



Blackburn training day

November 2023

A national snapshot

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Head of Church Buildings





Background – regular work of the Council

- National point of support for DACs and others on buildings matters
- National engagement on funding and policy
- Engagement on specific casework matters when needed (or required)
- Role in advice at time of closure/potential closure





Buildings for mission - £11mn 2023-2025

- Church Building Support Officers
- Minor Repairs and Improvement Grants
- Church Buildings Management Partnerships





Buildings for mission – Church Buildings Support Officers (£3.3mn)

- Employed in diocese or partner organisation
- Part-funded by grant
- To provide new resource to churches
- Historic Environment Advice Apprenticeships





Buildings for mission – Minor Repairs and Improvements (£6.2mn)

- Administered by diocese
- Urgent and necessary repair or improvement projects
- Project cost £10k (0r £12k in unlisted building)





Buildings for mission

– Church Buildings Management Partnerships

- To set up partnership bodies to organise maintenance and insurance
- Economies of scale, and shift burden from volunteers
- Start-up grants of up to £10k to each diocese





Buildings for mission – Digital provision

- Investment in Church Heritage Record and Online Faculty System
- To build on what we have, increase functionality, modern software
- How can this support inspectors?





Conservation grants programme

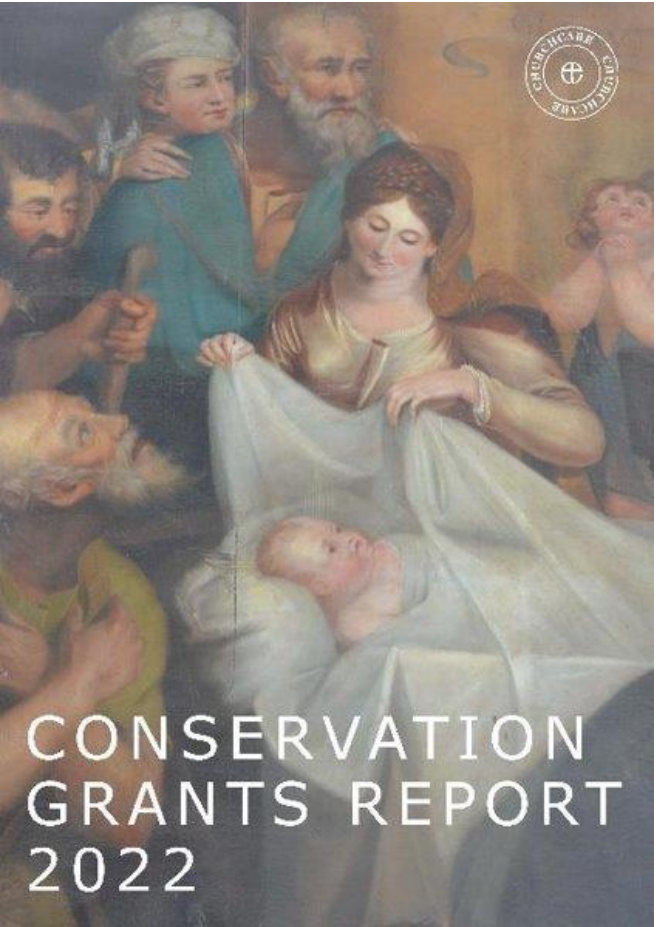
- Grants for conservation of historic furnishings
- Strongly want people to be able to take projects forward when there is the opportunity
- Actively looking to expand with new funder(s)
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Conservation grants programme

Distribution map



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Wingfield, St Andrew: Building on the HAR due to condition of the monuments.
Grant awarded towards their conservation



Stogumber, Blessed Virgin Mary: Grant for the structural monitoring of the monument before conservation

