

EHPH



THE SEARCH FOR EWYAS HAROLD PRIORY

Season Two

for Ewyas Harold Archaeology and History Group

March 2012

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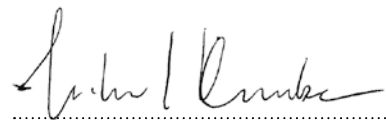
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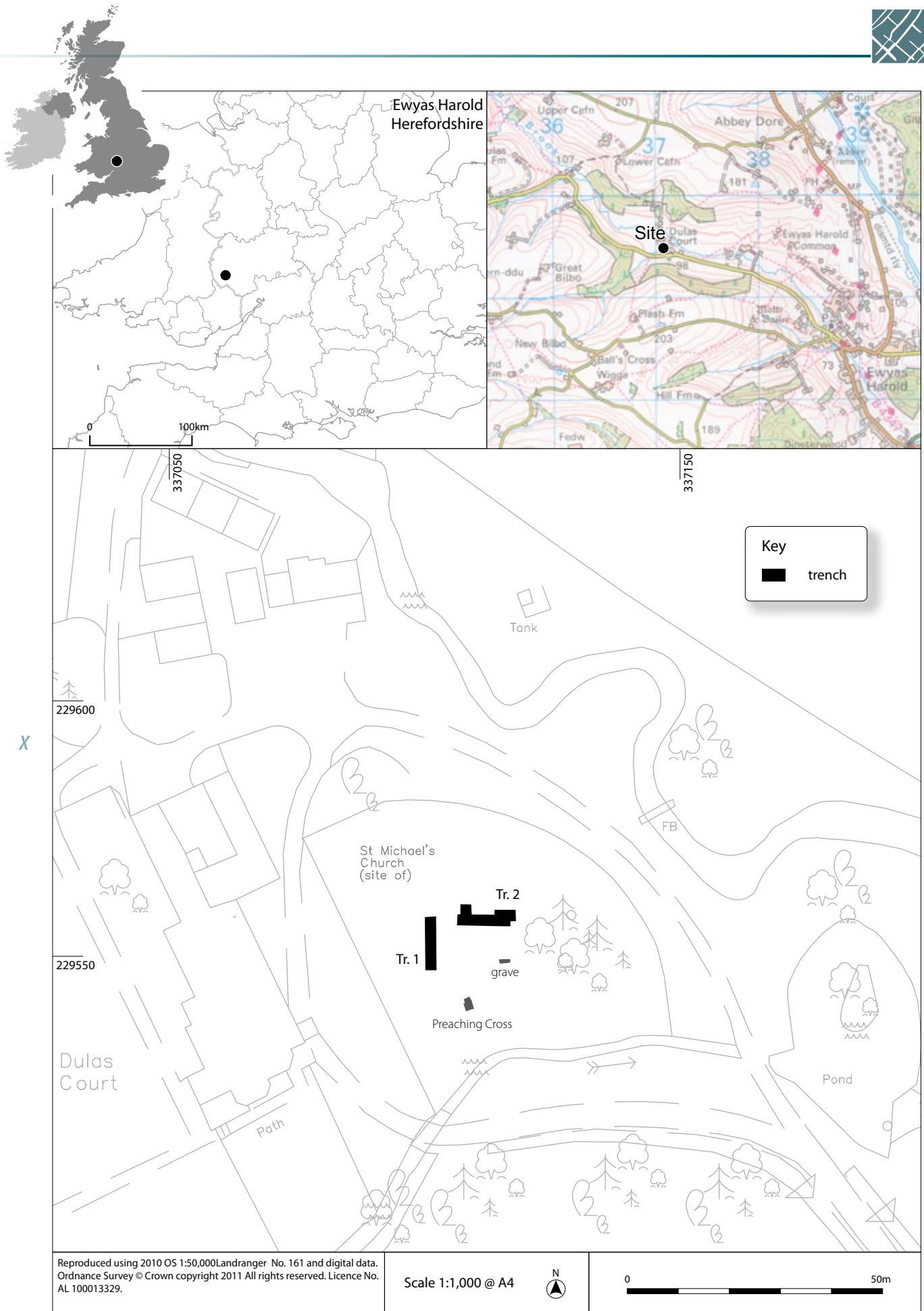
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Illus 1
Site location

THE SEARCH FOR EWYAS HAROLD PRIORY

Season Two

A programme of archaeological research was carried out in and around Ewyas Harold in 2011. The research focussed on a small excavation of a former Norman church located at Dulas Court. The work revealed the footprint of three cell building comprising nave, chancel and a round apse. The round apse had later been squared off to extend the chancel. The project also undertook a conductivity survey adjacent to Ewyas Harold and the river Dulas, locating features thought to have been medieval fish ponds.

1. INTRODUCTION

The second season of work to locate Ewyas Harold Priory was carried out by Headland Archaeology (UK) between 16th and 27th July 2011. The project is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and sponsored by Ewyas Harold Archaeology and History Group. Previous work took place in August 2010.

1.1 Project background

In 2006 a geophysical survey and historical research threw doubt on the traditional position of Ewyas Harold priory. Priory field was named on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map but the layout of the field did not match the description for the site of the priory in documentary sources – neither was there any archaeological evidence for the position of the priory. Excavation during Season 1 in 2010 (Doyle 2010) uncovered evidence of occupation dating to the medieval period including grain processing and animal husbandry. This was thought more likely to be associated with the castle or with the surrounding village as no concrete evidence for the presence of the priory was unearthed.

Documentary work (Hubbard, forthcoming) now suggests that the site of the later priory is most likely to have been at the location of the existing parish church in Ewyas Harold. Opportunities for further excavation in this area are presently limited, although it was thought that an inspection of the fabric of the church could shed light on its origins. The early origins of the priory at Dulas Court are poorly understood, and further investigation at this site was considered by the History and Archaeology Group to meet their overall aims and objectives.

1.2 Season Two aims

The aim of season two was to understand more about the history of the Dulas Valley and of Ewyas Harold and to understand the origins and development of the priory both at Ewyas Harold and Dulas Court.

As in the previous season the project enabled the local community to become involved in learning about the past of the area through excavation.

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is a Scheduled Monument (SAM 30084) and comprises the remains of the demolished St Michael's Church (Illus 1). It is located on the front lawns of Dulas Court, a residential home run by the Hereford Care Homes Group (Illus 1). The site lies at some 93.25m OD. Geology in the region consists of a mixture of Alluvium, Raglan Mudstone, Bishops Frome Limestone and St Maughans Formation Mudstone (British Geological Survey 1:250,000). Dulas Court lies some 2km to the north-west of the centre of Ewyas Harold along the valley of the Dulas Brook.

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Dulas Court was the original site of a priory cell linked to Gloucester Abbey, established at the request of Harold, Lord of Ewyas. Historical evidence suggests that when the priory was established at Dulas in 1100 the monks were given an earlier church, which they then extended (De Waal, forthcoming).



It is thought that Robert of Ewyas, the founder of Dore Abbey, the son of Harold of Ewyas, relocated the priory from Dulas in 1120, and attached it to Ewyas Harold castle, displacing the early village settlement. After the removal of the priory from Dulas, St Michael's church was still served by monks from Ewyas Harold. The priory was suppressed in 1358 as a result of its poverty and the monks recalled to Gloucester Abbey.

The church of St Michael (SMR 1483) was demolished in 1865 to make way for lawns of Dulas Court. The only surviving evidence for the church above ground is two monuments, one of which, to Margaret Humphries, dates to 1860 and must have been one of the last burials to have taken place prior to the removal of the church to its new site. The base of a churchyard cross (SMR 1485) is also present beneath a large cedar tree. It is possible that the existing garden boundaries may follow the lines of the churchyard wall. A semi circular arch from the church, rebuilt to form a garden gateway nearby, suggests a date in the early part of the 12th century.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

An archaeological watching brief and building recording were carried out at Dulas Court by Archaeological Investigations Ltd in 2002. Any structures encountered were thought to be of recent date and to relate to estate buildings. A substantial wall encountered during the watching brief on services in the area of the barn included brick in its foundations, ruling out any association with the early church (Boucher 2002).

5. OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

The primary objectives of the work were to:

- attempt to locate the Ewyas Harold Priory both at its original site at Dulas court and its subsequent site in Ewyas Harold Village.
- to increase our understanding of the Scheduled Monument at Dulas Court including its date of foundation, any subsequent significant architectural changes, its original shape and plan.
- to increase our understanding of the distribution of architectural fragments from this and other medieval structures throughout the Dulas valley and the time frame over which they were reused.
- to trace if possible the line of old leats leading towards the presumed site of the later priory in Ewyas Harold village.
- to increase our understanding of the date and phasing of the church of St Michael and All Angels, Ewyas Harold.

- to produce and deposit a satisfactory archive and disseminate the results of the work via grey-literature reporting and publication as appropriate.

6. METHOD

The excavation team consisted of a project officer and two field archaeologists from Headland Archaeology together with volunteers from Ewyas Harold History and Archaeology group and from the local community.

