ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES LAND AND PROPERTY MINING AND MINERAL PROCESSING MINERAL ESTATES WASTE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

wardell-armstrong.com



WISBECH ST PETER & ST PAUL PCC PROPOSED REPAIRS AND REORDERING, CHURCH OF ST PETER & ST PAUL, WISBECH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

MAY 2022





DATE ISSUED:	MAY 2022
JOB NUMBER:	BE10356
OASIS NUMBER:	wardella2-506351
DAC FACULTY REF:	2020-049475
REPORT NUMBER:	BE10356/0003
STATUS:	FINAL

WISBECH ST PETER AND ST PAUL PCC

CHURCH OF ST PETER & ST PAUL, WISBECH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, PE13 1HB

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

PREPARED BY:

Peter Thompson

Principal Archaeologist

REVIEWED BY:

Andrew Peachey

Associate Director

APPROVED BY:

Rhodri Gardner

Technical Director

This report has been prepared by Wardell Armstrong LLP with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, within the terms of the Contract with the Client. The report is confidential to the Client and Wardell Armstrong LLP accepts no responsibility of whatever nature to third parties to whom this report may be made known.

No part of this document may be reproduced without the prior written approval of Wardell Armstrong LLP.



Wardell Armstrong is the trading name of Wardell Armstrong LLP, Registered in England No. OC307138.

Registered office: Sir Henry Doulton House, Forge Lane, Etruria, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 5BD, United Kingdom

UK Offices: Stoke-on-Trent, Birmingham, Bolton, Bury St Edmunds, Cardiff, Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, London, Newcastle upon Tyne, Shefford and Truro. International Office: Almaty

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES LAND AND PROPERTY MINING AND MINERAL PROCESSING MINERAL ESTATES WASTE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



CONTENTS

SUMMARY	5
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	6
1. INTRODUCTION	7
1.1. Project Background	7
1.2. Project Documentation	.7
2. METHODOLOGY	8
2.1. Standards and Guidance	.8
2.2. Documentary Research	.8
2.3. Archaeological Watching Brief	.8
2.4. Site Archive	.8
3. BACKGROUND	. 10
3.1. Location and Geological Context	. 10
3.2. Historical and Archaeological Background	. 10
3.3. The Site	.14
4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS	15
5. FINDS ASSESSMENT	16
5.1. Introduction	.16
5.2. Methodology	. 16
5.3. Pottery Report by Peter Thompson	.16
5.4. Ceramic Building Material Report by Andrew Peachey	. 17
6. ARCHIVE PREPERATION AND DEPOSITION	. 17
7. DISCUSSION	.18
8. CONCLUSION	18
9. BIBLIOGRAPHY	. 19
APPENDICES	21
APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE	
APPENDIX 2: PLATES	
APPENDIX 3: FIGURES	
APPENDIX 4: CAMBRIDGESHIRE HER SUMMARY/OASIS SUMMARY SHEET	



APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE

APPENDIX 2: PLATES

- Plate 1: Western trench with slabs removed looking east
- Plate 2: Southern trench with slabs removed looking south-east
- Plate 3: Northern trench with slabs removed north-east
- Plate 4: Northern trench post-excavation looking north-east
- Plate 5: Northern trench post- excavation going under church
- Plate 6: Sample Section 1 facing north
- Plate 7: Human bone assemblage 1 (in 1004)
- Plate 8: Human bone assemblage 2
- Plate 9: Human bone assemblage 3
- Plate 10: Human bone assemblage 4
- Plate 11: Human bone assemblage 5
- Plate 12: Human bone assemblage 6
- Plate 13: Southern trench post-excavation looking south-east
- Plate 14: Western trench post-excavation looking west
- Plate 15: Western trench looking east
- Plate 16: Sample Section 2 facing south-west
- Plate 17: Sample Section 3 facing south
- Plate 18: Working shot of the boxing pipework in the nave
- Plate 19: Monitoring of boxing pipework in nave
- Plate 20: Monitoring of boxing pipework in nave

APPENDIX 3: FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location plan	1:25,000
Figure 2: Detailed site location plan	1:2,000
Figure 3: Area of monitoring	1:2,000
Figure 4: Trench location and sections	1:75 & 1:20

APPENDIX 4: CAMBRIDGESHIRE HER SUMMARY/OASIS SUMMARY SHEET



SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) was commissioned by Nicholas Warns Architects on behalf of Wisbech St Peter and St Paul PCC to undertake an archaeological Watching Brief at the Church of St Peter & St Paul, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE13 1HB (NGR TF 46304 09559). The Watching Brief was required in compliance with two conditions on a Faculty granted by the Diocese of Ely Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) (ref. 2020-049475). A WSI was subsequently prepared and approved by the DAC's Archaeological Advisor (WA 2022). The archaeological watching brief was undertaken on 16th and 27th March 2022.

The service trench showed that the stone surfacing overlay leveling layers and made ground with no archaeological features present. Clay deposit (1004) contained six assemblages of fragmented disarticulated human bone and a small assemblage of pottery, CBM and glass ranging from late medieval to modern in date. There were no finds from the boxing pipe work carried out in the nave.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) thanks the Client for commissioning the project, and for assistance throughout the work. WA also thanks the Cambridgeshire HER for providing the archaeological background information and the DAC's Archaeological Advisor Dr Tim Reynolds for advice during the project.

