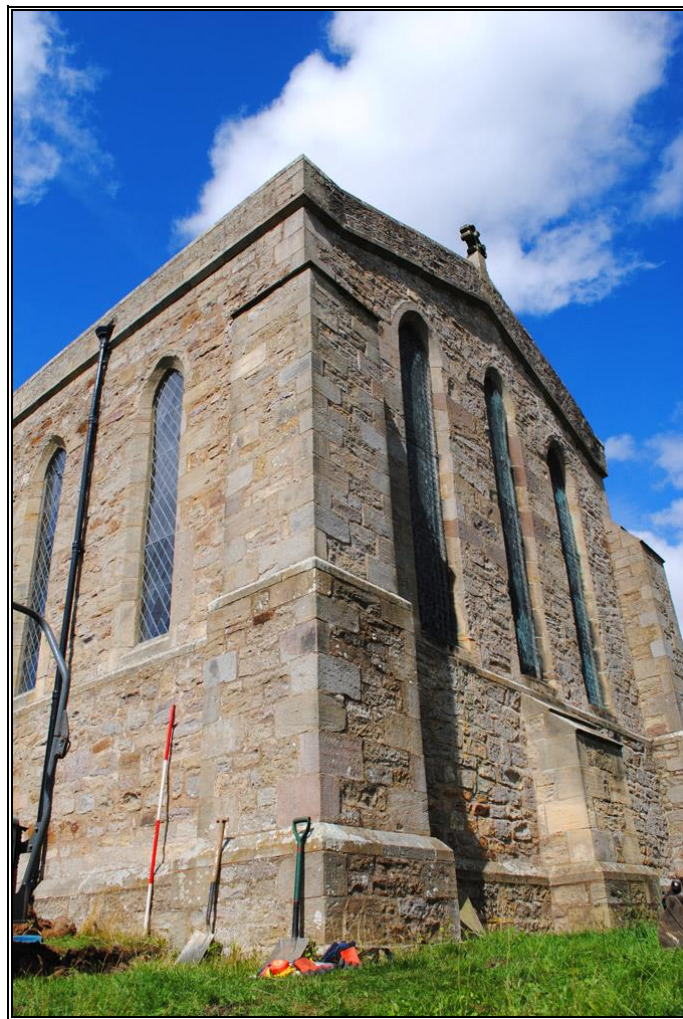

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH WINSTON, Co. DURHAM

REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

AUGUST 2013



Prepared for: <i>The PCC of St. Andrew's, Winston</i>	By: <i>The Archaeological Practice Ltd.</i>
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REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Prepared by:

The Archaeological Practice Ltd.



Frontispiece: *View looking east towards St. Andrew's Church, Winston.*

PROJECT: *Archaeological watching brief at St. Andrew's Church, Winston*
CLIENT: *The PCC of St. Andrew's, Winston*
SITE GRID REF: *NZ 14353 16876*
FIELDWORK: *August 2013*
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SUMMARY

This document reports on an archaeological watching brief conducted in August 2013 during the excavation of two trial pits, abutting the chancel of St. Andrew's Church, Winston, Co. Durham (centred on Grid Reference NZ 14353 16876). The chancel roof and foundations were opened for technical inspection to establish the cause of east wall cracking. The programme has English Heritage Repair Grant approval to stage 1 and this phase of the investigation works was conducted in advance of a remedial scheme to be developed at a later date.

St. Andrew's Church is a Grade I Listed Building of 13th-century origin, but with substantial 19th-century restoration. Several fragments of late Anglo-Saxon carved stone exist within the church and it is probable that the church itself has a pre-Conquest foundation. It is possible that the churchyard has been continually used for burial practice since this time.

The aims of the watching brief were to identify and determine the character of any remains uncovered during groundworks on the site, and to make an appropriate record of such finds by photographic and other means. Accordingly, attendance by an archaeologist was required during the excavations.

The principal findings during the present phase of excavations at St. Andrew's Church, Winston, comprised a deep layer of compact dry-stone cobbles and small boulders [T1-03 and T2-04] discovered beneath the north and south walls of the church chancel, which represents a made-up foundation raft apparently constructed to support the structural fabric of the chancel walls above. The foundation raft was observed in chancel area to a minimum depth of 0.87m and projecting beyond the chancel walls by 0.50m. Despite the absence of datable material from within this layer and the impossibility of dating the raft stonework on stylistic grounds, one must assume it to be contemporary with or earlier than the chancel walls directly above, which are known to have an early 13th-century date.

Further archaeological discoveries included a flagged sandstone surface [T2-02] projecting 1.05m northwards from and running parallel to the north wall of the church chancel. This almost certainly represents an earlier churchyard walk/pavement. The pavement may have a medieval or early post-medieval origin.

Articulated human remains revealed in Trench 1, observed at depths of 0.87m below ground level and buried very close to the church structure, suggest that the site has been used as a burial ground since the medieval period and graves are likely to occur anywhere within the bounds of the church and attached burial ground.

No further archaeological monitoring is required as a consequence of the groundworks reported here. However, considering the high potential for significant archaeological deposits to exist in the area, it is recommended that any future work should be considered on its own merits with respect to the need for archaeological intervention. In particular, articulated human remains, as witnessed close to the south wall of the chancel, should be expected at shallow depths. In addition, dry-stone raft foundations projecting 0.50m beyond the chancel walls should be avoided, where possible, in any future works.

1. PURPOSE OF THE WATCHING BRIEF

This document reports on an archaeological watching brief conducted in August 2013 during the excavation of two trial pits, abutting the chancel of St. Andrew's Church, Winston, Co. Durham (centred on Grid Reference NZ 14353 16876) (see *Illus. 01-03*). The chancel roof and foundations were opened for technical inspection to establish the cause of east wall cracking. The programme has English Heritage Repair Grant approval to stage 1 and this phase of the investigation works was conducted in advance of a remedial scheme to be developed at a later date.

The archaeological watching brief was requested by the PCC of St. Andrew's Winston, in response to an archaeological assessment of the church, researched by Peter Ryder in 1995, which recommended archaeological monitoring of future groundworks within the church and its grounds, in order to mitigate their potential impact upon this Grade I Listed Building and the wider archaeological resource.

The origins of the present church structure lie in the 13th century, but it was heavily restored in the 19th century. It comprises a spacious 13th-century chancel, with lancet windows, a nave of about equal size, a narrow south aisle with an attached bell tower or turret at its western extremity, and a south porch. The turret, aisle walls and porch, together with the west end of the nave, and all the roofs are all later. Much of the church exterior was rebuilt/restored by the architect John Dobson in 1848. Several fragments of late Anglo-Saxon carved stone exist within the church and it is probable that the church itself has a pre-Conquest foundation. It is possible that the churchyard has been continually used for burial practice since this time.

