



Acanthus  
Clews  
architects

Tel: 01295 702600  
Fax: 01295 702601  
architects@acanthusclews.co.uk  
www.acanthusclews.co.uk

**DRAFT**

R3B/16\_035  
**ALL SAINTS CHURCH**  
WOKINGHAM

**RE-ORDERING & REPAIR PROJECT**  
**FEASIBILITY STUDY**

for The Incumbent and Churchwardens

Prepared by:

Acanthus Clews Architects  
Acanthus House  
57 Hightown Road  
Banbury, Oxfordshire  
OX16 9BE

01295 702600

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Project Architect  
David Finlay

Rev  
B

Checked

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The following report has been commissioned by the Incumbent & Church Wardens of the All Saints Church, Wokingham to investigate the feasibility of undertaking a re-ordering & repair programme within their existing church building.

The aim is to ensure that the church is capable of adapting its existing accommodation to ensure it can continue to provide its core mission in future years.

The purpose of this study is explore the core needs of the church and to investigate potential design solutions for how these could be delivered. The hope is that this feasibility study identifies a potential project and formats it in a way that then allows further consultation with key stakeholders such as the congregation, the local community, the DAC, the Victorian Society and Historic England. The project also consists of a major programme of repairs to the church necessary to ensure its long term future.

The design solutions contained within this report represent initial ideas rather than developed detailed design, this should be remembered when considering the pro's and con's of some of the ideas, they are simply principles at this stage intended to explore key principles.

Additional background work has already been undertaken to support this study and can be found in the appendix this includes a 'Statement of Need' for the project and a 'Statement of Significance' for the existing church building.





## 1.2

## Description of Project

Information summarising “Our Vision” and “The Architects Brief” prepared by the PCC, full version attached to appendix.

All Saints is a Grade II\* listed building, founded more than 800 years ago, which has been radically altered several times. However, the parish is due to grow by about half in the next ten years and the church are very conscious that as the town of Wokingham expands the demand on them will grow. As such there is a desire to explore the possibility of a re-ordering project internally within the existing church to provide more community use and to accommodate different styles of worship. A fundamental requirement of the project is to retain the holy character of the church.

Community, youth and spiritual growth are very important to the congregation, driving much of the enthusiasm for the project which seeks to welcome all from different parts of the community.

The Church has a very active choir and concert programme, an active team of bell ringers and an expert Flower Guild. Combined with four services every Sunday, regular weekday worship, an active youth programme and pastoral care team, the church is widely embraced by the community.

The church is also regularly used by local schools for services and a number of organisations hire the church. These Baptisms, weddings and funerals are all important, as are civic services.

Currently there are issues with the flexibility of the floor space, and the facilities provided. These problems create limitations for the activities the spaces are used for, preventing the full potential of the church being reached.

The aim of the reordering project is to give the church the ability to provide better facilities to the area, enabling it to carry out functions more effectively for a range of spiritual and communal functions.





### 1.3

## Client Brief and Vision

All Saints Church, Wokingham have a Mission Action Plan that has an overriding vision of **“A church of life, love and energy”**.

Its four priority areas are:

- Provide opportunities to learn so we may grow spiritually both personally and as a church.
- Provide different types of worship to make ourselves more approachable to the wider community in Wokingham.
- Encourage all young people to grow in faith by making it relevant to them.
- All Saints to be in the heart of the community, and well known as active citizens.

The refurbishing of the church building to make it more appropriate for 21st century worship and community activities is a vital element for all of these.. As such the CC2020 project was formed with a Brief to :

- Retain the feeling of being a holy place and keep the heritage of more than 800 years of worship
- Enable a variety of types of worship to take place for small groups and large, including formal Eucharistic services, services appropriate for young people, particularly for our own school, with its special needs unit, worship in the round, meditative services, Messy Church, labyrinth, café church. It will provide intimate spaces for small scale worship and space for large numbers of people to worship, for example at Christmas and in civic services, and have flexible seating to achieve this.
- Provide an auditorium, exhibition and entertainment space for church and community events, large and small, in a very high quality and largest indoor spaces in Wokingham.
- Be open seven days a week providing a suitable environment for private prayer and reflection.
- Be hospitable, with an area for welcome, a kitchen, and toilets on the premises, as are essential in a public building, particularly one used by children. We need facilities that would enable coffee after services and receptions after funerals, weddings and baptisms to take place in the same building.
- Be fully accessible, providing good facilities for the all disabled, with good audio and video systems, good lighting and level access.
- Provide a quality environment in terms of visual appeal, physical comfort, heating, lighting, security, audio, video, WiFi and communications and storage, with sustainability an important consideration.

For all of these the church is anxious to complement The Cornerstone and its offer rather than compete with it.



Church Vision Diagram







## 2.1 Location & Description

All Saint's Church tower forms an important visual element to the eastern end of Rose Street, and to the eastern entry to the town, where it is located.

### Description of Church - Extracts from Listing Text

Parish church. Late C14 on an older site, tower and clerestory added C15, chancel and aisles largely restored in the style of the C14, in 1864-6 by Henry Woodyer; external stonework to tower restored in 1880.

Roof restored in 1985-6. Lead roofs to nave and tower; tiles elsewhere. West doorway has old jambs, wide casement mould and a 2-centred arch under a C19 square head. Above is a C19 window with 5 cinquefoil lights under a traceried, 2-centred head.

Second stage, a restored west window of 3 cinquefoil lights with traceried 4-centred head; and a clock dial on the south and west sides. Bell chamber has windows of 2 cinquefoil lights under 4-centred heads. North aisle:- Three C19, 3-light windows with tracery under a square head; a pointed 3-light window in the west wall; Five, 2-stage buttresses between each. South aisle:- Windows similar to north aisle and with four, 2-stage buttresses between.

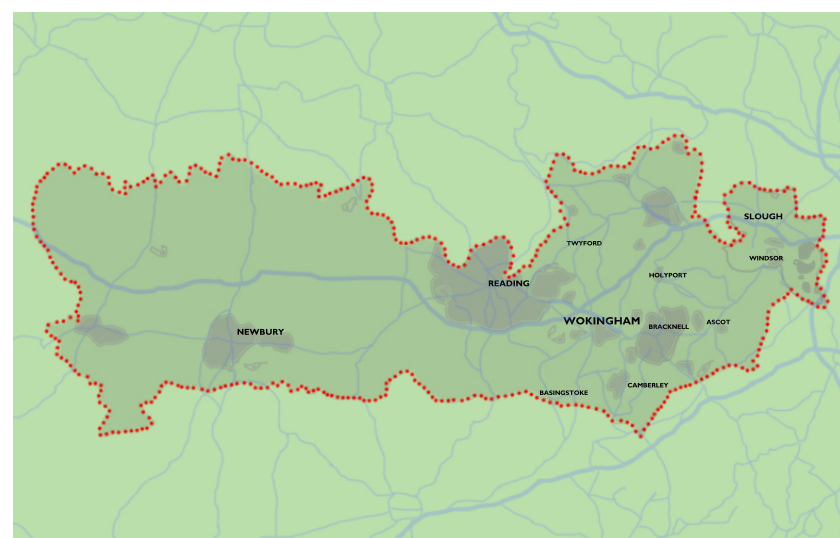
South doorway between second and third windows is C12 in style, with zig-zag ornament. The principal rafters, clasped purlins and ridge piece, are chamfered and moulded; one of the tie beams has a date of 1631 carved in it and the inscription 'IL & T.S.'. High north and south arcades, each of 5 bays, the outer ones on the east and west are 4-centred arches and wider than the intermediate, which are 2-centred. The columns are circular and are of chalk except the second column on the north, which is C19 stone.

The C15 font is octagonal with traceried, panelled sides containing roses and other flowers; and has a hollow chamfered under-edge carved with inter-twined tree branches. The stem has panelled sides and a moulded base. Stained glass east window by Hardman. Monuments:- include a small black marble slab on the north wall of the vestry, with a Latin inscription to Thomas Godwin of Christ Church Oxford, Bishop of Bath and Wells, born in Wokingham, and buried there in 1590.

On the south wall of the south aisle, is an undated C16 mural monument with a brass, enclosed in a rounded-headed panel of black marble, enriched by a guilloche; on the brass, figures of a man and woman kneeling at a desk, with an inscription below them in English verse. V.C.H. Vol. III p.226. B.O.E. (Berkshire) p.307.