The methods used to fulfill the aims of the project were:

- conducting a non-intrusive resistivity survey of the site of the church.
- the hand excavation of two trenches measuring 20m² over the church to locate original masonry and secure evidence for its source and date information on the development of the structure.
- taking magnetic susceptibility readings of architectural and building stone particularly relating to the earlier phases of the structure.
- a conductivity survey of the playing fields adjacent to the Dulas Brook by Ewyas Harold.

6.1 The resistivity survey

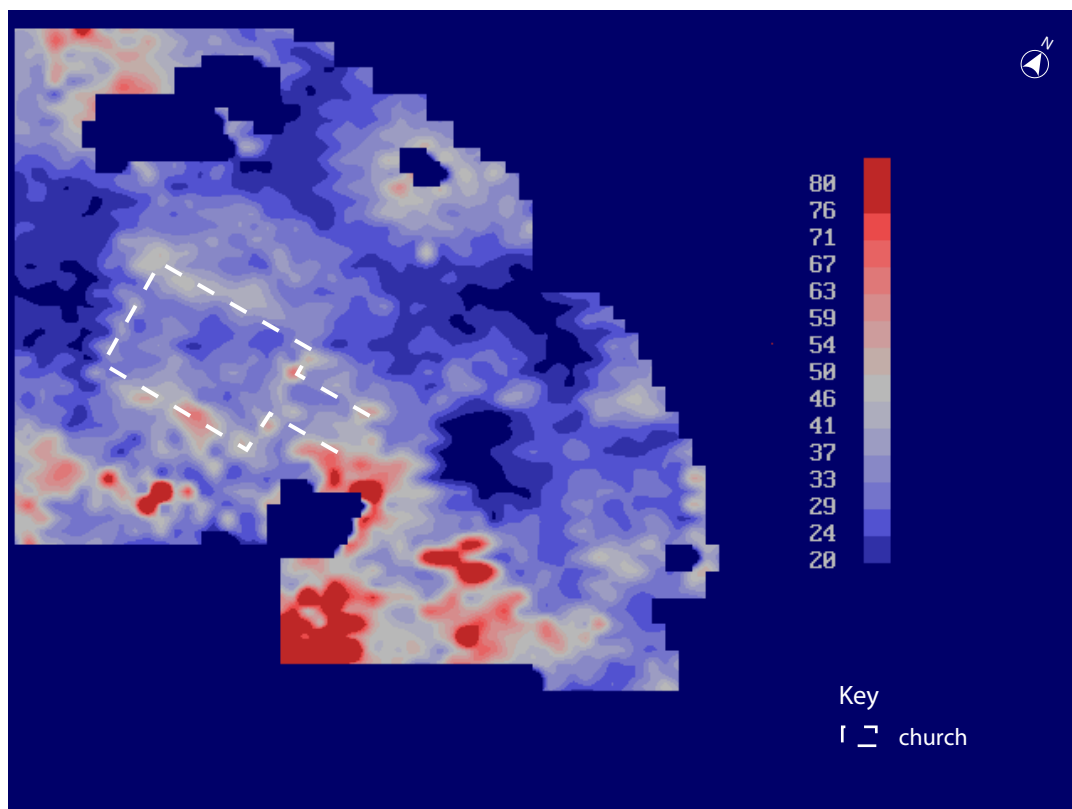
Readings were taken using a Geoscan RM15 resistivity meter with a mobile electrode spacing of 0.5m. A 1m grid was used to collect the data. The survey was tied in using Trimble R6 global positioning system. Data has been presented as a graded colour plot.

6.2 Conductivity survey

The conductivity survey was undertaken using a Geonics EM31 conductivity meter linked to a differential GPS unit. The position, conductivity and magnetic susceptibility were logged simultaneously. Data has been presented as a contour plot.

6.3 Stone susceptibility

Readings were taken on three different types of building material observed both in the remains of the church, and in the reconstructed archway near to the site, almost certainly built from stone taken from the church after its demolition. The types of stone tested were: a rough, unbedded sandstone; a finer grained slabby sandstone; and hewn blocks of tufa. At least three readings were taken on each stone to allow for micro-variations in its



Illus 2

The resistivity survey of Dulas Court

magnetic signature. The data have been graphed to show the distribution of readings.

6.4 Excavation

Following the resistivity survey the trenches were positioned in consultation with the inspector of ancient monuments.

Two trenches each initially measuring 10m by 2m were excavated upon positions identified by the resistivity survey. Trench 1 was aligned north/south and Trench 2 east/west. The trenches targeted the south wall of the nave in the presumed location of the entrance porch and the position of the chancel arch respectively.

The turf and topsoil were removed by hand using spades, after which the area was assessed archaeologically. Archaeological deposits relating to the demolition of the church were uncovered at a relatively shallow depth beneath the surface. Gravestones immediately beneath the surface were left in place in the majority of cases, although it was felt that they had almost without exception been removed from their existing positions. Any chancel encountered was reburied on site at the time of backfilling the trenches. A Burial Licence was obtained from the Ministry of Justice, although in the event only one intact burial was encountered. This was

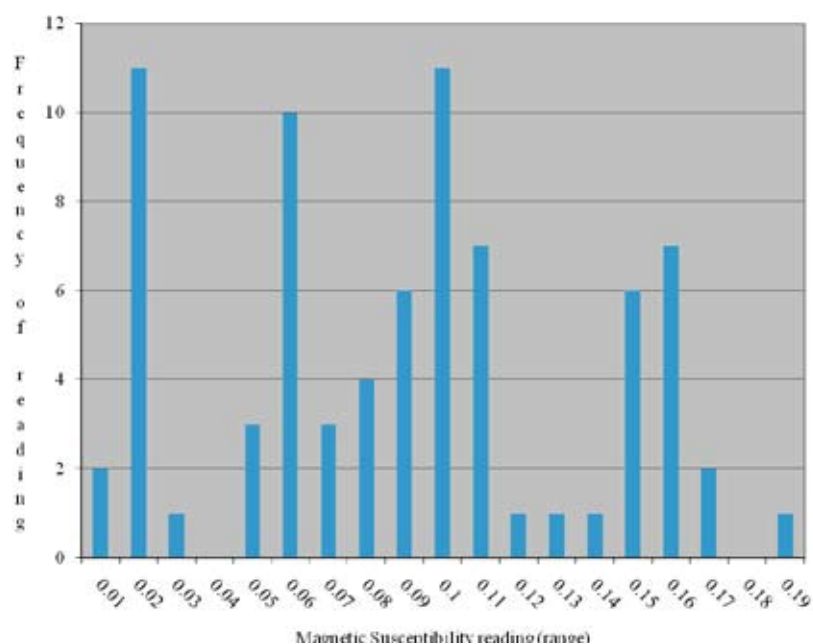
left *in situ* and, having been protected from damage, reburied during backfilling.

Under the conditions of the Scheduled Monument Consent, the excavation team undertook to leave masonry *in situ*. Therefore opportunities to investigate construction phases of the former St Michael's Church were limited, as this is usually done by removing or dismantling masonry to reveal different build episodes. A number of questions concerning phasing of the building were not, therefore, answered, although attempts were made within the parameters of the excavation to do so.

6.5 Recording

Recording followed IfA Standards and Guidance. All contexts were given unique numbers. All recording took place on *pro forma* context sheets; all stratigraphic relationships were recorded. Black and white and colour slide photographs were taken to record archaeological features. All photographs taken to illustrate archaeological features included a metric scale and all photographs were referenced on a register, which included details of contexts and direction taken.

Archaeological features were drawn in plan at a scale of 1:20. Selected sections of trenches and features were drawn at a scale of 1:20.



Graph 1
Frequency distribution of rock susceptibilities

Finds from the excavation were bagged according to context number (See Appendix 2 – Finds Assessment). All finds have been processed and stored appropriately.

6.6 Volunteer involvement

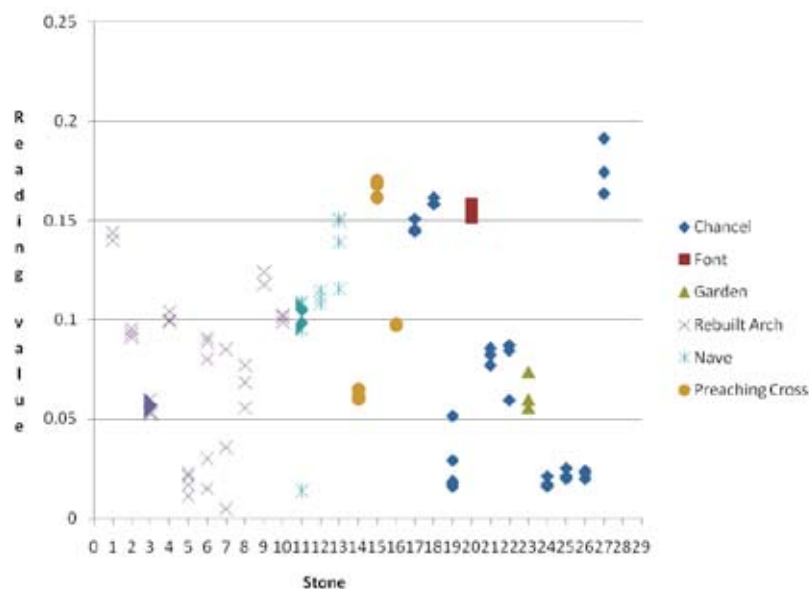
As during the previous season's work the volunteers were organised by Ewyas Harold History and Archaeology Group. Volunteers were involved in all aspects of work on site under the guidance of Headland Archaeology staff. A number of the volunteers had been involved in the previous season's work. Short on-site workshops were given throughout the excavation, to familiarise volunteers with excavation and recording procedures including site photography and drawing.

7. GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY RESULTS

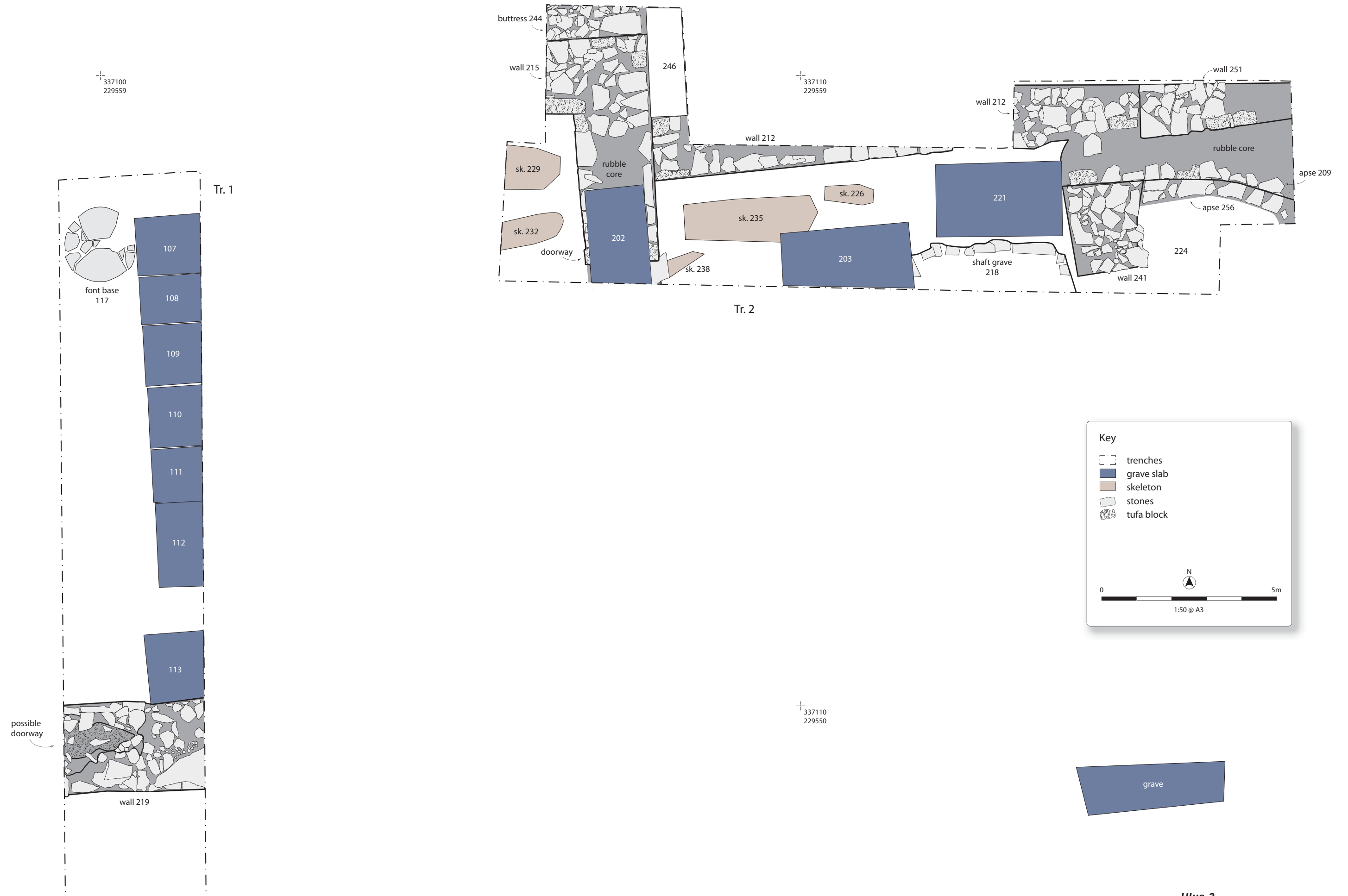
7.1 Resistivity survey

The data collected (Illus 2) does not demonstrate any marked background trends implying that there is little or no effect from variations in the any underlying geology or drainage. The horizontal nature of the area surveyed lends some credence to this hypothesis. It is also likely that underlying deposits are relatively homogeneous, given the site's location between two streams and its use as a burial ground. Therefore it should be possible to attribute any responses observed to features within the upper 1m of the ground surface.

Two sets of features visible on the surface are likely to have an effect on the readings. The first of these is the presence of trees and shrubs whose roots will locally dehumidify the soil creating substantially enhanced resistivity readings. The second is the presence of stone grave monuments which can inhibit electrical contact with the ground and as a result can produce much enhanced high or low responses. In the results two areas of higher responses which are believed



Graph 2
Stone magnetic susceptibility readings



Illus 3
Composite plan of church

to result from the presence of trees or shrubs have been identified. A similar area of responses has also been identified across the south side of the site, although in this case some of the responses observed may also be due to the presence of grave monuments.

From the remainder of the data the outline of the nave of St Michael's church is clearly visible. To its east the chancel is less well defined although there is a hint of the line of its north wall and the location of its east end. Interestingly an area of slightly enhanced resistivity appears to form a roughly rectangular area to the north of, and in line with, the nave. The nave measures c. 13m by 10m, the roughly rectangular area of resistivity to its north having the same L but measuring 6m across. The chancel can be estimated to measure 9m by 6m on the basis of these results. No other clearly identifiable anomalies were identified within the survey.

7.2 Conductivity

In general the conductivity plot shows a large number of low-conductivity responses beneath the main cricket pitch and in areas adjacent to the pavilion and modern housing estate (Illus 3). This is probably clear evidence of modern dumping onto these areas to level them or improve drainage. Unfortunately the making up of the ground has obscured any evidence for the line of the leat beneath. Towards the northern end of the survey area there is a zone of enhanced conductivity which could be a large pond, possibly formed from a former oxbow of the brook.

7.3 Stone susceptibility

The data were graphed to show the susceptibility values and the variation of between values for each stone. There are four main groups of readings (Graph 1):

- Stones with readings clustering in the 0.01–0.02 x10–3SI range;
- Stones with readings clustering in the 0.05–0.06 x10–3SI range;
- Stones with readings clustering in the 0.09–0.10 x10–3SI range;
- Stones with readings clustering in the 0.15–0.16 x10–3SI range;

All of the tufa (stone 5 from the archway, stones 19, 24, 25 & 26 from the church) fell within the first group of tightly clustered and low susceptibility readings. Exceptions are stone 22, which may have been misidentified, and one reading from stone 19 which may be an outlier. The sandstone rubble, used in the majority of the chancel masonry, tended to fall within the second group of readings

(Graph 2), whilst that used in the nave fell within the third – although there is some overlap between the two areas. The stone within the garden wall and reconstructed archway seemed in general to represent stone similar to that used in both the nave and the chancel.

The final group of stone readings seemed mainly confined to stones used with a decorative purpose – the carved capital in the reconstructed archway, the font base in the nave and the base of the preaching cross all fell within this group.

The data collected shows that the instrument is capable of distinguishing between different types of building material. The apsidal end of the chancel was rebuilt at least twice, which may explain the evidence for a separate stone source in the fabric of this part of the church. Stone that was to be used for carving seems also seems to have been selected from a particular type of stone.

The study also demonstrated that the readings from the reconstructed archway and from the *in situ* stone in the remains of the church are similar enough to be confident that both are constructed from material from the same source. In this case there was ample other evidence that this was so – not least in the style of the carved archway – but the results suggest that the method is sufficiently robust to identify common stone sources in the absence of other evidence.

8. EXCAVATION RESULTS

7

8.1 The Nave

As seen in the excavation (Illus 4), the nave appeared to be a simple structure with only one main phase of construction. The north wall of the nave (Illus 5; 119) was revealed in Trench 1. It was 1.25m wide and approximately 0.70m deep. It consisted of a foundation, constructed of sandstone blocks of varying sizes (Illus 3). The top of the wall appeared to be narrow strip of flat stone and white mortar measuring 1.25m x 0.55m and running into the western section. No return wall for this section was revealed.

A broken circular stone feature [117] with a diameter of 1.06m was uncovered in at the north end of Trench 1 (Illus 6). It appeared to have a rectangular slot in the centre (Illus 4) and may have been a font base.