The archaeological watching brief was supervised by Peter Clarke and the report written by Peter Thompson. The figures were produced by Kathren Henry, and the finds assessment was undertaken by Peter Thompson and Andrew Peachey. The project was managed by John Craven and the report edited by Andrew Peachey.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Project Background**

- 1.1.1 In March 2022 Wardell Armstrong (WA) undertook an archaeological watching brief at the Church of St Peter & St Paul, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE13 1HB (NGR TF 46304 09559; Figures 1 & 2). It was commissioned by Nicholas Warns Architects on behalf of the client Wisbech St Peter and St Paul PCC.
- 1.1.2 The PCC planned to carry out a programme of necessary repairs and reordering works to the church using Heritage Lottery funding. The proposed internal works include a new kitchenette and WC installed in the existing choir vestry in the northwest of the church, with associated internal water and foul sewage infrastructure being installed above floor level. External works below ground level consist of the removal and replacement of existing concrete drainage channels extending around the building and installation of foul water drainage.

1.2 **Project Documentation**

1.2.1 A Faculty for the works (ref. 2020-049475) has been granted by the Diocese of Ely's Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) with two conditions imposed by the DAC's Archaeological Advisor (DACAA) Dr Tim Reynolds which read as follows:

1. The Diocesan Advisory Committee's Archaeologist should be asked to provide a brief for a Written Scheme of Investigation and to approve this when produced, to ensure appropriate archaeological advice and oversight is available during the works.

2. If the works uncover any articulated human or archaeological remains, they shall cease, and the Diocesan Advisory Committee's Archaeologist and the Registry are to be informed.

- 1.2.2 The Brief subsequently issued by the DACAA states that an archaeological Watching Brief is required of both internal and external groundworks as they have potential to disturb buried archaeological remains, particularly human remains.
- 1.2.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was subsequently produced which provided a specific methodology for a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording (WA 2022). The archaeological watching brief was required to allow observation of the ground works associated with the development, to identify and record any archaeological features or finds that may have been present.



2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Standards and Guidance

- 2.1.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief (CIfA 2020a) and in accordance with the approved WSI.
- 2.1.2 The watching brief was followed by an assessment of the data as set out in *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (CIFA 2020a) and the *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIFA 2020b).

2.2 Documentary Research

2.2.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment of the site was completed by Archaeological Solutions Ltd (now a part of Wardell Armstrong) in July 2019 (Thompson & Collins 2019).

2.3 Archaeological Watching Brief

- 2.3.1 As stated, the archaeological watching brief was undertaken to monitor groundworks during the small-scale development. Deposits considered not to be significant were removed by machine under close archaeological supervision. All possible features or deposits were inspected, and selected deposits were excavated by hand to retrieve artefactual material. Once completed all features were recorded according to the WA standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (WA 2020).
- 2.3.2 All finds encountered (bar human skeletal remains) were retained on site and returned to the WA Bury St Edmunds office where they were identified, quantified and dated to period. Disarticulated human bone was collected and, following consultation with the DAC's archaeological advisor, was redeposited at the base of the trench prior to backfilling.

2.4 Site Archive

2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project specification, and the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited with the Cambridgeshire Archaeological Archive in accordance with their guidelines (CCCHET 2020) and a copy of the report sent to Cambridgeshire HER, available upon request.



- 2.4.2 Please note, the following categories of material will be discarded after a period of six months following the submission of this report, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository):
 - unstratified material;
 - modern pottery;
 - material that has been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention.
- 2.4.3 Wardell Armstrong LLP supports the **O**nline **A**cces**S** to the Index of Archaeological Investigation**S** (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by WA as a part of this national project. The OASIS reference for the project is: wardella2-506351.



3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Location and Geological Context

- 3.1.1 The Church of St Peter and St Paul covers an area of approximately 1,300m² and is surrounded by its graveyard precinct. To the west of the churchyard is The Crescent which includes the former location of Wisbech Castle. To the north Church Terrace and buildings abutting The Crescent meet, and to the east is the A1101. The southern area, which contains the greatest extent of graveyard, is bordered by a large car park.
- 3.1.2 Wisbech is situated in the low-lying Fenland of Cambridgeshire at approximately 4 -7m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) and is beside the embanked River Nene with the church of St Peter & St Paul located approximately 220m east of the river. Previously the town was also on the Well Stream to the east which linked with the River Great Ouse (Para. 3.2.6 below). The name Wisbech either derives from 'marshy meadow valley or ridge' or more specifically the Wis element may be referring to the river Wissey (later Great Ouse) which itself means marshy stream.
- 3.1.3 The bedrock geology is West Walton Formation, Ampthill Clay Formation and Kimmeridge Clay Formation (undifferentiated) - Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone. overlain by superficial deposits of Alluvium – Clay, Silt and Sand (BGS 2021).

3.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

3.2.1 The following information is taken from the archaeological desk-based assessment completed by Archaeological Solutions Ltd (now a part of Wardell Armstrong) in July 2019 (Thompson & Collins 2019).

Prehistory

- 3.2.2 There are no prehistoric sites or finds recorded within 250m of the assessment site. *Romano-British*
- 3.2.3 There are no Romano-British sites or finds recorded within 250m of the assessment site.

Anglo-Saxon

3.2.4 A settlement or estate existed at Wisbech in the middle Saxon period when a charter of 664 documents land there granted to the abbey of Peterborough, but there are no sites or finds recorded within 250m of the assessment site.