UK



Berkshire archdeaconry

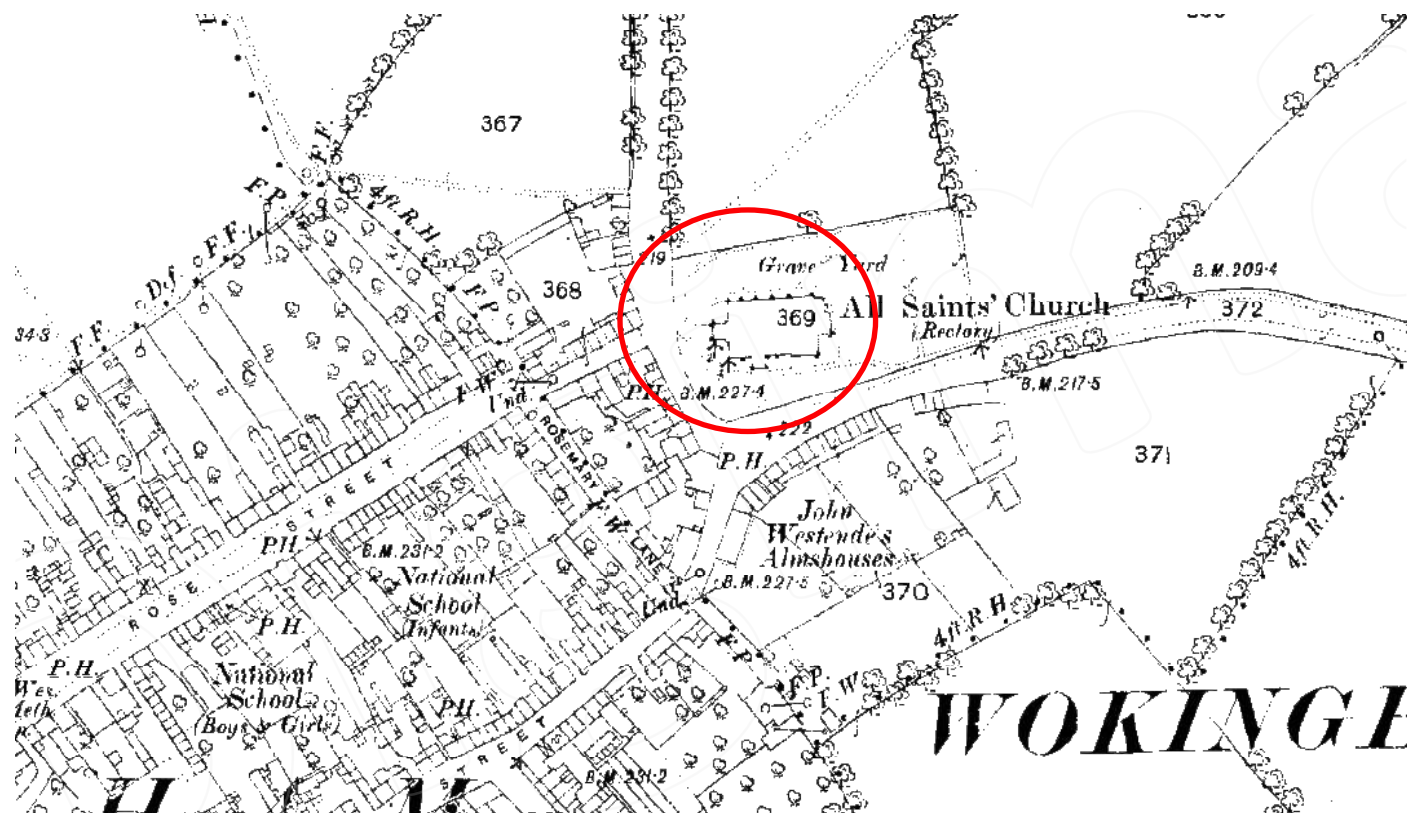


Aerial photograph of All Saints Church, Wokingham circa 2015

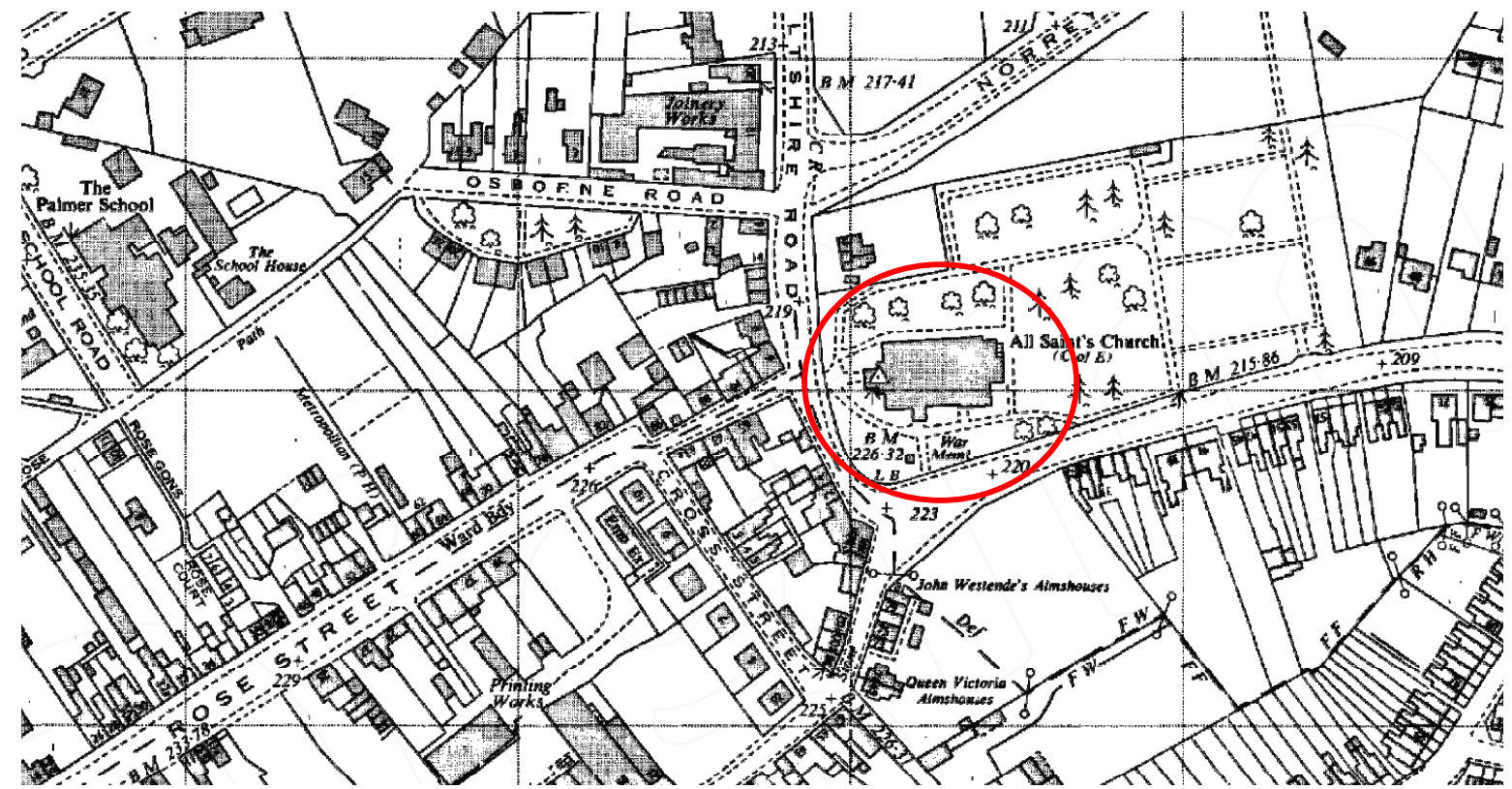




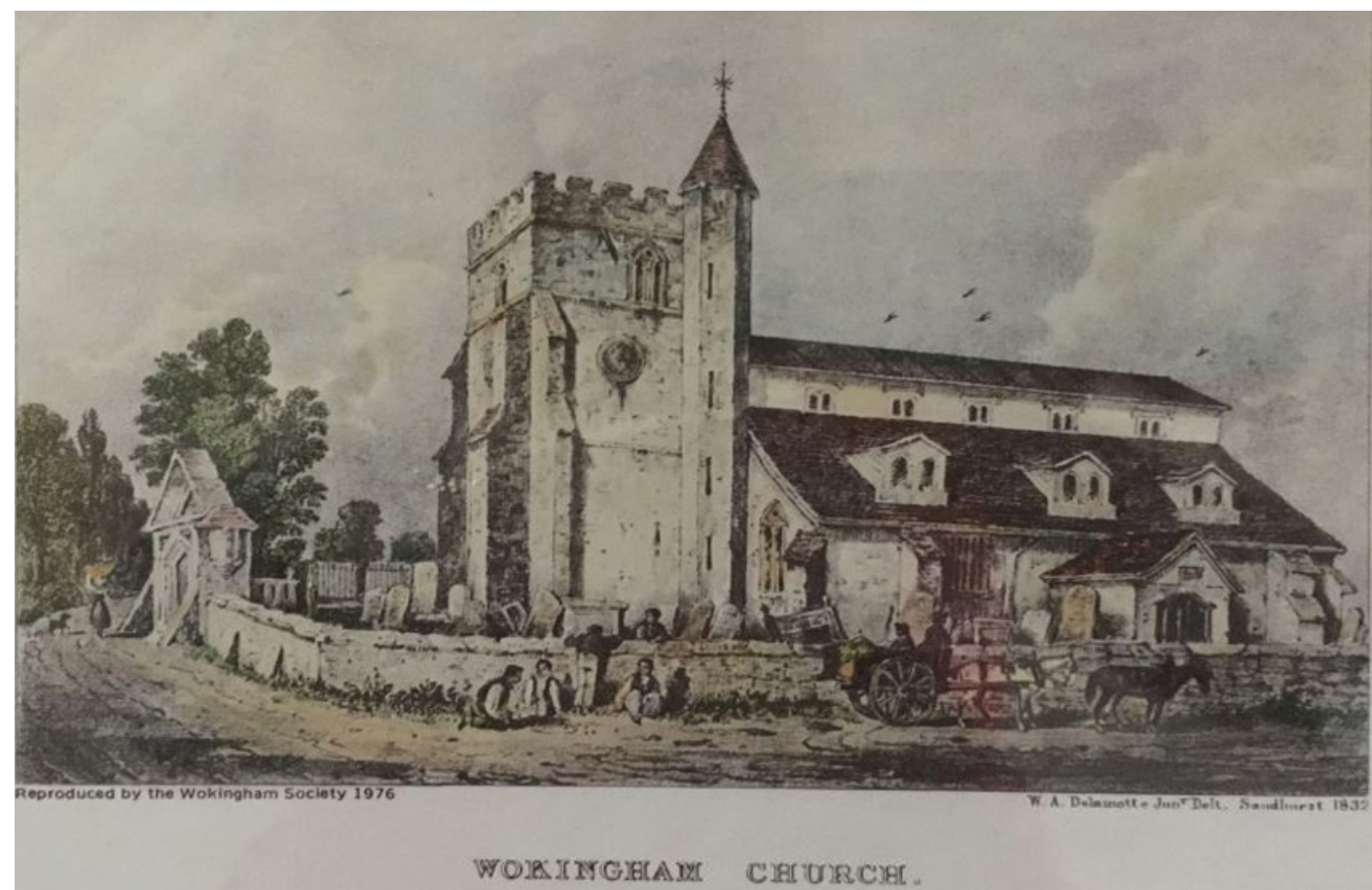
## 2.2 Site History - OS Survey maps



1870's



1960's



Historic Painting of the All Saints Church, Wokingham dated 1832.



Historic photograph of the All Saints Church, Wokingham dated 1906. Francis Frith

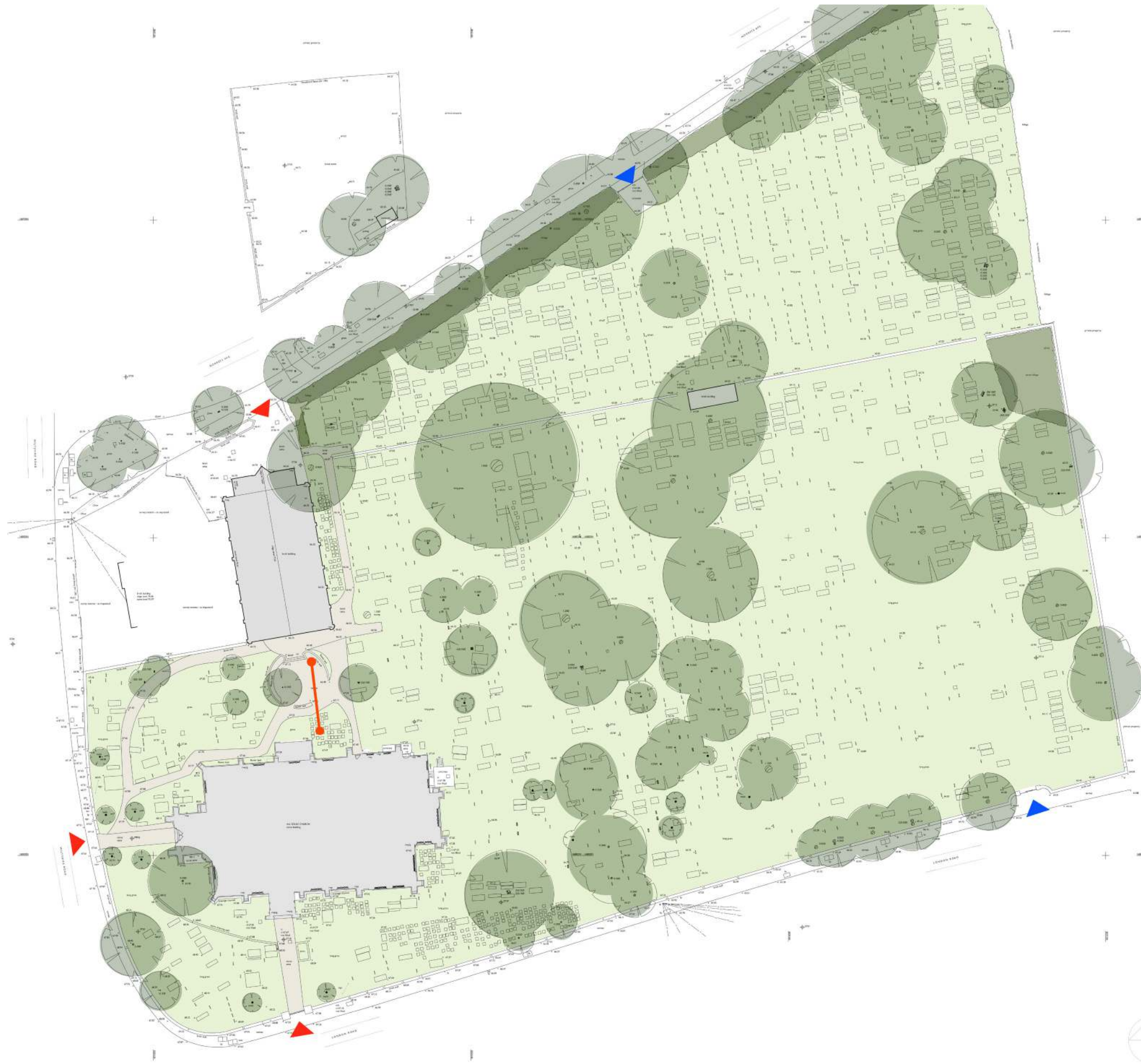




## 2.3

## Site Analysis & Context

1. Primary Access Points to the Church
2. Access points to Churchyard
3. Connections to the Town and the Cornerstone
4. Pathways and trees
5. Existing Graves & Cremated remains



Site Plan of Churchyard & Car Park





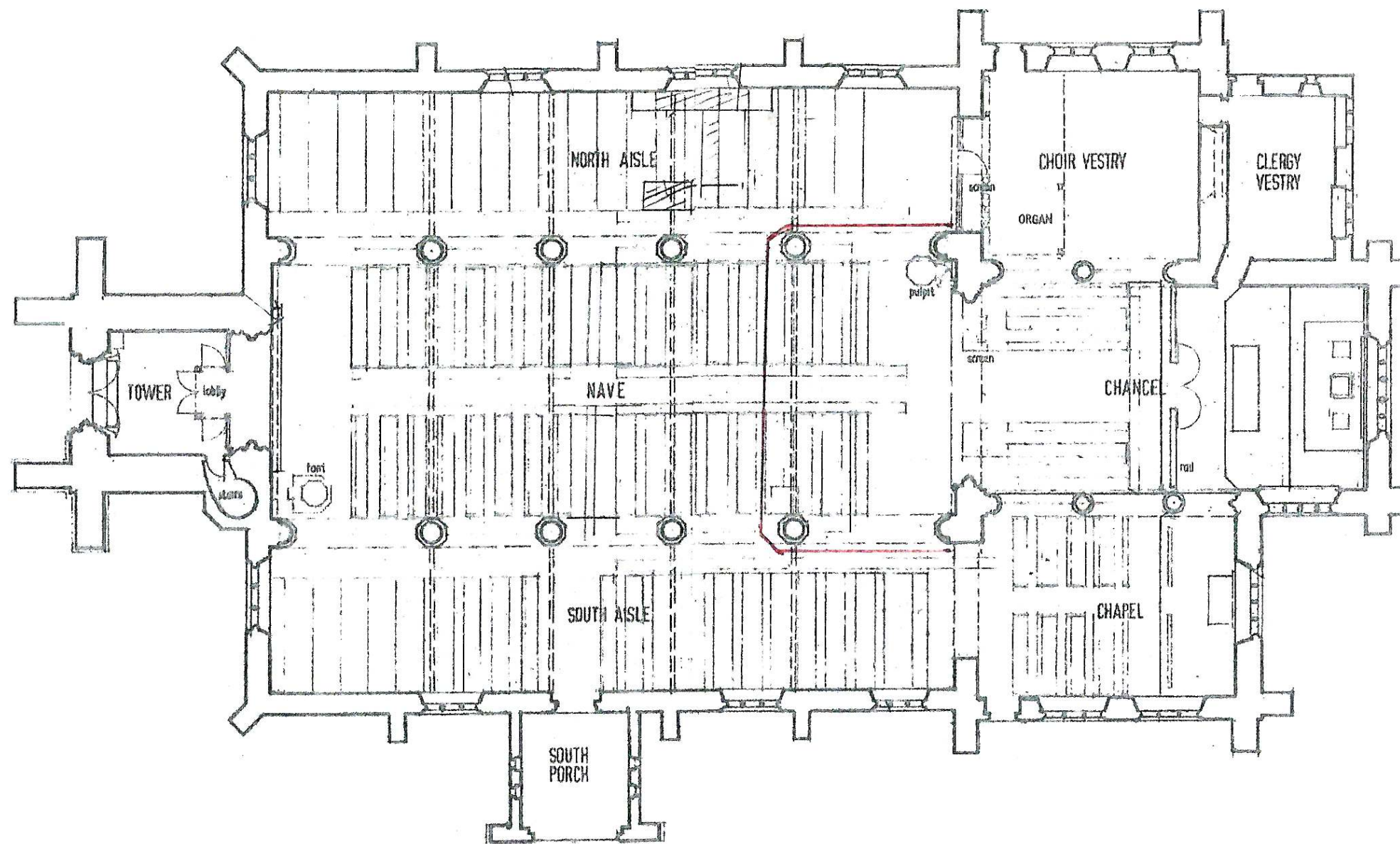
*Summary of 'Statement of Significance', full version is attached to appendix.*

If nothing is now identifiable as belonging to a Saxon church, little is now visible of the Norman Church. The old arch built into the south doorway of the nave and the bases of the nave pillars seem all that is left above the ground, and comprise some of the most significant fabric remaining. The outside bases of the west porch and the archway of the door leading from the west porch to the belfry stairs are highly significant; probably dating from somewhere about 1370 and the stonework of the west windows of the north and south aisles are probably a little earlier.

Sometime before the middle of the fifteenth century, the church was rebuilt, and with some degree of grandeur, many significant features from this reconstruction remain. The pillars of the nave, which were and still are mainly of chalk, were heightened and the arches added. The perpendicular west window of the tower was probably put in at this time. The oak roof of the nave is thought to be early sixteenth century work. It was repaired in the next century and an inspection on one of the tie beams records this. The roof has been repaired many times since however.

Also of high significance is the font, which is fifteenth century work. The bosses show the Tudor rose and the deep undercutting of the scrollwork is unusual. Further to this is the Chancel screen, erected in 1895 in memory of Charles Edward Gambier Parry Murdoch. The screen was designed by Sir Arthur W Bloomfield. A peal of six bells certainly existed in the church by 1703, which retain high significance after being rehung most recently in 2004.

A few elements detract from the significance of the church, primarily the poor lighting, which is inadequate and does not work well, failing to provide sufficient lighting to the space. The pews (that Pevsner dates as from the 1920's) are inflexible and prevent a variety of different worship configurations, as well as concerts or exhibitions, detracting from the significance of the church.

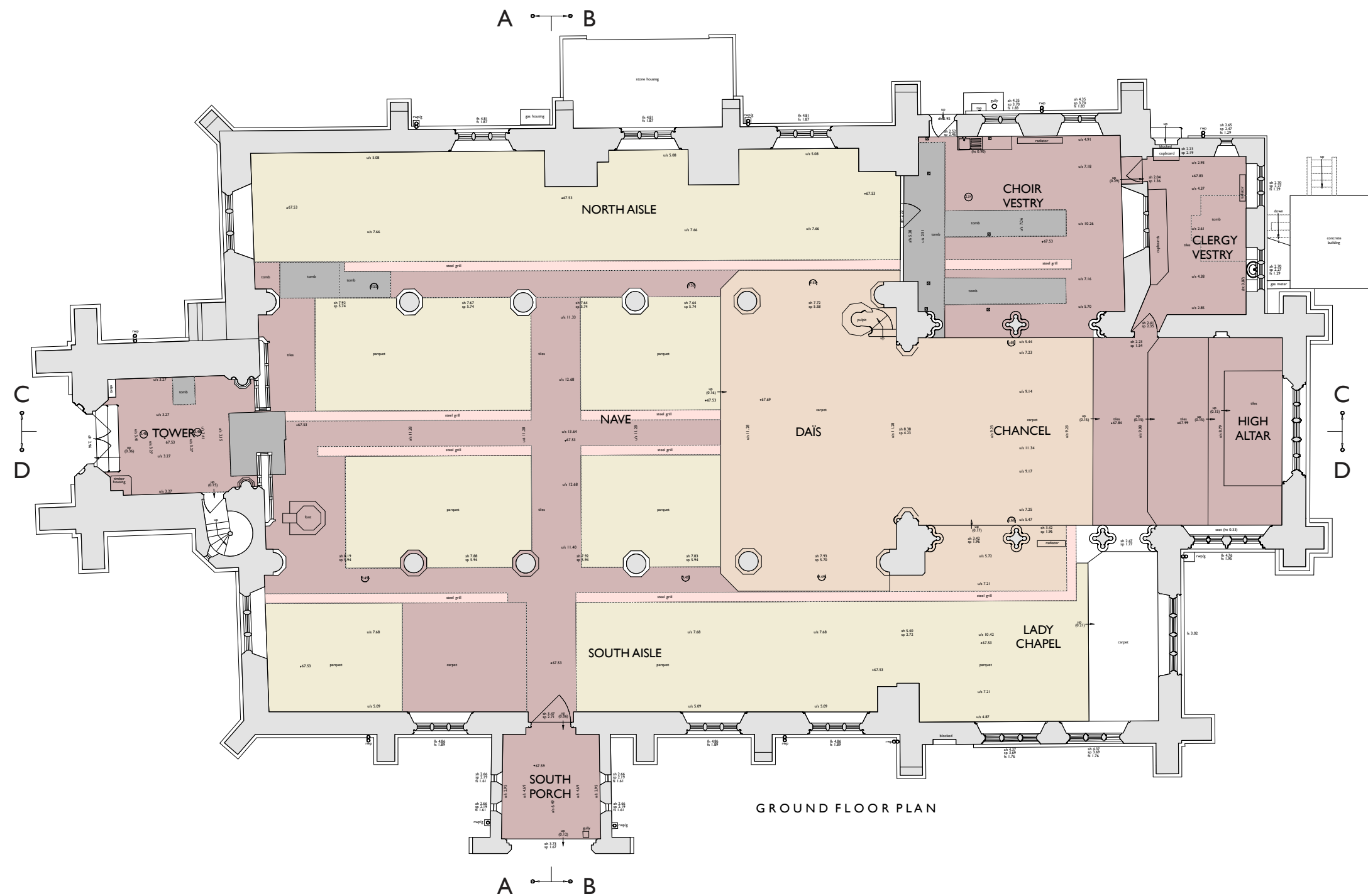


1983 Plan of All Saints Church, Wokingham. Showing the existing structure.













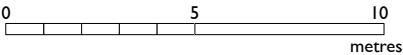
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NORTH ELEVATION