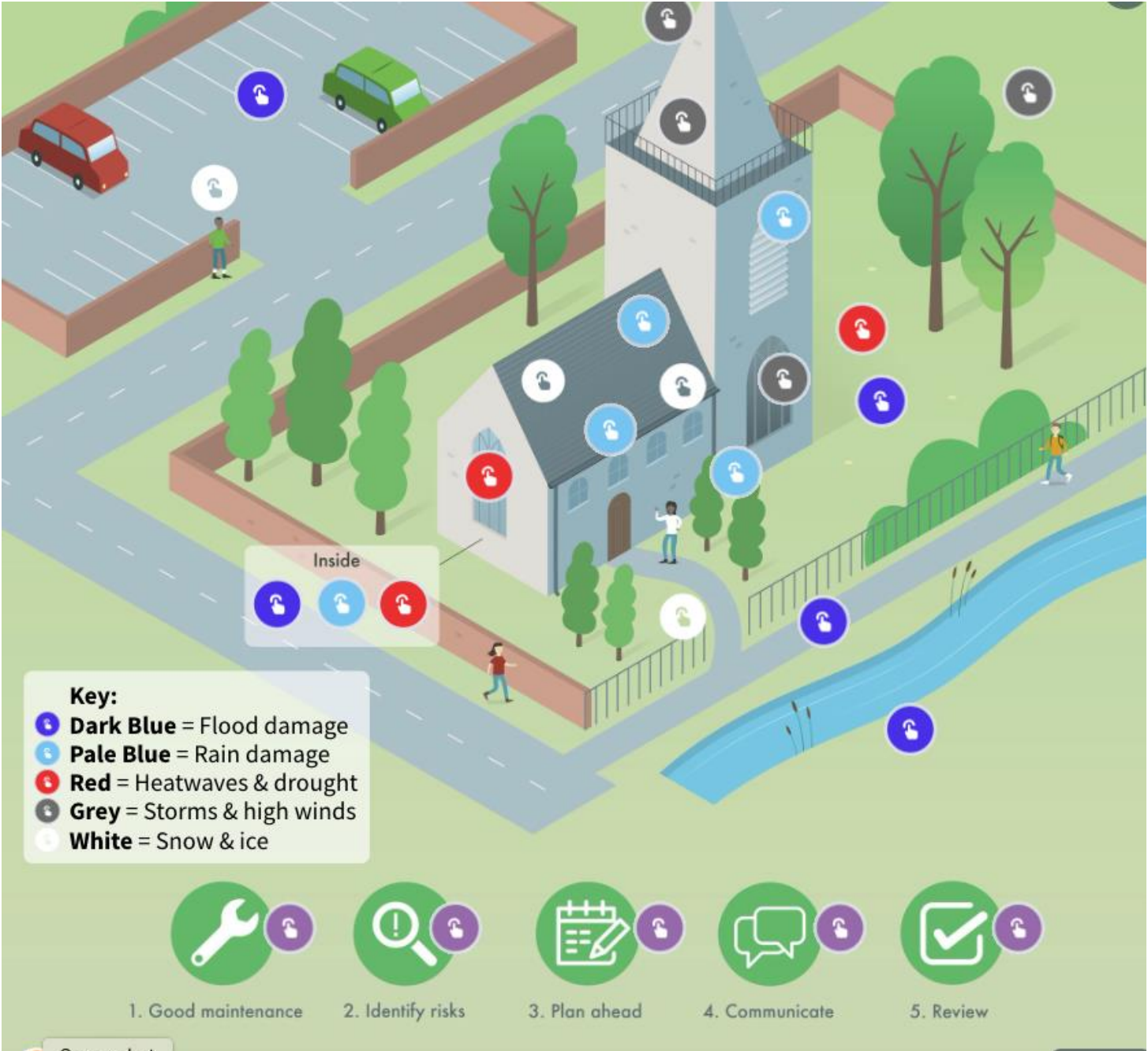




Climate resilience / adaptation

- Climate adaptation and resilience is increasingly being seen as important as climate mitigation
- This covers making both our church buildings **and** our church communities more resilient e.g. to flooding, overheating, and storm damage
- New guidance and a dozen useful case studies shared in the last year: [Climate resilient church | The Church of England](#)
- The guidance suggests churches make a “Future Climate Action Plan” (worked example incl.)