Medieval

- 3.2.5 At Domesday (1086) Wisbech had a very large population with 73 heads of household, so probably between 290 and 440 people. There were 23 cottagers, 15 villagers, 13 freemen and two slaves recorded whose tenant in- chief was the abbot of Ely. There were ten ploughlands (a variable measurement but which usually roughly equated with an area of land that could be ploughed by a team of eight oxen in a year); two were lord's ploughlands and eight men's ploughlands. There was also meadow for two plough teams and 1.25 acres of lord's land. The remainder of the population comprised 20 fishermen and five fisheries which variously came under the abbey's of Ely, Ramsey, Crowland and St Edmunds (Powell-Smith 2021). However, there was at least one other manor at Wisbech not mentioned in Domesday, and the area included was considerably larger than that of the modern town, extending to both the north and south.
- 3.2.6 Wisbech owed its existence to its position where the Well Stream joined the 'Wysbeck', the stream from which the town derived its name. The Well Stream, now represented by the Wisbech Canal, formerly carried the main outfall of the Great Ouse. However, the diversion of the Ouse to its present course in c. 1300, and the cutting of Moreton's Leam in 1478 have reduced the stream's importance. The 'Wysbeck' on the other hand has now swollen into the main River Nene. The central part of Wisbech, between the two watercourses, is a good example of a manorial borough, with the castle sited midway in the peninsula and dominating the Market Place. The Old Market, so called as early as 1221, suggests that a trading center existed in Wisbech in very early times. It is on the left (west) bank of the Nene and is not very far from the large moat at the north end of Barton Field which is the probable site of the Barton manor house that was probably the administrative centre of the Ely estates in Wisbech prior to the erection of the castle. From the 12th century the New Market by the castle, which was the headquarters of the richer of the two Wisbech manors, outstripped the Old Market as a centre of trade, and by 1492 there were 115 tenants of the bishop in the New Market compared with 32 in the Old; medieval finds have been recovered from the area of the New Market (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) No. 10489) and a medieval undercroft thought to relate to the guildhall is located in Market Street (CHER 10493). A third market, for timber, was at the south-east end of the town, and the



narrow blocks of buildings between the canal, Norfolk Street, and West Street represent the sites of the stalls and booths of this market (Atkinson *et al.* 2002).

- 3.2.7 Wisbech castle was originally a Norman motte and bailey castle thought to have been constructed around 1097 by William the Conqueror. In 1216 King John set off from the castle marching towards Lincolnshire, and it was a little further north that he is reputed to have lost some of his treasure while crossing the Nene. Edward I visited Wisbech Castle in 1292, 1298, 1300, and 1305, but from the late 13th century the building was mainly used as a prison and as a place for holding the bishop's courts. In 1236 the town and castle were swept away in a flood. The castle was rebuilt but superseded by a palace for the Bishops of Ely in 1478. During the brief reign of Lady Jane Grey, Robert Dudley, later Earl of Leicester, seems to have made Wisbech his headquarters, while attempting to win over the town of Lynn to Jane's cause. Also during the 16th century Queen Mary imprisoned Protestants in the castle during her restoration of Roman Catholicism, and likewise Elizabeth I imprisoned recusant Catholics after she restored Protestantism. The castle and palace were demolished and replaced by Thurloes mansion in 1656, and elements of this mansion survive in the present building standing there (also known as Wisbech Castle) (CHER 01926).
- 3.2.8 Medieval remains have been excavated on Church Terrace, centred on 50m southeast of St Peter & St Paul's church, where midden deposits and other peripheral activity to settlement was recorded in an area noted for numerous flooding episodes, possibly relating to the river changing its course. These layers were dated between the 13th-15th centuries, and a possible structure was located to the west. The fieldwork report also recorded a large river channel or canal cut for this site (CHER MCB16870).
- 3.2.9 St Peter & St Paul is the main parish church of Wisbech and dates from the 12th century, with further additions and modifications in the 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th centuries. It occupies a central position in the town and the development and floor plan of the church is very unusual having a north aisle, two south aisles and nave with clerestory, and so is of particular interest (CHER CB14828). It is built of limestone with Barnack dressings, limestone and pebble rubble and was originally plastered. The roofs are of lead. The surviving 12th century elements are in the north aisle and the base of the west tower. The chancel was rebuilt in the 14th century with a south chapel. The south aisle was also widened, with another aisle to the



south, and was provided with a clerestorey, and the north aisle was also widened. Later in the 14th century a south porch was erected. The west tower partially collapsed in 16th century causing internal damage necessitating the rebuilding of the south nave arcade. Both the nave and inner south aisle were re-roofed with flat beamed ceilings covered by one high pitched outer roof. A large window was inserted into the west tower wall and the east arch removed. The original stair turret was retained as a small bellcote and a vestry was added in the angle of the chancel and south chapel. In c.1525 a free-standing tower was erected to the north-west, providing a linked porched entrance to the north aisle (HE 2021).

- 3.2.10 An extensive restoration by Mr. Bassett-Smith was undertaken in 1856-8 when the chancel was re-roofed and the 16th century west end window replaced. In 1981 a family vault was discovered during floor slabbing operations, which was situated beneath the north aisle and near to the tower. The entrance is from North to South into a double arch vaulted porchway, which leads directly into a barrel-vaulted main chamber running from West to East. This contains seven lead coffins belonging to the Vavazor family dated to the 18th century (Jordan 1981).
- 3.2.11 The cemetery of the parish church of St Peter and St Paul dates from the medieval period and was closed in 1855 to further burials. The site is now cleared of many of the memorials, particularly to the south-east of the building. The yard has been truncated, and clearly covered a larger area in the past, as in 1994 workmen digging the road on Church Terrace to the east of the church located Christian burials. Pressure was mounting on the available space earlier in the 19th century, for an extension was opened in 1832 on Kings Walk, initially to bury victims of a cholera outbreak, but in 1840 it received the correct consecration, and a mortuary chapel was built. This too was closed in 1855. A geophysical survey undertaken to the west of the churchyard in advance of relaying and resurfacing located various features, probably graves and possible vaults. These were at a sufficient depth to avoid being impacted upon by the proposed works.
- 3.2.12 In 2004 archaeological monitoring was undertaken during repaving and drainage works in the churchyard in the areas immediately to the west and to the south of the church. The investigations recorded the top of a brick vault, which had previously been disturbed and backfilled, and identified the locations of former graves under the paved area. Disarticulated human remains were evident across the area of investigation, although not in any great concentration, and no in-situ burials or



undisturbed archaeological deposits were encountered (CHER ECB 1946). The churchyard was transformed at the time of the Queen's Coronation in 1953 when members of the Rotary Club of Wisbech and Round Table created the Coronation Garden. In 1956 a section was designated Garden for the Blind and both gardens are cared for by the Local Authority. Many original tombstones however, remain, especially between the church and the museum although there are tombstones on all four sides, and there are several listed monuments in the churchyard. Four of the chest tombs and the obelisk surrounded by railings are listed monuments. In the 1970s over 120 tombs and headstones placed alongside the paths were counted. Nine headstones stand beyond the railings on the north side of the church (CHER MCB1711).

