



St Michael and All Angel's Church, The Street, Hartlip, Kent ME9 7TL

Archaeological Watching Brief Final report

Project Code: WB SMCH24
Planning Ref: N/A
NGR: TQ 583922 164284 (centred)
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Canterbury Archaeological Trust Ltd
92a Broad Street · Canterbury · Kent · CT1 2LU
+44 (0)1227 462 062 · admin@canterburytrust.co.uk · canterburytrust.co.uk
Registered Charity no: 278861 · Company Registered no: 1441517 (England)



ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF – FINAL SITE REPORT

COUNTY: Kent	TOWN/PARISH: Hartlip	DATE(S): 14 – 17/10/24
RECORDING BODY: Canterbury Archaeological Trust		Individual(s): A. Linklater
SITE NAME: St Michael and All Angel's Church, The Street, Hartlip, Kent. SITE CODE: WB SMCHW24		Archive Number: 2024/167 CAT Ref: 5258 PLAN No: N/A
NGR: TQ 583922 164284 (centred)		ELEVATION: Approx. 54.5m – 55m O.D.
<p>TOPOGRAPHY:</p> <p>The church of St Michael and All Angel's, Hartlip sits roughly central within the boundaries of its old churchyard, though a later addition to the west places the church within the eastern half of the entire churchyard itself. Largely laid to grass, the older portion of the churchyard possesses a sequence of largely intermittent arrangement of historic grave memorials, whilst those in the later western half of the churchyard are better arranged in neat rows reflecting the later dates of the interments.</p> <p>Generally, the church is aligned roughly east – west with the eastern boundary fronting The Street, Hartlip, whilst to the south is Hartlip Endowed C of E Primary School and the surrounding gardens to a detached dwelling to the north. To the west, the later extension of the churchyard, which virtually doubled the overall size of the churchyard itself, abuts agricultural orchards.</p> <p>Though the churchyard itself possesses a slight southwards fall the surrounding local topography is slightly undulating with the head to a more prominent now dry erosion stream valley to the southeast, which extends and deepens as it continues to the southwest.</p> <p>The routes of the proposed new service trenches radiate from the base of the nave's north wall and the side walls of the south porch to soakaway positions within the churchyard. All the service trench alignments utilised slight falls in the</p>		<p>NATURAL: (defined by the British Geological Survey B.G.S.)</p> <p>Bedrock: Thanet Formation – Sand, Silt and Clay (<i>approx. 59.2 - 56 million years ago</i>).</p> <p>Superficial: Head – Clay and Silt (<i>approx. 2.588 million years ago – the present day</i>).</p>

<p>churchyard topography to enable gradual falls away from the base of the church's walls.</p>	
<p>FORMER LAND USE:</p> <p>The proposed new service trenching and soakaways were to follow pre-designed routes and positions within and across portions of the encircling churchyard's northern and southern areas. Across the southern portion of the churchyard the proposed position of the new soakaway was to be located to the southeast of the nave, immediately adjacent the present churchyard footpath. Drainage trenching to this soakaway followed the footpath's northern side from either side of the south porch.</p> <p>Within the northern portion of the churchyard a new soakaway position to the north of the nave was fed by new service trenching extending from the nave's north wall.</p>	<p>FUTURE PROPERTY USE:</p> <p>Following the installation of all the new rainwater drainage pipework and the associated soakaway positions, the churchyard surfaces were returned to grass, whilst new gully pot silt traps were installed at the base of the church's downpipes.</p>
<p>APPLICANT: The PCC of St Michael and All Angel's Church, Hartlip.</p>	<p>TENANT: N/A</p>
<p>TYPE OF EXCAVATION:</p> <p>A continuous archaeological watching brief was maintained during the groundworks associated with the installation of the proposed new rainwater drainage pipework across portions of the north and south churchyard, both culminating in two new soakaway pits. All the proposed new groundworks were contained within the boundary of the churchyard of St Michael and All Angel's Church, Hartlip.</p> <p>Following a predetermined alignments and positioning of soakaway pits by the overseeing architect, the proposed northern drainage works extended perpendicular from the base north-western corner of the north aisle's north wall, adjacent its junction with a suggested anchorite cell, now utilised as a vestry, into the northern portion of the churchyard (Trench 1). A short addition to this alignment extended diagonally from the present vestry's northeast corner, adjacent to its junction with the north aisle's western end, to adjoin with the main trench alignment. At the southern end of both trench alignments, closest to the base of both the north aisle and vestry wall bases, a new silt-trap was included in this installation, whilst at the</p>	

northern end of the main trench alignment a new subterranean soakaway position was formed (Soakaway 1).

Across the southern portion of the churchyard, a short alignment of new drainage trenching extended alongside the existing 'French drain' extending along the base of the south porch's western side wall (Trench 2). At its northern end, adjacent to the junction of the porch's west wall with that of the south aisle's south wall a new silt-trap was installed, whilst its southern end turned towards the east to connect to the western end of an existing ground level, slotted linear drain extending across the base of the south porch doorway. A similar section of trenching was also excavated north – south along the base of the south porch's eastern side wall, though here an east – west continuation along a section of the south aisle's south wall was included (Trench 3). With the inclusion of a silt-trap at its eastern end adjacent a projecting buttress at the south aisle's south-eastern corner, an additional silt-trap was included at the base of the wall junction between the porch's east wall and the south aisle, whilst its southwards continuation past the south porch's south-eastern corner included a westward spur to the eastern end of the slotted linear drain. As the main drain trench alignment extended southwards, immediately before hitting into the tarmac surface to the existing churchyard footpath the trench turned towards the southeast to follow the footpaths northern edge (Trench 4). Extending past the southern side of a pair of iron railed chest monuments to the Ruck family, this trench culminated in a single subterranean soakaway pit (Soakaway 2) adjacent the northern edge of the footpath at a point south of the Lady Chapel's south-eastern corner.

