

St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire

**An Archaeological Recording Action
for the Parochial Church Council**

by Sian Anthony
Thames Valley Archaeological Services
Ltd

Site Code NCRG03/24

December 2003

Summary

Site name: St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire

Grid reference: SU7263 8231

Site activity: Archaeological Recording Action

Date and duration of project: 7th October – 12th December 2003

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Sian Anthony

Site code: NCRG 03/24

Area of site: c. 72 sq m

Summary of results: Many burials of different periods were recovered, including small amounts of coffin fittings and furniture of possible 18th- to 19th-century date. Small amounts of pottery recovered from features suggest early medieval dates for other graves. A medieval ditch with several recuts and a possible pit were located at the southern limit of the site and appears to represent the original boundary of the churchyard. Two sherds of Roman pottery point to a little activity of this period in the area.

Monuments identified: Original southern churchyard boundary

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will partly be deposited with Oxfordshire Museum Service in due course, partly retained by the church.

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St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire An Archaeological Recording Action

by Sian Anthony

Report 03/24

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological recording and monitoring action carried out at St. Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire (SU7263 8231) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Lt Col. G. P. Blaker of Greys Piece, Rotherfield Greys, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 4QG, on behalf of the Parochial Church Council, St. Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys.

Planning permission has been granted (PO1/S0547) by South Oxfordshire District Council for an extension of the existing building to create a hall and other offices for church use. A faculty for the same has also been obtained from the Diocese of Oxford. Permission was subject to a condition which requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological work; the first stage of field evaluation took place in May 2002 (OA 2002), an historic building survey of the Church was also carried out in 2001. A Faculty was granted by the Chancellor of the Diocese to disturb the human remains, but none was to be removed from the premises.

This is in accordance with the Department of the Environment's Planning Policy Guidance, *Archaeology and Planning* (PPG16 1990), and South Oxfordshire District's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr Paul Smith, County Archaeological Officer. The fieldwork was undertaken by Sian Anthony, Sarah Coles, Nick Digby, Simon Cass, Danielle Colls, Natasha Bennett, and Rachel Winfield between 7th October and 12th December 2003, the site code is NCRG 03/24. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be retained by the client, with a copy of the results also deposited at Oxfordshire County Museums Service in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located in the hills of the dispersed village of Rotherfield Greys situated to the west of Henley-on-Thames and the River Thames. The site lies to the south-east of the main concentration of the village and to the south of Greys Court, a National Trust house and original house site of the lords of the manor. Natural geology is River terrace gravels between the 6th (Rassler) and 7th (Harefield) terrace deposits (BGS 1980); this was confirmed in the excavation as a reddish brown sandy gravel that was observed in the areas that contained

natural ground. The site's elevation is 95.63m above Ordnance Datum at the edge of the church, there is a small rise in ground level to maximum of 96.08m which then levels out again to 95.8m AOD.

Archaeological background

The church was originally constructed during the 13th century and although much was rebuilt in 1865 by W. Woodman, some of the 13th-century features survive in the round-headed doorway in the north wall and the chancel. The church was also extended at the western end: it is this extension to which the new development will attach, on the south wall, thus having little or no impact on the surviving medieval fabric of the Church (Munby 2002).

The field evaluation consisted of three trenches placed on the foundation line of the proposed building. It was concluded that at least fourteen burials would be disturbed and estimated a total figure of c. 20 would need to be removed. Many intercutting features thought to be graves were observed but not excavated. Some 18th- or 19th-century coffin fittings were recorded from Trench 3. The archaeological potential was summarised by Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services in the design brief for this project (OCAS 2002).

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the archaeological recording and monitoring action was to excavate any archaeological deposits and burials within the area of development (Fig. 2). This was to involve examination of areas stripped of topsoil and excavation of subsidiary works for a new septic tank and drainage gullies to the west of the main building. Machining was supervised at all times by an archaeologist, and then deposits were hand cleaned and excavated. The original methodology was to excavate the deposits and graves that were affected by the footing trenches only, and all graves that were affected by these trenches were to be excavated fully.

The methodology was revised when the entire area of the building had to be excavated and levelled down to 94.93m AOD, then the footing trenches were excavated a further 300mm to a depth of 94.63m. A smaller area butting the church wall was only excavated to 95.23m AOD, and no further footings were placed in this area, only one grave was affected by this and removed. The new ground works substantially increased the amount of graves affected by the new building.

Revisions to the methodology were also made at the eastern boundary of the site: an existing double grave stone was not to be disturbed by the building works, this lay directly over the edge of the excavation and many graves. These could not be fully excavated due to health and safety implications: a stepped-in edge was left in

around this monument to minimize risk, and no excavation took place near this edge to a level deeper than 1.2m lower than ground level around the grave stone.

Graves were located by uncovering the grave cut with a machine under supervision, then cleaned and excavated by hand. A photographic record was made, then a scaled plan. Graves that were not to be directly disturbed by the groundworks were recorded and given a context number but not excavated. An area to the west of the main excavation was excavated for a new septic tank, and a service trench running from the main building to the tank area was excavated under constant archaeological supervision. The area covered by the septic tank area was to be excavated to over 2.5m deep, so all graves located here were to be lifted (Fig. 6).

Details of all features located are summarized in Appendix 1.

Results

The Churchyard boundary ditch

A ditch, 0.7m wide was uncovered at the southern boundary of the excavation area (Fig. 3, Plate 1) aligned in a NW–SE direction approximately 7m in observable length. On excavation it was shown to consist of an original ditch (22) with two recuts on the northern side (20, 27). The original ditch is almost totally truncated by the later activity, it may have been shallower but with a rounded profile, it is only present at the eastern portion of the ditch and has been totally truncated by pit 25 at the south-west corner. The ditch fill was a dark brown gravelly silt, and pottery recovered from it is dated to the 12th century. The recuts were of a similar shape with a rounded base and 45 degree sides. Feature 25 also had a rounded base and was of a similar depth to the later recuts, the fill on these features was a very similar dark yellow-brown sandy silt with occasional pieces of tile, pebbles and gravel. Finds from the fill of recut (20) combine with some from feature (25) indicating the mixing of the two fills but overall both give a date in the 13th century. A single piece of pottery recovered from the fill of the second recut (27) was dated to the mid 16th century, this may be an intrusive piece or could indicate the real longevity of the boundary ditch as a feature in the landscape. A series of 30L samples was taken from the ditch and its recuts for environmental processing but no finds or charred seeds were recovered. The ditch was partially excavated and erroneously recorded as a grave in evaluation trench 1.

A possible pit (25) was also recorded in the south-western corner of the excavation. As the full shape could not be ascertained, it is possible it could be another ditch recut. It cut the first ditch recut (20) but not the second recut (27) (Fig. 7).

Victorian Soakaway

The area butting the church wall was severely truncated at the north-western corner by a large soakaway (36) constructed for the Victorian additions. The drainage was still present and in working order when uncovered by groundworks, draining from gutters from the church roof. It is likely that it was constructed during the extensive building works in 1865. It was constructed of layers of bricks and then flint nodules, the base was covered in sand. The brick cover was damaged by machine but it was hoped that the structure could be left intact with minor modifications to the groundworks plan. It had truncated at least one grave (16) and potentially more that were not uncovered by the current groundworks.