The archaeological remains most likely to be encountered during the proposed works outside the church, therefore, were remains of earlier church structures and human burials.

2. CULTURAL HERITAGE BACKGROUND

2.1 Historic Sources: A short summary of Winston Parish and St. Andrew's Church, found in the *History, Topography and Directory of Durham*, 1894.

Winston Parish contains but one township, which includes the villages of Newsham and Winston, the estates of Barford-on-the-Hill, Heighley (of Heighcliffe) Hall, Osmondcroft, and Westholme, and part of that of Stubb House. It is bounded on the north and east by Gainford parish, on the west by the chapelry of Whorlton, and on the south by the river Tees. The area of the parish is 2961 acres, and its annual value is £4971.

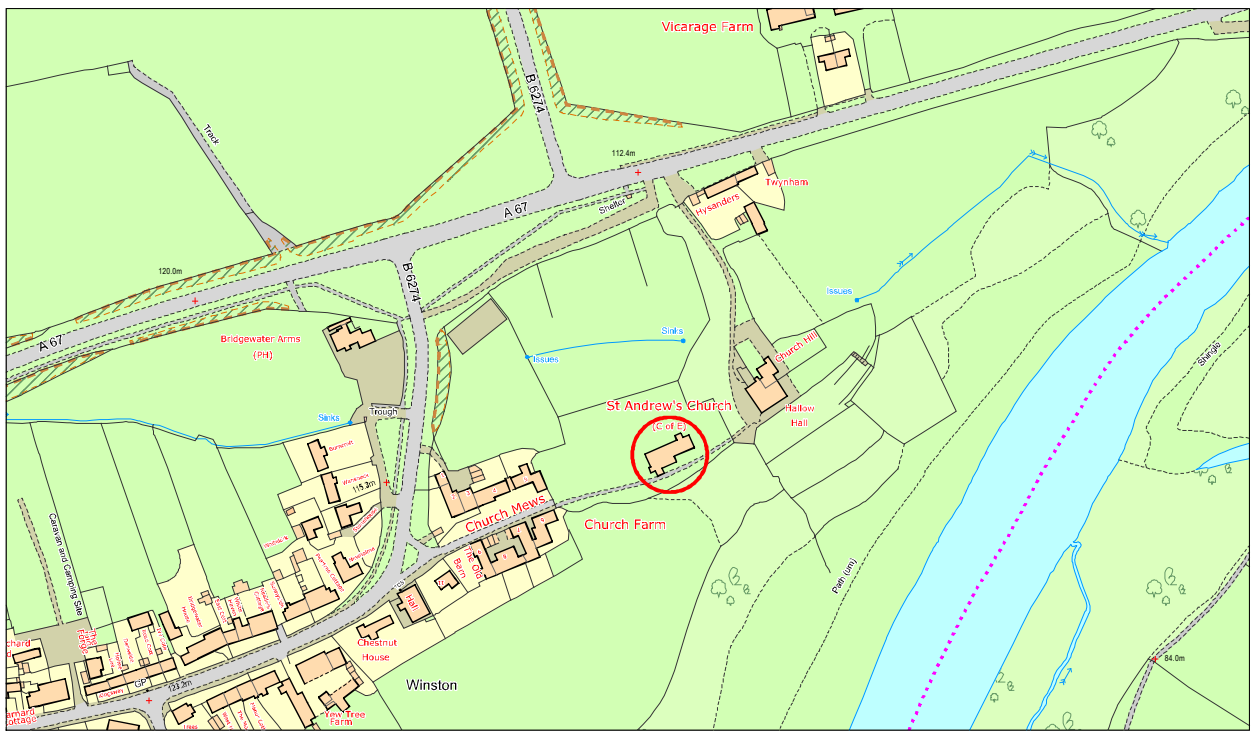
The village of Winston occupies the ridge of a hill overlooking the Tees, and contains a public-house and a few tradesmen's shops. The Tees is here crossed by a fine stone bridge, of a single arch, which was long considered by the architects the largest in Europe. It is the segment of a circle, measuring 112 feet span, 22 feet broad, and 20 feet between the parapet walls. The material employed is a hard blue ragstone, and the elevation renders the road nearly level with the Yorkshire side. It was erected in 1763-64, from the design of Sir Thomas Robinson, Bart., of Rokeby; and when most of the bridges in the north of England were washed away by the great flood in 1771, Winston Bridge remained uninjured. The river scenery in this neighbourhood is very fine, being almost equal to any on the Tees.

...The Church, an Early English edifice, dedicated to St. Andrew, is situated on elevated ground to the east of the village, and close to the steep and lofty bank of the Tees. Much of it



0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100km

Illus. 01: The location of Winston, Co. Durham, in the north-east of England (circled in red).



0 40 80 120 160 200 m

Illus. 02: The location of St. Andrew's Church, Winston, Co. Durham (circled in red).

was rebuilt in 1846, including an open timber roof, and an octagonal bell-tower and spire at the south-west angle of the building, and many other portions. The original church, of which there are few remains, dates from about 1220. The old baptismal font, with its sculptured dragons and festoons of flowers, &c., has been preserved, together with a portion of a Saxon cross and a fourteenth century tomb-cover. Roman stones are also to be found built into the chancel walls; and there are two ancient brasses, the earlier one (fifteenth century) being to the memory of John Purlles; the other (sixteenth century) is to Richard mason. In the south wall of the chancel is a piscina, enclosed in a trefoil niche. The church consists of nave, chancel and south aisle, is entered by a porch on the south, and will accommodate about 170 persons.

2.2 The following extract has been reproduced from a recent architectural study of St. Andrews, commissioned by English Heritage, written by Kevin Doonan:

This church is sited on a stunning promontory high up above the River Tees. Described as Transitional and early English style. It is a simple arrangement of nave and chancel, with a south porch. The nave has a south aisle under a steeply sloping continuous roof from the nave. The chancel is of comparatively large proportions with parapets and a shallow double pitched roof.

A heavily buttressed tower rises from the south west corner of the south aisle. The tower is completed with an octagonal broach spire with bell chamber. The tower has small narrow single openings to the lower two stages. The bell chamber slender round pilasters and frieze.

The west end of the nave is a coped gable. A decorative pinnacle above a heavy stepped clasping buttress to the north west corner. Two single lancet windows with a vesica window above.

The south aisle is buttressed in two bays. Each bay with two lancet windows each with hood moulds. The north elevation to the nave has three tall slender lancet windows and single buttress to the east gable.