Post-medieval

3.2.13 The closest HER point to St Peter and St Pauls' Church outside of its precinct is Wisbech and Fenland Museum on the west side, which dates from 1849, and is one of the oldest purpose-built museums in the country (CHER MCB16630). There are a large number of listed buildings within the 250m study area which are mainly focused on The Crescent, and nearly all of these date between the 18th and early 20th centuries, although a small number are earlier. The closest listed structures to the site are two Grade II listed chest tombs in the graveyard immediately to the south-east of the church (DCB1926, DCB1935).

3.3 The Site

3.3.1 The Grade I listed church has not undergone previous archaeological intrusive field work but in July 2019 it was subject of an archaeological desk-based assessment and walkover survey which identified that a programme for archaeological mitigation would be needed for any reordering of the church (Thompson and Collins 2019).



4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS

- 4.1.1 The archaeological watching brief was carried out on the 16th and 27th March 2022. The site was effectively made up of three conjoining service trenches outside the church creating a rough Y-shape, located at approximately 6.5m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD, Fig. 3). The longest trench at just over approximately 6m in length ran on an east –west alignment, with another shorter irregular shaped trench leading north-east from its eastern end. The third trench ran south-east from the east end of the slightly longer E-W aligned trench.
- 4.1.2 South facing Sample Section 1 was located at the north end of the north-east aligned trench (Fig. 4). It commenced with an area of stone slabs (1000) at least 10m by 10m in area and 0.07m deep. Beneath (1000) was building sand layer (1002) which formed a leveling layer to the slabs above, it was composed of friable yellow sand at depth of 0.05-0.08m. Beneath (1002) was a black asphalt layer (1003) probably also for leveling and located at 0.08m to 0.11m below ground level. Beneath (1003) was layer (1004) described as firm dark greyish brown clay 0.11m to 0.38m in depth. Below (1004) was layer (1005) which was firm pale brownish yellow silty clay which was probably remains of the subsoil and was 0.1m+ thick.
- 4.1.3 North-east facing Sample Section 2 was located towards the south end of the south-eastern aligned section of the trench (Fig. 4). It commenced with a layer of square cobbles (1002) which abutted stone slabs (1000) to a depth of 0.08m. Beneath (1002) was black asphalt layer (1003) between 0.08m and 0.11m depth. Beneath (1003) was layer (1004) (above) which was at least 0.3m+ in thickness.
- 4.1.4 North facing Sample Section 3 was located towards the west end of the trench (Fig. 4). It commenced with concrete layer (1006) to a depth of 0.08m. Beneath (1006) was black asphalt layer (1003) (above). Beneath (1003) was layer (1004) which was 0.4m+ in thickness. In this area (1004) contained disarticulated human bone, late medieval and post-medieval pottery and CBM and glass.
- 4.1.5 In addition to the above, a small area of monitoring was carried out in the nave near to the entrance for the laying of a pipe which involved lifting of floor slabs but no deeper intrusive work.



5 FINDS ASSESSMENT

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A small number of finds were recovered consisting of 4 sherds of pottery (177g), and 335g of CBM. Some disarticulated human bone was also encountered but not removed from site and re-buried at the base of the backfilled trench, as per the advice of the DACAA Dr Tim Reynolds (e-mail dated 16th March 2022).

5.2 Methodology

- 5.2.1 All finds were dealt with according to the recommendations made by Watkinson & Neal (1998) and to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA) *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2020b). All artefacts have been boxed according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by Brown (2011).
- 5.2.2 The material archive has been assessed for its local, regional and national potential and for its potential to contribute to the relevant research frameworks. The finds assessment was compiled by Peter Thompson and Andrew Peachey. Quantification of finds by context is provided in Table 1.

Context	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pottery (g)	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
1004	Layer	Late 18th-19th C	4	177	335	30	Clay Pipe	2	16
							Glass	1	9

Table 1: Concordance of finds

5.3 **Post-Roman Pottery Report** by Peter Thompson

5.3.1 The archaeological fieldwork recovered 4 sherds weighing 177g from layer (1004). Three sherds were post-medieval which as a group would indicate a later 18th century to early 19th century date. The remaining sherd is a large fragment of a Late Ely type medieval strap handle with stab decoration which is only very lightly abraded. The fabric is quite fine, and the glaze is glossy with an almost post-medieval appearance, rather than the more typical 'pimply' glaze of many Ely Wares, and so the product would suit a 15th century date.



Methodology

The sherds were examined under x35 binocular microscope and recorded according to the 'Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology' (Barclay et al 2016), developed from the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines. Fabric codes (in brackets) are those used for the Cambridgeshire County Council pottery type series (Spoerry 2016) and from MoLAS.

KEY:

- LMEL Late Medieval ware mid 14^{th} - 15^{th}
- CREA Creamware early 18th-late 19th
- PMBL Post-medieval Black glazed red earthenware 17th-19th
- STMB Staffordshire Marbled Slipware mid 17th-18th

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Layer	1004	1x12g STMB	Late 18 th -19 th	LMEL: glossy glazed jug strap handle
		1x23g PMBL		4.2cm across with two line of stab
		1x13g CREA		decoration along the length
		1x129g LMEL		

Table 2: Quantification of sherds by context

5.4 The Ceramic Building Materials by Andrew Peachey

5.4.1 Layer (1004) contained four highly fragmented pieces (335g) of Fletton brick, produced between the late 19th and mid 20th centuries, if not later, and potentially deposited as part of made ground deposition or a rubble from re-developments to buildings or walls on the site.