Datum 65.00m

WEST ELEVATION



## 2.5 Existing Church Drawings cont.



Datum 65.00m

SOUTH ELEVATION

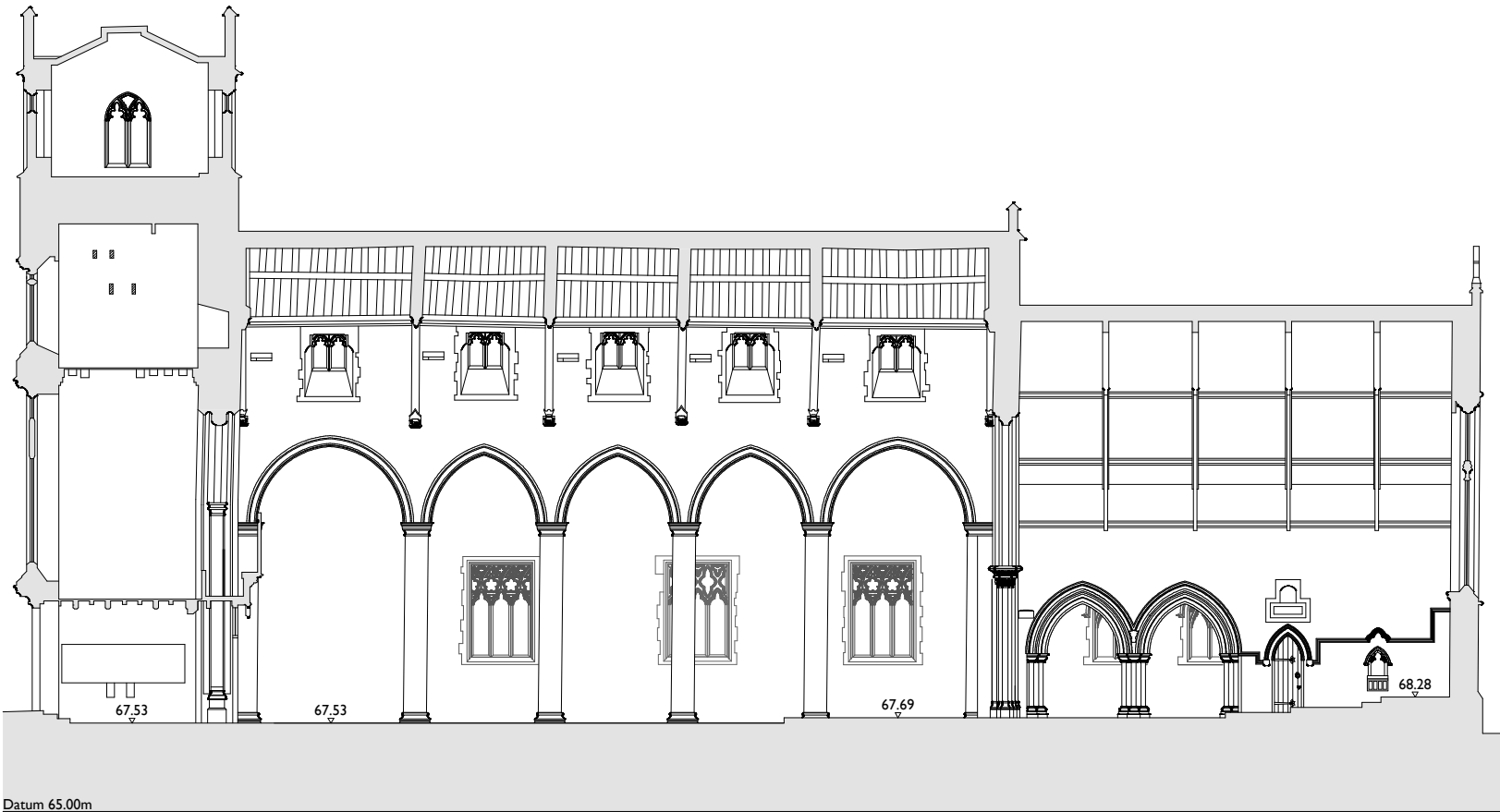


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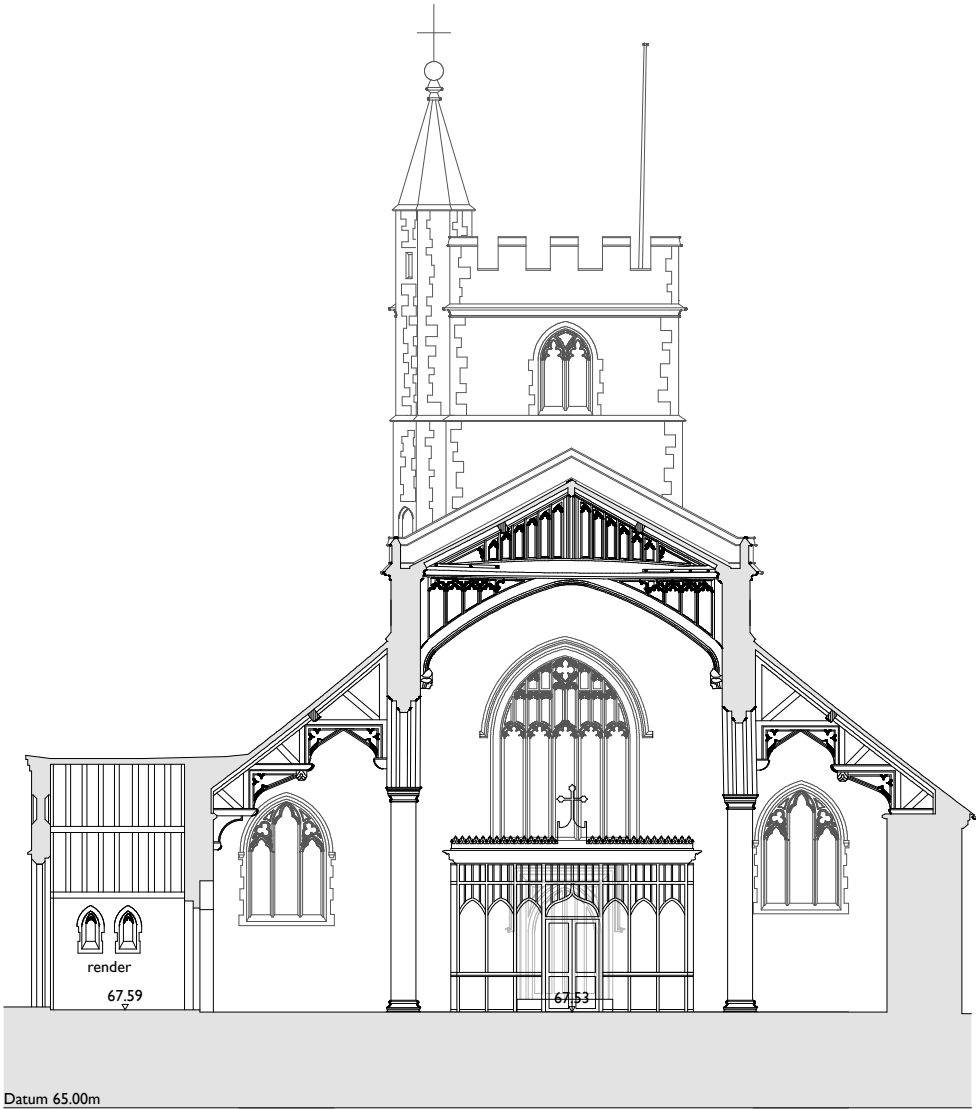
EAST ELEVATION





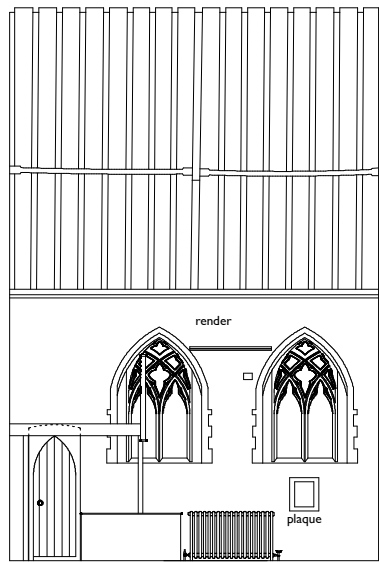


SECTIONAL ELEVATION C - C



SECTIONAL ELEVATION A - A

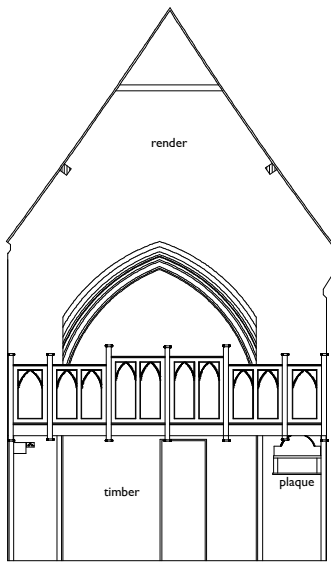




CHOIR VESTRY

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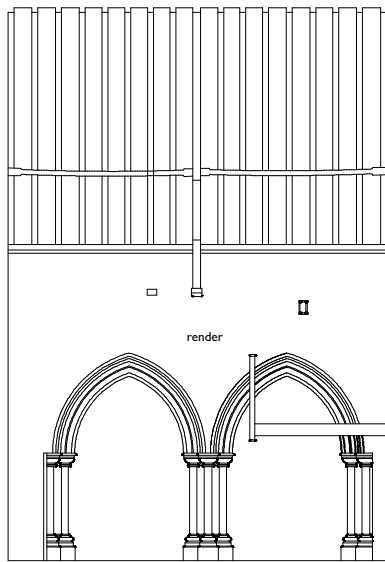
SOUTH ELEVATION



CHOIR VESTRY

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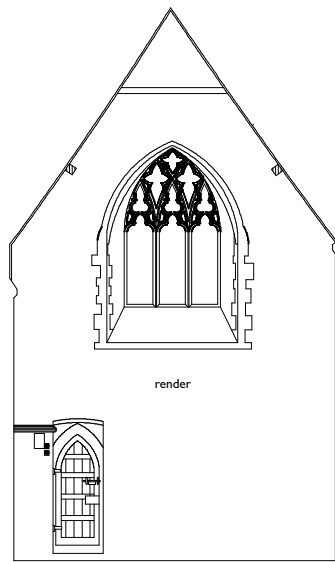
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CHOIR VESTRY

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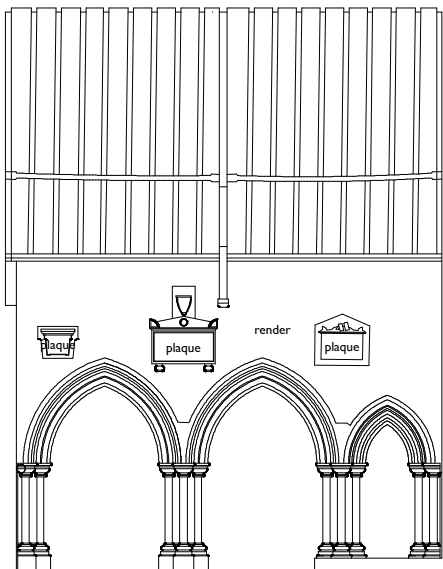
NORTH ELEVATION



CHOIR VESTRY

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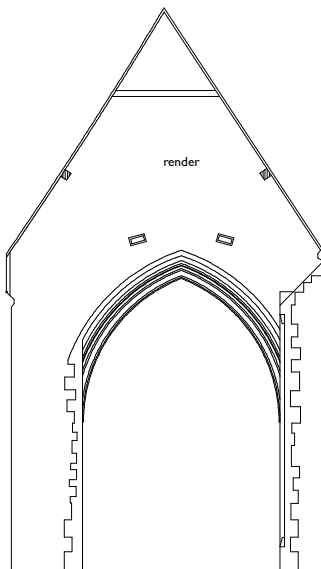
WEST ELEVATION



CHAPEL

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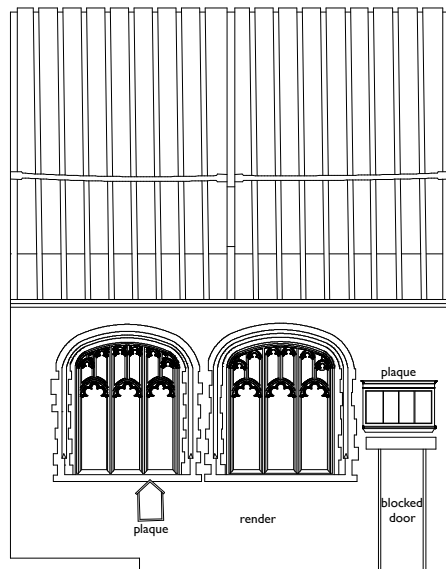
SOUTH ELEVATION



CHAPEL

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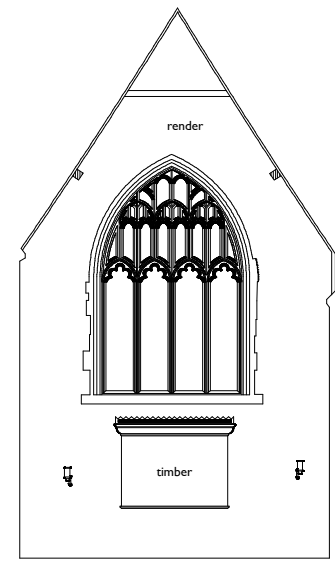
EAST ELEVATION



