

Report



Archaeological Monitoring and Recording Report St John the Baptist, Kidmore End

Report By: Gabriella Amos BA MSc PCIfA

Issued by: Peter Vellet BA (Hons.) ACIfA

Date: September 2022

Submitted to: Prepared by:

Jessop and Cooks Architects

RSK ADAS Limited

11D Park House

Milton Park

Abingdon

OX14 4RS

Tel. no: 01865 591212

Tel. no: 01235 355638



Contents

- Summary 1**
- Acknowledgements 2**
- 1 Introduction 3**
 - Project Background 3*
- 2 The Site, Development and Geology 3**
 - The Site 3*
 - The Development 4*
 - The Geology 4*
- 3 Objectives 4**
 - Aims and Scope 4*
- 4 Copyright 5**
- 5 Archaeological and Historical Context 5**
 - Introduction 5*
- 6 Methodology 6**
 - Introduction 6*
 - Artefacts, Human Remains, Treasure and Environmental Sampling 6*
 - Post-Excavation Analysis 6*
 - Archives and Deposition 6*
 - ADAS Project Team 7*
- 7 Results 7**
- 8 Discussion and Conclusions 9**
- 9 References 11**
 - Online Resources 11*
- Appendix A: Context Descriptions i**
- Appendix B: The Finds v**
- Appendix C: Oasis Report Form vii**



Appendix D: Diocese of Oxford Faculty	viii
Plates.....	x

List of Plates




- Plate 1:** General view of the proposed location of Trench 1 in relation to the church, looking northeast.
- Plate 2:** Infant burial [102] and coffin (105) visible in section within Trench 1, looking north.
- Plate 3:** Plan view of adult skeleton 112, Trench 1.
- Plate 4:** North-east facing representative section of Trench 1, with adult skeleton 112.
- Plate 5:** Plan view of adult skeleton 118, Trench 1.
- Plate 6:** Close up of material with CU alloy buttons found in grave [116], Trench 1.
- Plate 7:** Close up of decorated coffin handle associated with grave [116], Trench 1.
- Plate 8:** Disarticulated cranium remains of juvenile skeleton 123 in south-west facing section of Trench 1.
- Plate 9:** Close up of coffin decoration from graveyard backfill (101), Trench 1.
- Plate 10:** Eastern part of Trench 2 looking towards northeast.
- Plate 11:** South facing section of Trench 2.
- Plate 12:** Working shot excavating Trench 2 to meet Trench 1, looking east.
- Plate 13:** Plan shot of reburied remains and artefacts in north section of Trench 1.

List of Figures

- Figure 1:** Site Location
- Figure 2:** Location of the Groundworks
- Figure 3:** Detail of Groundworks and Features
- Figure 4:** Representative Section of Trench 1
- Figure 5:** Representative Section of Trench 2

Quality Assurance

ADAS Contract Code		ADAS Project Code		Document No.	Date Issued
1051888		ART69105-1120		03(00)	09.09.2022
NGR	Site Code	Planning Permission Ref.	Museum Accession No.	OASIS Reference No.	
SU 69840 79321	STJ22	N/A	OXCMS: 2022.85	adasuklt1-508626	

Author	Technical Reviewer	Approved
 Gabriella Amos BA MSc PCifA	 James McNicoll-Norbury BA MA MCifA	 James McNicoll-Norbury BA MA MCifA



Disclaimer

Copyright RSK ADAS Ltd. All rights reserved.

RSK ADAS Ltd (ADAS) has prepared this report for the sole use of the client, showing reasonable skill and care, for the intended purposes as stated in the agreement under which this work was completed. The report may not be relied upon by any other party without the express agreement of the client and ADAS. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this report.

Where any data supplied by the client or from other sources have been used, it has been assumed that the information is correct. No responsibility can be accepted by ADAS for inaccuracies in the data supplied by any other party. The conclusions and recommendations in this report are based on the assumption that all relevant information has been supplied by those bodies from whom it was requested.

No part of this report may be copied or duplicated without the express permission of ADAS and the party for whom it was prepared.

Where field investigations have been carried out, these have been restricted to a level of detail required to achieve the stated objectives of the work.

This work has been undertaken in accordance with the quality management system of RSK ADAS Ltd.

Revision History

Revision	Date	Amendment



Summary

In August 2022, RSK ADAS Ltd were commissioned by Jessop and Cook Architects (hereafter 'the Client') to undertake archaeological monitoring for the installation of new drainage pipework leading to a soakaway in the grounds of St John the Baptist Church at Kidmore End, Reading, RG4 9AX. The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during groundworks at the Site (NGR: SU 69840 79321), whilst adhering to the conditions of the Faculty issued by the Diocese of Oxford (See Appendix D).

The initial assessment set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ADAS, 2022) highlighted a potential for impacting upon unmarked graves, particularly in the proposed area of the soakaway 'Trench 1'.

Whilst monitoring the excavation of Trench 1, a number of human remains were found. The remains of at least five disarticulated individuals were discovered, some within the graveyard backfill (101) and others within heavily truncated grave features [102], [106] and [121]. Furthermore, two fully articulated individuals were uncovered in grave features [110] and [116], each aligned east to west in a supine, extended position (Plates 3; 5). Artefacts associated with these graves includes coffin handles, coffin nails, and fragments of an item of clothing (Plates 6-7).

No markers indicating identification of the burials were recorded however given the age of the church and surrounding graveyard it is considered that the burials are likely to date from no earlier than the mid 19th century. It is further possible that the remains of the infant burials [102] and [106] above Grave [110] are linked to the adult burial located there.

During the excavation of the drainage trench, Trench 2, no archaeologically significant artefacts or remains were discovered. This may be attributed to the relatively limited ground impact of the trench.

These results indicate that the monitoring methodology used was effective in ensuring that the development resulted in the respectful treatment and reburial of archaeological remains, ensuring that no further harm was caused to the historic environment resource. Following the guidance of the Diocesan Archaeology Advisor, all artefacts and skeletal remains were reinterred as close to the original find location as possible, in accordance with the conditions of the Faculty (Appendix D).

Acknowledgements

This archaeological watching brief was commissioned by Jessop and Cooks Architects on behalf of the Parish of Kidmore End and Sonning Common, and thanks are due in this regard. Fieldwork was carried out by Gabriella Amos and James McNicoll-Norbury. The report and supporting illustrations were prepared by Gabriella Amos and checked by James McNicoll-Norbury. The archive was compiled by Gabriella Amos.