6 ARCHIVE PREPARATION AND DEPOSITION

- 6.1.1 Wardell Armstrong will make arrangements for the deposition of the site archive at the Cambridgeshire Archaeological Archive.
- 6.1.2 The site archive will include all project records and cultural material produced by the fieldwork and will be prepared in accordance with the Cambridgeshire Archaeological Archive guidance (CCCHET 2020).



7 DISCUSSION

- 7.1.1 The site is a place of strong archaeological potential, where finds for the medieval and post-medieval periods might have been expected. The area of ground works monitored was outside the entrance of the church, just north of the main area of graveyard, with a small area also monitored in the nave.
- 7.1.2 The general stratigraphic sequence outside was shown to be surfaces of stone slabs, cobbles or concrete with underlying levelling layers and made ground, there were no archaeological features present. However, the clay layer of made ground (1004) produced finds of human bone, pottery, CBM and glass. The human bone was disarticulated, not reported on and re-buried on site, but it came from six areas in the western section of the service trench and numbered approximately 96 fragments (Fig. 4, Plates 7-12). The other finds, including a late medieval Ely Ware strap handle, spanned the late medieval to modern periods, but were mainly late post-medieval, and so were residual or re-deposited. The boxing pipe work carried out under the floor slabs in a small area of the church revealed nothing of archaeological interest.

8 CONCLUSION

8.1.1 The archaeological watching brief at the Church of St Peter & St Paul, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE13 1HB (NGR TF 46304 09559) was undertaken during excavation of a service trench outside the church on the 16th March, and the laying of pipe work under stone slabs in a small area of the nave on the 27th March. The service trench showed that the stone surfaces overlay leveling layers and made ground with no archaeological features present. However, a clay deposit (1004) of made ground overlying subsoil (1005) contained six assemblages of fragmented disarticulated human bone. There was also a small assemblage of pottery, CBM and glass ranging from late medieval to modern in date. There were no finds from the boxing pipe work in the nave.



9 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Atkinson, T, Hampson, E, Long, E, Meekings, E, Miller, E, Wells H, and Woodgate, G., 2002, 'Ely Hundred: Littleport', in *A History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: Volume 4, City of Ely*; Ely, N. and S. Witchford and Wisbech Hundreds, ed. R B pp. 95-102. British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/cambs/vol4/pp95-102> [Accessed 29/11/2021].

Barclay, A., Knight, D., Booth, P., Evans, J., Brown, D. & Wood, I., 2016, *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology*. Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group/Study group for Roman Pottery/Medieval Pottery Research Group/Historic England.

BGS, 2021, *Geology of Britain Viewer*. British Geological Survey. http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html [Accessed 22/11/2021].

Brown, D., 2011, Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation. Archaeological Archives Forum.

CIFA, 2020a, *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading.

CIFA, 2020b, Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading.

CCCHET, 2020, *Deposition of archaeological archives in Cambridgeshire*. Version 5. Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team.

HE, 2021, *Church of St Peter and St Paul.* www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/listentry/1229992 [Accessed 29/11/2021].

Jordan, J. R. J. (1981) Wisbech Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, The Vicarage, Long Lane, Wisbech, Cambs. St Peter and St Paul church parish records.

Powell-Smith,2021,Wisbech,DomesdayBook.https://opendomesday.org/place/TF4609/wisbech.[Accessed 29/11/2021].

Spoerry, P., 2016, *The Production and Distribution of Medieval Pottery in Cambridgeshire*. East Anglian Archaeology 159.

Thompson, P. and Collins, T., 2019, *Proposed Repairs and Reordering, Church of St Peter & St Paul, Wis*bech, Cambridgeshire PE13 1HB: An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment & Walkover survey. Archaeological Solutions Ltd unpublished report no. 5866.



WA, 2020, Archaeological Excavation Manual. Wardell Armstrong unpublished report.

WA, 2022, Proposed Repairs and Reordering, Church of St Peter & St Paul, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE13 1HB. Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief. Wardell Armstrong unpublished report no. BE10356/003.



APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE

Context Number	Context Type	Description
1000	Slabs	Large slabs that make up the path around the church entrance. Modern or older and relaid after installation of pipes 0.07m thick
1001	Cobbles	Pathway made up of square cobbles, probably modern, which abut stone slabs (1000) 0.07m thick
1002	Building sand	Friable yellow sand at depth 0.05-0.08m. Levelling layer below slabs (1001)
1003	Asphalt	Friable black asphalt 0.08m to 0.11m depth beneath building sand (1002)
1004	Clay layer (brown- grey)	Firm dark greyish brown clay 0.21m to 0.38m depth. Layer of clay seen across the site containing a large amount of disarticulated human bone as well late medieval/post-medieval pot, CBM and glass
1005	Silty layer (yellowish)	Firm pale brownish yellow silty clay located in northern corner of the site 0.10m+ deep, possibly remains of subsoil
1006	Concrete	Concrete layer seen toward the south side of the western trench. Probably a modern levelling layer for paving or slabs 10m long and 2m+ wide and 0.08m deep



APPENDIX 2: PLATES



Plate 1: Western trench with slabs removed looking east



Plate 2: Southern trench with slabs removed looking south-east





Plate 3: Northern trench with slabs removed north-east



Plate 4: Northern trench post-excavation looking north-east





Plate 5: Northern trench post- excavation going under church



Plate 6: Sample Section 1 facing north





Plate 7: Human bone assemblage 1 (in 1004)



