



# St. Mary's Church, Huggate

## Report on an Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

**St Mary's Church, Huggate**  
**Report on Archaeological Monitoring and Recording**



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## KEY DOCUMENT INFORMATION

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## ABBREVIATIONS

|      |                                        |
|------|----------------------------------------|
| ADS  | Archaeological Data Service            |
| AOD  | Above Ordnance Datum                   |
| BGL  | Below Ground Level                     |
| CBM  | Ceramic Building Materials             |
| CIfA | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists |
| DAA  | Diocese Archaeological Advisor         |
| HER  | Historic Environment Record            |
| LOE  | Limit of Excavation                    |
| NPPF | National Planning Policy Framework     |
| WSI  | Written Scheme of Investigation        |
| YA   | York Archaeology                       |

## **SUMMARY**

Between the 9th October 2023 and 23rd April 2024, York Archaeology (YA) conducted a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at St Mary's Church, Huggate, East Riding of Yorkshire (Grid Ref. SE 88229 55512; Figure 1). This comprised two phases of monitoring.

The first phase took place between the 9th and 16th October 2023 on excavations for the installation of a water pipe in the area south of the church and for a drainage system with an associated soakaway to the north. These works took place within the churchyard and had the potential to disturb burials.

The second phase took place between the 18th March and 23rd April on works within the interior of the church, involving the reduction of the ground level for the installation of new flooring and sub-surface insulation.

Overall, the majority of archaeological remains encountered during these works constituted disarticulated human bone from previously disturbed burials, as well as patchy remnants of medieval stone flooring and lead smelting pits within the church interior. Of particular significance was a single articulated juvenile inhumation revealed in the southern area of the churchyard.

In accordance with the wishes of the Diocese of York and best practice outlined by the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England (APABE 2017) all disarticulated human bone found during these works was recovered and placed into cotton bags for reburial by officials of the Diocese. The articulated burial was placed in a separate bag and reinterred within the opened trench, as close as practicable to the original burial location.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Context of the Project

1.1.1 The Parochial Church Council of St Mary's Church, Huggate, East Riding of Yorkshire (Grid Ref. SE 88229 55512; Figure 1) has received Faculty consent for the replacement of the nave and side aisle floors with York stone flags on an insulated limecrete base throughout, and for the installation of grilled tubes utilising existing cast iron Georgian heating floor ducts down the centre of the church. The scheduled works also included the introduction of a mains water supply, a land drain around the building, soakaway, trench arch drainage system and drainage outlets for future installation of kitchen and WC facilities (Figure 2).

1.1.2 Under the terms of this Faculty consent, archaeological monitoring and recording of these modifications and groundworks was determined to be necessary. This work was carried out in accordance with the following requirements from the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAA; Foster 2023):

- *A programme of post-determination archaeological mitigation, specifically a watching brief is required on this site.*
- *The archaeological scheme comprises three stages of work. Each stage shall be completed and agreed by the Local Planning Authority before it can be approved.*
- *No ground reduction or new development shall take place until a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a watching brief has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI no development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI. The WSI should conform to standards set by LPA and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.*
- *The site investigation and post-investigation assessment shall be completed in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI approved under the above condition and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition will be secured. This part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI.*
- *A copy of the report shall be deposited with the Diocese Advisory Committee Secretary to allow public dissemination of the results within 2 months of completion or such other period as may be agreed in writing with the Diocese Advisory Committee.*
- *This condition is imposed in accordance with Section 16 of NPPF.*
- *This site is considered to be an area of archaeological interest. Therefore, the development may affect important archaeological deposits which must be recorded prior to destruction.*

1.1.3 As a result, York Archaeology (YA) was commissioned to conduct a programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at St Mary's Church, Huggate, between the 9th October 2023 and 23rd April 2024. This was undertaken in accordance with the WSI (Foster 2023) and relevant standards and guidance appropriate to the nature of these works, principally the Chartered Institute for Archaeology's (CIfA) *Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording* (2023), *Code of Conduct: professional ethics in archaeology* (CIfA 2022) and the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* (APABE 2017).

## **2 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY**

### **2.1 Location**

- 2.1.1 The village of Huggate is situated approximately 27km east of York and 14km north of Market Weighton, roughly equidistant between York and Bridlington (Figure 1). St Mary's Church is located towards the northern end of the village (Grid ref. SE 88229 55512), approximately 466m north-east of the junction between Pocklington Lane, Driffield Road, Mill Lane and Stocks Hill. The site lies at approximately 150m AOD.
- 2.1.2 The site encompasses the church building and the surrounding churchyard (Plate 1), which is bounded by residential properties to the south and west, and by a combination of pasture fields and woodland to the north and east.

### **2.2 Geology**

- 2.2.1 The geology of the site comprises Burnham Chalk Formation of chalk and sedimentary bedrock formed between 93.9 and 83.6 million years ago during the Cretaceous Period (BGS 2024). This is overlain by shallow, freely draining lime-rich soils (LandIS 2024).

### **2.3 Topography**

- 2.3.1 The site is broadly flat with minor undulations, with the exception of a gentle ridge that runs east to west along the southern side of the churchyard at approximately 151m AOD. This ridge gradually slopes downwards towards the church, which lies at approximately 150m AOD.

### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The following section combines the results of searches of readily available sources on a period by period basis (as defined by Historic England) within a 1km radius of the site. Searches were made using a combination of the Archaeological Data Service, the East Riding of Yorkshire Historic Environment Record, Heritage Gateway, Historic England National Heritage List and Open Domesday websites.

#### 3.2 Prehistory: 500,000 BC to 42 AD

- 3.2.1 The record of prehistoric activity within the 1km search radius of St. Mary's Church is limited mainly to suspected prehistoric ring ditch systems revealed by aerial photography (Heritage Gateway 2024). Of those closest to the site, a ring ditch is located 300m to the north-east (HER no.15406) and an early Bronze age to Late Iron age ring ditch 540m to the south-east (HER no. 15408).
- 3.2.2 Of further interest, a Neolithic flint chisel was recovered towards the southern side of the village, approximately 550m south-west of the site (HER no. 3400), close to an Iron Age cart burial (HER no. 4577).

#### 3.3 Roman: 42 AD – 410 AD

- 3.3.1 Within the search radius, the most compelling evidence for Roman activity in Huggate is from evaluation work carried out behind the Wolds Inn by Humber Field Archaeology, approximately 480m due south of St Mary's Church. A small number of pottery sherds were uncovered in this evaluation, suggesting Roman domestic activity in the vicinity (Humber Field Archaeology 2005).
- 3.3.2 Further to this, a Roman coin has been previously recovered from fields south of Huggate (HER no. 4570).

#### 3.4 Early Medieval: 410 AD – 1066 AD

- 3.4.1 The place name 'Huggate' is possibly derived from the Old Norse *haugr*, meaning mound or hillock, and *gata* meaning road; making the name of the settlement translate to 'road near the mounds' or 'burial-mound road'. Alternatively, the Old English word *hūc* which means a hook or river-bend and '*geat*' meaning a passage or gate may change the name of the settlement to 'hook road' (Key to English Place Names 2024).
- 3.4.2 Evidence of the possible early medieval occupation of Huggate is similarly suggested by cropmarks in the area. Aerial photographs of land to the north of the village suggest the presence of a 'Butterwick-type' settlement (HER no. 7147) approximately 530m north-west of St Mary's Church.

#### 3.5 Medieval: 1066 AD – 1540 AD

- 3.5.1 St Mary's Church itself is a Grade I listed building (List entry number 1084147) with the original nave dating to c. 1190. The north and south aisles, a 13th century chancel and an early 14th century west tower with a recessed spire are all later additions.

- 3.5.2 Work carried out by Humber Field Archaeology ahead of residential development behind the Wolds Inn on Driffeld Road, Huggate yielded several features dating to the medieval period. These included a north/south boundary bank with associated wall foundations which formed the western edge of a medieval croft enclosure. A number of levelling deposits found within the trench contained medieval pottery dating to the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Humber Field Archaeology 2005).
- 3.5.3 Furthermore, the base of a medieval cross was discovered at Glebe Farm, 760m to the north-west of St Mary's Church (HER 1084149).

### **3.6 Post-Medieval and Modern**

- 3.6.1 Significant post-medieval activity within the vicinity of the church includes the construction of a Grade II listed timber framed manor house dating to the late 16<sup>th</sup> or early 17<sup>th</sup> century, which is presently located on Church Street, 250m to the south of St. Mary's Church. This house was later extended in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century (HER 1084148).
- 3.6.2 Further to this, the south porch and south vestry of St Mary's Church were constructed during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The charity board of the church, located in the nave on the west wall, was also constructed during this period in 1826 (Huggate Parish Council 2024).
- 3.6.3 Important 20<sup>th</sup> century additions to the village include the Grade II listed Huggate War Memorial, which was originally built in 1921 and had the name of an additional serviceman who fought in the Second World War later added. In 2016 the memorial was steam cleaned and the incised lettering was re-painted in line with historical evidence (List Entry Number 1464098; Historic England 2024). An extension of the churchyard has also been completed in recent years, expanding the area for further burial plots (National Churches Trust 2024).
- 3.6.4 In the present day, the church is part of the Diocese of York and the Pocklington Wold Benefice (Huggate Parish Council 2024) remaining in active use to members of the public and Huggate Parish.

## 4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

### 4.1 Aims

4.1.1 The aims of the archaeological monitoring and recording were as follows:

- To record the archaeological resources during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices;
- To determine the extent, condition, character, importance and date of any archaeological remains present;
- To provide information enabling the archaeological remains to be placed within their local, regional and national context, allowing the significance of the archaeology of the proposed area to be determined;
- To protect and record the archaeology known to be in this area of archaeological interest, as this will enable the local authority to determine any requirements for further archaeological mitigation that may be needed.