Key:
Dark Blue = Flood damage
Pale Blue = Rain damage
Red = Heatwaves & drought
Grey = Storms & high winds
White = Snow & ice

- 1. Good maintenance
- 2. Identify risks
- 3. Plan ahead
- 4. Communicate
- 5. Review

Defective, blocked or insufficient gutters/down pipes, can cause water damage to the stone fabric, during periods of intense rainfall. Gutters and down pipes can become blocked by leaves, moss and other debris.






Resilience Actions: Implement your maintenance plan; try not to put work off. Gutters require to be cleared out regularly, at least once per year, but potentially more often during autumn, if there are trees that lean over the church.

Due to the likelihood of increased rainfall intensities, the capacity of existing gutters and downpipes may be inadequate. Your quinquennial inspection report, or DAC guidance, should ensure these issues are considered and appropriate upsizing of roof drainage might be part of the solution.

Ensure that vulnerable fixtures and fittings, such as woodwork or wall paintings, have not been affected by moisture ingress, and get a conservator's advice if you spot any moisture damage.

Consider collecting rainfall runoff into water butts, so this recycled water can be used when required for the church grounds during dry periods.

Key:

-  **Dark Blue** =
-  **Pale Blue** =
-  **Red** = Heat
-  **Grey** = Stor
-  **White** = Snow & Ice



1. Good maintenance



2. Identify risks



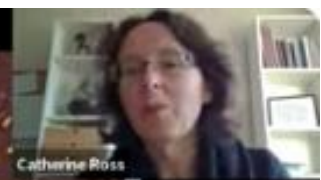
3. Plan ahead



4. Communicate



5. Review



Community climate resilience: How to use your church to protect your community

Webinar starts at noon



CASE STUDY PROVIDING A COOL REFUGE DURING A HOT SUMMER



N.B. This case study considers only one possible approach, which will not be suitable for every church. Always seek professional advice.

Key Points

- Churches such as St Mary's Church, Ellenbrook have a high thermal mass because of their thick walls.
- Throughout the hottest days of the 2022 heatwave, St Mary's was able to maintain a cool temperature and mobilise with short notice to provide a welcoming space for their community.
- Volunteers made extensive use of a previously installed kitchen to offer cold drinks and snacks.
- This action generated national media attention and engaged unreached members of the local community.



1 Cold drinks and snacks were available, as well as volunteers for a welcome and chat

2 Pews provided coworking and reflective space

3 The environmental work of St Mary's is a key missional priority

The context

From the 16th to 19th of July 2022 the UK experienced a record breaking heatwave, putting many vulnerable people and children under risk of heat exposure. In Greater Manchester temperatures peaked at 37.7°C. Many churches across the country reacted to this crisis, including St. Mary's, Ellenbrook. The church remained open over these days as a place of refuge from the heat for the local community.

For more information, visit the church's [website](#) or its entry on the [Church Heritage Record](#).



Overview of QIs: Wider benefits of maintenance

- arrest decay
- deter crime and hostile activity
- cut energy use
- aid welcome





Struggling churches

- When to intervene to help get a good outcome for churches?
- CBC has given some time to this, and will give more
- Churches not needed 'for now'?





Major churches

- Particular attention for parish churches with cathedral-like building challenges



Phase 1: Every Anglican churchyard, extension and cemetery boundary in England has been digitally mapped, and heritage and ecological data is being added, from monuments to bats