Plate 8: Human bone assemblage 2





Plate 9: Human bone assemblage 3



Plate 10: Human bone assemblage 4





Plate 11: Human bone assemblage 5



Plate 12: Human bone assemblage 6





Plate 13: Southern trench post-excavation looking south-east



Plate 14: Western trench post-excavation looking west





Plate 15: Western trench looking east



Plate 16: Sample Section 2 facing south-west





Plate 17: Sample Section 3 facing south



Plate 18: Working shot of the boxing pipework in the nave





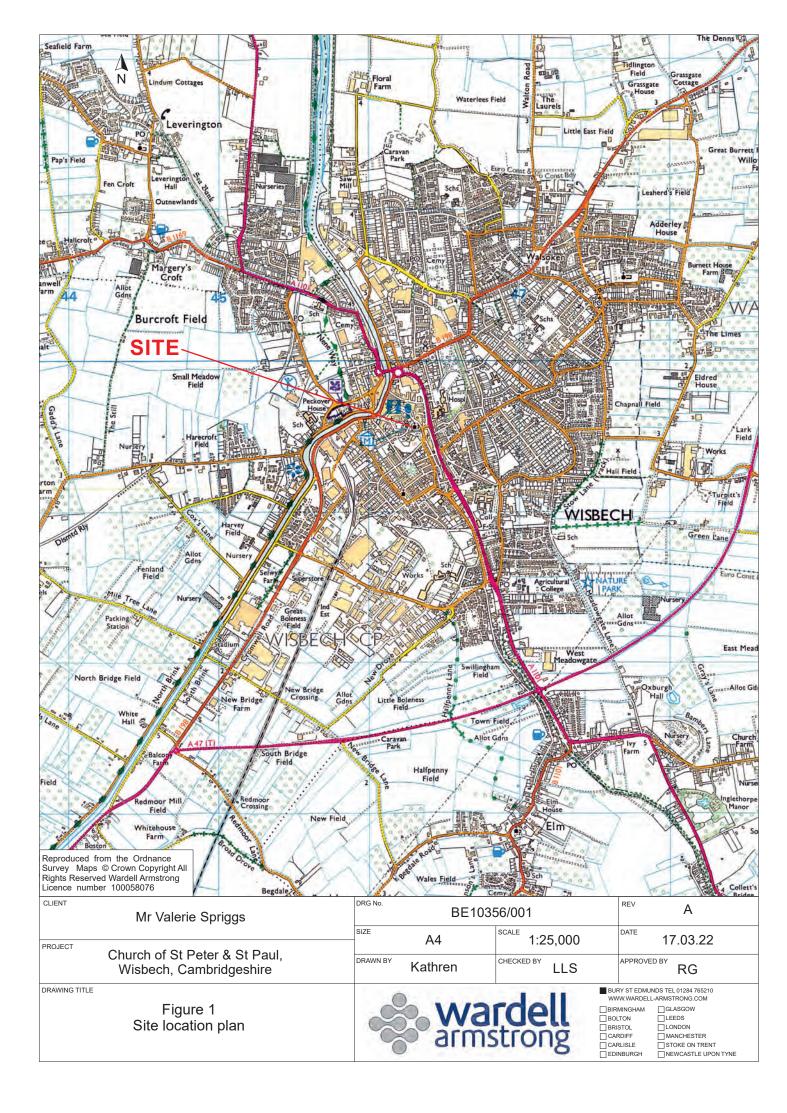
Plate 19: Monitoring of boxing pipework in nave