### 4.2 Objectives

4.2.1 The objectives of the archaeological monitoring and recording were as follows:

- To monitor any and all groundworks undertaken as part of the development that could be considered intrusive to potential archaeological remains;
- To clean, excavate and sample, where necessary, archaeological deposits of interest that will be destroyed as part of the groundworks;
- To produce a written and digital record of archaeological deposits, structural elements and cut features encountered during these intrusive groundworks;
- To create a comprehensive site archive from the above records, allowing for the creation of a written report detailing a summary of the results of this monitoring;
- To collect, record, and rebury any material goods and human remains uncovered during the works in accordance with guidance from the Diocese's Archaeological Advisor Phil Abramson, the Diocese of York, and the *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* (APABE 2017);
- To undertake the above in accordance with appropriate industry standards and guidance, principally the *Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording* (ClfA 2023), *Code of Conduct: professional ethics in archaeology* (ClfA 2022).

## **5 METHODOLOGY**

### **5.1 Pre-Start Requirements**

- 5.1.1 The DAA was informed that the archaeological monitoring was taking place, to offer the opportunity to visit the site and monitor the archaeological recording works.
- 5.1.2 Access to the site was arranged with the church wardens prior to the commencement of works, with welfare on site provided by the contractors undertaking the groundworks.
- 5.1.3 Prior to the programme of archaeological monitoring, the pews and modern tiled floor of the church interior were removed, allowing access to the deposits beneath. All wooden furnishings were also removed for reinstallation at a later date.

### **5.2 Excavation Methodology**

- 5.2.1 Excavation was primarily undertaken using a mini 360° mechanical excavator equipped with toothless ditching and trenching buckets. This included, where possible, the interior of the church.
- 5.2.2 In order to facilitate the excavation within the church interior using the mechanical excavator, a system of fans for adequate ventilation, as well as floodlights and access through the south porch, was employed.
- 5.2.3 Hand excavation was then undertaken in areas where the deposits encountered were of potential archaeological importance, of possible association with burials, and in areas of limited manoeuvrability for the mechanical excavator.
- 5.2.4 Where human remains were discovered they were left in-situ, covered, and protected pending notification of the discovery to the DAA Phil Abramson. An osteoarchaeologist was available to give advice on site. Disarticulated human remains were replaced in the backfilled trench within a burial shroud.
- 5.2.5 Where articulated human remains were found and it was not deemed necessary to lift the burial, the exposed human remains were reinterred within the trench after cleaning, photography, and recording of the location. Where trenches were immediately backfilled, the remains were left in the ground. If the excavations were left open for any amount of time, the disarticulated remains were removed and bagged for later reburial in, or as close as possible to, the location of their discovery.
- 5.2.6 All human remains that were found were excavated in accordance with the guidance of Mytum (2000), McKinley and Roberts (1993), and APABE (2017). Following the recommendation of DAA Phil Abramson, any excavated human remains were reinterred as quickly as possible.
- 5.2.7 In instances where structural remains were revealed in the interior of the church, these were cleaned and recorded in situ. Where preservation in situ could not be achieved due to the intrusive nature of the groundworks, elements of the remains at risk were then removed as necessary to achieve formation level.
- 5.2.8 In the instance any negative or 'cut' features (such as pits or postholes) were observed in the interior of the church and above the formation depth of the groundworks, these were

excavated to create measurable sections, sampled and recorded in accordance with methodology established in the *York Archaeology Excavation Manual* (York Archaeology 2024). Following this, these features were then fully excavated.

### 5.3 Recording Methodology

- 5.3.1 As archaeological features were encountered during the monitoring, distinct archaeological contexts were allocated unique numerical identifiers and described in full on pro-forma context record sheets in accordance with the *York Archaeology Excavation Manual* (2024). Unique context numbers were also assigned to other observed deposits and features of modern origin where doing so aided in the understanding of the site and stratigraphy.
- 5.3.2 Archaeological contexts were planned using Leica GNSS and correlated with the OS national grid where possible, however interference and lack of signal within the church interior prohibited the use of this system in this location. As such, accurate hand plans and section drawings were made where appropriate, created at a basic scale of 1:10 or 1:20 depending on the size of the feature.
- 5.3.3 A comprehensive photographic record was compiled across the programme of monitoring and recording. This was taken as a combination of working shots, area views and feature shots using a suitable DSLR camera. As lighting conditions within the church interior were poor, DSLR photography was supplemented by photographs taken on a mobile phone where appropriate.
- 5.3.4 A comprehensive field archive, in part physical and digital, was collated from the data collected across the programme of works and compiled in accordance with national guidance (ClfA 2020). This archive comprised the photographic record, survey data, primary written documents, and measured section and plan drawings. Catalogues of contexts, finds, environmental samples, drawings, photographs and individual skeletons were also compiled. The physical archive has been securely deposited at YA's York office, with a digital copy of the archive uploaded to a regularly backed-up and encrypted internal server. This is in accordance with Historic England guidance (2015b) and the ClfA Archive Selection Toolkit (ClfA and Historic England 2019).

## 6 RESULTS OF FIRST PHASE (CHURCH EXTERIOR)

- 6.1.1 The first phase of archaeologically monitored work at St Mary's Huggate was conducted in the churchyard surrounding the building. This primarily involved the monitoring and recording of drainage trenching to the south of the church, followed by the installation of a soakaway to the north of the church (Figure 2).

### 6.2 Drainage and water pipe installation

- 6.2.1 Trenching to the south of the church commenced where the churchyard meets Church Street, and extended approximately 30m northwards along the western edge of the gravelled pathway, towards the church (Plate 1; Figure 2). As the trench approached the church porch, it then crossed the gravel pathway and was excavated for a further 13.5m on an east-west alignment along the southern side of the church. This route was chosen to minimise potential contact with a known electrical service running along the eastern side of the path.
- 6.2.2 The width of this trench was broadly consistent at approximately 0.40m. The formation depth varied with the topography of the site, measuring 0.70m at the southernmost extent near to Church Street, and gradually reducing to 0.60m as the trench neared the church building. This formation depth was re-evaluated and raised to 0.40m for the rest of the trenching along the southern side of the church following the discovery of an intact burial present at a depth of 0.45m (Plate 4).
- 6.2.3 The earliest deposit observed in this area of the excavations was (1002), a dark brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones and disarticulated human remains present throughout. This deposit formed the majority of the stratigraphy in this area, representing well-mixed graveyard soils. Deposit (1002) continued below the formation depth of the trench, with a minimum exposed depth of 0.40m.
- 6.2.4 An intact burial of a juvenile individual, SK01/ (1003), was located outside the South Porch of the church at a depth of 0.45m BGL, the grave cut of which was not visible (Plates 4, 5 and 6). The inhumation was oriented east-west across the trench, with evidence of truncation present on a north-east to south-west alignment; this removed the left hand, lumbar vertebrae and lower right arm (including distal humerus) of the remains. Further analysis of these remains is detailed in section 7.1 below.
- 6.2.5 Towards the south-west of the site a layer of soil distinct from (1002) was identified, comprising mid-dark brown sandy silt. This deposit, (1001), did not contain any disarticulated human bone or finds of any kind, and was observed to a minimum thickness of 0.50m, extending below formation depth of the trench. It is probable that (1001) represents the deliberate deposition of material in order to increase the ground level of the churchyard to match that of Church Street. Although it is likely that (1001) overlies (1002), the extent of the relationship between (1002) and (1001) was not clear in the limited profile of the trench.
- 6.2.6 The uppermost deposit identified during the monitoring and recording of the drainage trench was the modern pathway (1000), which was aligned north to south from Church Street towards the church and around its perimeter. This pathway overlaid both (1002) and (1001) and comprised five layers of crushed materials such as concrete, tarmac and sandy gravels. The uppermost layer was firmly compacted mixed rounded gravels with a small amount of silty clays laid to form a stable ground surface (Plate 2). Overall, the width of this pathway was approximately 1.5m, with the depth measuring 0.25m. No construction cut for this pathway was visible in the extent of the trenching.

### 6.3 Soakaway/Attenuation tank installation

- 6.3.1 The installation of the soakaway system comprised a 0.4m wide by approximately 20m long trench along the northern and north-eastern sides of the church building, with multiple southward connections made to extant down pipes from the roof of the church (Plate 7). A further section of trenching was also excavated to connect with a larger 2m x 2m pit located approximately 8m north of the church (Figure 2). This pit for the new soakaway tank measured 1.30m in depth.
- 6.3.2 This area of the churchyard was notably left to rewild beneath tree cover and shrubs, in contrast to the rest of the churchyard. Here, several gravestones had been moved from their original locations (Plate 8).
- 6.3.3 The earliest deposit identified in the monitoring of the soakaway trenching was uncovered at the bottom of the 2m x 2m pit. This deposit was a firm, mid-brownish-orange clay silt layer containing occasional disarticulated human bone and frequent chalk fragments, and was given the context number (2002) (Plate 9). Moderate bioturbation from the surrounding trees was evident in this deposit. Deposit (2002) was a minimum of 0.60m in thickness throughout the soakaway area with the full extent not observed within the limit of excavation. It is probable that the human bone in (2002) represented disturbed burials, however no intact burials were observed in this area of the churchyard.
- 6.3.4 Overlying (2002) was a subsoil formed of mixed sandy silt (2001), heavily disturbed by root activity and containing frequent inclusions of crushed CBM, slate, small to medium chalk pieces and stones, as well as occasional disarticulated human bone. This deposit was noted not only within the soakaway but also further to the south in the lower levels of the drain pipe trench alongside the church. Within the soakaway pit the layer was 0.50m in thickness, with the base not being reached within the drainage trenches.
- 6.3.5 This was in turn overlain by topsoil (2000), which measured 0.20m thick and was formed of a loose, dark brown silty soil containing grass and tree roots, as well as inclusions of broken shale, crushed CBM, fragments of chalk, disarticulated human bone and animal bone.

## 7 RESULTS OF SECOND PHASE (CHURCH INTERIOR)

7.1.1 The second phase of monitoring was conducted inside the church building, observing the reduction of the ground level and removal of several built elements, including the altar. This area measured approximately 100m<sup>2</sup> (Figure 3).