The chancel has clasping heavy buttresses to the north east and south west corners and single buttresses to the north and south elevations, two lancets to each bay. The east gable has a low central buttress and three stepped lancets. A blocked priest's door to left bay of south elevation.

A vestry is attached to the north elevation, with shallow pitched roof and parapets.

The interior has a south aisle arcade with pointed arches and hood moulds. The nave has an arch braced roof. The chancel arch is pointed. King post roof structure with braced supports off corbels, to the chancel.

2.3 A comprehensive archaeological assessment of St. Andrew's Church was written by Peter Ryder in 1995, summarised in the following three extracts p7-9:

The Structural History of the Church

Evidence of two periods of medieval work survives in the church; the earlier is represented by the greater part of the nave north wall, and the later phase - or possibly two phases - by the chancel, the western extension to the nave, and the south arcade

A plan of the church in the National Monuments Record dates the nave to the early 12th century; it is not clear on what grounds the ascription to the earlier period is made, other than possibly Hutchinson's account of a semicircular chancel arch. There is nothing particularly diagnostic in its fabric, and no original architectural features now survive. That the nave pre-dates the chancel is clear from its junction with the chancel wall, which is set slightly outside it.

The chancel is a good example of the early 13th-century work characteristic of the Tees Valley (cf Gainford, Barforth, Staindrop, High Coniscliffe, Darlington and Sockburn). The original construction of the south aisle may be of the same date; the westward extension of the nave and aisle may be a little later, as there are minor design differences between the arches of the arcade (see description). Walbran's plate (op.cit) illustrates a plain trefoil-headed piscina, which was presumably in the aisle.

Dobson's partial rebuilding erased evidences of later medieval changes; the square-headed windows in the south aisle were probably late medieval or post-medieval work; there are traces of what may have been similar openings in the north wall of the nave. There is a 1641 reference to the church having a vestry, but it is not known where this was sited; prior to the 1899 alterations it did not possess one at all (Edleston 1895, 101 & 117).

The 19th-century works have already been noticed. The present chancel arch would appear to have been part of the first phase of the 1845-1846 programme, under Thompson, presumably replacing the round-headed arch recorded by Hutchinson.

The Churchyard

Winston church stands on a very striking ridge-top site. The churchyard is now irregular in plan; the original roughly-rectangular yard having been extended to the north in the present century. The actual location of the church within the churchyard is interesting; it lies a little beyond the highest point of the hill, and is set very close to the head of the scarp dropping to the Tees (so there is no real space for burials on the south), when there is adequate near-level ground immediately to the north. On the highest point of the ridge to the west of the church are slight earthworks including a slight curving feature; their significance is difficult to assess.

The area to the east of the church is crowded with 18th- and 19th-century headstones; there is a single 18th-century box tomb on the limited level ground south of the chancel, and more scattered monuments, mostly of 19th-century date, to the west.

In front of the south porch is a small paved area of 19th- or 20th-century date, and an older stone coffin rest. The top stone of this, a slab 1.53 by 0.80 m, is chamfered on its lower edge on three sides, and much possibly be a former altar slab (although the material, a coarse sandstone, seems a little unlikely); there may have been deliberate damage to the corners, perhaps to remove consecration crosses.

Part of an old chamfered mullion lies just close to the south wall of the south aisle, possibly from the two-light window in this wall shown on the c 1840 drawing.

On the north side of the church, the earlier boundary of the churchyard is clearly visible both as a scarp and a line of old trees.

Archaeological Assessment

As often, it is not easy to assess the survival of archaeological material beneath the floors of the church. The entire interior is stone-flagged (except for plain tiles beneath the sanctuary carpet), with no visible evidence of an underfloor heating system, although one can be assumed as there is a boiler room beneath the vestry. Externally the ground level round the church appears to have been cut down, especially around the chancel which has a inserted 19th-century plinth.

However, this is a medieval church, presumed to lie on or near the site of a Saxon predecessor, and thus the site is of archaeological significance. Any disturbance of internal floors will require an archaeological watching brief.

The peculiarities of the positioning of the church relative to the topography, and the slight earthwork features to the west, indicate that there may be significant archaeological features within the churchyard as well.

2.4 HER Catalogue: a list of historic sites in the Winston area, found in Co. Durham's Historic Environment Record.

HER Number	Record Name/Description	Period
D833	Alwent Mill (Winston). Water powered corn mill.	Post Medieval
D39352	Bell Pits near Cleatlam (Winston)	Medieval
D36188	Bridgewater Arms Public House (west part) (Winston). NGR: NZ1417416936	Post Medieval
D35271	Byre and attached cart shed 40 metres north of-Walker Hall, early C19. NGR: NZ1294017138	Post Medieval
D36187	Church Hill and Hallow Hall, (Winston). Mid C18. NGR: NZ1440116907	Post Medieval
D37985 *	Church of St Andrew, (Winston). Mid C13. Possibly on site of earlier Anglo-Saxon church. NGR: NZ1435216877	Medieval
D36174	Coach-house, 30 metres north of stubb house (Winston). Early C19. NGR: NZ1209115850	Post Medieval
D38005	Manor Cottage, (Winston). Mid C18. NGR: NZ1412616747	Post Medieval
D36173	Milestone, 150 metres east of the junction with Tarn Lane. C19. NGR: NZ1250016388	Post Medieval
D37807	Milestone, 60 metres south of East Lodge of Westholme Hall. Mid C19. NGR: NZ1403917938	Post Medieval
D35295	Milestone, 120 metres south of junction with A67. C19. NGR: NZ1406416573	Post Medieval
D37809	Outbuilding attached to right of Walker Hall GV. Probably mid C18. NGR: NZ1294217090.	Post Medieval
D35272	Stubb house (Winston). Country house. Late C17. NGR: NZ1212415794	Post Medieval
D36190	The Cobblers, (Winston). House. Probably late C18. NGR: NZ1410916738	Post Medieval
D36189	The Mount, (Winston). House. Probably late C18. NGR: NZ1411516742	Post Medieval
D35391	Walker Hall and garden wall to south (Winston). Substantial farmhouse. Mid C18. NGR: NZ1293517083	Post Medieval
D36175	Westholme Hall (Winston). Manor house. Dated 1606. NGR: NZ1385317926	Post Medieval
D886	The site of Winston Station, which stands on the Darlington to Barnard Castle railway line.	Early Modern
D887	Stone bridge (Winston) single arch over 100ft wide. Built 1764 by Sir Thomas Robinson. NGR: NZ1425716268	Post Medieval
D1643	The site of a medieval bridge which stood until the mid-18th century. First recorded in 1424.	Medieval
D1642	A Roman lead spindle whorl.	Roman
D1644	Winston medieval village. The earliest part of the village was a simple row of houses on each side of the main street.	Medieval
D1639	Heighley (Winston). A medieval chapel or hermitage. The last remains disappeared in the 19th century.	Medieval
D1640	Heighley Hall (Winston). Medieval manor house. Early 15th century.	Medieval
D1636	Osmond Croft (Winston). Although 19th century in date, there may have been a medieval house on the same site.	Post Medieval
D764 *	Anglo-Saxon stone cross found in the grounds of St. Andrew's Church (Winston).	Early Medieval
D2413	Winston Bridge – possible Roman Fort. Aerial photography shows a small rectangular enclosure guarding the river crossing.	Roman

2.5 Detailed HER Entries located within the grounds of the church
(see *Catalogue Records marked **):

HER Number: D37985
Winston, St. Andrew's church.