All the groundworks were excavated using a small sized tracked 360degree excavator type machine mostly utilising a narrow toothless bucket for the mains drainage trenching whilst a wider toothless bucket was used for the soakaway pit excavations. Following the main groundwork of each separate trench and soakaway excavation, finishing was achieved using basic hand tools.

Excavation of the proposed new rainwater service trenching and soakaway's extended through the churchyard's grassed surface and into the upper surface of the underlying deposits. These largely consisted of disturbed graveyard soils noted as sealing the upper surface of the underlying Superficial geology. Where this was encountered, mainly in each soakaway position, in both the churchyard's north and south sides, the positions of graves cutting deeper than the trench excavation were discernible

EXTENT OF EXCAVATION (Sizes):

Following agreed routes and positions by the overseeing architect, a series of new below ground piped rainwater drainage routes and soakaways were installed across both the north and south areas of the present churchyard. In total four separate piped drain routes (Trenches 1 – 4) were undertaken with two separate soakaway positions (Soakaway 1 & 2), one each north and south of the church. Of these, all the drainage trenches were cut to a width of 260mm and varied in depth between 300mm nearest the base of the church's walls and gradually increased in depth to roughly 640mm closest to the positions of the new soakaways.

Of the four drainage trenches, Trench 1 measured approximately 3.4m from the base of the north aisle's wall, with a short spur of roughly 1.1m at its southern end. Trench 2 measured approximately 3.75m long with an additional 1m length at its southern end where it turned towards the front of the south porch. Trench 3 extended along the base of the south aisle's southern wall for a length of roughly 3.8m before turning along the base of the south porch's east wall towards the edge of the churchyard footpath for an additional 5.4m where its western side was adjoined by a 1.3m long secondary spur from the front of the south porch. From the southern end of Trench 3, the continuation of this trench alongside the northern edge of the churchyard footpath for approximately 11.5m comprised the alignment of Trench 4.

At the northern end of Trench 1, a single soakaway pit measuring approximately 1.2m square was excavated through the present grassed churchyard ground surface to a depth of roughly 1m below. A similar soakaway pit was also excavated at the south-eastern end of Trench 4, but here, due to the encountering of an existing north – south aligned ceramic drain, its positioning was moved approximately 500mm to the west. Eventually measuring approximately 1.2m square, this excavation extended through the churchyards grassed ground surface to a depth of roughly 1.2m below the present ground surface, which due to a slight slope in this surface caused its excavation to be only 950mm against its southern edge adjacent to the present churchyard footpath.

See attached Fig. 1 for the general site location plan showing the position of St Michael and All Angle's church, The Street, Hartlip in relation to the surrounding semi-rural position with the village of Hartlip. Fig. 2 is a more detailed plan showing the alignment of the proposed new rainwater drainage trenches and soakaway positions both to the north and south of the church, whilst Fig. 3 is a detail of the southern side of the churchyard showing the route of Trench's 3 and 4 and the position of Soakaway 2 in relation with a sizeable double burial monument and the remains of a brick lined, vaulted burial chamber possible predating the larger memorial structure, but possibly representing an earlier family burial position repurposed.

NATURE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION:

Groundworks monitoring, through a scheme of an archaeological watching brief, was continuously undertaken during the mainly machine excavation of all groundwork in connection with the installation of a new below ground mains water drainage with the addition of new below ground soakaway positions to the north and south of the present church building.

This monitoring methodology enabled exposure of any underlying archaeological soils and grave positions to be examined and recorded thoroughly during the excavation of the new rainwater drainage alignments and the new soakaway positions within the surround churchyard.

This procedure enabled any archaeological finds, features, deposits or grave positions that may be encountered along the new service trench alignments, and the locations of the new soakaway positions as they traversed portion of the surrounding churchyard's northern extent and that to the south and southeast of the church's nave.

Though these works were a condition of Faculty granting by the Canterbury DAC, the alignment of the proposed new piped rainwater trenches, extending northwards from the nave's north wall to a soakaway in the northern churchyard, and southeast from either side of the south porch, alongside the existing churchyard footpath to a soakaway to the south of the nave's southeastern corner, meant these fell across an area of archaeological potential as identified by consultation with the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER), a public accessible database containing known archaeological sites, casual discoveries, listed buildings and other archaeological/historical details. Because of this, it was regarded prudent to have all groundworks monitored under these strict archaeological conditions. These also included the formation of a moderate sized pit excavation associated with the installation of a subterranean cess tank within the church carpark, which abutted the churchyard's north-western boundary.

GENERAL SOIL SEQUENCE:

The earliest deposit encountered during the archaeological monitoring of all intrusive groundworks associated with these installations consisted of the upper extent to the underlying natural Superficial geology. Encountered towards the base of both Soakaways 1 and 2, though this was marginally disturbed with natural inclusions unlike the clean nature of the Superficial geology noted across this area by the British Geological Society (BGS). Consisting of a soft – moderate pale – mid orangey brown fine grained silty sandy clay Head deposit. Commonly known as 'Brickearth', due to its properties for its use in brick production, its upper and lower extent within its bedding can possess inclusions throughout such as small angular flints and rounded chalk pellets and flecks due to the deposit's formation mechanism over other Superficial and Bedrock geology. At Hartlip, the noting of similar inclusions of angular flint and chalk pellets was possibly a result of the deposit tailing away towards the northeast, which it is recorded by the BGS as occurring towards the northeast.