7.1.2 Monitoring of these works uncovered several phases of use of the church, with evidence of modifications to the building between the medieval and post-medieval periods reflected in the archaeological record. These can be divided into the following approximate phases:

- The original early medieval walls;
- Later medieval deposits and masonry;
- Post-medieval repairs to medieval masonry;
- Victorian refurbishment of the building.

### 7.2 Early Medieval Walls (Group Number 1; Contexts 3008, 3047)

7.2.1 The earliest contexts observed during this phase of monitoring were elements of early medieval magnesian limestone walls, the tops of which were uncovered towards the base of the excavation, close to formation level.

7.2.2 The most exposed portion of these earlier walls was [3008], which was observed as underlying the extant northern wall of the north aisle (Plates 10 and 11) on an east-west alignment, suggesting the original footprint of the church was slightly smaller (see Discussion, Section 9). The visible extent of [3008] measured 3.8m in length and 0.73m in width, with truncation at the eastern end causing the observable portion of the wall to drop below formation depth.

7.2.3 Another smaller portion of exposed wall [3047] with the same composition and approximate level was also identified on a north-south alignment below the existing walls of the Belfry (Plate 12); both of these walls were comprised of light grey angular worked limestone blocks forming a dressed inner face, the coursing of which surrounded a core of densely packed smaller sub-angular stones bonded with a whitish grey mortar.

### 7.3 Later Medieval Deposits and Floor Surfaces

#### *Medieval Deposits (Group Number 2; Contexts 3015/3045, 3009, 3003, 3010)*

7.3.1 The next contexts identified in the stratigraphic sequence were a number of deposits likely to be associated with the foundation and/or sub-base of the medieval-era stone flooring of the church.

7.3.2 The predominant foundation material encountered at the formation level was a mid-yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent whitish small to medium sub-rounded stones (3015/3045). This deposit was encountered across the majority of the church interior where the level had been reduced to formation depth, probably representing the dominant floor foundation material for the medieval church interior, and was evidently abutting (but not sealing) the southern face of wall [3008]. The full extent of this deposit was not explored due to its depth below formation.

- 7.3.3 Overlying [3008] and (3045) was a patchy layer of firmly packed light brown silty sand with rare flecks of charred material as well as frequent mortar flecks (3009). In total, 0.94m by 0.70m of (3009) was observable, primarily concentrated towards the north-western corner of the north aisle and serving as sub-base material for an overlying pale greyish-brown sandy silt with occasional small stones (3003). Together these two materials appeared to form the sub-base/bedding for a limestone floor surface [3007] (detailed below).
- 7.3.4 Of further note was an irregularly shaped lens of dark blackish brown burnt material, (3010), 0.67m long and 0.65m wide and containing charred and degraded wood. This was identified within (3003), beyond the eastern limit of surviving elements of [3007]. This lens was similarly left unexcavated due to being below the formation level of the works.

***Medieval Floor Surfaces (Group Number 3; Contexts 3004, 3005, 3006, 3007, 3012, 3017, 3021)***

- 7.3.5 Constructed over these foundation materials were a number a fragmentary limestone floor surfaces, each with varying degrees of disturbance, although likely to be part of the same larger continuous surface; the material, form and approximate level of each identified surface was comparable.
- 7.3.6 These surfaces each comprised worked, irregularly-shaped limestone slabs, with individual stones varying between 0.05m-0.40m in size and with an average thickness of 0.03m. Individual stones were unbonded and laid flat, with smaller sub-angular stones inserted in gaps to form a level floor surface. Instances of this surface included:
- [3004], which was located around the northern side of the north-westernmost nave column. This surface extended both north and eastwards from the column, but did not have any surviving physical relationship with wall [3008] (Plate 13). Overall, the surface measured approximately 2.35m in length and between 0.70-1.15m in width. Notably, elements of [3004] appeared to abut the nave column but only remained preserved in small areas. These remains were left in situ as they were uncovered at formation level.
  - [3005], present in the middle of the nave, north of central pipe channel [3027] (Figure 3). This element abutted the north-eastern column and extended southwards (Plate 14). It measured 2.30m in length and 0.75-0.90m in width and was left in situ under the instruction of the DAC, with the possible intention of incorporating a transparent surface into the refurbishment plans.
  - [3006], surviving as a 0.85m by 0.65m fragmentary surface in the south west corner of the south aisle in a small niche near the doorway to the church (Plate 15) (Figure 3). This surface was encountered at a higher level than comparable surfaces in the northern aisle, only 0.15m below the modern floor level. Following recording, [3006] was ultimately removed to allow excavation down to formation level.
  - [3007], which was located in the north-western corner of the northern aisle of the church, overlying (3003) and directly to the south of wall [3008] (Plate 16). This part of the surface measured 1.70m in length by 1.30m in width, abutting the western wall of a niche in the northern aisle. As with [3005], [3007] was left in situ after recording.

- [3012], situated in the south-eastern corner of the southern aisle. This element of stone flooring measured 2m in length and 0.48-1.5m in width, and was largely covered by a lens of ash, charcoal and other burnt materials (Plate 17).
- [3021], located beneath the Baptismal font in the belfry at the western end of the nave (Plate 18). This element measured 1.25m in length and between 0.20 – 0.65m in width. The depth of [3021] could be observed in section, measuring 0.06m in depth, consistent with other elements of the surviving floor surface.

#### **7.4 Post-Medieval repairs to Medieval Masonry (Group Number 4; Contexts 3011, 3013)**

- 7.4.1 As usage of the church continued through the medieval period and into the post-medieval, a small number of repairs to the medieval floor using later building materials suggests the continued usage of the flooring up until the major Victorian refurbishment.
- 7.4.2 Two handmade and unstamped red bricks [3011] were uncovered in a hollow of the damaged medieval stone floor surface [3007] (Plate 19). These bricks had been purposefully shaped to fit into this hollow, with a further two identically made bricks placed into a void below the westernmost extant stone wall of the nave (Plate 20). Although these bricks were all of the same design, only one brick was fully intact allowing measurements of 26cm in length by 12.5cm in width and 6cm in depth to be recorded; these dimensions are more typical of post-medieval bricks than of early medieval or modern equivalents (McComish 2024).
- 7.4.3 Towards the eastern corner of the south aisle, a fragmented sandstone gravestone (3013) measuring 0.82m by 0.67m was uncovered (Plate 21). This gravestone was laid flat on a level with medieval surface [3012], appearing to be used as a crude repair to this part of the floor. Although fragmented into four pieces, a partial inscription was discernible: *wife, Kirby, this life, 1744, aged, d. 49 years.*

#### **7.5 Victorian Refurbishment of the Church**

- 7.5.1 The next contexts identified in the stratigraphic sequence can be largely attributed to the extensive Victorian refurbishment of the 1860s (Yorkshire Gazette 13th August 1864). These include industrial pits dug into the truncated Medieval floor, the implementation of a central heating system through the nave, levelling deposits probably used to re-establish the ground level following this intrusive activity, and finally brickwork and tiling to create a new floor surface.
- 7.5.2 Many of these later additions are still in modern use, with some removed during these current works to facilitate the refurbishment.

##### ***Industrial Pits (Group Number 5; Contexts 3014, 3029, 3030, 3031)***

- 7.5.3 The earliest identifiable phase of the Victorian refurbishment was the discovery of four similarly-proportioned industrial pits, each cut into the medieval foundation deposit (3015/3045). These were uncovered in both the south aisle and the west of the nave (Figure 3). Each pit contained burnt and heat-affected deposits, as well as evidence of materials associated with industrial activity.

### **Pit [3014]**

- 7.5.4 The first pit identified during the monitoring was [3014], uncovered to the immediate east of the south aisle's western column (Plates 22, 23 and 24; Figure 3). This pit was regular and circular in plan, measuring 0.85m in diameter and to a depth of 0.30m. The profile of [3014] comprised irregular, steeply sloping sides leading down to a circular concave base (Figure 4).
- 7.5.5 Pit [3014] contained several deposits, the lowest of which was (3020), a mid-greenish-brown clay lining with patches of grey-brown and occasional flecks of charcoal and white stones. This layer was 0.02m in thickness and lined the entirety of the pit (Plate 23).
- 7.5.6 Overlying the clay lining was (3019), a blackish-brown sandy silt matrix with a large proportion of heat-affected material, totalling 0.14m thick. A large quantity of densely clustered lead alloy waste/slag was present throughout (3019), combining to create a compacted layer of industrial waste (Figure 4).
- 7.5.7 Sealing this layer was (3018), a 0.01m thick brownish-red silty sand with diffuse interfaces with the deposits above and below. The reddish colour of (3018) can likely be attributed to a process of heating or burning.
- 7.5.8 Deposited above (3018) was a shallow layer of yellowish-white plaster (3017), with heat-affected patches of blueish-grey (Plate 23).
- 7.5.9 Infilling the remainder of the pit was (3016), a deposit of loose, light greyish brown sandy silt with a moderate quantity of ash and charcoal. Several medium-sized, angular limestone inclusions ranging from 0.13m-0.22m, as well as occasional smaller limestone fragments, were also present within the matrix (Figure 4, Plate 22).

### **Location of Pits [3029], [3030], [3031]**

- 7.5.10 A further three additional pits were uncovered at the north-western end of the nave, immediately to the north of the brick structure surrounding the boiler system [3026] (Plate 25; Figure 3). These were identified during a test pit facilitating the proposed relocation of the baptismal font, curtailing the effort to reach formation depth. The rectangular test pit measured 1.62m in width by 1.70m in length; as the three industrial pits were each only exposed in part by this test pit, the remaining material was left preserved in-situ.

