

JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

AT

SAINT MARY'S CHURCH,

CHURCH STREET,

PRINCES RISBOROUGH, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

NGR SP 8060 0349

On behalf of

Saints Mary's Parochial Church Council

JANUARY 2012

REPORT FOR Parochial Church Council
Saint Mary's Church
Princes Risborough
Church Street
Buckinghamshire

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FIELD WORK 15th-16th February, 28th-29th March,
11th-13th, 18th-19th April 2011

REPORT ISSUED 17th January 2012

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JMHS Project No: 2291
Site Code PRSMC 10
Archive Location The archive is stored at John Moore Heritage Services
and will be transferred to Buckinghamshire Museum
under accession number 2010.131

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Summary

A watching brief was carried out at Saint Mary's, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire (NGR SP 8060 0349), during the removal of the Victorian floor and its replacement with a new oolitic limestone floor with drainage ducts inserted below. This work retrieved finds of earlier periods and also identified a number of earlier structural features, which enables the reinterpretation of the phasing of the development of the church. Previous interpretations of the church (VCH 1908; RCHME 1912/3; Pevsner and Williamson 1994) had suggested a simple nave and chancel structure that pre-dated the 13th century. This implied that the nave had been lengthened in the 14th century. This sequence of events can now be corrected. Limited archaeological evidence survives for an early but as yet poorly dated phase of the church. The walls of this structure were probably robbed. The phase 2 structure, over which the present nave sits, was initially considerably longer measuring at least 21.9m in length. The west wall of the nave was detected in the drainage channels dug below the impact layer under the present tower. Investigation of the service cuts to the west of the church confirmed that there was a further wall beyond the present tower which indicated that rather than a square tower the building had a rectangular porch more in line with late Anglo-Saxon churches of the 9th to 11th centuries (for example Cirencester, Gloucestershire). In the 13th century the aisles were added on the north and south side, and the arcades inserted. These were longer, like the nave, than previously thought, as indicated by the line of a blocked door at the west end of the south aisle. In the 14th century the west end of the church probably collapsed leading to the insertion of new arches and the shortening of the nave. Further phases of the church can be detected internally from the later 16th to the early 19th century through posts for gallery steps and pulpits where protestant views reconfigured how the church should be used. The Victorian reworking of the church was also apparent from 1867-8, as were later repairs.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Fig. 1)

The site is located at the base of the northwest facing Chiltern Escarpment in the ancient county of Buckinghamshire and the modern Aylesbury Vale District. The town is known to have medieval origins, and although the church of Saint Mary is not located on the High Street it is placed in the area of the town where a number of significant historical sites survive: the Manor House, The Mount, and the Monk's Staithe.

The underlying geology is Plenus Marls and Grey Chalk of the Lower Chiltern Chalk levels (BGS 1994, sheet 237).

1.2 Planning Background

Wycombe District Council granted planning permission under number 06/00185/PARTNR for the replacement of the floor at Saint Mary's church, Princes Risborough (NGR SP 8060 0349). A condition for a programme of archaeological work has been placed upon this permission, due to the importance of the building and thus the site's potential for archaeological remains. This is in line with PPG 16 (the Planning Policy Guidance in place at the time) and Local Plan policies.

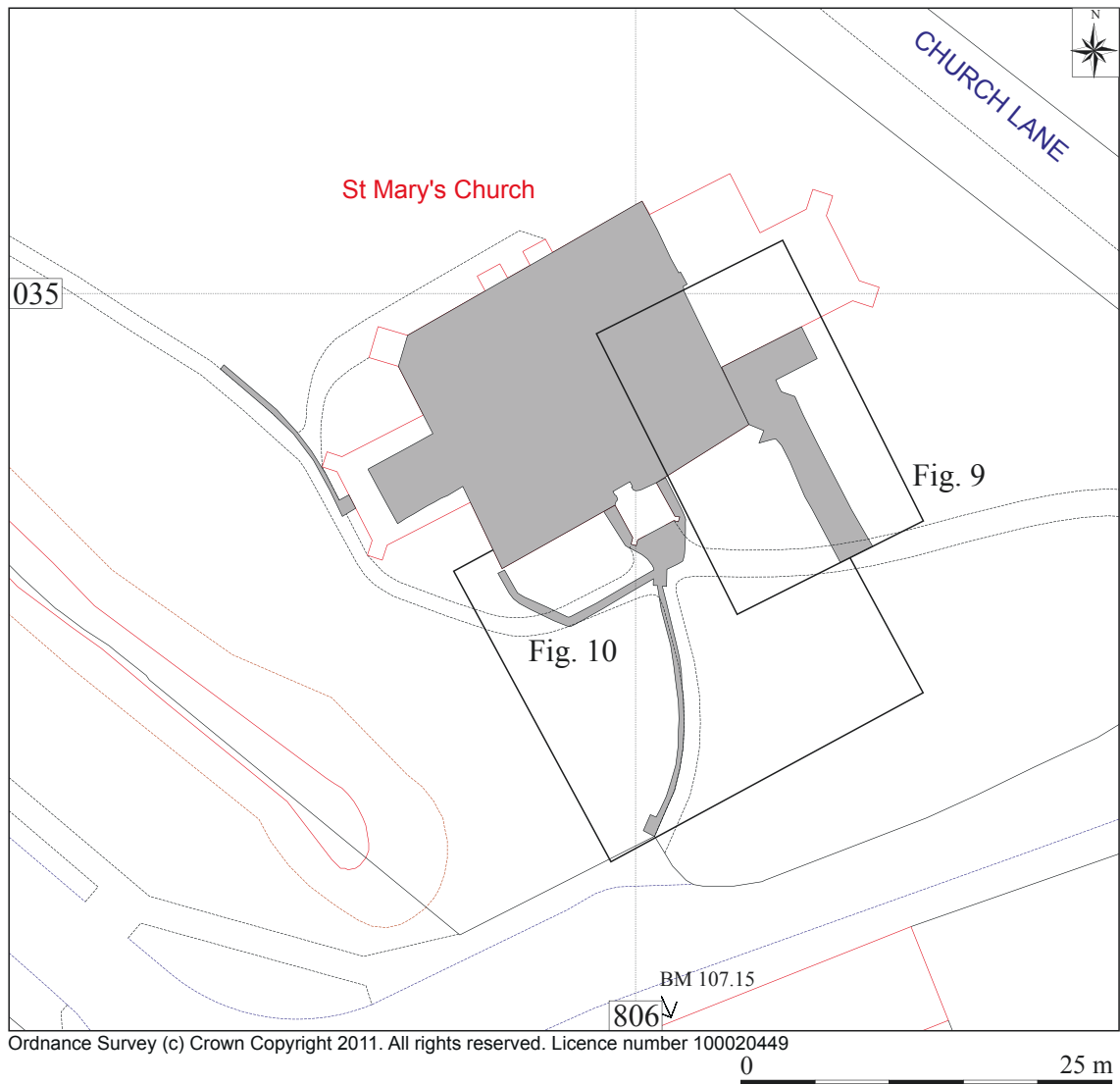
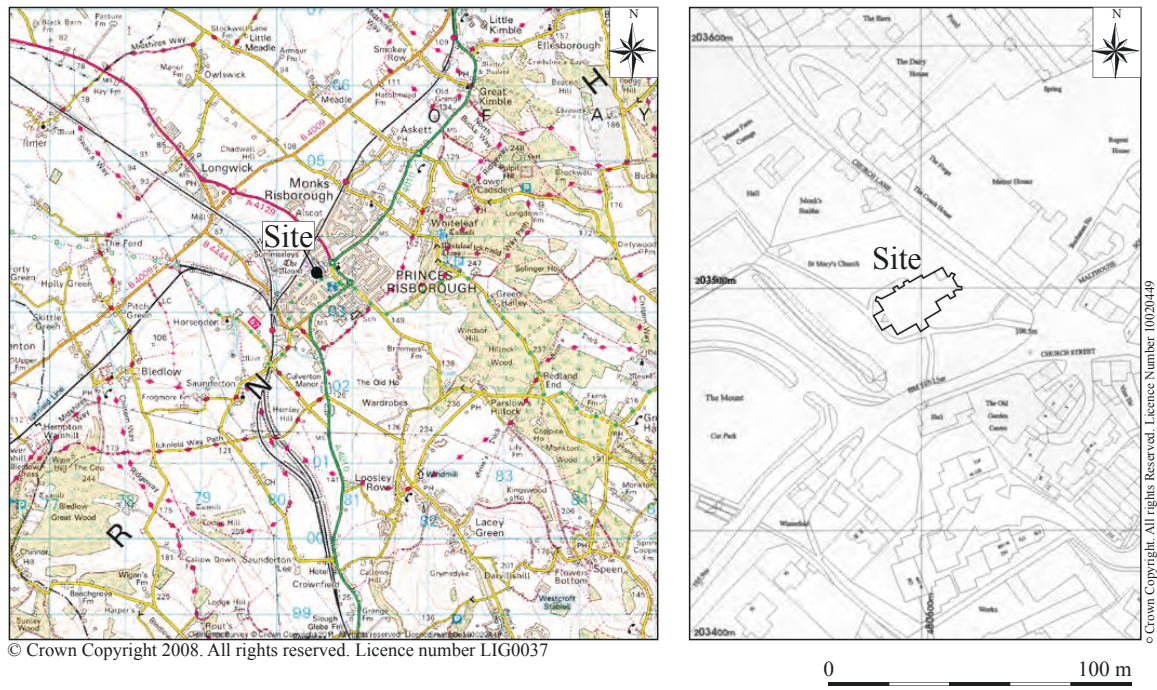


Figure 1. Site location

1.3 Archaeological Background

Excavations in the centre of Princes Risborough have been scarce, but it is now apparent that a number of sites have been noted in and around the Princes and Monks Risborough area that extend occupation back into the prehistoric period.

There are a number of Neolithic remains noted in the Risborough area, among them a Neolithic chambered tomb (English Heritage Pastscape identification no. from now written PS 344364) on Whiteleaf Hill excavated in 1934-9 (Childe and Smith 1954, 212-30). There are flint scatters of this date noted in Winchester Wood (PS 344375), a stone axe was recovered from the garden of the End Cottage in 1942 (PS 344318), a flint axe (PS 344309), and a further flint implement (PS 344315). The remains of a later Neolithic to early Bronze Age burial was found at 35 Clifford Road on a spur on the southeast of the town (PS 1029093). Flint and a hammer stone of a similar date were recovered from Manor Farm in the 1950s (PS 344367), and a flint scatter in 1983 (PS 1029043).

Numerous bronze objects attributed a Bronze Age date have also been recovered from in and around the town. The remains of a bronze chisel was found in 1932 (PS 344339), a palstave found c. 1940 (PS 344372), two socketed axes in the vicinity of Park Road (PS 344340), a spear from the Mount (PS 344307), and a spearhead from Whiteleaf Hill (PS 344369). Residual early Bronze Age pottery was recovered to the west of the church (Ford 2000, 15-22). There are also two Bronze Age barrows located on Whiteleaf Hill (PS 344352, 765586), to the northeast of the town.

Along the Chiltern ridge to the north of Whiteleaf Hill there are two Iron Age sites; a hill camp in Chequers Park consisting of two cross ridge ramparts connected by a smaller bank on the north side running along the scarp edge (RCHME 1912, 164) and a contour camp located on Pulpit hill, with a square shape and a double rampart (RCHME 1912, 164). On Whiteleaf Hill the remains of a further cross ridge dyke (PS 1087199) some 170m in length has been identified (Wise 1991, 108-113), which cuts of a promontory on the Chiltern Edge in which the Neolithic Long Barrow and later barrows lie. Evidence of further Iron Age activity has now been noted in the town to the west of the church where a ditch was noted along with human remains, animal bone and pottery (Ford 2000, 15-22). There were other features located but not dated.

Roman material has been identified in and around Risborough and Whiteleaf Hill. These include a 2nd century brooch found in the 1980s (PS 1029163), pottery of the 1st to 4th centuries BC found at 18 Chiltern Close to the south of the church (PS 1029093), a coin from the police station in 1963 (PS 344325), and a coin from Place Farm in 1964 (PS 344343). There are also other sites of a Roman date including cropmarks and mounds on the west slopes of Whiteleaf Hill (PS 344359). The cropmarks also included 4 circular features and 2 square features. A further Roman site of interest in the area is at Pyrtle Spring on Culverton Farm around which excavations were carried out in 1932 (PS 344328). Here Roman material was recovered from around the spring site, no buildings were identified, but the remains of tegulae recovered indicating their presence in the near vicinity. Though not confirmed as a temple or shrine complex it is a possibility that the spring was the focus for this type of activity. Spring shrines have been noted along the northern edge of the Chilterns most notably that at Ashwell, Hertfordshire, where a major shrine existed to the goddess Senuna (Jackson and Burleigh 2007, 37-54). The reason for mentioning

the latter site is the apparent similarities that survive between that spring location and the centres of both Monks and Princes Risborough where the old centres around the churches are located at the heads of springs.

Some early medieval material has been identified in the area around Princes Risborough, though not on the scale of the Roman material. In 1983 the remains of a mid to late Saxon copper alloy strap end was found (PS 1029094) in the area between the old centres of Monks and Princes Risborough. Medieval burials were also found on Whiteleaf Hill (PS 344321).

The historical town report for Princes Risborough (Beckley and Green 2009) is currently in the consultation stage. The report highlights the need for more research within the historic core into the possible Saxon or medieval origins of the town.

The place name Risborough is a name with a complicated use, it applied to one of the three hundreds of Aylesbury (VCH 1908, 245-6). The Hundred of Risborough was first mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1086, and changed very little over time until the abandonment of the hundred divisions. The hundred contained the parishes of Bledlow, Horsendon, Monks Risborough and Princes Risborough. The latter two settlements taking their name from the hundred and the feature that that name referred too. The site of the hundred meeting place is unknown (Mawer and Stenton 1925, 167).

Historically Risborough is first mentioned in 903 in Birch's *Cartularium Saxonicum* as *pæm easteran hrisanbyrge*, which has been translated by Professor Ekwall as 'The eastern brushwood covered hills' (Mawer and Stenton 1925, 170-1). The third recording of the name *Hrisebyrgan be Chilternes efese* dated 1006 refers to the two Risboroughs on the edge of Chilterns. The two Risborough names are recorded alongside each other in *The Place-names of Buckinghamshire*, but it is apparent that each settlement has had two different prefixes. To understand which is which it is necessary to understand the medieval manorial and ecclesiastical history of the manors.

The two estates have a common name and were located in the same hundred, this is indicative of the two estates having a common origin. What has not been identified is any direct evidence of association concerning tithes or intercommoning that would confirm a common origin. The two Risboroughs also have two distinct lines of descent; Princes a royal estate and Monks held by the church (see below). These dual lay and ecclesiastical centres are recognisable in early medieval estates and *parochia* (Yeates 2008, 58-89), and even though all the evidence does not survive in all cases it is highly likely that this is what exists with the Risborough manors, see figure 2.

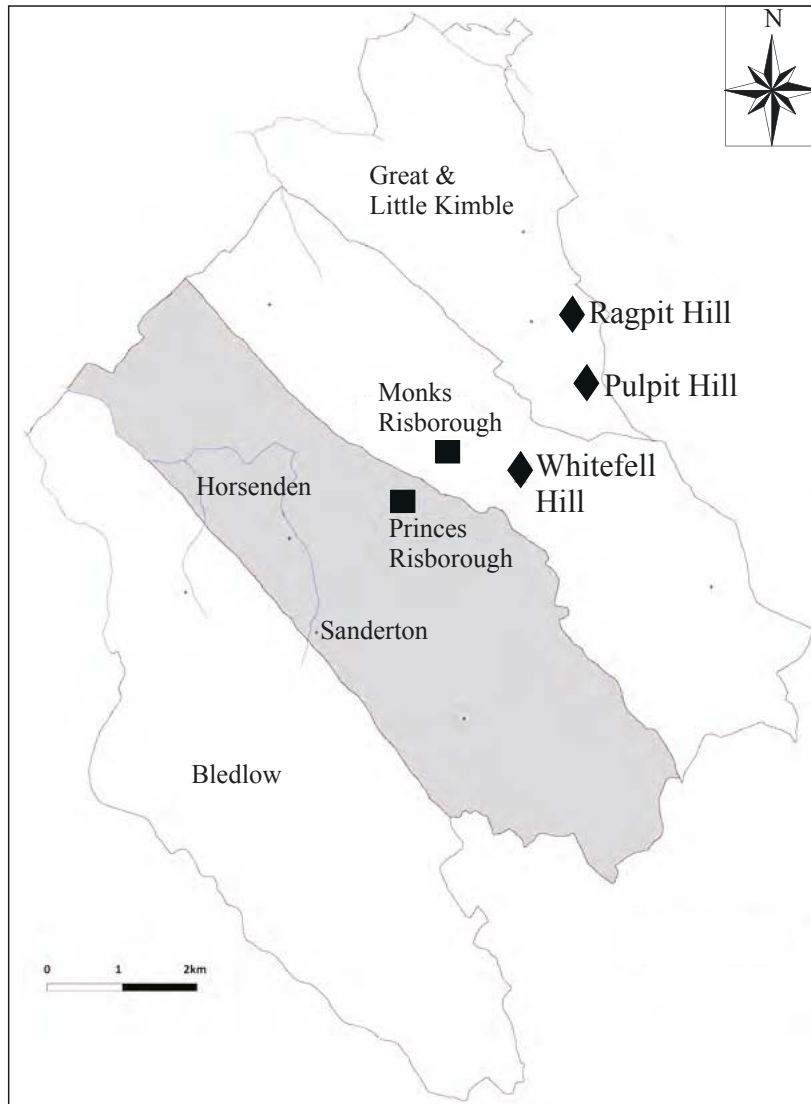
The earliest references to the church at Princes Risborough are dated *c.* 1162 when the church was granted to Notley Abbey (VCH 1908, 260-7). In the case of Monks Risborough this is also post Conquest. They both, however, are probably far older. The church of Monks Risborough is the only one of the two churches that can be recognised as a mother church as it is known to have had a chapel at Owlswick in the 14th century (VCH 1908, 256-60). The reference is to the vicar of the church of *Olnswyk*. In the 15th century there are references to the tithes of the chapel.

The evidence for the reconstruction of the estate is therefore only circumstantial. It is apparent from a charter of 966 x 975 that *Hrisanbeorgan* and *Bleddanhlæwe* were royal estates held by Ælfgifu, in this grant it is apparent that the manor of Princes Risborough was granted to the Old Minster at Winchester and that the manor of Bledlow was granted to the New Minster at Winchester (Gelling 1979, no.152).

The Domesday Book account of Princes Risborough states that the manor contained 30 hides (Morris 1978, 1.3) had 30 villagers, 12 smallholders, 3 slaves, 2 mills and woodland for 1000 pigs. There is mention of a freeman who held 3 virgates. It is possible that this person is a priest. Most significant here is that the village was a possession of Earl Harold. The manor of Horsenden has three entries in the Domesday Book (Morris 1978, 4.8, 9, 12.2, 57.14) of which two are for ½ hide each held from the Bishop of Bayeux, while the other was an estate of 6 hides and 3 virgates held by the Count of Mortain. The account records that two of Harold's men previously held the estate. This statement suggests that there is a feudal knight arrangement here and that circumstantial evidence exists to tie Horsenden to the Harold's village of Princes Risborough. The final estate was of 1 ½ hides and was held from the king. The manor of Saunderton (Morris 1978, 4.19, 23.5) also had more than one entry of which the first was an estate of 5 hides held from the bishop of Bayeux. The second manor of Saunderton contained 5 hides, and it is accounted here that Alric, Harold's man, previously held the manor. Again this looks like a feudal connection linking the parish and estate back to Princes Risborough (Fig. 2). The manor of Badenham (Morris 1978, 57.15) was also held from the king.

Canterbury Cathedral records preserved a number of charters associated with Monks Risborough (Fig. 2). The earliest is that for 903 when King Edward with Æthelred and Æthelflæd, granted the estate to dux Æthelfrith (Gelling 1979, no.148). The estate was for 30 cassatae, and the estate is called eastern Risborough. Reed's (1979, 178-81) interpretation of the bounds associates the text as marking out the present parish boundary. There is also a lost charter boundary dated before 944 when Archbishop Sigeric gave the estate to Bishop Æscwig of Dorchester (Gelling 1979, no.154). The following charter of 994 or 995 mentions 30 *mansiunculae* free of all common dues. The exchange of the estate between the bishops was to buy of the Danes who were threatening to burn Canterbury. A charter (Gelling 1979, no.156) claims to show the return of the estate to Canterbury from Dorchester. It is considered suspect. The grant in 1006, which is also considered suspect, claims a grant of Monks Risborough at the re-foundation of the monastery at Canterbury (Gelling 1979 no.157). A will of 1003 or 1004 belonging to Ælfric of Canterbury leaves Monks Risborough to Christchurch Canterbury. Archbishop Æthelnoth is noted as being resident at Monks Risborough at sometime from 1020 x 1038 (Gelling 1979, no.158). Though no church is mentioned in these accounts it is probable that one existed as a place of residence for the archbishop of Canterbury.

The Domesday Book account of Monks Risborough (Morris 1978, 2.3) also accounts for an estate of 30 hides, with 32 villagers, 8 smallholders, 4 slaves, and woodland for 300 pigs. Asgar the constable held the estate. Only one estate of Hampden is accounted in Domesday Book (Morris 1978, 17.4) of 3 hides. It is assumed that the estate at Little Hampden is either incorporated in this holding or it is part of Hartwell to which it is later recognised as a chapel (VCH 293-8). The important part of the account here is that Baldwin, Archbishop Stigand's man, previously held this manor. This suggests a feudal knight holding attached to Monks Risborough.



- ◆ Major Iron Age Sites
- Major Early Med Churches
- Harold's Estate in 1066

Figure 2. Early prehistoric/ estate map of the Risborough area

Earl Harold (Harold II) held the manor of Princes Risborough in 1066, and in that year the estate passed to William I (Morris 1978, 1.3). William gave half of the estate to Ansculf de Pinchengi, who then exchanged this with Ralph Talgebosch for Ellesborough (VCH 1908, 260-7). The estate then passed to Earl Walter Gifford, who made various grants to Notley Abbey from 1162. In 1164 the estate reverted to the crown. The estate was granted to Richard die Huneto, the constable of Normandy, c. 1165. The manor subsequently went to Engelard, the brother of Huneto, and from him to William de Similly, who died in 1242, when the land was escheated to the King. In 1243 Henry III granted Princes Risborough to Richard Earl of Cornwall, the King of the Romans, and then to his son Edmund until his death in 1300. In 1307 the manor was granted to Piers Gaveston, whose wife Margaret was a heiress of the Clare dynasty. In 1327 the manor was held by the king, while in 1330 John de Eltham, Earl of Cornwall and brother to the king, was awarded the manor. Henry de Ferrers held the manor from 1337-44, and in 1344 the custody of the manor was granted to the Black Prince, from whom it passed to his son, later Richard II. Richard as prince granted the manor to Lewis de Clifford, from whom it reverted to the crown and was subsequently granted to the Prince of Wales. It is for this reason that the manor was alternatively given the prefix of Great (Magna), Earl (from the Earl of Cornwall), and Prince (from the Black Prince) to distinguish it from the other Risborough (Mawer and Stenton 1925, 170-1).

There were other manors that were established in the parish of Princes Risborough. About 1162 the church and rectory land were granted by Walter Gifford to the abbey of Notley (VCH 1908, 260-7). In 1291 the temporalities of the abbey of Notley in Princes Risborough included lands worth 12s 9d per annum. The abbey held the manor and rectory of Princes Risborough till the dissolution when this was valued at £40. This data indicates that the church at Princes Risborough had a sizable piece of land attached to it suggesting that the structure had a considerably older antiquity. In 1258 Notley Abbey obtained the right to service its churches and chapels by canons. This arrangement continued into the 14th and 15th centuries. In the reign of Henry VIII and Edward VI there are references to a vicarage, however, this is considered to be a mistake as the advowson of the church was granted to Thomas Crampton. The manor became known as the Abbot's Manor and at the dissolution was granted to the dean and chapter of Oxford. In the reign of Edward IV the Abbot's manor passed to the Bishop of Oxford along with the advowson of the church. The bishop held the Abbot's Manor till the 19th century.