A portion of the east wall [215] of the nave and its return to the west was revealed in Trench 2 (Illus 7). It measured 3.25m north-south and 1.35 east-west (Illus 5, Illus 11). It was approximately 1.05m wide and the excavated depth was 0.50m. It was constructed of sandstone and was rendered on the eastern and western faces. On the eastern side foundations, projected approximately 100mm from the face. Tufa was used in the quoins and a break in the construction at the southern end terminated with a tufa



◀ Illus 4

Northern wall of nave, context 119



◀ Illus 5

Font base, context 117



◀ Illus 6

Eastern wall of nave, context 215

block. It may be either an arch base or a doorway which was constructed in order to access the chancel. Mortar floor surfaces (222, 223) cut by later burials on the eastern side of the wall may have related to the medieval use of the nave.

A stone structure [244] butted to the northern wall of the nave [215] (Illus 8). It was not fully revealed in the extension to Trench 2 and ran into the section to both the north and west. It measured 1.40m x 0.55m and was revealed only in plan (DRW 8). It is likely to have been a buttress shown on a 19th century illustration of the church.

At the southern end of Trench 1 against the exterior of the south wall lay a compact clay (114) containing 12th century pottery. A layer of stone (102), overlying this and continuing outside of the trench, may have been a pathway as the stones forming it gave the impression of wear and compaction. A number of iron nails recovered from the same deposit may relate to the demolition of the church – however, the only pottery recovered from among the stones in 102 suggested a date in the later medieval period. As 102 lay above deposit 114, which also contained medieval pottery it is possible that, despite its position immediately beneath the topsoil it could represent a long established path or surface outside the church.

A layer of rubbly soil (101) lay above 102 and immediately beneath the topsoil in Trench 1.

8.2 The Chancel

The chancel was a more complex structure, particularly at its eastern end (Illus 10, Illus 11). The only direct relationship with the nave that was observed during the excavation was a butting join with the east wall of the nave. This appears to date at least one phase of the chancel to contemporary with or later than the nave. However, due to constraints on dismantling the structure and the fixed position of the trenches, it is not known whether this relationship includes the earliest phases of the chancel seen in the excavation.

Chancel – Phase 1

The earliest phase of the chancel was visible at its eastern end. It showed an apse-ended structure composed of walls 241 and 256. Wall 241 formed the east end and terminated before reaching the southern section. No tufa was observed in this phase, although only the lowermost courses of the walls survived. This edge aligns approximately with the construction break in the eastern nave wall demonstrating alignment of doorways/arches in the structure. The wall was subsequently overlain by the later apse, wall 209. Its relationship to the north wall of the chancel, 212, was not observed within the extent

of the trench, although it is likely that it joined either this wall or a possible earlier build of it.

A horseshoe shaped apse end (wall 256) extended east from wall 241. A slot excavated at the join between 256 and 241 could not fully establish whether the apse was keyed into the east wall foundations or butted against it as the foundations of both structures were irregular. The foundations of 256 were at least three courses deep and capped by a course of flat stones of average size 300 x 200 x 50mm. These stones followed the line of the apse for approximately 2m but had been disturbed towards the eastern end of the trench. Wall 256 had also been overlain by the later apse end, wall 209 so the full W of the wall could not be measured.

Chancel – Phase 2

In this phase it is certain that the chancel and the nave formed a structure of contemporaneous build. The earlier apsidal end (wall 256) appears to have been replaced by a second apse (wall 209). The northern wall [212] of the chancel butted against the eastern face of the nave (Illus 9) and was constructed of sandstone with a W of 0.80m and depth of 0.20m. As in the nave, the wall contained tufa quoins where it abutted other structures and at corners, and these may have been placed to show off architectural features. The foundations projected about 100mm from the wall base. The adjoining apse end (wall 209) was also constructed of sandstone with tufa blocks apparently deliberately placed. It was three courses deep and approximately 0.25m wide. The position of this apse appears to have created a broader entrance to the sanctuary than seems to have been present in the earlier phase. Within the interior of the apse in this phase was a compact silty deposit (220) containing no finds or chancel, but which appears to have been a floor surface.

The relationship between wall 212 and 209 was difficult to determine due to disturbance caused by the later squaring-off of the chancel and the presence of a post-medieval grave slab. It is assumed that they form part of the same build.

Chancel – Phase 3

Wall 251 was exposed running along the northern edge of trench 2. It was revealed only in plan and appeared to be of a rough construction. Although it contained occasional tufa blocks, these did not appear to be deliberately placed as in the previous phase and the build of the nave. It may have been built from re-used stone. Rubble filled the space between wall 251 and apse wall 209, and the outer face of wall 209 appeared to have been destroyed by the construction of wall 251 (Illus 10). Wall 251 appeared to but against the east end of wall 212, but some disturbance had been caused in this area, possibly by the partial demolition of wall 209.



◀ Illus 7

Possible ancillary building or buttress, wall 244



◀ Illus 8

North wall of chancel (212) and eastern wall of nave (215)



◀ Illus 9

Wall 251 squaring off the apse



Illus 10

Grave slabs in Trench 2

11

8.3 The later parish church

The church is known to have continued in use as a parish church into the post-medieval period. Grave slabs of this period (assumed to lie *in situ*) lay at widely different heights, suggesting changes in the floor level, and a general raising from the medieval levels.

A stone lined shaft grave (218) on the southern side of Trench 2 almost certainly dated to the later 17th to the 18th centuries. Its construction suggested that it had been intended to lie beneath the ground rather than being a table tomb. It was shaped to contain a coffin and, while the finish on the inside of the shaft was good, the outside was unfinished. It was not possible to establish from this shaft the height of the floor of the post-medieval church as it could not be established whether the upper courses of this structure had been removed.

A number of further grave cuts were present but were not fully excavated; for historical reasons it is thought likely that they were of later medieval or post-medieval date.

Possibly one of the last burials to have taken place within the church was that of an infant (Sk 226) approximately three

months old. The burial had been shrouded, with staining on the bones indicating the presence of pins. The arms were by the sides. The grave was cut into red brown clay (224).

8.4 Demolition of the church and landscaping

The earliest contexts dating to this period in Trench 2 (Illus 11) were a number of grave slabs (contexts 202, 203, 205 and 206) dating to the later 18th or early 19th centuries. Two of these were fragments of larger stones. The memorial to Ann, the wife of John Williams (slab 202), who died in 1780, was incorrectly aligned (ie north/south) and overlay the top of wall 215 at the eastern end of the nave. An early stone possibly of 17th century date (204) overlay a later one (203) dated to the later 18th century demonstrating that it too had been moved from its original position. These stones commemorated the Jones family and may have been grouped together for this reason. Dates at the end of the 18th century suggested that surviving members of these local families may have wished for the stones to remain in place when the church was demolished or that it was not considered practical to remove them to the site of the new church.



12

Illus 11

Grave slabs in Trench 1

Wear and repair on the ledger memorial to Thomas and Sybill Jones (1749 and 1759) and their son John, who died in 1799, demonstrated that it had been used as a surface in either a path or within the church. The wear on this stone was considerably greater than that on other memorial stones recorded during the excavation and which were of broadly similar date. Although correctly aligned it is unlikely to have been in its original position as its surface was lower than the upper course of the shaft grave, otherwise the floor must have been raised in the short interval between the death of John and the demolition of the parish church.

The grave slabs in Trench 1 (Illus 12) commemorated members of the Lewis family. As with those for the Jones family found in Trench 2, surviving members of the family may have wished them to remain on the site.

It seems certain that some care was taken to place the stones in a family group, or to maintain that group, and that those in Trench 1 appeared to have been carefully aligned. It was apparent that stones in Trench 1 were not in situ as those that were investigated had been levelled using fragments of stone. There was no sign of burials or grave cuts beneath. It was thought unlikely that the stones had formed part of

the church floor as they appeared to lie within demolition rubble 104, rather than lying on a surface.

Mortar layer 104 lay below a burnt deposit (103) containing scrap iron (including coat hangers) also considered to be associated with the demolition of St Michael's church. It was thought probable that non-salvageable wooden fittings and other rubbish from the church may have been burnt at this point. To its north was a pit (105) of unknown purpose but presumably also associated with the demolition of the building and levelling the area.

9. DISCUSSION

The use of a resistivity survey in conjunction with limited excavation proved successful in locating the position of the former St Michael's church and have revealed the foundations of a medieval parish church, the main phase of which almost certainly dates to the 11th or early 12th century. The excavations were carried out with a minimum of disturbance to the fabric of the building, in line with the conditions of the Scheduled Monument Consent, and have highlighted previously unknown complexity in the development of the church.

9.1 The early parish church

The church is first mentioned in the historical record (De Waal, forthcoming) in AD 1100, when Gloucester Abbey established a priory cell to serve it, in return for gifts of land made by Harold of Ewyas. The monks appear to have occupied an existing church a scenario also suggested by Bruce Copplestone-Crow (Boucher 2007, p.28). A similar scenario was enacted at Kilpeck in 1134, when another dependent cell was founded, again at the instigation of the landowner, to service the church there.