CHAPEL

Datum 65.00m

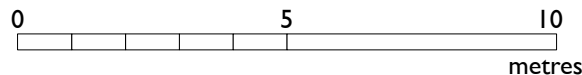
NORTH ELEVATION



CHAPEL

Datum 65.00m

WEST ELEVATION







View of south side of Church



View of north elevation



North elevation and bell tower



West porch entrance and wall







View towards Choir Vestry from Chancel



View down the South Aisle



Stained glass window used on South and North faces



View of stone pillars and arches from Nave



Seating area near south porch

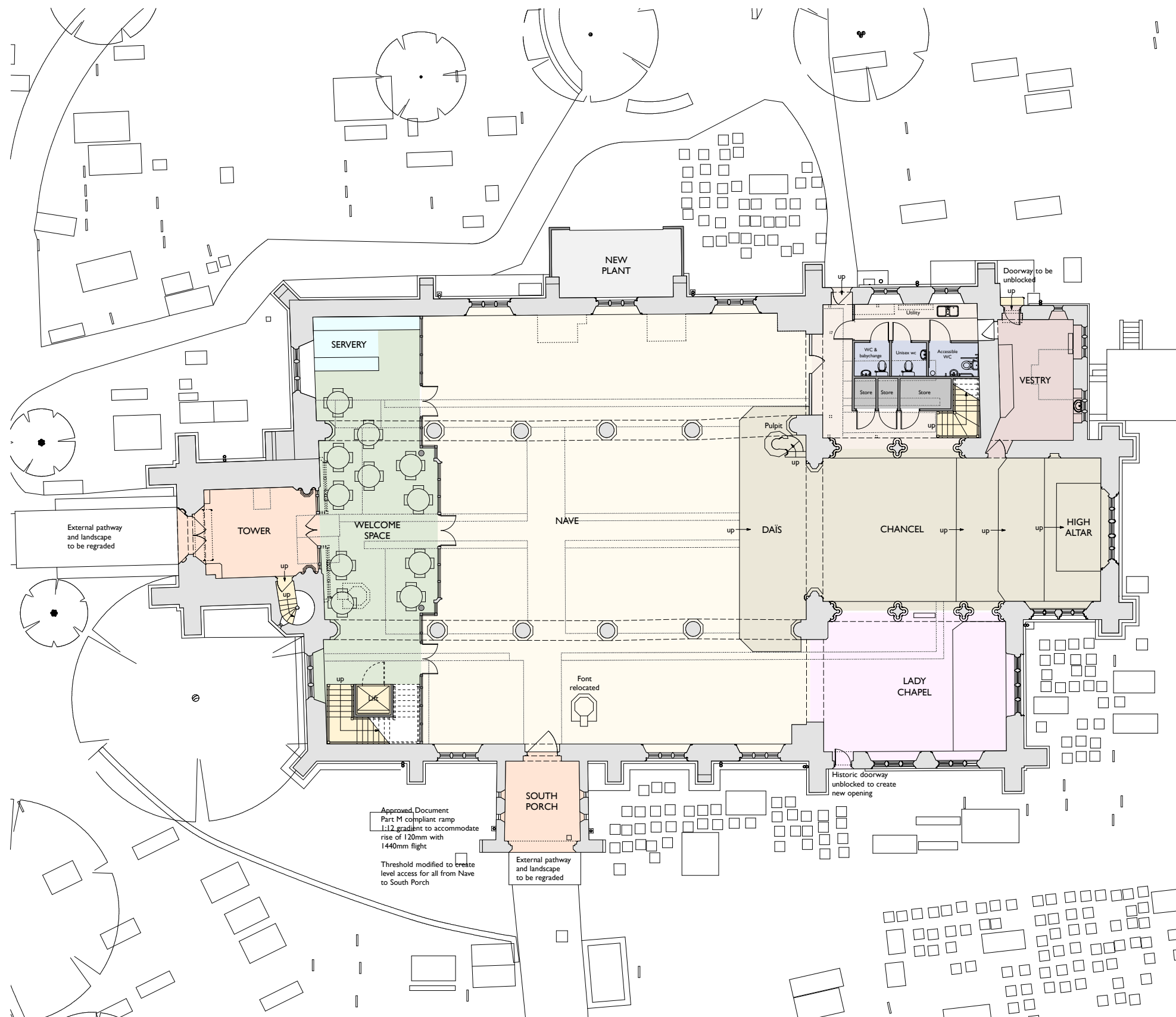


View of 1920's pews proposed to be removed









Ground Floor Plan



## 3.1

## Option A

### Option A - Enclosed West End Gallery

#### Summary of items consistent with all options:

1. Replace fixed pews with stackable seats and smaller bench pews in order to allow the nave to become a fully flexible space for services and community events.
2. Replace the existing heated air system with new underfloor heating supplemented with perimeter radiators. There are 2 options for the extent of the underfloor heating, the first will only be located within the current parquet zones and the Victorian tiles will remain and the second is a complete nave and aisle underfloor option with a new limestone floor throughout.
3. New lighting system throughout. Scope to be agreed once a preferred option has been agreed.
4. New Audio Visual system throughout. Scope to be determined once a preferred option has been agreed.
5. Repair to existing church. Scope to be determined later.
6. Font relocated to the South Aisle and the plinth removed.
7. Reduce Dais to create a bigger and more flexible nave area.

#### Summary of items relating to Option A:

8. Re-grading of the pathway area in front of the west tower entrance in order to create level access for all. This will require the modification of the stone entrance way piers and the existing timber entrance doors. This is a significant part of the historic fabric of the church and could therefore be problematic.
9. Create a new enclosed welcome area at the west end of the church with an open gallery above. This could involve moving of the rood screen which is currently located at the base of the tower. At ground floor a new servery could be provided to allow a new community cafe to occur close to the entrance that creates a more welcoming sense of arrival. In order to provide a usable and enclosed space on the ground floor the font could be relocated to the south aisle. On the gallery there could be meeting rooms, an area for more informal gatherings or even a space for prayer.

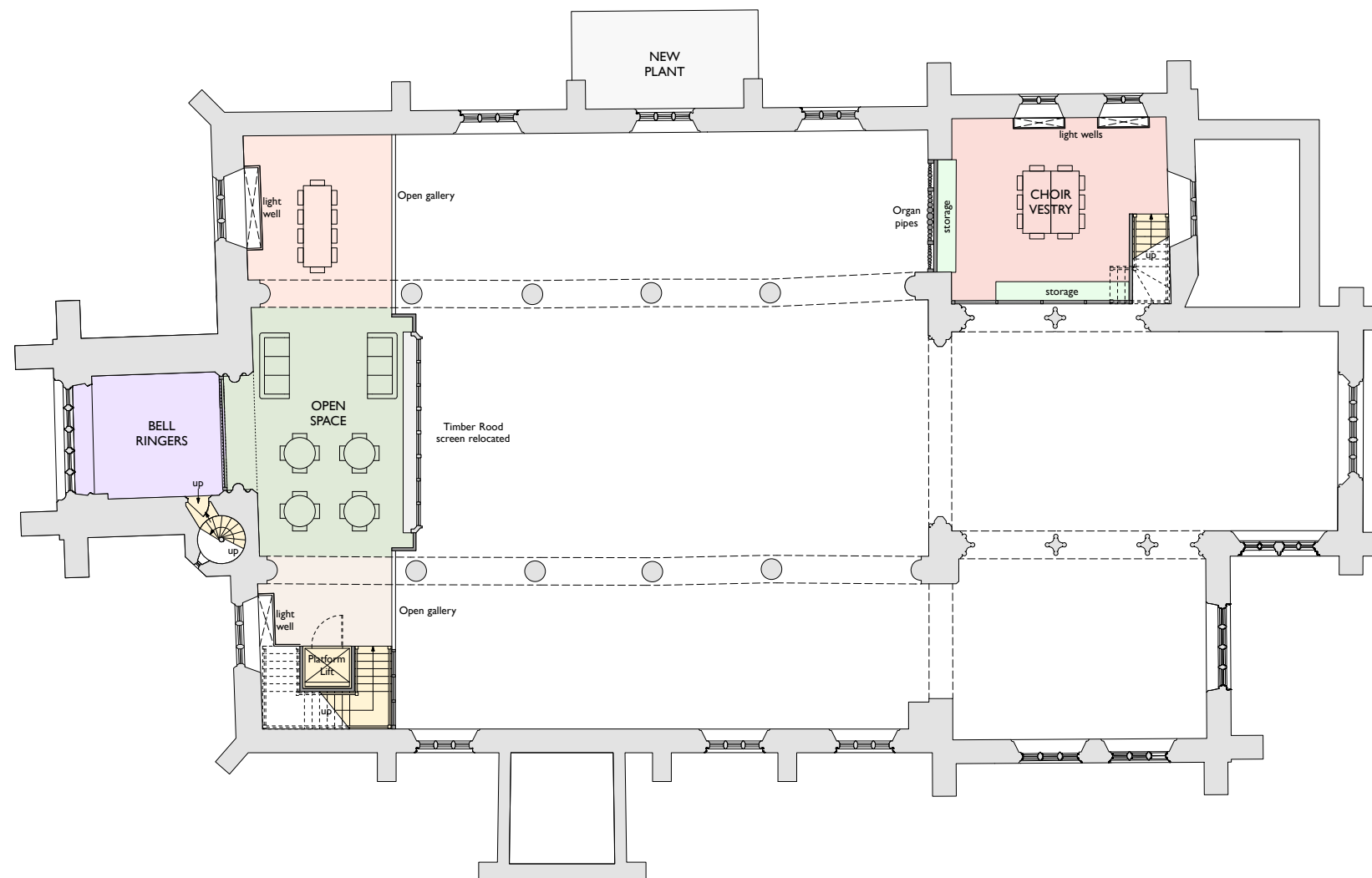




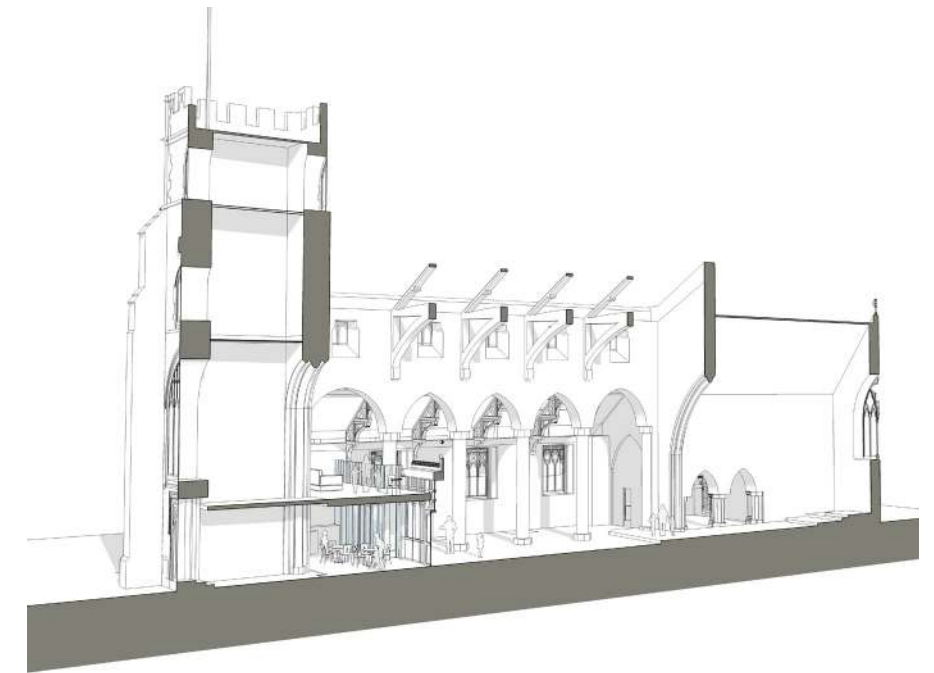
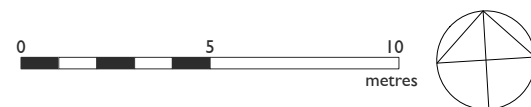
## Option A - Enclosed West End Gallery

## Summary of items relating to Option A cont:

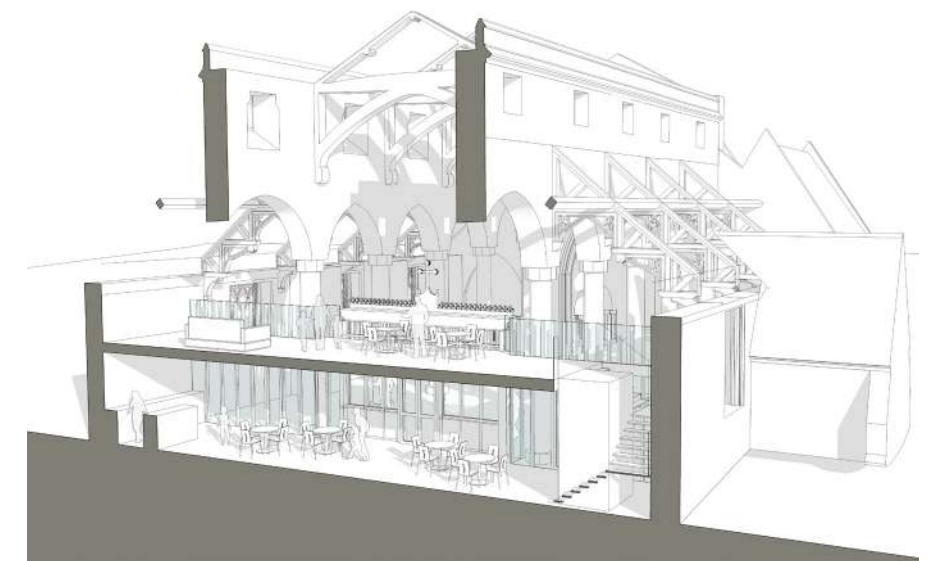
10. Provide a new utility and toilet zone within the current choir vestry to allow the church to support a whole range of worship and community activities and events. The choir vestry and storage would then relocate above this to a new bigger mezzanine structure with



First Floor Plan



Option A Sectional perspectives





Option A Sketch view



Option A Sketch view

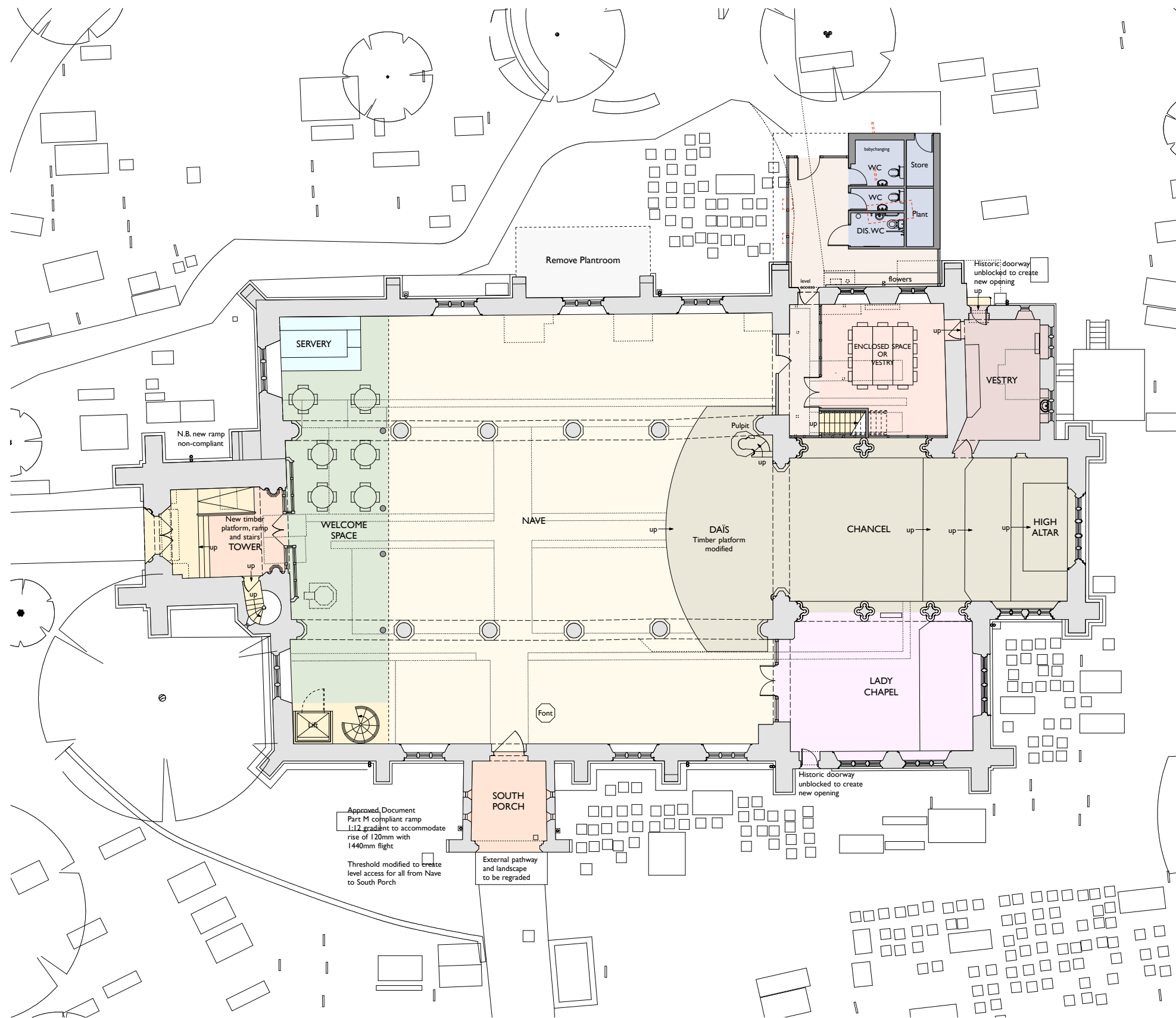






Option A Sectional perspective





Ground Floor Plan



## 3.2

## Option B

### Option B - Open West End Gallery

#### Summary of items consistent with all options:

1. Replace fixed pews with stackable seats and smaller bench pews in order to allow the nave to become a fully flexible space for services and community events.
2. Replace the existing heated air system with new underfloor heating supplemented with perimeter radiators. There are 2 options for the extent of the underfloor heating, the first will only be located within the current parquet zones and the Victorian tiles will remain and the second is a complete nave and aisle underfloor option with a new limestone floor throughout.
3. New lighting system throughout. Scope to be agreed once a preferred option has been agreed.
4. New Audio Visual system throughout. Scope to be determined once a preferred option has been agreed.
5. Repair existing church. Scope to be determined at a later date.
6. Font to be relocated to the South Aisle and the plinth removed.
7. Reduce Dais to create a bigger and more flexible nave area.