### **Pit [3029]**

- 7.5.11 Pit [3029] was located directly to the north of the Victorian heating system that bisects the nave (see [3026], [3027]), with the very southern extreme of the pit being truncated by the construction cut of bricks [3027]. This pit consisted of a sub-circular cut measuring 0.66m in length by 0.59m in width, with a depth of 0.14m (Plate 26). The shape in profile comprised a moderate break of slope at the top, gently sloping, concave sides and a rounded base cut into deposit (3045) (Figure 4).
- 7.5.12 A compact deposit of dark reddish-brown sandy clay (3035) containing frequent angular flint and small pebbles formed a lining for the base of [3029] and showed indications of heat-treatment in its colouration. This deposit measured 0.66m in length, 0.56m in width and was 0.05m thick.

- 7.5.13 Above this clay lining was deposit (3034), a hard, light orangey brown, heat-affected sandy clay with frequent angular flints and pebbles. This measured 0.65m by 0.52m and was 0.02m thick; this layer may have formed part of the clay lining of [3029], in conjunction with (3035).
- 7.5.14 Overlying (3034) was a layer of crumbly/compact, light grey, silty ashy clay with frequent charcoal flecks and frequent small white angular pebbles (3033). This was 0.62m in length, 0.39m in width, and 0.03m thick. Notably, this compacted layer contained frequent lead slag inclusions consistent with those identified in (3019), as well as lenses of charcoal.
- 7.5.15 The uppermost fill of this pit consisted of loose, mid brownish-grey ashy sand matrix (3032) with frequent charcoal flecks and loose inclusions of lead slag, including a single whitish folded sheet of lead. This deposit measured 0.60m by 0.39m and was 0.05m thick.

#### **Pit [3030]**

- 7.5.16 Pit [3030] was observed in plan as sub-circular, the southern half exposed in the north eastern corner of the test pit (Plates 25 and 27). The observable portion of the [3030] measured 0.49m in width by 0.80m in length with a depth of 0.27m (Figure 4). This pit had a sharp break of slope at the top with moderate concave sides and a rounded base. A friable dark-blackish brown sand, (3044), 0.04m thick, with a large quantity of lead slag formed the basal fill (Plate 28).
- 7.5.17 Overlying (3044) was a compact, mid-orangey red ashy sand (3043), 0.01m thick and present as two unconnected lenses visible on both sides of the feature profile.
- 7.5.18 These lenses were in turn overlain by the predominant fill of [3030], a compact/crumbly, mid-greyish brown silty sand with occasional flecks of charcoal and flecks of white stone (3042). This infill measured 0.72m in length with a vertical span of 0.25m. A small quantity of animal bone and a single iron nail were recovered from this fill, as well a fragment of disarticulated human bone which was recovered for reburial.
- 7.5.19 The uppermost fill (3041) consisted of loose, mid-greyish brown ashy sand with large angular chalky white stones densely clustered together. This deposit measured 0.35m in width with a depth of 0.15m.

#### **Pit [3031]**

- 7.5.20 The third pit in the cluster, [3031], was located directly to the south-east of [3030] and was similarly sub-circular in plan, continuing beyond the L.O.E of the test pit (Plates 25 and 27; Figure 4). Pit [3031] measured 0.39m in observable width, 0.70m in length, and had a depth of 0.28m. The profile of this pit was identified as a sharp break of slope at the top with a gradual/moderate slope and a rounded base (Plate 29).
- 7.5.21 The primary fill of this pit (3039) was 0.62m wide, and 0.04m deep, and consisted of friable light greyish-brown sand with occasional tiny white stones and contained one animal bone fragment. Deposited above this was a heat affected layer of friable, blackish brown, ashy sand (3038) with occasional flecks of charcoal and lead slag.
- 7.5.22 As with (3043), two separated lenses of compacted dark red ashy sand (3040) were evident on both sides of pit [3031]. These both measured only 0.02m in depth. These were overlain by (3037), a 0.60m wide and 0.10m thick fill consisting of crumbly/compact mid-grey blue ashy silt with frequent flecks of charcoal and a single medium angular white stone.

- 7.5.23 The uppermost fill of the pit, (3036), was 0.46m wide by 0.07m in depth, and consisted of loose mid brownish-grey ashy sand with occasional flecks of charcoal. This deposit also contained small rounded and medium angular chalk stones, along with a small quantity of unburnt animal bone.

***Construction of the heating system and raising of the ground level (Group Number 6; Contexts 3000, 3001, 3022, 3023, 3024, 3025, 3026, 3027)***

- 7.5.24 Following the use and subsequent backfilling of the industrial pits, evidence of a process of sealing these features, and the construction of a new central heating system were observed. Upon construction of the central heating, stratigraphic evidence suggests the deposition of multiple materials to re-establish the ground level of the church interior.
- 7.5.25 The earliest of these contexts were observed in the test pit excavated for the font relocation (see 7.5.10 above). Here, the cluster of three industrial pits [3029], [3030] and [3031] were each sealed by the same layer of compacted but brittle light whitish-grey mortar (3023), measuring 0.03m – 0.09m thick (Plate 30). Overlying this mortar was (3025), a shallow layer of compact dark grey ashy sand with infrequent tiny white chalk flecks. This layer of ashy sand measured between 0.02m – 0.10m thick.
- 7.5.26 These deposits were subsequently each truncated on their southern side by the Victorian central heating system, running the length of the nave on an east-west alignment (Plates 31 and 32). This system was comprised by two visible components:
- [3026], a large metal boiler unit situated at the west end of the nave, immediately east of the font and belfry. This unit was sunk below the modern floor level (Plate 32), with the chamber housing it cutting into (3015)/(3045).
  - [3027], a square brick chamber and connected channel containing [3026] and its associated metal piping running through the nave (Plate 31). This comprised a single continuous double-skinned wall forming a sealed circuit constructed from unfrogged red bricks and bonded together by lime mortar.
- 7.5.27 A brick surface [3022] appearing contemporary to the central heating system was observed beneath the font, abutting the western side of the brick chamber [3027] (Plate 33) and constructed directly above the truncated remains of stone wall [3047], accommodating gaps in its surface. Context [3022] measured 1.49m by 1.25m in total, with a single layer of bricks laid flat and appearing unbonded, with individual bricks measuring 25cm x 12cm x 6cm, similar to earlier repair [3011].
- 7.5.28 Deposited in the space around [3027] and [3022] was a compact mid-dark brown sand containing frequent small to medium angular chalky stones (3024). This deposit was present across the majority of the church interior, varying in depth. Where excavated in the font test pit this deposit was noted as 0.18m thick. Disarticulated human bone was identified in small quantities throughout (3024).
- 7.5.29 Overlying (3024), eight north-south aligned rows of stone laid perpendicular to the central heating system were identified through the nave. These rows extended from the brickwork of [3027] to the north and south walls of the north and south aisles respectively (Plate 31), where they then connected together with an east-west aligned row of the same material (Plate 34). Each row appeared to have been made from unbonded fragments of stone and were grouped with the same context number [3001] due to their similarity of form and purpose. The average

distance between each row was 1.20m, with the measurements of each approximately 0.25m in width by 0.10m in height.

- 7.5.30 Constructed above these each of these stone rows was a single skin of red unfrosted bricks laid on the same north-south alignment, and two courses in height [3000] (Plates 31 and 34); as with [3001] these rows of bricks were connected at either end by wider east-west aligned rows of the same material. As such, these rows were also all grouped together with the same context number. The bricks of [3000] were bonded with a soft yellow-grey mortar and measured 25cm x 13cm x 6cm in size. Each north-south aligned row of bricks was consistent with the rows of stone below, also measuring approximately 0.25m in width and 0.12m in height. Several of the bricks retained elements of mortar on the exposed faces, possibly suggesting reuse from another structure or later truncation of a wider surface. Together with [3001], these rows created a rough level with the top course of [3027] (Plate 31).
- 7.5.31 Sealing these rows and establishing the modern ground level was an extensive layer of rubble and firmly packed mid to pale grey-brown sandy silt (3002). This provided a firm and stable sub-base for the present Victorian tiled floor of the church, made of Stafford Tile and wooden timbers (removed prior to archaeological monitoring). This sub-base material was observed throughout the church interior, including in the aisles, suggesting a single levelling event towards the end of the refurbishment. In total this deposit measured 0.25m in depth. A number of inclusions were observed in this deposit including frequent coarse grit, crushed and broken brick, occasional degraded wood, fragments of glass, fragments of metal such as nails, a clay pipe stem and in rare instances disarticulated bone from both human and animal remains. Due to the nature of some of these inclusions, it is likely that some of this material may have originated from the churchyard, reused to raise the ground level. Traces of wood may also suggest at the removal and destruction of the old pews or rotted timbers (Yorkshire Gazette 13th August 1864).
- 7.5.32 Finally, the ground level of the belfry area not covered by [3022] was backfilled with context (3046), a friable light greyish brown silty sand with frequent small-medium irregular sandstone fragments and moderate small-medium irregular pebbles approximately 0.23m thick. It is highly likely that this deposit was laid at the same time and is the same as levelling deposit (3002) described above. This deposit also contained disarticulated human bone, most likely redeposited from burials within the churchyard.

## **8 THE FINDS**

### **8.1 Osteological report**

By James Badger

- 8.1.1 A juvenile skeleton (SK1) was excavated and left in situ. The individual was buried on an east-west alignment in a supine position with arms extended.
- 8.1.2 The skeleton is truncated on a northeast-southwest line, truncating the left hand, lumbar vertebrae and lower right arm (including distal humerus). Within the trench only the skull, upper torso, left arm and right humerus are exposed.
- 8.1.3 The skeleton has been assessed from photographs. The completeness was between 31-50% with possibly more of the skeleton surviving beyond the limit of excavation. Preservation of the remains was good with a moderate level of fragmentation. The individual was aged between 3-5 by dental development, epiphyseal fusion and long bone length. Sex estimation was not attempted due to the age of the individual. No pathological lesions or non-metric traits were visible in any of the photographs.

## 9 DISCUSSION

- 9.1.1 Overall, the monitoring and recording conducted by YA at St Mary's, Huggate revealed a number of archaeological remains both inside and outside the church. Whilst the remains identified during the monitoring of the churchyard cannot be considered unexpected, the remains uncovered from the monitoring of the church interior yielded more surprising and significant results.