1 Introduction

Project Background

- 1.1 In August 2022, ADAS carried out an archaeological watching brief for Jessop and Cooks Architects (hereafter 'the Client'), on behalf of the Kidmore End and Sonning Common Parochial Church Council, of groundworks required for drainage improvements on land at St John the Baptist Church, Kidmore End, Reading, RG4 9AX (hereafter 'the Site' or 'the groundworks'). The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during groundworks for the works located at SU 69840 79321 (Figure 1).
- 1.2 RSK ADAS Ltd were instructed to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (ADAS 2022) to carry out the required archaeological works and record any archaeological remains during the monitoring of the groundworks. This was communicated via email on Friday 5th August between Nick Room of the Kidmore End and Sonning Common PCC, the Client, and Peter Vellet of ADAS.
- 1.3 It was considered that the scheduled development had potential to impact upon unknown buried archaeological remains within the proposed soakaway trench location, due to the presence of surrounding marked burials. It was also considered that there was a general potential for discovering human skeletal remains and artefacts in unmarked graves, as the local area has been occupied since at least the 16th century, before the construction of the existing church (English Place-Name Society, 2022).
- 1.4 RSK ADAS Ltd were issued with a Faculty on Monday 15th August providing guidance for archaeological intervention on consecrated burial grounds. This document was amended on Wednesday 17th August to grant permission for the respectful exhumation and reburial of articulated skeletal remains (Appendix D).
- 1.5 The fieldwork followed the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2020), *the Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage, 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England, 2015).

2 The Site, Development and Geology

The Site

- 2.1 The Site is located at Kidmore End in Reading, RG4 9AX (NGR: SU 69840 79321) as displayed in Figure 1.
- 2.2 Ground level at the Site is recorded as 98 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) (FreeMapTools, 2022).

The Development

- 2.3 The works comprised of drainage improvements with the installation of new drainage pipework, leading to a soakaway.
- 2.4 There were two main areas which required archaeological monitoring. The first area, Trench 1, involved the proposed excavation of a soakaway trench within the graveyard. Trench 2 consisted of a drainage trench running east to west with two inspection chambers.
- 2.5 The proposed location for Trench 1 was within an area of the graveyard where no grave markers or headstones were present. However, the team on site observed patches of raised ground, potentially indicating an unmarked burial, and relocated the trench by 0.5 m to the southeast (SU 69826 79310). Once excavated, Trench 1 measured a maximum of 2.5 m in length, 1.25 m in width, and 1.5 m in depth.
- 2.6 Trench 2 extended 18.5 m from the south of the church (SU 69838 79315), following the trajectory of the existing footpath towards the graveyard area to meet Trench 1 (Figure 2).

The Geology

- 2.7 The underlying geology of the development area is recorded as Seaford Chalk Formation and Newhaven Chalk Formation. The superficial deposit is recorded as Winter Hill Gravel, which comprises gravel with clay and sand (BGS, 2022).
- 2.8 There are no borehole logs recorded within 500 m of the Site (BGS, 2022).

3 Objectives

Aims and Scope

- 3.1 The aims of this watching brief were:
 - a. to ensure that any significant discoveries of artefactual evidence were recorded and analysed to an acceptable standard; and
 - b. to inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate the impacts of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological remains identified.
- 3.2 The specific aims of the fieldwork were to:
 - a. identify and record any in-situ buried human remains or gravestones disturbed by the groundworks within the churchyard;

- b. to ensure that the fieldwork took place within, and contributed to the goals of the regional framework set out in Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment Resource Assessments and Research Agendas (Hey and Hind, 2014); and
- c. to report the results as appropriate.

4 Copyright

- 4.1 This report may contain material that is not the copyright of RSK ADAS Ltd. or is the intellectual property of third parties that we are able to include for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences. Copyright itself for such material is not transferable by RSK ADAS Ltd. and you are reminded that you remain bound by the terms and conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to copying and dissemination of this report.

5 Archaeological and Historical Context

Introduction

- 5.1 The archaeological and historical context of the Site was outlined in the WSI (ADAS 2022). A summary of the information relevant to the Site is described below and is not intended to act as a replicate.
- 5.2 All designated heritage assets are referred to in the text by their Historic England reference numbers.
- 5.3 The National Heritage List for England (NHLE) records six Grade II Listed Buildings within a 250 m radius of the Site. The most relevant of these is the church of St John the Baptist (NHLE Ref: 1059508) as the works took place within the churchyard. The church was built in 1852 in the Early English style and remains in use as the parish church for Kidmore End and Sonning Common (NHLE, 2022; The Archbishops' Council, 2022).
- 5.4 Kidmore End is recorded as Kydmer End as early as 1551 and has experienced variations since; including Kidmere End and Kidmore (English Place-Name Society, 2022).
There was no immediate risk of impact upon the designated and non-designated assets described in this section and within the WSI (ADAS 2022).

6 Methodology

Introduction

- 6.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI prepared for the archaeological monitoring of the groundworks (ADAS, 2022). An archaeologist was present during all intrusive groundworks to excavate the new drainage trenches within the watching brief area.
- 6.2 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological watching brief 2020* (CIfA 2020).

Artefacts, Human Remains, Treasure and Environmental Sampling

- 6.3 In Trench 1, several graves and artefacts were discovered during excavation. These were a mix of articulated and disarticulated skeletal remains, varying in condition of preservation. Artefacts such as coffin handles, coffin decorations, and an item of clothing were also discovered (Plates 6–7; 9). Full details of the findings are set out in Section 7 and Appendix B of this document.
- 6.4 In Trench 2, no artefacts or human remains were encountered during the watching brief. No archaeologically significant deposits were disturbed by the groundworks, so no environmental sampling was undertaken.
- 6.5 In both Trenches 1 and 2, no artefacts classed as treasure were found, and no environmental sampling was undertaken in accordance with the issued Faculty (see Appendix D).

Post-Excavation Analysis

- 6.6 In accordance with the conditions of the Faculty quoted below, no archaeological artefacts, remains, or consecrated ground left the churchyard. Therefore, no post-excavation analysis was undertaken:

“The parish are to follow the advice of the Diocesan Archaeological Adviser with regard to the discovery of any human remains and significant archaeological deposits. No spoil is to leave the churchyard and any charnal must be reburied with due reverence.

Any articulated human remains discovered during the excavations are to be re-intered as soon, and as near to their original resting place, as is reasonably practicable and are to be treated with all due dignity and respect in the meantime.”

