

Dump of Building materials near gate of Sutterby Church

During the survey for buried gravestones carried out at Sutterby Church in 2014 and 2015 it had been noted that there was a dump of stone brick and tile in the enclosure ditch of the churchyard, each side of the gate. In particular, a large lump of worked limestone had been found in 2014, and removed for cleaning and recording (see 1) below). Following a 'brogging' exercise in July 2015, two additional groups of material were unearthed:



Building rubble found to the west (above) and the east (right) of the gateway to Sutterby Church

This material was recorded on 18 July 2015. The contents of the two groups were as follows:

	W of gateway	E of gateway
Flint	-	1
Floor (quarry) tile	7	-
Hand made brick	6	13
Limestone	1*	5
Machine made brick	2	5
Roof tile (inc pantile)	7	11
Spilsby Sandstone	2	39 [§]
Water rounded stone	1	1
Window glass	7	-

* retained

§ including fragments with mortar and one with tooling marks

The materials to the west of the gateway were dominated by floor and roof tile. Only one piece of stone was in this collection and this was a finely worked fragment of limestone, possibly a piece of window mullion (retained - see description/illustration 2) below).

The materials to the east of the gateway were dominated by fragments of Spilsby sandstone - several with mortar adhering and one with signs of tooling. There were also many fragments of brick.

The two piles may relate to different episodes of construction or repair at the church. It is tempting to speculate whether the eastern dump was perhaps connected with the repairs authorised in the faculty of 6 May 1743 when the porch was built. However, if so, the discard of such a useful large piece of stone as that noted in 1) below, is puzzling.

I am grateful to Prof. David Stocker for comments on the two stones described below, and for the suggested reconstructions.

- 1) Large piece of worked, fairly coarse, fossiliferous limestone (probably Barnack or Clipsham)
Dimension: Irregular c. 35 x40 x20cms high

Probably originally a piece of a large window cill, later reused/reworked. Original upper surface (possibly with glazing groove) cut away. Smoothed layer of mortar or plaster (5-8mm thick) on one worked face probably relates to secondary use.



0 20cms

Profile of stone

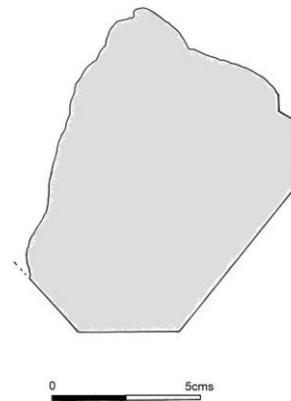


0 20cms

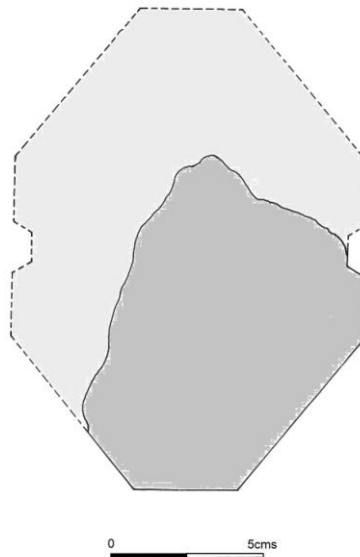
Possible reconstruction

2) Small fragment of fine, worked limestone (probably Lincoln limestone)
Part of window tracery/mullion with remains of a glazing groove.
Late 14th to 15th century

Dimension: Irregular c. 8.5 x 10.5 x 7.5cms high
Fragments of mortar on base - possibly traces of limewash on worked surfaces
Fine claw chisel tooling marks evident - probably on an interior face as no erosion evident



Suggested reconstruction:



D R Start
August 2015