Encountered towards the base of both Soakaway pits, evidence of unmarked burials cutting into this deposits upper surface was identified by poorly defined linear disturbances following a general east – west alignment. Possessing an intermixed deposit of soft – firm, friable pale – mid greyish orange/brown fine grained silty, sandy clay with occasional small inclusions of angular flint and rounded chalk pellets throughout, it was largely the slight colour and texture of this deposit which suggested the presence of infilled features, namely graves. Due to the nature of disturbed churchyard deposits, following repeated excavation and infilling of simple earth-cut graves into the upper surface of the underlying Superficial geology, their defined limits are usually difficult to define until the lower portions of the grave are exposed, or the skeletal fragments of the burial, or its coffin remains, are encountered. Whilst in both Soakaway pits, evidence of typical grave infill of intermixed redeposited Superficial geology and previously disturbed graveyard soils were encountered, none of the suspected burials were disturbed. With at least two burial positions identified across the footprint of Soakaway 1 and three burials across the base of Soakaway 2, these are likely to represent either unmarked burials, or once possessing simple wooden marker, which have subsequently disintegrated, or disposed of. Across both Soakaway pit positions the disturbed grave backfill deposit, the upper extent of this being at a depth of roughly 280mm below the present grassed

churchyard ground level was sealed by a deposit of soft – firm, pale – mid grey fine grained silty, sandy clay topsoil. However, noticeable undulations across the upper surface of the graveyard soil, which was subsequently infilled with topsoil, suggestively indicate the positions of graves containing unconsolidated backfill causing the immediate ground surface above to form linear depression upto 440mm deep. Throughout this deposit occasional small angular flint and rounded chalk pellets were present, as well as rare pieces of broken red brick and ceramic roof tile fragments.

Along the line of Trench 1, its relatively shallow depth managed to penetrate through the depth of the covering topsoil and scour the upper surface of the underlying graveyard soils beneath. However, due to the limited width of this trench, and the indiscernibility of identifying individual grave cuts within this deposit, no formal grave alignments, or churchyard features were encountered. At this trench's southern end, the limited excavation of the position for a new silt-trap failed to reveal the base to the north aisle's north wall, or its foundations. Instead, a roughly 400mm wide ledge of concrete, forming the base to a drainage channel, was encountered and partially cut into. These details were also the same with the short spur trench from the base of the aisle wall to the side of Trench 1.

The alignment of Trench 2 was cut through the grassed churchyard surface immediately adjacent the western side of an earlier brick and concrete drainage channel along the base of the south porch's western side wall. Initially cut to lessen the amount of disturbance to this drain, its trench excavation extended through the over lying grassed churchyard ground surface and scouted the underlying churchyard soil upper extent. Clearly this surface, which was like that encountered along the line of Trench 1, had been heavily disturbed, presumably in association with the construction of the brick and concrete drain. Either way, no discernible archaeological features were identified along the trench's length, whilst the position of two new silt-traps immediately against the base of the porch's west wall base failed to expose any historic fabric due to the influence of the existing drain along the base of the wall.

Along the route of Trench 3 a similar scenario was also encountered with the base of the south aisle wall and that to the south porch's east side wall having been disturbed previously by an earlier brick and concrete drainage channel. Extending along the base of the south aisle's south wall before turning towards the south to align along the base of the south porch's eastern side wall, the new trench excavation scoured the upper surface to the graveyard soils and failed to expose any other historic fabric to either the aisle wall or that of the porch side wall. This included the positions of three new silt-trap positions along the new drain's route, which despite requiring a slightly deeper excavation only exposed the disturbed graveyard soils extending to a greater depth.

At the southern end of Trench 3, its realignment towards the southeast created the alignment of Trench 4 as it continued alongside the present churchyard footpath's northern edge to culminate at Soakaway 2. As with the other trench alignments, here also its relatively shallow depth meant it just extended through the depth of the overlying grassed topsoil of the churchyard and scoured across the upper surface of the underlying disturbed graveyard soils. Passing between the southern side of a large

raised double chest monument to members of the Ruck family and the northern edge of the tarmac surfaced churchyard footpath, evidence of a brick lined and vaulted burial chamber was encountered across the base of the trench excavation extending beneath the western monuments southwest corner. Consisting of the upper extent to almost the entire southern side of a single brick width lining of a subterranean chamber, its slight misalignment followed the profile of the occupying coffin's side. Formed of typical reddish/orange unfrosted Kentish stock bricks, no evidence of a bonding mortar was noted across the upper surface of the exposed chamber lining. This contrasted with an exposed portion of the chamber's vaulted roof, which was formed of similar bricks forming a curved surface and bonded with a pale creamy white coarse sandy lime based hard mortar. Typical of the mid-eighteenth century, it was uncertain if these remains represent part of an earlier burial chamber partially destroyed when the adjacent Ruck family's western chest monument was formed, presumably with a vault beneath, or it represents a relict of a series of earlier Ruck family burial plots overlaid by the chest monument in recognition of them when Richard Ruck built his monument forming the eastern chest monument in the early nineteenth century. Either way, the soils capping the brick lining and its vaulted roof consisted of a heavily disturbed mixture of redeposited Superficial geology and 'clumps' of darker, mixed soil. It may be possible this soil layer represents the upcast across the earlier grave alignment during the creation of an adjacent vault used to assist in levelling the immediate southern churchyard area across which the double chest monuments were formed.