The other manors that developed in the parish of Princes Risborough include the Culverton manor first mentioned in 1247 and The Park when Henry VIII granted the inclosure called Risborough Park (VCH 1908, 260-7). The Park was almost certainly in existence in 1086 when there is reference to extensive woodland. There are specific references to a deer park in 1318 and 1337.

The manor and church at Monks Risborough was granted to the monastery of Christchurch at Canterbury (VCH 1908, 256-60). Canterbury subsequently held the manor and church until the dissolution of the monasteries. It is for this reason that this Risborough was subsequently given the title Monks or Little (Parva) to identify it (Mawer and Stenton 1925, 170-1).

The possibility is that the larger estate from which the Risboroughs were carved from consisted of two centres (Fig. 2), a royal one focussed on Princes Risborough that

probably included Horsenden, Saunderton, and Bradenham. The ecclesiastic holdings in the estate were focused on Monks Risborough, which probably initially incorporated Great Hampden. If this is indeed the case the larger estate was partially dismantled in the 10th century and had been completely dismantled by the end of the 11th century. The Kimbles were probably associated with the unit, but it is difficult to directly associate them with the other components. In other parts of the country it is possible to identify these territories that contain a series of key archaeological sites within each unit. Two significant churches occur (as stated above), there is usually a nucleated Roman settlement, and a distinct group of Iron Age hill-forts (Yeates 2008). The hills from Great Kimble to Princes Risborough contain three principle archaeological sites. The cross ridge dykes are located on a spur above Great Kimble, the hill-fort on Pulpit Hill, while a concentration of tumuli occur on Whiteleaf Hill where a substantial cross ridge dyke cuts off a large part of the promontory (Anonymous 2011). The large tumulus on Whiteleaf Hill may well be the location of the hundred meeting place. This configuration of monuments has been recognised elsewhere within early territorial developments, into which an ecclesiastical minster and ley church can be fitted.

The medieval core of Princes Risborough was focused around the church, manor house, the mount and a house called the Monks Staithe. Some archaeological investigation has occurred within the historic core of Princes Risborough, mostly in the north around the church and the Mount, of which the latter is a scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM BU4). Probably due to truncation by redevelopment and the limited scale of some investigations the results have been mixed. Material from the medieval period including pottery, coins and other artefacts have been retrieved.

Henry VIII granted Princes Risborough in 1523 the right to hold a weekly market and two yearly fairs (VCH 1908, 260-7). In 1628 Charles I conveyed the principle manor of Princes Risborough to the city of London in part payment of his debt. In 1671 the manor was granted to Lord Hawley in trust to the King's heirs. From this time the manor changed hands a number of times.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation were as follows:

- To plan and record any archaeological features identified.
- To sample excavate surviving features.
- To record and photograph the remaining deposits.
- To retain the finds and representative samples of the building material. These will be removed off site under faculty.
- Articulated burials are to be taken for analysis, while disarticulated remains will be reinterred at the church.
- Geo-archaeological deposits or general ecofacts will be sampled where appropriate.

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a Written Scheme of Investigation agreed with Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service (*BCAS*). Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record for each deposit encountered, with scale plans and section drawings compiled where appropriate and possible. The recording was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Institute for Archaeologists (1994).

This report was part of a second phase of archaeological activity within the church, originally a series of test pits had been excavated as part of an evaluation of the site to ascertain the potential for archaeological remains (JMHS 2005).

3.2 Methodology

Standard John Moore Heritage Services techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record for each deposit encountered, with scale plans and sections drawings compiled where appropriate. A photographic record was produced.

4 RESULTS

Finds from the church and graveyard included four pieces of Roman tegulae and a sherd of Iron Age pottery. These finds were minimal so cannot necessarily indicate in themselves that there were earlier phases but they raise the tantalising possibility that there might be. Roman tiles were often robbed and reused in early medieval churches, for example Brixworth in Northamptonshire, but here they are often flat hypocaust tiles that were used as decorative features in vaults. In two of the cases the tiles have a right angle, which can not readily be stacked.

4.1 Phase 1: Undated early features: pre Anglo-Norman

In the nave

The earliest deposit (429) was a moderately compact grey silt clay, it was truncated by cut 202, and thus is not shown on the plan (Fig. 11 S1). Feature 202 was a linear cut that was over 4.8m long by 0.55m across and in excess of 0.4m deep, as seen to the base of the drainage cut, with vertical sides and orientated east to west (Figs. 3 & 11 S1). The overcutting would indicate that it extended down for 0.6m below the surviving archaeological horizon. The full extent of the cut was unknown and it was not all together clear what level this was cut from. Deposit (140) was of chalk rubble in a clay sand matrix set in feature 202 (plate 1). The chalk and flint lumps in the fill measured up to 0.08m across each. The deposit became sandier with depth and did not seem to have the appearance of a floor layer as there was no horizontal banding. What it may have been is the remains of a robbed out wall, hence explaining the sandy, mortar mix with chalk lump inclusions, hence the residue of an earlier structure. The orientation of the feature was not exactly to that of the later nave walls. In the overcut of the drainage trench was a small linear strip of mortar flooring (385), which was a

compact white grey mortar surface 0.25m wide. This feature appeared to be the remains of a mortar flooring that butted up to the robbed out linear 140. What survives of this mortar surface is below the level from where the present nave walls had to be cut. This seems to be an isolated feature that was apparently left by later grave cuts and represents the earliest recognised floor.

Cut 426, which is presumed to most likely be a grave although the other side of this cut was not properly identified (Figs. 3 & 11 S1), truncated the mortar surface (385). This cut could have been made from higher up in the stratigraphy, but visually this was not apparent due to the homogenous nature of the grave soils until the truncation of (385). The fill (427) was a moderately compact grey silt clay similar to much of the other grave soils in the church. Layer (428), not illustrated on plan (Fig. 11 S1), was a moderately compact grey silt clay deposit overlying the grave fill and the floor surface (385) and butting up to feature 140, and was sealed by deposit (267).

Deposit (256) was a firm mid grey silt clay measuring at least 0.12m deep at the west end of the nave. Deposit (256) was sealed by layer (257), a recognisable piece of flooring associated with phase 2 church (see below).

In the South Aisle

Layer (394) was a compact mid grey silt clay that was truncated by cut 297 (Fig. 3). This covered the west end of the aisle over an area of roughly 2m square. Cut 297 was a sub-circular cut. The fill (298) was a loose dark brown purple black silt clay with flecks and lumps of charcoal. Fill (298) was truncated by cut 301. Cut 301, truncated fill (298), was a small elliptical feature measuring 0.3m by 0.13m. The fill (302) was a friable light brown grey sandy clay containing chalk lumps. These deposits must have been sealed by deposit (230/231/236).

4.2 Phase 2: Anglo-Norman: c. late 9th-early 12th century

Walls of nave and west porch internally

Cut 115 was that for the Phase 2 walls on the south side of the nave (Fig. 3). The length of the cut was not fully defined, but at this height the wall seemed to have a width of 1.4m. In one place it was possible that the cut and fill may have been as much as 2m wide. The depth of the wall exceeded 0.55m. What layer this wall was cut from was not ascertained, presumably into (256) and (394). In this cut was placed wall 111, which was wide and constructed of stone and flint of which the larger blocks were roughly squared or untouched nodules measuring 50mm x 300mm (Fig. 11 S3). There was no coursing and the bond was a yellow mortar sand. This wall occurred in-between most aisle columns but in some it had been obliterated in its upper courses by later features. This wall was identified in Test Pit 8 and labelled as (8/03). This material was interpreted as the fill of 8/05, but the observed line of the cut was problematic as was the relationship with fill (8/04) in evaluation (JMHS 2005).

Cut 143 was known to exist even if not specifically identified, as it must be the cut for the north nave wall 139 (Figs. 3 & 11 S1 & S5). Wall 139 was also of flint and chalk blocks of an irregular shape with irregular coursing. It was the foundation of the north wall of the nave. The bonding material was similar to that of the nave's south wall, a yellow sand mortar. The apparent width in most columns where it was visible between the arcade columns was 1.15m, although when the drainage was put in at a



Figure 3. Plan: Phases 1 & 2



Plate 1. Phase 1, linear mortar feature 140



Plate 2. Phase 2, wall 704
west of nave

deeper level through the second arch from the west end of the north arcade the width of this wall appeared to be 2.1m.

The deposit uncovered at the west end in the tower was (369) a compact light grey mortar clay, very little of this deposit was seen - some 0.7m wide (Fig. 3). It is treated here as the deposit through which cut 370 was placed, though it is not totally apparent that the wall was cut from this level. Cut 370 had a width of 1.15m, but the depth was not determined. Feature 367 was of flint nodules of irregular natural forms. The feature was encountered at the very base of the drainage cut and seemed to be the top of a wall of similar proportions to that of the wall foundations observed north and south of the nave. No evidence of the original wall between the chancel and nave were observed, this was presumably because much of this wall was rebuilt at a later date.

Walls of porch west of the present tower

In the new service trench to the west of the tower more significant archaeology was uncovered which will help to explain the original shape of the church. The earliest feature detected here is layer (708) a compact mid grey silt clay with some stone inclusions (Fig. 3). This was truncated by cut 711 that was the foundation cut for the earliest recognisable porch of the church. This must have been a rectangular structure made of four linear cuts and foundations (of which one was identified under the present tower, foundation 367). The wall 704 within cut 711 was of a flint construction with a yellow sandy mortar bond similar to that recognisable in the other walls (plate 2). On the corner of the building there were quoin stones of immense shaped flint blocks and rag limestone blocks. The large flint blocks lay flat and bonded back into the wall, while the height of the limestone block provided elevation.

Internal features of nave and tower

In a number of places across the nave of the church the remains of an earlier floor surface could be identified (141), (257), (289), (353), (354), and (400). These deposits were compact brown to yellow orange clay sand with mortar and chalk of various sizes around which it was possible to see that a number of grave-cuts had truncated (Fig. 3). This floor surface was distinct in colour from any other floor surfaces identified and was not located or identified in either of the aisles, thus indicating that it potentially belonged to the church without aisles. It is undoubtedly the case that these areas of the church where these deposits occur may contain islands of earlier undisturbed archaeology below, or if they are disturbed it is by earlier burials cut from below the remains of the floor layer. The linear cut 202 (described above) contained a feature of a similar colour and make-up to this floor and also had part of this floor (141) surviving alongside it. It would seem that this older feature was blended in at the level of the new floor surface.

Deposit (141) lay in the east end of the nave on the north side, surviving as a long narrow strip over 4m long by 0.13m wide, with a depth of about 0.05m (Figs. 3 & 11 S1). The deposit reportedly contained a fragment of roof tile that was identified as being of a late 17th century date at the earliest, and fragments of medieval tile, one glazed and the other unglazed. Due to the width of the deposit it is unlikely that these objects could have neatly sat in this deposit and it is possible or probable that they were forced in the side of the deposit from later grave fill (195), thus undergoing disturbance. The deposit (141) butted up to and in some places probably overlapped

deposit (140). The grave cuts on the north side of this feature have been placed in a 17th century context.

Deposit (257) lay in the west part of the nave and survived to a width of at least 2.5m (Fig. 3, plates 3 and 4). Deposit (257) was truncated by grave cuts 339 and 341. Cut 339 was rectangular with rounded corners measuring 1.75m by 0.6m. The fill (340) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix. A rectangular cut 341 with rounded corners measuring approximately 1.75m by 0.6m. The fill (342) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix. A further post or stake-hole 337 also truncated deposit (257). Cut 337 was circular with vertical sides and a 0.15m diameter. The fill (338) was a compact white mortar. Overlying floor layer (257) were layers (264) and (265), but the latter of these sealed post-hole 337. Deposit (264) was a compact red brown, becoming black in the middle, sand silt measuring 0.55m by 0.68m. Deposit (265) was a friable red brown, becoming black in the centre, silt sand measuring 0.38m by 0.6m. These were seen as ochre stain perhaps associated with incense. There were two cuts 315 and 317 into deposit 265. Cut 315 was circular with vertical sides and a diameter of 0.1m. The fill (316) was a moderately compact mid grey clay. Cut 317 was circular with vertical sides and a 0.1m diameter. The fill (318) was a moderately compact mid-grey clay. If as seems likely these deposits were formed by the process of incense burning it would indicate that wooden structures once lay in the nave to support vessels for this purpose.

Cutting through the top of fill (342) of grave 341, in the west end of the nave, were a number of small post or stake holes 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, and 335 (Fig. 3). Cut 325 was circular with vertical sides and a 0.15m diameter. The fill (326) was a compact white lime mortar. Cut 327 was circular in shape with vertical sides and a diameter of 0.1m. The fill (328) was a compact white mortar. Cut 329 was a circular feature with vertical sides and a diameter of 0.08m. The fill (330) was a moderately compact white mortar. Cut 331 was a circular cut with vertical sides measuring 0.08m across. The fill (332) was a compact white mortar. Cut 333 was circular with vertical sides with a diameter measuring 0.2m across. The fill (334) was a moderately compact white mortar. Cut 335 was circular with vertical sides measuring 0.06m across. The fill (336) was a moderately compact white mortar. The exact reason for all of these cuts into the top of this one grave is unusual and unprecedented elsewhere in the church. These fills were sealed by deposit (266).

Deposit (289) lay in the eastern area of the nave on the south side and measured 1.75m in length and 0.35m wide (Fig. 3). Five burials were identified cutting this piece of floor layer, which were cuts 288, 343, 345, 349 and 360. Grave cut 288 was rectangular with rounded corners measuring 2m by 0.6m orientated west to east. The fill (359) was a moderately compact mid grey clay with mortar inclusions. A rectangular cut 343 with rounded ends measuring 2m by 0.6m was orientated west to east. The fill (344) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix. Grave cut 345 was rectangular with rounded corners measuring 2m by 0.6m orientated east to west. The fill (346) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix. A rectangular cut 349 with rounded corners measuring 1.5m by 0.6m again was orientated west to east. The fill (350) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix. Cut 360 was a rectangular feature with rounded corners measuring 0.75 wide was truncated by a later feature. The fill (361) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix.

Deposit (353), a further fragment of the sandy floor layer, lay in the eastern area of the nave on the south side and measured 1.7m by 0.3m (Fig. 3). This deposit was cut by at least four grave cuts, which were determined by the shape of the sandy mortar floor. The cuts were 343 (see deposit (289) above), 347, 360 (see deposit (289) above), and 364; it was also probably cut by grave cut 362, due to the extent and location of this cut that was more evident with the remains of floor deposit (354). Rectangular cut 347 with rounded corners measured 1.75m by 0.6m and was orientated west to east. The fill (348) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix. Rectangular cut 364 measuring 1.75m by 0.6m was also orientated east to west. The fill (365) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix.

Deposit (354), the sandy floor layer, lay in the central part of the nave on the south side and measured 2.8m in length and 0.3m wide (Fig. 3). The deposit was cut by a series of burials of which cuts 357 and 362 were first identified as truncating this deposit. The other cuts 319, 321, and 323 were truncation features first identified as being cut from a higher level (see below Phase 4). Grave 357 was a rectangular cut with rounded corners measuring 1.75m by 0.55m and oriented west to east. The fill (358) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix. Grave cut 362 was of a rectangular shape with rounded corners measuring 2m by 0.6m. The fill (363) is a moderately compact mid grey mortar clay.

Deposit (400) lay in the central area of the nave on the north side and measured 1.30m by 0.4m (Fig. 3). This deposit had been cut by three grave cuts 401, 403, and 405, that were first apparent from this level. Grave cut 401 was sub-rectangular with rounded corners measuring 1.75 by 0.7m, and orientated west to east. The fill (402) was a moderately compact mid grey silt clay. Grave cut 403 was a sub-rectangular cut with vertical sides measuring 1.75m approximately by 0.5m. The fill (404) was a moderately compact mid grey silt clay. Grave cut 405 was sub-rectangular with rounded corners, vertical sides, orientated west to east and measuring 1.5m by 0.7m. The fill (406) was a moderately compact to loose mid grey silt clay. Even though it must be the case that these graves contained a depositional sequence, it is impossible without full excavation to determine what the process of truncation was.

The following deposits (283), (285) and (287) appeared initially in plan as if they were the fills of a series of cuts, but due to their texture and depth it became apparent that these deposits must have been fragmentary pieces of the sandy mortar surface that once extended across the nave (Fig. 3). They were all located in the central part of the nave on the north side. These layers must have been surrounded by multiple truncation cuts, but these cuts were ill defined so a single cut number was given to multiple cuts around each deposit. Layer (283) was a compact deposit with friable areas of a brown yellow sand and mortar deposit measuring 0.32m square. The general truncation number for the ill defined cuts was cut 282. The general fill number of this cut is (454) a moderately compact white grey mortar clay. Layer (285) was a friable light yellow sand mortar that measured 0.2m square. The grave cuts around it were ill defined so a single cut 284 represents these truncations. The general fill number is (455) a moderately compact white grey mortar clay. Layer (287) was a compact light brown yellow sand measuring 0.3m by 0.16m; the general truncation number was 286. The general fill number is (456) a moderately compact white grey mortar clay.

South Aisle (probably originally external features)

Deposits (230/231/236) were moderately compact grey brown silt clay 0.1m with charcoal, chalk, mortar, tile, brick and human bone inclusions (Fig.3, not fully shown, extends over deposit (394) and its cuts and fills). In some areas, especially deposit (231), the deposit was more friable with more mortar and chalk inclusions. Thus this could be seen as a lens within deposit (230/236). The primary grave cuts into these deposits were cuts 214 and 222. Grave cut 214 was rectangular with gently rounded corners, but truncated and only measuring 0.8m by 0.32m by over 0.19m deep. The fill (213) was a loose dark grey brown silt clay with occasional bone and tile. Grave cut 222 was sub-rectangular with rounded corners measuring 0.6m by 0.15m. The fill (221) was a soft grey brown silt clay. These deposits stratigraphically would seem to be pre-13th century as they underlie deposit (227/228).

Deposit (458) was a soft to moderately compact mid-brown grey silt clay with small stone inclusions (Figs. 3 & 12 S7). There were two grave cuts evident through this deposit. Grave cut 240 was the earliest while 242 truncated this. Cut 240 was a sub-rectangular feature orientated west to east with steep sides. The fill (241) is a moderately compact brown grey silt clay. Grave cut 242 of a sub-rectangular shape with sharp sides orientated west to east. The fill (243) was a moderately compact brown grey silt clay. The feature is considered to be an early grave cut.

North Aisle (probably originally external features)

Layer (418) was a moderately compact mid grey silt clay (Fig. 3). This was the lowest stratigraphic layer identified in the church's north aisle and has been interpreted as the remains of a soil horizon originally located outside the church. Layer (418) was truncated by cut 380 a possible grave measuring up to 0.6m wide. The fill (381) was a moderately compact grey mortar clay. There were the remains of a further grave cut between cut 380 and the north nave wall 139 (see Phase 8).

The grave cut 177 was a rectangular feature with a rounded end, which also truncated (418), a pre-church grave soil (Fig. 3). The feature was 0.8m long and 0.6m wide, where exposed. The cut had sharp sides that were tapering. The cut was oriented west to east and extended under the line of east wall of the north aisle. The fill (178) was a moderately compact grey brown sand clay with chalk fragments and lime additions. There were also flint inclusions. The remains of a cranial vault were found. The grave was cut by the line of the east wall of the north aisle and is presumably at the latest 13th century but probably earlier.

Discussion

The walls 111, 139, 367, and 704 are probably all of the same phase in that an orange yellow sandy mortar bonds them all and they consist of chalk and flint blocks. Phase 2 on Fig. 3 marks these walls but also places on this plan the projected wall lines. They would form a nave that was longer than the present nave. This would mean that wall 367 was originally west end of the nave. If the wall separating the nave and the chancel is in the same location as the present wall it would indicate that the nave of the Phase 2 church was twice the length of the existing chancel, believed to have a Norman origin. This is a proportion recognised in the construction of Norman churches in Worcestershire by Bond (1988, 119-158).

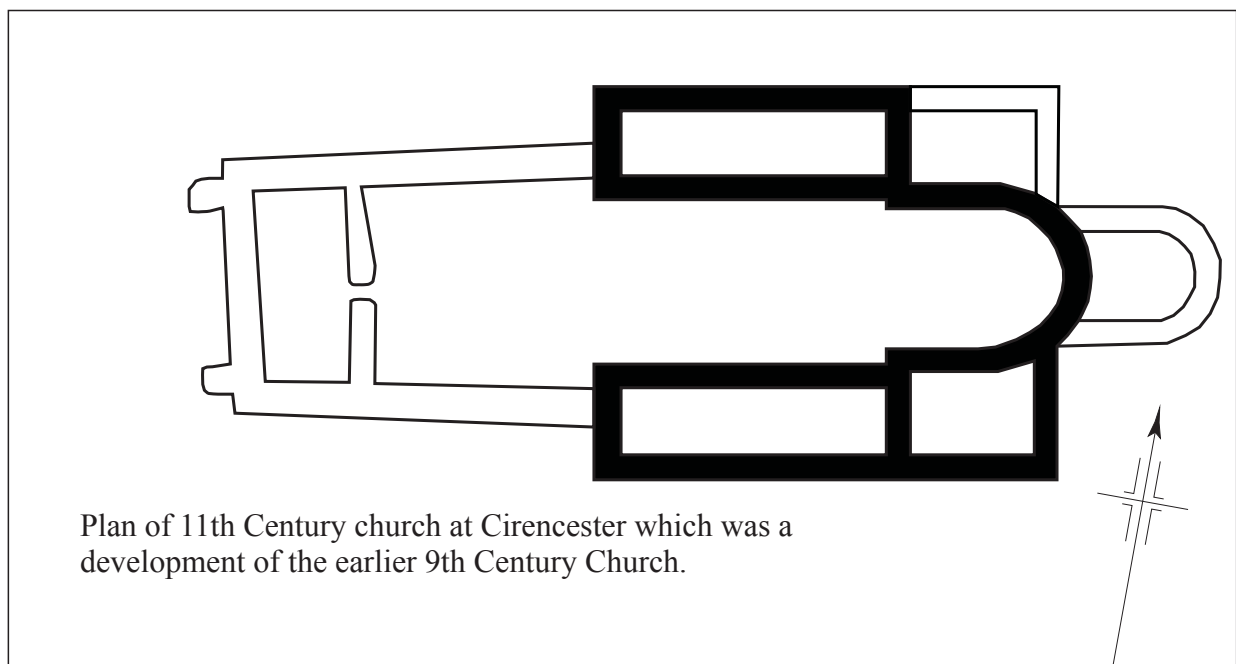
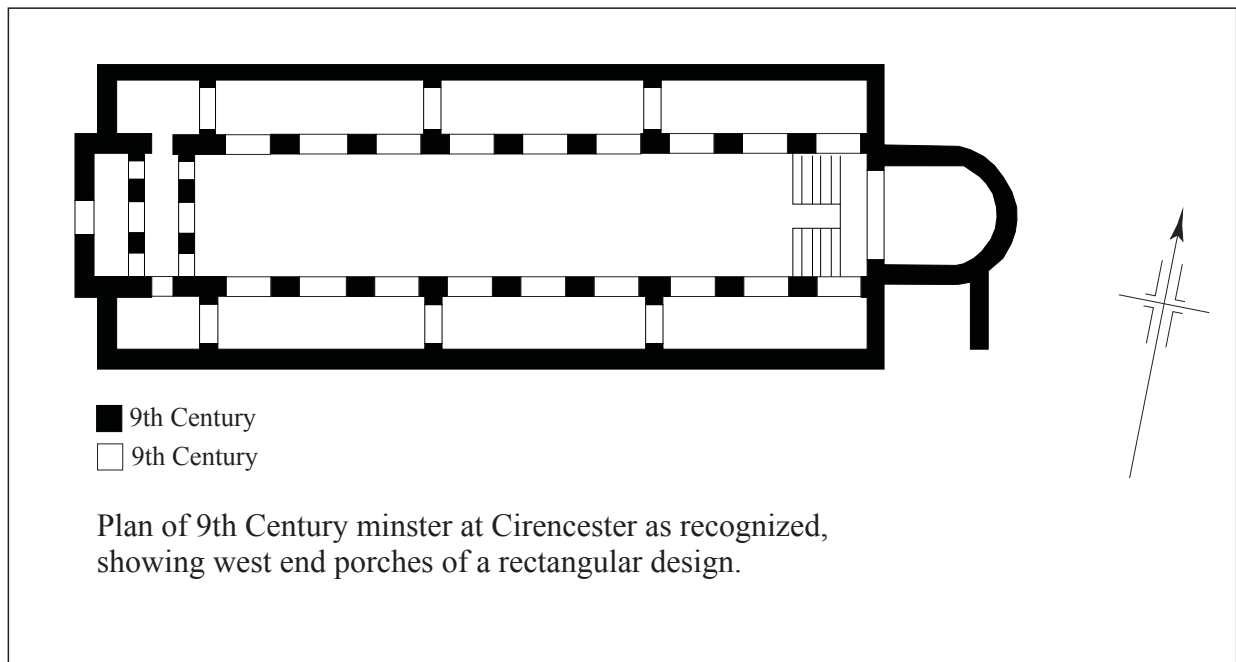


Figure 4. Plans based on the report of Cirencester Minster, located under Cirencester abbey (based on illustrations by R. Gem & R Bryant)

However, there are a number of problems with this suggestion when one looks at the configuration of walls recognised at the west end of the church. Here wall 704 demonstrates that the structure attached to the west end of the church was rectangular. This is perhaps indicative of an initial Norman church of the late 11th and early 12th century being unlikely. On a Norman church one would suspect a square tower base at the west end of the nave, as this is not the case then one has to look for another solution. A further possibility is that the rectangular structure at the west end is part of an earlier porch of a 9th to 10th century church. The Anglo-Saxon church constructed prior to the later abbey at Cirencester (Wilkinson and McWhirr 1998) may provide some parallels. Gem's (1998, 32-39) reconstruction of the church at Cirencester mentions a building with walls 0.9m wide and a nave 6.4m wide. The dimensions of the church at Princes Risborough are walls 1.15m wide, slightly wider but made of flint rather than good freestone from the Cotswolds, and a width of 6.5m. The Cirencester church had two narrow rectangular areas as wide as the nave located at the west end (Fig. 4 above). The west end of the Anglo-Saxon church at Cirencester was reconstructed in the 11th century (Bryant 1998, 39-41). The later rebuild had a single rectangular structure at the west end, which was speculatively called a Galilee chapel (Fig. 4). The problem with the interpretation and dating of the Anglo-Saxon minster at Cirencester is that no datable evidence was found to substantiate the chronology, thus it is suggested in that report a vague chronology for the church from the 9th to the 11th or less likely early 12th century. A similar western extension was identified in 1898 at the Saxon church at Breamore in Hampshire (Du Boulay Hill 1898, 84-7). The basic rectangle at Deerhurst, Glos church had external measurements of 19.7m by 8m (Rahtz and Watts 1997, 154); this would give an internal width of about 6m and a nave length slightly shorter than that identified at Princes Risborough.