Grave markers

Only two gravestones were visible before excavation took place, that of the double grave located on the eastern edge of the area and the Reverend Pindar monument, on the south-east corner. On excavation, two carved stone blocks were located (1, 2). These, however, did not mark a particular grave, but may have been disturbed and replaced there in some reorganization of the graveyard. One consisted of two stone slabs that tapered to the east to 0.25m wide, however, in total it only measured *c.*1.6m in length and was only 0.2m deep. This was identified in evaluation trench 3 in the north-eastern corner.

The second grave marker was aligned in the same direction but placed 0.5m further to the east, so it was in the baulk of evaluation trench 3, but not observed. This was smaller, only *c.*1m long and 0.38m wide but thicker at 0.4m with a rounded head. It was also broken in two and was tapered at the foot end. The size indicates it may have marked a child's grave rather than an adult's.

During excavations, the monument to Reverend Pindar and his wife was moved. Directly underneath the central stone cross of this monument lay a separate disturbed headstone that was being used to support it. The headstone lay at 95.86m just below the topsoil lying face up; the inscription read:

To the memory of
Robert Perrin
Who departed this life
April 20th 1790
Aged 83 years
Also Elizabeth his Wife
Who departed this life
April 27th 1777
Aged 68 years

The headstone was decorated with a Grecian urn and rosette pattern at the top.

Graves

Before excavation the area consisted of a raised mound of earth that sloped down to the church wall and then up in a gentle slope before it levelled out to the south end of the excavation area. It was thought this might be build-up of grave earth from many burials; excavation did indeed show that there were more burials in this general area but that they were deeply buried. The build up of earth was a loose mixture of graveyard soil with only disarticulated bone material, and included two stone grave markers. It is likely that this build up of earth was either partially created, or highly disturbed by the Victorian rebuilding programme.

Seventy-four graves were located during the excavations but not all were excavated (Figs 3–5); many (22) were observed and recorded but were not to be affected by groundworks so could be left *in situ*. It is difficult to date or phase Christian burials without stratigraphic evidence and fortuitous dateable finds. Occasional pottery pieces recovered from grave fills are likely to be residual and the entire area of this much-used burial ground (Plate 2) was disturbed by each burial and then by later works and reorganization of the grounds and church. Some ideas may be suggested by the relative depths of graves: the Health and Safety Act of 1856 decreed that burials should be placed at six feet (1.87m), therefore the graves that cut through substantial numbers of earlier graves and were deeper may be from this date or after. Care should, however, be taken with this method, as there was a trend from the 18th century to dig graves deeper before there was a legal obligation to do so. More significantly, the graves that contained metal coffin fittings or remains of wood were generally deeper and cutting through other features: these graves are nominally placed as later post-medieval graves. There are 20 graves that can be placed in this category, ranging from grave 19 with the possible 18th century name plate to the Harriss burial at 1853, up to Revd Pindar and his wife at the turn of the 19th century. All of these graves except the Pindars' respected the churchyard boundary and were laid in reasonably clear lines although some were fairly close against the wall.

It is possible that shallower cuts could represent earlier, medieval graves, however there is no way to confirm this archaeologically despite the fact that some of the shallower graves contained pottery from the 12th century. There is no pattern found from the plan of the graves, but it is difficult to assess this, as much of the internal area was not excavated to the same depth, it is likely that many more graves were to be located below the excavated levels. Graves 115, 116 and 117 that were observed but not excavated attest to the greater number that are likely to be present. The areas excavated for the service trench also showed great disturbance although only reaching an average depth of *c.* 0.8m from present ground level (94.9m AOD). It was rarely clear enough to be able to observe distinct grave cuts. It is only in the further reaches of the service trench that there seem to be

fewer graves, although much disturbance from surrounding graves was evident in the trench walls. The septic tank area contained only four graves, although all were located at *c.* 94.4m, a depth of *c.* 1.25m from present ground surface, indicating that grave diggers were not quite achieving the six foot depth required in the mid-19th century.

No patterns in terms of preferred burial positions were observed for juveniles over adults, or males over females, but with only a small portion of the churchyard excavated to do analysis of this kind would be inaccurate. All individuals were buried supine, with their heads at the west, most had hands folded over their pelvis, and legs together indicating in many cases that they may have been shrouded in some form to keep their limbs close together. Only one individual (163) had their hands crossed over their chest and placed over their right shoulder. No grave goods or personal jewellery was recovered in any grave.

Finds

Under the terms of the Faculty, no finds or human remains were to be removed from the church grounds. Special permission was granted for analysis of the ceramic finds but nothing else was removed from site.

Coffin fittings by Sian Anthony

Twelve graves had metal coffin fittings, of these six were excavated and kept with the individual, the rest were observed but not excavated as they could be left undisturbed *in situ*. They were coffin grips, head and foot plates, with coffin nails and studs all of similar construction from the 18th and 19th centuries, according well with the coffin grips located in the evaluation (Munby 2002; Reeve and Adams 1993). Grave 19 contained a large tinned iron name plate with repoussé decoration that was unfortunately indecipherable, however it is very similar in design to one found at the Cross Bones Burial Ground in Southwark, London which has a probable date of between the late 18th century and the closure of the burial ground in 1853 (Brickley and Miles 1999). However, a grave (505) found while excavating for the septic tank also had a breast plate, also of tinned iron with the inscription:

SARAH HARRISS,
Died 13th October 1853,
Aged 52 years.

This had a decorative rope effect on the edges with a repoussé urn and scrolled decoration at the top, the lettering was of a gold leaf(?) transfer effect with the name in capitals and the rest in copperplate lettering. Many

coffin nails and studs were recovered, mostly of iron but including a few of a copper alloy (presumably brass). Many had remains of the coffin wood corroded around them.

Traces of wooden coffins were observed in other graves and wood remains surrounded corroded nails and hinge plates. Of the three infants excavated, one was a possible neonate (51) buried in a pitch pine coffin (55), although the surrounding coffin walls were little more than black stains in the soil. The bones themselves were disturbed and poorly preserved; some shroud pins were also found from around the skeleton. The depth of this grave, survival of the coffin and the level of intercutting suggests that this infant was from a more recent period. Shroud pins were found in a few contexts, mostly of iron but some from the neonate burial (51) were of a copper alloy.

Human Bone *by Sian Anthony*

No skeletal analysis was undertaken however some on-site field observations using standards developed by Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994) could be undertaken to record the possible sex, age and pathological features on the excavated individuals. A short summary is available in Appendix 2. Only two individuals (80 and 558) were observed closely under field conditions at the request of the client. These can lead to only an assessment of the skeletons, not a thorough, accurate and final skeletal report.