FINDS AND NOTES:

Throughout the entire archaeological monitoring process, only limited finds, features or deposits of archaeological interest were encountered. This was largely due to the limited excavation depths necessary for the installation of the new rainwater drainage system across both the north and south portions of the churchyard. Whilst nearly all the new trench alignment excavations failed to extend into the mixed underlying graveyard soils either when crossing the grassed surface of the churchyard, or immediately adjacent the church's walls. With the latter, the creation of a series of brick and concrete drainage channels along the base of the church's walling to dispose of rainwater presumably during the late nineteenth century restoration saw the encasing of the church wall's upper extent to its foundation encased in concrete. This was not required to be removed during this scheme of works and thus the foundations remained covered and protected.

Only during the excavation of two separate soakaway positions, one in the northern churchyard and one in the southern churchyard, were the underlying deposits observed in any detail. Here, the present grassed covered topsoil forming the present churchyard ground surface was found to be of a moderate depth typical of that found in other churchyards. Certainly, across Soakaway 1 possible evidence of unconsolidated grave fills was suggested by a series of slight linear dips in the upper surface of the underlying graveyard soils, which was subsequently infilled with a greater depth of topsoil. Unfortunately, the nature of the underlying graveyard soils makes the identification of distinct grave cuts almost impossible until a greater depth has been reached and the upper surface to the undisturbed geology has been encountered. This was certainly the case here, where the lines of at least two grave positions could be discerned cutting into the undisturbed geology across the base of

the soakaway excavation. A similar scenario was also recorded across the footprint of Soakaway 2 where the alignments of at least three graves were noted across its base. Gladly the depth of the soakaway excavations didn't require the disturbing of the burials in each grave, the skeletal remains of which would survive at a greater depth than the excavation's bases.

Along the line of Trench 4, which followed the northern edge of the church footpath and the southern side of the double chest monument to the Ruck family the encountering of the remains to a brick lined burial chamber with vaulted roof was unexpected. However, examination of period drawing dated 1807 of Hartlip church from the southeast predates the construction of the Ruck monument and clearly shows a row of typical headstones with body stones extending to the east and culminating in smaller footstones. Suggestively these may have been individual graves to the Ruck family arranged within a family plot, each possibly possessing a singular lined burial chamber beneath. When in 1816 (the recorded death of Richard Ruck) the eastern chest monument was constructed with a presumed sizeable vault beneath, the construction of an eastern monument to his ancestors may have seen the exhumation of their graves for placement in the new family vault, or the construction of a new second vault beneath western monument. However, it is also possible the former ancestors' graves were left insitu and the monument raised over with the details of the earlier headstones transposed to the chest monument sides.

FUTURE POTENTIAL OF AREA:

(information redacted from the Archaeological Watching Brief Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for works at St Michael and All Angle's church, Church Hill, Hartlip by Canterbury Archaeological Trust 2024)

Archaeological potential is based on the proximity of archaeological remains presently recorded in the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER-online). In addition, published and grey literature reports produced by CAT have also been checked. The Historic Environment Record search covers a radius of approximately 500m around the PDA (centred on NGR: 583922 164284). These records have been assessed in terms of their relevance to the proposed development and only significant evidence is cited in this report. However, there are few archaeological records in the KHER as there has been little archaeological fieldwork undertaken in the nearby area.

As mentioned above, the church site is situated upon Quaternary period geological deposits and these hold great potential for Palaeolithic remains. A Palaeolithic flint implement is recorded as having been found in a pit near a railway cutting in 1862 (KHER: TQ86 NW8), presumably over 1.1km north-west of the church site. However, closer to the church, a 'stone axe' was found in 1838 at Hartlip (KHER: TQ86 SW7), on the estate of William Bland who lived at Hartlip Place in 1841, which is located 460m south-west of the church site.

Later, possible prehistoric or early Romano-British features are recorded in the wider area, some as cropmarks. A cropmark of a rectilinear enclosure (KHER: TQ86 SW127) has been recorded approximately 850m north-east of the church site, as visible on aerial photographs from c 1990.

The alignment of the major Roman thoroughfare of Watling Street is located 1km to the north of the church site. No Roman period remains are recorded within proximity of the church. However, the site of a Roman villa with a bath building (KHER: TQ86 SW1) is located approximately 1km west-south-west of the church site. The villa remains were revealed in an orchard site in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and included hypocausts and plastered walls, all probably dating to the third- to fourth-century AD. An apparent line of a road was recorded during a dry summer, in a field to the south-west of the villa, on a south-westerly direction. In 1992, cropmarks to the east of the villa site were interpreted as representing the walls of a possible bathhouse and barn. A large square building or ditched enclosure was also recorded along with a linear feature thought to be a drain.

Other archaeological finds comprise an unprovenanced early Denarial silver penny (*sceat*), dated to c 710–715AD (KHER: TQ86 SW120), from the Hartlip area.

Settlement at Hartlip is not mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086. Instead, the closest settlement listed is that of Newington in the Hundred of Milton, which had a recorded population of 96 households under the tenancy of Albert of Lorraine.