The large stones pulled by the digger from the corner of wall 704 are indicative of huge flint blocks being used as quoins for the foundation and large limestone blocks for the corners above ground. Even though only one block survived, and was broken to extract it, it was probably the lowest stone block of a piece of Anglo-Saxon long and short-work.

The east wall of the present nave of the chancel runs out of line with the nave of the Phase 2 church. The dimensions of the walls at Princes Risborough are similar to dimensions observed at Cirencester's Anglo-Saxon church, and the width of the nave is also similar. The length of the nave of the Anglo-Saxon church at Cirencester was approximately 35m with the further addition of the two rectangular structures at the west end. The length of the nave at Princes Risborough from chancel wall to opposing wall 367 under the tower is approximately 21.9m. This being the case it is highly likely that the construction of the chancel wall is later and either associated with a Norman rebuild of the chancel, hence the apparent Norman period ratios of chancel to nave, or that this occurred in the very early part of the Early English period, late 12th century. The internal length of the chancel is approximately 11m. It is possible that the original nave may also have extended further to the east.

4.3 Phase 3: Early English: late 12th to 13th centuries

South Aisle Walls and Arcades

The nave walls were partly removed in the 13th century for the construction of the aisle arcades and aisle walls (Fig. 5). The 13th century date was put forward for their construction by the VCH (1908, 265-6) and RCHM (1912, 269-70) based on the Early

English style of the columns, however, the Buildings of England series suggests that the columns are too narrow for that date (Pevsner and Williamson, 1994, 602). That they are of a medieval date is perhaps indicated by the use of chalk blocks that is evident in other medieval Buckinghamshire buildings of the 13th century, for example Burnham Abbey (Brakspear 1903, 517-40; Yeates 2011, 6).

The south aisle was constructed by the following procedures. Cut 391 was dug, which was a large linear feature of approximately 1m wide to the south of the nave (Fig. 5). The cut must have truncated the earlier deposits (458) and (230/231/236). The cut was filled by the foundation of wall 389 a structure built of rough chalk blocks and flint nodules. Only one of the original Early English windows and a partial door arch at the west end survive in this wall (plate 7). The east window in the south wall (plate 6), which is described as a 13th century window, reused and altered *c.* 1320 (VCH 1908, 265-6). The east end wall of the aisle is considered to be original, although there is brick underpinning. The upper part of the south nave wall was truncated and wall 388 consisted of a series of columns associated with the south arcade (plate 5), and represents a rebuild on the foundation of the earlier phase 2. The design and mouldings of these columns are indicative of a 13th century date, although as stated above the authenticity of these columns has been doubted. The moulding on the bases and capitals of the present 2nd to 5th columns and the arches including the 6th (counted from the east end) is a plane chamfer, which was in use from the early 13th century (Morris 1992, 12). Elsewhere it is suggested that the date for the aisles construction was *c.* 1220. Exactly how long the original south aisle was is not known as the 13th century arcade only forms part of the length of the present south aisle. The aisle could in theory, with our knowledge of the earlier end wall, have been built to its fullest length, which is indicated by the partial door set in the west end of the south aisle wall. In this scenario it is possible that the arcade may have had a total of seven arches. There is no evidence of an earlier short wall halfway along the aisle, hence indicating a shorter length, although this does not mean that one did not exist. Flint walls due to their construction are notoriously difficult to identify butt joints in and must undergo periods of rebuild and replacement of the mortar.

North Aisle Walls and Arcades

The north aisle is wider than the south aisle, which could be seen as suggestive of a different build or having a different origin. There was, however, no firm evidence of an earlier wall being identified running inside the present wall (see discussions below), so now it is best to assume that they were on the same alignment. Cut 392 was a linear cut of an unknown length on the north side of the nave (Figs. 5 & 13 S12). The cut was filled by wall 390 that must also have been of 13th century construction and was presumably built of flint nodules. The present wall is believed to have been largely rebuilt (VCH 1908, 260-7), however, as an earlier wall is not apparent and the foundation cut of the present wall seems to be cut from an earlier level, thus indicating probably only a later rebuild of the upper part of the present wall, the wall is placed in the same location. On the south side of the aisle the Phase 2 nave wall was partially removed and used as the foundation for a new build 387, which contained matching Early English arcades to the south aisle arcade. The numbers of arches conform to those in the south aisle, and may like the south aisle contained as many as seven arches originally.



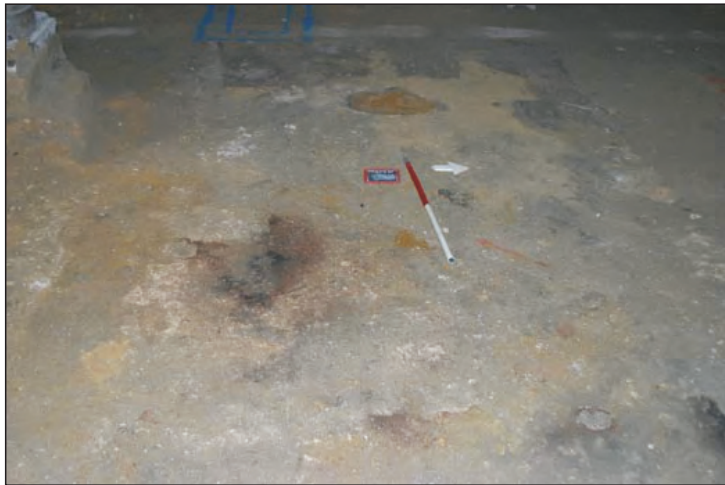


Plate 3. Phase 2, extensive mortar floor layer (257)



Plate 4. Phase 2, mortar surface (257) with Phase 3 cuts



Plate 5. Phase 3, base of arcade column on wall 111 (Phase 2)



Plate 6. Phase 3, surviving triple lancet window in south aisle

Chancel Walls

The chancel is also known to have been constructed at this time. This would mean that the present east wall of the nave was re-constructed at this time. This runs at an unusual angle to the nave, but is in line with the end wall to the south aisle. The cut has been numbered 432 and the wall 433 (Fig. 5). Due to the homogenous nature of the grave soils and the later truncation by the Victorian hypocaust, it is difficult to see which deposit it was cut from.

The foundation cut 531 for the rest of the chancel and the walls 532, were not fully observed. Only part of the south chancel wall was observed externally with the addition of a new path to the south chancel door. Part of the moulding of the original chancel door survived to indicate that the location of the doorway is old.

Floor layers in the nave

Overlying the surface spreads (264) and (265) and the floor surfaces (257), (289), (353) and (354) of Phase 2, was deposit (266). Layer (266) was a compact mid-grey mortar clay that survived to a depth of 0.02m, possibly more in other areas (Fig. 5). If, as suspected, layer (257) represents the original mortar floor surface of the large phase 2 church, then this surface must be associated with either of the subsequent phases. Layer (266) was probably a floor surface that accumulated due to the digging of grave cuts in the church, thus being a spread of grave soils mixed with mortar. Visibly cut through layer (266) were grave cuts 246, 248, 258, 260, and 262, and post-holes and post-pads 250, 252, 254 (Fig. 5), and 375 (see Phase 7). Grave 246 was a rectangular cut with rounded corners measuring 1.6m by 0.9m orientated east to west. The fill (247) was a loose to moderate mottled grey brown silt clay containing inclusions of decomposing chalk, bone, brick and stones. The grave was in-turn truncated by two post-holes 250 and 252. Grave 248 was a rectangular cut with rounded corners measuring 0.9m x 0.42m with an indeterminate date. The fill (249) was a loose to moderately compact mottled grey brown silt and clay with inclusions of decomposing chalk, brick and stone. Rectangular grave cut 258 with rounded corners measured over 1.3m by 0.43m. The fill (259) was a compact mid grey clay with lime flecks. The fill was not excavated. Grave 260 was a rectangular cut with rounded corners measuring 1.6m by 0.55m. The fill (261) was a firm mid grey clay with limestone flecks. The last was a rectangular grave cut 262 with rounded corners measuring 0.8m by 0.57m. The fill (263) was a compact light to mid-grey clay with mortar flecks.

The post-holes and post-pads are as follows. An oval cut 250 measuring 0.4m by 0.37m was interpreted as a post-hole (Fig. 5). The fill (251) was a compact light grey mortar clay. Cut 252 was circular with a diameter of 0.3m. The fill (253) was a compact mid grey clay containing chalk fragments. The feature was cut into the grave fill 249. It was interpreted as a possible post-hole but this was not confirmed and may have been to do with slumping into that grave cut. The oval cut 254 measured 0.47m by 0.38m. It was not excavated but the fill (255) was a hard and highly compact yellow orange sand. Cut 375, although truncating deposit (266) appears to be located where a post of the gallery would be located (see below).

There was possibly a further thin deposit, a clay mortar skim (366) over deposit (266), but as these deposits were almost identical it was difficult to be certain (Fig. 5). This deposit was probably the same as deposit (8/02) in Test Pit 8. The feature cutting into deposit (366) was grave cut 303, and two small spreads of material 355 and 356. Grave cut 303 was rectangular with rounded corners measuring 1.86m by 0.6m. The

fill (304) was a firm light grey sand clay deposit over a void, which collapsed. Deposit (355) was a compact red brown silt clay measuring 0.2m by 0.25m. Deposit (356) was a compact white lime mortar surface measuring 0.3m by 0.2m.

Layer (267/233), overlay deposit (400) and its associated grave cuts (Fig. 5). It was a compact mid-grey mortar clay initially identified in Test Pit 2. The finds from this layer included five copper alloy pins and a lump of corroded copper that was unidentifiable. Two burials were recognised cut into this deposit; cuts 193, and 280, and the layer (267/233) was overlain in the east end of the nave by deposit (235), see below. Layer (267) was an equivalent layer to deposit (266) but they were separated by the later construction of the Victorian hypocaust. The truncating features included a sub-rectangular grave cut 193 with rounded corners measuring 1.2m by 0.7m. The sides of the cut were sharp. The fill (194) was variable loose in some areas and firm in others being a dark brown grey silt clay. The deposit contained human bones, tile and brick. Rectangular grave cut 280 had rounded corners measuring 1.5m by 0.5m. The fill (281) was a compact light grey clay with tile and chalk inclusions. The layer (233) was a moderately compact light to mid grey silt clay with mortar and chalk inclusions. The layer was identified in a sondage and is probably a continuation of layer (267). The deposit overlies any remains of 140 and (141).

Layer (368), was located in the tower, a compact mid grey mortar clay about 0.03m deep (Fig. 5). This was part of a homogenous surface through which grave cuts were noted. Cut into layer (368) was cut 373. Grave cut 373 was rectangular in shape with rounded corners measuring 1.5m long considered to be a possible grave cut. Fill (371) was a moderately compact dark grey clay measuring 1.5m long. This was either the fill of a grave cut or floor patching.

South Aisle

Deposit (120/133) was a firm mid-grey clay with lime inclusions extending along the east end of the south aisle (Fig. 12 S7 & S8). The deposit contained a medieval coin dated 1216-1247. This may be part of the original 13th century floor deposits. Deposit (131) was a compact light grey clay containing lime fragments, which seemed to be a continuation of (120/133); though there was truncation between these two deposits (Fig. 12 S8).

Cut 397 was an ill-defined feature of 1.4m x 0.97m (Fig. 12 S7). It was cut through (120/133/131) and along wall 111 and may simply have been a pit or foundation cut dug alongside the wall. The deposit (128) that filled the cut was a firm mid-grey clay that contained numerous flint nodules and was probably a foundation. The clay may have been bonding of a structure. The deposit contained part of a loosely dated medieval floor tile. The feature predates cut 398 that truncates it, a cut for crypt 124. It is perhaps part of an earlier buttress on the south side of the church wall that predated the Early English phase, or more likely part of an earlier aisle setting. The different bonding material in amongst the flint is indicative of there being two sub-phases in this section.

Layer (227/228) sealed layer (230/231/236) and the grave cuts of phase 2. It was a moderately compact grey brown silt clay 0.1-0.2m thick with inclusions of chalk, human bone and charcoal. This deposit was an extension of the surface (120/133), but there were slight alterations in the colour and make-up. This deposit (227/228) was cut directly by grave cuts, 212, and 411. Grave cut 212 was a truncated sub-

rectangular feature with rounded corners surviving to 1m in length. The fill (211) was a compact grey brown silt clay. Grave cut 411 was a sub-rectangular feature of which the full dimensions were unknown as it was later truncated by cut 204. The fill (229), what survived, was a compact dark grey brown silt clay with occasional charcoal. Layer (227) was truncated by the foundation cuts for the protruding stonework on the front of the 14th century tomb niches. This implies again that this deposit is 13th century in date at least. That distinct layering was evident would suggest that the deposit was already internal.

Deposit (237) was a compact yellow brown silt clay with chalk, mortar and charcoal inclusions measuring 0.05m deep and 2.2m square. This feature was interpreted as a bedding deposit for a floor and covered layer (230/231/236). Deposit (237) contained a sherd of Medieval Sandy ware of the 12th century, it was also truncated by the cut for the insertion of the 14th century burial niches (448).

North Aisle

Layer (238), overlay grave fill (177) the grave truncated by the north aisle wall (Figs. 5 & 13 S12). The deposit (238) was a hard mid white grey clay measuring 0.8m by 1.9m and with a depth of 0.1m. It butted up to the north aisle wall, with no apparent truncation for that wall. This information is again suggestive that the lower part of the north wall was not dismantled, but remained *in situ* and was built onto by the Victorians. This deposit is similar to other 13th and 14th century clay layers in the south aisle.

In the west end of the north aisle the cutting of the drainage courses below the impact layer of the floor identified a further deposit (379). This deposit (379) was a compact brown grey clay either side of cut 377. Cut 377 was presumed to be a rectangular grave cut that was 1m wide and orientated west to east. The fill (378) was a moderately compact mid grey clay and mortar mix. This cut 377 was considered to be the remains of a grave cut, although it should be noticed that this cut 377 and cut 380 lay in similar locations from the north nave wall (see above), their distance from the north nave wall matched the distances of the south present aisle wall from the south nave wall, hence they could have represented part of a linear cut for an earlier aisle wall. Insufficient evidence was obtained to positively confirm this. If this was the line of an earlier aisle wall, then the dismantling of this hypothetical wall, has to be later medieval to early post-medieval, as these cuts are sealed by intact post-medieval layers and later medieval layers. Some 0.2m was removed from below the level of the Victorian floor surface.

Discussion

In some respect it is essential to understand how the north and south aisles were built. The location of the west end of the nave wall under the tower indicates that the aisles rather than being lengthened were probably shortened. It is at present difficult to prove the construction of a date earlier than 13th century for the walls of the aisle and also difficult to demonstrate that the earlier wall of the north aisle lay to the south of its present position. If cuts 377 and 380 are on the earlier line of a robbed out wall it is even feasible that this wall did exist, but that it was dismantled in the medieval to early post-medieval periods. If so it points to an earlier construction date of the aisle walls. Anglo-Saxon side chapels were later formed into aisles in a number of churches, for example at Deerhurst, Gloucestershire (Rahtz and Watts 1997). As the evidence for the dismantling of the north aisle wall is lacking it is difficult on present

arguments to sustain this argument. It is at present better to consider that these structures were added onto an earlier aisleless nave in the 13th century. The aisles were from the present evidence constructed initially with different sizes.

The porch or Galilee chapel on the west end of the church and the west end of the nave must have collapsed or were taken down in the late 13th or 14th century. Anglo-Saxon porches, for example that at Deerhurst (Rahtz and Watts 1997, 97-124), are known to have had further stories added to take a bell chamber. If this scenario did occur here, then the narrow nature of the porch may have led to the construction of an unstable structure. This may have collapsed. Even though it is speculative, it probably best suits the available information. Thus the building would be ready for rebuilding in the 14th and 15th centuries.

4.4 Phase 4: Decorated: 14th century

Nave Walls

The architectural details (VCH 1908, 260-3) would indicate that the nave and aisles were remodelled and reduced in size from *c.* 1280 to *c.* 1340. Thus new wall trenches were dug, which truncated deposit (256); the cut 434 and wall 386 at the west end of the nave (Fig. 6). The wall was of flint with chalk blocks in its foundation. The arcades on the south 435 and north 436 sides were rebuilt in a decorated style, which is dated by the VCH to *c.* 1300. The arcades on both sides subsequently had a 7th arch with a filleted roll label added, and a 6th column and west responds using quatrefoil plain columns with moulded capitals and bases (plate 9). One problem noted with these two columns, both north and south is that the church plan of 1825-7 shows what appear to be hexagonal columns in this location. However, the plan of 1867 does not show them as being replaced.

South Aisle Walls

Cut 299 was the foundation trench for the south aisle west wall (Fig. 6), which was cut through layer (237). The west aisle wall 300 was a flint nodule and chalk structure. The wall 300 was constructed of flint and chalk blocks and was bonded by a light brown grey clay with chalk, charcoal, mortar, brick, and flint. This caused the rebuilding around the blocked door in the south wall. The full arch would extend beyond the line of the present wall.

Many of the features in the south aisle wall have been placed architecturally in this period (Fig. 6), for example the west window 445 in south wall, of the 14th century, the new doorway 446 inserted in south wall *c.* 1300, the four recess tombs in two pairs, 447 for the east pair of *c.* 1330 and 448 for west pair of *c.* 1340, with their sub-cusped cinquefoiled ogee heads in south wall, the piscine 449, cedula 450, and the east window 451 in the east wall of the aisle, all dated 14th century. They are all later insertions into the 13th century wall 389.

Features in the nave

Masonry structure 277 was constructed of bricks and tile and generally measured 0.38m by 0.72m (Fig. 6, plate 13). It must have been placed over deposit (267). The bricks were square medieval examples measuring 220mm; their use implies the remains of a feature of this date. Layer (276) was a hard white mortar lime with red staining measuring 1m by 1m that butted up to bricks 277. Grave cut 278, clipped layer (276), a rectangular feature with rounded corners measuring 1.2m by 0.5m and

orientated west to east. The fill (279) was a firm mid to light grey clay and mortar mix.

Deposit (235) was a firm to hard grey silt clay with frequent sandy white lime mortar inclusions measuring 0.48m across and 0.02m deep (Fig. 6). The deposit seems to be a further part of the decayed or fractured white mortar surface 276; it also sealed deposit (267). The edge on the north side was vertical thus indicating that this floor deposit had undoubtedly been truncated by a grave cut, which on its other sides were not that distinct from the floor produced by grave soil spreads. The cut 430 is presumed to be rectangular (Figs. 6 & 11 S5). The fill (431) was a moderately compact mid-grey silt clay which blended in other contexts.

Layer (306) was a hard white mortar, becoming friable in some areas, measuring 1.8m by 0.9m (Fig. 6). The feature overlay part of layer (366) and feature cuts 351 and 303 and was part of a mortar flooring. This deposit was cut by grave cuts 319, 321 and 323; while grave cut 321 was also probably truncated by cut 319. Grave cut 321 was rectangular measuring 1.8m by 0.6m orientated west to east. The fill (322) was moderately compact brown grey silt clay. The skull of this burial was observed in the cut for new drainage 0.39m below the main impact layer but was left *in situ*. Grave cut 323 was rectangular measuring over 1.5m by 0.5m wide. The fill (324) was a moderately compact brown grey silt clay. Grave cut 319 was also rectangular with rounded corners measuring 1.8m by 0.6m. The fill (320) was a moderately compact brown grey silt clay with mortar inclusions.

South Aisle features

The present features have been assigned to the Decorated period. Overlying the probable 13th century deposits (133) and (131) were deposits (135) and (130), (Fig. 6). Deposit (130) was a compact grey white lime mortar and clay mix, with a depth of 0.05m, which sealed deposit (131); these deposits were identified in Test Pit 6. Deposit (135) was a firm lime mortar mixed with mid-brown grey silt clay, which sealed (133). The deposit was 0.08m deep and 0.4m in extent. Both of these deposits line up stratigraphically in section. These deposits extended across the area in front of the south door. They must have originally butted against the door insertion 446 and the east burial alcoves 447. They were truncated by the following cuts flanking the central entrance. Cut 307 was circular in shape with a diameter of 0.25m and vertical sides. The fill (308) was a moderately compact mid grey silt clay. Cut 309 was a circular feature measuring 0.5m diameter and vertical sides. The fill (310) was a moderately compact mid grey silt clay. These two features lay on the east side of the south doorway. Cut 311 was circular in shape measuring 0.25m with vertical sides. The fill (312) was a moderately compact black grey silt clay containing charcoal flecks from a possible post-pipe. Cut 313 was circular with vertical sides measuring 0.25m across. The fill (314) was a moderately compact silt clay. These two cuts lie on the west side of the south doorway. What these features indicate is that there were once wooden screens that separated the two ends of the aisles from the entranceway, which thus formed them into side chapels.