Archives and Deposition

- 6.7 The archive is currently held by ADAS at their offices in Milton Park. No artefacts were taken off site during and after the monitoring and therefore no artefacts will need to be deposited with an

approved local museum. A paper archive will be deposited with the Oxfordshire Museum Service within six months of the completion of the fieldwork under accession number OXCMS: 2022.85 (Oxfordshire Museum Service 2022). A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS database of archaeological projects in Britain.

ADAS Project Team

- 6.8 Fieldwork was undertaken by Gabriella Amos and James McNicoll Norbury. The report was written by Gabriella Amos. The illustrations were prepared by Gabriella Amos. The archive was compiled and prepared for deposition by Gabriella Amos. The project was managed for ADAS by Peter Vellet.

7 Results

- 7.1 This section provides an overview of the monitoring results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendix A and B.
- 7.2 The watching brief area consisted of the proposed drainage and soakaway trench locations on the Site (Figure 2; Plate 1). The groundworks consisted of the removal of topsoil and graveyard soil from the south side of the church, along the existing pathway heading west towards a 2.5 m x 1.25 m x 1.5 m soakaway trench (Figure 2).
- 7.3 Trench 1 was excavated using a mechanical excavator with a flat blade 0.40 m wide bucket under constant archaeological supervision.
- 7.4 Trench 2 extended along the existing pathway running east to west and was excavated using a mechanical excavator with a flat bladed 0.40 m bucket to a varied depth from 0.40 m to 1 m, also under constant archaeological supervision. Two inspection chambers were proposed to be installed at approximately 5.5 m from the eastern end of Trench 2, and approximately 1 m east from the western end of Trench 2 (Figure 2). The trench was stripped to create a natural decline, at roughly a 35° angle, meeting Trench 1 at a maximum depth of 0.8 m.
- 7.5 The works were completed over four days (Monday 15th to Thursday 18th August 2022). The weather consisted of a mix of sunshine to scattered showers during the groundworks.

Trench 1 – Soakaway

- 7.6 Trench 1 measured 2.5 m in length, by 1.25 m in width, and 1.5 m in depth. The topsoil (100) was approximately 0.1 m thick, consisting of dark greyish brown loose sandy silt. This overlay a mid-

brownish orange compact silty clay graveyard backfill (101). Evidence of the natural substrate was redeposited within the graveyard backfill; however, the natural layer itself was not reached. Deposits of natural flint stone occurred within the graveyard backfill layer (101), and this layer gradually became more compacted as the trench was extended in depth.

- 7.7 Several archaeological artefacts and remains were uncovered during the excavations. Whilst excavating the northern section of Trench 1, a decorated coffin feature (105) was discovered at a depth of 0.8 m, aligned east to west. There was a high potential for this feature to contain human skeletal remains. Consequently, the team on site avoided excavating this section, limiting any further disturbance to the coffin, and extended the section to the south by approximately 0.2 m to accommodate for the installation of the soakaway.
- 7.8 The first encountered human remains consisted of five rib fragments and two unfused long bones of an infant, discovered at a depth of 1 m in the northern area of Trench 1, and assigned to context [102] (Plate 2). This grave feature had been heavily truncated by previous activity on the Site. Some very fragmented wooden coffin remains were identified. No other associated artefacts or finds were discovered with this grave.
- 7.9 A second infant burial was encountered during excavation, at a depth of 1.3 m in the north-western corner of Trench 1. Assigned to grave [106], the disarticulated and very fragmented cranium fragments of an infant, skeleton 108, were situated in a heavily truncated coffin aligned east to west. No associated artefacts were found with this grave.
- 7.10 Directly beneath grave [106] at a depth of 1.5 m, a fully articulated adult skeleton was uncovered (Plate 3). The in-situ skeleton within grave [110] was discovered in a supine and extended position within a partially preserved wooden coffin aligned east to west, secured together by iron nails. Based on observations on site, it is possible that the individual was female. The skeletal elements retrieved consisted of the pelvis and lower half of the body; a full list of these elements can be found in Appendix A.
- 7.11 Towards the southern end of the trench, a second fully articulated adult skeleton was uncovered. In the same way as burial [110], this individual was buried in a coffin aligned east to west and assigned to grave [116] (Plate 5). The skeletal elements revealed were associated with the lower half of the body, similar to those recovered from grave [110], and are listed in Appendix A. Accompanying the burial at the foot of the grave was an artefact consisting of wool material with two copper-alloy buttons, resembling an item of clothing (Plate 6). A decorated handle was also found at the eastern end of the coffin (Plate 7). The skeleton and associated artefacts were reinterred 0.25 m below from the original burial depth (Plate 13).

- 7.12 In the eastern part of Trench 1, the disarticulated remains of a possible juvenile cranium were discovered in grave [121] (Plate 8). Fragments of the parietal, temporal, frontal and parts of the nasal bones were discovered in a prone position. No other skeletal remains or artefacts were found in association with this grave. It is likely that the grave had been previously truncated, as there was no clear indication of a grave cut, although some fragments of coffin wood were identified in section.
- 7.13 Overall, the remains of five individuals were recovered from the contexts listed above. The very fragmented and disarticulated remains of a possible further two individuals were retrieved from the graveyard backfill (101), and each individual discovered within this trench was respectfully reinterred in compliance with the Faculty (Appendix D).

Trench 2 – Drainage

- 7.14 The drainage trench measured 18.5 m in length by 0.4 m in width, gradually sloping in depth from a minimum of 0.4 m on the eastern side to meet Trench 1 at a maximum depth of 0.8 m on the western side (Plates 10–12). The top layer of made ground (100) forming the church's pathway comprised of dark greyish brown loose sandy silt, mixed with modern gravel shingle, at a depth of 0.15 m. Underneath this layer, the topsoil (101) consisted of dark greyish brown loose sandy with a thickness of 0.1 m – same as Trench 1. In addition, the graveyard backfill (202) resembled that of graveyard backfill (101), composed of mid brownish orange compact silty clay. The natural level was not reached within this trench.
- 7.15 The installation of two inspection chambers within Trench 2 required excavating to a maximum depth of 1.3 m (Plate 12; Figure 2).

No archaeologically significant features, artefacts or remains were observed or recovered from this trench.

8 Discussion and Conclusions

- 8.1 Whilst monitoring the excavation of Trench 1, a number of human remains were found. The remains of at least five disarticulated individuals were discovered, some within the graveyard backfill (101) and others within heavily truncated grave features [102], [106] and [121]. Furthermore, two fully articulated individuals were uncovered in grave features [110] and [116], each aligned east to west in a supine, extended position (Plates 3; 5). Artefacts associated with

these graves includes coffin handles, coffin nails, and fragments of an item of clothing (Plates 6-7).