Description: The church comprises a spacious 13th century chancel, with lancet windows, a nave of about equal size, a narrow south aisle with an attached bell tower or turret at its western extremity, and a south porch. The turret, aisle walls and porch, together with the west end of the nave, and all the roofs are all later{ref. 2}The church is of C13, the exterior being rebuilt in 1848 by John Dobson. The belfry had two bells in Edwards VI's time {ref. 3} {ref. 1}. The church contains several fragments of late Saxon stonework and is of probable pre-Conquest foundation. The font is also of particular interest {ref. 5}. There has been speculation that the fabric may contain re-used Roman building material (see SMR1646)

County: Durham **Grid reference:** NZ14351688 **Period:** MEDIEVAL;

Bibliographic References:

- {1} 1973 NZ11NW1 OS
- {2} 1871 vol.2, p.xxx Trans. A&A S D&N
- {3} 1865 NS, vol.6, p.24-26 Arch. Ael.
- {4} 1905 vol.5, p.clxxxvii Trans. A&A S D&N
- {5} Pevsner, N 1983 The Buildings of England; Co. Durham 2nd Edition, pp507-508
- {6} 1906 St Andrew's Series 3, vol.2 pp353-358 Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-U-T

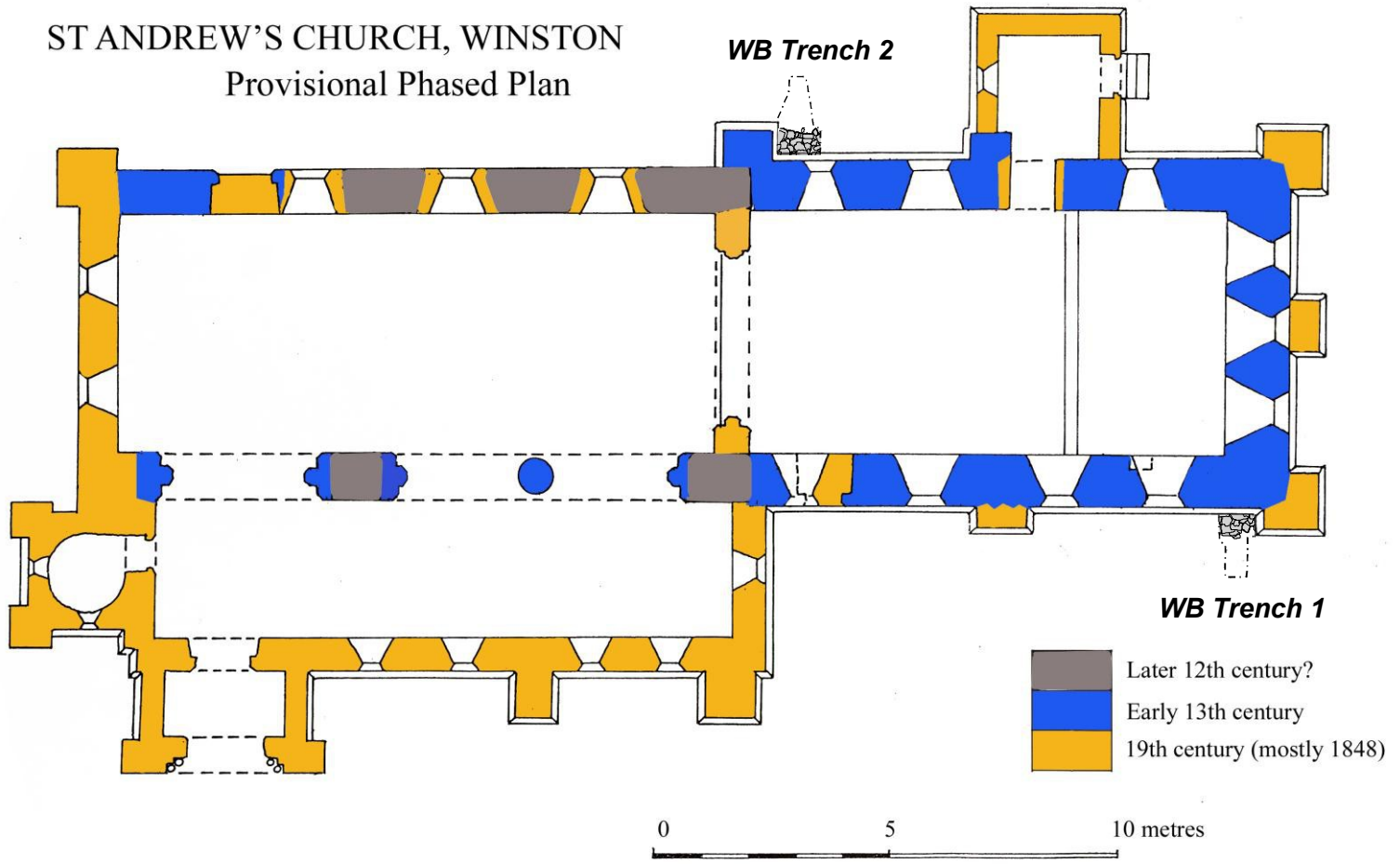
HER Number: D764
Winston, St. Andrew's; Anglo-Saxon sculpture.

Description: Part of a cross-head, now inside the west end of the church but found lying in churchyard. Height 30.5cm. Broken and worn. Arm type E10 {ref. 1}.