Cut 134, also cut deposit (135); it was a linear 4.7m long by up to 0.34m wide and 0.1m deep (Figs. 6 & 12 S8, plate 10). Structure 132, filled cut 134, was built of tile and brick forming part of a linear feature running east to west and bonded by a light grey white sand mortar. These brick and tiles were designed to support medieval tombs. With structure 132 this was definitely for the burials in the recess that are

dated to the 14th century. It has been noted in the tile report that some of the tiles here are late 17th century at the earliest. As this is the case then we have to regard the tomb as being reset at a later date than the 14th century, the date attributed to the architecture of the niche. Or, alternatively, consider that the claimed dating of fabric 3, an orange to red hard fabric, is potentially far earlier than considered. The former is probably more likely. The grave cut 105 was rectangular with square corners orientated west to east and measuring 2m by 0.45m and associated with the tiles 132. The fill (106) was a loose dark grey brown silt clay with flint, stone and tile inclusions. The grave contained **Sk 3** and possibly a fragmentary horseshoe (plate 12). These were associated with structure 132, but the exact relationship was undefined. They are almost certainly part of one event. They were slotted into one of the wall niches 447. Cut 107 disturbed the skeleton (see below).

Deposit (135/110) was a firm mid-grey silt clay with mortar and chalk inclusions. This was part of a medieval surface of at least the 14th century (Fig. 6). The deposit had *in situ* tile or brick 101 set in it and associated with the grave cut 103. The remains of a grave cut 103, was located in the east niche of 447, which is rectangular in shape with square corners orientated west to east measuring 1.9m by 0.45m. The fill (104) was a dark grey brown silt loam with flint nodule and stone fragment inclusions. The fill contained **Sk 1** and **2** and the finds included three medieval glazed tiles and coffin nails (plate 11). Deposit 112 consisted of a row of undecorated medieval tiles and bricks with a depth of 34mm set in layer (110), but presumably placed there after the last burial. The tile supports are for the stone tombs in the 14th century niches.

Cut through layer (135/110) was a cut 396, previously identified in Test Pit 6 as cut (6/05), a probable grave cut of rectangular shape measuring approximately 1.5m by 0.8m (Figs. 6 & 12 S8). The north side of the cut and deposit were truncated. The fill (395) was a moderately compact mid grey silt clay. The cut truncated the 14th century layers. Over deposit (395) was deposit (136) a firm to hard light brown sand lime mortar with sand silt lenses and fragments of mortar.

The following deposits 219 and 220 were considered to be a layer placed along the front of the niches 448 (Fig. 6) in the west part of the south aisle overlying deposits (227/228). Deposit (219) was a friable yellow brown silt clay mortar with occasional charcoal. The deposit is considered to be associated with the tombs that lay in the niche on the west end of the south aisle wall. Deposit (220) was a similar deposit to (219) and associated with the other niche in the west part of the south aisle wall. These deposits must be associated with the construction of the niches and thus burial locations and can thus be assigned to the 14th century.

The grave cut 452 was placed into the 14th century recess 448. It was the same length as the recess being defined by the foundations of the wall and contexts (219/220). There must have been a process of excavation of the grave and the building of the foundation for the tomb, one would have expected the tomb to be constructed over the grave cut, but with the mortar foundation it is not apparent which stage of the process came first. The fill (453), of the cut 452, was a homogenous grey clay mortar. The cut contained skeleton 4, a fragmentary burial in which the body had been held down by the deposition of a sarsen stone.

North Aisle

Feature 192 was a series of chalk blocks irregularly squared set in white mortar measuring 1.15m by 0.3m (Fig. 6, plate 8). Individually they averaged 0.3m by 0.26m. This feature must have been set in deposit (379/238) or this deposit butted up to it, if this is indeed all the same accumulation layer. The feature was thought to be a foundation or support in the north aisle either for a tomb or a later feature of the post-medieval church. It is possible due to its location that it represented the only part of the 13th century north aisle wall that was not robbed out, but this was not overly convincing. Butting up to this was deposit (200). Deposit (200) was a hard white lime mortar with chalk lumps that measured 0.5m by 0.2m. It was similar to the harder lime floors identified in the nave: (276), (235), and (306).

External burials

Outside the church the earliest deposits were the lower grave soils (504) a moderately compact light grey silt clay with inclusions of stone and bone. The cuts for the earlier church walls were not apparent at this level and part of the original south chancel door were evident indicating that the later Victorian insertion had been necessary due to the increasing height of the ground. Three, presumably late medieval, burials were evident to the south of the chancel. The burials were extremely shallow and it is possible that they were originally covered by funerary monuments as the shallow burials in the church were. This is why they are believed to be of a later medieval date.

Grave cut 507 was a rectangular cut with rounded corners of which the truncation meant that only 0.4m x 0.4m survived (Fig. 9). The sides were probably originally vertical and the orientation west to east. The fill (508) of grave was a moderately compact to loose light grey silt clay. The fill contained only the skull and a few other bones; as cut 505 had truncated much of the burial. Grave cut 505 was also of a rectangular shape surviving 1m x 0.4m. The sides of the cut were vertical. Fill (506) was a moderately compact light grey silt clay. The surviving skeleton had brow ridges so it is highly likely that this was a male burial. Cut 509 was also a grave cut into deposit (504). This was rectangular in shape with rounded corners measuring 2m by 0.5m with vertical sides but extremely shallow and orientated west to east. The fill (510) was a moderately compact light grey silt clay. The fill contained a piece of Green Glazed White ware dated to the 17th century, possibly the result of unrecognised disturbance. The skeleton partially survived: skull, collar bone, humerus, femurs and some of the lower leg bones. Some of the burial had been disturbed (see below), which resulted in the removal of one of the femurs and its insertion in a reversed position. The shallow nature of the burial with no grave marker would suggest that this was a medieval burial, the pottery from the grave may be a product of unrecognised disturbance.

Discussion

The nave and aisles of the church had been shortened by this phase, probably due to collapse of the structure at the west end of the building rather than dismantling. The tower, was not completed in the 14th century, being constructed in the following century, see Phase 5. The chalk blocks uncovered in the north aisle could be part of the illusive early north aisle wall, but again too little of it was uncovered to identify this for certain.



Plate 7. Phase 3, remains of partial doorway in south aisle



Plate 8. Phase 4, chalk block feature 192



Plate 9. Phase 4, base of column 6 in the south arcade on wall 111 (Phase 2)





Plate 10. Phase 4, tomb supports in south aisle east end



Plate 12. Phase 4, Sk3 in 14th century tomb recess



Plate 11. Phase 4, Sk1 in 14th century tomb recess



Plate 13. Phase 4, feature 277



Plate 14. Phase 4-6, grave cuts west end of south aisle

4.5 Phase 5: Perpendicular: 15th century

Tower

The tower is believed to have been rebuilt in the 15th century; this presumably is part of the series of reconstructions after the proposed collapse or dismantling of the west end of the church. The reason for believing that a 15th century date should be assigned to the tower is that the present tower seems to be a rebuild of the former tower as evident where the surviving springing arches in the tower are attached to the nave wall. The architectural style here is of the 15th century.

Cut 374 truncated deposit (368) and was formed by a group of three linear features butting up to the west nave wall forming a square 7m (Fig. 6). The cut also included buttresses and were noted down to a level of 0.3m below the impact layer. Wall foundation 372, placed in cut 374, was that of the earliest tower on the present site. There were three walls that were joined to the west wall of the nave.

Layer (272) was a hard to firm yellow white sand mortar with charcoal flecks measuring 0.55m by 0.38m (Fig. 6). This is the earliest mortar surface identified in the present tower, and presumably belongs to its initial construction, originally butting the internal walls 372.

South Aisle

The deposits (219) and (220) were assigned to the 14th century and associated with the niches in the west end of south aisle. They were truncated by grave cuts 410, and 412. Cut 410 has to exist to explain the apparent grave cuts and other deposits. The surviving area was 0.6m square although it was truncated by 218. The fill (232) was a compact dark grey brown silt clay. These burials are post 14th century and presumably were inserted after the tombs in the niches were removed. Cut 412 was the remains of a rectangular grave cut with rounded edges, over 0.56m x 0.6m. The sides were vertical. The fill (413) was a moderately compact mid grey silt clay.

North Aisle

Deposit (238), must have been truncated by cut 224. Grave cut 224 was a sub-rectangular feature with rounded corners with steep sides and orientated west to east. Deposit (223) was a soft grey clay mortar. The interesting floor tile from this deposit was a medieval diagonal-quarter tile. This is indicative of the burial being 14th, 15th or early 16th century when floor tiles were still set across the church floor.

4.6 Phase 6: 16th-17th centuries

The 16th and 17th centuries in England were a period of religious upheaval. The dissolution of the monasteries enabled wealth and land assets, which had been accrued by the church, to be released. The ties, which the church of Princes Risborough had with Notley Abbey, were broken. The move to protestant beliefs caused the interior of the humble parish church to be revamped with the focus being taken away from the high altar and instead being focused on the pulpit and the priest (Yates 2008, 71-93). The major stone features were already in place at Saint Mary's by the 16th century. Features assigned to this period are, therefore, minor internal ones or burials.



Figure 7. Plan: Phase 6

Nave and Tower

Though no walls were built at this time it is worth noting that deposit (407) a friable yellow sand mortar was cleaned of the top of the wall 139 (Fig. 7). The deposit (407) contained a tile fragment dated from the late 17th century at the earliest. The fragment was again of the notorious fabric 3. This has thus been interpreted as a disturbed layer on top of the phase 2 walls.

The deposit (141), of phase 2, was not truncated on the south side but was on the north were at least one grave cut was apparent. On the north side of the feature-truncated wall 139. A sub-rectangular cut 305 measuring 1m by 0.74m (Figs. 7 & 11 S1). The cut had sharp vertical sides that were excavated to a depth of 0.08m. The fill (195) was a firm mid grey blue silt clay with gravel inclusions. The material in this cut compacted when weight was placed on it indicating voids in the grave below. There were undoubtedly other cuts in this gap but they were not clearly identified. The long linear shape of the grave soils between wall 139 and floor 141 would indicate that there were further grave cuts along this side. Grave cut 421 was a rectangular grave cut with rounded corners, of an undetermined length by 0.6m wide, orientated west to east. The fill (422) was a moderately compact grey silt clay with mortar inclusions. Grave cut 420/423 was a elongated oval shape with rounded sides measuring about 2m by 0.7m. The fill (424) was a moderately compact light to mid grey silt clay with mortar and chalk inclusions. The burials, which can first be determined cutting this surface, are placed in this phase, although it is possible with the later spreading of grave soils that some were cut from a higher level but simply not apparent. Truncating fill (424) was cut 225 a sub-circular feature measuring 1.1m across and 0.1m deep with vertical sides (Fig. 11 S5). The fill (226) was a firm mid-grey sand silt with frequent medium sized flints. The pit is probably a foundation cut for a feature of the post-medieval church or underpinning of the columns.

A further spread of re-deposited grave soils (393) was located in the south side of the nave over layer (306) and the grave-cuts truncating the lower surface. The contemporary deposit on the north side of the nave was layer (152/201/234/409), (Fig. 11 S1 & S5). Deposits (393) and (152/201/234/409) were moderately compact light grey silt clays with dark brown mottling and inclusions of brick and tile, chalk and charcoal. Context (152) contained two large timber nails. Deposit (234) contained a sherd of English Tin Glazed Earthenware of the 17th century. Deposit (201) contained a fragment of clay pipe, thus indicating a post-medieval date. Layer (273) was a firm mid-grey mortar clay skim covering the base of the tower, believed to be contemporary with layers (152/201/234/409), and (393).

Cut into layer (393) in the east end of the nave were cuts 116 and 122 (Figs. 6 & 11 S2 S4). Initially these were considered to be part of the pulpit, but as they lie to the west of the east column of the arcade this would seem unlikely. They are undoubtedly the foundation for a pre-1825 feature in the church. Cut 116 was a sub-circular pit or large post-hole some 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep. The lowest fill (117) was a loose mid brown grey silt clay with small fragmentary stone inclusions. This deposit was 0.15m thick. Sealing this was fill (118) loose dark brown red silt sand some 0.1m deep and 0.2m wide. This deposit did not spread across the whole width of the cut. The upper fill (119) was a friable mid to dark grey brown silt clay with stone fragments with a maximum depth of 0.2m thick. Cut 122 was an irregular L-shape foundation cut with rounded corners measuring 1.9m along its long axis and 1.2m along its short axis. The sides of the cut were irregular but were steeper on the south side than they were on the

north side where they were only gentle. The fill (123) was a compact light grey yellow sand containing limestone fragments. This was part of the internal features of the post-medieval church, being located adjacent to an area where later floor illustrations mark the pulpit; for this reason it is considered to be an earlier location of one of these features.

Cuts 244 and 383 cut into deposit (393), while cut 270 truncates fill (123), (Fig. 7). Cut 244 was sub-circular measuring 0.22m across and exceeded 0.15m in depth. The sides were steep to vertical. The fill (245) was a soft light yellow brown sand silt with small gravel inclusions. This feature was sealed by the Victorian hypocaust system. Cut 270 was square with rounded corners measuring 0.15m across. The sides were steep and the feature contained no fill, just a void. These cuts can be interpreted as belonging to the pulpit that was located in this area in the regency period *c.* 1825. The cut below the Victorian ducting is indicative of this being part of the last phases of the post-medieval pulpits. Cut 383 was a circular feature with vertical sides and a diameter of 0.1m. The fill (384) was a moderately compact dark grey clay. It also is presumably associated with the pulpit sequence. The RCHME (1912, 269-70) and the VCH (1908, 265-6) both mention the remains of an oak pulpit of the 17th century. This thus provides an indication that the features associated with the pulpit belong to the late 17th century. The pulpit is drawn on the floor plan of 1825-7.

South Aisle

Deposit (296) was a firm yellow grey mortar clay. The deposit overlay (135) and extended across the area in front of the door, and probably across much of the south aisle. It could thus be a deposit repairing the floor after the posts separating the chapels had been removed. This would indicate its more local spread. Deposit (296) was truncated by cuts 292 and 294. Cut 292 was D-shaped measuring 0.7m by 0.66m. The fill (293) was a soft brown grey clay mortar. Cut 294 was a circular feature measuring 0.7m by 0.55m. The fill (295) was a soft brown sand clay. Though the purpose of these two features cannot be explained it is possible that they could represent patches of disturbance associated with the removal of medieval features. Deposit (121) sealed these features.

In the west end of the south aisle grave cut 214 (see above, plate 14) was interpreted as part of phase 2 as it cut through deposit (231); its fill (213) was truncated by cut 216. Grave cut 216 was a sub-rectangular shape with rounded corners measuring 1.45m x 0.58m and over 0.1m deep (Fig. 7). The sides were vertical. The fill (215) was a loose pink brown silt clay with inclusions of chalk, charcoal and human bone. The fill produced a fragment of clay pipe, brick, tile, and an iron plate. The clay pipe is indicative of a post-medieval date, while the brick fabric was suggestive of a later 17th to 19th century date. The tile was a fragment of redeposited Roman tegulae or imbrex, while the floor tile was of a medieval origin.

Clipping deposit (219), the mortar base in front of the 14th century tomb recesses, was grave cut 210 (Fig. 7). Grave cut 210 was sub-rectangular with rounded corners measuring 1.65m long and 0.6m wide and over 0.19m deep with sharp sides. The fill (209) was a loose to moderate light grey silt clay with occasional human bone and tile inclusions. The fill contained fragments of window glass, a piece of lead tracery and a brick fragment. The brick fragment could be dated to the late 17th to 19th century. Laying across fill (209) was a floor layer 170. The laid floor remains 170 consisted of some seven clay floor tiles, which were undecorated or glazed, set in a white mortar.

This would appear to be a rough relaying of tiles (plate 15). The tiles had the same dimension as other tiles recovered from the site that had decorated and glazed surfaces. These tiles are probably from the same source and date and have thus been attributed a 14th century date, however, they seem to have been reset above the grave cut, and a 17th century date is more likely for their laying. The tiles were sealed by layer (121).

Grave cut 208, cut deposit (227/228) or grave fill (211), was sub-rectangular with rounded corners measuring 1.8m by 0.55m and over 0.16m deep, with steep sides (Fig. 7). The fill (207) was a loose pale grey brown silt clay containing human bone and chalk inclusions. The deposit contained tile that could be dated to the late 17th century at the earliest.

A grave cut 218 was cut through grave fill (232) at its west end (Fig. 7). Cut 218 was a sub-rectangular feature with rounded corners measuring 2.6m long by 0.4m and over 0.15m deep with steep sides. The fill (217) was a loose grey brown with chalk, tile and human bone inclusions. Grave cut 206 was sub-rectangular in shape and orientated east to west and cut deposit 413. The feature is 1.48m long and 0.56m wide. The fill (205) was a loose mid to light grey brown silty clay, with inclusions of clay lumps and human bone and charcoal. The fill contained a fragment of Stamford ware of the 10th century, which due to the stratigraphy has to be re-deposited. There was also a fragment of window glass and a carved piece of wood, which could have been a shroud fixing. The finds included a corner of medieval floor tile. The remains of brick and tile fragments also came from the fill. The bricks are indicative of this grave cut being made at sometime between the late 17th century and 19th century. The fragmentary tile cannot be dated any earlier than the later 17th century. Cut directly into fill (229) was cut 204. Grave cut 204 was sub-rectangular measuring 0.6m by 0.63m with steep sides in excess of 0.15m. The fill (203) was a moderately loose dark grey brown silt clay containing human bone, tile, charcoal and chalk. The fill contained a fragment of window glass and tile. The tile has been dated to the late 17th century at the earliest. Deposit (121) sealed these grave cuts.

North Aisle

The north aisle had to have been altered at the same time in the 14th century with the additional arcade columns (see above). Three sondages were placed across the north aisle. These uncovered deposit (154/165/174), a layer that overlay deposits (200) and (238). Thus we have to consider if the base of the wall is part of an original or earlier build or was partially constructed at a date sometime in the intervening years. Deposit (154/165/174) was a firm mid-brown grey silt with occasional limestone, tile and sand lime mortar, with a depth of 0.1m and measuring 2.42m across (Fig. 7). For various reasons we have to consider that this deposit (154/165/174) is possibly as early as the 16th century due to the finds but could possibly be 17th century at the latest. Deposit (154) contained a sherd of Red Earthenware dated to the 16th century. Deposit (165) contained the remains of a copper alloy pin; and also a fragment of tile dated to the later 17th century. Deposits (165) and (174) contained nails.

Cut into deposit (154/165/174) were 158/166, 160/163/172 (see above), 175, and 190 (see below) (Fig. 13). Deposits lying on this context included (155), (183), and (184). The linear cut 160/163/172 was of an unknown width but had to be at least 1.2m wide or over (Fig. 7). This cut was orientated east to west and probably represented the construction cut of the north aisle wall. The north aisle wall is presumably rebuilt at

this time, but to what extent is unknown (foundations or all of the wall). No number has been given to this wall rebuild. The back-fill (153/164/173) of this cut was a firm dark grey silt clay with occasional lime and sand lime mortar and coffin nails.

Previous studies of the church have suggested that the north aisle wall was a rebuild in 1867; however, the foundation cut was not apparent at the level where later 19th century features were cut from but was evident cut from earlier deposits of the 16th and 17th centuries. The ground plan of Princes Risborough church, dated 1827, is of interest here as it appears to show the north aisle as being wider than the south aisle as it is now, thus suggesting that the location of the north aisle wall had been fixed by that date. One possibility is that the north aisle may have been widened in the 16th or 17th centuries. If this is the case the linear cuts identified in the drainage channels could represent the line of the earlier 13th wall. The arrangement of windows in the north aisle north wall on the plan of 1827 shows two windows to the east of the central door and three to the west. The window to the east is larger, while the other windows are all of a similar narrow size. The four narrower windows may be lancet windows but they are portrayed without any splays. It is possible that they could be neo-classical windows, which would mean that they may have been replaced with the Victorian gothic makeover of the church.

The cut features across this deposit are 158, 166, and 175 are as followed (Fig. 7). Cut 158 was a linear of an unknown width with steep sides orientated west to east (Fig. 11 S1). The fill (159) was a firm mid grey brown sand silt with lime mortar, limestone and tile inclusions. Cut 166 was linear with a width 0.6m. The backfill (167) was a firm and hard mid grey brown sand silt, with tile, brick, limestone, mortar and flint inclusions. These cuts lay adjacent to wall 139, their exact nature is not determined. Cut 175 was a sub-circular cut with a diameter of 0.2m and a depth of 0.1m, sharp sides and a rounded base. The fill (176) was a moderately compact dark grey silt with lime mortar fragments disturbed from the floor. This was the remains of a post-hole.

Deposit (155) was a moderately compact light grey sand silt with frequent inclusions of sandy lime mortar with a depth of 0.08m (Fig. 7). The deposit contained fragments of window glass, brick, tile and a large nail. The brick was of a type datable to the 17th century at the earliest. Layer (183) was a hard light brown sand lime mortar containing fragments of brick 0.85m across. It was interpreted as the residue of building material. Deposit (184) was a firm medium blue grey patch of silt clay, the fragmentary remains of a layer, with occasional lime inclusions. 17th to the 19th century is possible, but an 18th century date is more likely.

4.7 Phase 7: Georgian: 18th to very early 19th century

Nave

Cut 375 was a circular post-hole measuring 0.5m in diameter with vertical sides (Fig. 8). This feature cut through deposit (266). The fill (376), of cut 375, was a compact mid-dark grey mortar clay. This is the only post-hole that can be associated with the support of the gallery placed across the centre of the nave. The gallery is likely to have been inserted in the 17th or 18th century (Stuart or Georgian).

The following feature 351 must have been cut through layer (366), although it was not readily apparent at this level (Fig. 8). Cut 351 was an oval feature measuring 0.7m by 0.65m orientated roughly west to east. The fill (352) was a loose yellow white mortar

sand with brick inclusions measuring 0.7m by 0.65m. Deposit (352) contained bricks in the fill which are likely to be of an 18th century date.

South Aisle

A few minor features and graves can be assigned to the Georgian period. Overlying context (110) was a disturbed context (129) a moderately compact mid brown grey silt clay with stone inclusions (Fig. 8). The brick from this context could be dated to the late 17th century at the earliest, but was probably later. The tile could also be dated to the late 17th century. Medieval floor tiles also came from this deposit. Cut 398 was a rectangular grave cut containing a crypt being slightly larger than the brick vault, which cut earlier features (Fig. 8). This cut deposit (129). The Purbeck marble stone slab 109 that lay alongside the crypt was probably originally positioned over this vault due to the insertion of later ducting. The date on the funerary tablet is 1705, presumably this gives a precise date for the construction of the vault. The crypt 124 was a brick structure measuring 3.1m by 0.64m (plate 16). The top of the structure was disturbed; walls 125 and 126 form part of the crypt. Wall 125 contained bricks measuring 220mm x 100mm x 50mm, which were bonded by a sandy lime mortar. Wall 126 had similar bricks and bonding material. These were the east and west walls of a barrel vault. The backfill (127) was variable, soft in some areas and firm in others, being a light to mid grey silt clay with inclusions of brick and limestone. The fill (127) contained a fragment of clay pipe, tile, and also fragments of window glass, seven coffin nails and a coffin handle. The clay pipe is post-medieval in date. The backfill also contained significant quantities of brick that contained some seven different fragment types, ranging in depth from 44mm to 60mm +. The variation in brick depth was considered a result of shrinkage and an 18th century date considered likely. The tile fragments could be dated no earlier than the late 17th century.

The following deposit (121) was a moderately compact mid grey clay layer with dark brown mottling (Fig. 8). It contained a piece of clay pipe, tile fragments, and also six nails. The tile fragments could date no earlier than the late 17th century. The deposit also contained a fragment of loosely dated medieval floor tile depicting the fleur-de-lys. There were also 12 other fragmentary tiles.

