

**A survey of gravestones at
St Mary the Virgin Church,
High Street, Dedham, Essex
May 2007**

**report prepared by
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**commissioned by
St Mary the Virgin Church PCC**

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1 Summary

Ninety-four gravestones of various sorts were recorded in a survey of one section of the graveyard of St Mary the Virgin church at Dedham in 2007. Twenty-six of the gravestones had become overgrown with turf and were located by probing and then uncovered by hand. The gravestones within the survey area had been erected at dates ranging between 1883 and 1984, although almost all the burial plots had been laid out in a systematic way, row by row, between 1883 and 1908.

2 Introduction (Fig 1)

- 2.1 This is a survey of gravestones in one part of the graveyard of St Mary the Virgin Church in Dedham, Essex (Figs 1-2). The survey was carried out on the 8th-10th May and 11th-12th July 2007 by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on behalf of St Mary the Virgin Church PCC.
- 2.2 The village of Dedham is situated 10km north-east of Colchester. St Mary the Virgin Church is the parish church, and dates from the late 15th century. The building stands in the centre of the village, on the south side of the High Street. The main graveyard is located to the south of the church at national grid reference TM 3305 0573. It is bounded by brick walls to the west and east and by an iron railing to the south.
- 2.3 Lack of space in the graveyard prompted the PCC to look into removing gravestones from one part of the graveyard in order to re-use the space. The area concerned measures about 23 by 36m. It was chosen because there appear to be no vaults in the area and because most of the graves here are at least 100 years old.
- 2.4 A magnetic gradiometer survey was carried out in July 2006 by Dr Tim Dennis of the University of Essex. The site was unsuited to the technique because of strong interference from ironwork on and around extant graves, but nevertheless produced indications of two lines of small-area anomalies in otherwise clear areas of ground. There is, however, no evidence to connect these with possible burial vaults (Fig 3).
- 2.5 This report follows guidelines in *Recording and analysing graveyards* (CBA 2002).

3 Aims

The aim of the survey was to:

- record the dates inscribed on the gravestones,
- record the names of those buried so that any living relatives could be contacted,
- locate any gravestones that had become covered over.

4 Survey (Figs 1-2)

- 4.1 Ninety-four gravestones were recorded in the survey area. Most are upright headstones. However, some have been laid flat or have become obscured by turf as a result. In order to locate those that were no longer visible, a pole was used to probe the area. The probing was done in a systematic fashion by walking up and down the area, probing approximately every 200mm. Twenty-five gravestones were located in this way. They were subsequently exposed by hand-digging.
- 4.2 Each gravestone was assigned a number. Individual records of gravestones were entered on CAT pro-forma recording sheets. The position (ie upright, leaning, below ground) of each gravestone, the type of gravestone, its condition and its inscription was recorded.
- 4.3 Colour photographs of each gravestone and of the site were taken with a digital camera.
- 4.4 The position of each gravestone was plotted using an Electronic Distance Measuring Device and overlaid onto a map. On Figures 1-2, a cross indicates a headstone and a circle represents a footstone. Each upright gravestone faces east.

- 4.5** An east-west row of recent gravestones in the centre of the survey area was not included.
- 4.6** The gravestones are numbered 1-91; nos 60, 66, 67, 68, 72 and 86 are not used in the inventory. Headstones and footstones share the same numbers. See inventory.

5 The gravestones

- 5.1** The condition of the gravestones is variable, with some having been colonised by mosses, lichen and algae. Others have been weathered, which has rendered their inscriptions difficult to read. Some moss was removed where it was covering inscriptions. The lichen and algae are less obscuring and so were generally left undisturbed.
- 5.2** The headstones under the turf have obviously been upright previously and have either fallen down or more likely been pushed over deliberately. For safety reasons, an earlier vicar had a policy of pushing over headstones which were leaning (the Rev Moates pers comm).
- 5.3** Several types of gravestones are represented. These can be summarised as follows:
- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| No basic headstones excluding crosses (eg no 1) | 54 plus 2 possibles |
| No crosses (eg no 17) | 11 plus 1 possible |
| No of scrolls (eg 81) | 5 plus 1 possible |
| No of shields (nos 69, 74, 79) | 3 |
| Number of plaques (nos 84, 85) | 2 |
| No 'mock tombs' (nos 8, 45) | 2 |
| No of mini 'mock tombs' (no 70) | 1 |
| No of kerb with small plinth (no 5) | 1 |
| No of footstones | 9 |
| No of unidentifiable types | 2 |
| <i>Total</i> | 90 plus four possibles |
- 5.4** The earliest datable gravestone is 1883. The latest is 1953.
- 5.5** The dates of 116 deaths were transcribed from the gravestones. The earliest recorded death is 1835 and the latest is 1984. Twenty-eight are after 1907 and thus occurred less than 100 years ago. The two earliest dates of death (1835 on no 22; 1869 on no 78) are not likely to indicate that the deceased were buried there. The two people concerned were simply being remembered on the stones.
- 5.6** The names of two stonemasons appear on the stones: Watts (no 4) and Saunders (no 62). The Watts firm still trades today.

6 Discussion

- 6.1** The dates and distribution of the gravestones across the survey area indicate that the burial plots had been laid in north-south rows starting at the west side of the cemetery (Fig 4). There is no obvious clustering of related burials. This suggests that there are no family plots but instead the burial plots were allocated as the need arose, just as in a modern municipal cemetery. The earliest row dates to around 1883. The latest one belongs to the years 1907-1911, showing that it only took around 29 years for the area to be filled up with graves. As was normal, many of the plots contain interments added some years after the plot was set out (the average number of bodies per plot as indicated by the inscriptions is 1.50), and a few more plots were squeezed into the area in much more recent times where space would permit it (ie no 5 and the unrecorded row of graves along the east-west path which originally crossed the survey area).
- 6.2** The number of north-south rows in the survey appears to be fifteen. The average width of each grave plot was around 1.0 m. The total estimated number of plots within the survey area is therefore around 375. If the average number of bodies per plot is 1.50 as indicated by the inscriptions, then the total number of bodies in the whole survey area is likely to be around 563, ie 500-600.

- 6.3** The oldest gravestones in the churchyard cluster around the church. The absence of any in the survey area suggests that this part of the churchyard was an extension southwards onto land that was previously open. The extension presumably dates to 1883 or shortly before. The character of the brick walls to the east and west is consistent with such a date. If the survey area does indeed lie in a 19th-century extension to the churchyard, then no earlier burials can be expected to exist within it.
- 6.4** Interestingly, the number of plots laid out between 1883 and 1911 can be used to provide a crude idea of the size of the population which buried its dead in the cemetery. The resulting figure turns out to be of the right order of magnitude for the population of Dedham parish during this period (ie c 1,900 falling to 1,500), and this therefore lends some support to the conclusion that there really are as many as 500-600 graves in the survey area. Of course, a study of the burial records for this period would provide definitive figures but this lies outside the scope of this project. Meanwhile we can estimate the base population for the cemetery on the following basis.