The alleged site of a Benedictine nunnery (KHER TQ86 SE4) is located 1km east of the church. A nunnery is thought to have been founded here in the reign of William I, in the King's manor of Newington. However, nothing is known of the nunnery, and it may have merely been a refuge site. The suggestion of once having been a nunnery here is possibly groundless as no traces have ever been found.

The Church of St Michael and All Angels (KHER: TQ86 SW8) is Grade 1 Listed Building (National Heritage List for England (NHLE) entry no. 1320011) and is thought to date from c 1190, with the north and south chapels completely rebuilt, along with the nave, in the fourteenth century. However, upstanding elements of church may date to at least the thirteenth century. Extensive restoration works were undertaken at the church in the mid nineteenth century.

The antiquarian and historian Edward Hasted (1798) describes Hartlip church and part of its history as follows: *'The church is dedicated to St. Michael, and consists of three isles and three chancels, with a square tower at the west end of it, in which hang five bells. King Henry III. in his 9th year, gave the church of Hertlepe, with its appurtenances, to the prior of St. Andrew's, in Rochester. Stephen, archbishop of Canterbury, in 1225, admitted the monks into the possession of this church, to be possessed by them to their own proper uses for ever: saving, nevertheless, a vicarage to be conferred on a proper person at their presentation, who should sustain the burthens of this church, reserving to him, the archbishop, the taxation of the vicarage. Which instrument was confirmed by John, prior, and the convent of the church of Canterbury. The church of Hartlip, together with the advowson of the vicarage, remained part of the possessions of the priory of Rochester till the dissolution of it in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when it was, together with the rest of the possessions of it, surrendered up into the king's hands, who the next year settled it by his dotation-charter on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rochester, where the parsonage and advowson of the vicarage remain at this time. In the 8th year of Richard II. the church of Hartlip was valued at 13l. 6s. 8d.'*

The church is also discussed by Samuel Lewis (1848) as follows: *‘The church is in the decorated style; the north-east chancel has been lately rebuilt, and a handsome font placed in it. Here is a small place of worship for dissenters; and a national school is supported partly by subscription, and partly by an endowment of land given by Mary Gibbon in 1678, and now producing about £32 per annum’.*

The church is located within the centre of Hartlip, in an area of medieval and post-medieval residential and farmstead development. Situated opposite the church lych gate is Thatch Cottage (KHER: TQ86 SW78) which is a timber-framed house of sixteenth-century origin. Hartlip House is located next-door and is of early nineteenth-century date (KHER: TQ86 SW115). Further south along The Street is Yew Cottage, which dates to the seventeenth century (KHER: TQ86 SW107) and Barrows Cottages (KHER: TQ86 SW106), which dates to the sixteenth century. Further north along The Street is Wisteria Cottage (KHER: TQ86 SW104), which dates to the seventeenth century, and Pope’s Hall (KHER: TQ86 SW116), which is one of the oldest buildings in the village and is a fifteenth-century timber-framed hall house. Ivy Cottage (KHER: TQ86 SW64) lies to the west of the church site and is also a fifteenth century timber-framed hall house.