#### Summary of items relating to Option B:

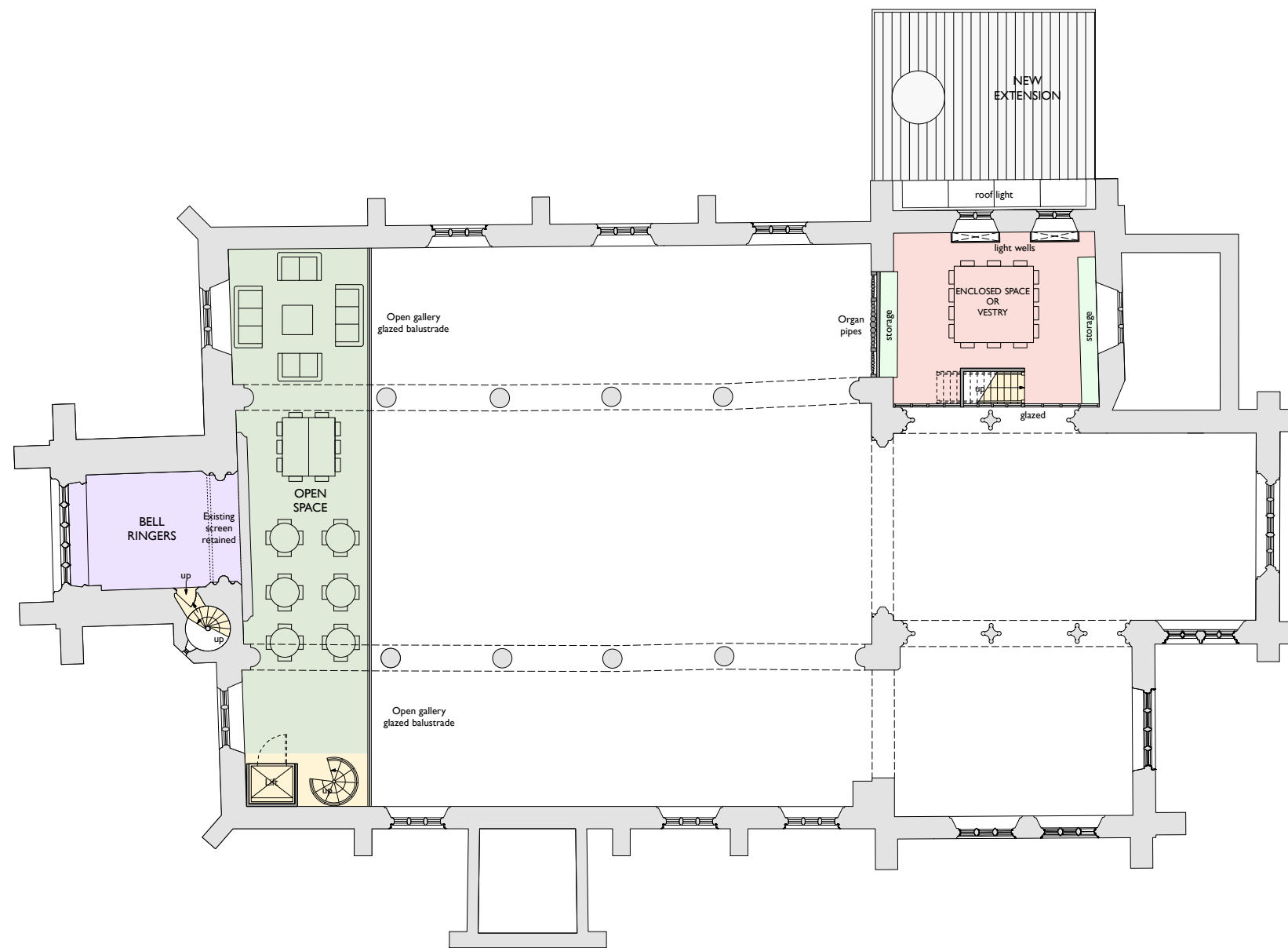
11. Provide a new permanent but reversible accessibility ramp within the tower that is less intrusive within the space. This would be steeper than fully compliant ramp and would only be on the basis that fully level access could be achieved at the south porch for visitors in wheelchairs.
12. Create a new welcome area at the west end of the church with an open gallery above. At ground floor a new servery could be provided to allow a new community cafe to occur close to the entrance that creates a more welcoming sense of arrival. On the gallery itself there could be a meeting room, an area for more informal gatherings or even a space for prayer but it should be noted that these activities would have to work in hand with whatever was occurring at ground floor.



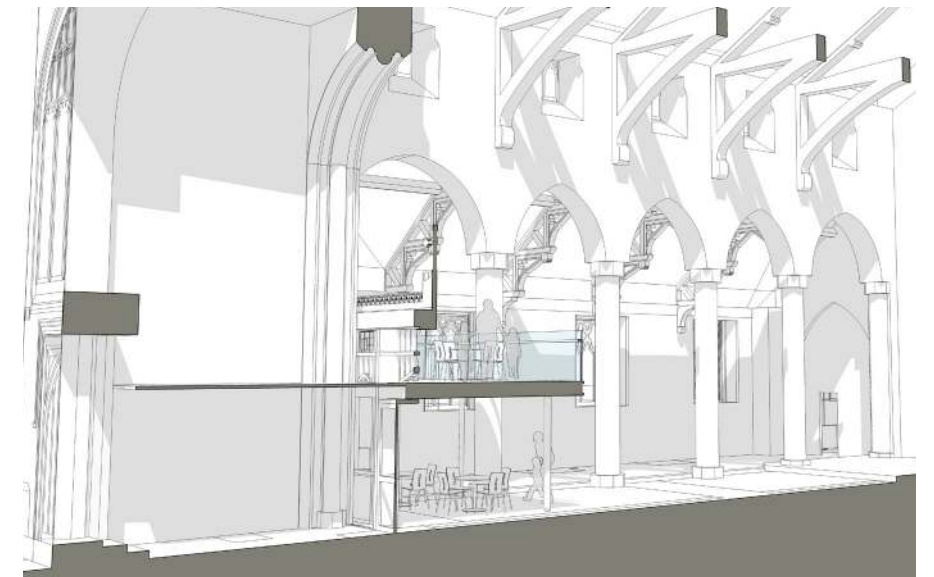
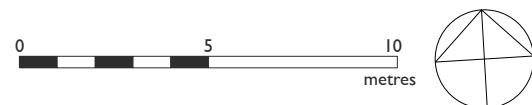


## Summary of items relating to Option B cont:

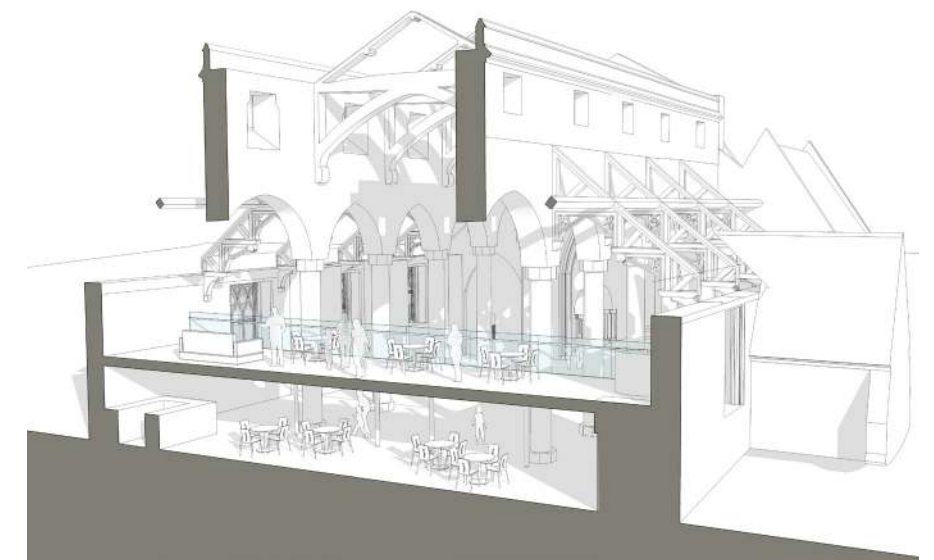
13. Provide a new utility and toilet extension on the north side of the church allow the church to support a whole range of worship and community activities and events. This creates enough space to create a new meeting room and the choir vestry and storage could then relocate above this to a new bigger mezzanine structure with proper access.
14. Partly enclose the Lady Chapel in order to provide a bit more of a sense of intimacy and capable of hosting quiet prayer whilst the rest of the church is occupied. The Lady Chapel in this option would be open to the chancel but separate from the south aisle.