Estimated no of burial plots laid out between 1883 and 1908 (ie over 29 years)	= 375
No of additional burials in these plots during this period	= 13 (out of 83 plots)
Therefore total no of people buried in the survey area between 1883 and 1908	= 375 x (13 + 83) / 83
	= 434
Life expectancy based on the ages of death given in the inscriptions	= 65
Therefore size of base population	= life expectancy x total no buried in survey area / no of years plots laid out
	= 65 x 434 / 29
	= 973

This figure needs to be increased by about 20% (a rough estimate which could be improved by measuring the plot) to allow for the whole of the 19th-century extension to the cemetery since the survey area only covered a part of it. The result is then 1,168. This is significantly lower than the population of Dedham parish at this time. However, not everybody would have been buried in the churchyard and, more importantly, life expectancy would have been significantly less than the 65 years indicated on the gravestones. Both factors will combine to bring the estimated base population much closer to the figures for Dedham as shown in the censuses of the time. The life expectancy as indicated on the gravestones will be distorted by various factors which favour people who lived longer, particularly the under-representation of children in the surviving memorials in the churchyard and the fact that the better off will have been more able to afford gravestones than the poor.

7 Acknowledgements

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8 Reference

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| CBA | 2002 | <i>Recording and analysing graveyards, practical handbook in archaeology</i> , 15 , Council for British Archaeology, in association with English Heritage, by H Mytum |
|-----|------|--|

9 Archive deposition

The digital and paper archive is held by the Colchester Archaeological Trust at 12 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3NF, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester and Ipswich Museums under accession code COLEM 2007.71.

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Inventory

1

60cm x 120 cm
includes kerbstone



Affectionate Remembrance
ELIZABETH
THE BELOVED WIFE OF
BENJAMIN APPLEBY
WHO DIED SEPTEMBER 10TH 1884
AGED 64 YEARS
Therefore be ye also ready for in such
an hour as we think not the Son of Man
cometh
ALSO OF
BENJAMIN APPLEBY
WHO DIED SEPTEMBER 6TH 1887
AGED 72 YEARS
Who fell asleep in Jesus

2

61cm x 136cm
includes footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



To
the memory of
ROBERT MAY
DIED 5TH JUNE 1890
AGED 77 YEARS

FOR THE SON OF MAN IS COME TO SEEK AND
SAVE THAT WHICH WAS LOST

ALSO OF
FANNY MAY
HIS WIFE
DIED 10TH NOVEMBER 1897
AGED 84 years

I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY
COME UNTO ME AND REST

R.M
1890
F.M
1897

3

67cm x 145cm



Sacred
in the Memory
of
Emma Dunningham
died 30TH April 1898

her father and mother
JAMES EMMA
DUNNINGHAM
Are resting ...

BY GRACE ARE SAVED THROUGH FAITH

4

68cm x 125cm

includes kerbstone



IN EVER LOVING MEMORY
of
SILVESTER SMITH
WHO FELL ASLEEP 4TH JUNE 1896
AGED 56 YEARS

"THROUGH DEATH TO LIFE."

WATTS

5
88cm x 210cm
kerbstone and plinth



inscription on southern kerbstone:

In Memory of
Bertram William James
Died 18TH OCT. 1953
Aged 63 years

inscription on eastern kerbstone:

At rest

inscription on plinth:

In Memory

6
70cm x 133cm
includes footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



In Loving Memory
of
WILLIAM FELGATE
LATE OF
MONKS FARM IN THIS PARISH
WHO DIED
THE 2ND DAY OF AUGUST 1906
AGED 76 YEARS



WF
1906

7

73cm x 128cm
includes kerbstone



In
Loving Memory
of
WILLIAM DAWDY
HEATH COTTAGE DEDHAM
WHO DIED MAY 11TH 1910
AGED 82 YEARS

SO HE BRINGETH THEM UNTO THEIR DESIRED HAVEN

.... CHARLES

....
DIED 1927
....

8

75cm x 197cm



inscription on side:

In Loving Memory of
MARIA SEDEN
WHO DIED 3RD DECEMBER 1907 AGED 49 YEARS

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH

9

71cm x 130cm
includes kerbstone



In Loving Memory
of
ELIZA
THE DEARLY LOVED WIFE OF
HENRY BLYTHE
WHO DIED 4TH FEBRUARY 1900
AGED 48

TILL WE MEET AGAIN

ALSO
HENRY DAVID BLYTHE
HUSBAND OF THE ABOVE
DIED 7TH APRIL 1939
AGED 82 years

REUNITED

10

73cm x 131cm



In Loving Memory
of
HENRY COOK
WHO DIED 2ND AUGUST 1891
AGED 66
and of ...
MARY COOK
WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED ... 1898
AGED 67

ASLEEP IN JESUS

11
64cm x 98cm
includes kerbstone



illegible

12
69cm x 131cm



IN
MEMORY OF
ELIZABETH MILLER
DIED JULY 13TH 1890
AGED 85 YEARS

DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY

13

76cm x 144cm



In
Loving Memory of
DAVID MOORE,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
OCTOBER 8TH 1895,
AGED 59 YEARS

NOT GONE FROM MEMORY OR FROM LOVE,
BUT GONE TO HIS FATHER'S HOME ABOVE.

ALSO OF
MARY ANN, HIS WIFE,
WHO FELL ASLEEP MARCH 8TH 1922,
AGED 86 YEARS.

HER END WAS PEACE

14

69cm x 130cm

includes footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



IN MEMORY
OF
HANNAH PALFREY GARWOOD
WHO DIED JULY 11TH 1898
IN HER 78TH YEAR

HER END WAS PEACE

ALSO OF
ELIZA ANN SEABROOKE
WHO DIED JUNE 21ST 1909
AGED 84 YEARS.



....
1898
EAS
1909

15

77cm x 126cm



In Loving Memory
of
ANNIE MARIA FANNY LILLEY
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
DEC. 20TH 1901
AGED 36 YEARS

"TO DEPART AND BE WITH CHRIST
IS FAR BETTER"

also of
HER BELOVED DAUGHTER **URITH**,
WHO DIED 22ND DEC.R 1915,
AGED 19 YEARS.