### 9.2 Church exterior

- 9.2.1 The excavations of the water pipe and drainage system to the north and south of the church revealed historic graveyard soil, overlain by modern landscaping and topsoil deposits. Disarticulated human remains within the soil is likely to indicate disturbance of earlier graves by later ones, a common occurrence within churchyards of continued usage. The discovery of a single undated articulated burial is, whilst archaeologically interesting, not significant given the context in which it was uncovered. Further, the assessment of the remains did not identify any evidence of atypical burial practice, trauma, preservation or condition of the skeleton.

### 9.3 Church interior

- 9.3.1 The excavation of the church interior uncovered evidence of at least four distinct phases of construction, repair and refurbishment from the early medieval period to the present. Of these, the presence of metallurgical/industrial pits proved the most surprising, and understanding the use of these features may aid in the interpretation of St Mary's through its history.

#### ***Early Medieval Stone Walls***

- 9.3.2 Firstly, the two large stone walls (*Group Number 1*) identified at the base of the excavation, close to formation depth, are suggestive of the original, slightly smaller layout of St Mary's, dating to the 11th century, possibly before the addition of the current north and south aisles, or as the first iteration of them. The stonework of these walls reflects this assessment, with the form of a large dressed outer coursing surrounding a rubble core being more typical of early medieval construction, possibly derived from Norman techniques (Trueman 2015), and is consistent with stonework identified in other local churches from the 11th century (RCHM 1981, 2-5). These walls are not as strong or load-bearing as walls constructed from later techniques; this may explain their demolition and change of use into foundational supports - as techniques improved and the church expanded, stronger walls were required, and may have been implemented during the 13th century modifications suggested by the pointed arches in the nave aisles (Huggate Parish Council 2024). These walls also pre-date the 14th century addition of the belfry/spire, as evidenced by [3047] underlying the extant walls comprising the tower.

#### ***Medieval Stone Flooring***

- 9.3.3 The stone surfaces identified as fragmented elements across the interior (*Group Number 3*) together are likely to represent the same phase of medieval activity, consistent with the 13th century modifications of the church. Whilst composed from the same stone as used in the original early medieval walls, the sequencing evident from deposits identified below these surfaces (*Group Number 2*) indicates their construction post-dates the disuse and demolition of the earliest medieval phasing. It is possible that elements of this floor surface may re-use stone taken from the early walls [3008] and [3047]. One element of this stone surfacing,

[3006], was identified at a different level to the rest, suggesting the floor of the church at this time may have been maintained at multiple levels, possibly to accommodate the gentle topography of the site, or a fixture removed during the implementation of the porch in the 19th century (Huggate Parish Council 2024).

### ***Phase of post-Medieval repairs***

- 9.3.4 Further to this, evidence of brick repairs (*Group Number 4*) to surviving stone surfaces suggest the continued usage of medieval flooring, at least in part, by members of the Parish well into the post-medieval period. The dimensions and forms of the bricks used in these repairs are particularly indicative of post-medieval brick making (McComish 2024), supporting the interpretation of continued use of these floors prior to the eventual Victorian Refurbishment in the 1860's. The period of deposition of the fragmented gravestone identified within the south aisle is less clear, however it must certainly post-date 1744, as evidenced by the epitaph.

### ***Victorian Refurbishment - Metallurgical/Industrial Pits***

- 9.3.5 Following this, the evident truncation of the stone surfaces in Group Number 3 may be used in part to understand the following sequences of activity within the church. It can be posited that at a time preceding or during the early stages of Victorian development, these stone floor surfaces were no longer in use, deliberately demolished and possibly robbed (see 9.3.9 below) to accommodate the digging of the industrial pits (*Group Number 5*). The purpose of these pits, located entirely in areas where no floor surface remained present, can be interpreted as related to the smelting and/or transformative use of metal materials. In this case, the presence of lead slag fused to deposits within each pit, as well as the presence of heat affected deposits in clay linings are highly suggestive of lead smelting taking place locally on site, within the confines of the church interior (despite the problems this presents with regards to ventilation).
- 9.3.6 A possible interpretation of this activity may be that the pits were specifically for the smelting of lead taken from the church itself, namely from roof tiles, gutter and drain pipes, both of which are known to be commonplace in medieval churches (Rumley 2009). This smelting practice may have been undertaken during the Victorian refurbishment, prior to the implementation of the later central heating system, with lead recovered from the process being reused in the construction or perhaps in the re-leading of the stained-glass aisle windows. If this is the case, then ventilation may not have presented such an issue, as the aisles may not have been present in their entirety whilst being refurbished/reconstructed, and/or windows may not have been in place. Further research into comparable instances of lead working inside churches may be worthwhile, in order to shed further light on this question.
- 9.3.7 As a final point, the uppermost deposit identified in each of these pits was consistent with loose, disturbed building material filled with various size fragments of stone – not only is the stone consistent with that of the truncated floor surfaces, but the uniformity across the pits suggests a single contemporaneous backfill event following the conclusion of the smelting process. This supports the notion the medieval flooring was demolished in part to accommodate these pits, which needed to be cut into the solid soil foundations present below, and that once the lead smelting stage of the refurbishment was completed the pits were sealed using excess material created from the demolition of the flooring.

***Victorian Refurbishment – Raising of ground level, construction of heating system and flooring (1860s)***

- 9.3.8 The refurbishment of the church, following the creation and disuse of the metallurgical pits, comprised the raising and re-establishing of the interior level following the demolition of much of the medieval flooring. As part of this, multiple deposits were used in the sealing of the pits, probably followed in quick succession by the installation of the central heating system through the middle of the nave. The top of this heating system formed the standard by which subsequent deposits of material and brick surfaces were levelled against to establish the new ground level, and above which the eventual tile flooring would be laid. Notably some of the deposits used to raise this level were possibly taken from ground outside the church, as evidenced by the finds present (notably the level of disarticulated human remains), however it is also possible that during this time inhumations within the church were removed and disarticulated remains left behind.
- 9.3.9 The stone used to form supports [3001] were also notably similar to the constituent materials of the medieval floor surfaces. It is possible, especially given the unbonded nature of the stones used in these rows, that the stone used was robbed or recovered from the medieval floor surfaces, following their incidental truncation for the construction of the smelting pits (or contributing to it).

#### **9.4 Conclusion**

- 9.4.1 In conclusion, the monitoring and recording at St Mary's, Huggate has offered a compelling glimpse at the archaeology and changing use of the church across several centuries. Most significant was the discovery of what is likely to constitute the original stone walls of the church, providing an insight into the original layout and construction methods of the building, and potentially corroborating the documented origin of the 11th century. Also of particular interest was the observation of the metallurgical pits across the nave, the exact date and purpose of which can be only be inferred from the current level of evidence recovered. In both of these cases, it is highly probable that further similar remains are present in-situ below the rest of the church; any opportunities for further excavation within the church would undoubtedly further aid the understanding of this cherished historic building.

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## PLATES



Plate 1 Area 1, south of St. Mary's Church. View looking north-west.



Plate 2 Water pipe trench through gravel path (1000). North-facing section. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 3 Water pipe trenching, south side of the church. View looking west. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 4 SK01, juvenile burial (1004). View looking east. 0.1m scale units.



Plate 5 SK01 juvenile burial. View looking south. 0.1m scale units.



Plate 6 SK01 juvenile burial. View looking north. 0.1m scale units.



Plate 7 Drainage trenching on north side of church. View looking east.



Plate 8 Area 2, north of church. View looking south-west.



Plate 9 Profile of soakaway pit excavation. View looking west. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 10 Wall [3008], exposed below extant stone walls of north aisle. View looking west. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 11 Wall [3008]. View looking north-west. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 12 Wall [3047] exposed in Belfry. View looking east. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 13 [3004] stone floor surface. View looking east. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 14 stone floor surface [3005]. View looking east. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 15 Stone floor surface [3006]. View looking west. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 16 Stone floor surface [3007]. View looking west. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 17 Stone floor surface [3012]. View looking east. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 18 Stone floor segment [3021]. View looking west. 0.1m scale units.



Plate 19 Brick repair [3011] to stone floor 3007. View looking west. 0.1m scale units.



Plate 20 Brick repair [3011] below extant archway of nave. View looking south. 0.1m scale units.



Plate 21 Fragmented gravestone remains [3013]. View looking west. 0.5m scale units.



Plate 22 Industrial pit [3014], pre-excitation. View looking west. 0.1m scale units.



Plate 23 Pit [3014] sectioned to show fills. View looking west



Plate 24 Pit [3014] fully excavated, showing (3015/3045) below. View looking west



Plate 25 Pre-excavation shot of pits [3029], [3030] and [3031]. View looking south-west



Plate 26 Pit [3029], north facing section



Plate 27 Pits [3030] and [3031], post-excavation. View looking north-east



Plate 28 Pit [3030], south facing section



Plate 29 Pit [3031], west facing section



Plate 30 Layer of mortar (3023) sealing pits [3029], [3030] and [3031]



Plate 31 Central heating channel [3027], abutted by bricks 3000 and stone 3001. View looking south-east.



Plate 32 Working shot showing industrial pits [3029], [3030] and [3031] recorded in foreground, with central heating system [306] and [3027] present in background. View looking south/south-east.



Plate 33 Brick surface [3022] exposed below font. View looking west. 0.1m scale units.



Plate 34 Brick surface (3000) above stone supports [3001]. View looking north. 0.5m scale units.