- 8.2 No markers indicating identification of the burials were recorded however given the age of the church and surrounding graveyard it is considered that the burials are likely to date from no earlier than the mid 19th century. It is further possible that the remains of the infant burials [102] and [106] above Grave [110] are linked to the adult burial located there.
- 8.3 During the excavation of the drainage trench, Trench 2, no archaeologically significant artefacts or remains were discovered. This may be attributed to the relatively limited ground impact of the trench.
- 8.4 These results indicate that the monitoring methodology used was effective in ensuring that the development resulted in the respectful treatment and reburial of archaeological remains, ensuring that no further harm was caused to the historic environment resource. Following the guidance of the Diocesan Archaeology Advisor, all artefacts and skeletal remains were reinterred as close to the original find location as possible, in accordance with the conditions of the Faculty (Appendix D).

9 References

ADAS (2022) *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording: St John the Baptist, Kidmore End*. Unpublished planning document.

CIfA (2020) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*.

English Heritage (1991) *The Management of Archaeological Projects 2*.

English Heritage (2006) *The Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide*.

Gill Hey and Jill Hind (2014) *Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment Resource Assessments and Research Agendas*. Project Report. Oxford Wessex.

Oxfordshire Museum Service (2022) *Requirements for Transferring Archaeological Archives*. Oxfordshire City Council.

Online Resources

BGS (2022) *British Geological Society: Geology of Britain Viewer*, Available at: <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html> [accessed September 2022].

FreeMapTools (2022) *Free Map Tools: Elevation Finder*, Available at: <https://www.freemaptools.com/elevation-finder.htm> [accessed September 2022].

NHLE (2022) Search the List, Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/> [accessed September 2022]

The Archbishop's Council (2022) *A church near you*, Available at: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/166/> [accessed September 2022].

Appendix A: Context Descriptions

Trench 1

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ Thickness (m)
100	Layer	Topsoil: dark greyish brown loose sandy silt	>2	>1	0.1
101	Layer	Graveyard backfill: mid brownish orange compact silty clay. 30% frequent natural flint inclusions	>2	>1	>1.5
102	Cut	Rectangular, sides imperceptible, flat base, E-W alignment. Cut of grave containing coffin (103) and backfill (104). Truncated	0.6	0.2	1 / 0.1
103	Deposit	Coffin composed of wood material, with CU alloy decorated lining and 2x FE handles	0.6	0.2	1 / 0.1
104	Deposit	Backfill of grave [102]. Mid greyish brown friable slightly clayey silt. Contains disarticulated infant remains: 5x rib fragments; 2x long bones	0.6	0.2	1 / 0.1
105	Deposit	Unexcavated wooden coffin located in northern section of trench	0.5	-	0.8
106	Cut	Rectangular, sides imperceptible, flat base, E-W alignment. Cut of grave containing coffin (107), SK 108 and backfill (109). Truncated	>0.3	>0.2	1.3
107	Deposit	Coffin composed of wood material, very fragmented	>0.3	>0.2	1.3

108	Skeleton	E-W alignment. Disarticulated and fragmented cranial remains of infant skeleton.	>0.3	>0.2	1.3
109	Deposit	Backfill of grave [106]. Mid reddish orange compact slightly silty clay, 15% frequency natural flint inclusions	>0.3	>0.2	1.3
110	Cut	Rectangular, straight vertical sides, flat base, E-W alignment. Cut of adult burial containing coffin (111), SK 112 and backfill (113)	>1	0.3	1.5
111	Deposit	Coffin composed of wood material, very fragmented	>1	0.3	1.5
112	Skeleton	E-W alignment. Fully articulated adult skeleton in supine, extended position. Preserved elements: Lumbar vertebrae fragments, sacrum fragments L side: innominate, radius, ulna, metacarpals, phalanges, femur, patella, tibia, fibula R side: innominate, rib fragments, femur, tibia, fibula, tarsals, metatarsals, phalanges	>1	0.3	1.5
113	Deposit	Backfill of grave [110]. Mid yellowish brown compact/friable slightly silty clay. 15% frequent sub-angular natural flint	>1	0.3	1.5
114	Cut	Rectangular, straight vertical sides into flat base. Cut of grave containing fill (115)	>0.15	>0.15	0.3
115	Deposit	Backfill of grave [114]. Light brownish yellow friable clayey silt	>0.15	>0.15	0.3

116	Cut	Rectangular, imperceptible sides, flat base. Cut of grave containing coffin (117), SK 118 and backfill (119)	>1	>0.25	1.5 / 0.1
117	Deposit	Coffin composed of wood material, very fragmented	>1	>0.25	1.5
118	Skeleton	E-W alignment. Fully articulated adult skeleton in supine, extended position. Preserved elements: Lumbar vertebrae fragments, sacrum L side: Innominate, radius, ulna, carpals, metacarpals, phalanges, femur, tibia, fibula, tarsals, metatarsals, phalanges	>1	>0.25	1.5
119	Deposit	Backfill of grave [116]. Dark orangey brown loose/friable sandy silt. 15% frequent sub-angular natural flint	>1	>0.25	1.5 / 0.1
120	Layer	Graveyard backfill: same as (101). Slightly more naturally occurring flint <40%	>2	>1	>1.5
121	Cut	Imperceptible in plan and section, flat base. Cut of grave containing coffin (122), SK 123, and backfill (124)	>0.2	0.2	1.2
122	Deposit	Coffin composed of wood material, very fragmented	>0.2	0.2	1.2
123	Skeleton	Imperceptible alignment. Disarticulated cranium of juvenile in prone position. Bones recovered: R temporal, L temporal, fragments of R and L parietal, frontal, parts of naval bones	>0.2	0.2	1.2
124	Deposit	Backfill of grave [121]. Mid orangey brown compact silty clay. 50% frequent rooting	>0.2	0.2	1.2

Trench 2

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/ Thickness (m)
200	Layer	Made Ground: dark greyish brown loose sandy silt with frequent 70% small stone shingle	>18.5	>0.4	0.1
201	Layer	Topsoil: dark greyish brown loose sandy silt	>18.5	>0.4	0.1
202	Layer	Graveyard backfill: mid brownish orange compact silty clay. 30% frequent natural flint inclusions	>18.5	>0.4	>1.3