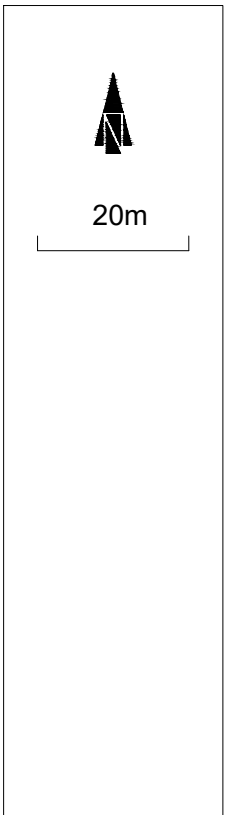
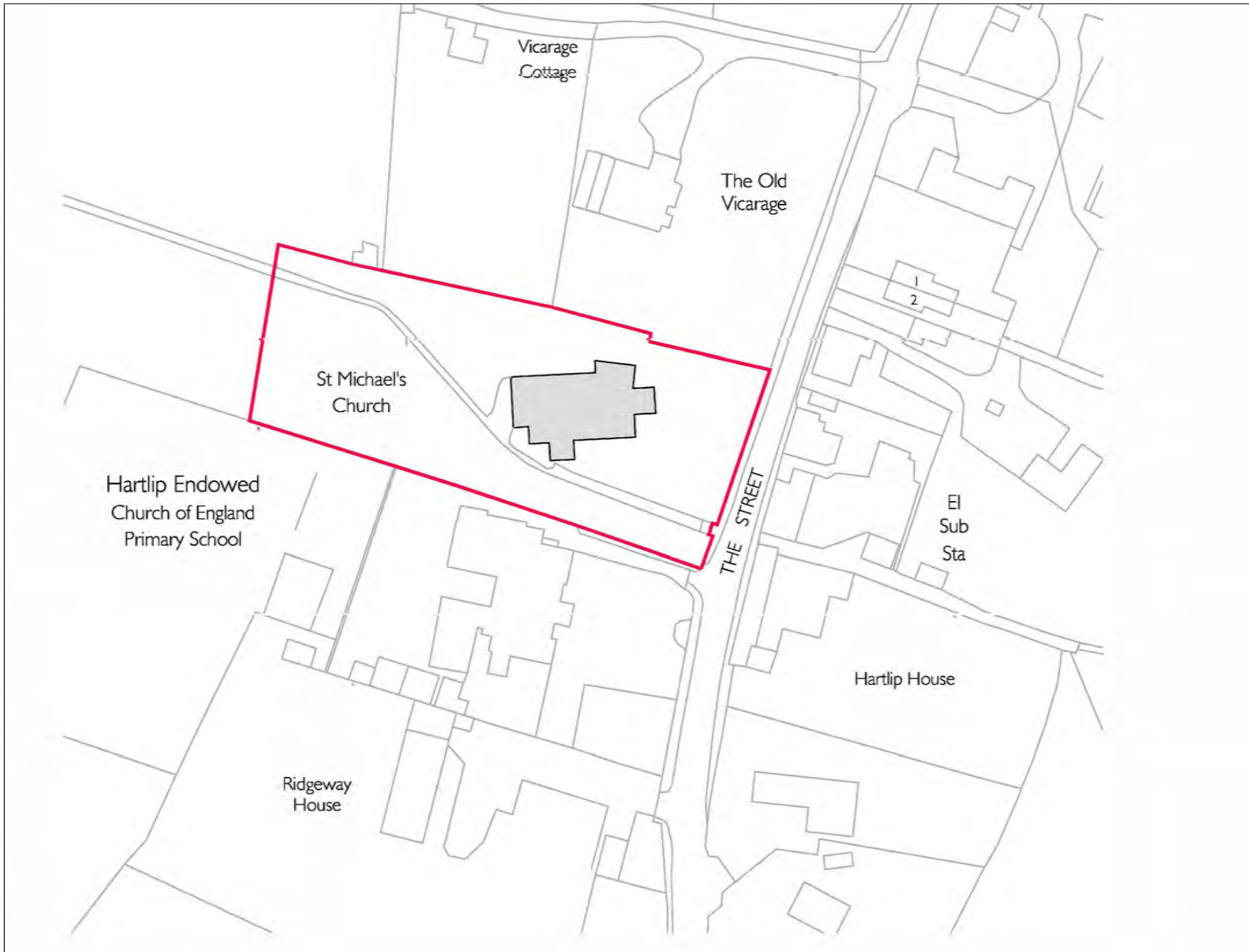
Chest tombs within the associated graveyard of the Church of St Michael and All Angels include those of Adam and Richard Ruck (KHER: TQ86 SW71), located to the south-east of the porch, which date to the early nineteenth century, and the chest tomb of Mary Osborne (KHER: TQ86 SW110), located east of the south chapel, which dates to the seventeenth century.


The present primary school is located on the site of the Hartlip National School (KHER: TQ86 SW177) which is shown on early Ordnance Survey maps of the mid to late nineteenth century. An archaeological watching brief in 1998 at the school site recorded no significant archaeological deposits during monitoring of development groundworks (Rady 1998).

Ordnance Survey maps of the early twentieth century and later aerial photographs and satellite images indicate few major changes to the church site, other than an extension to the churchyard in 1925, and the addition of a single storey extension to the north side of the church (WC) sometime between 2015 and 2018.

Further information on the above is provided in the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER) held and maintained at the County Historic Environment Record held in Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

Though unlikely to be regarded for further development in the immediate near future, any further small-scale groundworks within the general vicinity should be covered by a scheme of an archaeological watching brief at the least, whilst larger development schemes should be subjected to archaeological prospecting evaluation prior to any development submission.



 **C.A.T.**
 Canterbury Archaeological Trust
 92A Broad Street, Canterbury,
 Kent CT1 2LU
 t: 01227 462062
 e: admin@canterburytrust.co.uk
 w: canterburytrust.co.uk

PROJECT
 St Michael and All Angels Church, Hartlip

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Figure 1. Site location

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	St Michael and All Angel's Church, The Street, Hartlip	AL	1:500
92a Broad Street, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2LU Tel 01227 462062 Fax 01227 784724 Email admin@canterburytrust.co.uk	DATE	CHECKED	LAST REVISION
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	CHECKED	REF/DRG NO.	