County: Durham **Grid reference:** NZ144169 **Period:** EARLY MEDIEVAL

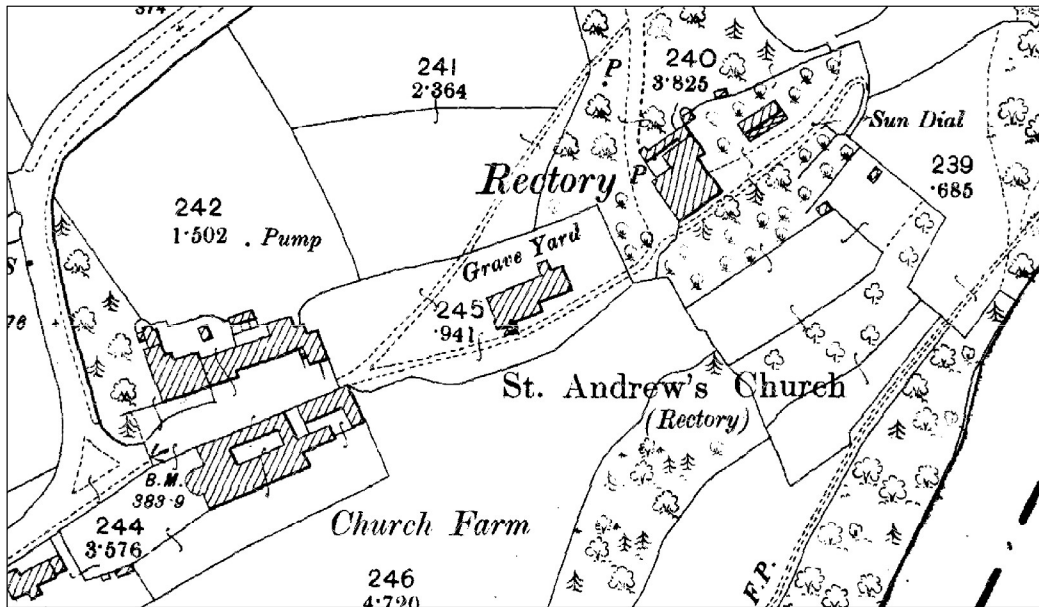
Bibliographic References:

- {1} Cramp, RJ 1984 Corpus of A-S Sculpture vol.1



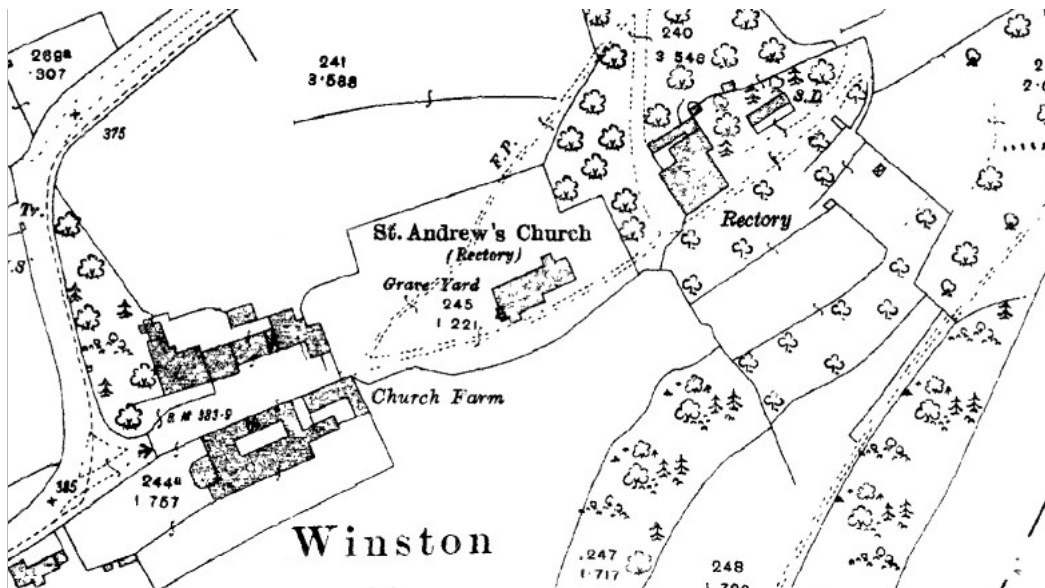
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Illus. 03: Phased plan of St. Andrew's Church, Winston, showing location of watching brief trenches.



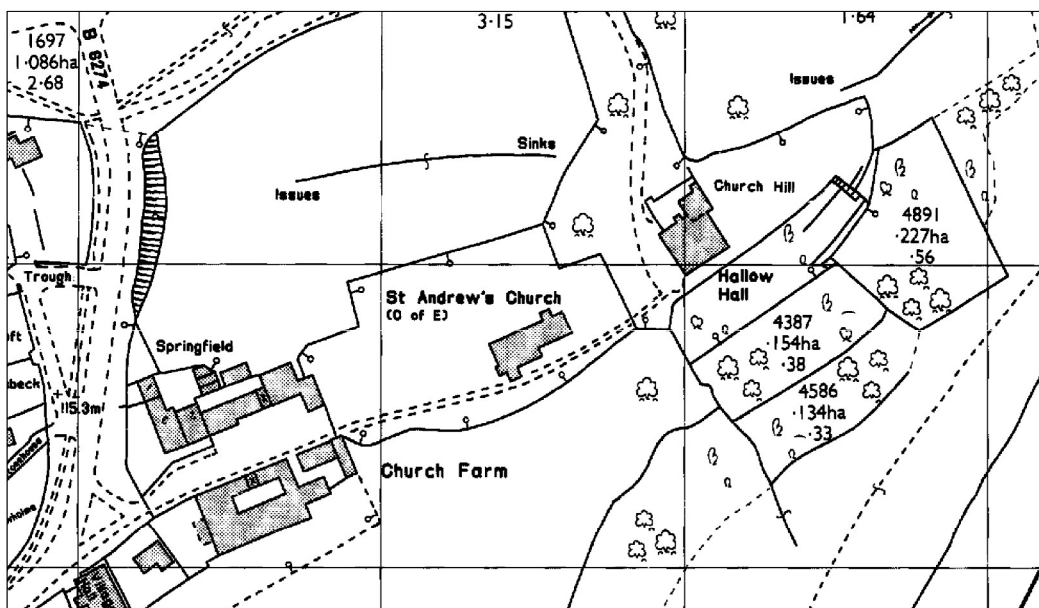
Illus. 04: Extract from the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, 1893, Scale 1:2500.

