Domed ogee roof. Nave north side: C18 gabled porch with keyed round-headed doorway. 2-light and 3-light square-headed trefoiled cusped windows, mainly restored. South side is similar except that porch doorway has imposts and keystone. Chancel: trefoiled lancets to north and south, with pointed east window of 3 lights in geometric style. Angle buttresses. Stone coped gable."

4 NATURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT

- 4.1 The proposed drainage works are shown on an architect's drawing which forms part of the specification of works (Innerdale 2020b) (see attached figure).
- 4.2 In summary, the works involve the breaking up of the existing concrete drains around the north, south and east walls of the chancel and north wall of the nave; the excavation of a 1m wide replacement trench to be filled with new perforated land drains with free draining material; insert new gullies at the base of existing downpipes, to be connected to existing surface water drains; and backfill and reseed the trenches.
- 4.3 It is assumed that the new trenches will be 1.00m wide and up to 450mm deep below the existing ground surface. Trial pits have indicated that the footings along to the north side of the nave extend to approximately 530mm below the existing

- ground level, and 130mm below the level of the existing drainage channels. The new drainage will not be laid below this depth. As the new drainage will connect to existing surface water drains, no new drains, soakaways or similar features will be required.
- 4.4 The relatively shallow depth of the excavations, their position and the fact that they are replacing earlier drains means that it is unlikely that any *in situ* burials will be encountered during the excavation works. However, this cannot be totally discounted, and some archaeological potential remains. In addition, the drainage works have the potential to expose structural evidence to the walls of the nave, tower and chancel which may shed light on the development of the building, in particular the pre-16th century form as a tithe barn.

5 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

Aims of the Project

5.1 The aim of the archaeological recording is to record and recover information relating to the nature, date, depth, and significance of any archaeological features and deposits, and any human burials, which might be affected by the proposed excavations.

On-site Fieldwork

- 5.2 The scale and scope of the archaeological fieldwork will be determined by this Written Scheme of Investigation. Additional guidance published by the Association of Diocesan and Cathedral Archaeologists (ADCA 2004), English Heritage and the Church of England (EH/CoE 2005), and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA 2020a) will also be taken into account.
- 5.3 The groundworks within the churchyard will be subject to direct archaeological monitoring as they are being dug, so that any archaeological deposits that might be uncovered can be immediately identified and recorded. If a mechanical excavator is used, it should be fitted with a toothless bucket.
- 5.4 If it becomes clear during the monitoring work that little of archaeological interest is likely to survive in specific areas, the recording work may be halted in that part of the site. However, if structures, features, burials or finds of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed, time will be allowed for the archaeologist to clean, assess, and quickly hand excavate, sample and record the archaeological remains, as necessary and appropriate according to the nature of the remains, to allow the archaeological material to be sufficiently characterised. Groundworks will not resume in the immediate vicinity of any archaeological remains until those remains have been recorded, and the archaeologist has given explicit permission for operations to recommence at that location.
- A full written, drawn and photographic record of all material revealed during the course of the investigations will be made. A general site plan of the area of the excavations will be produced at 1:100 scale, as well as larger scale hand-drawn plans of any exposed archaeological features at 1:50 or 1:20 scales, as appropriate. Trench sections, sections of linear and discrete features, and human burials would normally be drawn at 1:10 scale, with more detailed drawings as necessary. The current Ordnance Survey benchmark database notes a benchmark with a value of 9.269m AOD in the north-west angle of the north wall of the tower, 0.7m above ground level. If this can be located, then all sections, plans

and elevations will include spot-heights related to Ordnance Datum in metres as correct to two decimal places. If not, all sections, plans and elevations will be levelled in to a temporary benchmark, which will be given an arbitrary height such as 10m AD.