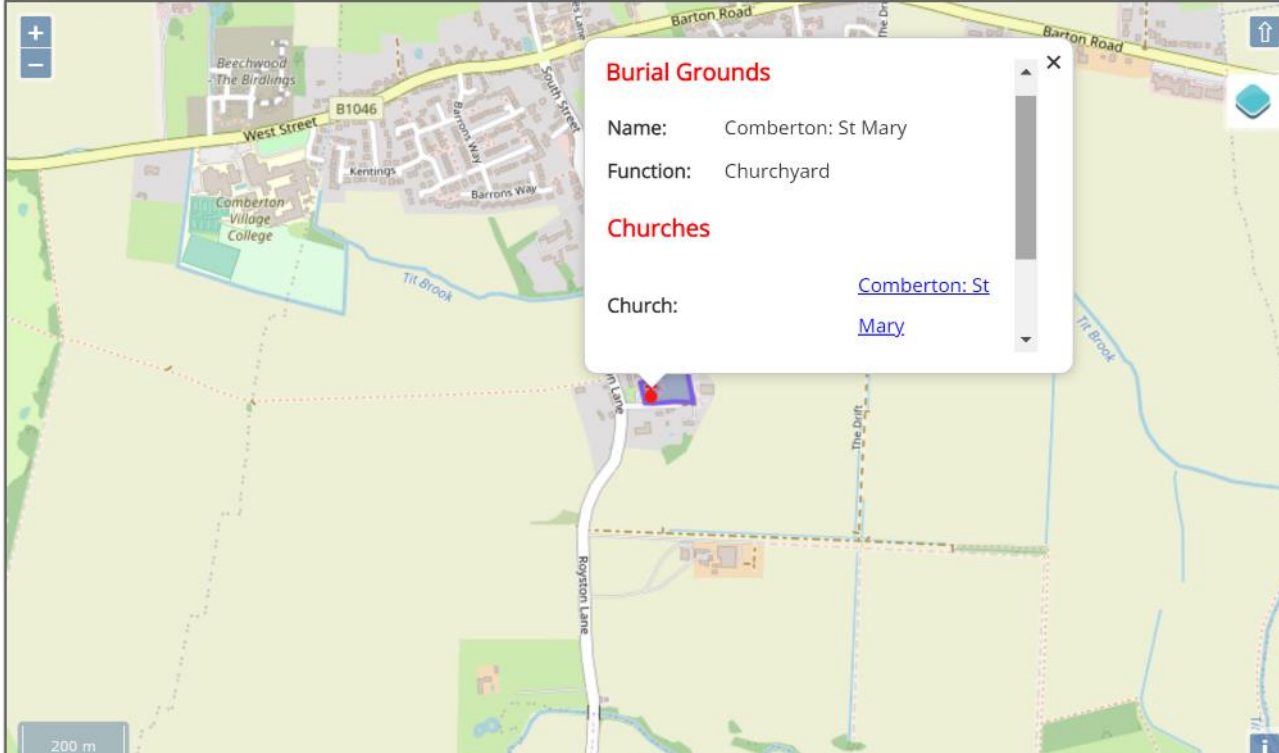
ine.churchofengland.org/churches

Find a church

Church name: Edit Church code: Edit

OR: Find churches by grade, period, size, etc

Placename, postcode or grid ref Edit Search



The map displays the area around Comberton, including Barton Road, West Street, and the Tit Brook. A red pin marks the location of Comberton: St Mary. A popup window is open over this location, showing the following information:

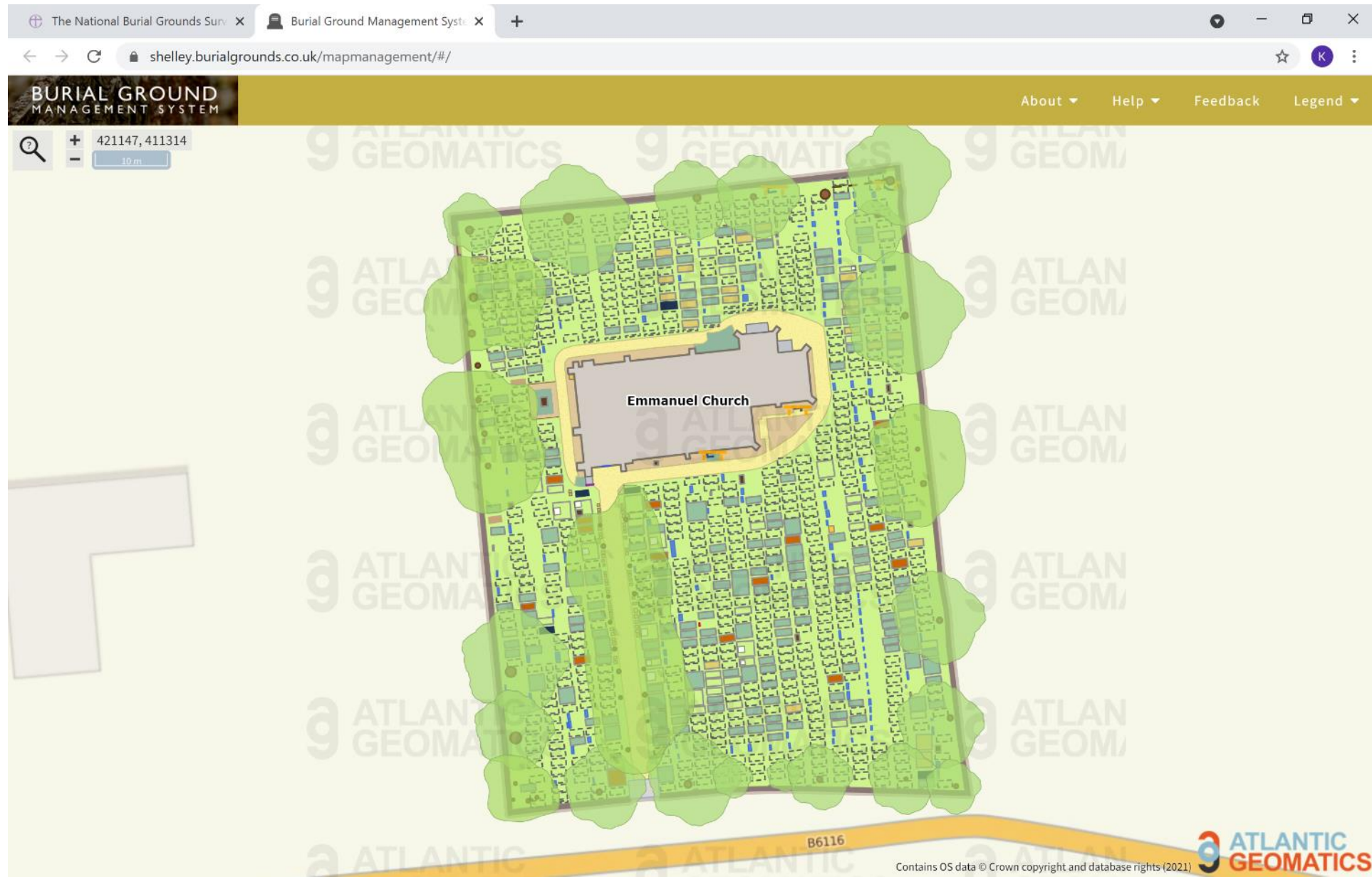
- Burial Grounds**
- Name: Comberton: St Mary
- Function: Churchyard
- Churches**
- Church: [Comberton: St Mary](#)