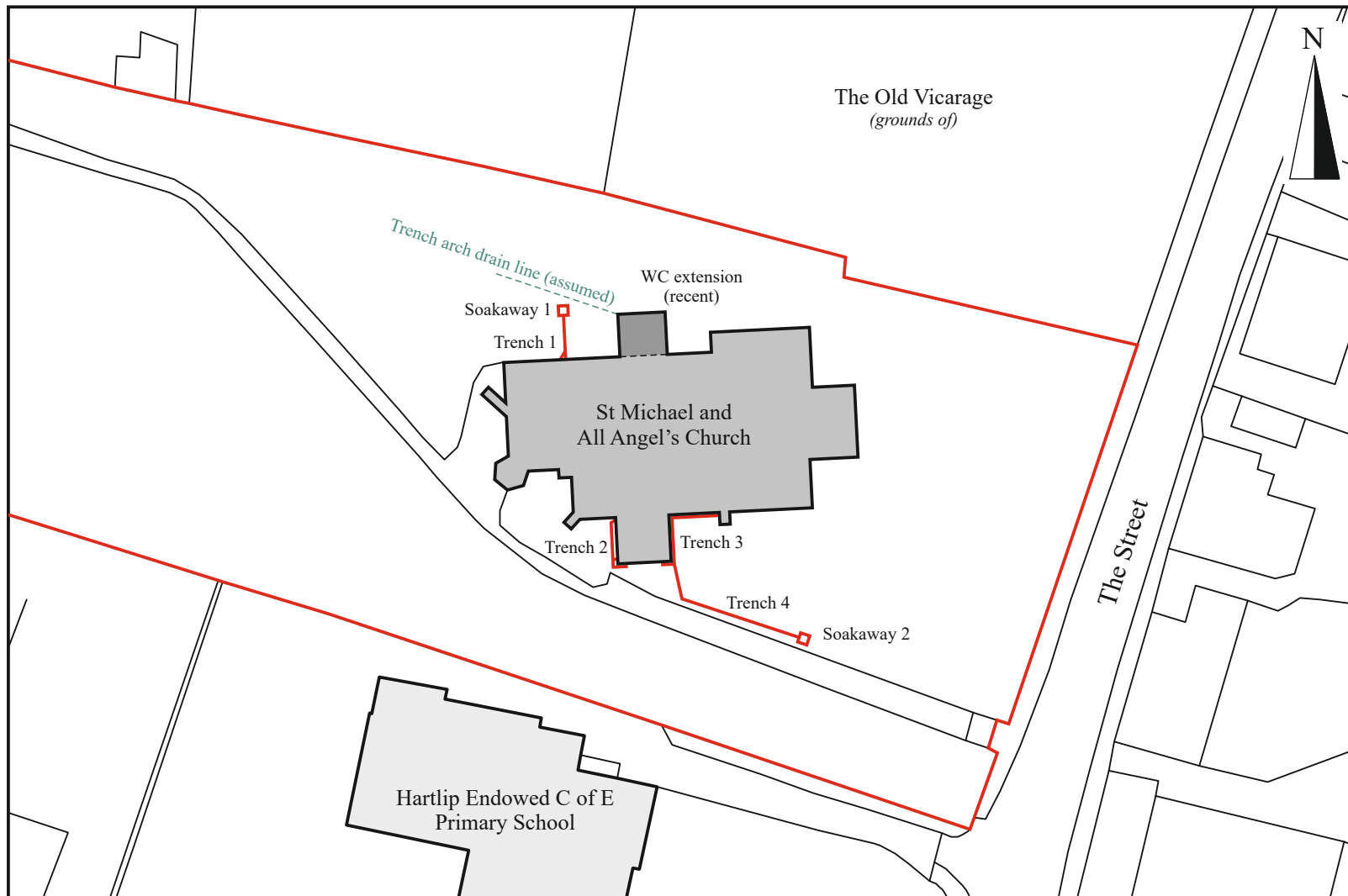


Figure 2. Detailed extract from the modern Ordnance Survey map showing the alignments and positions of the new drainage trenches (Trench 1 - 4) and the positions of the new soakaway positions (Soakaway 1 and 2) in relation to St Michael and All Angel's Church, The Street, Hartlip, Kent.

CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST LTD. <small>A REGISTERED CHARITY</small> <small>92a Broad Street, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2LU</small> <small>Tel 01227 462062 Fax 01227 784724</small> <small>Email admin@canterburytrust.co.uk</small>	<small>PROJECT</small> St Michael and All Angel's Church, The Street, Hartlip	<small>DRAWN BY</small> AL	<small>SCALE(S)</small> 1:100
		<small>DATE</small> 09/12/24	<small>LAST REVISION</small>
		<small>CHECKED</small>	
		<small>REF/DRG NO.</small>	