Analysis of the individual in grave 19 led to a conclusion that it was of a young adult male of perhaps 25–30 years who had some tooth loss and caries and two likely abscesses in the maxilla. Measurement of the limb bones suggest a height of 1.73m (5ft 6in), slightly higher than the mean stature measurement for the average Georgian Londoner but much higher than the average Victorian (Werner 1998). Unusual skeletal changes in the femori and pelvis, particularly the femoral head, indicated heavy activity, with a mushrooming of the head and obliteration of the fovea. Robust muscle attachments along the length of the linea aspera indicated strongly muscled upper legs and an active lifestyle. The few vertebrae that were not destroyed by the corrosion of the name plate on the chest of this individual show no signs of osteophytic change and no Schmorl's nodes to indicate a heavy working life that affected the spine. The individual was buried in a richly decorated coffin indicating some relatively high status in life. It is possible that the individual may have been an active person, possibly a horse rider, this may explain some of the skeletal changes observed.

The second individual studied closely was Sarah Harriss (grave 505, skeleton 558), the only named person excavated. The analysis showed a relatively small woman of perhaps 1.54m (5ft) stature which is just under the mean average for females of this period (Werner 1998) with some signs of osteoporosis and very few teeth left.

The skeletal signs on the pelvis accorded well to the age given of 52 years at death, and the sexual characteristics were also strongly female (Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994).

The majority of individuals were adults of indeterminate age, although field observations could not give an accurate age description. Many individuals were in a poor state of preservation and could not be assessed in the less than optimal conditions. Forty could be described as adult, with some a little closer aged, 13 as juveniles of varying ages with three infants or possible neonates. Of the adult individuals 13 were assigned as potential male, seven as potential females, although most were not determined.

Several pathological changes were also noted during excavation, individual 174 (grave 43) was a teenager with a pitted and curved spine, two or three vertebrae of the lower thoracic region were affected with pitting and destruction of cortical and trabecular bone, with some angulation occurring. There is a possibility that it may have been caused by tuberculosis, although a firm diagnosis cannot be reached (Ortner and Putschar 1981). A similar scoliosis of the spine was observed in individual 560 (grave 506) although no time was available to observe any further conditions exhibited by the skeleton. Observations on Sarah Harriss showed some signs of possible osteoporosis in bones of the ribs, vertebrae, pelvis and femoral heads. This is described as a reduction in thickness of the cortical and trabecular bone (Ortner and Putschar 1981). There are a number of causes although it is generally accepted that age is a large factor in this disease, with females affected more than males, due to severe hormonal changes after the menopause.

Dental problems were also noted although the general lack of wear and caries indicate diets poor in sugars unlike modern populations. An exception to this was individual 80 with severe caries, ante mortem tooth loss and two possible abscesses. This may also show a high-status individual who had access to sugar-rich foods. Hypoplastic lines were observed on the upper incisors of individual 189 (grave 102), these are lines in the tooth enamel that may indicate a time of disease, injury or stress during the formation of the enamel in childhood. They are commonly seen in burial populations and will last through adulthood, unlike similar markers in bones (Brothwell 1981).

Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 48 sherds with a total weight of 605g. All the pottery was of earlier medieval (12th – early/mid 13th century) date, with the exception of two sherds (32g) of Roman greyware and a single sherd (16g) of early post-medieval redware. The pottery was recorded utilizing the coding system and chronology of the Oxfordshire County type-series (Mellor 1984; 1994), as follows:

OXAG: Abingdon ware, mid/late 11th – mid 14th century. 14 sherds, 258g.
OX162: South-east Oxfordshire ware, Henley type, 12th – 14th century. 25 sherds, 198g.
OXAM: Brill/Boarstall ware, AD1200 – 1600. 4 sherds, 87g.
OXDR: Red Earthenwares, 1550 onwards. 1 sherd, 16g
In addition, the following, not included in the Oxfordshire type-series, was also noted:

'M40' type ware, ?Late 11th – 14th century (Hinton 1973). So-called due to it first being noted at sites excavated along the line of the M40 motorway. Hard, flint and limestone unglazed ware, with a possible source at the kiln at Camley Gardens near Maidenhead (Pike 1965). Known at numerous sites in south Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Some vessels have distinctive vertical combing on the body. 2 sherds, 14g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Appendix 3. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*.

The pottery assemblage indicates that the medieval activity at the site was relatively short-lived, and mainly confined to the earlier part of the period, ie the 12th – earlier 13th century. The bulk of the assemblage comprises unglazed coarsewares, with perhaps the most telling chronological indicator being the lack of Surrey Whitewares. Such pottery is fairly common on sites in this area of the Thames Valley from the second quarter of the 13th century onwards, but none was present here. The most likely explanation for its absence is chronological, and that medieval activity had ceased by that time.

Another point worthy of note is the presence of two sherds of OXAG in context 83, both from a glazed jug with brown and yellow slip decoration which can only be a copy of the Rouen-style of jug. The original French examples were extensively copied by the potters of the London Ware industry in the first half of the 13th century (Pearce et al 1985). The vessel from this site appears to be a Abingdon-type ware copy of a London vessel, as they are found at sites in the area, whereas the French originals are rarely found outside the ports of entry. The context in which the sherds occurred at this site has thus been dated to the first half of the 13th century on stylistic grounds. Also of note is a cross-fit between two sherds of an OXAG glazed jug, one from context 83 and the other from context 91.

Other Finds by Sian Anthony

Small amounts of brick and tile were recovered, mostly from unstratified contexts. However, there was a small concentration of coloured tile from the north-eastern corner of the trench, in the graveyard soil. The tiles resemble those in the floor of the Chapel and are coloured with a yellow and green glaze but not decorated. They do not resemble those in the porch of the church which are similar to medieval tiles from the village of Penn, Buckinghamshire.

Conclusion

The recording action has located many more features than originally expected. The graveyard has shown intensive use in the area to be built upon. The density of the graves recovered indicates that the excavation area located part of the original early medieval churchyard bounded by the ditch at the south end of the excavation area. The recording of 74 graves in an area totalling little more than 80 square metres showed many burials cutting through earlier ones until extension of the original graveyard allowed greater space for burials.

The graveyard was found to be bounded by a ditch at the far south end of the excavation area. This ditch curved round slightly in the excavation and may have been curving around the end of the original church. Substantial recuts of later dates indicate a long use period extending possibly up to the mid 16th century. Possibly the churchyard was bounded by a ditch around the southern edges but by a more substantial boundary/wall at the northern side where it fronted a main road. The church backs onto open fields so a ditch (probably with hedge) may have been an adequate marker at this time. The graveyard has only been extended in modern times (*c.* 1920's; Rev. Bailey, pers. comm.), and it is uncertain what sort of boundary was present in the post medieval period.

All the graves respected this boundary except the most recent graves of the Rev. Pindar and his wife who died at the end of the 19th century, one of these cut through the ditch (Fig. 3). The density of graves was markedly less at the southern end. Nearer the boundary there were fewer intercutting graves unlike the areas closer to the church which had up to five, six and seven intercutting features of varying periods. It is likely that more were located directly next to the original church wall but may have been heavily disturbed by the later Victorian rebuilding and particularly in the excavation area by the addition of the soakaway in the north-western corner of the area. Although this feature is recorded as cutting only one grave to the east and potentially one to the west, it is likely that many more were destroyed by it but were not uncovered.