"PEACE: PERFECT PEACE"

16

77cm x 128cm



In
Loving Memory
of
FREDERICK COLE,
WHO DIED JAN. 30TH 1904,
AGED 63 YEARS.

"God is the strength of my life"

Also of
ELIZABETH ANN COLE,
WHO DIED MAY 22ND 1933,
AGED 79 YEARS.

"The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended"

17

headstone with cross 66cm x 166cm
includes kerbstone



IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
JOSEPH COLLIER
THURGARLAND,
WHO DIED APRIL 21ST 1927
AGED 72 YEARS
ALSO OF HIS DAUGHTER
FRANCES MARY COZENS
WHO DIED JULY 15TH 1984,
AGED 89 YEARS.

18

72cm x 1.3m



In Loving Memory
of
HARRIET EDWARDS
WHO DIED NOV. 4TH 1909,
AGED 73 YEARS
BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHICH DIE IN THE LORD

19

48cm x 122cm

free-standing cross

includes kerbstone



inscription on east-facing side of cross:

Thy Will be done

inscription on east-facing side of base:

Loving Memory
of
William Windell
Who died ... 20th 1901
Aged 67 years

20

66cm x 144cm

free-standing cross

includes kerbstone



inscription on east-facing side of base:

In
Affectionate
Remembrance of
WILLIAM SHERMAN
BORN 26TH NOV. 1817. DIED 26TH OCT. 1899

FROM YOUTH TO OLD AGE, UPRIGHT, COURTEOUS, KIND,
BELOVED AND RESPECTED BY YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE
The Memory of the just is blessed

THIS MEMORIAL IS ERECTED BY THE OLD BOYS OF DEDHAM SCHOOL

inscription on north-facing side of base:

Also of
Jane Sherman, his wife
Died Sept. 2ND 1923
AGED 88 YEARS

21

collapsed or laid flat on ground
34cm x 38cm



....
DANIEL
BELOVED HUSBAND OF
EMMA DANIEL
Who died 28th May 18[..
Aged 46 years
ALSO OF EMMA
WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED 8th Nov. 19[18]
AGED 6[8] YEARS
Gone but not forgotten

22

68cm x 126cm
includes kerbstone



In
Loving Memory
of
ROBERT RAY
DIED JANUARY 14TH 1891
AGED 100 YEARS
HE WAS BORN OCTOBER 11TH 1790

THOU SHALT COME TO THY GRAVE IN A FULL AGE
LIKE AS A SHOCK OF CORN COMETH IN IN HIS SEASON
JOB.5.26

Also of LUCY
WIFE OF THE ABOVE
BORN JUNE 8TH 1800
DIED MAY 29TH 1835
LEAVING 8 CHILDREN TO MOURN THEIR LOSS

23

70cm x 120cm



In Loving Memory of
 Kezia Newell
 Died Nov 1888 aged 68
 ALSO HER BELOVED HUSBAND
 JONATHAN NEWELL
 DIED 1887 AGED
 ...
 ...]STER MORNING
 ...]S THEIR DEAD RESTORE
 CHILD AND MOTHER
 MEET ONCE MORE

24

70cm x 108cm



IN [MEMORY] OF
 FRANCIS MURRELLS
 DIED 14TH SEP[T] 1888
 AGED 78

 ALSO OF HER DAUGHTER
 ...
 EVA JANE MURRELLS
 DIED [20TH] 18[..]
 AGED 3[.]

25

120cm x 70cm

includes kerbstone and footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



IN
MOST LOVING MEMORY OF
HENRY WILLIAM PARNELL
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
.... MARCH 1890
AGED 60 YEARS
NOT GONE FROM MEMORY OR FROM LOVE
BUT GONE TO HIS FATHER'S HOME ABOVE
ALSO OF
ELIZABETH ANN PARNELL
DIED 20TH 1922
AGED 84



HWP
1890
EAP
1922

26

collapsed or laid flat

65cm x 127cm

includes kerbstone



SAMUEL FELGATE
DIED MAY 1896
AGED 81 YEARS
ALSO OF
SARAH, WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED [1896]
AGED 78 YEARS
ALSO OF
....

27

probable base for free-standing cross; base 36cm x 46cm, 25cm high
includes kerbstone



IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
FREDERICK PATTEN
WHO DIED 27 SEP 1895
AGED 75 YEARS

28

headstone 69cm x 74cm, kerbstone 77cm x 206cm



IN
LOVING MEMORY
OF
HENRY HITCHCOCK,
BORN 19TH FEB. 1851,
DIED 9TH AUG. 1899
ALSO OF EMILY, HIS WIFE
BORN 22ND DEC. 1852,
DIED 17TH JAN. 1931

PEACE, PERFECT PEACE

29

71 cm x 127cm



In
Loving Memory of
HENRY HARRISON
WHO DIED SEPTEMBER 18TH 1888
AGED 54 YEARS

ALSO OF
MARY ANN WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED JANUARY 1890
AGED 56 YEARS

30
40cm x 78cm



....
JANE BAKER
WHO DIED AT THE VICARAGE
.... FEBRUARY 1888
A FEW DAYS [OFF] HER 21ST BIRTHDAY
ECCLESIASTES XII.I

31
61cm x 138cm



IN
LOVING MEMORY
OF
ELIZABETH CALLANT
WHO DIED JULY 19TH 1887
AGED 19 YEARS

I will give you rest Matthew XI

32

3cm x 112cm



IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
GEORGE ARTHUR BOUTTELL
DIED OCT 1885
AGED 19 YEARS
WHAT I DO THOU KNOWEST NOT NOW
BUT THOU SHALT KNOW HEREAFTER
ALSO OF
ADAH BOUTTELL
HIS MOTHER
WHO DIED ON HER BIRTHDAY
SEPT 12TH 1903
AGED 79 YEARS
[']TIS WEARY WAITING HERE
ALSO OF ISAAC BOUTTELL
DIED APRIL 20TH 1912
AGED 89 YEARS
AT LAST THE WEARY LIFE IS OVER

33

70cm x 125cm



IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
ROBERT GARWOOD
WHO DIED 17TH JAN 1891
AGED 77 YEARS

ALSO OF
ELIZA, HIS WIFE
WHO DIED 4TH MARCH 1900
AGED 86 YEARS

THEY REST IN PEACE

34

68cm x 123cm



IN MEMORY OF
WILLIAM BARBER
BORN 2ND APRIL 1814
DIED 22ND FEBRUARY 1893

ALSO OF
SUSANNAH
HIS WIFE
BORN 2ND DECEMBER 1824
DIED 7TH OCTOBER 1902
THE LORD OF HOSTS IS WITH US, THE
GOD OF JACOB IS OUR REFUGE