There is no dating evidence for the earliest phase of the church found during the excavations. Walls 241 and 256, forming the east end of the chancel and the adjoining first apse, were the earliest phase of the church. The masonry appeared more basic in character than that seen in the nave or later phases of the chancel, and the small restricted apse appears stylistically early. This phase could date to the 11th century or earlier.

Comparison with other Herefordshire churches thought to be of similar 11th or 12th century date shows that in the majority of cases, there is evidence for different elements of the church being rebuilt at different dates. For example at Bredwardine and Longtown the chancel was rebuilt and is later than the nave; the chancel at Credenhill is also later than the nave, but with less evidence for an earlier chancel preceding it. At Kilpeck and Moccas the nave and chancel of the Norman church appear to be contemporary, although at Kilpeck there is some evidence for the presence of an earlier Anglo-Saxon church.

At Dulas the chancel masonry with tufa and similar masonry in the nave may be contemporary, suggesting an early 12th century date, as most tufa churches in Herefordshire predate c.1120 when this material apparently fell out of fashion. The construction break between the chancel and nave shows that most of the observed chancel was built to adjoin the nave and may have replaced the earlier chancel and closed apse with a more open apsidal end. It is possible to speculate that this rebuilding was related to the adoption of the church by Gloucester Abbey.

It is unlikely that a large church would be required for a small monastic population. At a number of priories the monastic church was also used as a parish church for the local population as at Wilberfoss, where the nave for the parishioners was separated from the nuns' choir (Coppack 1989: 39). According to Hillaby (2006 p.75) the use of the nave or one of the aisles as a parish church was common in Benedictine and Augustinian houses (119 Benedictine and 37 Augustinian). At Dulas the parish church and the priory church were also one and the same.

The phases of construction of the church may also indicate responses to changes in religious dogma throughout the medieval period. The naves of churches were not only kept open at all times during the medieval period but

they were used for a number of secular functions. The changes resulting from the exposition of the doctrine of transubstantiation at the fourth Lateran council in 1215 meant that it was considered necessary to shield the sacrament from irreverent access and to protect it from abuse.

This change also led to the erection of screens to separate the nave from the chancel. At the same time chancels were reconstructed to distance the priest and the consecration of the host from the congregation, with, frequently the shorter apsidal ends of churches replaced by longer square chancels. If these doctrinal changes are reflected by the extension and squaring of the chancel at Dulas, it would date this phase of the building to the early 13th century.

9.2 The later parish church

There is some evidence for the continuation of occupation at Dulas with pottery dating to the middle of the 14th century found in the path leading to the presumed south door into the nave. This probably relates to the continued use of the church throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods. There were few finds of post-medieval date, apart from 19th century and later finds dating to the time of the existing Dulas Court.

Burials inside the church walls are likely to date from the later medieval period onwards. During the medieval period there were numerous attempts to limit burial inside the church walls – for instance the statute of Chichester in 1292 (Daniell 1997: 96). Before the end of the medieval period most burials would have taken place in the churchyard. Burial inside the church walls during the Middle Ages was likely to be limited to important patrons of the church and their families.

The memorial stones were probably moved when the church was demolished and the gardens landscaped. In Trench 1 the stones lay within a layer of demolition debris (104) rich in plaster and mortar. They were laid edge to edge and in a family group. They were not laid upon a solid surface, neither was there evidence for grave cuts and fills or shafts beneath them. It was noticeable that the majority of the memorials were in better condition than that to Thomas and Sybill Jones in Trench 2 even though they were generally of similar date. It seems likely that they were laid flat and buried shortly after around the time of the church's demolition in the 1860s, only 100 years or so after they were first set in place.

The priory outbuildings

No evidence was found for the priory's ancillary buildings. The geophysical survey does not show evidence for any further structures in this area.

Design of monastic houses around a cloister dates to the reforms of St Dunstan in the mid 10th century, a plan



which became standard for religious houses up to the Reformation (Coppack 1990 p 64). It is not really known whether this layout was replicated down to the level of small priory cells such as Dulas.

At a small priory with a limited lifespan it is very likely that all outbuildings would have been of timber. Wilberfoss Priory, a small Benedictine convent, had domestic buildings of timber throughout a 400 year or so existence (Coppack 1990: 103) and there is evidence for timber construction predating more permanent stone structures at a number of larger religious houses such as Norton Priory (Coppack 1990: 68). At Kilpeck, another small Gloucester Abbey cell, the priory seems to have been located several hundred yards from the church, with the remains visible as small banks and platforms and a possible fishpond (Herefordshire SMR 7125).

If, as seems likely, all the domestic buildings were wooden then it is possible that subsequent use of the precinct as a parish burial ground could have destroyed much of the evidence for their presence.

10. REFERENCES

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11. APPENDICES

Appendix 1– Site registers

Trench register

Trench no.	Dimensions (m)	Description	Levels mOD	Contexts
1	2 x 10	Aligned north/south the trench was positioned to investigate the wall of the nave in the position of the presumed entrance porch. Beneath the topsoil was a substantial demolition deposit containing repositioned and realigned gravestones. The wall of the nave and a possible font base were encountered beneath.	Max: 93.81 Min: 93.14	100–119
2	2 x 10	Aligned east/west the trench was positioned to investigate the position of the chancel arch. A number of walls representing different phases of St Michael's church were present beneath the topsoil and building rubble deposits.	Max: 93.56 Min: 93.25	200–252

Max = ground surface

Min = base of trench

Context register

Context no.	Trench no.	Description	Dimensions (m)
100	1	Turf and topsoil in trench 1.	D: 0.2 (max)
101	1	Fairly loose grey brown clay loam with modern building rubble including glazed drainpipe, mortar, plaster and brick.	L: 7.7+ W: 2+ D: 0.13
102	1	Angular light grey stones of varying sizes, irregular and with no obvious pattern. At southern end of Trench 1 and continuing beyond sections. Largest 0.38 x 0.3, average 0.10 x 0.10	L: 1+ W: 2+ D: 0.27
103	1	Layer of ash and burnt clay containing modern scrap iron. Extends outside section to east and slumps into pit 105.	L: 2 W: 1.55+ D: 0.2

Context no.	Trench no.	Description	Dimensions (m)
104	1	Rubble layer at northern end of trench. Mortar and plaster very apparent within deposit. Pillar or font base 117 and a number of gravestones were found within this deposit	L: 7.7+ W: 2+ D: 0.2
105	1	Modern cut or hollow within made up ground. Burnt patch 103 slopes into bottom of the cut.	L: 1.2 W: 1.2+ D: 0.5
106	1	Fill of 105. Red brown clay with stone rubble and mortar fragments. No finds	L: 1.2 W: 1.2+ D: 0.5
107	1	Grave slab of local sandstone. Dated 1759. Elizabeth, wife of Thos. Thomas. Some wear may suggest that at some point it formed part of the church floor.	L: 0.38 + D: 0.06
108	1	Grave slab of local sandstone. Dated 1812. Cracked in two places and extended into the section. Sarah, daughter of Edmund and Bridget Lewis	L: 0.87+ D: 0.04
109	1	Grave slab of local sandstone. Lower half extends into section. Edmund Lewis, 1808 'In youth and Strength put not your trust, The strongest person is but dust'	L: 0.8+ D: 0.05
110	1	Grave slab of local sandstone. Lower half extends into section. Bridget, wife of Edmund Lewis, 1784. 'A Loving Wife a mother here, A faithful friend lies buried here, The loss is great that we ?live on ...'	L: 0.3+ D: 0.05
111	1	Grave slab of local sandstone. Chipped right hand corner and root running above bottom end. Philip Lewis 1765. Also Thomas Lewis.	L: 0.78+ D: 0.05
112	1	Gravestone of local sandstone. Top third split and sloping downwards. Ann and Margaret Lewis – 1740s	L: 0.7 W: 1.2+ D: 0.8+
113	1	Gravestone of local sandstone. Double width, only left side used. Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Jane Lewis, 1813. Decoration of urns and flowers	W: 1.2
114	1	Red brown silt clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and occasional sandstone. Outside church?	L: 1.6 W: 2.0
115	1	Cut for wall 119.	L: 2.0+ W: 1.0
116	1	Pink brown silty clay fill of cut 115.	–
117	1	Circular stone at northern end of trench. Broken into smaller pieces. Rectangular [0.035 x 0.11] hole in the centre may indicate something slotted into the top. Within rubble 104. Font or column base?	L: 1.07 W: 1.03 D: 0.11