An interesting possibility is raised by the pottery found amongst the graves, it accords well with the construction of the church in the 13th century, but also indicates some slightly earlier activity before this in the 12th century. No church is mentioned in Domesday Book or in later documentary sources, although Rotherfield Greys was recorded as a relatively established and affluent settlement in 1086 (Williams and Martin 2002, 443). However this does not preclude the possibility of a wooden structure or activity on the site before the stone church was constructed.

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APPENDIX 1: Feature details

Type	Cut.	Fill	Skeleton	Depth (m)	Comment	Dating
Grave Slab	1	-	-	95.86		Redeposited
Grave Slab	2	-	-	95.79		Redeposited
Grave	3	65	50	95.46		
Grave	4	97	98	95.27	Coffin, feet left in baulk	
Grave	5	56	51	95.18	(55) wood (pine resin?) coffin	
Grave	6	58	52	95.17	Skull only, most left in baulk	
Grave	7	57	53	95.2	Most left in baulk	
Grave	8	63	54	95.36	Legs left in baulk	13th c pottery
			Second Skeleton (64)	95.36	Legs left in baulk	
Grave	9	60	59	96.01		
Grave	10	61	62	95.21		
Grave	11	69	68	95.05		
Grave	12	67	66	95.4		12th c pottery
Grave	13	71	70	95.13		
Grave	-	-	72	95.22		
Grave	14	73	NOT EXC	95.22	Coffin fittings	
Grave	15	75	74	95.22		
Grave	16	77	76	95.47	Very disturbed	
Grave	17	79	78	95.14	Complete	
Grave	18		NOT EXC	95.14		
Grave	19	82	80	95.24	(81) coffin fittings	
Ditch	20	83	-	94.97 (base)		13th c pottery??
Grave	21	85	84	95.16		
Ditch recut	22	86	-	94.83 (base)		12th c pottery
Grave	23	88	87	95.24		Roman? Pottery
Grave	24	89	90	94.91	Fragments only	
Pit?	25	91		94.77 (base)		13th century
Grave	26	94	92	95.01	Truncated, feet left in baulk	
Ditch recut	27	93	-	95.03 (base)		mid 16th century
Grave	28	96	95	95.01	Truncated, lower half left in baulk	
Grave	29		NOT EXC	95.01	Coffin	
Grave	30	150	99	95.13	Upper half, rest in baulk	
Grave	31	152	151	94.93	Upper half, rest in baulk	
Grave	32	154	153	94.9	Upper half, rest in baulk	
Grave	33	155	156	95.23		
Grave	34	158	157	94.96	Feet left in baulk	
Grave	35	161	160	94.97		
Grave	36	162	163	95.22		12th century pottery
Headstone	37	-	-	95.86		
Soakaway	38			95.37		
Grave	39	167	166	95.1	truncated	
Grave	40	169	168	95.1	truncated	12th c pottery
Grave	41	171	170	94.97	Rev. Pindar or wife. Wood coffin	20th century
			NOT EXC			
Grave	42	173	172	95.06	Truncated	12th c pottery
Grave	43	175	174	94.98		
Grave	44	177	176	95.19	truncated	12th c pottery
Grave	45		NOT EXC	95.19	Coffin	
Grave	46	180	178	94.97	truncated	
Grave	47	181	179	94.96	truncated	
Grave	48		NOT EXC			
Grave	49	183	182	94.98		
Grave	100		184	94.98		
			NOT EXC			
Grave	101	185	185	95.07	truncated	
Grave	102	188	187	95.07		12th c pottery
Grave	103	190	189	94.94		12th c pottery?
Grave	104	192	191	95.07		12th c pottery
Grave	105	193	NOT EXC	94.96	Some coffin observed	
Grave	106	195	194	94.85 (base)		12th c pottery
Grave	107	197	196	95.15		
Grave	108	251	250	94.91 (base)		
Grave	109		NOT EXC	95	Rev. Pindar or wife. Coffin	
Grave	110	254	NOT LIFTED	95.35	Skull cleaned, rest left in situ	
Grave	111		NOT EXC	94.96		
Grave	112		NOT EXC	94.97	Coffin	
Grave	113		NOT EXC	94.96		

<i>Type</i>	<i>Cut.</i>	<i>Fill</i>	<i>Skeleton</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Dating</i>
Grave	114		NOT EXC	94.98		
Grave	115		NOT EXC	95.1		
Grave	116		NOT EXC	95.05		
Grave	117		NOT EXC	95.04		
Grave	118	259	198	95.03		
Grave	119	258	199	95.03		12th c pottery
Grave	120			-	Second label for grave cut 100	
Grave	121	262	263	94.9		
Grave	122	264	265	-	Second label for grave cut 104	
Grave	123	266	NOT EXC	-		13th c pottery
Grave	500	553	550	95.22		
Grave	501	551	552	94.94		
Grave	502	555	554	95		
Grave	503	556	NOT EXC	94.94		
Grave	504	557	NOT EXC	95.12		
Grave	505	559	558	94.28 (base)	(564) coffin	1853
Grave	506	561	560	94.33 (base)	(565) coffin	Victorian?
Grave	507	562	NOT EXC	94.36		Victorian
Grave	508	563	NOT EXC	94.36		Victorian