Appendix B: The Finds

Context No.	Artefact / Material	Description
(101)	Bone	Cranium fragments, no identifiable context
(101)	Metal	Metal decorative lining to coffin, possibly CU Alloy
(101)	Wood	Wooden coffin fragments
(101)	Bone	Cranium, ribs, and long bone fragments of infant. No identifiable context
(101)	Metal	FE nails retrieved from graveyard backfill
(101)	Bone	Cranium fragments, R and L temporal bone (possibly from SK 108?)
(101)	Metal	Unidentified metal handle
(103)	Wood	Wooden coffin fragments
(104)	Bone	Ribs and long bone fragments
(104)	Metal	2x FE coffin handles
SK 108	Bone	Cranium fragments of infant
(111)	Wood	Coffin wood fragments
(111)	Metal	FE nails from coffin
SK 112	Bone	Lumbar vertebrae fragments, sacrum fragments L side: innominate, radius, ulna, metacarpals, phalanges, femur, patella, tibia, fibula R side: innominate, rib fragments, femur, tibia, fibula, tarsals, metatarsals, phalanges
(117)	Metal	FE coffin nails
(117)	Metal	FE coffin handle
(117)	Wood	Coffin wood fragments
SK 118	Bone	Lumbar vertebrae fragments, sacrum

		L side: Innominate, radius, ulna, carpals, metacarpals, phalanges, femur, tibia, fibula, tarsals, metatarsals, phalanges
(119)	Wool	Woven wool fabric, possibly fragments of an item of clothing
SK 123	Bone	Juvenile cranium: R temporal, L temporal. Fragments of R and L parietal, frontal, and naval bones

Appendix C: Oasis Report Form

OASIS ID (UID): adasuklt1-508626

Project Name: Watching Brief at St John the Baptist Church

Activity type: Watching Brief

Project Identifier(s): STJ22

Planning Id: [no data]

Reason for Investigation: Ecclesiastical consent

Organisation Responsible for work: RSK ADAS Ltd

Project Dates: 15-Aug-2022 - 18-Aug-2022

HER: Oxfordshire HER

HER Identifiers: [no data]

Project Methodology: Archaeological monitoring undertaken with WSI for the installation of a new drainage system with soakaway.

Project Results: Whilst monitoring the excavation of the soakaway trench, Trench 1, several archaeological features were found. The remains of at least five disarticulated individuals were discovered, some within the graveyard backfill and others within heavily truncated grave features. Furthermore, two fully articulated individuals were uncovered, each aligned east to west in a supine, extended position. Artefacts associated with these graves includes coffin handles, coffin nails, and fragments of an item of clothing. During the excavation of the drainage trench, Trench 2, no archaeologically significant artefacts or remains were discovered. This may be attributed to the relatively low ground impact of the trench.

Keywords:

Subject/Period: Human Remains: POST MEDIEVAL
FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus

Subject/Period: Grave Goods: POST MEDIEVAL
FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus

Subject/Period: Coffin: POST MEDIEVAL
FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus

Subject/Period: Coffin Fitting: POST MEDIEVAL
FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus

Archive: Documentary Archive, Digital Archive – to be deposited with Oxfordshire Museum Service

Form 7

(Rule 7.4)

Faculty

In the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Oxford

Parish of Kidmore End and Sonning Common

Church of Kidmore End: St John the Baptist

**The Worshipful David Ralph Hodge QC BA BCL, Chancellor of the Diocese and
Official Principal of the Right Reverend Steven John Lindsey by Divine
Permission Lord Bishop of Oxford**

To:

- 1. Nicholas Room (Churchwarden and Treasurer)**
- 2. Rev James Stickings (Incumbent)**

A petition presented by you has been submitted to the Registry of this Court together with designs, plans, photographs or other documents, requesting a faculty authorising the works or other proposals specified in the petition.

A public notice was duly displayed giving an opportunity to all persons interested to object and give reasons why a faculty should not be granted.

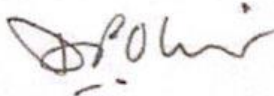
This Court now grants a faculty authorising you to carry out the works or other proposals described in the Schedule in accordance with the designs, plans or other documents accompanying the petition and subject to any conditions set out in the Schedule.

The works must be completed within THREE MONTHS from the date below or such further period as this Court may allow and the certificate of practical completion is to be sent to the Registry within the period allowed.

A copy of this faculty is to be supplied by you to the architect or surveyor and contractors to be employed in respect of the authorised work before any work is commenced.

This faculty is duly authenticated by the seal of this Court and has been amended in the way set out in the Conditions.

Dated 01/08/2022



Signature of Registrar

Monday, August 1, 2022 4:48 PM

Page 1

SCHEDULE

(Description of Works or Proposals)

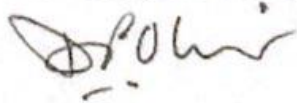
Regularise interim faculty for drainage investigations. Supply and install new crate soakaway to southwest side of church including 2 No. new gullies and associated drainage in accordance with architect and engineer's drawings and method statements.

Conditions

1. The parish are to notify their insurers before commencing any works and they are to comply with any requirements or recommendations the insurers may make or impose.
2. Because these proposals may have a direct impact on burial archaeology, the parish are to follow the advice of the Diocesan Archaeological Adviser with regard to the discovery of any human remains and significant archaeological deposits. No spoil is to leave the churchyard and any chanel must be reburied with due reverence.
- ¹ 3. Having first followed condition 2, any articulated human remains discovered during the excavations are to be re-interred as soon, and as near to their original resting place, as is reasonably practicable and are to be treated with all due dignity and respect in the meantime

FURTHER ORDERS:

¹The Faculty has been amended by Order of the Court made on 17 August 2022



Signature of Registrar

Plates



Plate 1: General view of the proposed location of Trench 1 in relation to the church, looking north-east.



Plate 2: Infant burial [102] and coffin (105) visible in section within Trench 1, looking north.



Plate 3: Plan view of adult skeleton 112, Trench 1.



Plate 4: North-east facing representative section of Trench 1, with adult skeleton 112.



Plate 5: Plan view of adult skeleton 118, Trench 1.



Plate 6: Close up of material with CU alloy buttons found in grave [116], Trench 1.



Plate 7: Close up of decorated coffin handle associated with grave [116], Trench 1.



Plate 8: Disarticulated cranium remains of juvenile skeleton 123 in south-west facing section of Trench 1.



Plate 9: Close up of coffin decoration from graveyard backfill (101), Trench 1.



Plate 10: East part of Trench 2 looking towards northeast.