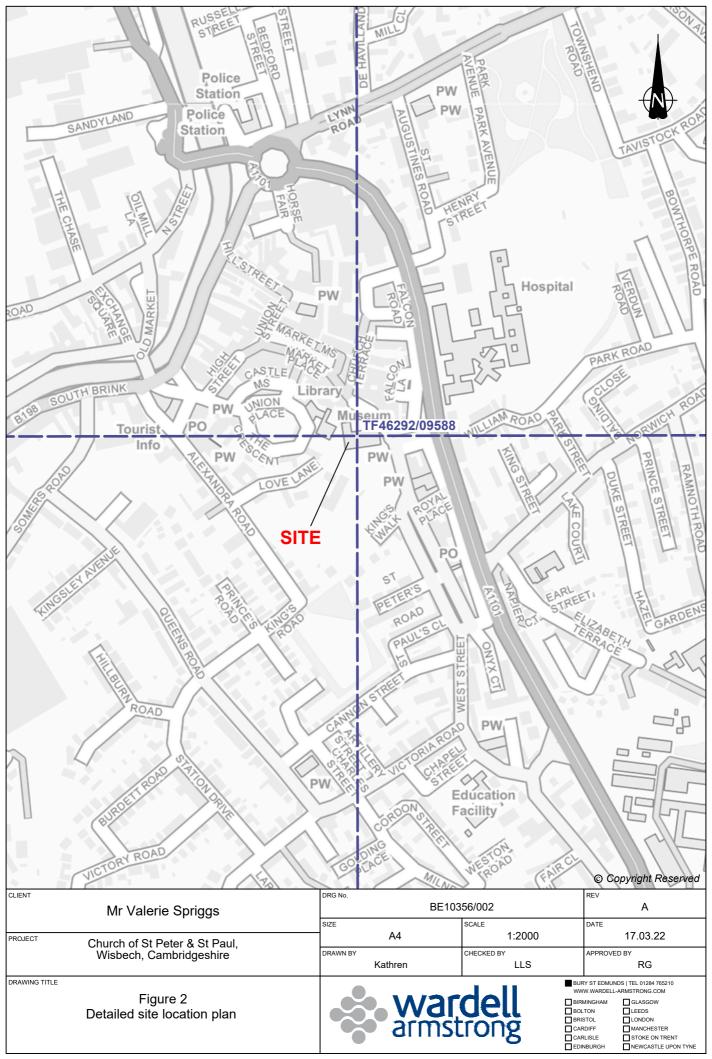


Plate 20: Monitoring of boxing pipework in nave

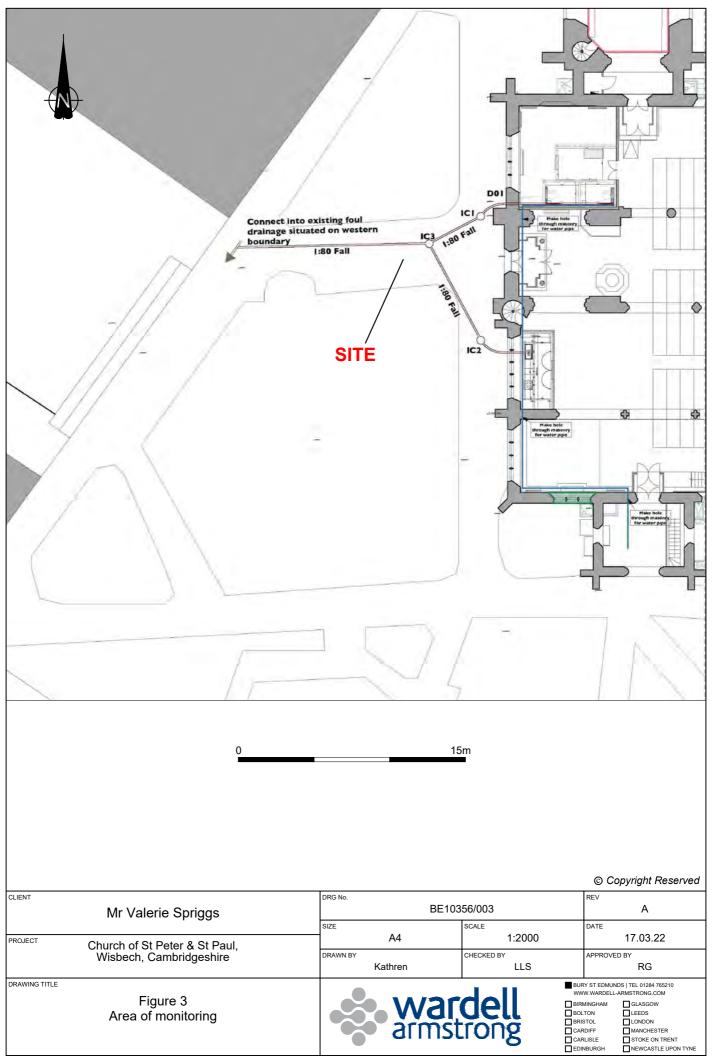


APPENDIX 3: DRAWINGS

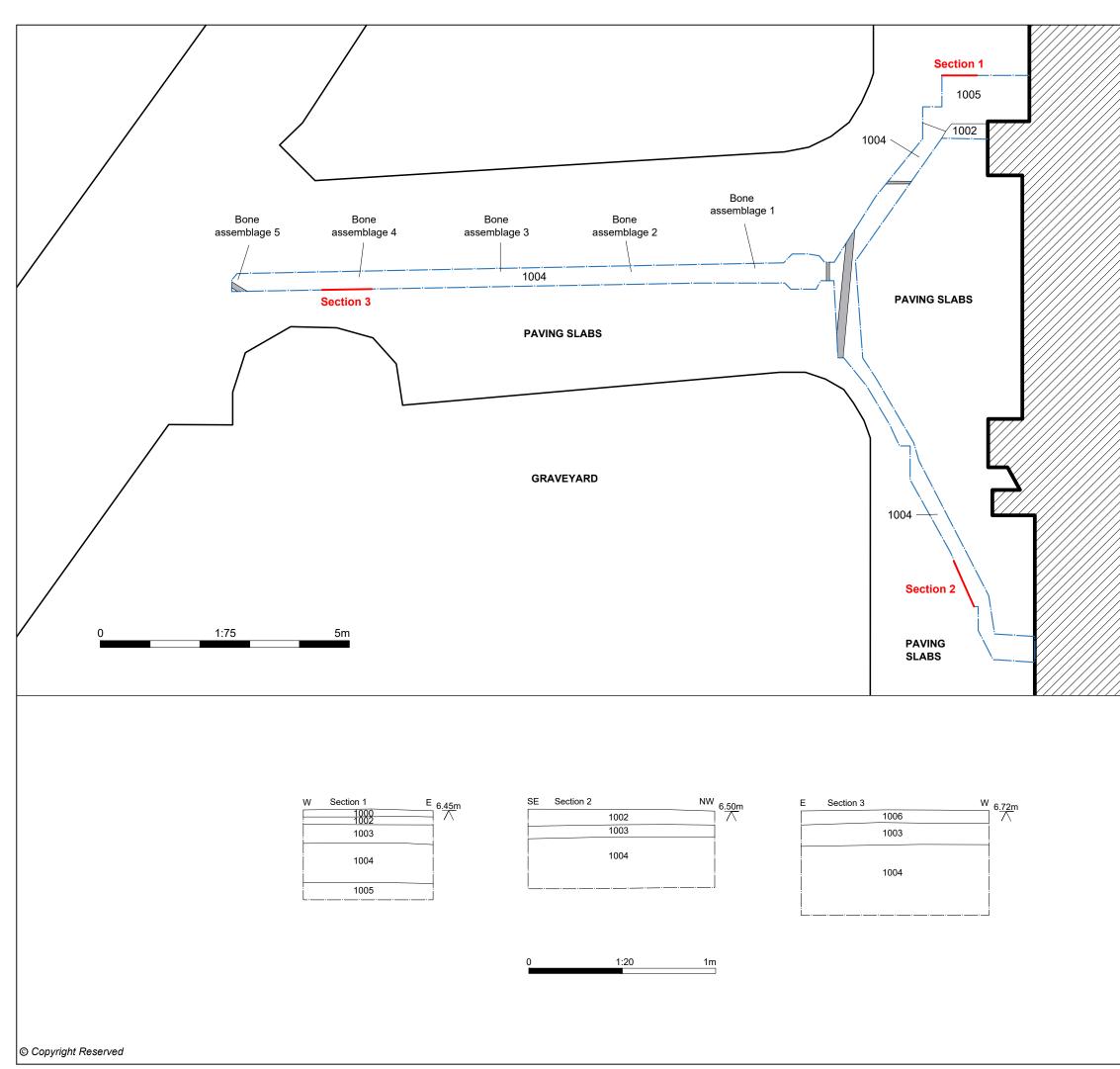




N:\BE\BE10356 - CHURCH OF ST PETER ST PAUL\03 - DESIGN\AUTOCAD\0003 WB FIGS\FIG. 2,3,11,12,13,14.DWG



N:\BE\BE10356 - CHURCH OF ST PETER ST PAUL\03 - DESIGN\AUTOCAD\0003 WB FIGS\FIG. 2,3,11,12,13,14.DWG



CHURCH OF ST PETER & ST PAUL	Modern pipes					
	REVISION DETAILS CLIENT Mr Valerie Sprigg	DATE DRN CHKD APP'D				
	PROJECT Church of St Peter & S Wisbech, Cambridge DRAWING TITLE Figure 3 Trench location and se	eshire				
	BE10356/003 DRG SIZE SCALE	REV A				
	Kathren LLS	17.03.22 APPROVED BY RG EDMUNDS TEL 01284 765210				
		ARDELL-ARMSTRONG.COM HAM GLASGOW LEEDS LONDON MANCHESTER E STOKE ON TRENT				



APPENDIX 4: CAMBRIDGESHIRE HER SUMMARY/OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details						
Project name	Proposed Repairs and Reordering, Church of St Peter & St Paul, Wisbech					
The archaeological watching brief (NGR TF 46304 09559) was under March, and laying of a pipe under trench showed that the stone surf present. However, a clay deposit (fragmented disarticulated human from late medieval to modern date	taken during exca er stone slabs in ace overlay leveli (1004) of made gr bone. There was	avation of a a small area ng layers an ound overly also a small	service trench a of the nave of d made ground ing subsoil (100 assemblage of	outside t on the 27 with no a 05) contai pottery,	the church on the 16th With March. The service archaeological features ined six assemblages of CBM and glass ranging	
Project dates (fieldwork)	16 th March & 2	7 th March				
Previous work (Y/N/?)	Y - DBA	Future wo	rk	n/a		
P. number	BE10356	Site code	-	n/a		
Type of project	Desk-Based Arc	chaeological	Assessment/W	alkover S	Survey	
Site status	Grade 1 listed b	ouilding				
Current land use	Parish church	Parish church				
Planned development	Repairs and Re	Repairs and Re-ordering				
Main features (+dates)	-					
Significant finds (+dates)	Approx 100 re-deposited human bone fragments, small late medieval to modern pot and CBM assemblage					
