The Church of Saint James the Great Hanslope, Buckinghamshire

NGR SP 480 247

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Oxford Archaeological Unit July 1992

THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE GREAT, HANSLOPE, BUCKS (HSJG92)

The Oxford Archaeological Unit was commissioned to conduct a watching brief at the church of St. James the Great, Hanslope, Bucks (SP 480247) during the installation of a gas pipeline.

The present church dates from the mid 12th Century, extensively enlarged in the 13th Century.

The site was visited on the 28th and 29th of April during which time the contractors machine-excavated a 0.45 m wide by 0.5 m deep trench along the East side of the path across the churchyard, and around the East end of the church (plan 1).

The trench, throughout its length, cut through a topsoil layer (1) 0.15 m - 0.25 m deep, and into a yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (2). No finds were recovered from either layer.

South of the nave the trench uncovered, the roof of the 19th Century brick vault, (3). North of the porch, the edge of another modern brick vault (4) was uncovered.

On the North side of the church a 20th Century pipe trench (5) was cut through.

Interpretation

The lack of finds or archaeological activity in the immediate vicinity of the church suggests that it was built on a "green-field" site.