Scale 1:2500
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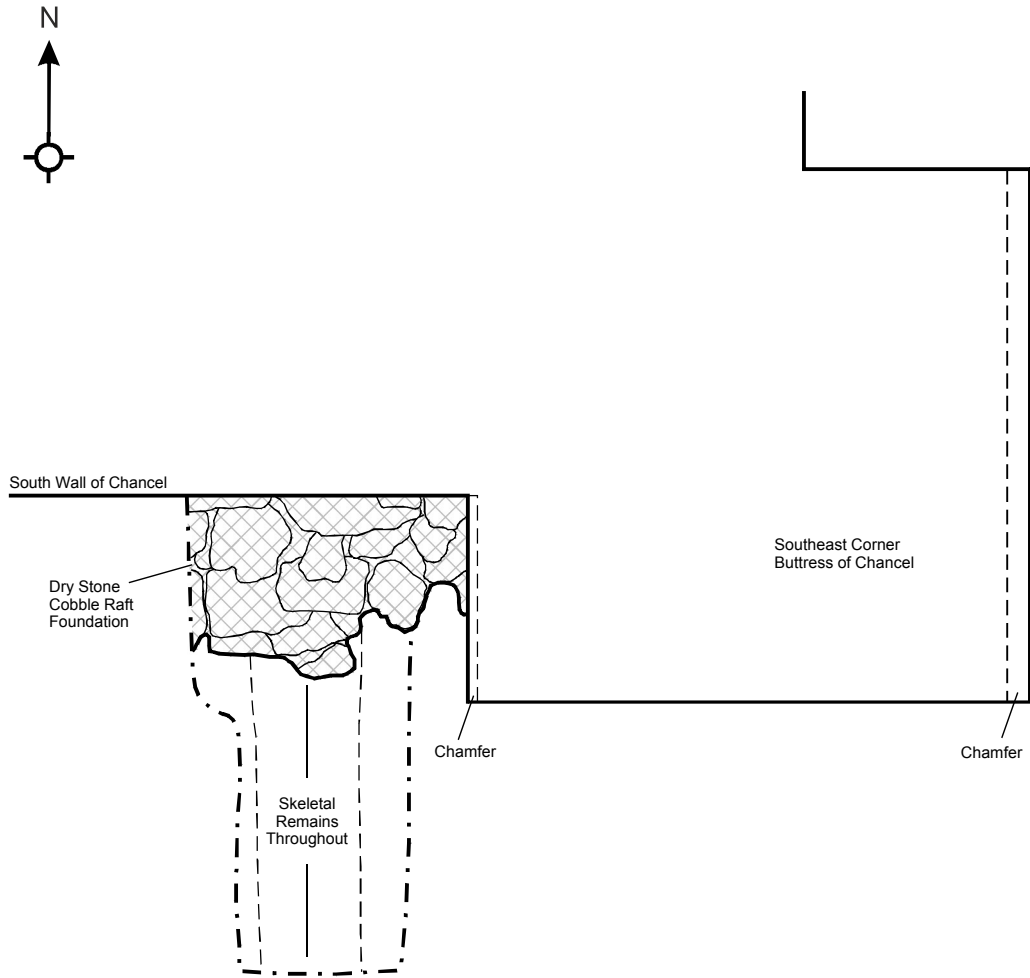
Illus. 05: Extract from the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey, 1915, Scale 1:2500.

Scale 1:2500
0 20 40 60 80 100 m



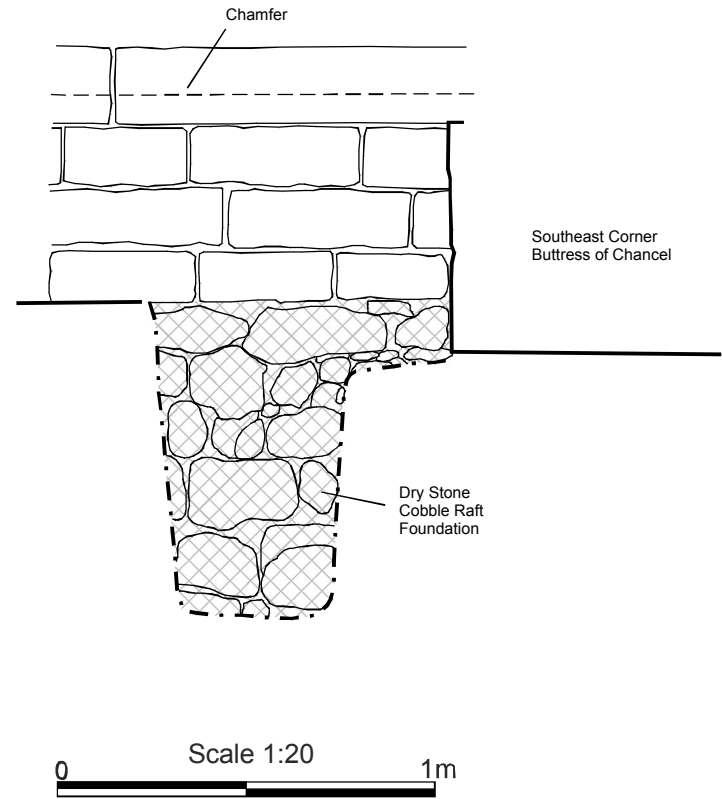
Illus. 06: Extract from the 1975 Edition Ordnance Survey, Scale 1:2500.

Scale 1:2500
0 20 40 60 80 100 m



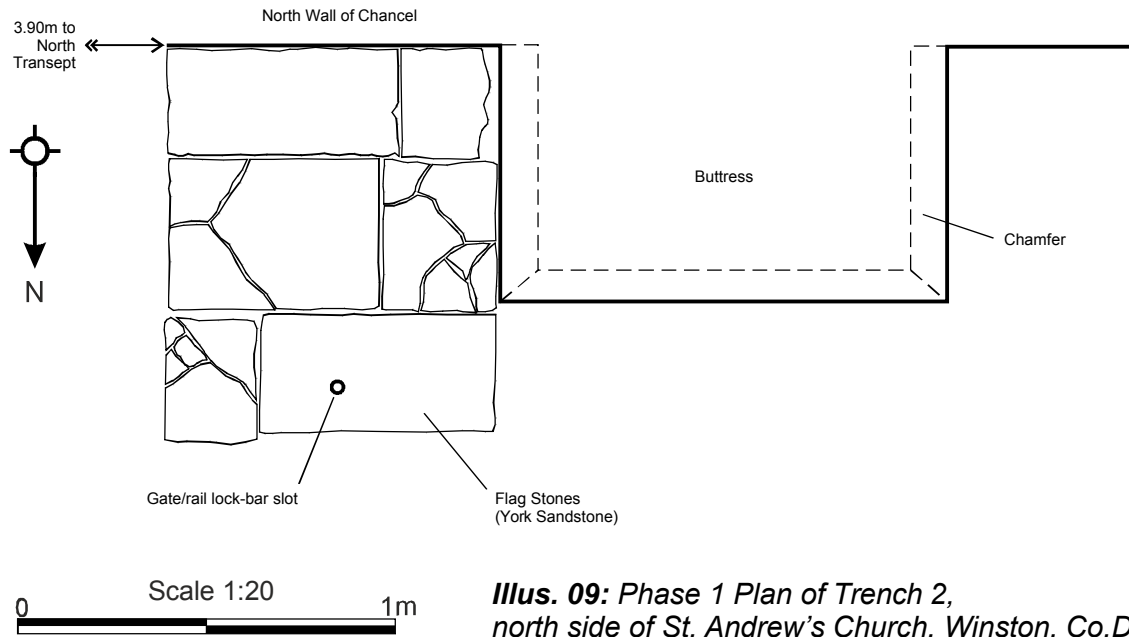
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Illus. 07: Plan of Trench 1, south side of St. Andrew's Church, Winston, Co. Durham.