## APPENDIX

### Appendix 1: Context List

| Context Number | Area     | Type      | Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------|----------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1000           | 1        | Layer     | Modern Pathway materials; laminated layers of crushed concrete and gravels; light to mid-grey Each layer was approximately 0.06m for a total depth of 0.25m                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1001           | 1        | Layer     | Made ground/built up ground/levelling deposits; mid-dark brown, sandy silts, moderately friable, small to medium sub-rounded stones, rooting, no finds, D-0.50m base not reached in trench.; seen in the southern area of site closest to the road/upper elevation areas                                                                                                                                      |
| 1002           | 1        | Layer     | Built up graveyard deposits; friable dark brown, sandy silts, occasional sub-rounded stones, occasional inclusions of disarticulated human bone (charnel); one single articulated inhumation SK01; begins approximately halfway down the slope and extends north towards the church structure; D- >0.40m; did not excavate to the bottom of this deposit; single sherd of post-medieval pottery; not retained |
| 1003           | 1        | Burial    | SK01/ human burial; oriented E-W; supine, no visible grave cut; truncated just above the pelvis by another burial; torso and majority of cranium seen within the trench limits; majority of bones unfused indicating a juvenile burial                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2000           | 2        | Layer     | Topsoil; loose, dark brown silty soil; rooting from landscaping, frequent inclusions of broken slate, roots, crushed bricks, chalk fragments, very rare disarticulated bone; D= 0.20m                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 2001           | 2        | Layer     | Subsoil; mixed silty soils, dark to mid-brown-grey silty soils, frequent small to medium chalk and stone fragments, occasional rooting in tank area, crushed CBM, occasional disarticulated human bone; found in drainage area north of the church structure; D- 0.50m                                                                                                                                        |
| 2002           | 2        | Layer     | Graveyard materials in area north of church, seen in settling tank area; firm, mid-brown-orange, clay silts, occasional human charnel, frequent chalk fragments; previously disturbed graveyard deposits; not excavated to base; D= >0.65m                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 3000           | Interior | Structure | Brick 'walls' forming a support structure for underfloor timbers. 2 courses high, one course wide, linear unfrogged bricks 250mm by 130mm by 60mm. Rough concrete mortar                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 3001           | Interior | Structure | Unbonded under support for floor [3004], reused floor slabs. Broken limestone slabs 50mm by 250mm by 100mm.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3002           | Interior | Layer     | Infill of church interior consisting of loose mid/pale grey-brown sandy silt, frequent coarse grit and crushed mortar and stone. Contains disarticulated human bone and organic roots.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 3003           | Interior | Layer     | Sub-flooring level. Hard pale grey-brown sandy silt with occasional mortar and occasional <0.5m stones.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 3004           | Interior | Layer     | Limestone flooring/surface. Hard mid-grey flat angular stone 0.40m – 0.05m in size. Un-bonded. Near pillar base. 2.35m by 0.70m-1.15m                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 3005           | Interior | Layer     | Second section of medieval (?) flooring. Same as (3005). 2.30m by 0.75m - 0.90m                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 3006           | Interior | Layer     | Flooring in niche behind church door. 0.85m by 0.60m – 0.70m. Same previous floors (3004) and (3005).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

| Context Number | Area     | Type      | Details                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------|----------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3007           | Interior | Layer     | Floor surface. Large angular dressed sandstone(?) blocks. 0.40m by 0.28m and 0.8m thick to 0.13m by 0.13m and 0.8m thick. Smaller stones in the gaps.                                                           |
| 3008           | Interior | Structure | Straight, linear stone block foundation of wall along NW side of church. Large worked angular stone blocks with dressed facing towards interior of the church. Whitish grey mortar.                             |
| 3009           | Interior | Layer     | Compact light brown sand with rare flecks of charred material. Frequent flecks of white mortar-like material. Deposit of sand under (3003).                                                                     |
| 3010           | Interior | Layer     | Loose dark blackish-brown sand. Frequent charred/degraded wood scraps. Amorphous path of charred dark sand with wood remains. Not excavated.                                                                    |
| 3011           | Interior | Structure | Handmade unfrogged red bricks, 200mm by 250mm, 60mm thick. Floor surface repair.                                                                                                                                |
| 3012           | Interior | Structure | Medieval floor surface in SE corner of church. Limestone blocks 2.0m by 0.48m – 1.5m.                                                                                                                           |
| 3013           | Interior | Structure | Gravestone. Likely sandstone. Broken into 4 pieces.                                                                                                                                                             |
| 3014           | Interior | Cut       | Cut of circular pit. 0.85m by 0.84m, 0.32m thick. Circular in plan, gradual – moderate break of slope, moderate – vertical sloping sides, concave base. Cut into foundation of church.                          |
| 3015           | Interior | Layer     | Compact light yellowish brown sandy clay. Frequent small-medium inclusions of sub-angular chalky white stone. Medieval foundation.                                                                              |
| 3016           | Interior | Fill      | Loose greyish brown ashy silt, large sub-angular limestone blocks X 3, occasional charcoal flecks towards base of deposit. Occasional animal bone inclusions at base of deposit. 0.64m by 0.64m by 0.21m thick. |
| 3017           | Interior | Fill      | Hard yellowish white plaster. 0.65m by 0.68m 0.01-0.02m thick. Plaster lining for pit [3014].                                                                                                                   |
| 3018           | Interior | Fill      | Friable brownish red silt, 0.68m by 0.73m, 0.01m thick. Heat affected layer within pit [3014].                                                                                                                  |
| 3019           | Interior | Fill      | Friable blackish brown sandy silt, heat affected mixed ashy deposit within pit [3014]. 0.86m by 0.77m, 0.14m thick. Metal alloy slag present at base of deposit.                                                |
| 3020           | Interior | Fill      | Compact mid-greenish brown clay w. patches of grey-brown. Occasional small charcoal flecks and small white stones. Clay lining for pit [3014].                                                                  |
| 3021           | Interior | Structure | Brick surface 1.25m by 0.65m 0.06m thick. South of the font. Probably same as (3022).                                                                                                                           |
| 3022           | Interior | Structure | Brick floor/surface. Unfrogged, un-bonded bricks, 250mm by 120mm by 40mm.                                                                                                                                       |
| 3023           | Interior | Layer     | Crumbly light whitish grey mortar, 1.70m by 1.62m, 0.03-0.09m thick.                                                                                                                                            |
| 3024           | Interior | Layer     | Crumbly mid/dark brown sand, frequent small – medium angular whitish chalky stones. Layer of sand/ashy rubble material.                                                                                         |
| 3025           | Interior | Layer     | Compact dark grey ashy sand. Infrequent tiny white flecks. 0.02m – 0.10m thick. Layer of compact dark grey ashy sand.                                                                                           |
| 3026           | Interior | Structure | Metal circular boiler unit.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3027           | Interior | Structure | Channel of unfrogged red bricks enclosing a central heating system. E-W aligned, preserved in situ.                                                                                                             |

| Context Number | Area     | Type      | Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------|----------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3028           | Interior | Layer     | Compact/crumblly light white/yellowish grey lime mortar. Survives at foot of south-east wall.                                                                                                                                                      |
| 3029           | Interior | Cut       | Cut of round smelting pit, 0.66m by 0.59m, 0.14m deep. Gently sloping sides, concave base, moderate break of slope at top. Lead slag present in fill.                                                                                              |
| 3030           | Interior | Cut       | Cut of small smelting pit. 0.49m by 0.80m by 0.27m, circular in plan, moderate concave sides with sharp break of slop at top and a rounded base.                                                                                                   |
| 3031           | Interior | Cut       | Cut of small round smelting pit, 0.39m by 0.70m by 0.28m thick. Moderate concave sides with sharp break of slope at top, rounded base.                                                                                                             |
| 3032           | Interior | Fill      | Loose mid brown grey silt, frequent charcoal flecks and fragments. 0.6m by 0.39m, 0.05m thick. Ashy layer in pit [3029].                                                                                                                           |
| 3033           | Interior | Fill      | Crumblly/compact light grey silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks and small angular pebbles. 0.62m by 0.39m, 0.03m thick. Ashy layer with lead slag in pit [3033].                                                                              |
| 3034           | Interior | Fill      | Hard light orange brown sandy clay, frequent angular flint stones and pebbles. 0.65m by 0.52m, 0.02m thick. Heat affected clay layer in pit [3029]                                                                                                 |
| 3035           | Interior | Fill      | Compact dark reddish-brown sandy clay, frequent angular stones/flint, frequent small pebbles. 0.66m by 0.56m, 0.05m thick. Heat affect clay layer in pit [3029].                                                                                   |
| 3036           | Interior | Fill      | Loose mid-brownish grey ashy sand, occasional flecks of charcoal and small rounded chalk stones, two medium sized angular stones. Uppermost fill of pit [3031]. 0.46m by 0.07m thick.                                                              |
| 3037           | Interior | Fill      | Crumblly/compact mid greyish blue ashy sand, frequent charcoal flecks, one medium chalky white angular stone. 0.60 by 0.10m thick.                                                                                                                 |
| 3038           | Interior | Fill      | Friable blackish brown ashy silt, occasional flecks of charcoal, 0.69m by 0.04m thick. Fill of ditch [3031], contains lead slag.                                                                                                                   |
| 3039           | Interior | Fill      | Friable light greyish brown sand, occasional small white stones, 0.62m by 0.04m thick. Fill of pit [3031], contains animal bone.                                                                                                                   |
| 3040           | Interior | Fill      | Compact/Friable dark red ashy silt, 0.02m thick. Two lenses of heat-affected material within pit [3031].                                                                                                                                           |
| 3041           | Interior | Fill      | Loose mid-greyish brown ashy silt, large angular chalky white stones, 0.35m by 0.15m. Uppermost fill of pit [3030].                                                                                                                                |
| 3042           | Interior | Fill      | Crumblly/compact mid greyish brown sand. Occasional flecks of charcoal and chalk. 0.72m by 0.25m thick, contains animal bone and a single iron nail. Main fill of pit [3030].                                                                      |
| 3043           | Interior | Fill      | Compact mid-orangish red ashy silt, 0.01m thick. Present on the sides of pit [3030]                                                                                                                                                                |
| 3044           | Interior | Fill      | Friable dark blackish-brown sand, large amount of lead slag present, 0.80m wide, 0.04m thick. Base fill of pit [3030].                                                                                                                             |
| 3045           | Interior | Layer     | Compact light yellowish brown sandy clay.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 3046           | Interior | Layer     | Friable light greyish brown silty sand, frequent small-medium irregular sandstone cobbles, moderate small-medium irregular pebbles. 2.80m by 2.90m, 0.23m thick. Mixed deposit under the floor in the belfry, contains disarticulated human bones. |
| 3047           | Interior | Structure | Wall foundation consisting of compact light grey faced limestone blocks, 0.41m by 0.25m, 0.20m thick with a loose rubble core. 1                                                                                                                   |

| Context Number | Area | Type | Details                                                                           |
|----------------|------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                |      |      | course high with bricks at one end. Tied into walls on either side of the belfry. |