Project location						
County/ District/ Parish	Cambridgeshire	2	Fenland		Wisbech	
HER/ SMR for area	Cambridgeshire	e Historic En	vironment Reco	ord (CHER	?)	
Post code (if known)	PE13 1HB					
Area of site	Approx. 1,300n	Approx. 1,300m ²				
NGR	TF 46292 09588					
Height AOD (min/max)	Approx. 6.5m AOD					
Project creators	1					
Brief issued by	-					
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Peter Clarke					
Funded by	St Peter & St Po	aul PCC				
Full title	Proposed Repo Wisbech Archa		-	ch of St	Peter & St Paul,	
	Thompson, P.					
Authors	Thompson, P.					
Authors Report no.	Thompson, P. BE10356/0003					

wardell-armstrong.com

STOKE-ON-TRENT

Sir Henry Doulton House Forge Lane Etruria Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5BD Tel: +44 (0)1782 276 700

BIRMINGHAM

Two Devon Way Longbridge Technology Park Longbridge Birmingham B31 2TS Tel: +44 (0)121 580 0909

BOLTON

41-50 Futura Park Aspinall Way Middlebrook Bolton BL6 6SU Tel: +44 (0)1204 227 227

BRISTOL

Desklodge 2 Redcliffe Way Bristol BS1 6NL Tel: +44 (0)117 203 4477

BURY ST EDMUNDS

Armstrong House Lamdin Road Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP32 6NU Tel: +44 (0)1284 765 210 CARDIFF Tudor House 16 Cathedral Road Cardiff CF11 9LJ Tel: +44 (0)292 072 9191

CARLISLE Marconi Road Burgh Road Industrial Estate Carlisle Cumbria CA2 7NA Tel: +44 (0)1228 550 575

EDINBURGH

Great Michael House 14 Links Place Edinburgh EH6 7EZ Tel: +44 (0)131 555 3311

GLASGOW

24 St Vincent Place Glasgow G1 2EU Tel: +44 (0)141 428 4499

LEEDS

36 Park Row Leeds LS1 5JL Tel: +44 (0)113 831 5533

LONDON

Third Floor 46 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1JE Tel: +44 (0)207 242 3243

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

City Quadrant 11 Waterloo Square Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4DP Tel: +44 (0)191 232 0943

TRURO

Baldhu House Wheal Jane Earth Science Park Baldhu Truro TR3 6EH Tel: +44 (0)187 256 0738

International office:

ALMATY 29/6 Satpaev Avenue Hyatt Regency Hotel Office Tower Almaty Kazakhstan 050040 Tel: +7(727) 334 1310