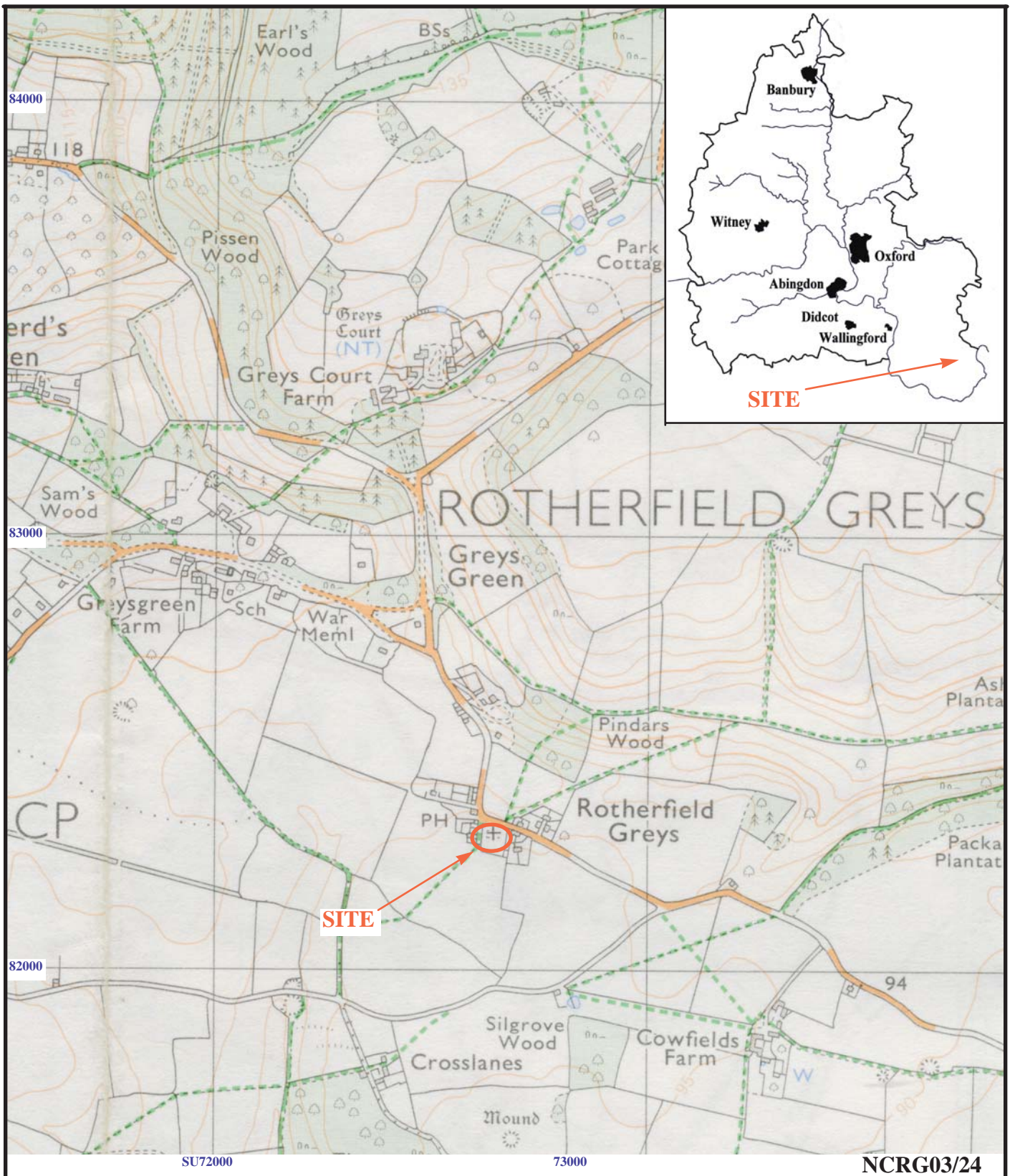
APPENDIX 2: Summary of osteological observations

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Skeleton</i>	<i>Fill</i>	<i>Coffin</i>	<i>Trunc?</i>	<i>Complete</i>	<i>Pres.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Comments</i>
3	50	65		Y	1/3	G	J-3-6	X	
4	98	97			<1/2	P	Adult	Male	
5	51	56	55		<1/2	P	Infant	X	
6	52	58			1/3	F	Adult		
7	53	57		Baulk	1/3	F	Adult		
8	54	63		Disturbed	2/3	G	Adult	Male	
	64				Complete	G	J -13-16	X	
9	59	60			1/2	P	Adult		
10	62	61			Complete	P	Adult		
11	68	69			Complete	G	20-30	Female	
12	66	67			<1/2	P	Adult	Male	
13	70	71			<1/2	P	Adult		
	72				1/3	P	Infant		
14	Not exc	73	Y		-	-	-	-	Adult sized
15	74	75			2/3	P	J -6-7	X	
16	76	77		Disturbed	1/3	P	Adult	Female	
17	78	79			2/3	P	J - 19-21	X	
18	Not exc				-	-	-	-	Adult sized
19	80	82	81 fittings		Complete	G	25-30	Male	
21	84	85			2/3	P	J - 10-12	X	
23	87	88	Wood		Complete	G	Adult	Male	
24	90	89			<1/3	F	Adult		
26	92	94		Y	<1/2	F	Adult		
28	95	96		Y	<1/3	P	Adult		
29	Not exc				-	-	-	-	Adult sized
30	99	150		Baulk	1/2	G	Adult		
31	152	151		Baulk	1/2	G	J - 17-21	Male	
32	153	154		Baulk	1/2	G	25-35	Female	
33	156	155			<1/2	P	Adult		
34	157	158			2/3	F	Adult	Female	
35	160	161			<1/2	G	Adult	Female	
36	163	162			Complete	P	Adult		arms crossed over chest small adult
39	166	167		Y	<1/2	P	Adult		
40	168	169		Y	<1/2	P	Adult		
41	Not exc	171	Wood		-	-	Adult	-	Rev Pindar
42	172	173		Y	2/3	P	Adult	Male	
43	174	175			Complete	G	J - <16 mid teens	X	Possible tuberculosis in spine?
44	176	177		Y	2/3	P	J - 8-10	X	
45	Not exc				-	-	-	-	Adult sized
46	178	180		Y	2/3	F	Adult	Male	
47	179	181		Y	1/2	F	J - 5-6	X	
48	Not exc				-	-	-	-	Adult sized
49	182	183		Y	1/3	F	J - <16	X	
100	Not exc	184?			-	-	-	-	Adult sized
101	187	188		Baulk	2/3	G	25-30	Male	
102	189	190		Y	2/3	F	35-45	Male	Hypoplastic lines rest exc?
103	191	192		Baulk	1/3	F	Adult	Male	
104	Not exc	193	Y		-	-	-	-	Adult sized
105	194	195			1/3	F	Adult		
106	196	197			1/2	F	Adult		Not exc., cleaned?
107	250	251		Y	1/3	F	Adult		
108	Not exc				-	-	-	-	
109	Not exc.				-	-	Adult	-	Not lifted
110					-	G	Adult	-	Not exc
111	Not exc				-	-	-	-	
112	Not exc		Y		-	-	-	-	
113	Not exc				-	-	-	-	
114	Not exc				-	-	-	-	
115	Not exc				-	-	-	-	
116	Not exc				-	-	-	-	
117		198			<1/2	-	Adult		
118					1/2	-	Adult		
119									Second label for cut 100
120	263	262		Y	1/3	F	Adult		
121	265	264							Second label for cut 104
122	Not exc	266			-	-	-	-	Adult sized
123	Not exc.				-	-	-	-	
500	550	553		Disturbed	<1/3	P	Infant	X	
501	552	551			C	G	Adult	M	
502	554	555		Baulk	1/3	G	Adult		
503	Not Exc	556		Baulk	-	-	-	-	Adult sized
504	Not Exc	557		Baulk	-	-	-	-	Adult sized

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Skeleton</i>	<i>Fill</i>	<i>Coffin</i>	<i>Trunc?</i>	<i>Complete</i>	<i>Pres.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Comments</i>
505	558	559	(564) coffin		C	G	Adult – 52	F	Sarah Harriss
506	560	561	(565) coffin		C	G	Adult	F	Older adult – spinal pathology?
507	Not Exc	562		Baulk	-		-	-	Adult sized
508	Not Exc	563		Baulk	-	-	-	--	Adult sized

APPENDIX 3: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

F	Fabric Ctxt	RB		OX162		M40		OXAG		OXAM		OXDR		Date
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
U/S		1	27	2	9									U/S
U/S	50E52N							1	75					U/S
U/S	50E55N			1	7									U/S
U/S	53E53N			4	40									U/S
U/S	53E59N									1	59			U/S
U/S	55E59N							1	7					12thC
8	63									1	2			13thC
12	67							1	4					12thC
20	83			4	35			4	95					13thC??
22	86			5	17			1	6					12thC
23	88	1	5											RB?
25	91							2	27	1	20			13thC
27	93											1	16	M16thC
36	162			1	14									12thC
40	169					1	3							12thC
42	173			2	5									12thC
44	177							1	4					12thC
102	188			1	9									12thC
103	190							2	35					12thC?
106	194			1	13									12thC
119	258			4	49			1	5					12thC
104	192					1	11							12thC
123	266									1	6			13thC
	Total	2	32	25	198	2	14	14	258	4	87	1	16	



**St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys,
Oxfordshire, 2003
An Archaeological Recording Action**

Figure 1. Location of site within Rotherfield Greys and Oxfordshire.