Context no.	Trench no.	Description	Dimensions (m)
118	1	Red brown silt clay with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent human bone. Surface?	L: 7.7+ W: 2.0 D: 0.55
119	1	Wall of roughly hewn sandstone; some dressed; material size varies. Bonded with white mortar. Part of church.	L: 2.0+ W: 1.25 D: 0.75
200	2	Topsoil and turf in Trench 2.	D: 0.13
202	2	Grave slab of local sandstone. Broken in two. John Williams 1780	W: 0.84 D: 0.05
203	2	Grave slab of local sandstone. Left side extends outside section. Martha, wife of William Jones. 1809. 'I know ? Redeemer Liveth	L: 1.87 W: 0.94+ D: 0.04
204	2	Broken grave slab may be 17th or early 18th c in style.	L: 0.758 D: 0.028
205	2	Fragment of grave slab.	L: 0.585 D: 0.04
206	2	Fragment of grave slab. Extends into section.	L: 0.67 D: 0.05
207	2	Mortar and rubble rich demolition layer or levelling deposit. Fragments of human bone particularly in lower part of deposit.	L: 10.2+ W: 2.0+ D: 0.2 – 0.4
208	2	Foundation cut for apse wall. Not distinguishable on ground – dimensions are for wall	L: 2.2 W: 0.48 D: 0.31
209	2	Sandstone and tufa wall of apse. Mortared in places with coarse mortar and overlying wall 241. Tufa dressed – remaining stone roughly shaped. Respects previous line of apse – later phase or is earlier apse actually a footing?	L: 2.2 W: 0.48 D: 0.31
210	2	Fill of 208 – not distinguishable from surrounding material	L: 2.2 W: 0.48 D: 0.31
211	2	Cut for wall 212.	L: 4.1+ W: 0.05+ D: 0.05?
212	2	Wall aligned roughly east/west. Only tufa is dressed. Mortared in places with a coarse mortar containing sandstone fragments. Probably chancel wall. Butts 215	L: 6.2 W: 1.0 D: 0.4
213	2	Red brown sandy clay fill of cut 212. Very similar to deposit 224, which 211 cuts, but less firmly compacted.	L: 4.1+ W: 0.05+ D: 0.05

Context no.	Trench no.	Description	Dimensions (m)
214	2	Linear cut not seen but presumed to be present; foundation for wall 215.	–
215	2	Wall of local sandstone and tufa. Tufa dressed. Bonded with coarse mortar containing sandstone fragments. Mortar and plaster on outer face. Possible doorway may be entrance from nave to chancel.	L: 3.2 W: 1.02 D: 0.45
216	2	Fill of cut 214. Not distinguishable from surrounding material	–
217	2	Cut for shaft grave 218. Subrectangular in form.	L: 2.2 W: 0.7+ D: 0.3+
218	2	Stone walls of burial shaft. Seven courses of dressed stone seen. Roughly shaped only for exterior suggesting structure lined from inside. Stones average 0.30 x 0.30 x 0.03. internal dimension 2.0 x 0.5 x 0.4+	L: 2.1 W: 0.7 D: 0.3+
219	2	Fill of shaft grave 218. Mid grey brown silt clay. Contains	L: 2.0 W: 0.5+ D: 0.3+
220	2	Light grey brown stony silt, compact and firm. Very distinct	L: 1.52 W: 0.85
221	2	Grave slab beneath demolition layer. Thomas (1749) and Sybill Jones and John Jones	L: 0.82 W: 1.06 D: 0.05
222	2	Layer of mortar – thought possibly to be a construction horizon	L: 1.02 W: 0.3
223	2	Layer of mortar, probably mixed with soil as browner than 222	L: 0.9 W: 0.3 D: 0.6
224	2	Layer of clean clay with charcoal flecks. Not excavated.	L: 10.0 W: 2.0
225	2	Mid grey brown gritty silt loosely compacted. Distinct from background material. Grave fill	L: 0.76 W: 0.28 D: 0.08+
226	2	Burial – infant aged around 3 months. Shrouded but no evidence for coffin	–
227	2	Subrectangular cut oriented e/w. Grave for infant 226	L: 0.76 W: 0.28 D: 0.08+
228	2	Mid grey brown silt clay with plaster and sandstone inclusions. Fill of grave cut 230	L: 0.8 W: 0.6 D: 0.09+
229	2	Burial in cut 230. Not revealed	–

Context no.	Trench no.	Description	Dimensions (m)
230	2	Subrectangular grave cut. Not excavated fully	L: 0.8 W: 0.6 D: 0.09+
231	2	Mid grey brown silt clay with plaster and sandstone inclusions. Fill of grave cut 233	L: 0.82 W: 0.4 D: 0.1+
232	2	Burial in cut 233. Not revealed	–
233	2	Subrectangular grave cut not fully excavated	L: 0.82 W: 0.4 D: 0.1+
234	2	Mid grey brown silt clay with plaster and sandstone inclusions. Fill of grave cut 236	L: 1.9 W: 0.57 D: 0.25+
235	2	Burial in cut 236. Not excavated	–
236	2	Subrectangular grave cut. Not fully excavated	L: 1.9 W: 0.57 D: 0.25+
237	2	Mid grey brown silt clay with plaster and sandstone inclusions. Fill of grave cut 239	L: 1.51+ W: 0.4+ D: 0.26+
238	2	Burial in cut 239. Not excavated	–
239	2	Subrectangular grave cut. Not fully excavated	L: 1.51+ W: 0.4+ D: 0.26+
240	2	Fill of foundation cut for wall 241. Not distinguishable on ground – dimensions for wall	L: 3.0 W: 1.3 D: 0.4
241	2	Wall of local sandstone – no tufa seen. Bonding material coarse pink mortar. Earliest phase of apsidal church	L: 3.0 W: 1.3 D: 0.4
242	2	Foundation cut for wall 241. Not distinguishable on ground – dimensions for wall.	L: 3.0 W: 1.3 D: 0.4
243	2	Fill of cut 245 – foundation for wall 244. Not distinguishable from surrounding material.	L: 1.38 W: 0.44 D: 0.18+
244	2	Wall abutting 215. Not fully excavated. Local sandstone. No tufa. Bonded with coarse pink mortar	L: 1.38 W: 0.44 D: 0.18+
245	2	Cut for wall 244. Not visible on ground	L: 1.38 W: 0.44 D: 0.18+

Context no.	Trench no.	Description	Dimensions (m)
246	2	Dark grey brown stony clay. Dump of building debris, possibly outside church	L: 1.6 W: 0.6 D: 0.2
247	2	Mid grey brown silt clay, firmly compacted. Containing plaster and occasional sandstone. Fill of grave cut 249	L: 0.5 W: 0.48 D: 0.02+
248	2	Possible burial – not excavated	–
249	2	Subrectangular e/w oriented cut, probably a grave. Not excavated	L: 0.5 W: 0.48 D: 0.02+
250	2	Construction cut for wall 251. Not visible on ground	L: 2.2 W: 0.9 D: 0.3+
251	2	Wall in northeastern corner of Trench 2. Probably continuation of wall 212. Tufa could suggest either a return or an abutting wall.	L: 2.2 W: 0.9 D: 0.3+
252	2	Fill of construction cut 250. Not distinguishable from surrounding material.	L: 2.2 W: 0.9 D: 0.3+

Drawing register

Drawing no	Scale	Plan / Section	Description
1	1:20	Plan	Trench 1, South end – 103 + 102
2	1:20	Section	Plan of wall 215
3	1:20	Section	Trench 1, West facing section – 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 1-5, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114 + 118
4	1:20	Plan	Plan of deposit 201, 202, 203, 204 + 205
5	1:20	Section	Trench 1, North facing section of wall 116
6	1:20	Plan	Trench 1, Plan - 119
7	1:20	Plan	Trench 2, Plan of walls 209, 212, 215, 241, 251
8	1:20	Plan	Trench 2, ...continuation of DWG#8
9	1:20	Section	Trench 2, North facing section – 200, 201, 207, 220
10	1:20	Section	Trench 2, South facing section of wall 212
11	1:20	Section	Trench 2, West facing section - 209, 241



Photographic register

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Photo no.	BW	C/S	Dig.	Direction	Description
1	–	–	0001		ID shot
2	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, Deposit (201)
3	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, Layer 102 – pre-excavation
4	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 2, Grave slab (202)
5	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 1, (101), (102), + (103) – pre-excavation
6	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, Grave slab (203)
7	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, Grave slab (204)
8	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, Grave slab (205)
9	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, Grave slab (206)
10	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, Burnt area (103)
11	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 1, (101)
12	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, Cut [105] + Fill (106)
13	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, Grave slab (107)
14	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, Grave slab (108)
15	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, Grave slab (109)
16	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, Grave slab (110)
17	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, Grave slab (111)
18	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, Grave slab (112)
19	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, Grave slab (113)
20	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, Deposit (207)
21			Y	E	Trench 1, (114) – pre-excavation
22	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, example of plaster excavated
23	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, [116] + (115) – pre-excavation
24	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, (221)
25	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 2, (209)
26	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 2, Mortar deposit (222)
27			Y	E	Trench 1, (114) – pre-excavation
28	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, wall [116]
29	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 2, Mortar deposit (223)
30	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 2, surface (220)
31	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, shaft grave (218) – pre-excavation
32	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, circular stone feature (117)
33	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, Section shot of wall [215]