The following post-holes lie at the west end of the church and would appear to be associated with a gallery that was certainly extant in the Regency period. The cuts associated with the gallery and stairs in the south aisle include 180 and 182 and truncate deposit (121), (Figs. 8 & 12 S9 S10). Layer (121) produced three sherds a medieval grey ware and Brill-Boarstall ware, which would indicate a 13th century date. This does not suit the stratigraphy and must represent re-deposited materials in the south aisle floor that was heavily truncated. Cut 180 was a circular feature with a diameter of 0.42m and a depth of over 0.2m. The sides were steeply cut. The fill (179) was a loose pale grey brown clay silt with chalk rubble inclusions. The brick fabric was dated to the later part of the 18th century and 19th century. Cut 182 was sub-circular in shape measuring 0.57m by 0.44m and was excavated to a depth of 0.2m but not bottomed. The fill (181) was a loose pale grey brown silt clay containing brick and stone packing. The reason for not bottoming the features is that they extended below the impact layer. This deposit produced a similar brick fragment to that of fill (179) that was dated to the later part of the 18th century and 19th century. These few features are all that can be conclusively associated with the gallery and the stairwell that is shown on the Late Georgian/Regency seating plan of the church, c. 1827. The

brick would perhaps suggest that the feature was constructed towards the later part of the 18th century.

North Aisle

In the north aisle layer (138) was a moderately compact mid grey clay mortar layer with dark brown mottling and inclusions of brick and tile, chalk and charcoal (Figs. 8 & 13 S12 - S15). Layer (138) covered most of the north aisle and was initially noted in Test Pit 1 (located where the ground appeared disturbed). This was initially labelled as (1/03) a feature that was split into several layers in the subsequent watching brief. The deposit contained a piece of Red Earthenware and thus gives this deposit a possible date of the mid-16th century at the earliest.

Deposit (138) was truncated by cuts 196 and 198, both considered grave cuts (Figs 8 & 13 S12). The cut 196 was rectangular measuring 1.8m by 0.85m and survived 0.1m deep (plate 17). The fill (197) was a moderately compact dark greyish brown sand clay containing limestone fragments. Human remains classed as skeletons 5 and 6 were recovered from this fill along with a sherd of Red Earthenware dated to the mid-16th century and an iron plate and nail associated with **Sk5**. Analysis of the skeletal material indicated that this feature is probably a charnel pit rather than two fragmentary individuals. Such pits are often created when major periods of construction are carried out in the church; no features were constructed in this period other than brick vaults. This burial had a plain funerary tablet set in the later floor above, which is shown on the church plan of 1827.

Grave cut 198 was irregular in shape being the cut for a crypt with tapering ends (Figs. 8 & 13 S12). A Purbeck marble stone slab was located above this crypt with the date 23rd Feb 1707/8. The configuration on the date indicates this is still within the early period after the location of New Year's Day had been changed from March to January. The dimensions were 2.52m by 0.8m, while some 0.17m of this context was excavated. The sides of the cut were concave and the crypt was orientated west to east. Crypt 239 was constructed of red brick being about 2.5m in length and 0.8m wide and orientated west to east. Three courses were visible with the bricks measuring 220mm x 0.12mm. The grave is considered to have contained a rector of the 19th century. The vault contained a fill (199) a loose light brown grey sand clay containing stone and brick inclusions.

In Test Pit 1 the remains of a linear feature 1/05 was noted cut through the top of the deposit (1/03), deposit (138), measuring 0.3m wide and with a similar depth. This was not identified due to the later disturbance (Fig. 8). The fill (1/04) was a light grey clay. What this feature was has not been ascertained, but it would have been in the right location for a medieval screen. If this is how it originated then it is possible that the foundation for such a feature could have been robbed at a far later date.

Tower

Cut 274, cut into deposit (273), was rectangular measuring 1.5m by 0.65m and oriented east to west (Fig. 8). The fill (275) was a compact mid white grey mortar clay.



Plate 15. Phase 6, relaid tiles 170



Plate 17. Phase 7, grave 196



Plate 16. Phase 7, crypt 124

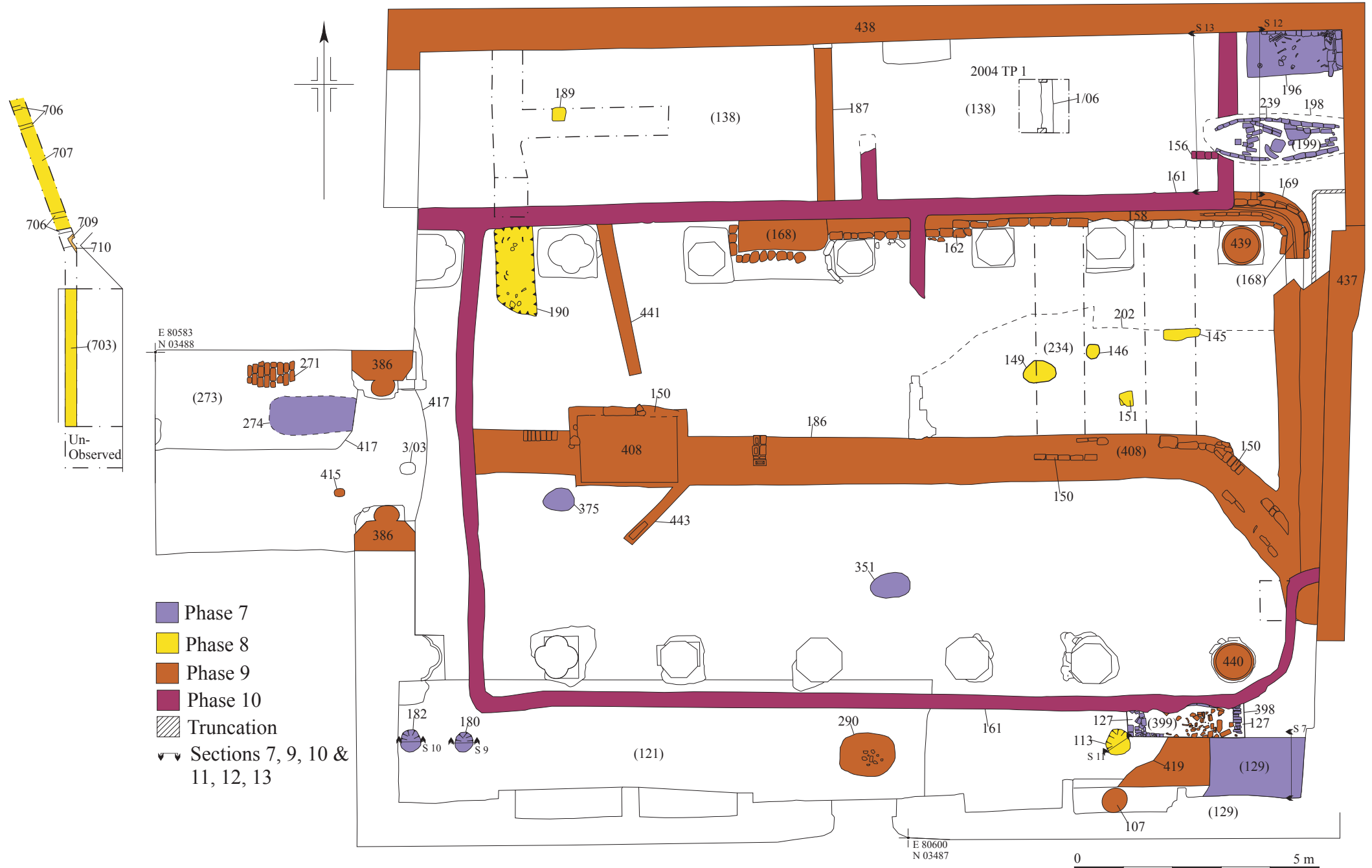


Figure 8. Plan: Phases 7-10

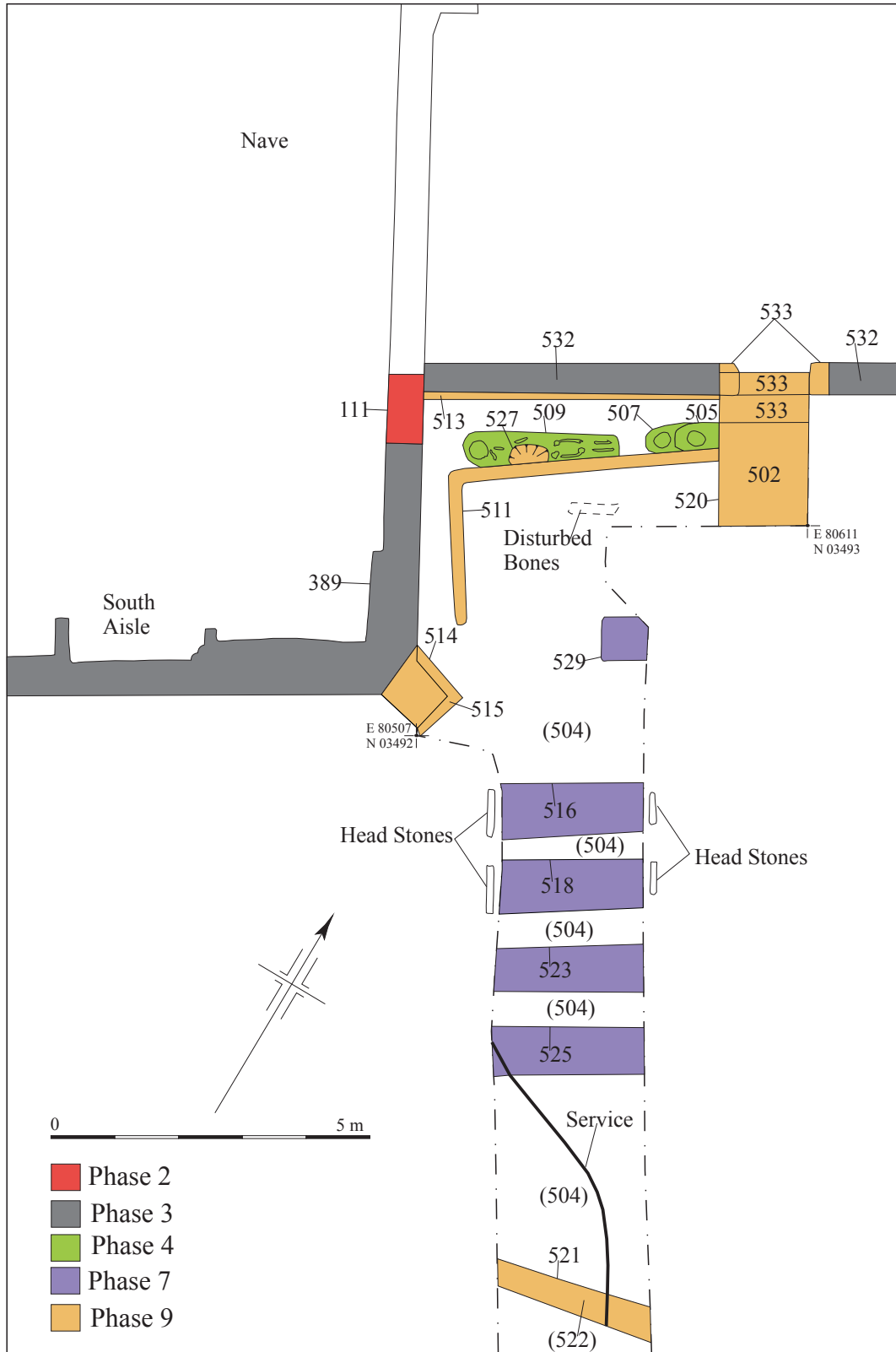


Figure 9. Plan of archaeology found on new access to chancel

External burials

South of the chancel, other burials could also be determined, not necessarily through different colourations in the soil but the location of grave markers, scatters of disarticulated human bone and slumping into voids. This area contained grave cuts 516, 518, 523, 526, and 529 cut into deposit (504), (Fig. 9). Grave cut 516 was a rectangular shape with rounded corners measuring over 2m by 0.5m. The sides of the cut were vertical and the burial orientated west to east. The fill (517) was a moderately compact light grey silt clay with human bone and mortar inclusions. A header and footer tombstones were placed at either end of the grave, either side of the path. The fill contained 11 fragments of fabric 3 tile seen as a product of the later 17th century and 2 pieces of Roman tegulae and part of a medieval glazed floor tile fragment. There was a further unrecognised tile fabric believed to have been Roman in origin. Grave cut 518 was a rectangular cut with rounded corners, vertical sides and orientated west to east, and measuring over 2m by 0.7m. The fill (519) was a moderately compact grey silt clay with human bone and mortar inclusions. The fill contained a piece of Red Earthenware of the 16th century or later and a nail. There was also a fabric 3 tile seen as being of the later 17th century onward. A header and footer tombstones were also set in the fill of this cut. The design was similar to that of those set above grave cut 516, however, in both cases the inscription was worn away. The tombstone designation is recognised as a bedstead type, where there are matching headstones and footstones. These stones were fashionable in the late 17th to 18th century (Mytum 2000, 5-7). The pottery is therefore re-deposited. The two other burials lying next to them are parallel and respect the layout of these stones, therefore, these graves can be assumed to be of a similar date.

Grave cut 523 was rectangular with rounded corners measuring about 2m by 0.7m wide. The sides were vertical and the orientation west to east (Fig. 9). The fill (524) was a moderately compact grey silt clay with mortar and disarticulate human bone inclusions. This grave had no surviving markers but lay parallel to that of cut 518. Grave cut 526 was a rectangular cut with rounded corners measuring 2m by 0.5m and had vertical sides orientated west to east. The fill (525) was a moderately compact grey silt clay with mortar and bone inclusions. The fill contained the remains of tile that could be dated at anytime from the later 17th century. Grave cut 529 was also a rectangular cut of which only the end was visible due to subsidence. The cut must have been some 0.7m wide. The fill (530) was a moderately compact grey silt clay. The date of these burials was not determined but a general date in the post-medieval period of the 17th to 19th century could be assigned to them. They were spaced out in accordance with other marked graves. These burials were cut into deposit (504), but were not that apparent in (503) an upper grave soil that was a moderately compact light grey silt clay 0.05-0.1m thick. This fill contained a coffin nail.

4.8 Phase 8: Regency and pre-1867 Victorian: Late 19th century

The first of two plans drawn of the seating arrangement was produced at some time from 1825-7, probably nearer the former date, and believed to be by James Ball. This shows a number of features including a gallery stairs, pulpits and seating arrangements. Though such features as the gallery and pulpits may be older it is highly likely that the plan was designed to accompany the seating arrangements.

Nave

Feature 151 was a brick foundation pad which measured 0.3m by 0.34m and was set in the grey floor layer (409), (Fig. 8). The pad was in the right location to be a setting for one of the pews on the Late Georgian map of 1825-7.

A series of features were noted in the northeast part of the nave cut into layer (152/201/234/409), (Fig. 8). They were initially interpreted as cuts but due to their shallow nature this could not totally be confirmed and a further possibility is that they represent slumping into graves lower in the sequence and thus the fills are truncated surfaces. Slumped depression 145 was oblong in shape being 0.7m by 0.2m. The fill (144) was a dark grey brown sand clay with charcoal, tile and brick inclusions. This fill contained a sherd of Brill-Boarstall ware of the 13th century, which must be re-deposited. Depression 146 was sub-circular in shape with a diameter of roughly 0.25m. The fill (147) was a moderately compact mid brown grey with sand clay fill with brick and tile flecks. Depression 149 was roughly circular measuring 0.7m in diameter with a depth of 0.18m. The fill (148) was a hard mid grey clay with limestone, plaster and tile fragments. The brick recovered from this deposit was of an late 17th to 19th century date. The deposit also contained a broken fragment of green glazed medieval tile. These deposits are of interest as they indicate that much of the regency flooring has been probably truncated.

Cut 190, was first noted cutting through layers (267) a far earlier deposits (Fig. 8). The cut 190 was rectangular with rounded corners measuring 1.8m by 0.8m. It was interpreted as a grave cut, but unusually the burial was orientated north to south and extended into the area between the western columns of the north arcade. The burial appears to have been disturbed by rodents. The fill (191) was a loose mid brown grey silt clay containing human bone along with brick and tile. The remains of grave furniture in the form of a coffin handle was recovered; thus indicating a later post-medieval date and thus placed in the Regency period or the very early Victorian period. The north to south or vice versa orientation does not conform to normal burial practices.

South Aisle

Truncating cut 398 and the backfill of the crypt 124 was cut 113 (Figs. 8 & 12 S11). Cut 113 was sub-circular in shape measuring 0.50m by 0.18m with steep sides and a roughly flat base. The fill 114 was a very loose light brown grey silt clay with occasional flint and stones.

North Aisle

A brick pad 189 measured 220mm by 180mm; it was a medieval brick that had been reused as a support in the Georgian or Regency period either for the gallery or seating (Fig. 8). This was set in deposit (138).

External burials

Overlying the masonry wall 704, outside the tower, was deposit (703) a compact mid-grey silt clay with some stone inclusions, which was also evident in the northern part of the trench (Fig. 8). The deposit contained five sherds including one of Brill-Boarstall ware, Late Medieval Oxidised ware, Red Earthenware, and White Earthenware. The sherds range in date from the 13th century to the 19th century. The roof tile fragment recovered from this deposit could be dated at any time from the later 17th century, but there was also a medieval glazed floor tile. The deposit is

presumably extremely mixed and there are probably a whole series of disturbances that were unrecognised. There are few sherds on this non-occupation site, and it is likely that workmen constructing various phases of the church brought the sherds to the site. The recovery of the Late Medieval Oxidized ware would indicate construction in the 15th century, which is when the tower is considered to have been built. Cutting deposit (703) was the crypt cut 712 a large rectangular cut approximately 3m by 2m in size. Into this cut the remains of a family vault 706 had been constructed. This had originally a large brick vault, which was supported internally by two smaller walls forming side burial vaults 0.4-0.5m across (Fig 8).

4.9 Phase 9: Victorian: 1867-8

In 1867-8 the church of Princes Risborough was renovated like many churches in England. The new interpretation of the requirements of the church for this renovation was provided by the Oxford movement, in which the focus on the pulpit was reversed and the high altar became the new focus once again of the ritual activity of priest and parishioners (Yates 2008, 90-93). The cult of saints came back into favour. Arthur William Blomfield (1829-99) created a ground plan of the church in 1867-8 showing the alterations made to the church at this time. The plan shows the retained features in blue and the altered features in pink. The alterations include generally the resetting of the east window in the chancel, the resetting of the door on the south side of the chancel, the building of an organ chapel, and the reconstruction of the north aisle wall and buttresses. In the nave the first columns on the east were inserted when part of the nave walling was removed, and the tower arch was inserted. The porch was rebuilt on the south side and buttresses were added to the corners of the south aisle.

Chancel Walls

The chancel arch 437 was rebuilt onto wall 433 (Fig. 8), which was recognised in Test Pit 7 as brick foundations associated with the rebuild of the chancel arch and wall between the North Aisle and organ area. The south doorway 533 of the chancel was rebuilt in wall 532 (Fig. 9). Evidence of an earlier doorway was noted below ground level and it was evident that this was carried out to take account of increasing soil levels in the graveyard.

South Aisle Walls

The surviving phase 2 wall of the nave 111 was removed at the east end and a new wall 440 rebuilt including a new column and clearstory above (Fig. 8). A buttress was added on the southeast corner of the aisle. A rectangular cut 514, truncated deposit (503), was approximately 1m by 1m with the depth unknown. The buttress 515 on the south east side of the south aisle was constructed of brick and contained a flint and limestone dressed superstructure. A further buttress was added on the southwest corner of the aisle.

North Aisle Walls

The chancel rebuild and the construction of the organ chamber were not investigated but the north aisle rebuild was, which is indicated on the map of 1867-8. This was discussed above and it was considered that due to the different levels that the foundations were cut prior to the 1827 map, when the current width is shown, and the insertion of a section of the Victorian heating through the base of the wall an indication that the foundation was retained. The rebuild of the upper part of the north aisle north wall was 438 (Fig. 8). The surviving nave wall of the pre-Early English

phase 2 church was knocked down and wall 439 rebuilt with a circular column at the east end of the arcade and clearstory above.

The Porch Walls

The porch was also an addition of the Victorian rebuild. The foundation cut 608 was placed into the grave soils 602 on the south of the church (Fig. 10). The wall 609 was of flint with dressed limestone features, such as windows, doorway, and buttress corners.

Cuts in the naves and aisles

The laying of the Victorian floor disturbed a number of graves. The internal fill of the vault 124 was deposit (399) a moderately compact mid grey silt clay with brick inclusions (Fig. 8). Cut 107 represented disturbance to grave cut 105. The feature was sub-circular and rounded measuring 0.5m by 0.4m by 0.1m deep. The sides had a gradual slope and a concave curve down to an uneven base. The fill (108) was a loose mid brown grey silt clay with a high frequency of stone inclusions. The feature was seen as possible grave robbing as it was in the centre of the grave extending down to the location of the hand bones that were disturbed. The Victorian floor capped this deposit.

Cut 419 was an irregular one some 2m in length truncating deposits 132 and 112 in the south aisle (Fig. 8). The fill (137) was a moderately compact mid grey brown sand silt with chalk inclusions. The disturbance may be involved with the resetting of tombstone 109 and is presumably associated with the Victorian laying of the new floor surface.

Cut 290 was an oval feature measuring 1.15m by 0.85m that was located just inside the south door cut into (121). The fill (291) was a friable yellow sand mortar with brick inclusions (Fig. 8).

Heating Hypocaust

The Victorian heating ducts had two main sections, both ran from a chimney set in the south side of the chancel arch rebuild, one down the central nave in cut 186, the other into the north aisle cut 169 (Fig. 8). Both of these cuts disturbed a number of deposits in the nave of which the latter was (201/152/234/409), while cut 169 disturbed layer (138) in the north aisle. Cut 186 was a linear feature with a curving section at the east end and a box cut in the west end. The feature ran more or less down the centre of the nave from the flue in the chancel wall to the boiler area in the tower. In its normal length of run the cut was 0.84m wide and 0.32m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. The Victorian hypocaust structure 150 formed the duct and was constructed of a mixture of brick, stone and tile in the sidewalls and base, this was noted in Test Pits 4 and 5. The largest of the stones measured 0.4m x 0.2m x 0.25m. The structure had a piece of Staffordshire Buff-Slip Trilled ware dated to the mid 17th century, which must be re-deposited into the duct. There was also a brick fragment recovered that was dated from the later 17th century to the 19th century, this was probably reused; and medieval floor tile was covered in mortar. The fill (408) was a loose black grey silt ash deposit with orange and white lenses.

Cut 169 was, a spur off cut 186, a linear feature with a straight section below the chancel arch with a curving section by the Victorian pulpit heading around the Victorian column at the east end of the north nave arcade and a further straight section

along the north side of the arcade in the north aisle. The stone and brick structures 162 probably had more than one rebuild but here they are described as a stone and brick structure that formed the hypocaust duct. This duct was recognised in Test Pit 7. The fill of the duct (168) was a loose loam and rubble mix of a whitish and orange brown colour. The depth of the fill was 0.28m and the width of the fill 0.3m. The finds included a fragment of clay pipe, a nail and an iron bar.

Cut 187 was a linear feature 0.2m deep and 0.45m wide with vertical sides and a flat depth running from the north aisle wall to the stone and brick ducting (Fig. 8). The fill 188 was a moderately compact light brown sand silt with stone, brick and tile inclusions. There was a large metal pipe set in the cut.

There were two further linear cuts in the west end of the nave carrying Victorian land drains. The cuts are 441 and 443, and their fills (442) and (444), (Fig. 8). They truncated deposits (266) and (267). Brick foundation 271 was located in the tower and associated with the Victorian boiler, it was set into deposit 273.

Tower deposits

The cuts for the rebuild of the tower arch were not readily apparent implying that here a similar process occurred in which the walls were only taken down as low as was needed. The deposits in some areas of the tower were heavily disturbed. Cut 417 was an irregular shape cut extending around the base of the tower and was seen partially extending across the space in the tower arch. It had to continue onto the north side of the tower arch but was very indistinct and was only apparent because the remains of a grave cut 274 was truncated (Fig. 8). On the east side of the tower arch the cut truncated into deposits (266) and (267). However, the last feature constructed and the primary connection was the west nave wall 386. The backfill (416), of the cut, was a compact blue grey silt clay. This was a relatively clean deposit and may represent imported material to the site. Truncating this was post-hole 415, which had circular sides and was 0.2m in diameter.