- Any small finds will be recorded three dimensionally. Bulk finds will be collected by context. All non-modern artefacts recovered will be retained and removed from the site for processing and analysis. Non-modern artefacts will be collected from the excavated topsoil and subsoil, where practicable. Finds material will be stored in controlled environments. All artefacts recovered by the investigations will be retained, cleaned, labelled and stored in accordance to established guidelines. Conservation, if required, will be undertaken by approved conservators and UKIC guidelines will apply (UKIC 1990).
- 5.7 All excavated archaeological contexts will be recorded by detailed written records giving details of location, composition, shape, dimensions, relationships, finds, samples, and cross-referenced to other elements of the record and other relevant contexts, in accordance with best industry practice and current recording guidelines. All contexts, and any small finds and samples from them, will be given unique identifying numbers. A full digital photographic record will also be kept, to include both general shots and more detailed shots of specific features or deposits.
- 5.8 The scale and nature of the proposed investigations suggest that a soil-sampling programme for the recovery of carbonised and waterlogged remains, vertebrate remains, molluscs and small artefactual material will not be necessary for this project.
- If, in the professional judgement of the archaeologist on site, unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries are made that warrant more recording than is covered by this WSI, immediate contact will be made with the client, church architect and the local archaeological curators (Humber Archaeology Partnership). This will allow appropriate amendments to be made to the scope of the recording work, in agreement with all parties concerned; these amendments might, for example, include the requirement to sample archaeological and/or environmental deposits, and/or detailed excavation of specific structures. The possibility of temporarily halting work for unexpected discoveries will be discussed with the contractor in advance of the development, and sufficient time and resources will be made available to ensure that proper recording is made prior to any removal.
- 5.10 If articulated human remains are encountered during the course of the groundworks, they will be screened from view and recorded. If the remains cannot be avoided and are likely to be disturbed by the works, the remains will be carefully excavated, lifted, bagged (individual burials kept separate) and removed for safe storage until such time as reburial can be arranged by the church authorities in an alternative location within the churchyard. In accordance with current advice (EH/CoE 2005, 23), articulated burials will not be 'chased' beyond the limits of the excavation. Small disarticulated and/or disturbed bones will be re-interred as soon as possible in a place near to where they were exposed. All human remains that are uncovered will be treated with due dignity.
- 5.11 The terms of the Treasure Act (1996) will be followed with regard to any finds which might fall within its purview. Any such finds will be removed to a safe place, and reported to the local coroner as required by the procedures laid down in the Code of Practice. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from

- theft. A finds recovery and conservation strategy will also be discussed and agreed with the client and church architect in advance of the project commencing, and this will include contingency arrangements for artefacts of special significance.
- 5.12 All of the artefacts, ecofacts and stratigraphic information recovered from the site investigations will be assessed as to their potential and significance for further analysis. If necessary, a post-excavation assessment will be undertaken, which will conform to the requirements defined by Historic England (English Heritage 1991 & 2006); if further post-excavation work is recommended, an outline research design will be prepared and costed.

Reporting

Project archive

- 5.13 On completion of the archaeological fieldwork, any samples that might have been taken will be processed and any finds will be cleaned, identified, assessed, spot dated, marked (as appropriate), and properly packaged and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines. The level of post-excavation analysis will be appropriate to the quality and quantity of the finds recovered, and specialists would be consulted as necessary.
- 5.14 A fully indexed and ordered field archive will be prepared, following the guidelines produced by Historic England and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2020b). The archive will comprise primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs, and an index to the archive will also be prepared. Subject to the agreement of the landowner, the site archive will be deposited with the local registered museum (East Riding of Yorkshire Museum Service). in the event of no artefacts being recovered or retained, no archive will be deposited, in accordance with current ERYMS policy; relevant information would be retained by EDAS. A copy of the Archive Index and the name of the recipient museum will also be sent to the Humber Historic Environment Record. EDAS will make an allowance for a minimum of one box in calculating estimates for the museum's storage grant.
- 5.15 With the exception of human remains, and finds of treasure (as defined under the 1996 Treasure Act see above), all finds are the property of the landowner. Subject to the agreement of the client (landowner), the finds will be deposited with the site archive. Any recording, marking and storage materials will be of archival quality, and recording systems will be compatible with the recipient museum.