35

72cm x 129cm

includes kerbstone



In Memory
of
JESSIE MARY CLARKE,
BORN 27TH MAY 1842
DIED 22ND MAY 1896

HER END WAS PEACE

36

70cm x 120cm



In Memory of
Sarah Edwards
Died 1889
Aged 68
....
.... PEACE
.... XI

37

wrought iron with ringed cross (rust encrusted)
34cm x 85cm



IN
MEMORY
OF
ELIZA, WIDOW OF
SAMUEL ROBINSON
OF DEDHAM
DIED JULY 21ST 190[3]
AGED YEARS

PEACE, PERFECT PEACE IN
THIS DARK WORLD OF SIN,
THE BLOOD OF JESUS
WHISPERS PEACE WITHIN

[THIS] WAS ERECTED BY
HER LOVING DAUGHTER SARAH

38

52cm x 82cm



IN
LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN FREDERICK
BARBER
1848-1902
ALSO
DOROTHY ELIZABETH
1870-1943

39

headstone 60cm x 40cm
includes kerbstone



Julia Harriet Moore
Died 1907
Aged 43 years
and
Daniel Moore
Died 1941
Aged 81

40

70cm x 124cm



IN EVER LOVING MEMORY
OF
EDWARD DENNY
WHO DIED MAY 15TH 1909
AGED 75 YEARS

THY WILL BE DONE

ALSO OF HIS BELOVED WIFE
SARAH ANN DENNY
WHO DIED DEC 22ND 1938
AGED 95 YEARS
RIP

41

74cm x 127cm



In Loving Memory of
EDWIN WILLIAM
FEATHERSTONHAUGH
DIED 21ST MARCH 1907
AGED 32 YEARS

COME UNTO ME ALL YE THAT LABOUR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN
AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST MATT XI.28

42

probable base for free-standing cross; base 54cm x 67cm x 32cm



Thy will be done

43

free-standing cross; 65cm x 142cm
includes kerbstone



In Loving Memory
of
PHILIP THORRINGTON
WHO DIED 1896
AGED 69 YEARS
ALSO HIS WIFE MARY ANN

44

collapsed or laid flat

56cm x 174cm

includes footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE OF
SARAH SHARP
WHO DIED 24TH DEC. 189[6]
AGED [7]6 YEARS
THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD, I SHALL NOT WANT
....
Psalm XXIII.I



SS
1896

45

56cm x 180cm



In Loving Memory of
James W G Rands
Late of Dedham
Died May 1890
Aged 72 years

Thy will be done

46

69cm x 125cm

includes kerbstone and footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



Her birth
in hope of a
blessed resurrection
Anna Jane
Daughter of Alexander Harris Esq
Who fell asleep in Jesus
on the 8th day of August
in the year of 1883
....
Aged 59



A.J.
1883

47

collapsed or laid flat on ground

67cm x 122cm

includes kerbstone and footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



In Loving Memory of
Mary Ann Turner
Who died 27th July 1888
Aged 61 years



1888

48

68cm x 115cm



In Loving Memory
of
HANNAH DENNEY
WHO DIED DEC. 31ST 1897
IN HER 85TH YEAR

ALSO OF
JAMES DENNEY
HUSBAND OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED MARCH 31ST 1898
IN HIS 88TH YEAR

THEY REST FROM THEIR LABOURS

49

65cm x 124cm



IN
LOVING MEMORY OF
EDWARD DYE,
LATE SERGT MAJOR ROYAL ARTILLERY
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
ON MARCH 26TH 1902,
AGED 54 YEARS

WHEN THE DAY OF TOIL IS DONE,
WHEN THE RACE OF LIFE IS RUN,
FATHER GRANT THY WEARIED ONE
REST FOR EVERMORE.

50

61cm x 114cm



In
Loving Memory of
Marigold Burch
died 26TH SEPTEMBER 1977
DAUGHTER OF MR & MRS P. V. ALLEN
AND OF HER
BELOVED HUSBAND
MAJOR GENERAL
FREDERICK WHITMORE
BURCH
C.S.I., C.I.E., M.C., D.L.
DIED 20TH DECEMBER 1977

51

free-standing cross: 45cm x 120cm



inscription on east-facing side of base:

In Loving Memory
of
MARTHA RINGE
Died 22ND [Nov] 1906
AGED 80 YEARS

inscription on west-facing side of base:

GEORGE JACOB RINGE
Died Aug^t 16TH 1916
AGED 91 YEARS

52

75cm x 138cm



In Loving Memory
of
ALICE MARY
THE BELOVED WIFE OF
JOHN FREDRICK ARNOLD
WHO DIED 16TH.] SEPT. 1900
AGED 34 YEARS

NOT GONE FROM MEMORY OR FROM LOVE
BUT GONE TO HER FATHER'S HOME ABOVE

ALSO OF
EUNICE
THE BELOVED WIFE OF
JOHN FREDRICK ARNOLD
WHO DIED 21ST MARCH 1916
AGED 39 YEARS

UNTIL THE DAY BREAK AND THE SHADOWS FLEE AWAY

53

81cm x 142cm

includes footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



.... Loving Remembrance of
Mahalath
Wife of Samuel Osborne
Who died August 18th 1888
Aged 66 Years
Brief life is here our portion;
Brief sorrow[,] short[-]live[d] care:
The life that knows no ending
The fearless life is there
God is love
Samuel Osborne
Died April 4TH 1902
Aged 50 Years



MO
1888
S.O
1902

54

80cm x 145cm

includes footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



In Loving Remembrance of
John Osborne
Born June 17TH 1816 Died July 17TH 1883
It is not the outward profession of the
truth but the inward power of it that is
useful unto the souls of men
Also of Mary Ann
wife of the above
who died Oct. 1885
Aged 72 Years
Thy will be done

J.O.
1883
M.A.O.
1885

55

collapsed or laid flat on ground



To the Memory of
WILLIAM WHITE
AGED 18 YEARS
[W]HO, WHILE ACTING UNDER A SENSE
OF DUTY, WAS ACCIDENTALLY KILLED
.... ARDLEIGH STATION ON
September 16TH 1884

AS THE LORD LIVETH AND AS THE SOUL
THERE IS BUT BETWEEN
PSALM XX

56

collapsed or laid flat and broken
78cm x 180cm



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
WILLIAM BIRD
WHO DIED AUGUST 29TH 1887
AGED [70] YEARS