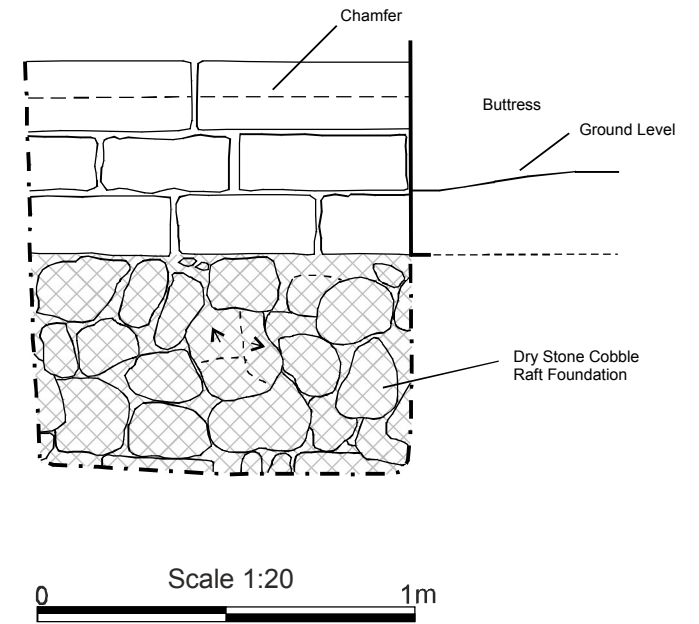


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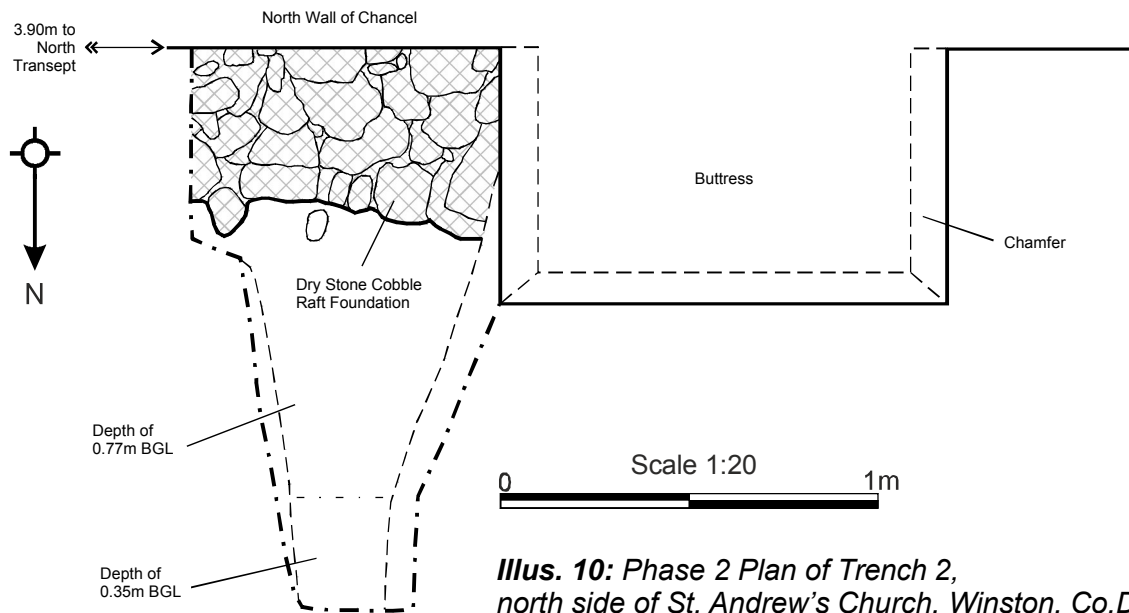
Illus. 08: South Facing Section of Trench 1, St. Andrew's Church, Winston, Co. Durham.



Illus. 09: Phase 1 Plan of Trench 2, north side of St. Andrew's Church, Winston, Co. Durham.



Illus. 11: North Facing Section of Trench 2, St. Andrew's Church, Winston, Co. Durham.



Illus. 10: Phase 2 Plan of Trench 2, north side of St. Andrew's Church, Winston, Co. Durham.

3. THE WATCHING BRIEF

The aims of the watching brief were to determine whether archaeological features or deposits were present on the site, and to make an appropriate record of any such finds by photographic and other means. Attendance by an archaeologist was requested by the PCC of St. Andrew's Winston, on the recommendation of the Diocesan Archaeologist.

Accordingly, two visits were made to the site on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th August 2013 during groundwork trenching along the chancel exterior.

All groundworks were undertaken using a mechanical excavator and closely monitored by the attendant archaeologist from The Archaeological Practice Ltd. The developer allowed time to inspect the excavations periodically, notably when potential features were revealed which merited closer inspection.

4. RESULTS

The watching brief monitored the excavation of two trenches abutting the north and south exterior walls of the church chancel.

4.1 Trench 1

4.1.1 *Locations and dimensions:*

This small trench was excavated at the south-east corner of the church chancel, abutting the south chancel wall and the western elevation of the south-east corner buttress (see *Illus. 3, 7-8, 12-16*). The trench was positioned on a north-south orientation.

The dimensions of the trench were as follows: 1.27m (length) x 0.60m (width) x 0.87m (max depth).

4.1.2 *Stratigraphy and archaeology:*

Beneath the topsoil [01] was a compact but friable sandy clay-loam soil [02] with articulated human remains observed within it at a depth of 0.87m below ground level. Beneath the south chancel wall and projecting 0.50m southwards from it, was a dry-stone raft foundation [03] for the church, comprising of compact sub-rounded riverine cobbles and small boulders, extending at least to the maximum depth of the trench.

4.1.3 *Interpretation:*

The horizon of compact dry-stone cobbles and small boulders [03] observed beneath the south wall of the church chancel, has been interpreted as a made-up foundation raft to help support the structural fabric of the chancel walls above. Despite the absence of datable material from within this layer and the impossibility of dating the raft stonework on stylistic grounds, one must still assume it to be contemporary with or earlier than the known chancel walls directly above, which are known to have an early 13th-century date. The maximum depth of the foundation raft was not reached as excavation ceased on discovery of articulated human remains, observed at 0.87m below ground level.