First Floor Plan

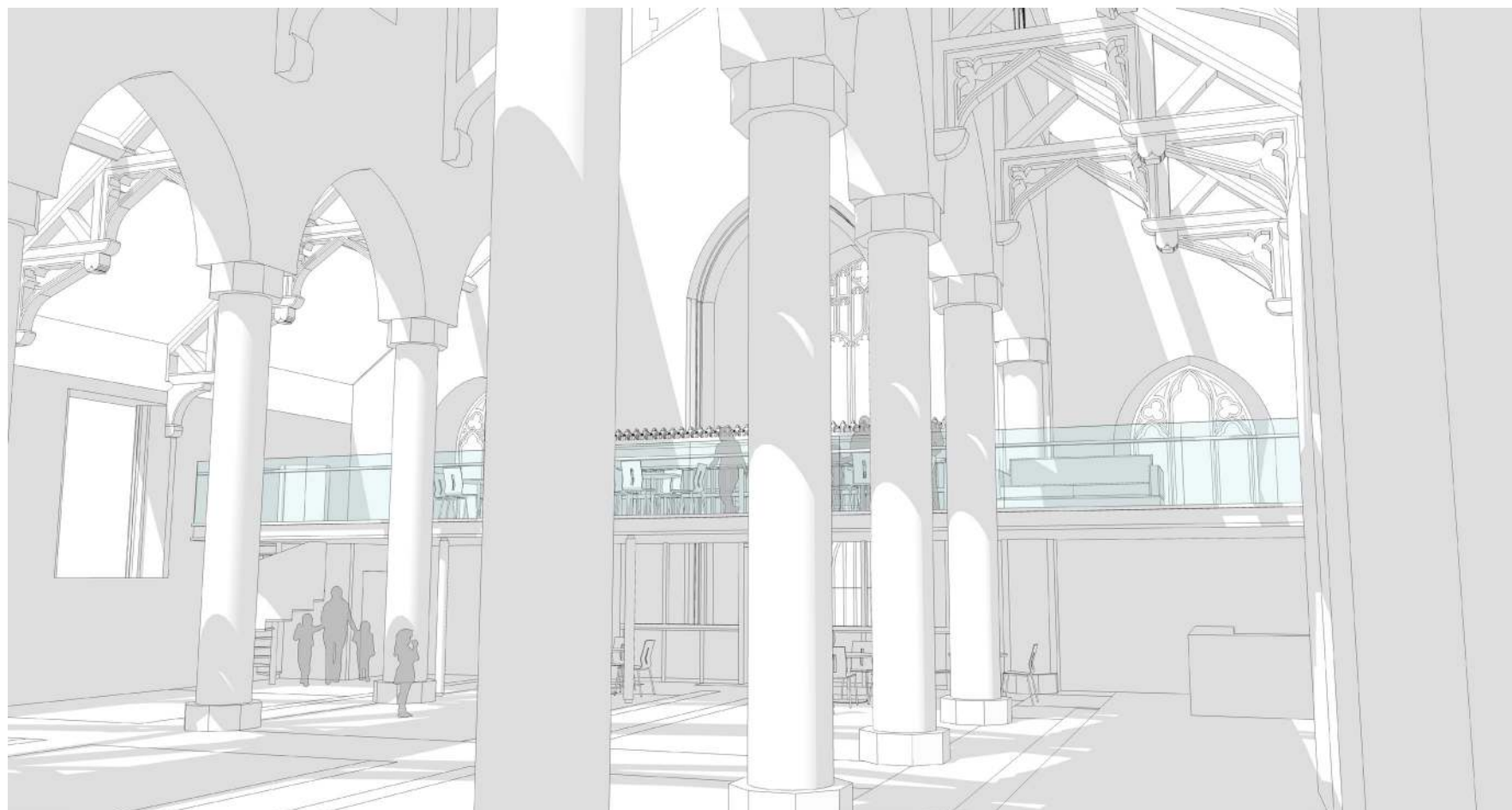


Option B Sectional perspective





Option B Sketch view



Option B Sketch view

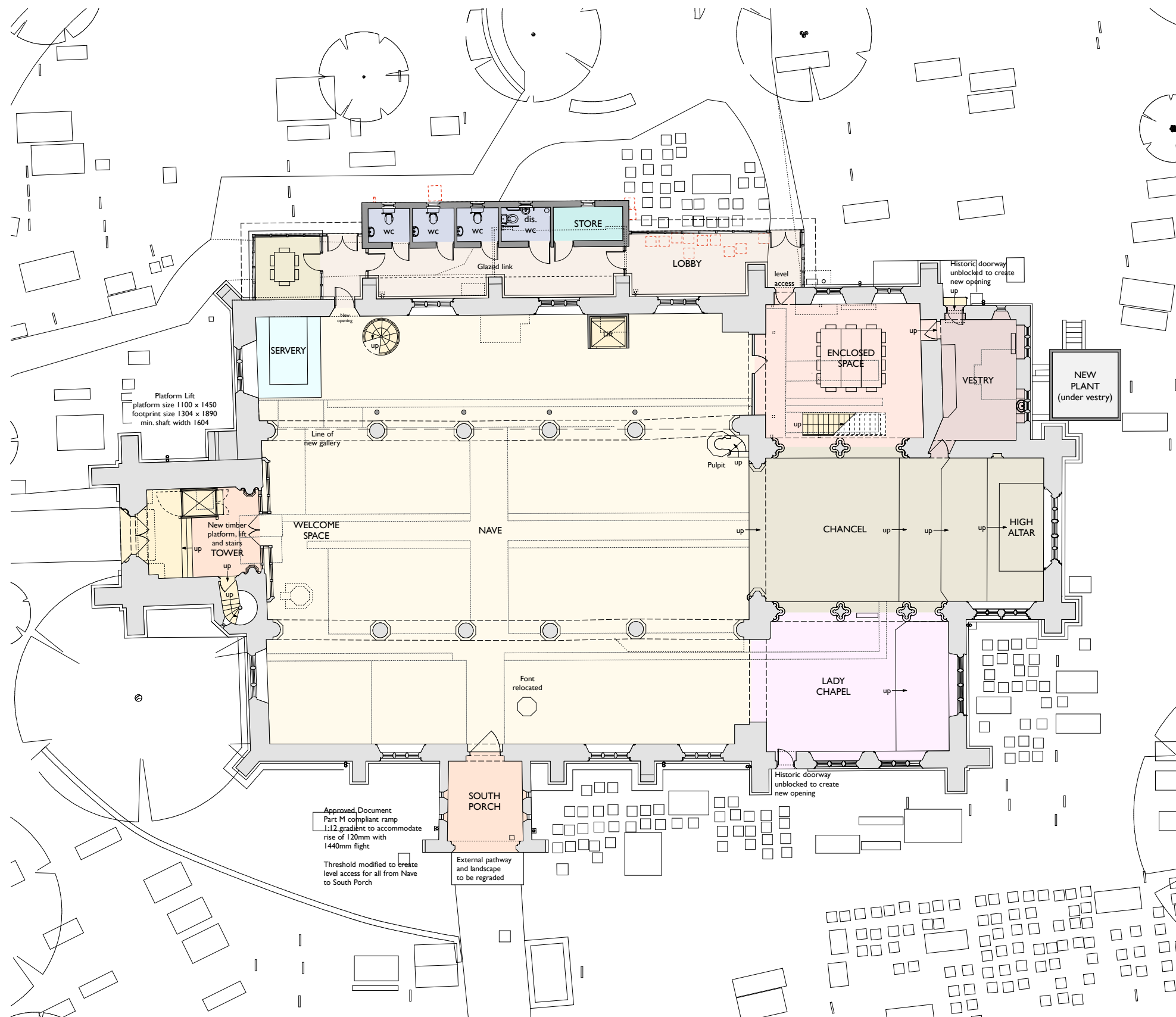




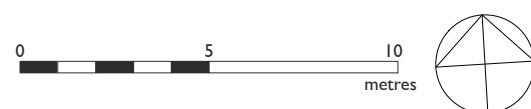


Option B Sectional perspective





Ground Floor Plan



### 3.3

## Option C

### Option C - North Aisle Gallery & Extension

#### Summary of items consistent with all options:

1. Replace fixed pews with stackable seats and smaller bench pews in order to allow the nave to become a fully flexible space for services and community events.
2. Replace the existing heated air system with new underfloor heating supplemented with perimeter radiators. There are 2 options for the extent of the underfloor heating, the first will only be located within the current parquet zones and the Victorian tiles will remain and the second is a complete nave and aisle underfloor option with a new limestone floor throughout.
3. New lighting system throughout. Scope to be agreed once a preferred option has been agreed.
4. New Audio Visual system throughout. Scope to be determined once a preferred option has been agreed.
5. Repairs to the existing church. Scope to be determined later.
6. Font to be relocated to the South Aisle and the plinth removed.
7. Reduce the Dais to create a bigger and more flexible nave area

#### Summary of items relating to Option C:

15. Provide a new permanent but reversible platform lift within the tower to replace the temporary ramp. This will require a new timber platform with stairs within the tower but would allow the base of the entrance and the original doors to be unaltered. Level access could be still achieved at the south porch for visitors in wheelchairs with simple regrading of the ground.
16. Create a new welcome area at the west end of the church with a new servery to allow a community cafe to occur close to the entrance that creates a more welcoming sense of arrival.
17. Create a new enclosed gallery above the north aisle for community activities such as a meeting room, an area for more informal gatherings or even a space for

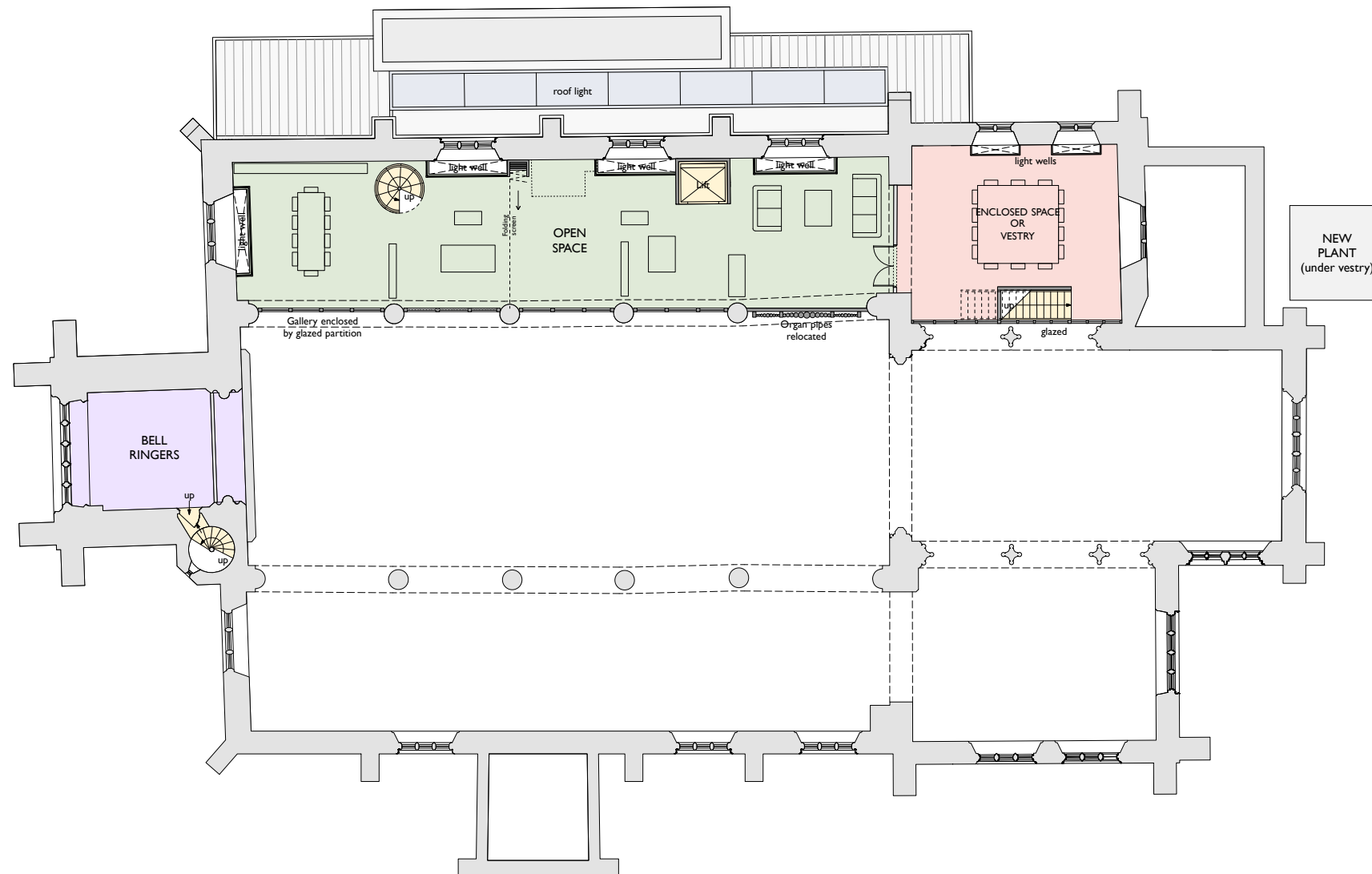




### A Summary of items relating to Option C cont:

prayer. All of these activities could be more controlled if they are enclosed, they can occur in tandem with activities going on below. Access to the new gallery could be from a spiral staircase at the west end, or a stair in the choir vestry. A platform lift would be required and could be located in the corner of the north aisle.

18. Provide a new utility and toilet extension along the north side of the church to allow the church to support a whole range of receptions and events. This creates enough space to create a new meeting room. and the choir vestry and storage could then relocate above this to a new bigger mezzanine structure with proper access. The external extension would need to sensitively connect to the external wall and a glazed link under the current window cill line is proposed.
19. A new plantroom will need to be formed, possibly within the existing boiler room.



First Floor Plan



Option C Sketch views





Option C Sketch view

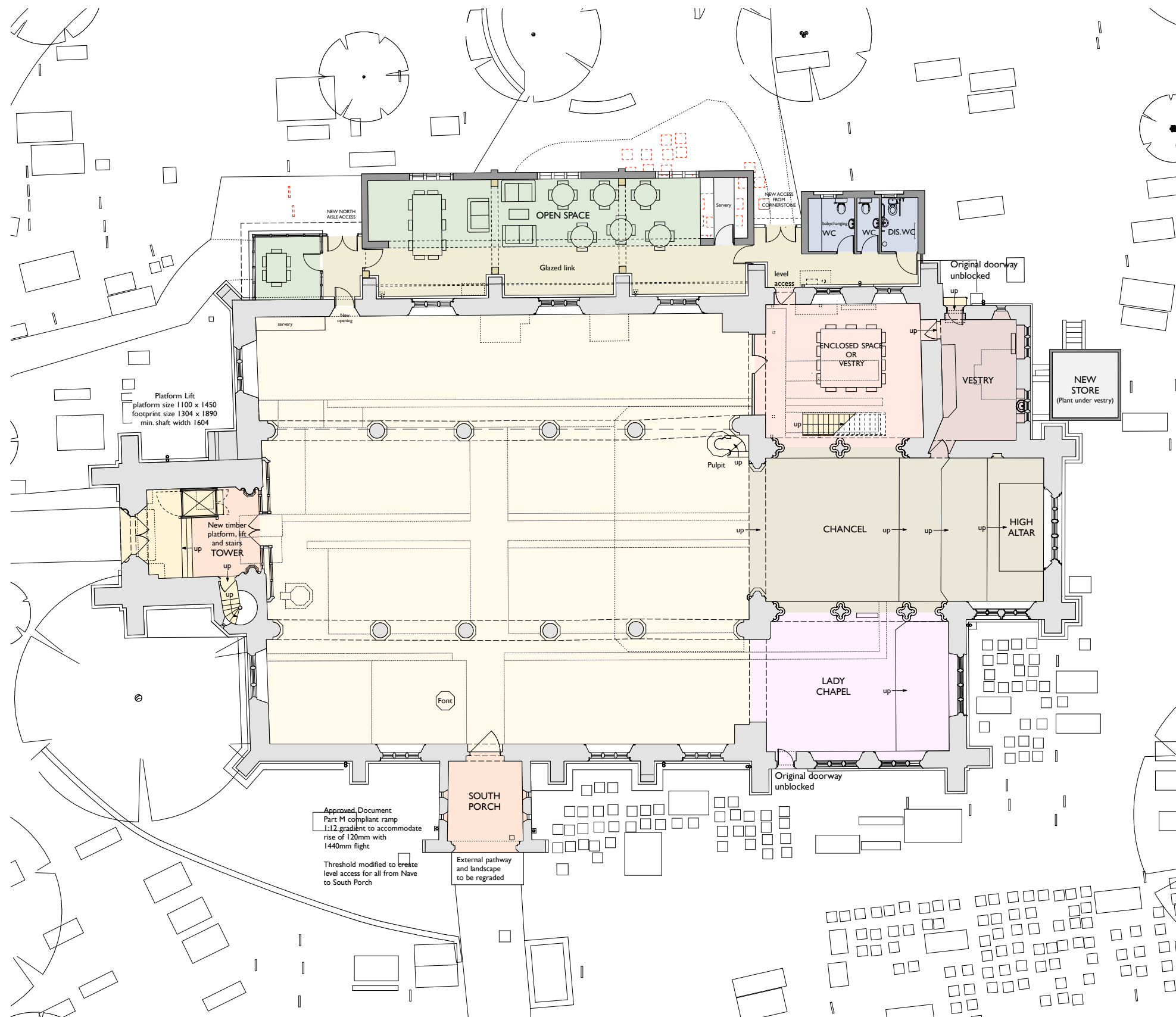






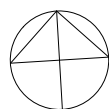
Option C Sectional perspective





Ground Floor Plan

0 5 10 metres



## 3.3

## Option D

### Option D - North Extension

#### Summary of items consistent with all options:

1. Replace fixed pews with stackable seats and smaller bench pews in order to allow the nave to become a fully flexible space for services and community events.
2. Replace the existing heated air system with new underfloor heating supplemented with perimeter radiators. There are 2 options for the extent of the underfloor heating, the first will only be located within the current parquet zones and the Victorian tiles will remain and the second is a complete nave and aisle underfloor option with a new limestone floor throughout.
3. New lighting system throughout. Scope to be agreed once a preferred option has been agreed.
4. New Audio Visual system throughout. Scope to be determined once a preferred option has been agreed.
5. Repairs to the existing church. Scope to be determined later.
6. Font to be relocated to the South Aisle and the plinth removed.
7. Reduce the Dais to create a bigger and more flexible nave area

#### Summary of items relating to Option D:

20. Provide a new permanent but reversible platform lift within the tower to replace the temporary ramp. This will require a new timber platform with stairs within the tower but would allow the base of the entrance and the original doors to be unaltered. Level access could be still achieved at the south porch for visitors in wheelchairs with simple regrading of the ground.
21. Provide a new larger extension to along the north aisle to allow the church to support a whole range of receptions and community events within the church. The external extension would need to sensitively connect to the external wall and a glazed link under the current window cill line is proposed.
22. A new plantroom will need to be formed, possibly within the existing boiler room.







Option D Sketch view - flat roof version



Option D Sketch view - Contextual aerial perspective



Option D Sketch view - pitched roof version







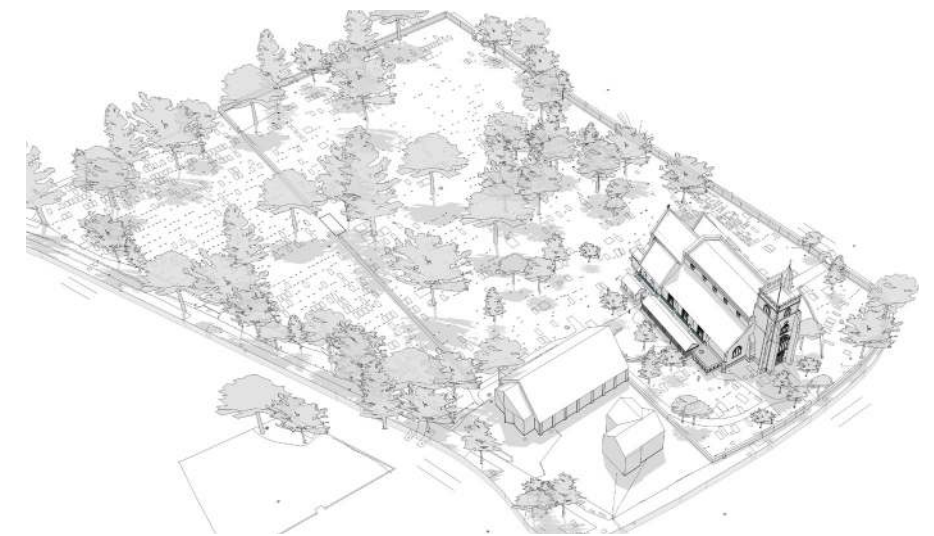
Option D Sketch view - flat roof version