NOW THE LABOURER'S TASK IS O'ER
NOW THE BATTLE DAY IS PAST
NOW UPON THE FARTHER SHORE
[LAYS] THE VOYAGER AT LAST
FATHER IN THY GRACIOUS KEEPING
LEAVE WE NOW THY SERVANT SLEEPING

57

75cm x 125cm



....
JOHN EDWARD HUNT
BORN MARCH 16TH 1830
DIED OCT. 30TH 1889

WEARY WITH LIFE'S LONG STRUGGLE[,] FULL OF PAIN
O DOUBTING SOUL, THY SAVIOUR CALLS AGAIN
THY DOUBTS SHALL VANISH AND THY SORROWS CEASE
COME UNTO ME AND I WILL GIVE YOU PEACE

58

collapsed or laid flat

70cm x 148cm



In Loving Memory of
SARAH ANN
THE BELOVED WIFE OF JOHN SEDEN
DIED 10TH NOV. 1898
AGED 80 YEARS

BY GRACE YE ARE SAVED

ALSO OF
JOHN SEDEN
WHO DIED 28TH APRIL 1905
AGED 87 YEARS

BE YE THEREFORE READY ALSO

59

71cm x 127cm



In
Loving Memory
of
THOMAS GARWOOD
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
OCTOBER 22ND 1898
AGED 69 YEARS

TRULY MY SOUL WAITETH UPON GOD FROM
WHENCE COMETH MY SALVATION

ALSO OF **ELLEN GARWOOD**
HIS DAUGHTER
WHO DIED 9TH JAN. 1913
AGED 42 YEARS

.... FOREVER

ALSO OF **ALICE HIS WIFE**
WHO DIED 3RD JUNE 1921
AGED 89 YEARS

...

60

not used

61

69cm x 120cm

includes kerbstone



Sacred
TO THE MEMORY OF
EBENEZER SAUNDERS
BORN JUNE 9TH 1834
DIED JULY 6TH 1912

AND
MARY ELIZABETH HIS WIFE
BORN DECEMBER 30TH 1833
DIED APRIL 18TH 1913

ALSO OF
SOPHIA LLOYD SAUNDERS
BORN JULY 23RD 1860
DIED APRIL 27TH 1901

AND
ALFRED WOODS SAUNDERS
BORN [1872]
DIED OCTOBER 8TH 1902
DAUGHTER AND SON OF THE ABOVE
WHEN I AWAKE I AM STILL WITH THEE

...

62

71cm x 130cm



In
Loving Memory
- of -

ANN DINES

DIED APRIL 3RD 1906
IN HER 69TH YEAR

HER END WAS PEACE

ALSO OF WILLIAM DINES

DIED DEC. 27TH 1924
AGED 93 YEARS

ALSO OF EDWARD

YOUNGEST SON OF THE ABOVE
LATE OF THE 8TH SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS
WHO FELL IN ACTION AT YPRES ON THE 10TH JULY 1917
AGED 39 YEARS

WHAT I SAY UNTO YOU I SAY UNTO YOU ALL. WATCH MARK XIII.37

SAUNDERS

63

free-standing cross
64cm x 145cm



Jane Mason,
youngest daughter of
Benjamin Mason
(of Boxted Mill)

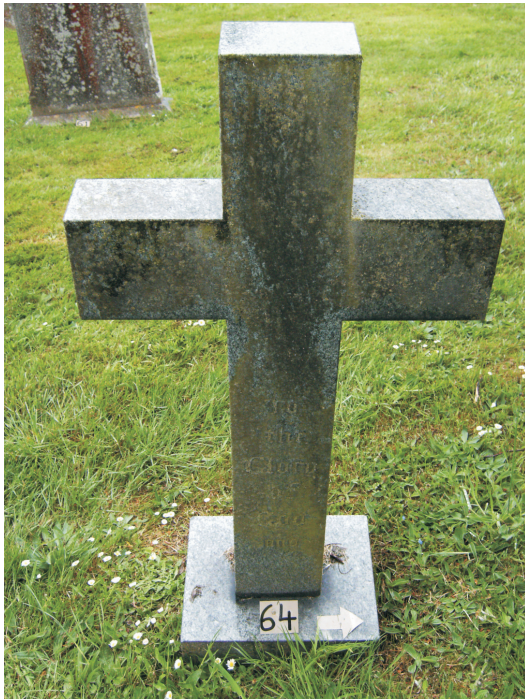
Born March 18th 1828

Died November 24TH 1911

Quietness and assurance for ever Isaiah 32.17

64

free-standing cross: inscriptions on east and west faces
36cm x 112cm



inscription on cross:

To
the
glory
of
God
and
...

inscription on base:

In
loving
memory

65

collapsed
72cm x 179cm



Christopher Hunt
Who died on Oct. 8TH 1898
Aged 87 years
We cannot go back again to share in
Though we may tell a parting
And drop tear
Also of
Hannah, wife of the above
Who died Oct. 19TH 1901
Aged 89 years
....

66-68 not used

69

40cm x 45cm



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ABRAHAM COLE
DIED
SEPTEMBER 25, 1884
AGED 67 YEARS

70

20cm x 40cm



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
PHILIP USHER
WHO DIED OCT. 19TH 1884
AGED YEARS

71

collapsed or laid flat
50cm x 92cm



72 not used

73

collapsed or laid flat on ground
46cm x 98cm



In Loving Memory
of
Samuel Hubbard
Who died FEB. 23[RD] 1890
Aged 59 years
....

74
30cm x 32cm



In Loving Memory
of
ERNEST ALBERT
DENNY
Died 1891
Aged 26 years
The Lord knows
....

75
32cm x 42cm
probable base; monument removed



76
25cm x 40cm



In Memory of
ELIZA FENNER
DIED 29TH JANUARY 1907
AGED 64 YEARS

THE LORD GAVE AND THE LORD
HATH TAKEN AWAY. BLESSED BE
THE NAME OF THE LORD

77

collapsed or laid flat
57cm x 179cm
includes kerbstone



In Loving Remembrance
of
WILLIAM HENRY YOUNG
Who departed this life
November 2ND 1896
Aged 24 years
Not my will but Thine be done
Luke XXII.42

God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform
He plants his footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm

ALSO OF
ALFRED YOUNG
Died 8TH July 1917
Aged 71 years

ALSO OF
EMILY HIS WIFE
Died 27TH December 1923
Aged 83 years

AT REST

78

collapsed or laid flat

66cm x 171cm

includes footstone (collapsed or laid flat)