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THAMES VALLEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SERVICES

NCRG03/24

St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire, 2003



82400

The Maltsters Arms

St Nicholas Church

82300

Septic tank

Extension

SU72600

72700

0

100m

Figure 2. Detailed location of site.

NCRG03/24



St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire, 2003

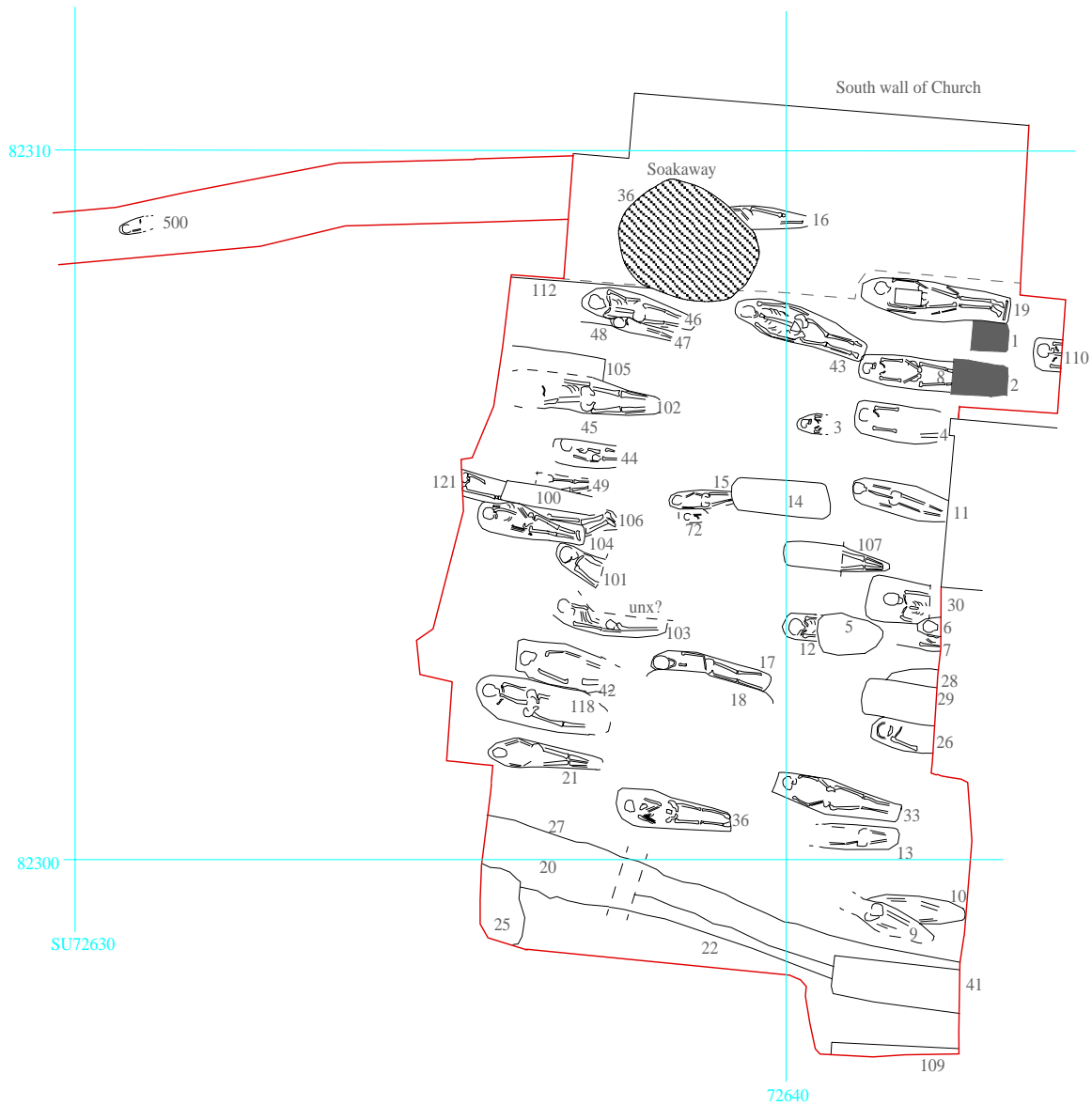


Figure 3. Plan of uppermost graves and ditch.