The colour distinctions between (416) and (266) and (267) was blurred in some places. Sondage TP3, from an earlier investigation, must have been placed over the deposit (416) hence this was (3/02), but the features identified in this sondage, the piping 3/04 had to have gone with the removal of the floor. Posthole 3/03 must have truncated deposit (416), (Fig. 8). There is no evidence of a post here for the gallery and it is probable that this was for scaffolding.

Cutting into deposit (703) is the cut 709 for the northwest corner buttress of the tower. The cut is 1m x 1m and is over 0.8m deep (Fig. 8). The buttress 705 has a brick foundation probably associated with the Victorian rebuild rather than the 1908-9 rebuild of the tower, which possibly only covered the upper section of the tower. The backfill of cut 709 was deposit (710) a compact grey silt clay.

Victorian Floor

Deposit (102) was a loose dark grey silt clay containing flint nodules. This was interpreted as the bedding layer of the Victorian mortar-concrete floor, which filled in the hollows between the drains (not illustrated). A number of older tombstones, for example 109 a grey stone 2m by 0.5m, were laid on this make-up layer embedded in a white mortar. The remains of a floor 100 was made of a grey concrete and having ceramic tiles of red and black laid on its surface.

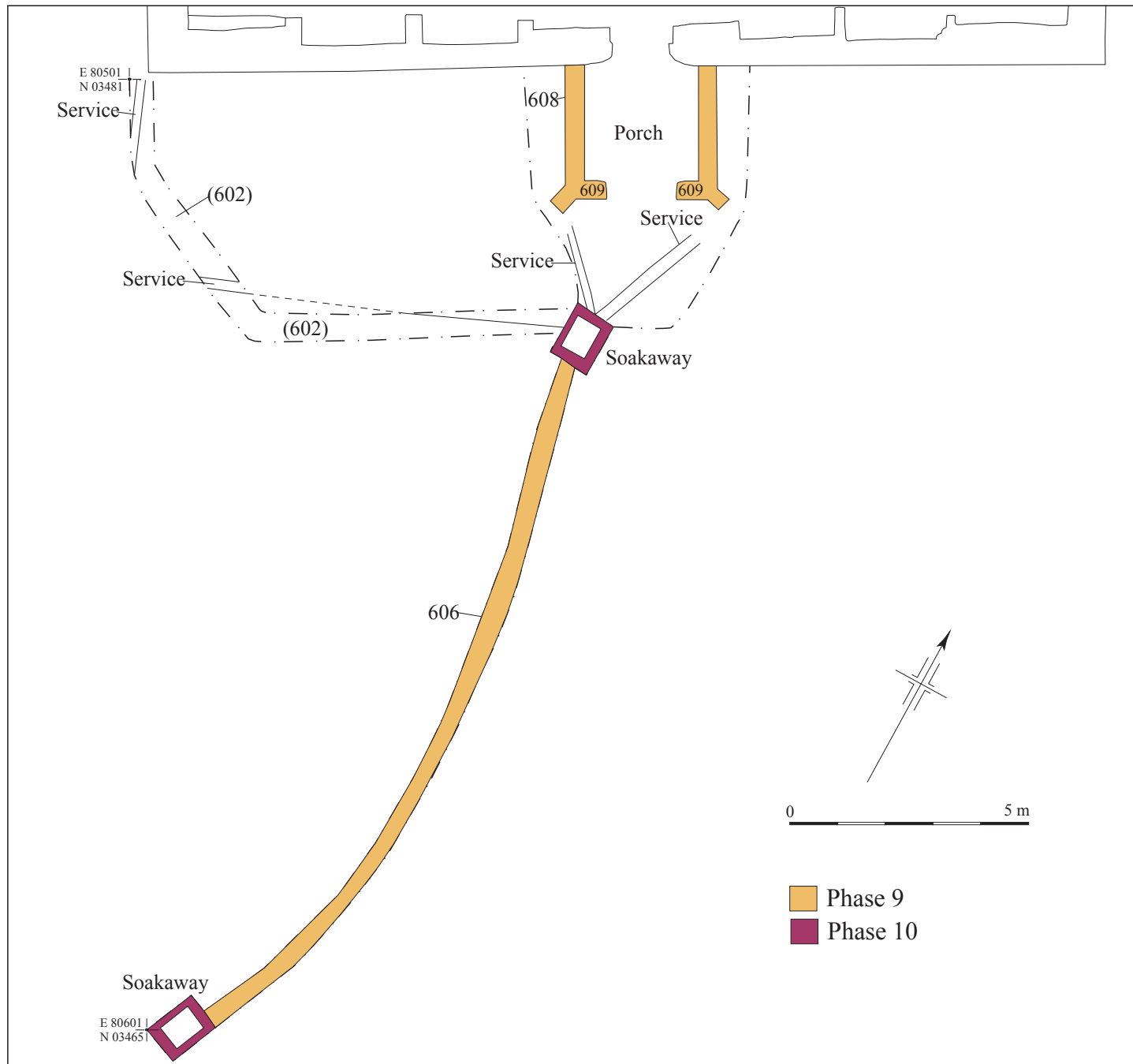


Figure 10. Plan of porch and drainage to the south

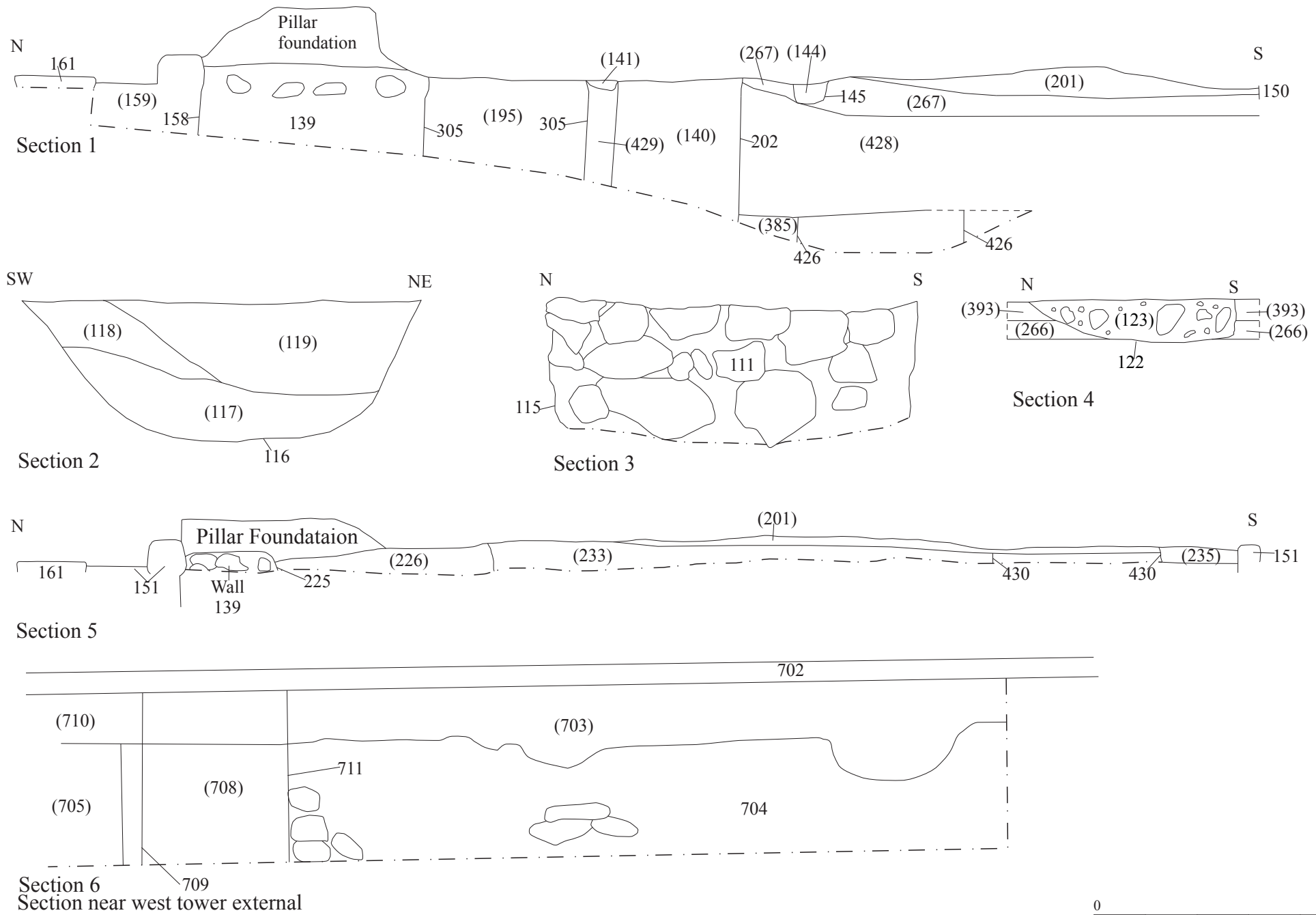


Figure 11. Sections in Nave and outside west tower

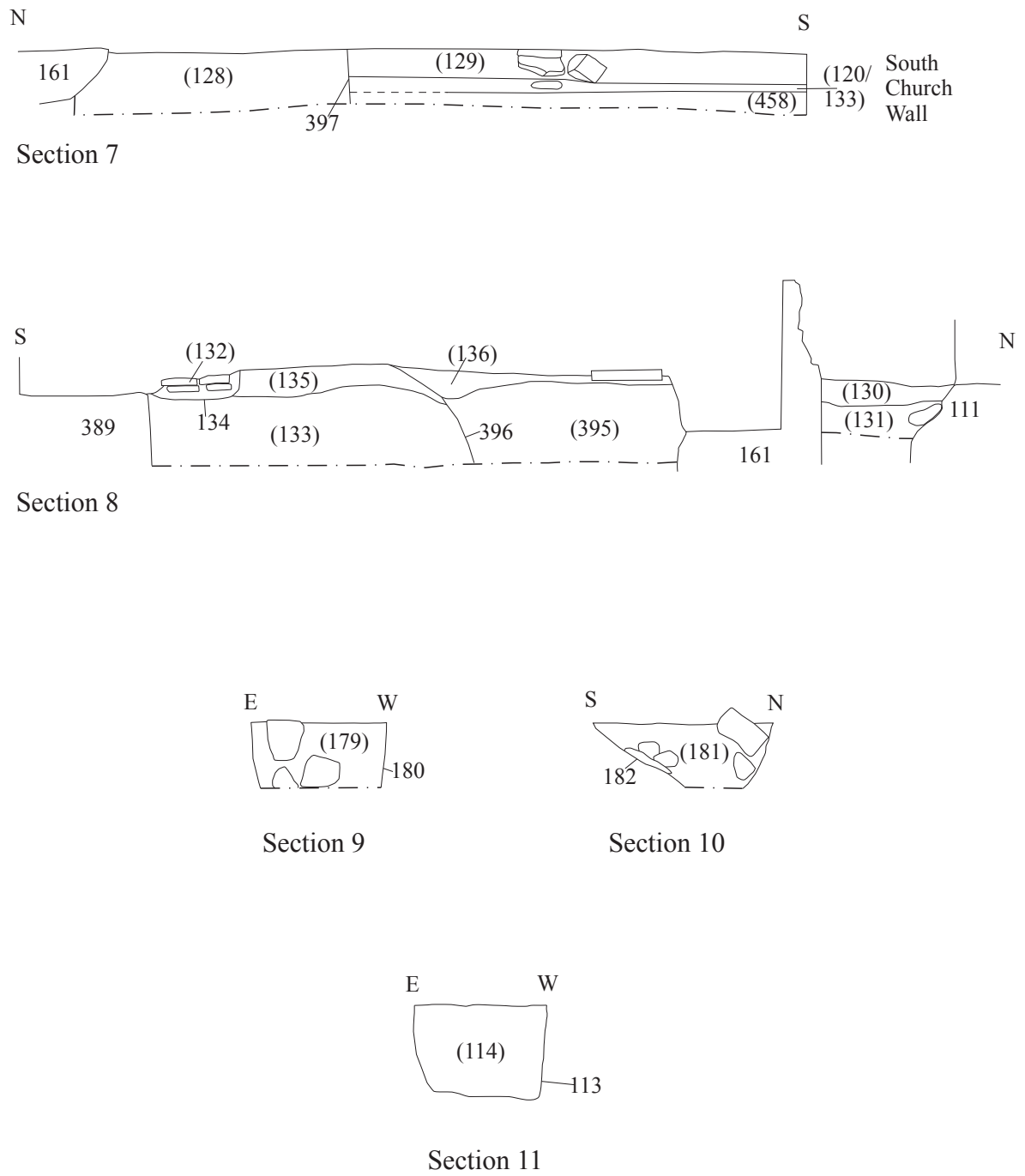


Figure 12. South aisle sections

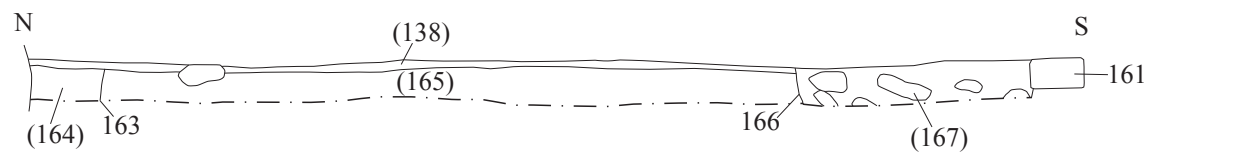
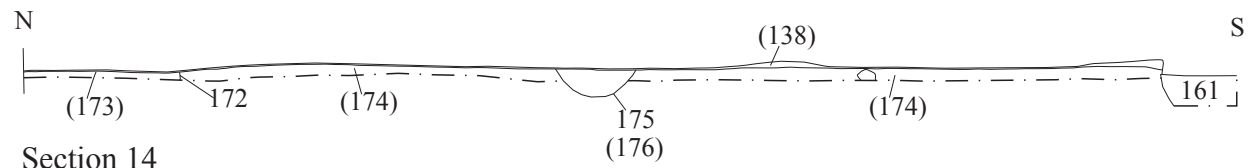
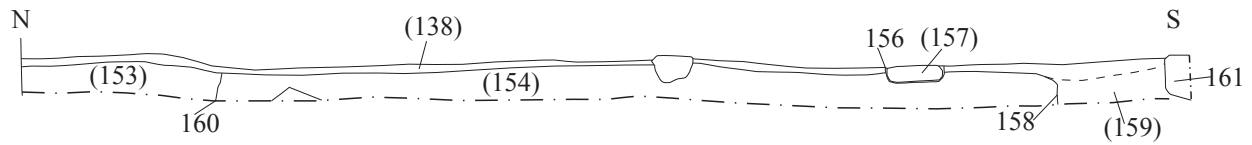
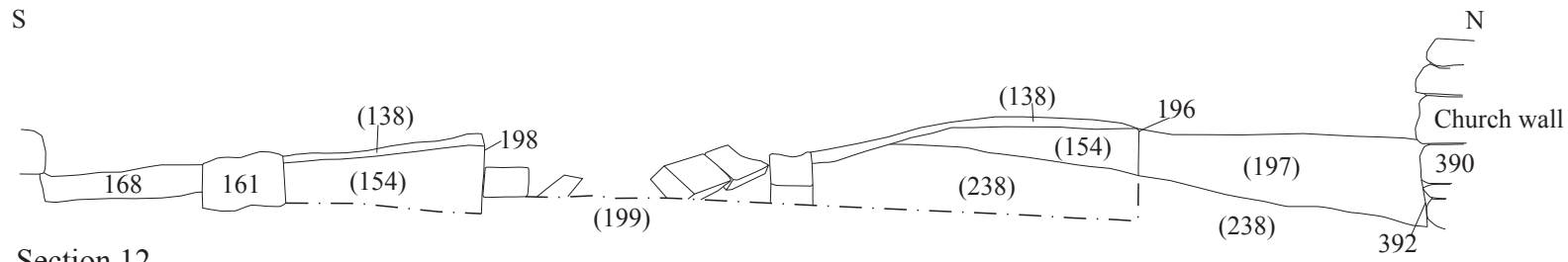


Figure 13. North Aisle sections

External features south of the Chancel (Fig. 9)

Cut through deposit (503) were a number of later cuts that could definitely be associated with the Victorian era. These included the following cuts 511, 514 (see above), 520, 521, and 527. A group of bricks 513 were laid against the south side of the chancel as part of a surface drainage run, also a feature probably of a Victorian date or post-Victorian. Cut 511 consisted of two linear runs measuring approximately 3m and 2m, both measuring 0.2m across, with vertical sides and a rounded base. The fill (512) was a compact grey brown silt clay with some sand and mortar patches and a land drain at its base. This cut disturbed all three medieval burials to the south of the chancel, and in the case of 509 was responsible for the right femur to be replaced but inserted up the wrong way. Cut 527 was a circular feature 0.35m in diameter and 0.3m deep with steep sides and a rounded base. The fill (528) was a loose grey brown silt clay containing brick bats laying end on in the base of the cut. This cut had disturbed the burial in grave cut 509 going for the location where the hands would be placed and disturbing the central part of the burial of the torso. It is attributed to a process of grave robbing and is the second such feature to be identified of this type of action.

Cut 520 formed a linear feature, which was for the path approaching the chancel door. Fill (501) was a friable orange brown pea gravel 0.1m deep. The brick fragment that was retrieved from this fill was of a late 18th to 19th century fragment. Fill (502) was a firm to hard black silt cinder measuring 0.1m deep. These were interpreted as part of a Victorian path leading to the reset chancel door. Cut 521 was also a shallow linear cut for the path running from the south door of the church. The fill (522) was a firm orange brown pea gravel. Concrete had later been laid above this of at least a secondary path.

South of the Porch

Little of any real significance was located in the drain runs to the south of the church. Deposit (602) was a compact grey silt clay that represented grave soil spreads, although no specific cuts were identified. There was a cut 606 for the Victorian path and the fill (605) the pea gravel deposits of the earlier path.

4.10 Phase 10: 20th century**Tower Rebuild**

The tower was dismantled to its foundation in 1907-8 and completely rebuilt (RCHME 1912, 269-70).

Features in Nave

Cut 156 was a linear cut 0.61m long by 0.14m wide and 0.05m deep with steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 8). This cut had to be inserted through (100). The fill (157) was a hard light grey concrete. It was thought to be part of the Victorian or 20th century heating system due to the material, but the exact relationship with it was unknown. A concrete and cement heating duct 161 0.33m across was also inserted (Fig. 8). Tiles 171 were laid at the base of the heating flue.

Outside the tower

Crypt (706) was partially destroyed with the remains of a funerary monument and soils dumped in the main central vault. This deposit (707) was a loose brown silt clay containing stone slabs from the destroyed funerary monument. In the north end of the

excavation the deposits had been disturbed, by the cutting of a modern service trench for drainage, these were sealed by a topsoil (701), a moderately compact brown silt clay. The backfill of the buttress and the crypt were sealed by a concrete path (702).

Outside the Porch

Cut (607) and fill, which truncated deposit (602), were evident for the post Victorian services disturbing the gravel path (Fig. 10). Topsoil (601) had built up over the path before a new concrete path was laid that was edged by engineering bricks (603) measuring 310mm x 115mm x 77mm with a recessed gully set along the path to direct run-off water from the path.

5 FINDS

5.1 Pottery from St Mary's Church, Princes Risborough, Bucks (Site PRMC10) (By Paul Blinkhorn)

The pottery assemblage comprised 19 sherds with a total weight of 379g. It was recorded using the coding system of the Milton Keynes Archaeological Unit type-series (e.g. Mynard and Zeepvat 1992; Zeepvat et al. 1994), as follows:

- MS2: *Medieval Sandy Ware*, 12th – 14th century. 1 sherd, 10g.
- MS3: *Medieval Grey Sandy Wares*. Mid 11th – late 14th century. 1 sherd, 8g.
- MS9: *Brill/Boarstall Ware*. 1200-?1600. 4 sherds, 161g.
- MS19: *Stamford Ware*. c AD900-1200. 1 sherd, 2g.
- TLMS18: *Late Medieval Oxidized ware* ?AD1450-?1500. 1 sherd, 4g.
- PM2: *Staffordshire Buff Slip-Trailed ware*. Late 17th – 18th century. 1 sherd, 8g.
- PM8: *Red Earthenware* 16th – 19th century. 5 sherds, 76g.
- PM18: *Green-glazed white ware*. 17th century. 1 sherd, 12g.
- PM21: *English tin-glazed earthenware*, 17th – 18th century. 1 sherd, 3g.
- PM25: *White Earthenware*. Late 18th – 20th century. 2 sherds, 73g.

In addition a single sherd (22g) of unstratified material of probable Iron Age date occurred. It had a heavily shell-tempered fabric.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table POT 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. All the fabric types are well-known in the region. The range of post-Roman fabric types indicate that there was activity at the site towards the end of the early and into the high medieval period (c. 10th/11th – 13th/14th century), pottery fabrics become scarce until the mid-late 16th century, although a single sherd of 15th century material did occur in a 19th century context. The assemblage comprises entirely single sherds from individual vessels, and appears to be almost entirely the product of secondary deposition.

Table POT1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type.

Context	IA		MS19		MS3		MS2		MS9		TLMS18		PM8		PM18		PM21		PM2		PM25		Date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
U/S	1	22																					U/S
121					1	8			2	102													13thC
138													1	10									M16thC
144									1	3													13thC
150																		1	8				M17thC
154													1	11									M16thC
197													1	6									M16thC
205			1	2																			10thC?
234																	1	3					17thC
237							1	10															12thC
510														1	12								17thC
519													1	40									M16thC
703									1	56	1	4	1	9							2	73	19thC
Total	1	22	1	2	1	8	1	10	4	161	1	4	5	76	1	12	1	3	1	8	2	73	

5.2 Brick, roof tile and floor tile by Gwilym Williams

5.2.1 Brick

Introduction

During excavation at St Mary's Church, Princes Risborough 47 fragments, weighing 12,513g, were recovered from 11 contexts, represented by three main groups of fabrics (Tables CBM 1 & 2). The fabrics were examined by naked-eye with occasional use of $\times 10$ magnification. The results were entered onto an Excel spreadsheet, detailing context provenance, fragment count, weight, dimensions, presence/absence of mortar and frogging, comments and fabric (Stopford 1990). Minor differences have been noted within fabric groups but these are not significant and undoubtedly refer to the location of bricks in the kiln during firing or to small changes in proportions of various inclusions from different production periods. All the brick dated from the late 17th to early 19th centuries. There were only a few whole bricks, and although the majority of pieces recovered comprised no more than two faces of a brick, many of the fragments represented only a single face. No frogging was present on the larger fragments. The dimensions of the bricks are not closely pinned to statutory sizes, which increases the difficulty of giving a close date for the bricks.

context	frags	wt (g)	fabric
127	17	2576	B
	3	1569	B1
	2	336	B2
	1	87	B3
	4	858	C
	3	248	C1
	1	1941	Unk
	129	1	152
	1	51	A1
148	1	230	B
150	1	21	B
155	1	542	B
179	2	50	C
181	2	86	C
205	3	16078	B
209	1	34	B
215	2	130	B
501	1	37	C

Table CBM 1. Provenance of brick fragments by weight and fabric

Description

Deposit (127), which represented the backfill of crypt 124, included most of the fabrics (Table CBM 2), with the exception of fabric A. A total of 31 fragments of brick weighing 7615g were recovered from the fill, the majority of which were from fabric B, comprising 17 fragments and weighing 2576g. A single complete brick weighing 1941g and of an unidentified fabric was also recovered from (127). Contexts (148), (150), (155), (205), (209) and (215) also yielded brick fragments from fabric B in addition to a single complete brick from context (205), the backfill of grave 206. The length of the bricks in fabric B were only evidenced by a single example at 225mm long; however the width ranged from 98mm to 111mm, with a thickness of 44mm to 66mm, although the majority of fragments with a recovered

thickness were 60mm+. This would seem to indicate a later, perhaps 18th-century date, rather than an earlier date. Shrinkage of handmade brick is perhaps a greater likelihood than that of machine-made brick, moreover.

Seven fragments of fabric C were also recovered from (127), although (179), (181) and (501) also yielded fragments. The average size per fragment from (127) was 158g, whereas the other three contexts ranged from 37-86g. Although no complete brick was recovered, the thickness of brick recovered was 64-66mm, indicative of a later, perhaps 18th-century date, rather than an earlier date.