4.1.4 *Context list:*

[01] Topsoil. Firm, dark grey-brown silt-loam. Observed from 0 - 0.12m below ground level.

[02] Compact but friable, mid orange-brown sandy clay-loam with mixed lithos. Observed between 0.12 – 0.87m below ground level. Articulated human remains observed at the base of this horizon and left in situ. Other artefacts discovered within this horizon included an iron coffin nail and a fragment of window glass observed at shallow depths.

[03] Dry-stone rubble raft foundation for church, comprising of compact sub-rounded riverine cobbles and small boulders, predominantly of limestone with occasional sandstone. Observed in south-facing section of trench. Maximum depth of raft unreached, but extending to at least 0.87m below ground level and projecting 0.50m south of chancel south wall.

4.2 Trench 2

4.2.1 Locations and dimensions:

This small trench was excavated at the north-west corner of the church chancel, abutting the north chancel wall and the eastern elevation of the north-west corner buttress (*see Illus. 3, 9-11, 17-23*). The trench was positioned on a north-south orientation.

The dimensions of the trench were as follows: 1.50m (length) x 0.82m (width) x 0.77m (max depth).

4.2.2 Stratigraphy and archaeology:

Just beneath the topsoil [01] a level sandstone flagged surface [02] was observed creating a churchyard walk/pavement parallel with the north wall of the chancel. The flags projected 1.05m northwards from the chancel north wall, and were only exposed to a distance of 0.87m eastwards from the northwest buttress of the chancel. One flag contained a metal-lined slot/socket for a gate or rail lock-bar. A compact but friable sandy clay-loam soil [03] was observed beneath the topsoil to a minimum depth of 0.77m below ground level. Beneath the north chancel wall and projecting 0.50m northwards from it, was a dry-stone raft foundation [04] for the church, comprising compact sub-rounded riverine cobbles and small boulders, extending downward at least to the maximum depth of the trench.

4.2.3 Interpretation:

The sandstone flagged surface [02] has been interpreted as a churchyard walk/pavement parallel with the north wall of the chancel. Unfortunately no stylistic or artifactual evidence from this context can be used to help date the pavement, although the varying thicknesses and fragmentary state of the flags may suggest a medieval or early post-medieval origin. The horizon of compact dry-stone cobbles and small boulders [04] observed beneath the north wall of the church chancel, (equivalent of [03] in Trench 1) has been interpreted as a made-up foundation raft to help support the structural fabric of the chancel walls above. Despite the absence of datable material from within this layer and the impossibility of dating the raft stonework on stylistic grounds, one must still assume it to be contemporary with or earlier than the known chancel walls directly above, which are known to have an early 13th-century date. The full depth of the foundation raft was not ascertained as the required depth of excavation was reached before the raft was fully exposed.

4.2.4 Context list:

[01] Topsoil. Firm, dark grey-brown silt-loam. Observed from 0 - 0.20m below ground level.

[02] A level sandstone flagged surface (*Yorkstone*), creating a churchyard walk/pavement parallel with the north wall of the chancel. The flags project 1.05m northwards from the chancel north wall, and were only exposed to a distance of 0.87m eastwards from the northwest buttress of the chancel. The flags were observed just under the turf at a depth of 0.01-0.02m below ground level, and had varying thicknesses from 0.04-0.08m. The larger of the two most northerly flags contained a metal-lined slot/socket for a gate or rail lock-bar.

[03] Compact but friable, mid orange-brown sandy clay-loam with mixed lithos. Observed between 0.20 – 0.77m below ground level.

[04] Dry-stone rubble raft foundation for church, comprising of compact sub-rounded riverine cobbles and small boulders, predominantly of limestone with occasional sandstone. Observed in north facing section of trench. Maximum depth of raft unreached, but extending to at least 0.77m below ground level. Projecting to 0.50m north of chancel north wall.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The most significant findings of the excavations at St. Andrew's Church, Winston, comprised a deep layer of compact dry-stone cobbles and small boulders [T1-03 and T2-04] revealed beneath the north and south walls of the church chancel, representing a made-up foundation raft constructed to support the structural fabric of the chancel walls above. These foundations are at least 0.87m deep and project beyond the external face of the chancel walls by 0.50m. It is possible they extend across the full width of the chancel as a continuous raft, but this cannot be confirmed as no work was undertaken in the interior of the church. Despite the absence of datable material from within this layer and the impossibility of dating the raft stonework on stylistic grounds, one must assume it to be contemporary with or earlier than the chancel walls directly above, which are known to have an early 13th-century date.

Further archaeological discoveries included a flagged sandstone surface [T2-02] projecting 1.05m northwards from and running parallel to the north wall of the church chancel. This almost certainly represents an earlier churchyard walk/pavement. Unfortunately no stylistic or artifactual evidence could be used to help date the pavement, although, in view of the varying thicknesses and fragmentary state of the flags, the possibility of a medieval or early post-medieval origin cannot be excluded.

Articulated human remains revealed in Trench 1, observed at depths of 0.87m below ground level and buried very close to the church structure, suggest that the site has been used as a burial ground since the medieval period and graves are likely to occur anywhere within the bounds of the church and attached burial ground.

No further archaeological monitoring is required as a consequence of the groundworks reported here. However, considering the high potential for significant archaeological deposits to exist in the area, it is recommended that any future work should be considered on its own merits with respect to the need for archaeological intervention. In particular, articulated human remains, as witnessed close to the south wall of the chancel, should be expected at shallow depths. In addition, dry-stone raft foundations projecting 0.50m beyond the chancel walls should be avoided, where possible, in any future works.



Illus. 12: Wide view looking north-east towards Trench 1 and the south-east corner of the Chancel.



Illus. 13: View looking north-east towards Trench 1 and the south-east corner of the Chancel.



Illus. 14: South-facing section of dry-stone cobble foundation raft in Trench 1.



Illus. 15: View looking north at dry-stone cobble foundation raft in Trench 1.



Illus. 16: View looking west at dry-stone cobble foundation raft in Trench 1.



Illus. 17: View looking south-west at a flagged surface just below the grass in Trench 2.



Illus. 18: View looking south at a flagged surface just below the grass in Trench 2.



Illus. 19: View looking east during the excavation of Trench 2.



Illus. 20: Detailed view looking southeast during the excavation of Trench 2.



Illus. 21: North-facing section of dry-stone cobble foundation raft in Trench 2.



Illus. 22: View looking south at dry-stone cobble foundation raft in Trench 2.



Illus. 23: Detailed view of north-facing section in Trench 2, showing dry-stone cobble foundation raft.

6. REFERENCES

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