St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire, 2003

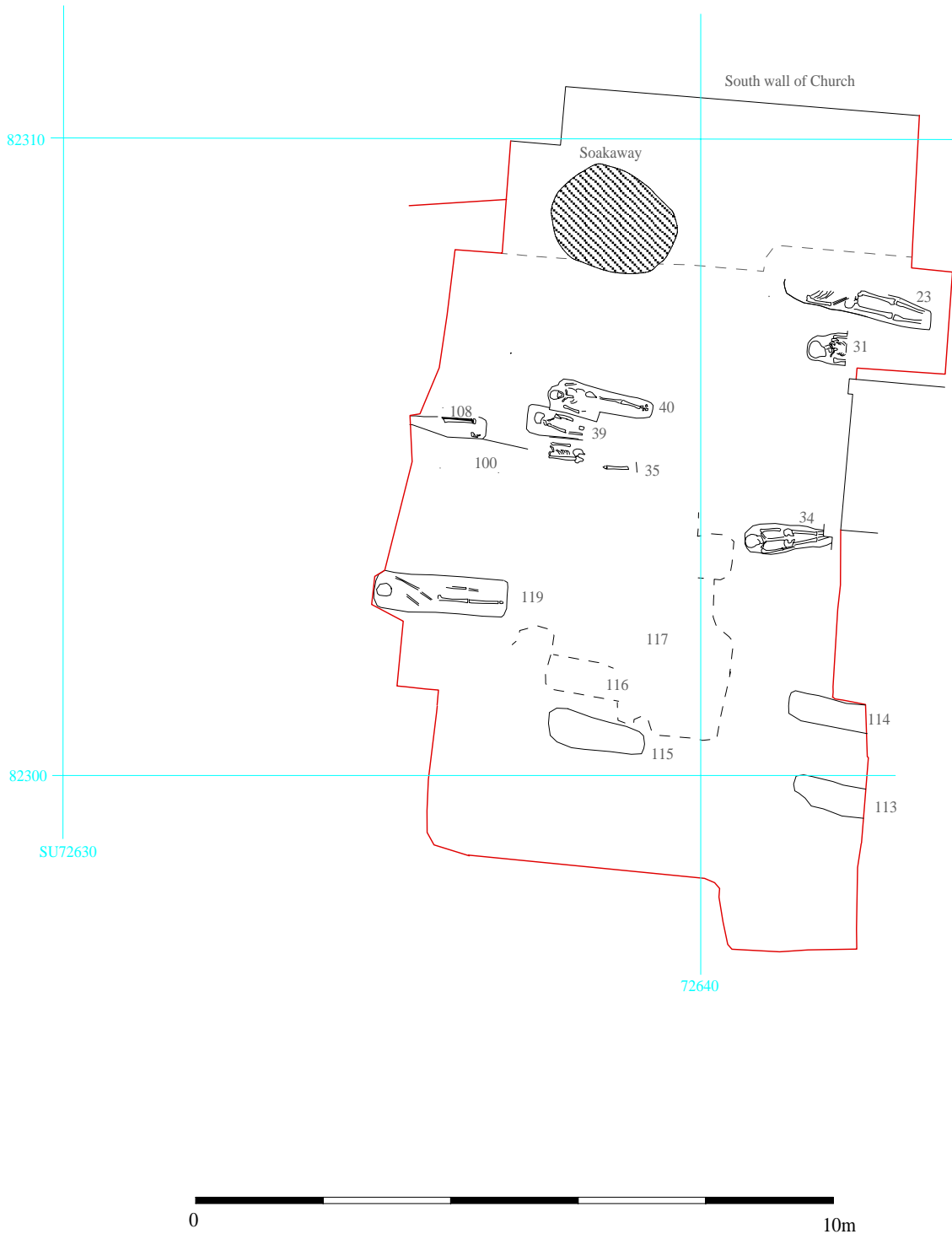


Figure 4. Plan of lower graves.

St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire, 2003

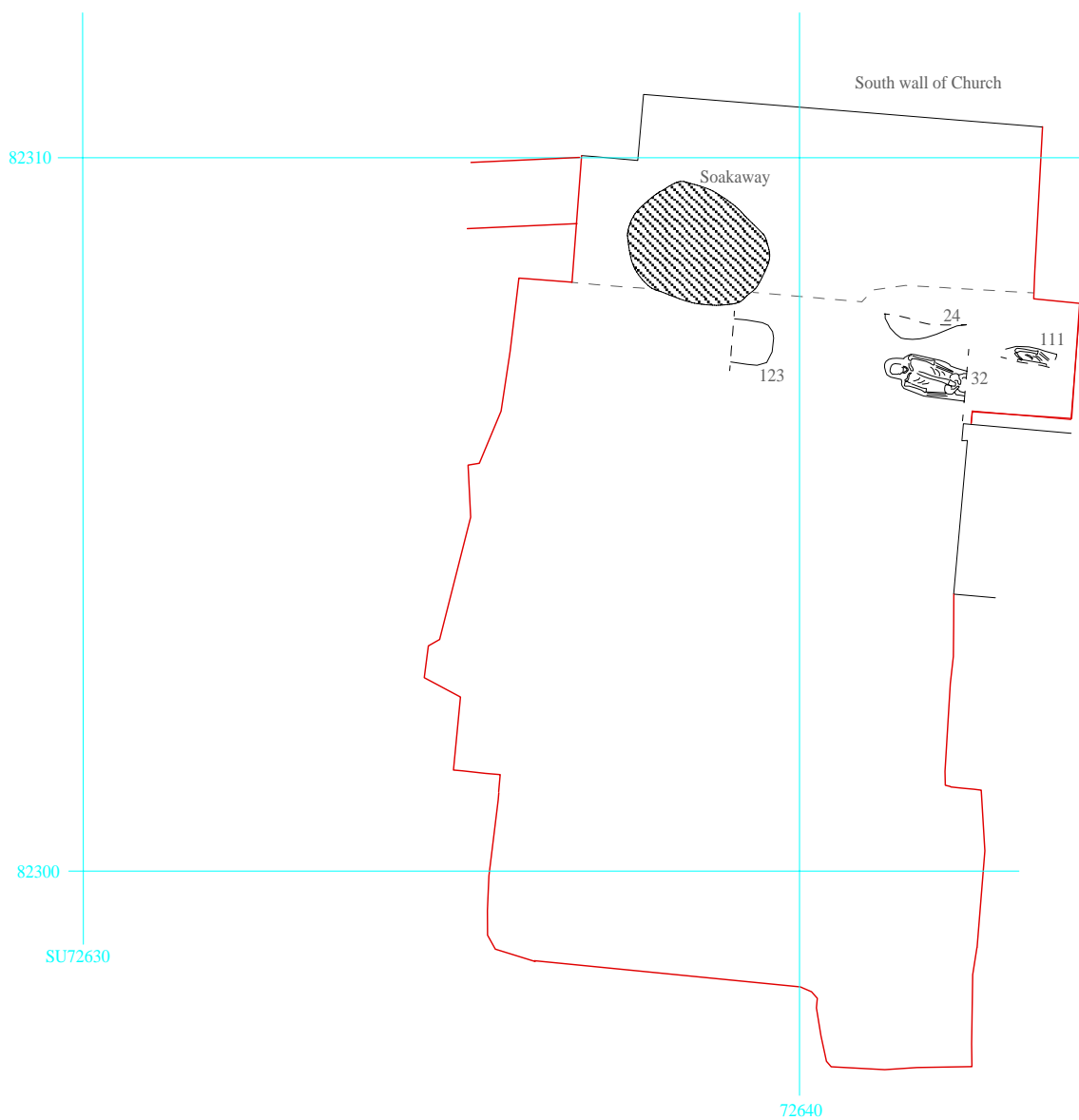


Figure 5. Plan of lowest graves.