The deposit (129) yielded two fragments of brick from fabric A (Tables CBM 1 & 2). Both fragments were quite small and it is not possible to assess the size of the bricks. However the hard marly fabric appeared to be of a later date.

fabric	description	reduced	oxidised	h'matite	marl	unid	stone	date
A	orange pink, hard-fired; L × B × Tmm	n	y	y	y	y	n	L 17 th -19 th C
A1	deep orange, hard-fired; L × B × Tmm	n	y	y	y	y	n	L 17 th -19 th C
B	deep red, hard-fired; 225 × 98-111 × 44-66mm	n	y	y	n	y	y	L 17 th -19 th C
B1	deep red, hard-fired; L × 110 × 55mm	n	y	n	n	y	y	L 17 th -19 th C
B2	deep red, hard, hard-fired; L × B × 57mm	n	y	n	y	y	y	L 17 th -19 th C
B3	deep red, hard, hard-fired; L × B × 62mm	n	y	y	y	y	y	L 17 th -19 th C
C	bright orange, soft; L × B × 64-66mm	n	y	occ	y	n	n	L 18 th -19 th C
C1	bright orange, soft, sandy; L × B × Tmm	n	y	n	n	n	n	L 18 th -19 th C

Table CBM 2. Fabric descriptions

Conclusions

The brick from the excavation at St Mary's Princes Risborough is a small assemblage, with much brick fragments and comparatively few whole and intact bricks.

A date-range of late 17th century, at the very earliest, and more likely mid to late 18th century to early 19th century fits best with the brick recovered during the excavations. The size of the bricks – both observed and inferred – is more in keeping with a later date than with an earlier 16th to 17th century date.

It is recommended that the brick is not retained, but that the Excel spreadsheet is included in the project archive.

5.2.2 Roof tile

Introduction

During excavation at St Mary's Church, Princes Risborough 68 fragments, weighing 7,351g, were recovered from 17 contexts, represented by three main groups of fabrics (Tables CBM 3 & 5). The fabrics were examined by the naked eye with occasional use of ×10 magnification. The results were entered onto an Excel spreadsheet, detailing context provenance, fragment count, weight, dimensions, presence/absence

of mortar, comments and fabric (Stopford 1990). The tile was around 14mm thick, with occasional examples being 13mm or as thick as 16mm; there were single examples of each. No full tile was recovered, so the maximum width and length are unknown. Occasional tiles with peg holes were recovered. Insufficient fragments were recovered to establish the size of peg holes or the distance from one another. Despite this, the overall impression of the assemblage is that all tile was post-medieval in date.

The fabric 2 tiles – of which there were three fragments – have been disregarded in the report, as these were pieces of land-drain. The contexts (127), (129) and (150) which contained these fragments presumably post-date the late 18th-century when ceramic field-drains were introduced (Anon 1974, 3), as they were too large – weighing between 100g and 400g – to be intrusive.

context	frags	Wt (g)	form	comments	fabric
121	10	1234	peg-tile		4
121	3	296	peg-tile		5
127	17	2863	peg-tile		3
129	3	111	peg-tile		3
132	3	538	peg-tile	peghole	3
141	1	295	peg-tile	peghole	3
155	1	102	peg-tile	peghole	3
165	1	47	peg-tile		3
203	1	37	peg-tile		4
205	2	194	peg-tile		3
207	1	36	peg-tile		5
215	1	440	tegula	residual	R
407	2	23	unk		3
517	11	379	peg-tile		3
517	2	130	tegula	residual	R1
517	1	213	unk	residual	R?
519	2	113	peg-tile		3
525	3	72	peg-tile		4
703	1	19	peg-tile		4

Table CBM 3. Roof tile by context, fragment count and weight

Description

There were 43 fragments, weighing 4705g, of fabric 3 (Tables CBM 3 & 4) recovered during excavation. The largest group of tile – comprising 17 fragments, weighing 2863g – was from fill (127) of crypt 124; a second grave, cut 516, also yielded a quantity – 11 fragments, weighing 379g – of the same tile; the dump (121) in the south aisle also yielded a quantity – 10 tile, weighing 1234g – of fabric 3 tiles. This may indicate a degree of contemporaneity of the cuts and deposit, although this cannot be certain. Other contexts with fabric 3 tile only contained small fragments.

There were 15 fragments, weighing 1362g, of fabric 4 (Tables CBM 3 & 4), the majority – 10 fragments, weighing 1234g – were recovered from deposit (121). The rest were smaller fragments – weighing on average 19g to 37g – comprising a single or up to three fragments.

Fabric	Description	reduced	oxidised	h'matite	mica	sand	corky	marl	shell
	deep orange to pink								
1	orange; hard-fired	n	y	occ	n	n	n	n	N
2	light orange; hard-fired	n	y	n	n	n	y	n	N
3	orange to red; hard-fired	n	y	n	n	n	n	n	N
4	orange; hard-fired	core	surface	n	n	n	n	n	N
5	orange to red; hard-fired	n	y	y	n	y	n	y	N
R	pink orange; soft	n	y	n	n	n	n	n	N
R1	grey; soft	y	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y
R?	pink orange; soft	core	surface	n	n	n	n	n	N

Table CBM 4. Tile fabrics.

There were 4 fragments, weighing 332g, of fabric 5 (Tables CBM 3 & 4) most of which came from the dump (121).

Four residual fragments of Roman roof tile, *tegula* (Tables CBM 3 & 4), were recovered from contexts (215) and (517). The former was from a grave located within the church in the south aisle, the latter recovered during the watching brief outside.

Conclusions

The roof tile from St Mary's Princes Risborough comprised a small assemblage, with many fragments and no intact examples of tiles.

Given the poor state of preservation of the tile – many of the fragments were small pieces – it is not possible to comment extensively on the date-range, although a post-medieval date from the late 17th century, at the very earliest, onwards is most reasonable.

It is recommended that the roof tile is not retained, but that the Excel spreadsheet is included in the project archive.

5.2.3 Floor tile

Introduction

The excavation at St Mary's Church, Princes Risborough, yielded 31 floor tiles—either whole or fragmented examples – weighing 12469g, from 16 contexts, represented by three main groups of fabrics (Tables CBM 3 & 5). The fabrics were examined by the naked eye with occasional use of ×10 magnification. The results were entered onto an Excel spreadsheet, detailing context provenance, fragment count, weight, form, dimensions, decoration, upper, lower and side descriptions, glaze, keying, presence/absence of mortar, comments and fabric (Stopford 1990). The tile was around 22-26mm thick, with occasional examples being up to 43mm; there were single examples of each tile in excess of 26mm – 29mm, 34mm and 43mm. Several intact tiles were recovered, and the recognizably Penn style tiles – of which there were four examples – measured between 106mm and 110mm. Four tiles with recognizable designs were recovered. Fragments and examples of both plain glazed and unglazed tile were recovered. These are not closely datable, but generally the similarity in fabric to the Penn tiles permits them to be associated with them. The overall impression of the assemblage is that all tile was medieval in date.

Ctx	W (g)	Form	Dims (L × B × T mm)	Description	Decoration Type and find spots
104	395	Square	110 × >80 × 25	fleur-de-lys between four quadrants, each enclosing an embattled quadrant and a quarter octofoil; light green glaze on body, olive on slip; wear 2; broken	P44 (Hohler 1941-2, 32); Haberly CVIII; found Princes' Risborough, Monks' Risborough, Great Kimble, Ellesborough etc.
104	596	Square	109 × 106 × 26	radiate floral design with three palmates surmounted by an arc; avian head looking anti-clockwise not well-evidenced due to wear; no glaze on body; some on slip; wear 3-4; bevelled upper face	P143? (Hohler 1941-2, 40); found Monks' Risborough, Great Kimble, Ellesborough etc.
104	594	Square	114 × 111 × 25	olive glaze, largely worn off	
112	2694	Square	187 × 177 × 34		
121	475	Square	108 × 106 × 22	fleur-de-lys between four quadrants, each enclosing three obovate leaf-forms; light brown glaze on body, deep yellow on slip; wear 2; corner broken	Cf P45 and P46 (Hohler 1941-2, 32); elements of both designs
127	558	Square	107 × 107 × 26	radiate floral design with three palmates surmounted an arc with by an avian head looking anti-clockwise; light green to brown glaze on body, deeper yellow on slip; wear 3; corner broken; upper face chipped in places	P143 (Hohler 1941-2, 40); found Monks' Risborough, Great Kimble, Ellesborough etc.
127	2034	Square	115 × 108 × 25	12 assorted fragments inc. 2 tiles	
128	2970	unk	229 × >167 × 43		
129	291	Square	113 × >76 × 26		
129	72	unk	L × B × 24	no glaze on body; some on slip	
141	293	rectangular	108 × 60 × 22		
148	137	corner	L × B × 25	dark green glaze; broken corner	
150	532	Square	109 × 109 × 23	mortar-covered	
155	123	unk	L × B × 22	mortar-covered	
195	79	unk	L × B × 25	pale green glaze with dark green spots	
205	81	corner	L × B × 25		
215	167	unk	L × 112 × 26	mortar-covered	
223	166	diagonal quarter-tile	110 × 81 × 25	mortar-covered	
517	125	unk	L × B × 25		
703	87	corner	L × B × 22	too little present to be sure; light green to brown glaze on body, deeper yellow on slip; wear 2; broken corner	

Table CBM 5. Floor tile.



Plate 18
Figure CBM 1. Encaustic tile;
type P44 (Hohler 1941-2, 32)



Plate 19
Figure CBM 2. Encaustic tile;
type P143 (Hohler 1941-2,402)



Plate 20
Figure CBM 3. Encaustic tile;
type unrecorded, combining P45
and P46 (Hohler 1941-2, 32)

Description

The fill (104) of the grave cut 105 yielded three fragments of glazed tile, two of which were encaustic designs recorded by Hohler (1941-2). The design P44 (Plate 18, CBM 1) was broken on its vertical axis, but c. two-thirds of the tile was extant permitting an identification of the design. The tile was moderately worn. Associated with this tile were a further two: a plain olive green glazed floor tile (not illustrated), fractionally larger than the encaustic tiles; and a second decorated tile with design P143 appearing to be represented (not illustrated), although was so worn that it was only identified by comparison with the same tile design from the fill (127) of grave 124.

The tile from context (112) was a significantly larger and thicker example than the rest. The fabric could not be identified as it was partly covered with mortar and was unbroken.

A single encaustic tile (Plate 19, CBM 2) was recovered from the dump (121), which was notable for employing elements of both P45 and P46 of Hohler's typology of Penn tiles. This tile cannot be immediately paralleled.

A single encaustic tile, in addition to 12 fragments including two reconstructable tiles, was recovered from the fill (127) of grave 12. The assorted fragmented tiles were unglazed, although this was more than likely due to wear. The edges of several fragments were clearly worn. The encaustic tile (Plate 20, CBM 3) was an intact, though somewhat chipped on the surface, example of Hohler's type P143 (1941, 40). The deposit 128 yielded a complete example of a large tile measuring $229 \times >167 \times 43$ mm. The tile was not readily distinguishable, although there was a thumb print on the upper face.

Further complete tiles were recovered from (129), (141), (150) and (223); none of these were glazed. The first three contexts were in the nave, and the latter in the north aisle. None of the tiles from the nave were glazed. A diagonal quarter tile, which was heavily covered with mortar was recovered from the clay and mortar deposit (223).

Floor tile fragments were also recovered from (148), (155), (195), (205), (215), (517) and (703). Several of these were covered with mortar, indicating that they were either used originally, or re-used subsequently, structurally within the building, rather than as floor tiles.

Conclusions

The floor tile from St Mary's Church, Princes Risborough, largely comprises non-descript undecorated floor tile, in most cases lacking any glaze undoubtedly due to wear. The majority of the tiles, where the fabric was identifiable, were undoubtedly Penn tiles, as the fabric was the same as the four identifiable Penn tiles. The four examples of complete or near-complete Penn tiles were with known or versions of known designs.

The tile is clearly medieval (14th-15th centuries), although in most cases it appears that it is residual, rather than *in situ* or in contemporary contexts. There were a number of tiles which had been set previously as a display piece. The source of these tiles is not clear, although they were probably recovered during either a relaying of the floor in the 19th century or the laying of the heating system. None of the tiles recovered during the excavation resemble those which are mounted.

As a consequence, it is recommended that the decorated floor tiles be retained, and that a selection of the better preserved and whole floor tiles also be retained. The small fragments could be discarded, and the Excel spreadsheet be included in the archive.

5.3 Clay Pipe

A total of 11 piece of clay pipe stems were recovered, no bowls, this means that the following contexts are of a post-medieval origin. The pipes came from the following context (121) contained 1 fragment (4g), context (127) 1 fragment (less than 1g), context (168) 1 fragment (less than 1g), context (201) 1 fragment (8g), context (215) 1 fragment (less than 1g), context (234) 2 fragments (8g), context (503) 1 fragment (less than 1g), and context (517) 2 fragments (8g).

5.4 Worked Stone, mortar and plaster

5.4.1 Worked Stone

Eight pieces of worked stone was recovered during the watching brief at Saint Mary's church. Five of these were recovered from the Victorian stone and brick lined ducting. The stone was a mixture of chalk and limestone, presumably the former is sourced in the Chilterns and the latter from the rag limestone in Bernwood or Shotover Forests.

WS <1> is a piece of chalk that measured 160mm x 160mm x 160mm high (plate 25). This was the remains of a circular column, with one square corner, from context 168. This piece of stone is difficult to date as it could be from a Romanesque Norman window surround or doorway or from a decorated surround. If from the latter it is presumably from the original chancel or tower arch.

WS <2> is a piece of chalk that measured 280mm x 120mm x 150mm (plate 22). This was the remains of a two half roll moulding with a fillet (Morris 1978, 18-57), from context 168. There are similar designed mouldings from Elsing church and Saint Augustine's gate house at Canterbury. These features date from *c.* 1260-*c.* 1330.

WS <3> is a piece of chalk that measured 220mm x 175mm x 130mm (plate 23). The moulding is a hollow chamfer with cusp (Morris 1978, 18-57). The moulding is either from a doorway or possibly the chancel or tower arches. This is again a piece of sculpture of the Decorated style.

WS <4> is also a piece of chalk that measured 215mm x 155mm x 100mm (plate 24). This was part of a door or arch moulding with a hollowed chamfer with a square piece of beading (Morris 1978, 18-57) from context 150. Part of the moulding still contained part of a greying whitewash. This may indicate that it was originally an external feature.

WS <5> is a piece of limestone that measured 315mm x 245mm x 133m high (plate 21). The sculpture has the remains of a double chamfer separated by a fillet; one of the chamfers is a sunk chamfer a feature more commonly used in Herefordshire and Northamptonshire (Morris 1978, 29-34). There is also a slot indicating that this is part of a window with the slot or niche designed to take the glass. This was recovered from



Plate 21. W5 <5>



Plate 22. W5 <2>



Plate 23. W5 <3>



Plate 24. W5 <4>



Plate 25. W5 <1>

deposit 150. The feature can be dated *c.* 1320-*c.* 1340 or perhaps later. It may have originated in the tower or north aisle.

WS <6> is a piece of chalk measuring 250mm x 120mm high x 85mm. The moulding is part of a column base with a triple feature wave design. The style is decorated and probably dated to *c.* 1320 (Morris 1978, 26-31). It is suggestive that the church at one time had further decorated columns than the two full columns and two pilaster columns that now survive. This piece of stone was recovered from deposit 179.

WS <7> is a piece of chalk measuring 148mm x 127mm x 47mm. The moulding contains a hollow chamfer and small roll moulding. The moulding also contains a flat area below the roll, from the Decorated period. The piece was un-stratified.

WS <8> is also a piece of chalk measuring 74mm x 29mm x 25mm. This is a fragment from a shaft or larger roll moulding. This could be Norman or later.

5.4.2 Mortar and plaster

Mortar fragments were recovered from two contexts; all of this was a white sandy lime fabric. The mortar from the following deposits included context (164) containing 3 fragments (416g), context (165) 12 fragments (694g) and context (167) some 12 fragments (694g).

Plaster fragments were recovered from one deposit (148) 4 fragments (328g). The plaster was a fine white lime mortar, and the largest fragment still contained paint or whitewash layers.

5.5 Glass

Twenty-one fragments of glass shards were recovered from five contexts, practically all of it looked like medieval window glass. The glass occurred in the following deposits: context (127) 3 shards (4g), context (155) 7 shards (50g), context (203) 1 shard (less than 1g), context (205) 9 shards (14g), and context (209) 1 shard (4g).

5.6 Assessment of the human remains from within St Mary's Church, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire (By Linzi Harvey MSc)

Nature of sample

Six inhumations were identified in four probable east-west grave cuts during archaeological investigations within St Mary's Church, Princes Risborough in 2011. Human skeletal material was also recovered from two other probable grave cuts (contexts 191 and 194), and from the backfill of a crypt (context 127). All skeletal material recovered from these contexts has been assessed here, in order to provide information about the demography and health of the assemblage.

The excavated remains are likely to date from the fourteenth century onwards and have been assessed in comparison to late-medieval (*c.* 1050AD – *c.* 1550AD) British populations described in Roberts & Cox (2003).

5.6.1 Methods

Skeletal remains were examined macroscopically and data recorded onto paper record forms following both IfA and English Heritage standards and guidelines (Brickley & McKinley 2004, Mays & Brickley *et al* 2004 respectively).

5.6.1.1 Preservation and completeness

An assessment was made of the state of preservation of the inhumed remains: from 'good' (1) to 'poor' (3).

- 1) 'Good' Bone surface is in good condition with no erosion, fine surface detail such as coarse woven bone deposition, if present, would clearly be visible to the naked eye.
- 2) 'Moderate' Bone surface is in moderate condition, with some post-mortem erosion on long bone shafts, but the margins of the articular surfaces and some prominences eroded.
- 3) 'Poor' Bone surface is in poor condition with extensive post-mortem erosion, resulting in pitted cortical surfaces and long bones with articular surfaces absent or severely eroded.

A skeletal inventory, estimation of completeness and description of each context was undertaken. Disarticulated material or bone that appeared charnel in nature was also examined in order to calculate the minimum number of individuals present in the assemblage. This report however, focuses primarily on the six inhumations present in the sample.

5.6.1.2 Age at death

Age at death estimation was based on a number of commonly used aging techniques. The adult sample was aged using epiphyseal fusion data (Schwartz 1995), cranial suture closure (Meindl & Lovejoy 1985), age-related changes of the pubic symphysis and the auricular surfaces of the ilium (Buikstra & Ubelaker 1994, Schwartz 1995) and dental attrition (Brothwell 1981) where appropriate. The age of the sub-adult and neonatal sample was determined using epiphyseal fusion data, dental development (Moorress *et al* 1963ab) and length of long bones (Scheuer *et al* 1980) where appropriate.

For descriptive purposes, the skeletons were assessed and then assigned to the following broad age categories:

Description	Age range
Neonate	< 1 year and <i>in utero</i>
Infant	< 3 years
Juvenile	< 18 years
Young adult	18-25 years
Middle adult A	26-35 years
Middle adult B	36-45 years
Older adult	>46 years

Table HS 1: Age codes

5.6.1.3 Sex estimation

Estimation of sex was only considered appropriate for the adult sample and was based on macroscopic observation of key skeletal landmarks in the cranium/mandible and pelvis. Where present, a number of predetermined sexually diagnostic features were marked on a five point scale as follows: 1 = male, 2 = possible male, 3 = intermediate, 4 = probable female and 5 = female.

5.6.1.4 Stature

The maximum lengths of complete long bones were used to provide an estimate of stature for the adult skeletons. This was calculated using formulae created by Trotter (1970).

5.6.1.5 Metrical data

Where preservation and completeness allowed, measurements were taken of a number of cranial, dental and post-cranial features, using landmarks identified in Brothwell (1981) and Bass (2005).

5.6.1.6 Non-metric traits

Non-metric traits were not recorded in this sample due to the incompleteness of individuals and the fragmentary state of the cranial material.

5.6.1.7 Palaeopathology

Pathological changes were recorded using guidelines set out by the British Association of Biological Anthropologists and Osteologists (Roberts & Connell 2004). Basic pathological information was obtained from Roberts & Manchester (1995) and Roberts & Cox (2003) with additional references as required.

5.6.1.8 Dental pathology

The recording of dental pathology, where dental remains were present, covered five pathological changes; calculus deposits and periodontal disease, carious lesions, hypoplastic defects and periapical lesions. Each observation was recorded by tooth or tooth position as appropriate and scored for severity according to established schemes such as Brothwell (1981).

5.6.2 Results

5.6.2.1 Completeness and preservation

The individuals recovered were largely incomplete. Of the six identified inhumations, only one (**SK1**) was over 50% complete, with the majority of the individuals present (**SK2, SK3, SK4, SK5** and **SK6**) less than 25% complete. The preservation of skeletal elements was generally good, with surface detail visible on most elements. However, much of the material was highly fragmentary, with a few fragments very abraded in appearance. All results have been summarised in **Appendix 1** below.

5.6.2.2 Minimum number of individuals (MNI)

A minimum number of 27 individuals are represented in this assemblage. This number should be thought of as a conservative estimate of the number of individuals present in the assemblage and at the site however, as the true number is likely to be higher.

A total of six individual inhumations were identified in four contexts (See **Table HS2** below), whilst 21 other individuals were present in the disarticulated or 'charnel' material. This was calculated using the presence of repeated skeletal elements, different age categories being represented in the same context and on the basis of colour, condition and size of bones.

Whilst the skeletal elements present for the individual inhumations were generally in a moderate to good condition, the skeletons themselves were largely incomplete and intermingled with other remains. This is not unusual in medieval and post-medieval burial contexts, where inhumations are frequently disturbed by the insertion of later graves.

Context	Context info.	Individual inhumations?	Disarticulated MNI?
104	Fill of grave cut 103	2 (SK1, SK2)	4
106	Fill of grave cut 105	1 (SK3)	-
453	Grave fill	1 (SK 4)	2
197	Grave fill	2 (SK5, SK6)	8
127	Backfill of crypt	-	1
191	Grave fill	-	4
194	Grave fill	-	2
Total		6	21

Table HS2: Minimum number of individuals (MNI) by context.

5.6.2.3 Age at death

The age of death for six individuals could be estimated (see Table HS3, below). It was possible to attribute an adult age estimation, i.e. over 18 years of age at death, to two individuals (**SK3** and **SK5**). Two individuals (**SK2** and **SK6**) were aged between 26 and 35 years of age at death, falling into the 'Middle Adult A' category, whilst **SK4** was between 36 and 45 years of age at death, falling into the 'Middle Adult B' category. The oldest individual was **SK1**, who was almost certainly over 46 years old at death, placing her in the 'Older Adult' category.

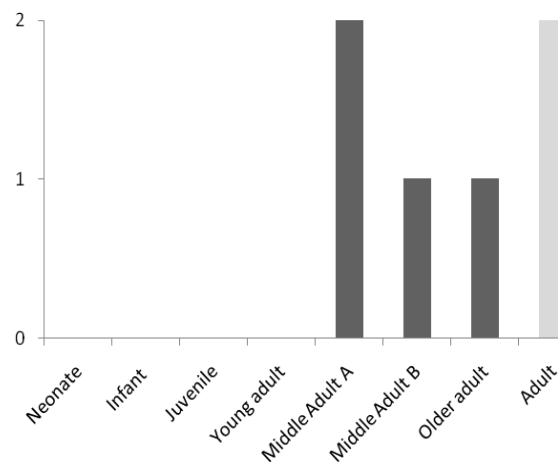
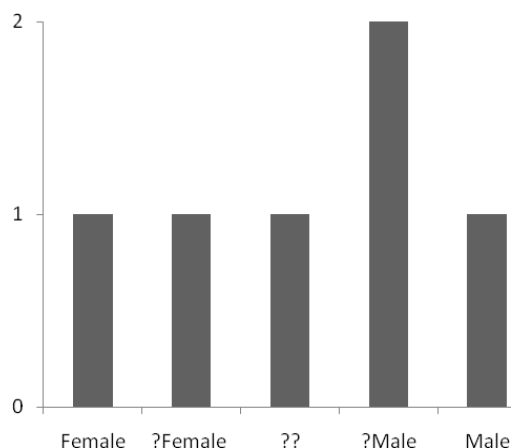


Table HS3: Age Distribution

Some sub-adult (i.e. less than 18 years old at death) remains were observed within the disarticulated material, representing perhaps six sub-adult individuals from five contexts. However, the elements recovered were too fragmentary to robustly include within the overall assessment of age distribution.