## FIGURES

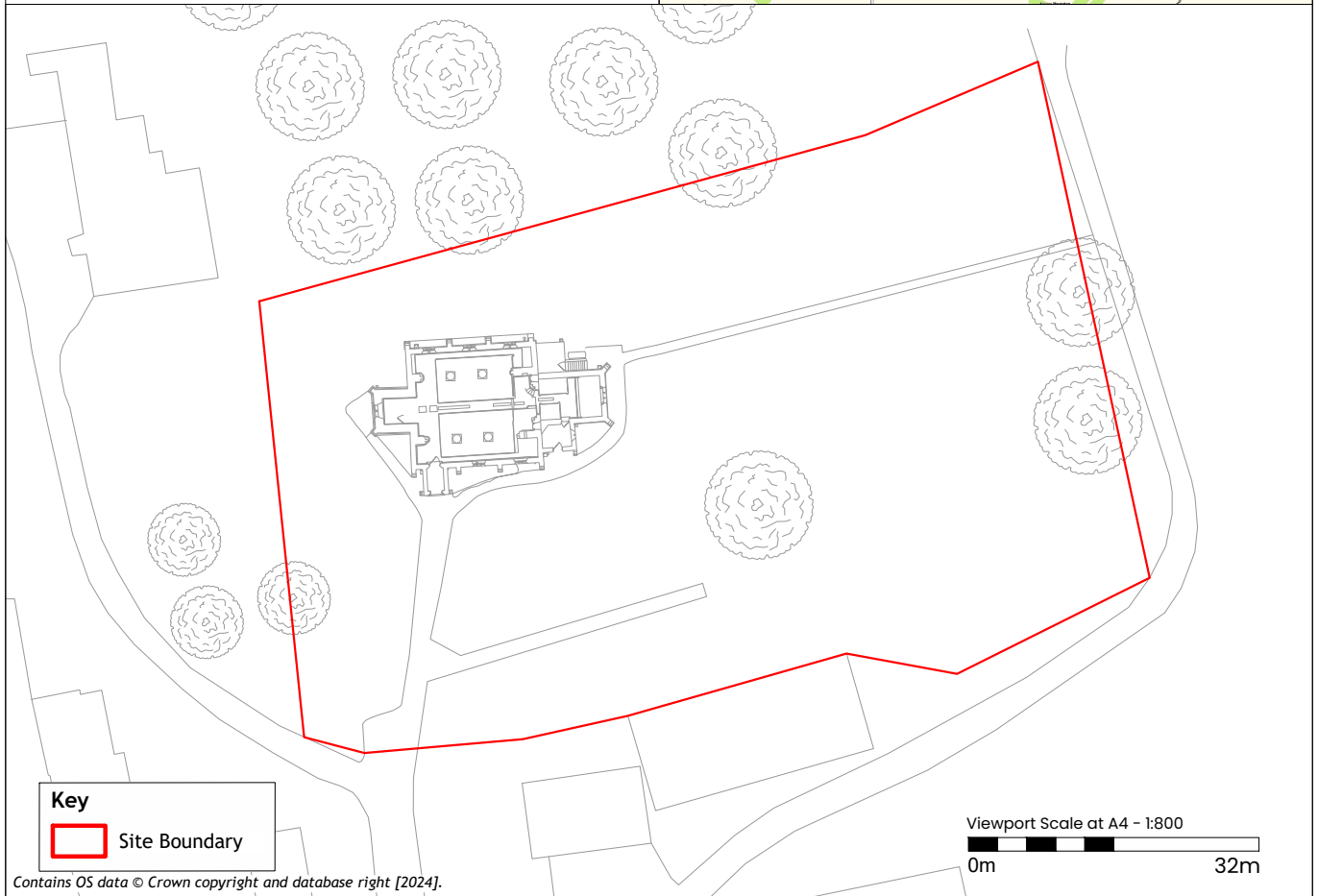
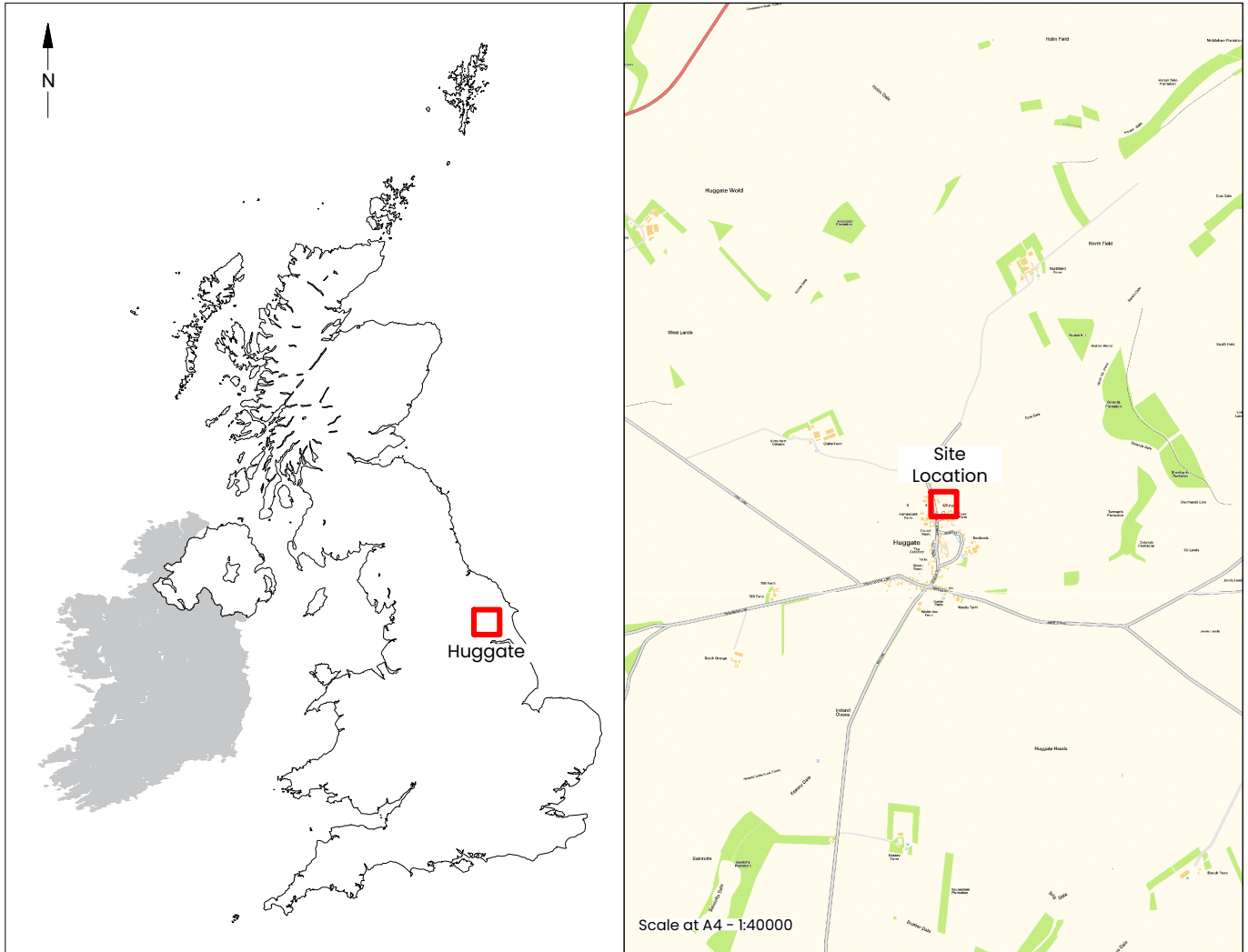
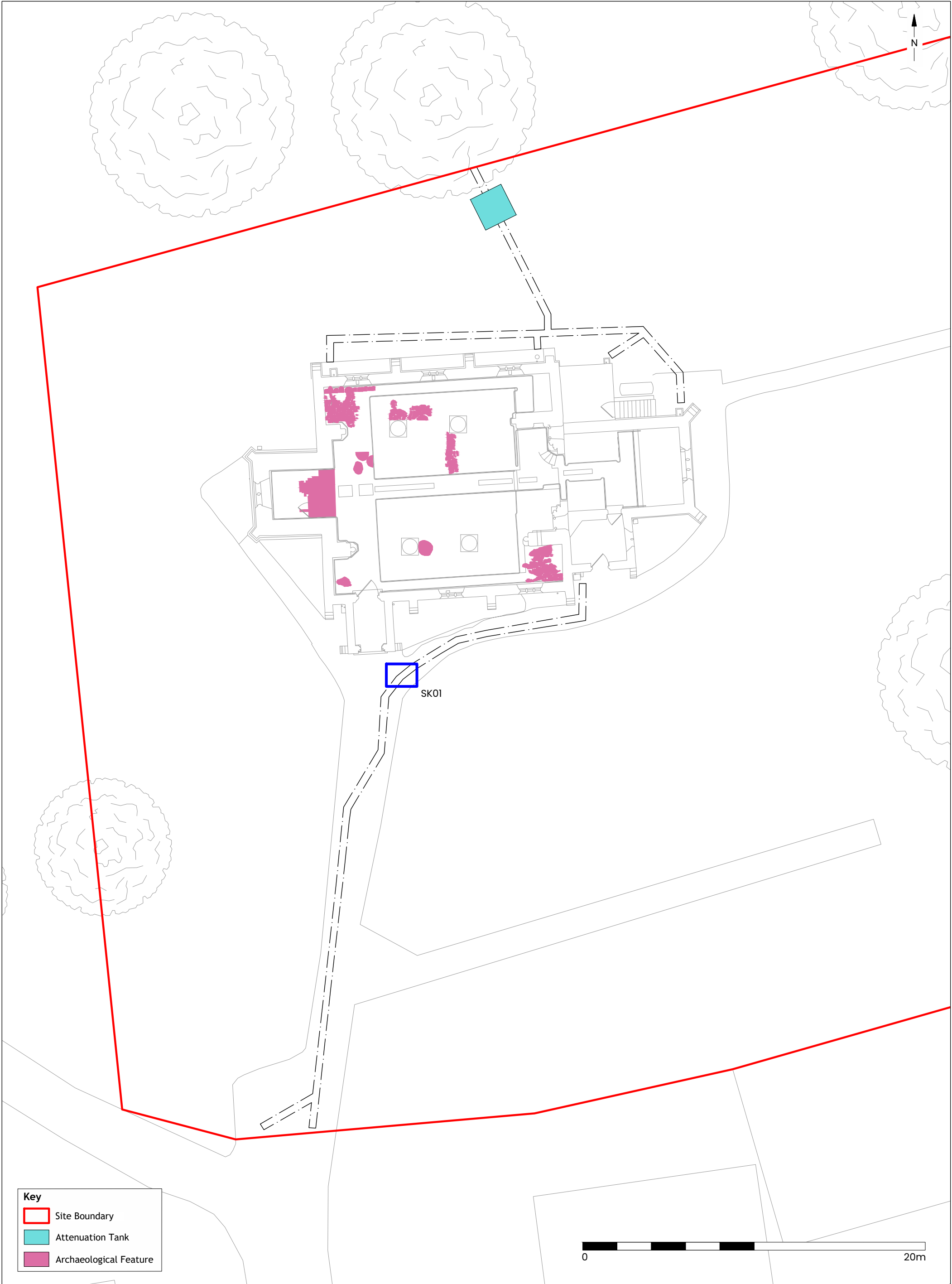