H.R
1898
W.R
1869

In Loving Memory
- of -
HANNAH daughter of
WILLIAM AND HANNAH RAISON
for over six years the dutiful wife of
WILLIAM EDWARDS
Died 1ST MARCH 1898 aged 78 years

also of the above
WILLIAM RAISON
Who for 56 years was a Wesleyan preacher
and HANNAH his wife
Who for 50 years
shared his comforts and sorrows
He died 17TH January 1869
Aged 78 years

and also of [nine] sons
and another daughter of the above
WILLIAM AND HANNAH RAISON

This stone was erected by
the only surviving son & child

Reader, to you a like call will come and
whatsoever a man soweth he shall also reap.
God's Word

79

35cm x 40cm



In [the] memory of
WILLIAM DAW[...]
Died ... 1909
Aged [96] years

80

collapsed or laid flat
38cm x 96cm



In Loving Memory
of
GERTRUDE
EMMERSON
DIED JULY 1909
ALSO OF
CHARLES EDWARD
HUSBAND OF THE ABOVE
DIED JAN. 9TH 1935

RESTING

ALSO OF
CECILIA EMMERSON
DIED OCT. 10TH 1945
AGED 80 YEARS

81

27cm x 35cm



In
Loving Memory
of
EMILY DENNY
Died 28TH AUG. 1905
IN HER 41 YEAR

82

collapsed or laid flat on ground face down
48cm x 67cm
includes kerbstone



83

36cm x 45cm
probable base for a scroll?



84

35cm x 40cm



In
Loving
Memory of
GEORGE USHER
WHO FELL ASLEEP
IN JESUS
22ND DEC. 1897
IN HIS 70TH YEAR

85
32cm x 40cm



In
Loving Memory
of
HARRY WILLIAM LAWRENCE
WHO DIED AT COLCHESTER
APRIL 7TH 1898
FROM INJURIES RECEIVED
ON THE G.E.R.
AGED 27 YEARS

IN THE MIDST OF LIFE WE ARE IN DEATH

DEEPLY MOURNED

86 not used

87
base of broken headstone?
42cm x 57cm



88
37cm x 50cm
base of broken headstone?



89
40cm x 48cm



ROBERT JAMES
WHO DIED JUNE 3RD 1888
AGED 68 YEARS
ALSO MARIA WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED JANUARY 20TH 1913
AGED 90 YEARS

THY WILL BE DONE

ALSO OF LITTLE MAGGIE
THE DEARLY LOVED CHILD OF
FRANK AND LIZZIE JAMES
WHO DIED JANUARY 28TH 1914
AGED 12 YEARS

THE LORD HATH NEED OF HER

90
40cm x 43cm



IN
LOVING
REMEMBRANCE OF
PHILIP JAMES
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
NOVEMBER 3RD 188[.]
AGED 16 YEARS
THY WILL BE DONE

91
25cm x 45cm



In Loving Memory of
ESTHER
THE BELOVED WIFE OF
JAMES BEER
DIED FEBRUARY 5 1910
AGED 54 YEARS

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

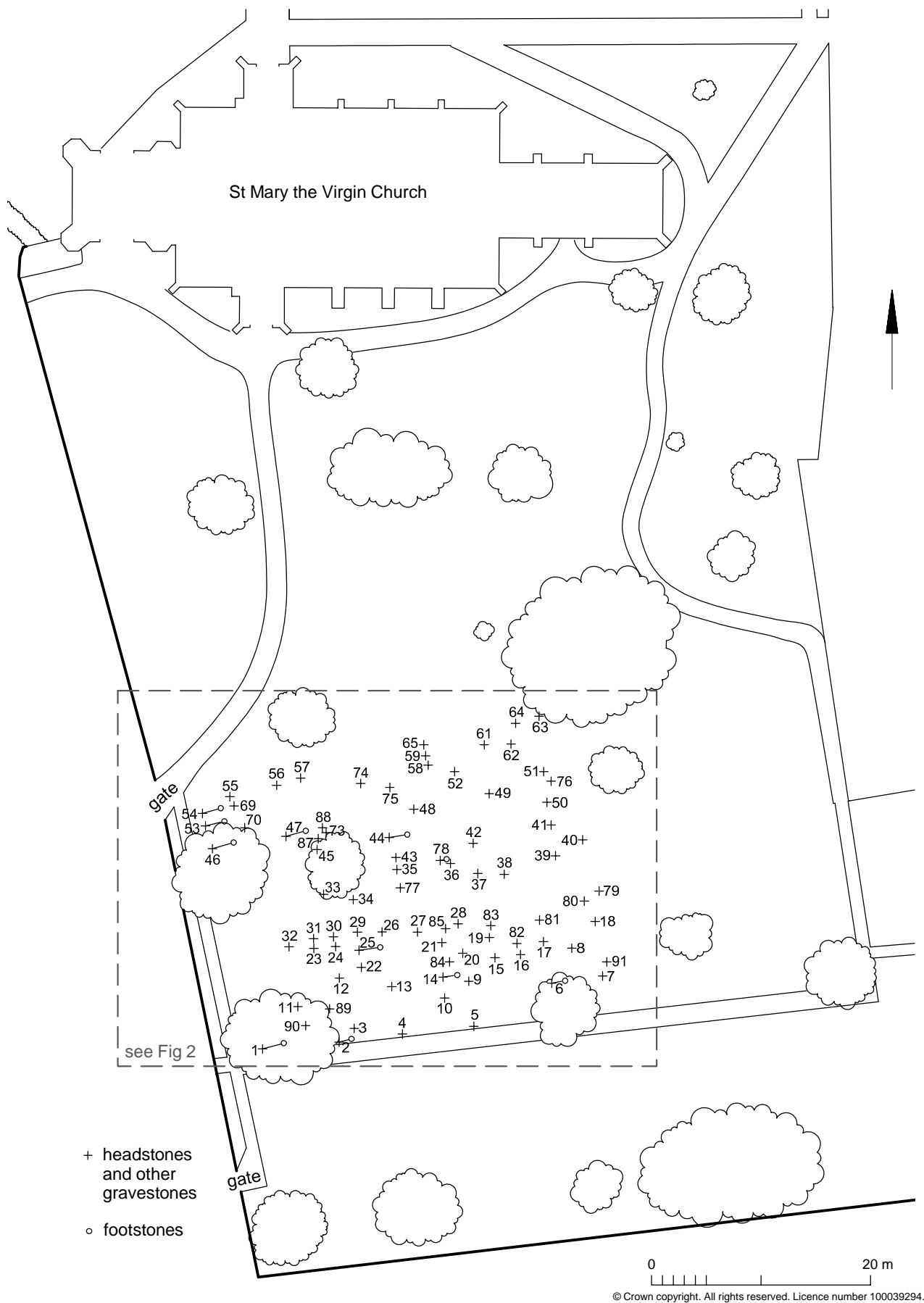


Fig 1 St Mary the Virgin Church, Dedham: location of gravestones recorded.