Reporting

- 5.16 Within four weeks of the completion of the site work, a report on the site investigations will be produced. This report will include the following (as appropriate):
 - A non-technical summary;
 - Site code/project number;
 - Planning reference number;
 - Dates of fieldwork visits;
 - National grid reference:
 - Fieldwork methodology;
 - A location plan at 1:10,000 scale;
 - A copy of the developer's plan showing the areas monitored;

- Sections and plan drawings with ground level, Ordnance Datum and vertical and horizontal scales, at appropriate scales (e.g. 1:500, 1:50, 1:20 and/or 1:10) and tied into published Ordnance Survey boundaries;
- General site photographs, as well as photographs of any significant archaeological deposits or artefacts that are encountered;
- A written description and analysis of the methods and results of the watching brief, including the sequence and depth of exposed subsoil deposits, in the context of the known archaeology of the area;
- Specialist artefact and environmental reports, as necessary;
- destination of the site archive and timetable for deposition;
- copy of OASIS recording form, including unique OASIS reference number.
- 5.17 Four electronic copies of the final report will be supplied, for distribution to the PCC, the Diocesan Advisory Committee, the Diocesan Registry and the Humber Historic Environment Record. A copy of the final report will also be included within the site archive.
- 5.18 An appropriate entry will also be submitted to the OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) project, including the deposition of a digital copy of the report with the Archaeology Data Service, via the OASIS form, upon completion of the project.

Other Considerations

Attendance

5.19 The archaeological recording work should not cause undue delay to the overall programme of site works, and much can be achieved through liaison and cooperation with the groundworks contractor. However, the contractor and the client should ensure that EDAS has sufficient time and resources to ensure compliance with all elements of this WSI. It is likely that the archaeological recording will be accomplished through a number of separate site visits, the number and duration of which will be determined by the speed of the development and/or excavations. Access to the site will therefore be afforded to EDAS and any sub-contractors at all reasonable times.

Health and Safety

- 5.20 EDAS and any sub-contractors will comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974 while undertaking the work. A full copy of their Health and Safety Policy will be made available on request. All archaeological work on site will be carried out with due regard for all Health and Safety considerations (including current COVD-19 restrictions), and Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological matters. A risk assessment would be produced prior to any work on site. Due regard will be made for any constraints or restrictions imposed by the building contractor.
- 5.21 The archaeologists undertaking the investigations will be equipped with a mobile phone that will be switched on at all times during fieldwork operations to enable contact to be made between the site and other interested bodies.

Insurance

5.22 The site is privately owned and EDAS would indemnify the landowner in respect of their legal liability for physical injury to persons or damage to property arising on

site in connection with the recording brief, to the extent of their Public Liability Insurance Cover (£5,000,000).

6 REFERENCES

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Ed Dennison, EDAS 27th January 2020

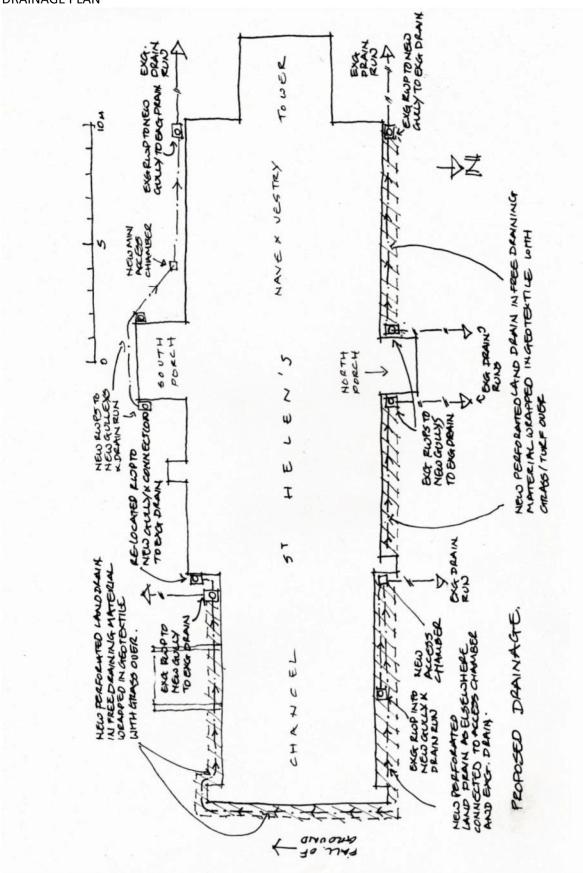


Figure 1: Drainage proposals (plan provided by James Innerdale, reproduced with permission)