Photo no.	BW	C/S	Dig.	Direction	Description
34	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 2, Section shots of wall [212]
35	Y	Y		N	Trench 2, Section shots of wall [212]
36	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, top of wall [212]
37			Y	N	Stone 1 susceptibility test – decorated stone in garden wall arch
38			Y	N	Stone 2 susceptibility test – garden wall arch
39			Y	S	Stone 3 susceptibility test – garden wall arch
40			Y	N	Stone 4 susceptibility test – garden wall arch
41			Y	S	Stone 5 susceptibility test – garden wall tufa
42			Y	E	Stone 6 susceptibility test – flat stone on top of garden wall
43			Y	W	Stone 7 susceptibility test – garden wall, long flat stone
44			Y	W	Stone 8 susceptibility test – flat stone on top of garden wall
45			Y	E	Stone 9 susceptibility test – corner stone on bottom of garden wall
46			Y	N	Stone 10 susceptibility test – corner loose flat stone in garden wall
47			Y	S	Stone 11 susceptibility test – in (115)
48			Y	N	Stone 12 susceptibility test – in (115)
49			Y	W	Stone 14, 15 + 16 susceptibility test – preaching cross
50			Y	N	Stone 17 susceptibility test – curved apse stone [209]
51			Y	N	Stone 18 susceptibility test – Trench 2 floor surface East end of trench [241]
52			Y	W	Stone 19 susceptibility test – Trench 2 [215]
53	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 2, wall [212] butting [215]
54	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 2, wall [212] butting [215]
55	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, burials (229) + (232) and wall [207]
56	Y	Y			ID Shot
57	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, floor surface (224)

Photo no.	BW	C/S	Dig.	Direction	Description
58	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, floor and apse end (224), (209) + [241]
59	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, West facing section
60	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, West facing section
61	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, West facing section
62	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, West facing section
63	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, West facing section
64	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 1, North facing section
65	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, East facing section
66	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, East facing section
67	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, East facing section
68	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, East facing section
69	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 1, East facing section
70	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 1, South facing section
71	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 1, wall [119]
72			Y		Trench 2, Jordan Brian and Grace Shiomaka
73	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, plan shot of wall [119]
74	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 1, post excavation shot
75	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 1, post excavation shot
76	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 1, (117) – post excavation
77	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 1, plan shot
78	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 2, Mortar deposit (222)
79	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, North wall and rubble
80	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 2, Apse wall with floor running below
81	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 2, Chancel wall
82	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 2, Chancel wall
83			Y		Group photo
84			Y		Group photo
85			Y		Group photo
86			Y		Group photo
87			Y		Group photo
88	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 1, plan shot
89	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, wall [244]
90	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 2, deposit (246)
91	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 2, wall [215]
92	Y	Y	Y	S	Trench 2, grave cuts [253] + [230] for SK (232) and (229)

Photo no.	BW	C/S	Dig.	Direction	Description
93	Y	Y	Y	SW	Trench 2, grave cuts for SK (235) + (238)
94	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, Infant SK(226)
95	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, cut [249] for SK (248)
96	Y	Y	Y	E	Trench 2, shaft grave interior – not fully excavated
97	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, features cutting deposit (224)
98	Y	Y	Y	W	Trench 2, wall [251], joined with wall [254]
99	Y	Y	Y	N	Trench 2, wall [254], joined with wall [251]
100			Y	N	Trench 2, apse end – post-excavation
101			Y	W	Trench 2, apse end – post-excavation



Appendix 2 – Finds assessment

Kath Crooks

Introduction

The assemblage amounts to 182 finds, the majority of which is made up of pottery, glass and ironwork. There are also some fragments of mortar and plaster, and a ceramic marble, a bone object, a clay pipe stems and a residual prehistoric flint scraper. Much of the assemblage is of modern date, but some medieval finds are present, including some in apparently undisturbed medieval deposits.

Assemblage summary

Pottery

A total of 59 sherds of pottery were recovered from the site at Dulas Court. Of these 27 were from Trench 1 and the remaining 32 from Trench 2. Seventeen sherds from Trench 1 and four from Trench 2 were of medieval date. The medieval pottery was from Herefordshire and the surrounding counties, including, probably, Monmouthshire. Post-medieval pottery included sherds of Staffordshire slipwares, modern whitewares and transfer printed wares. Some of this material may have been present in imported topsoil brought to the site during landscaping from the middle of the 19th century onwards or relate to the use of the site as a lawn from the 19th century onwards.

The earliest pottery to be recovered from Trench 1 came from layer [114], five sherds dating to the 12th to 13th century. Fabrics represented were B1 (Malvernian cooking pots and jars) and C1 Worcester (Worcester-type unglazed ware). The rim in fabric C1 suggested a date at the end of the 12th or beginning of the 13th century.

Context [114] was sealed by [102], a layer of stones immediately beneath the existing ground surface, which contained eight sherds of pottery of later medieval date, mainly Malvernian fabric B4 but also including Herefordshire fabric A7B. Seven of the sherds of fabric B4 were very probably from the same vessel. The deposit lay very close to the surface, suggesting, stratigraphically, that it may have been of fairly recent date.

Three sherds from Trench 1 were of an unidentified ware, tempered with abundant large angular and sub-angular quartz and fragments of micaceous sandstone in a matrix of iron rich clay containing abundant mica. The sandstone and the micaceous matrix suggest an origin in Herefordshire or the immediately surrounding area, including Monmouthshire. From context [104] came part of the strap handle of a jug in this fabric, with stabbing down the centre and an olive green glaze on the upper surface. An unglazed and reduced sherd, was found in

context [116]. A further, much abraded sherd with a thin, clear or tan glaze came from the topsoil [101].

In Trench 2, two sherds of medieval or early post-medieval pottery from the upper cleaning layers included a fragment of a rod handle from a jug in Herefordshire fabric A7B and a sherd of 16th century Cistercian type ware.

Layer [207] contained pottery with a very wide date range. The eight sherds of modern material were almost certainly associated with the demolition of the church and subsequent landscaping, however, the lower part of the deposit was thought to be a floor surface. It is possible that the sherds of fabrics B1 and C1, suggesting a date in the late 12th or early 13th century, were associated with these lower levels.

Metalwork

The majority of the metalwork assemblage (52 finds) were made up of nails. The preservation of metalwork appears to be generally good at the site, though this may simply mean that the majority of the metalwork is of recent date. A number of the nails appear to be hand wrought which means they are likely to predate the late 19th century. The most potentially interesting of these finds are a conical object which appears to be a small socketed tang and an associated lozenge shaped shaft (context [102]). These finds do not join but potentially could both be part of a narrow bladed medieval military arrowhead (Jessop 1996, Type M7 or M8). However, conservation work would be needed to confirm this identification.

Glass

The glass assemblage includes 6 bottle sherds and 29 window sherds. The oldest of the bottle sherds is a flaring neck from an onion or mallet bottle, and probably dates to between c.1680 and c.1760. Most of the window sherds appear to be of recent origin but one (context [116]) appears to be of some age. It is crystallised and blackened, with a possible grozed edge also one side. It shows no trace of decoration but it is likely to be of medieval origin.

Other finds

Other finds are probably of post-medieval and modern date, including a clay pipe, stem, a ceramic marble and fragments of mortar and plaster. One flint scraper (context [207]) is of prehistoric date, though clearly residual in a modern context. It is not closely datable.

Discussion

The finds assemblage is small but does provide useful dating evidence. The pottery assemblage also provides information about the priory's supply network. A possible medieval arrowhead is an interesting find in this context.

The finds indicate that some deposits in Trench 1 were of

undisturbed medieval date. Context [114] can be dated by the five sherds of pottery it contained to the 12th or 13th century. The overlying stone layer [102] is potentially of 14th or 15th century date, though it's proximity to the surface suggests this may not be entirely secure. Eight sherds of pottery were found in this layer as well as a number of iron nails and the possible arrowhead. Other deposits appear to be of 19th century or later date, though contain a number of residual finds of medieval and post-medieval date.

References

- Bryant, V 2004 'The medieval and post medieval pottery', in Dalwood, H & Evans, R *Excavations at Deansway, Worcester, 1988–89, Romano-British small town to late medieval city*, Council for British Archaeology Research Report 139.
- Jessop, O 1996 'A New Artefact Typology for the Study of Medieval Arrowheads', *Medieval Archaeology* 40, pp192–205.