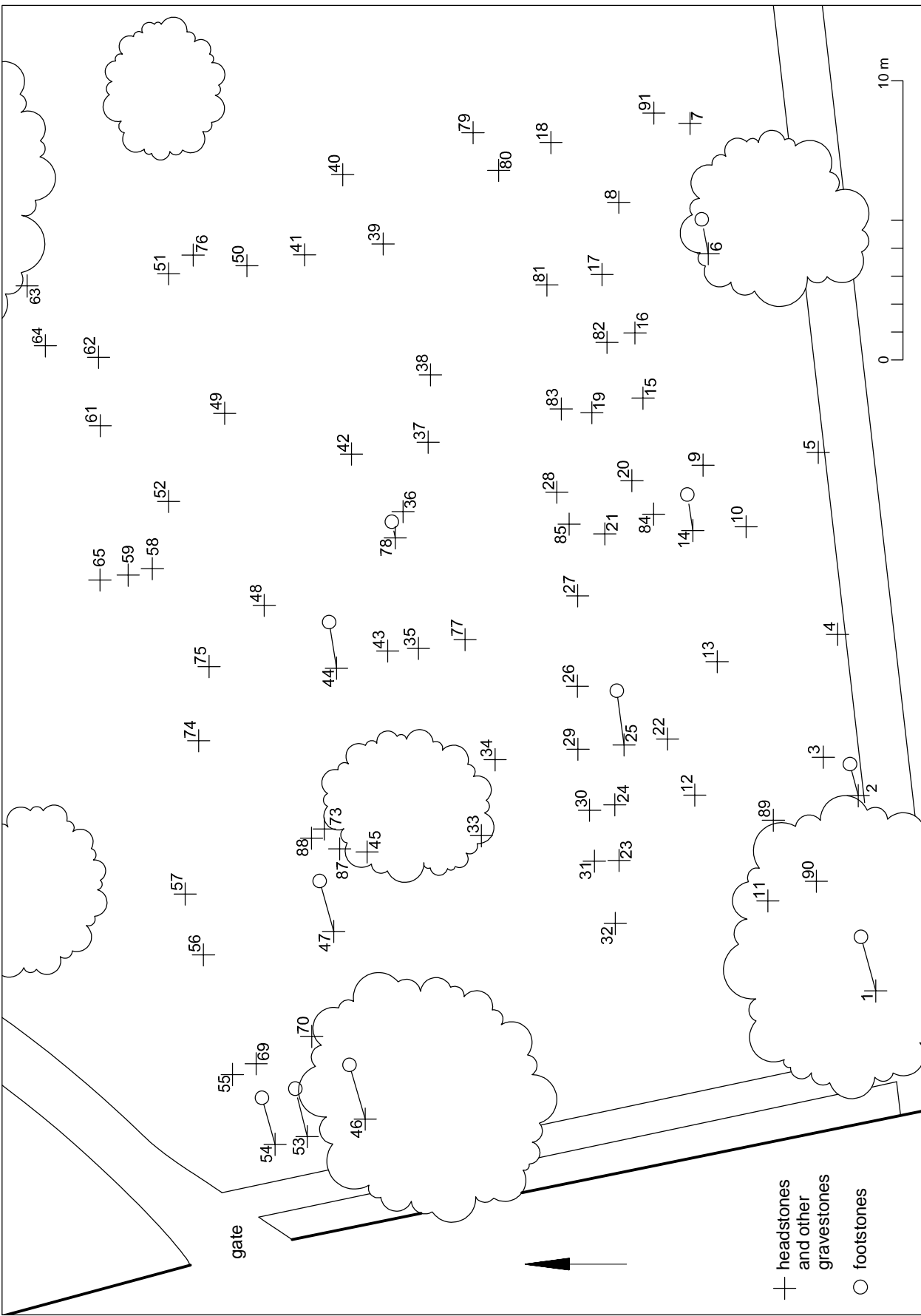


Fig 2 The recorded gravestones.