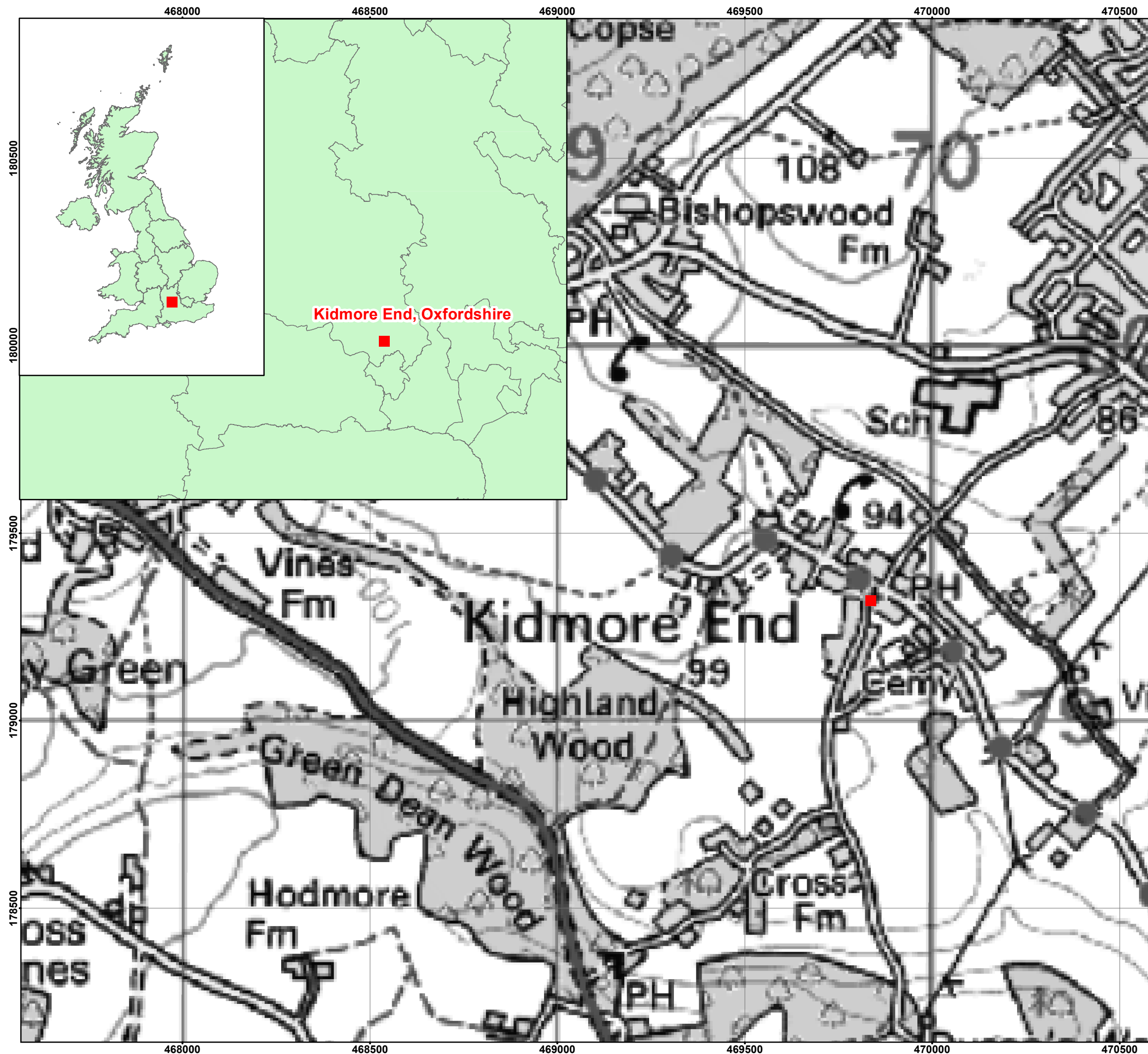
Plate 11: South facing section of Trench 2.



Plate 12: Working shot excavating Trench 2 to meet Trench 1, looking east.



Plate 13: Plan shot of reburied remains and artefacts in north section of Trench 1.



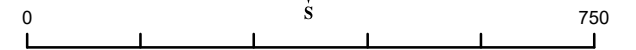
**Jessop and Cook
Architects**
St John the Baptist Church
Kidmore End

Figure 1: Site Location

■ Site Location

Drawn by: Gabriella Amos Date: 09.09.2022

Verified by: James McNicoll-Norbury Date: 09.09.2022



Metres
Scale 1:10,000 at A3 size

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of His Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. RSK ADAS Ltd Licence no. OS 0100058606 September 2022 For reference purposes only. No further copies may be made