Option D Sketch view - pitched roof version



Option D Sketch view - Glazed link







Option D Precedent Studies - Goring on Thames



Option D Precedent Studies - Alvescot

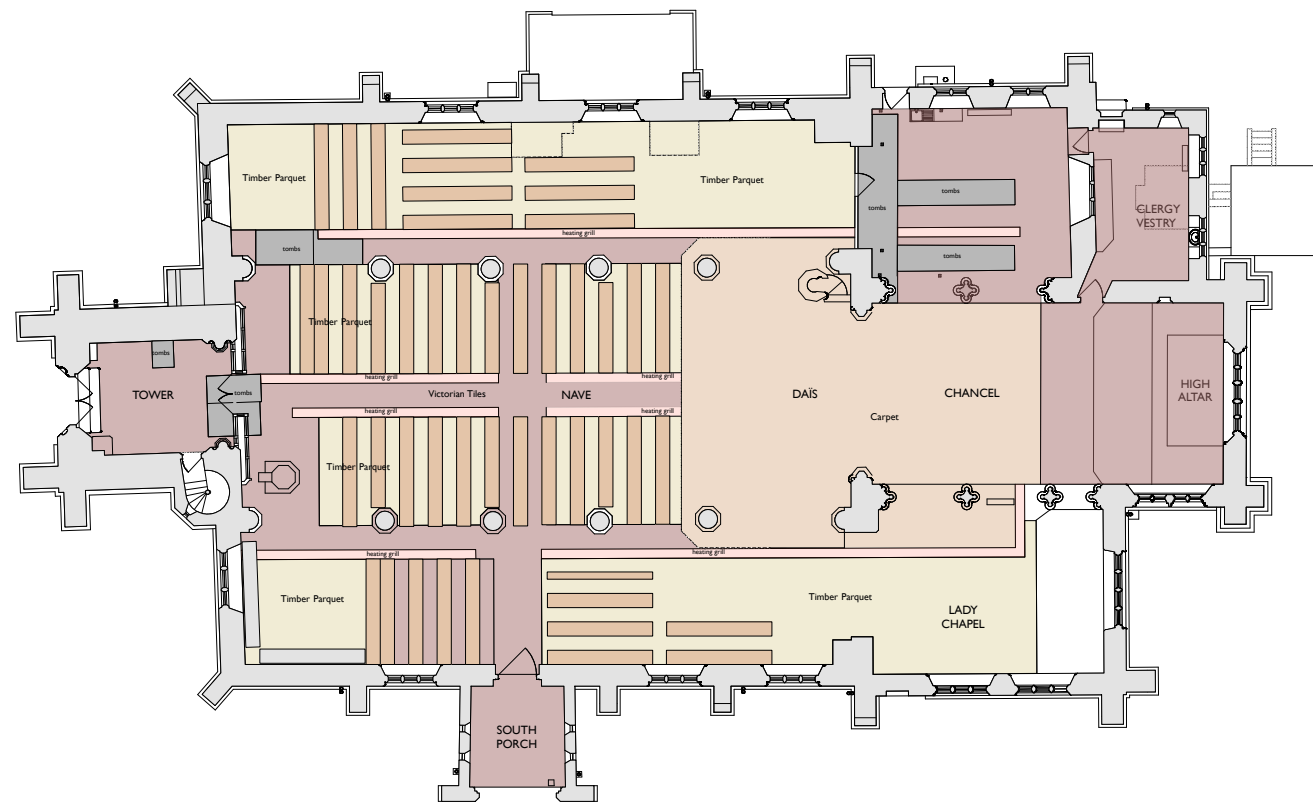


Light connection link to Church

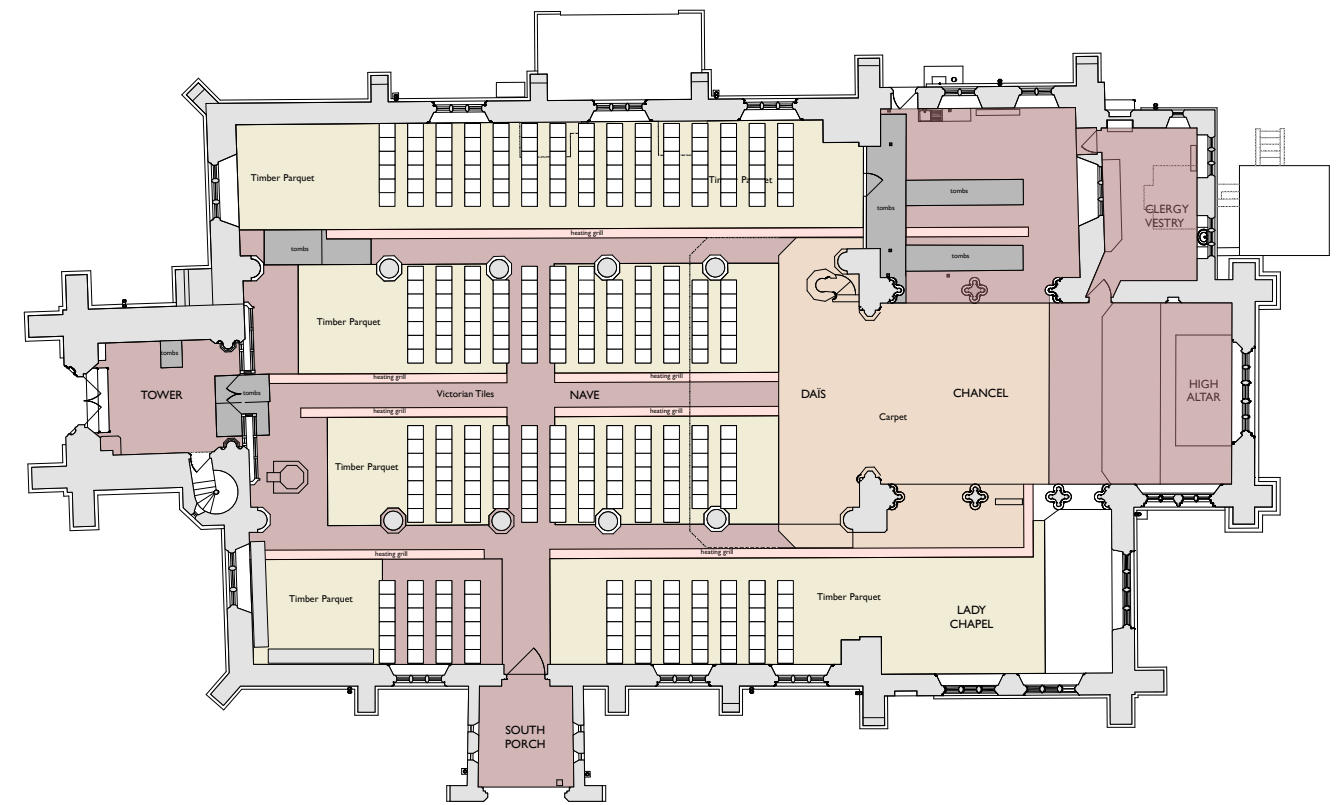




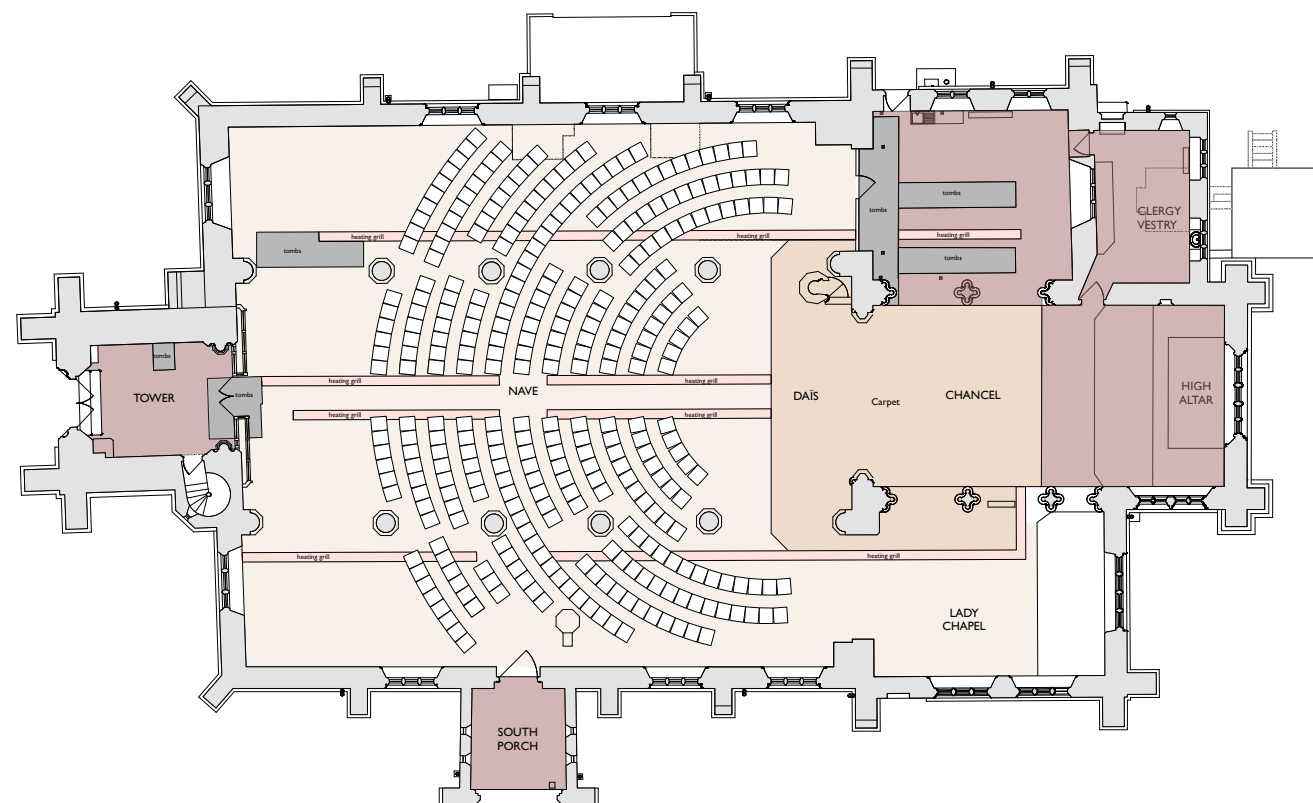
## 3.4 Possible Seating Configurations



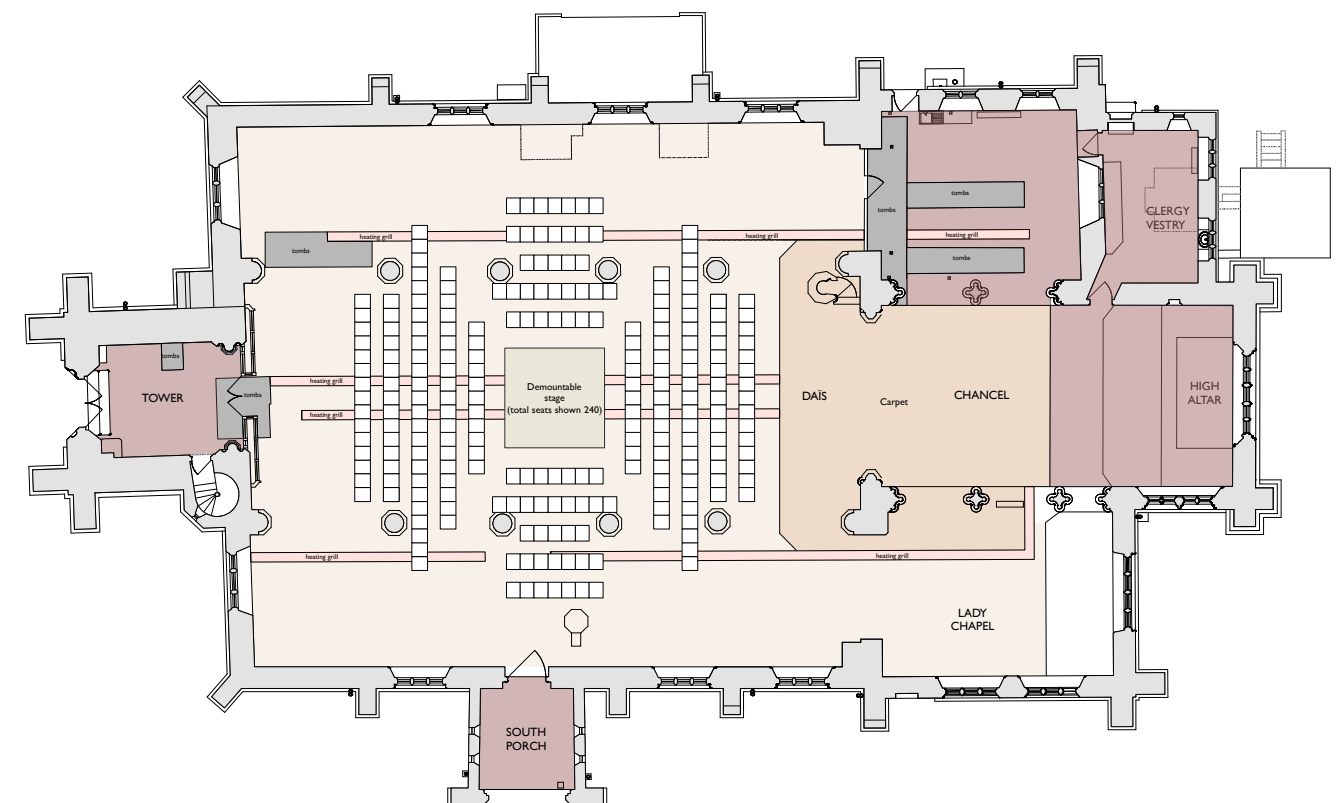
Existing layout with pews. maximum occupancy 420



Traditional seating layout shown with 314 seats (with potential for approximately 100 more)



Curved seating layout shown with 318 seats (with potential for approximately 75 more)

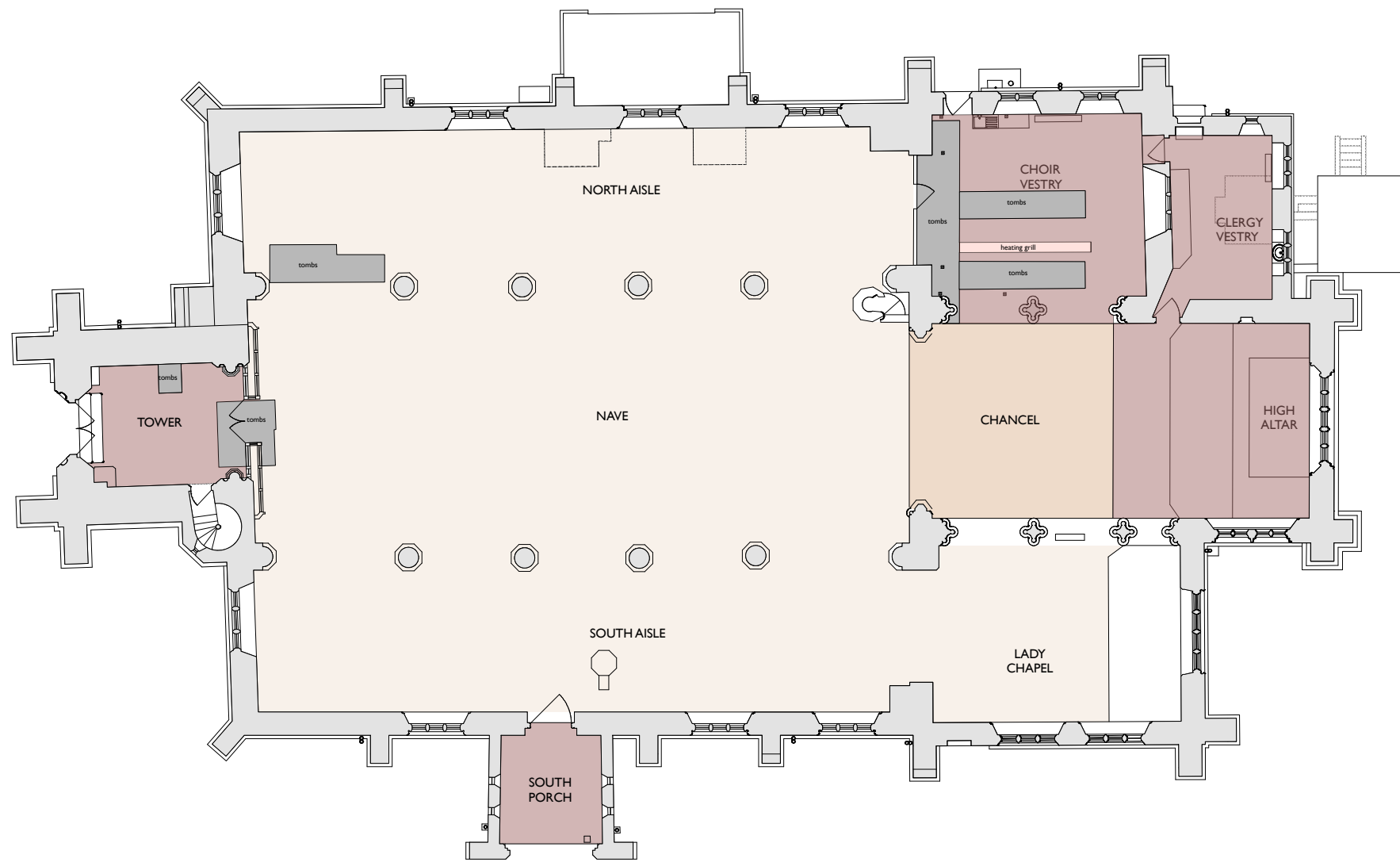


Central stage seating layout shown with 240 sets  
(with potential for approx 75 more)