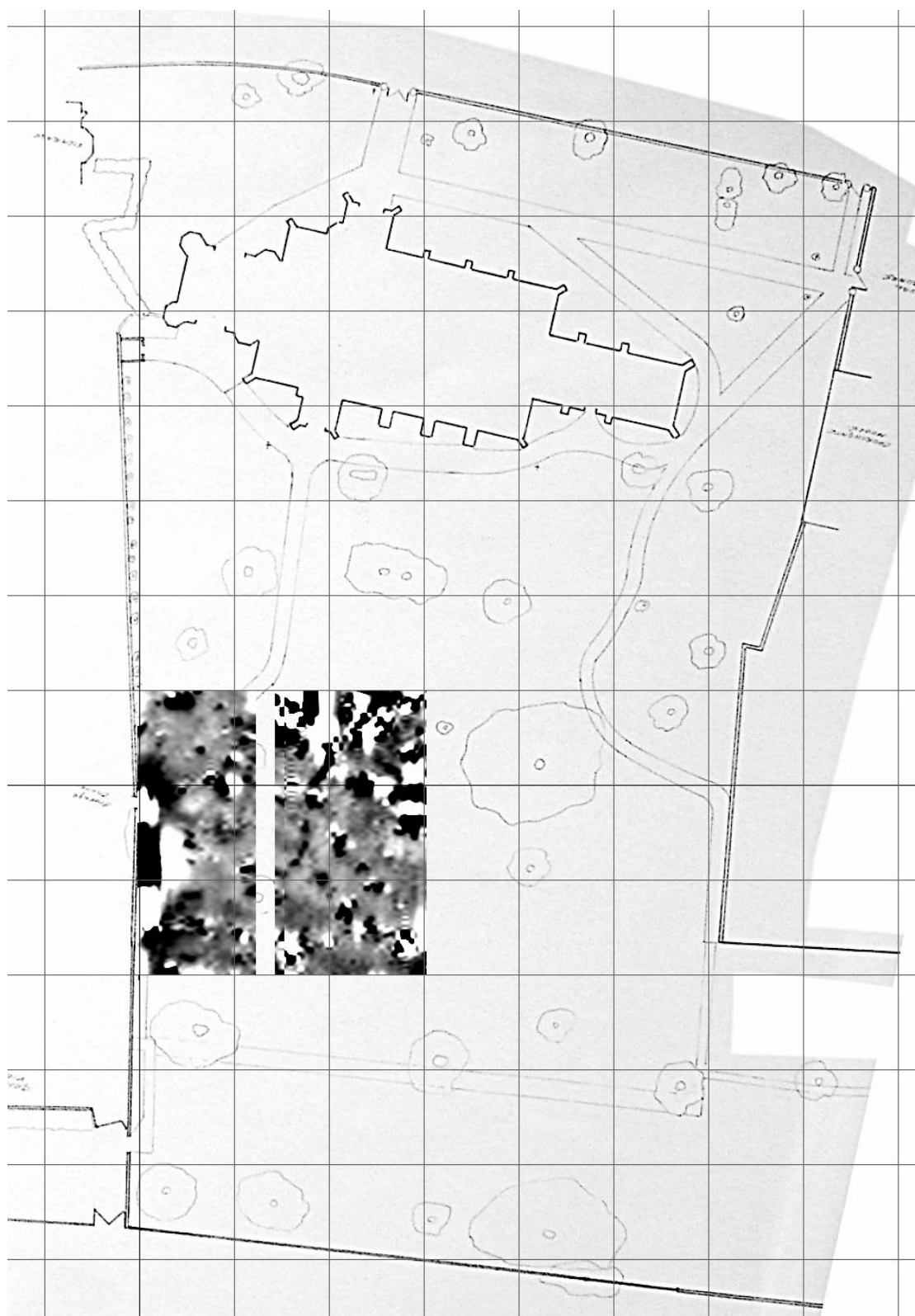


Fig 3 Magnetometry survey.

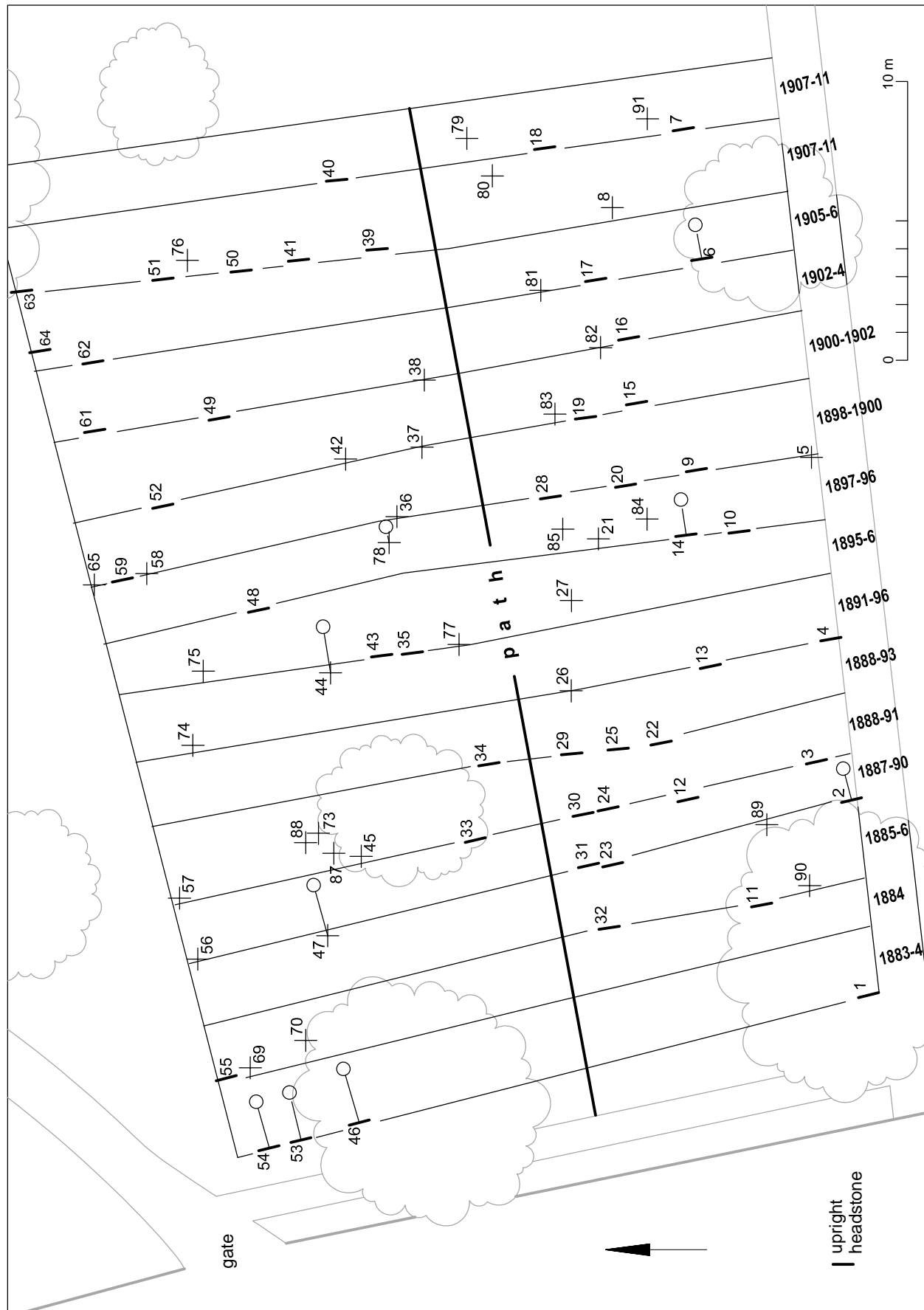


Fig 4 Conjectural layout of the burial plots from 1883 to 1908.

Essex Historic Environment Record/ *Essex Archaeology and History*

Summary sheet

Site address: St Mary the Virgin Church, High Street, Dedham, Essex	
Parish: Dedham	District: Colchester
NGR: TM 3305 0573 (c)	Site code: Museum accession code COLEM 2007.71
Type of work: Gravestone survey	Site director/group: Colchester Archaeological Trust
Date of work: 8th-10th May and 11th-12th July 2007	Size of area investigated: 23m x 36m
Location of finds/curating museum: Colchester and Ipswich Museums	Funding source: the Friends of Dedham Church
Further seasons anticipated? Maybe	Related EHER and UAD nos:
Final report: CAT Report 427 and summary in <i>EAH</i>	
Periods represented: 19th and 20th centuries	
Summary of fieldwork results: <i>Ninety-four gravestones of various sorts were recorded in a survey of one section of the graveyard of St Mary the Virgin church at Dedham in 2007. Twenty-six of the gravestones had become overgrown with turf and were located by probing and then uncovered by hand. The gravestones within the survey area had been erected at dates ranging between 1883 and 1984, although almost all the burial plots had been laid out in a systematic way, row by row, between 1883 and 1908.</i>	
Previous summaries/reports: None	
Author of summary: Kate Orr	Date of summary: July 2007