RSK ADAS Ltd,
11d Park House,
Milton Park,
Abingdon
OX14 4RS

469800

469860

179340

179340

179280

179280




469800

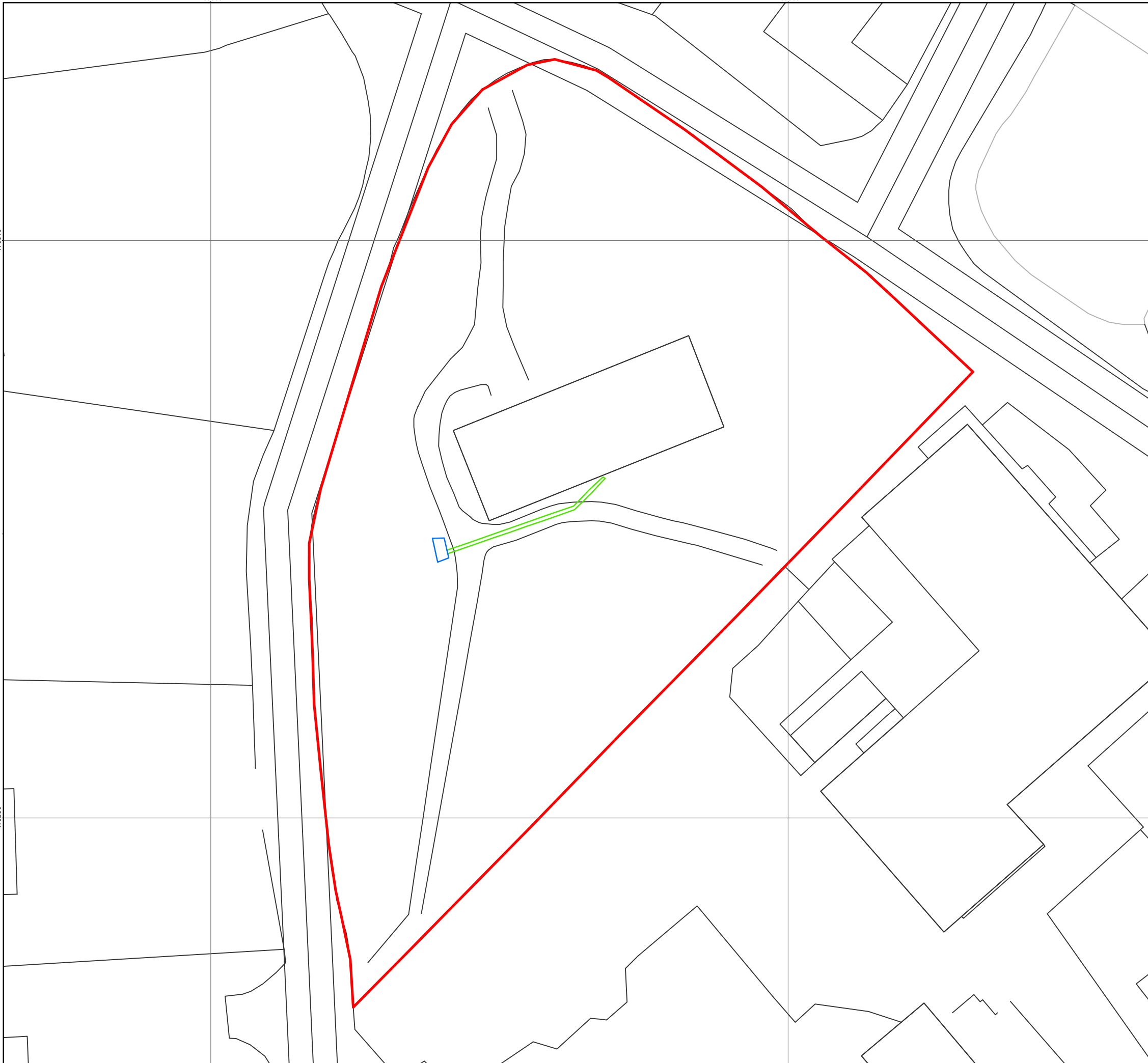
469860

Jessop and Cook Architects

St John the Baptist Church Kidmore End

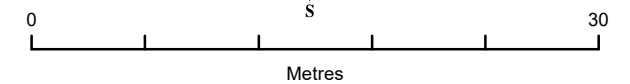
Figure 2: Location of Groundworks

-  Site Boundary
-  Trench 1
-  Trench 2



Drawn by: Gabriella Amos Date: 09.09.2022

Verified by: James McNicoll-Norbury Date: 09.09.2022



Scale 1:400 at A3 size

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of His Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. RSK ADAS Ltd Licence no. OS 0100058606 September 2022 For reference purposes only. No further copies may be made









RSK ADAS Ltd,
11d Park House,
Milton Park,
Abingdon
OX14 4RS



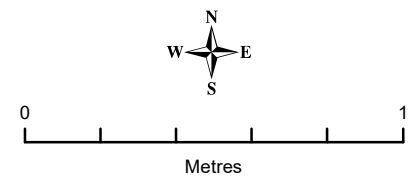
Jessop and Cook Architects

St John the Baptist Church
Kidmore End

Figure 3: Detail of Groundworks and Features

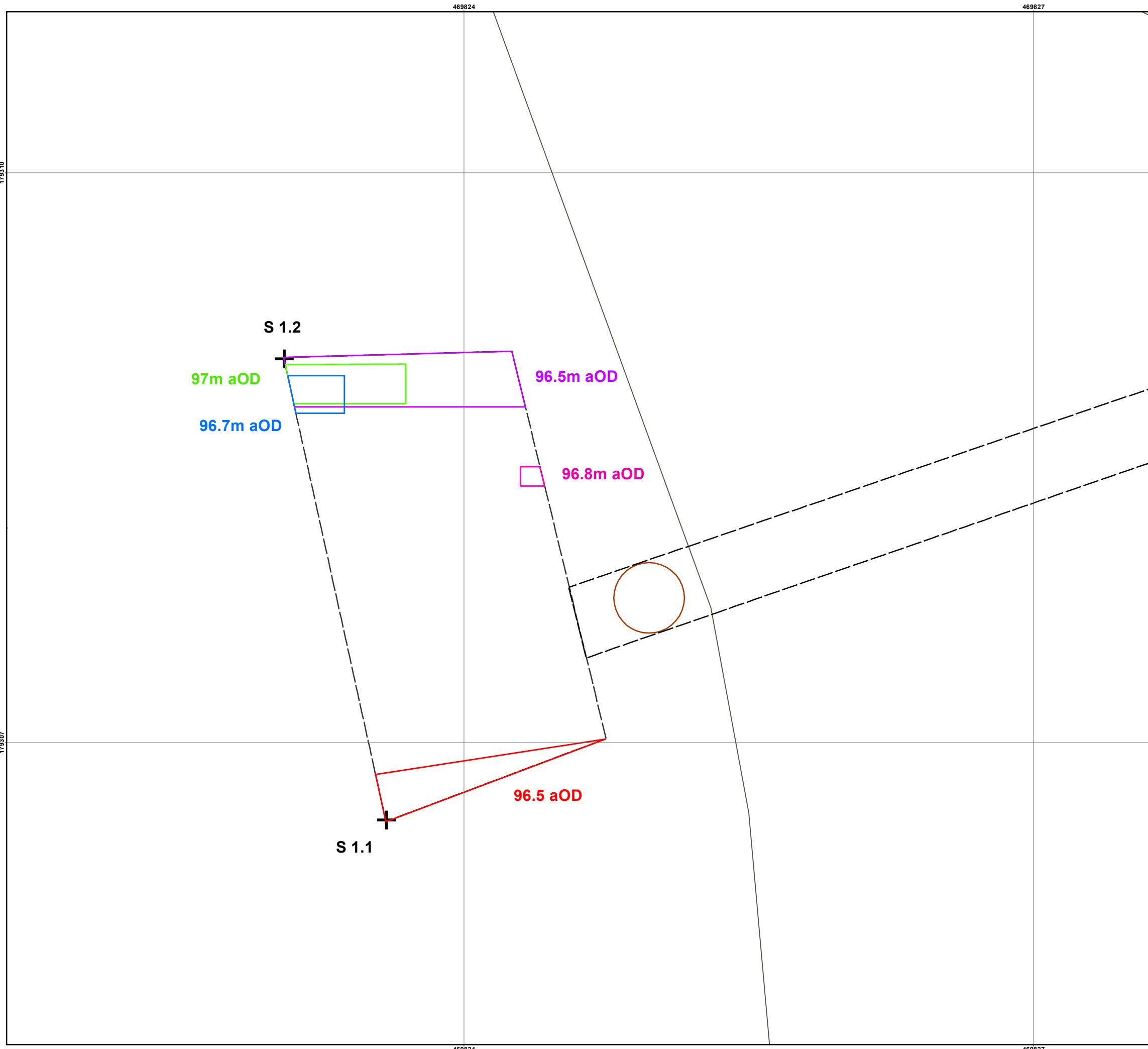
-  Excavated Area
-  Grave 102
-  Grave 106
-  Grave 110
-  Grave 116
-  Grave 121
-  Inspection Chamber
-  Section Point