5.6.2.4 Sex estimation

The biological sex of five adult individuals could be estimated using diagnostic features of skull/pelvis fragments or measurements (See HS4 below). One definite female (**SK1**) and one probable female (**SK2**) were identified. Two probable males (**SK3**, **SK6**) and one definite male (**SK5**) were also identified. It was impossible to determine the sex for **SK4** due to a paucity of sexually diagnostic material. Although males and probable males (n=3) slightly outnumber females and probable females (n=2), this is unlikely to be significant given the size of the assemblage.

**Table HS4: Sex Distribution**

Due to the small size of the sample, further dissection of the distribution of the age and sex of the individuals of the assemblage is not necessary. Similarly, meaningful spatial distributions based on age, sex or possible socio-economic status is impossible given the small size of the assemblage.

5.6.2.5 Stature

Stature could be reliably estimated in four individuals using complete long bone measurements (See **Table HS5** below). The male individual **SK5** was the tallest in the sample, measuring 181cm, with the two probable males **SK6** and **SK3** slightly shorter at 174cm and 171cm respectively. The shortest individual was the female **SK1** at around 163cm.

On the most part, these measurements appear to fall within the mean range of heights observed in late-medieval Britons, with the range for males being 167 – 174cm and for females, 154 – 165cm (Roberts & Cox 2003: 248). **SK5** appears to have been above average height for the period. This may indicate a ‘better’ socio-economic background for **SK5**, since good nutrition and health in childhood promotes the attainment of the maximum stature determined by an individual’s genetics.

Skeleton	Sex	Stature
SK1	F	163cm (5’4”)
SK3	?M	174cm (5’9”)
SK5	M	181cm (5’11”)
SK6	?M	171cm (5’7”)

Table HS5: Stature estimation

5.6.2.6 Metrical data

Metrical data, including long bone lengths and dental metrics (where appropriate) for all articulated individuals, were collected and have been stored within the paper archive.

5.6.2.7 Palaeopathology

Few pathological conditions and only one possible example of trauma (broken bones etc.) were observed in this assemblage. In total, five individuals displayed pathological conditions. No pathological or traumatic conditions were observed in the disarticulated material.

SK1 exhibited osteophytic lipping (bony projections) around the joint surfaces of the vertebrae, on two distal foot phalanges and around the left hip joint. The surface of the hip joint was also porous and heavily remodelled. **SK4** had similar osteophytic lipping of the vertebral joint surfaces. **SK6** showed signs of eburnation of the left femur, which is visible as ivory coloured, shiny patches of bone around the head of the joint. This is a result of bone rubbing against bone when the cartilage protecting a joint disintegrates.

These pathological changes are degenerative in nature and are often associated with osteoarthritis, a condition common in older adults in antiquity (Roberts & Manchester 1995). Osteoarthritis can be caused by many factors, including advancing age and occupation, as well as genetic predisposition or obesity. Since all individuals affected are in the 'older adult' or 'middle adult' categories, it is likely that advancing age was an important factor in their condition.

SK3, a probable male adult, displayed a heavily remodelled and osteophytic distal fibula joint surface (see **Plate 26**, below). Unfortunately, the articulating tibia and talus are absent in this individual, preventing a more complete diagnosis, but this localised degenerative change may indicate some sort of traumatic event affecting the ankle.

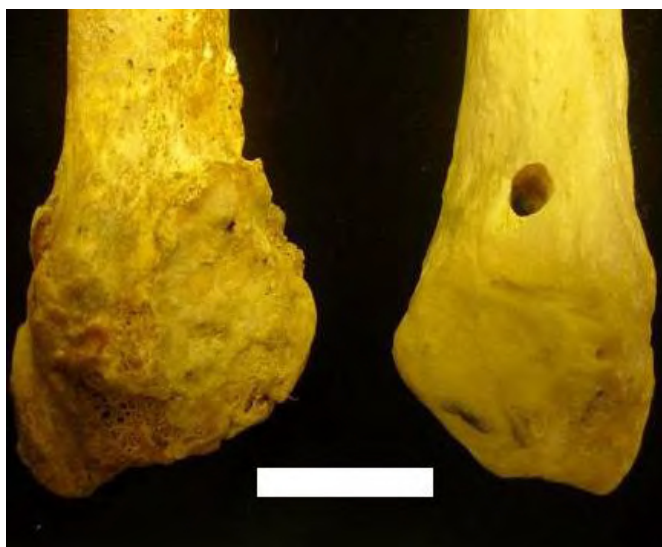


Plate 26: Distal fibula joint surface (on the left) with comparative non-pathological opposite element. Note osteophytic growth around joint surface. Scale bar 2cm.

5.6.2.8 Dental pathology

Very few teeth were present in the assemblage. **SK1** had the most complete dentition, with a total of 14 teeth present. **SK 4** had one *in situ* tooth present in a partial mandible, **SK 5** also had one tooth present, and context **194**, which was not considered to be a burial, contained three teeth within a small fragment of mandible.

Caries was present in three mandibular molar teeth, in **SK1**, **SK4** and **SK5**. Carious lesions are the result of acidic secretions by bacteria on the surface of the tooth, which result in cavities. Cavities are particularly rife in populations which consume large amounts of sugar. The cavities observed in these three teeth are considered to be 'large', with much of the tooth destroyed in the case of **SK1**. The prevalence rate of caries in this assemblage is therefore 15.8%, which falls within the highly variable range observed for the medieval period (Roberts & Cox 2003: 243).

Calculus, a mineralised plaque deposit which adheres to the surface of un-cleaned teeth was present in moderate amounts on 11 teeth in the assemblage, all of which belonged to **SK1**. Interestingly, at least five teeth had been lost well before death in **SK1**, presumably as a result of disease. This, coupled with the large dental cavity observed in this individual, indicates a lack of dental hygiene, perhaps coupled with a diet rich in carbohydrates and/or sugar.

One *dental enamel hypoplasia* was observed, also in **SK1**, which was expressed as a linear band on the left mandibular canine. Defects such as these are a result of enamel not being laid down during the development of the tooth as a child. A period of illness, fever or malnutrition can result in such a defect.

The dental remains recovered were too fragmentary to assess the presence of *periodontal disease* or *periapical voids* (abscesses and dental cysts) in the assemblage.

5.6.3 Discussion

This sample represents a small group (n = 6) of individuals who were buried in accordance with Christian funerary rites, in the late medieval or early post-medieval period within St Mary's Church. A small copper object, probably a coffin fitting, recovered from the remains of **SK1** may indicate that at least some of the individuals were buried within coffins and not simply shroud wrapped prior to inhumation. A ferrous stain on the sacrum of the same skeleton may also indicate the proximity of coffin furniture.

The burials examined are likely to have been disturbed some time after deposition, either for the insertion of new burials, or for maintenance/building works. The amount of disarticulated material present within each context represents a minimum of 21 additional individuals. It is likely that any work undertaken in the same area would reveal more burials and a large quantity of charnel material.

Although a few sub-adult fragments were recovered in the disarticulated material, robust aging was only possible for the six inhumations. All of the individuals were adult, and most were middle aged or older adults. Roughly equal numbers of males

and females were present. Most of these adults exhibited changes in the joint surfaces of their vertebrae and long bones indicative of osteoarthritis. Dental remains were sparse, but several pathological conditions were present (caries, calculus and dental hypoplasia) which indicate a lack of dental hygiene common for the medieval period and a period of possible childhood malnutrition for one individual.

5.6.4 Recommendations

No further work is recommended for the human skeletal material from St Mary's Church. Prior to deposition however, the animal bone and copper alloy object currently contained within this assemblage should be removed. A full catalogue of the quantity and nature of the assemblage has been undertaken for inclusion within the site archive, and the skeletal material itself may be reburied at Saint Mary's Church.

5.7 Animal Bone not from graves *(by Linzi Harvey and Stephen Yeates)*

Four contexts produced animal bones which were not identified as being in a human grave (see above). Context (121) contained 7 fragments of animal bone (148g), context (129) contained a tooth probably sheep, context (233) contained part of a dog skull (30g), and context (407) contained 2 fragments (4g). The assemblage was small but most of what was recovered was from cattle, sheep or pig, although a dog bone could also be noted.

Of the numbered human skeletons a further group of animal bones were noted, which included a total of 21 fragments in five contexts and included fragments of sheep, pig and cow. Several of these fragments exhibited cut-marks associated with butchery and are likely to be the remnants of food preparation. Animal bone is a common find on medieval and post-medieval cemetery sites, although less common from within church sites. The reasons for their recovery is not overly apparent, either they were deposited with the dead as a means of continuing older customs of providing food for the passage into the after life, or alternatively they may be disturbed from as yet unrecognised contexts of early medieval, Roman or later prehistoric dates below the church.

5.8 Oyster shell

Context (121) contained a left valve oyster shell weighing 10g.

5.9 Iron objects

Iron objects were recovered from a total of 13 contexts, which included building and coffin nails and coffin furniture. Context (104) contained two coffin nails weighing 18g. Context (106) contained a fragment of iron, which was probably part of a horse shoe. Context (121) contained 6 nails weighing 166g. Context (127) contained 7 nails and a coffin handle weighing 210g. Context (152) contained 2 large nails weighing 164g, produced for building timbers. Context (155) produced the remains of a large nail weighing 16g. Context (164) contained one nail weighing 4g. Context (165) contained one nail weighing 32g. Context (168) contained the remains of a nail with an iron bar weighing 142g. Context (174) contained a nail weighing 30g. Context (197) contained an iron plate and nails weighing 148g associated with Sk 5. The plate was probably the remains of coffin furniture. Context (215) contained an iron plate

weighing 96g, probably a piece of coffin furniture. Context (503) contained a coffin nail weighing 4g. Context (519) contained a nail and a coffin handle weighing 118g. There were three objects that were unstratified which included an iron bar and nail weighing 18g and a coffin handle weighing 62g.

5.10 Silver and Copper alloy coins

Two coins were recovered from two different contexts; one was of a medieval date and the other a post-medieval coin.

The medieval coin was worn and parts of the coin are illegible, but from what survived it is probable that this is a silver short cross coin minted in the reign of Henry III (Spink 2001, 146). The lettering is possibly of the shorter format and on the reverse the short cross is placed in a band and there are four circles between each arm. This would make the date 1216-47. This coin was recovered from context (120).

The post-medieval copper coin is also extremely worn but it is possible on the reverse to make out an image of Britannia looking towards the left and holding a twig in her right arm. The name BRITANNIA is split so that part of the name is in front of her and part behind. The date would seem to be 1733. On the head side the king faces to the left also and has GEORGIVS recorded in front and REX behind. This is a coin of George II dated 1733 (Spink 2001, 361). The coin was unstratified.

5.11 Copper alloy objects (by Linzi Harvey and Stephen Yeates)

Four contexts contained copper alloy objects that were not coins. Context (165) contained the remains of a copper alloy pin (SF2), probably from a shroud. Context (267) contained the remains of 5 copper alloy pins probably originally used to fix shrouds. This context also contained the remains of a corroded piece of copper (20g) that was unidentifiable. Context (503) contained the remains of a copper button.

A small die-stamped copper alloy object was found with the remains of **SK1** (104). This object is circular in form, with a beaded rim and raised centre and measures 10mm across (plate 27). This is likely to be a fragment of coffin furniture, perhaps part of a decorative handle or drop plate, or some sort of ornamental stud which would have patterned the sides or lid of a coffin.



Plate 27: Small copper alloy object found with SK1. Scale bar 1cm.

5.12 Lead object

Deposit (209) contained a fragment of lead window tracery weighing 4g.

5.13 Wood object

Grave fill (205) contained a fragment of wood, which looked as though it was roughly shaped into a possible fastener for a shroud. The object weighed 6g.

5.14 Environmental Remains

No environmental samples were taken due to the nature of the deposits encountered.

6 DISCUSSION

A series of short discussions have been inserted at the end of some of the descriptions of the features identified during the watching brief and the larger assessments of pottery, bricks and tiles and human bones. Figure 14 shows the phasing of the walls, period by period. There are indications of a structure of an earlier phase, with a very fragmentary mortar floor, that was evident in the cutting of the internal drainage tracts in the nave. A precise date for this feature cannot be given but it is probably early medieval in date (8th-10th century), although a Roman date possible but less likely.

The phase 2 church can also not be properly dated from current evidence although a broad period from the 9th to the 11th century is likely based on the analysis of the plan. Initially it was believed, following conventional thought, that the earlier major stone church would be of a Norman date and be post conquest. However, as the watching brief progressed and walls were identified under the tower and outside the west end of the tower that the plan was more in keeping with an earlier church of the 9th to 10th centuries. With a Norman structure it would be expected that a square or almost square tower would be built, however, this was not the case. Extremely large stones were pulled from the trench to the west of the tower, by the digger, that were probably once stones of a long and short work design. The structure on the end was part of a west porch or Galilee chapel. The date cannot be precisely fixed but a probable date for the development may be in the 10th century c. 970 when the estate was briefly granted to the Old Minster at Winchester (Gelling 1979, no.152). It is perhaps of interest that a sherd of Stamford ware was recovered, again, perhaps suggesting a construction date for the church in the 10th century.

The early nave was previously thought to be shorter, but observations now indicate that the nave was originally far longer. The size of the probable late Anglo-Saxon church, could lead to this church being called a minster or monastery, however, there are problems with this interpretation and the general overuse of the term minster. Church studies in South Wales, including those with Caerwent and Portskewett, and Basseleg and Newport (Gray 1998, 14-24; Knight 1971, 29-36; Knight 1993, 1-17; Knight 2004, 277-8), have shown that parochial arrangements were far more complicated. In these cases it is possible to recognise an important clas or minster church but also a significant church held by a lord, often the monarch or one of his directly favoured subjects. The historical development of the centres of Monks Risborough and Princes Risborough would indicate that these churches were probably

once significant churches of a lay lord and the Church. On the evidence we have to date it is more likely that Princes Risborough was the church of the lay lord, as is reflected in its longer term manorial associations with the royal family that later led to the designations Prince and Monks. A comparable status to that recognised in English traditions is perhaps found at Bredon in the Kingdom of the Hwicce. Here charters indicate that the church was established 716 x 717 and was initially a royal church established by a lay lord, King Ethelbald (Finberg 1972, nos.208, 226), it was only later that the church was given to the bishop of Worcester. The church here was called a minster, but the interpretation of this building in the wider landscape would indicate that the later parish of Bredon probably originated as part of the larger parochial system centred on Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire (Yeates forthcoming).

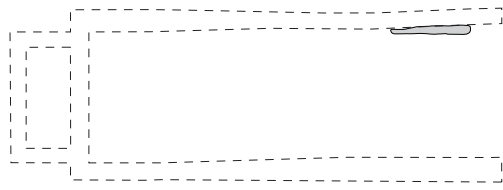
The Early English church, Phase 3, was the first phase that had previously been described. This saw the insertion of the aisles and arcades. The church, however, was believed previously to be shorter than it actually was. The identification of the west nave wall under the tower would imply that the Early English arcade probably had two more columns. The remains of the door in the west end of the south aisle would indicate that this was the location of the earliest door. The chancel was also rebuilt at this time, and it is presumably at this date that the misalignment occurred between the older nave and new chancel.

The porch, even though rectangular in shape, may have had a bell tower chamber added, thus with this addition instability may have occurred thus leading to collapse or dismantlement. Phase 4 of the church saw the replacement of the west end of the church: the west part of the arcades, the insertion of features in the south aisle and in the chancel. Phase 5 was also ultimately a result of the potential collapse or dismantling of the west end of the church with the rebuilding of a new tower in the 15th century. The rebuild of the north aisle nave could have occurred first at any of these phases.

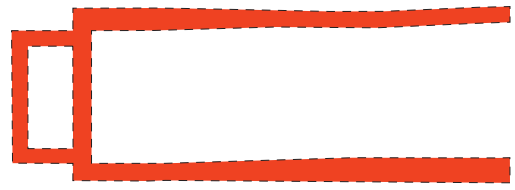
The main phases of the church were already in place by the 15th century, Phase 6, the Stuart and Georgian, only saw the insertion of minor features into the building, a gallery and pulpit as the focus of the church was reorganised. There were also numerous burials that could be directly associated with this feature. Phase 7, the Georgian period, saw the construction of vaulted tombs. Phase 8 also contained minor alterations in the early to mid-19th century.

Phase 9 represents the reworking of the church in the Victorian period 1867-8. This saw alterations to the arcade and clearstory in the nave, rebuilds in the tower and chancel and additions to the tower, north aisle, south aisle, and organ chamber. The floor was inserted throughout the church.

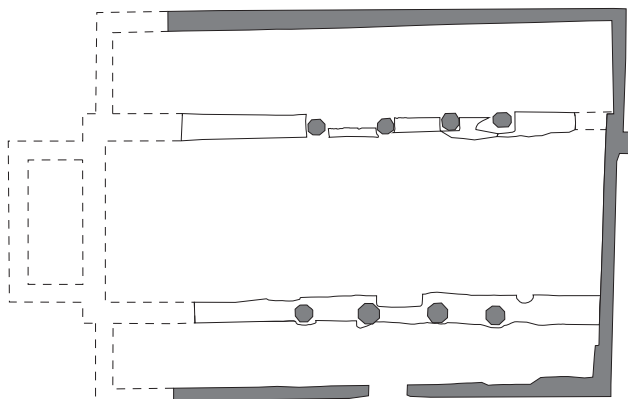
Phase 10 is for alterations in the 20th century of which the major activity was the dismantling and reconstruction of the tower, believed to be in the same location and style and an updated heating system.



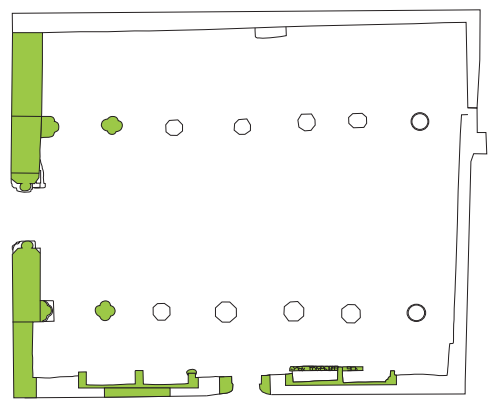
Phase 1



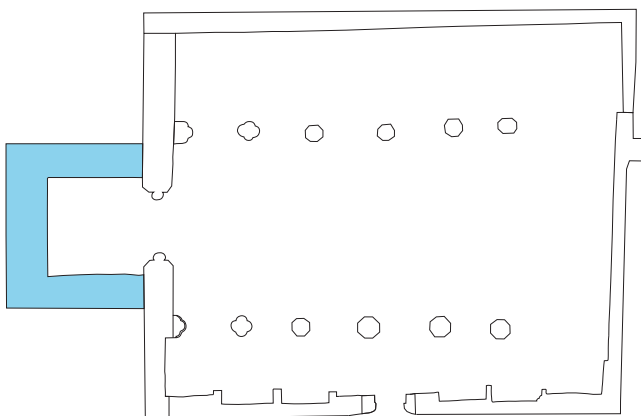
Phase 2



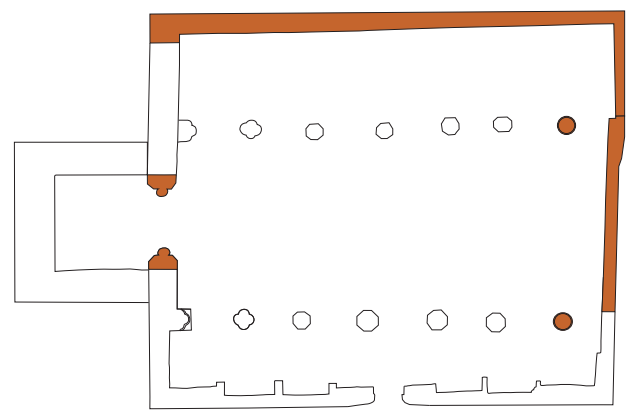
Phase 3



Phase 4



Phase 5



Phase 9

Figure 14. Phasing of the Church walls

7 ARCHIVE

Archive Contents

The archive consists of the following:

Paper record

The project brief

Written scheme of investigation

The project report

The primary site record

The archive currently is maintained by John Moore Heritage Services and will be transferred to the County Museums' Store.

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Appendix 1 – Summary Table

<i>Skeleton no.</i>	<i>Pres.</i>	<i>Completeness</i>	<i>Alig.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Stature</i>	<i>Pathology and Trauma</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>MNI</i>
SK1 (104)	1	c. 60% Near complete skull, partial pelvis, sacrum, two vertebrae, all long bones represented but only right radius complete.	E-W	46 – 65 years	♀	163cm (5'4")	Osteophytic growth and possible Schmorl's nodes on vertebrae. Left acetabulum has osteophytic lipping and porous joint surface. Distal phalanges also osteophytic. Moderate calculus deposits, large caries on lower M1 and linear hypoplastic defect on lower canine.	Two other individuals represent (one adult, one sub-adult). Includes 1 butchered animal bone (?bos) and a small copper alloy object, possible coffin fitting or decoration. Sacrum has anterior ferrous staining .	3
SK2 (104)	2	<25% Occipital skull fragment, right mastoid area, c. 7 thoracic vertebrae fragments, partial right clavicle and scapula, humerus shaft fragment.	E-W	26-35 years	? ♀	-	None observed.	-	1
SK3 (106)	2/3	<25% Complete left humerus, clavicle and fibula. Three right metacarpals, one hand phalange, left calcaneus, 5 th metatarsal and foot phalange.	? E-W	Adult	? ♂	174cm (5'9")	Distal surface of fibula heavily remodelled, osteophytic growth. Exostosis on anterior part.	Very robust individual. Includes two animal bone fragments, one butchered.	1
SK4 (121)	1	<25% Left mandible, right first rib, seven vertebrae, right distal radius and proximal ulna, four metatarsals.	-	36-45 years	?	-	Porosity on vertebral body of C6, possible Schmorl's nodes on T2, L1. Large carious lesion lower left first molar.	Two other individuals present (one adult, one sub-adult) Includes five fragments of animal bone.	3
SK5 (197)	2/3	<25% Left humerus, both femurs represented, complete right clavicle and right radius. Left mandible fragment with <i>in situ</i> second molar.	E-W	Adult	♂	181cm (5'11")	Large caries lower left second molar.	At least 6 other individuals represented in this sample (5 adults, 1 sub-adult). Includes 8 animal bone fragments, including one <i>sus</i> tooth.	10
SK6 (197)	2	<25% Frontal bone, left mastoid, right femur and tibia, left femur fragment, right ulna and partial left humerus.	-	26-35 years	? ♂	171cm (5'7")	Head of right femur exhibits osteophytic lipping and small patches of eburnation.	At least two other individuals present (one adult, one sub-adult). Includes three animal bone fragments.	

(104)	2/3	Two right humerus fragments, right radius, right femur fragments. Several long bone fragments, some very abraded.	-	-	-	-	-	Disarticulated material, represents two adult individuals. Includes two ? <i>ovis</i> metapodial bone fragments.	2
(127)	2	1 right clavicle, right proximal ulna fragment, 2 femur fragments that fit together, several small fragments.	-	-	-	-	-	Disarticulated material, represents one adult individual.	1
(191)	2/3	Various long bone fragments, some of significantly different sizes/conditions, few small skull fragments, rib fragments, four hand and five foot bones.	-	-	-	-	-	Disarticulated material, represents at least three adult individuals and one sub-adult.	4
(194)	1	Three pelvis fragments, few vertebral fragments, 1 rib head and one left side mandible with canine and premolars <i>in situ</i> .	-	-	-	-	-	Disarticulated material, represents at least one adult and one sub-adult individual.	2
TOTAL MNI									27