Figure 01 - Location Map  
9187 - St Mary, Huggate

Scale at A4 - varies  
Drawn by MI



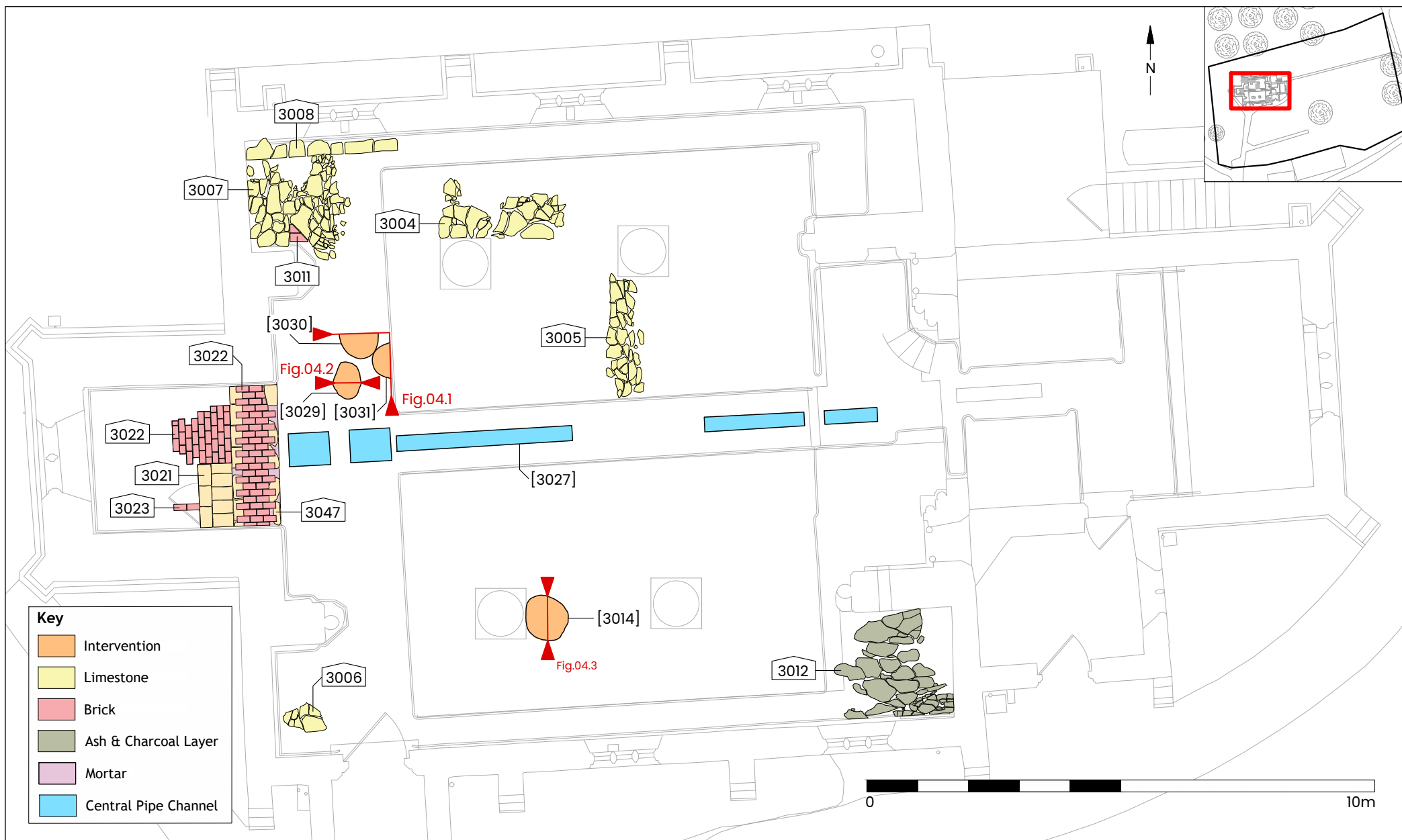


Fig.04.1

South & West Facing Section [3030] & [3031]

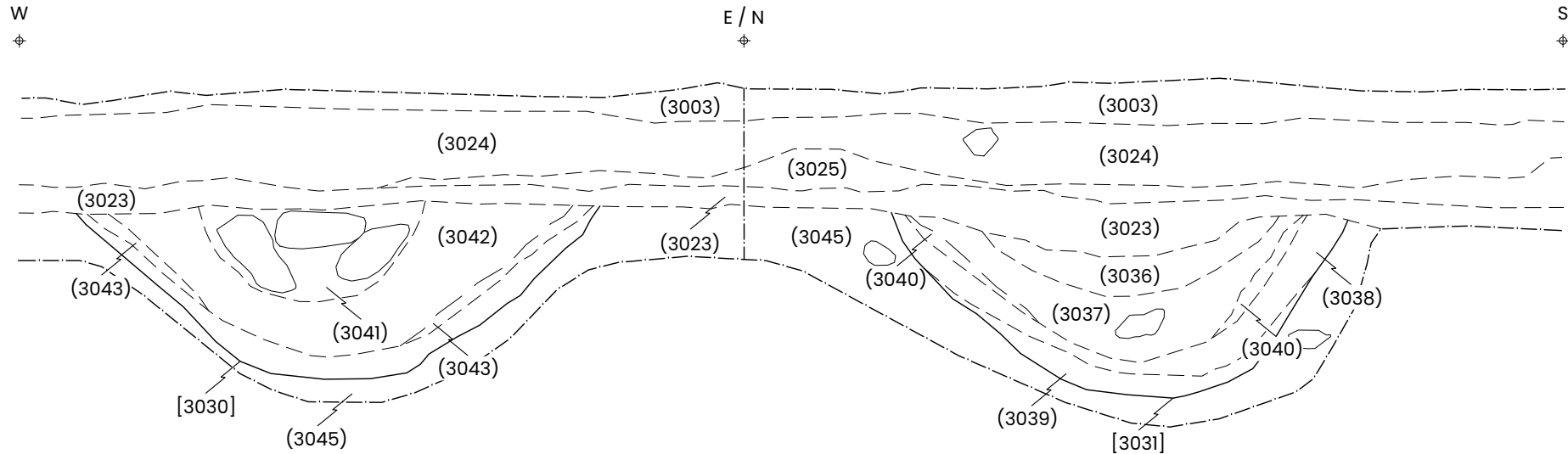


Fig.04.2

North Facing Section [3029]

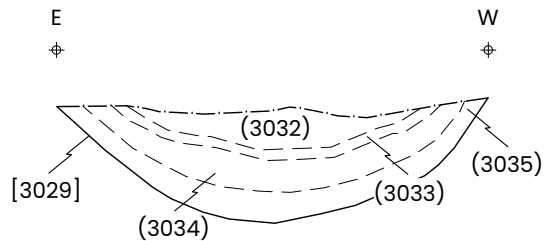
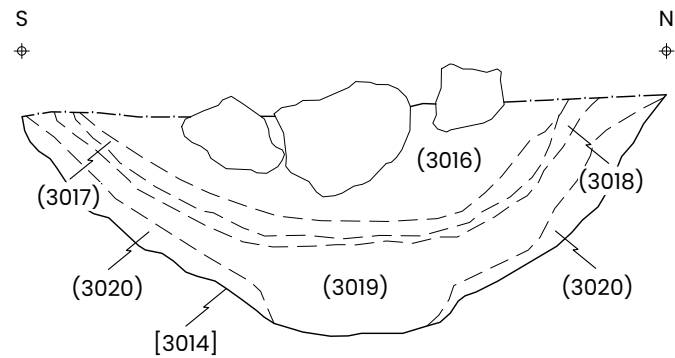


Fig.04.3

East Facing Section [3014]



0 1m



47 Aldwark  
York  
YO1 7BX

Unit 1 Holly Lane  
Chilwell, Nottingham  
NG9 4AB

54 Campo Lane  
Sheffield  
S1 2EG

Albex House  
1 Marchfield Drive, Paisley  
PA3 2RB