Trench no.	Context no.	Material	Qty	Object	Description	Spot Date
1	100	ceramic	3	pottery	2 fragments of flowerpot and one of Staffordshire coarseware with internal black glaze	19c
1	101	ceramic	2	pottery	Redware (A7d/e). Internal glaze	17c-18c
1	101	ceramic	2	tile	1 fragment modern roof tile. Triangular blue glazed decorative tile – apparently unused	19/20c
1	101	ceramic	1	pottery	Sandstone tempered ware/A4? With external tan glaze. Abraded	13/14
1	101	ceramic	1	pottery	Modern	19+
1	102	ceramic	5	pottery	B4, may be part of same vessel. External clear green speckled glaze. Incised grooves	14 to 17c
1	102	ceramic	1	pottery	B4 – thicker and coarser, with external green glaze.	14 to 17 c
1	102	ceramic	2	pottery	A7B. 2 abraded sherds with external green speckled glaze	13 to 15 c
1	104	ceramic	1	pottery	A7B. Traces external clear/tan glaze	13-15c
1	104	ceramic	1	pottery	Handle of jug in red fabric inclusions sandstone, golden mica and large angular quartz. Stabbing decoration and olive glaze. Form suggests 13c	13c
1	114	ceramic	3	pottery	C1. Bryant type 3	12-13c
1	114	ceramic	2	pottery	B1	12-14c
1	116	ceramic	4	pottery	Modern whitewares	19-20c
1	116	ceramic	1	pottery	Sandstone tempered as in 104, but reduced	13?
2	200	ceramic	4	pottery	Staffordshire slipware and coarseware	18c
2	200	ceramic	1	pottery	Redware; A7D/E	17/18
2	200	ceramic	2	pottery	1 modern transfer printed, 1 modern stoneware	L18/19
2	201	ceramic	10	pottery	Assorted Staffordshire slipwares; one sherd with trailed slip	18
2	201	ceramic	2	pottery	Modern white wares	19+
2	201	ceramic	1	pottery	Heavily abraded sherd A7B, poss part of rod handle	13–15
2	201	ceramic	1	pottery	Small sherd G8, Cistercian type ware	16
2	201	ceramic	1	pottery	Redware. Internal and patchy external clear glaze. Rilling. Fabric local	Post-med
2	207	ceramic	3	pottery	Non-diagnostic sherds fabric B1	12-14
2	207	ceramic	1	pottery	Fabric C1	12-e13
2	207	ceramic	1	pottery	Modern whiteware	19+
2	207	ceramic	1	pottery	Staffordshire slipware	18
2	207	ceramic	2	tile	Modern rooftile	19
2	246	ceramic	4	pottery	Staffordshire wares	18

Table A2.1
Finds catalogue



Appendix 3 – Magnetic susceptibility readings

Stone no.	Photo no.	Location	Readings
Stone 1	37	Decorated South facing stone on North end of Norman arch in garden wall	.114 .117 .117
Stone 2	38	In North end of arch in garden wall	.093 .095 .091
Stone 3	39	In South end of arch in garden wall	.050 .049 .056
Stone 4	40	In South end of arch in garden wall	.099 .104 .100
Stone 5	41	Tufa in garden wall	.008 .015 .012 .016
Stone 6	42	Flat stone on top of garden wall	.015 .030 .080 .089 .091
Stone 7	43	Long stone at bottom of garden wall	.004 .074 .004 .031
Stone 8	44	Flat stone on top of garden wall	.052 .064 .072 .052
Stone 9	45	Corner stone in garden wall	.110 .116 .110
Stone 10	46	Loose flat stone	.089 .086 .088
Stone 11	47	Masonry in (114)	.095 .089 .102 .101 .013
Stone 12	48	In North side of wall [119]	.101 .107 .104
Stone 13		In South side of wall [119]	.130 .108 .140 .141
Stone 14	49	Preaching cross - cross	.062 .060 .065

Stone no.	Photo no.	Location	Readings
Stone 15	49	Preaching cross - base	.157 .159 .151
Stone 16	49	Preaching cross – flat base stone	.098 .097 .097
Stone 17	50	Apse [209]	.135 .136 .141
Stone 18	51	Trench 2, stone in floor surface	.148 .151 .148
Stone 19	52	Trench 2, tufa stone in potential doorway	.013 .039 .022 .012 .014
Stone 20	32	Trench 1, circular stone	.142 .145 .148
Stone 21		Trench 2, apse	.077 .072 .080
Stone 22		Trench 2, tufa in east end of trench	.045 .064 .066
Stone 23		In flower bed wall	.069 .052 .056
Stone 24		Trench 2, tufa	.016 .013 .012
Stone 25		Trench 2, tufa	.016 .015 .019
Stone 26		Trench 2, tufa	.015 .017 .018
Stone 27		Trench 2, in rubble wall at east end	.153 .163 .179

Appendix 4 – Architectural & archaeological Notes

Richard K Morriss

Introduction

Ewyas Harold church is a large parish church built in the local rubblestone with very occasional blocks of tufa which appears to have been built towards the very end of the 13th century. Both the west tower and the chancel appear to be of that date; the nave in between was rebuilt in 1868 although, remarkably, it seems that the earlier medieval roof was retained in the process; the north vestry attached to the chancel was probably added at the same time.

West Tower

The west tower was originally detached from the rest of the building. Detached towers are a feature of several churches in Herefordshire, though the reasons for this appear to be related to individual circumstances rather than to any broad strategy or purpose. There is, for example, no clear indication that this tower was ever designed for defence – considering the large size of its southern doorway.

The tower has a tall plinth topped by a string course and there is a second string course much higher up beneath the bell openings. The broad south doorway is original and has a double chamfered two-centred arched head; the string course on top of the plinth is taken up and over the arch as its dripmould. The outer order of the arch springs from plain chamfered jambs whilst the inner order springs from rather chunky attached columns with moulded capitals; there is no obvious indication of an internal door rebate.

There are no other ground floor external openings. Above the doorway is a surprisingly tall two-light window with ‘Y-tracery’ under a two-centred arched head; despite its rather unusual position this does appear to be another genuine late-13th century feature and is probably *in situ*.¹ Squeezed between



Illus A4.1 ▲

St Michael's Church, Ewyas Harold

Illus A4.2 ►

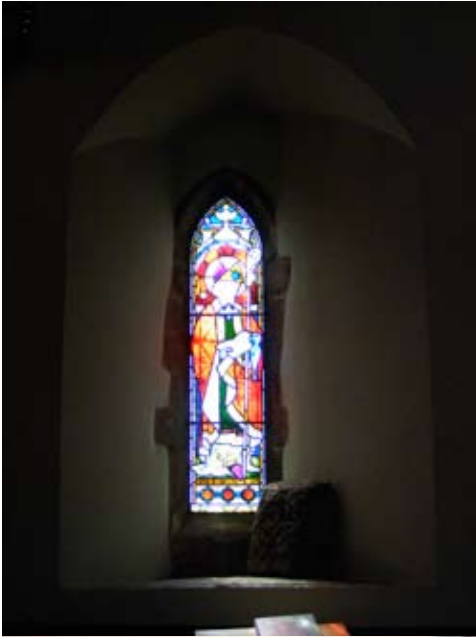
The West Tower showing windows on south elevation

Illus A4.3 ▼

The nave and chancel



¹ Cf. The hall and solar block of Ludlow Castle, built in the 1280s.



◀ **Illus A4.4**

Cusped lancet window, possibly original, with fragment of C13th grave slab

▼ **Illus A4.5**

The 'Heart Tomb' of Clarissa, daughter of John Tregoz



◀ **Illus A4.6**

The south porch

its head and the base of the upper string course is a smaller single light window with a cusped head which may be inserted.

There are bell openings in all but the west side. These two centred heads of the individual lights spring from the tops of colonettes and are set within a broader two-centre arched head. The openings on the east and north side are of two lights, whilst that on the south side is much taller and deeper and of three.

This also required two orders of overall arched head and thus has an additional outer pair of colonettes. This seems to reinforce, architecturally, the importance of the southern entrance. The tower is topped by a rather clumsy spire, of uncertain date; attached to the south-western corner is a clasping stair turret with tall narrow slit loops. The tall tower arch to the nave was probably widened when the nave was rebuilt; a much narrower doorway is shown on the 1840s plans in the Incorporated Church Building Society files.

Chancel

Although the chancel appears to be medieval, it has clearly been much altered and there are now no windows on the north side, which has been heavily rebuilt. On the south side there are three windows. The 1840 plan shows only two windows, suggesting that the medieval western cusped lancet is original, whereas the eastern lancet was probably moved from elsewhere in the building. The two-light central opening is a later insertion. The three-light Geometrical east window presumably dates from the 1868 restoration and has clearly replaced an earlier arrangement, possibly of stepped lancets.

In the north wall of the chancel is an effigy reputed to be that of Clarissa, daughter of John Tregoz, Lord of Ewyas Harold (d. c.1300). The effigy contains a small cavity beneath its clasped hands, in which a vessel containing the heart of Clarissa is believed to have been deposited.



Illus A4.7

The medieval nave roof

The Nave and South Porch

The nave and the timber-framed south porch are not particularly fine examples of their date but what is unusual is the retention of a medieval close-coupled trussed rafter roof. This appears to be genuine and could date to the 14th or very early 15th century. It presumably belonged to the medieval nave replaced in 1868. The chancel arch, however, appears to be of that date.

Conclusion

Overall, the architectural evidence – the colonettes of the windows, the south doorway of the tower and the lancets of the nave – suggests that the oldest portions of this church date to the last years of the 13th century or very early in the 14th. It then had apparently had a detached tower with a degree of architectural pretension on its south elevation.

The original design of the rest of the church is less easy to determine, but it may simply have consisted of nave and chancel. The nave was presumably rebuilt or, at least extended westwards to the tower, at a later date. In the 1840s the church was partly restored and the box pews and gallery in the nave were replaced by bench pews according to the ICBS file. The nave was then rebuilt in

1868 when the rest of the church was also restored at the same time.



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