St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire, 2003

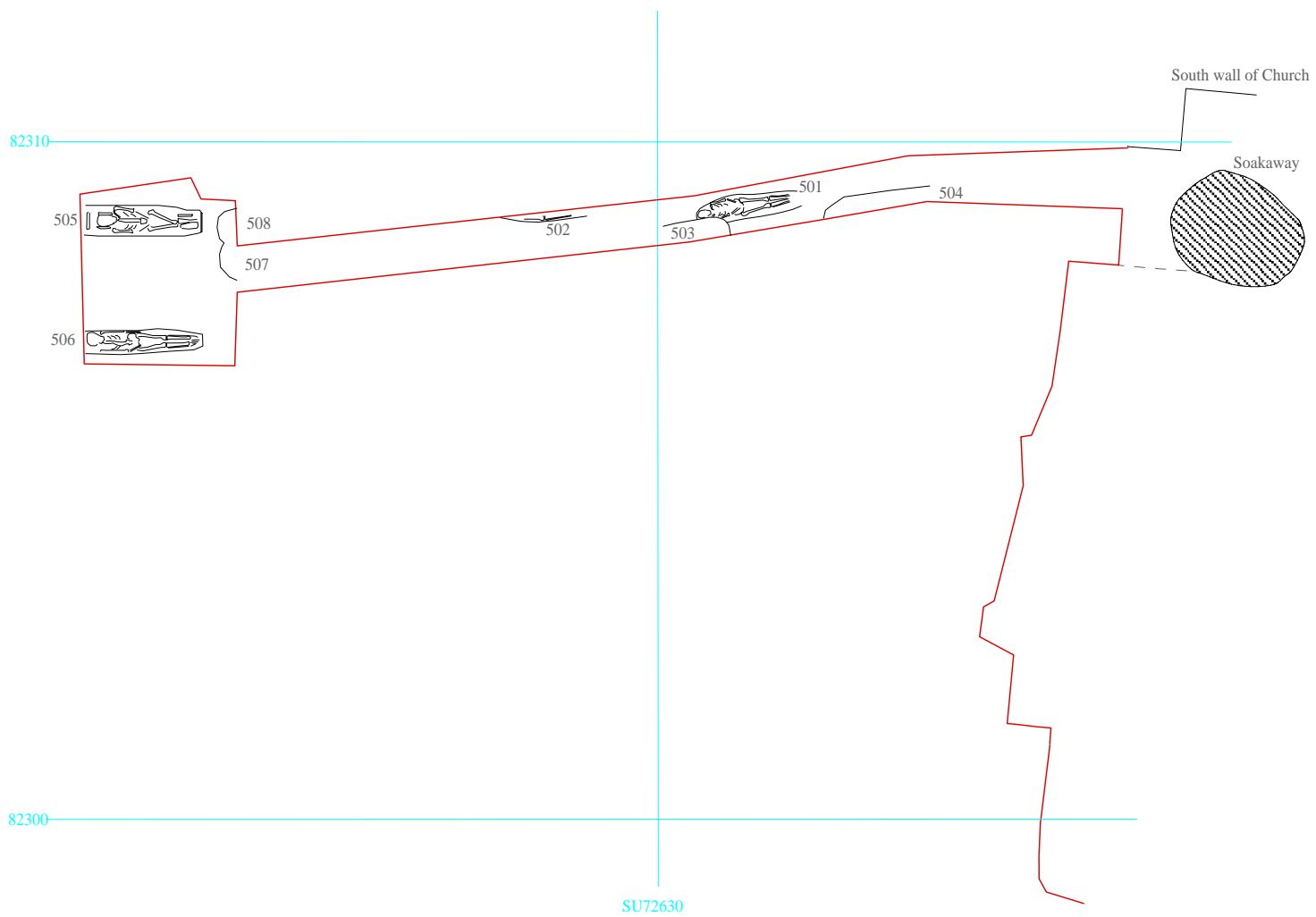


Figure 6. Plan of graves in septic tank area and service trench.

St Nicholas Church, Rotherfield Greys, Oxfordshire, 2003

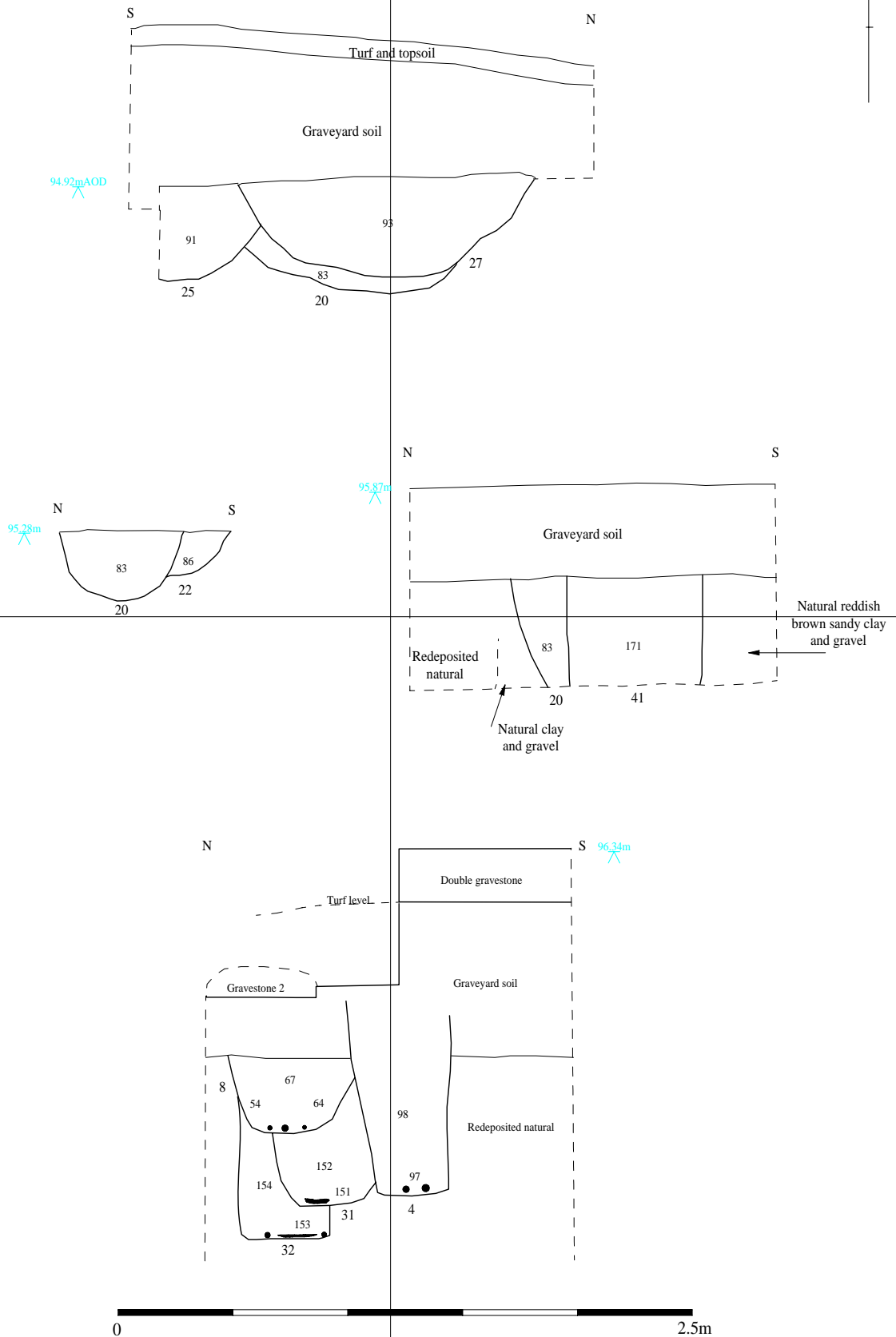


Figure 7. Sections.



Plate 1. Churchyard boundary ditch, looking west, scales 2m and 1m.



Plate 2. Intercutting graves individuals 151 and 153, looking west, scales 1m and 0.3m.