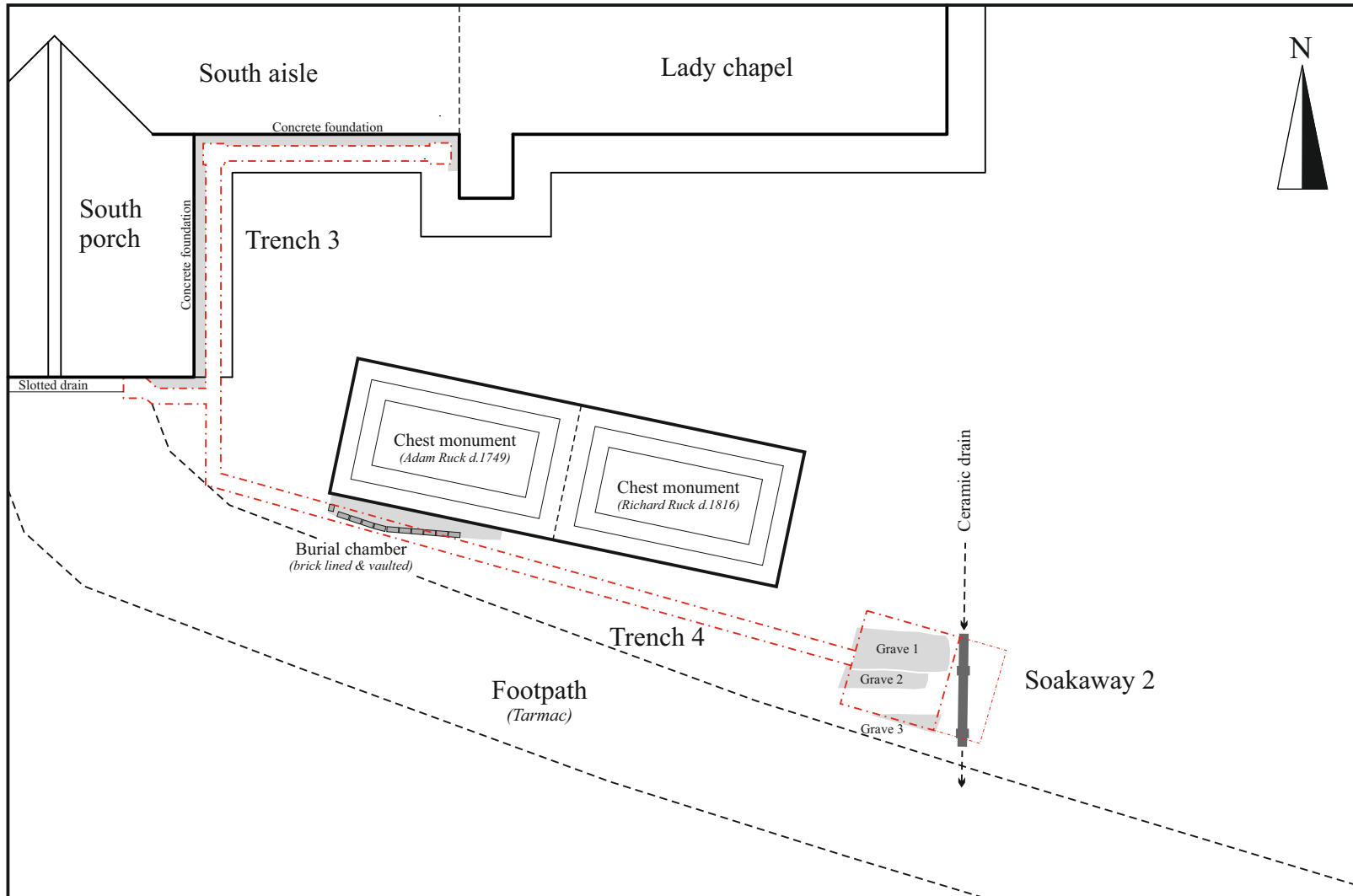


Figure 3. Detailed plan showing alignments of Trench 3 and 4 with Soakaway 2 with grave positions (Grave 1, 2 & 3) with portion of a brick lined, and brick vaulted, burial chamber revealed along Trench 4 adjacent to later double table monument.



Plate 1. General view looking southeast towards the northern side of St Michael and All Angel's Church, The Street, Hartlip showing the area of Trench 1 and Soakaway 1.



Plate 2. General view looking northeast from the north side of the church across the site of Trench 1 and Soakaway 1.



Plate 3. General view looking south along Trench 1 line with Soakaway 1 at its northern end in relation to the nave's northern wall with suggested former anchorite chamber on its western end (*note: side wall of recent extension against the nave's north wall (left).*)



Plate 4. Detailed view looking southeast of Soakaway 1 excavation pit showing topsoil sealing disturbed graveyard soils to depth overlying Superficial geology (*note: disturbance of geology by deeper infilled graves.*)



Plate 5. General view looking north along the proposed line of Trench 2 at the base of the South porch's western wall base from its junction with the south wall of the south aisle to the edge of the churchyard footpath (note: existing 'French drain' along the base of the porch's side wall).



Plate 6. Detailed view looking north along the line of Trench 2 showing its route through the grassed area adjacent the existing 'french drain' with connections to existing rainwater down pipes..



Plate 7. General view looking north across the site of Trench 3 proposed to extend along the base of the South porch's east wall and along the base of the South aisle's south wall base.



Plate 8a. Detailed view looking along the line of Trench 3 showing C.19th concrete porch foundation addition.



Plate 8b. Detailed view looking northeast along the line of Trench 3 showing C.19th concrete foundation addition.



Plate 9. Detailed view looking northeast showing the southern end of trench 2 connecting with the slotted drain across the threshold of the South porch door (top right) (*note: concrete foundation addition to the porch's southern wall base*).



Plate 10. Detailed view looking northwest showing the southern end of Trench 3 connecting with the slotted drain across the threshold of the South porch door (top left) and continuing south to adjoin with the western end of Trench 4 (*note: concrete addition to porch's eastern wall foundation extending along the base of its southern front wall also*).



Plate 11. General view looking northwest along the line of the churchyard tarmac footpath showing the proposed alignment of Trench 4 to culminate in Soakaway 2 near the memorial head and foot stones (*note: the double chest monument to the Ruck family members c.1816 and c.1749*).



Plate 12. General view looking west along the line of Trench 4 showing Soakaway 2 being excavated adjacent the churchyard footpath.



Plate 13. Detailed view looking into Trench 4 line showing southern side of brick lined and vaulted roof burial chamber exposed along the trench base extending beneath the western Ruck (d.1749) family chest monument (*note: iron railed stone plinth to the chest monument*).



Plate 14. Detailed view looking into Trench 4 showing the brick lined burial chamber and vaulted roof extending beneath the stone plinth to the western Ruck family chest monument.



Plate 15. Detailed view looking into Soakaway 2 during its initial excavation showing ceramic drain to earlier drainage system causing the soakaway excavation position to move to the west.



Plate 16. Detailed view looking into Soakaway 2 showing topsoil over disturbed churchyard soils sealing Superficial geology beneath with infilled graves extending beyond the excavation base.



Plate 17. Historic view c.1807 looking northwest of St Michael and All Angel's Church, Hartlip showing head, body and foot stone burial memorials (possibly of earlier Ruck family members?) in the southern churchyard across the site of the later Ruck family chest monument.



Plate 18. Recent view looking similar to above showing the double Ruck family chest monuments on the site of the earlier tradition graves, one of which was encountered in the base of Trench 4.