Drawn by: Gabriella Amos Date: 09.09.2022
 Verified by: James McNicoll-Norbury Date: 09.09.2022



Scale 1:20 at A3 size
 This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of His Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
 RSK ADAS Ltd Licence no. OS 0100058606 September 2022
 For reference purposes only. No further copies may be made

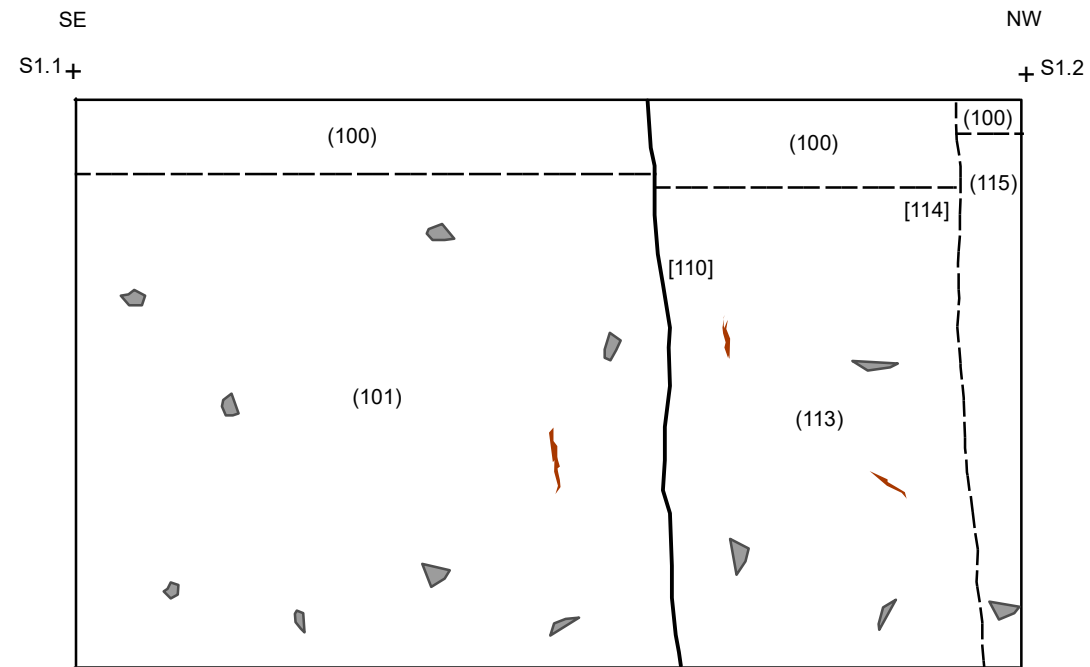
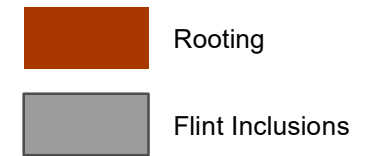
RSK ADAS Ltd,
11d Park House,
Milton Park,
Abingdon
OX14 4RS



**Jessop and Cook
Architects**

St John the Baptist Church
Kidmore End

**Figure 4: Representative Section of
Trench 1**



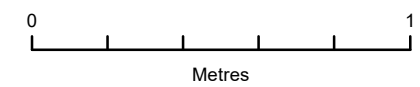
Section 1: East Facing Section of Trench 1



Plate 1: East Facing Section of Trench 1

Drawn by: Gabriella Amos Date: 09.09.2022

Verified by: James McNicoll-Norbury Date: 09.09.2022

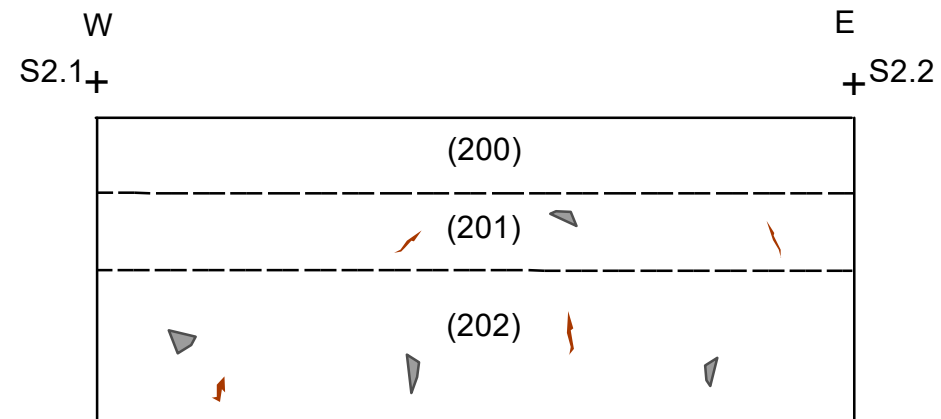
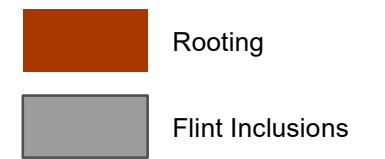


Scale 1:20 at A3 size

**Jessop and Cook
Architects**

St John the Baptist Church
Kidmore End

**Figure 5: Representative Section of
Trench 2**



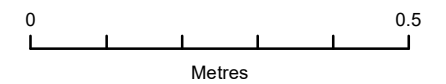
Section 2: South Facing Section of Trench 2



Plate 2: South Facing Section of Trench 2

Drawn by: Gabriella Amos Date: 09.09.2022

Verified by: James McNicoll-Norbury Date: 09.09.2022



Scale 1:10 at A3 size

RSK ADAS Ltd,
11d Park House,
Milton Park,
Abingdon
OX14 4RS