### 3.4 Seating Configurations cont.



New limestone flooring option

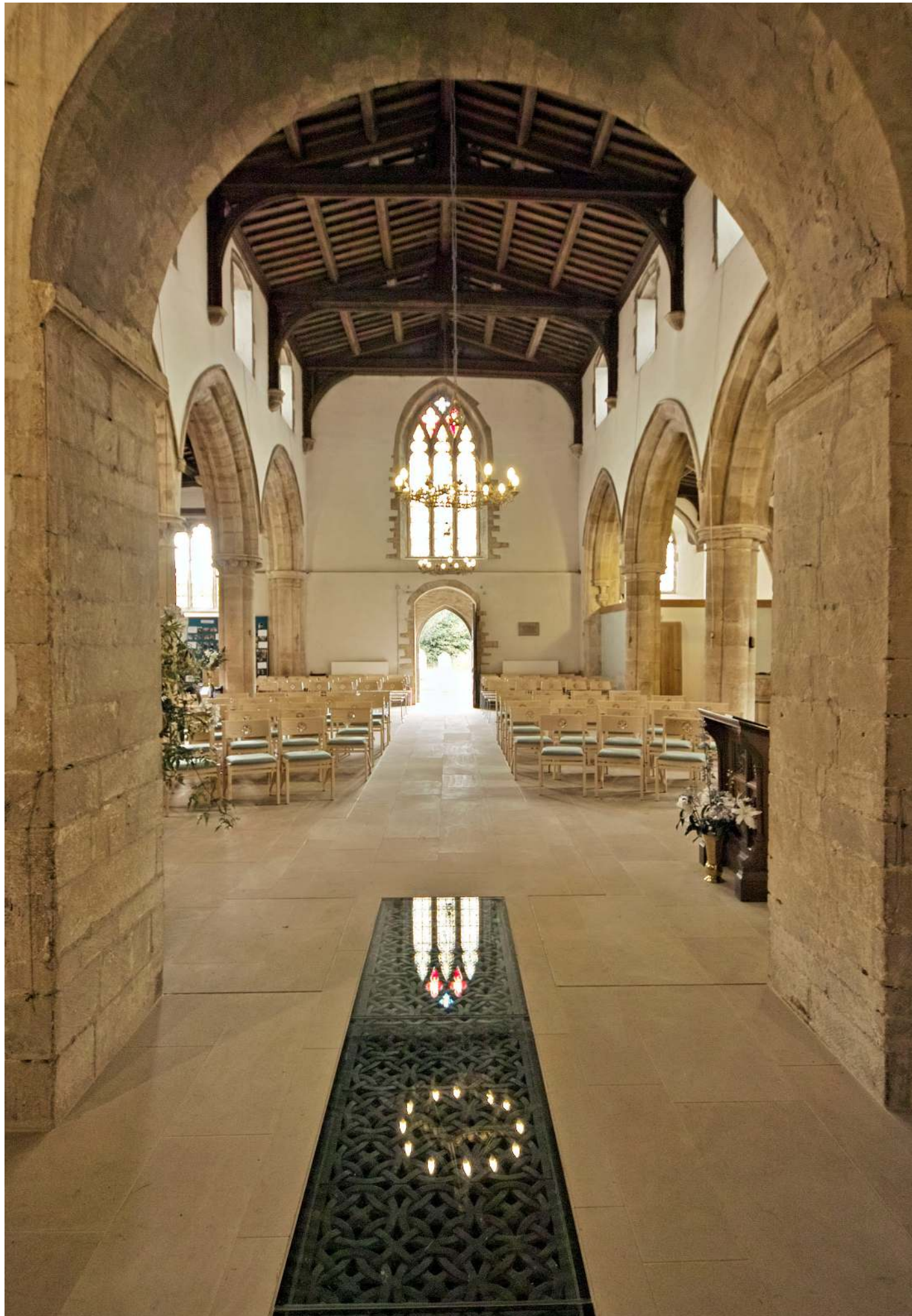


Other examples of new limestone floors - Goring on Thames





### 3.4 Seating Configurations cont.



Other examples of new limestone floors - Kirtlington



Original victorian floors and pews at Kirtlington





## 4.0 Indicative Costings - To follow







## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

**Introduction** - This ‘Statement of Significance’ has been prepared in order to satisfy the procedural requirements when submitting a ‘Petition for Faculty’ under the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 2000, Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991.

All Saints Church, Wokingham is listed as a building of historic or architectural interest under planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The church is listed as a Grade II\* building. The site of the church, including adjoining structures, is not wholly or partially scheduled as an ancient monument. The church and churchyard are situated in a conservation area.

The information given below is drawn mainly from ‘The Life of a Parish Church’ compiled by John Clemetson (see reference 1).

**The Church** - The Church of All Saints was dedicated between 1189 and 1193 by Hubert, Bishop of Salisbury. But, because some previous chaplains are known, it is clear that there was a building prior to these dates but it is not known when. If nothing is now identifiable as belonging to a Saxon church, little is now visible of the Norman Church. The old arch built into the south doorway of the nave and the bases of the nave pillars seem all that is left above the ground. The outside bases of the west porch and the archway of the door leading from the west porch to the belfry stairs probably date from somewhere about 1370 and the stonework of the west windows of the north and south aisles are probably a little earlier.

Sometime before the middle of the fifteenth century, the church was rebuilt. It may be a coincidence that Adam Moleyns, Dean of Salisbury, John Norreis and John Westwoode founded a chantry of St Mary at about the same time between 1441 and 1445. A grammar school was conducted in the chantry, which was in the north chancel aisle. The chantry was dissolved in 1548.

Whatever the circumstances, the church was rebuilt in the perpendicular style with a degree of grandeur. The pillars of the nave, which were and still are mainly of chalk, were heightened and the arches added. The perpendicular west window of the tower was probably put in at this time.

The oak roof of the nave is thought to be early sixteenth century work. It was repaired in the next century and an inspection on one of the tie beams records this. The roof has been repaired many times since. At some time the roof was covered in and hidden with a lath and plaster ceiling. This was removed in 1845 and is recorded by an inscription painted on one of the beams. The repairs of 1845 were carried out after a long and acrimonious controversy between the churchwardens, the Dean of Salisbury who owned the tithes and the lessee of the tithes. However, the repairs did not get to the root of the building’s problems and by 1863 it was recognised that extensive work was required. In 1863/4 the interior was completely changed. The chancel was rebuilt and lengthened; the roof raised and the chancel arch rebuilt. There were new altar rails and a newly built south chancel aisle. The vestry in the north chancel aisle was rebuilt and a clergy vestry added. In the nave, the galleries were taken down and the ringing chamber opened up; the south arcade one of the chalk pillars and two half pillars were rebuilt in stone.

The north and south aisles were rebuilt and a new south porch made retaining the remains of the old Norman doorway. The old high pews, the three-decker pulpit, prayer desk and clerk’s pew were removed. When the work was completed the building may have been sound but the unity of the old perpendicular

church had vanished and it was basically as it is today.

Because of lack of funds, restoration of the tower had to be delayed but by 1880 this could no longer be put off, as the structure was unsafe. Originally it had been hoped to raise the height, to provide another ringing chamber and to bring the west window into the nave.

In 1897, extensive roof repairs were required because in the restoration thirty years previously, iron pins had been used to fix the tiles to the aisle roofs and these had rusted causing some wood to rot. At the same time the lead on the nave roof was redone. In 1898 and again in 1912 repairs were carried out to the inside wooden roof.

In 1923 it was found that the church floor and joists were ‘eaten out with dry rot’ and the seats were also affected; but as work progresses it was found that more things required attention. The foundations of the pillars had to be strengthened with concrete; the old floor was taken up, old graves filled up with concrete, which was laid six inches deep over the whole area. On top were laid the wood blocks. The new seats of Austrian oak were dedicated on 2nd March 1924 and are still in use.

No further work was carried out on the church until 1958/9 when extensive repairs were again necessary, mainly to the roof but one of the pillars of the north arcade had to be replaced in stone.

To bring the story up to date, in 1983 it became apparent that death-watch beetle was active in the nave roof. It was decided in 1984 that every effort should be made to fully restore the church. The roof was the most urgent matter. Also included were the heating and lighting systems, which were causing concern, the organ and the re-ordering of the church to meet the needs of 1990. This re-ordering was completed in 1994.

Soon after this the bell ringers re-wired the tower and installed lighting on the stairs and in the clock room. By the end of 2005 work on the tower was completed. Because of safety concerns (pudding stones were falling from the building) the pudding stone was rendered and five coats of limewash were applied in ‘ocre gold’. In May, 2006, a major repair was completed on the Nave-east parapet and gable wall.

**The Font** - To the right of the west door stands the font, which is fifteenth century work. The bosses show the tudor rose and the deep undercutting of the scrollwork is unusual. The wooden cover was the gift of a parishioner in 1879.

**The Chancel Screen** - The Chancel Screen was erected in 1895 in memory of Charles Edward Gambier Parry Murdoch by his parents who lived in Buckhurst (now St Anne’s Manor Hotel). The screen was designed by Sir Arthur W Bloomfield, who also designed the pulpit, and was relocated in 1992 to the west end of the church so that the chancel could be opened up.

**The Platform and the Chancel** - A platform was fitted in 1994 with removable altar rails in light oak and this and the chancel were carpeted. A new altar, lectern and credence table purchased. The current choir stalls were installed in 2006 to match existing platform furniture which was made of European oak.

**The Organ** - The pipes are the only remaining feature of the old pipe organ, the bulk of which has been disposed of. The pipes are retained purely for decoration. A mezzanine floor was added behind the remaining organ pipes.

## 5.0

## Appendix- B

The first organ in the church was presented by Phillip Morres of Matthews Green. But, after the restoration of 1864, it was decided this was no longer sufficient. It was replaced by an organ built by Bevington & Sons in 1870. In 1895, the organ was reconstructed and enlarged by J W Walker & Sons. This seems to have been a new organ incorporating the better parts of the old organ. In 1954, the organ was cleaned and overhauled but by 1965, it was again causing concern. At that time, the organ was renovated, retuned and placed on a platform in the choir vestry although the console was located in the Lady Chapel.

In 1985 advice was received that the organ would again require a complete rebuild and, hence, the decision was taken to acquire the present organ, which is a three manual digital instrument by Copeman Hart. It was purchased in 1988.

**The Audio System** - In the year 2000 a sound reinforcement system supplied by DM Music was installed next to the organ. This includes an induction loop system

**The lighting** - The present system was installed in 1997. It is the latest of many systems and is inadequate and does not work well.

**The Bells** - It is certain that a peal of six bells existed in the church in 1703. In 1902, the oak beams supporting the bells were found to be in an advanced state of decay. It was recommended that the bells be quarter tuned, two bells re-cast and two new bells added to complete the octave. The bells were re-hung in a wrought iron frame carried on steel girders in 1903.

In 2004 as part of the ‘Celebrating Community Appeal’ the bells were taken down to be retuned. Four of the eight bells are now new bells, and new wheels were fitted to all the bells. The bells were rehung in the Autumn of 2004, all retuned to modern standards, giving a much improved sound.

There is currently an application to the DAC to install a glazed screen between the ringing chamber and the Nave.

**The Churchyard** - The churchyard contains two grade II listed monuments.

**Other Information** - Further details of the church, the churchyard, the registers, the parishioners and past incumbents and officers of the Parish of All Saints, Wokingham can be found at Reference 1.

**References** - 1. ‘The Life of a Parish Church’, J Clemetson, copyright All Saints Parish Church, Wokingham, 1990







Listing Text  
WOKINGHAM WILTSHIRE ROAD  
SU 86 NW  
(East side)  
10/25 Church of All Saints  
12.11.51  
11\*

Parish church. Late C14 on an older site, tower and clerestory added C15, chancel and aisles largely restored in the style of the C14, in 1864-6 by Henry Woodyer; external stonework to tower restored in 1880. Roof restored in 1985-6. Tower and clerestorey, dark brown square conglomerate blocks, with stone dressings; remainder grey squared rubble. Lead roofs to nave and tower, tiles elsewhere.

Chancel, north chancel aisle with organ chamber; south chapel, north east vestry, nave, north and south aisles, south porch and west tower. Tower:- 3 stages with plinth and embattled parapet. Square angle buttresses, and a stair turret on south east corner rising above parapet with a tall, pointed, stone pinnacle and iron weathervane. West doorway has old jambs, wide casement mould and a 2-centred arch under a C19 square head. Above is a C19 window with 5 cinquefoil lights under a traceried, 2-centred head. Second stage, a restored west window of 3 cinquefoil lights with traceried 4-centred head; and a clock dial on the south and west sides. Bell chamber has windows of 2 cinquefoil lights under 4-centred heads.

North aisle:- Three C19, 3-light windows with tracery under a square head; a pointed 3-light window in the west wall; Five, 2-stage buttresses between each. South aisle:- Windows similar to north aisle and with four, 2-stage buttresses between. South doorway between second and third windows is C12 in style, with zig-zag ornament. The porch has 2 small windows in each side wall and a pointed entrance archway. Chancel:- east window of 5-lights under a traceried head. South wall has two, 2-light windows. Interior:- 5 bay nave roof of arch braced collars and redundant crownpost; all moulded and with tracery between tie beams, rafters, and traceried spandrels to 4-centred arch bracing below the ties; moulded jack posts supported by C19 stone head corbels.

The principal rafters, clasped purlins and ridge piece, are chamfered and moulded; one of the tie beams has a date of 1631 carved in it and the inscription 'IL & T.S.'. High north and south arcades, each of 5 bays, the outer ones on the east and west are 4-centred arches and wider than the intermediate, which are 2-centred. The columns are circular and are of chalk except the second column on the north, which is C19 stone. The octagonal bases are probably Norman, with a roll and hollow chamfer mould; the circular capitals have shallow mouldings on an octagonal abacus. The arches are of 2 orders, with a double ogee moulding and chamfer. The aisle roofs are C19, with carved hammer-beam trusses and plain rafters. An arcade of 2 bays divides the chancel from the organ chamber; and a similar arcade on the south, with a smaller bay to the east opens into the chapel.

On the north wall of the chancel, is a trefoiled recess with a credence shelf; the reredos is of carved stone. A carved oak screen divides the chancel from the nave, and an iron screen the chapel. The C15 font is octagonal with traceried, panelled sides containing roses and other flowers; and has a hollow chamfered under-edge carved with inter-twined tree branches. The stem has panelled sides and a moulded base. Stained glass east window by Hardman.

Monuments:- include a small black marble slab on the north wall of the vestry, with a Latin inscription to Thomas Godwin of Christ Church Oxford, Bishop of Bath and Wells, born in Wokingham, and buried there in 1590. On the south wall of the south aisle, is an undated C16 mural monument with a brass, enclosed in a rounded-headed panel of black marble, enriched by a guilloche; on the brass, figures of a man and woman kneeling at a desk, with an inscription below them in English verse. To the right of this is a C18 cartouche to Humphrey Cantrel Sen., and Humphrey Cantrel Jun. On the north wall of the north aisle, is a cartouche to Edward Cotton of Wokingham, who died in 1682. The church tower forms an important visual element to the eastern end of Rose Street, and to the eastern entry to the town.

V.C.H. Vol. III p.226. B.O.E. (Berkshire) p.307.

5.0

Appendix- D