200 m

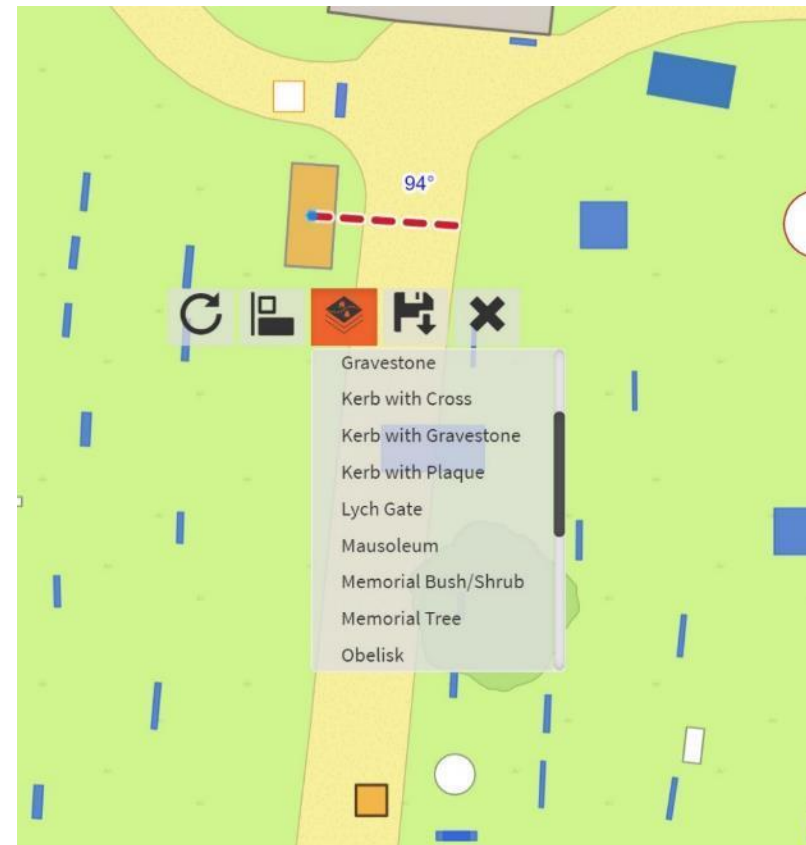
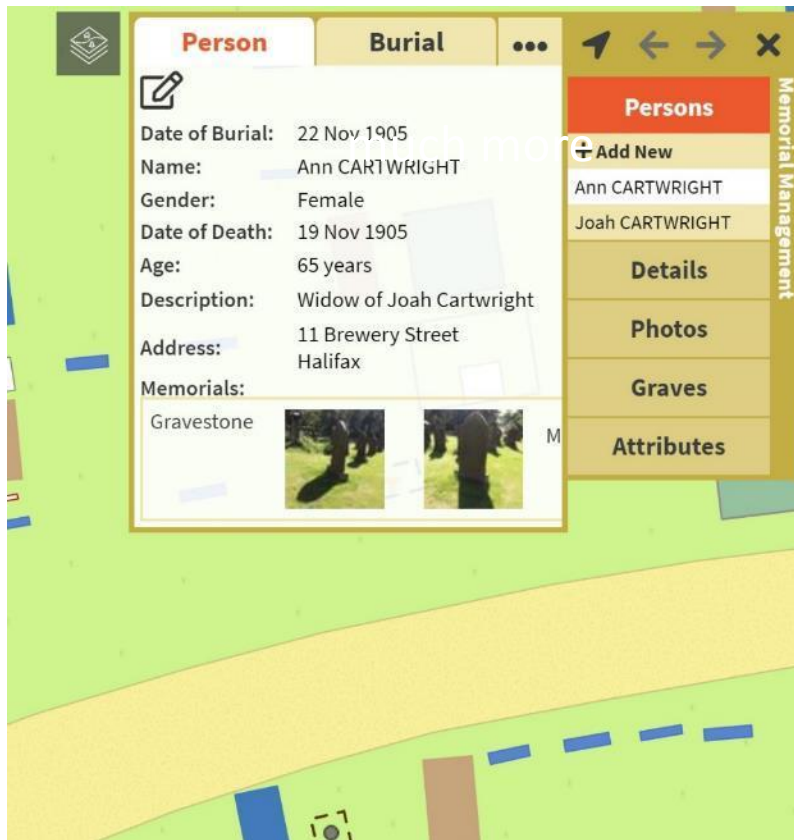
Phase 2: Every PCC will be offered a free online digital plan of their churchyard(s) and church(es) and integrated scans of their Registers by our partners Atlantic Geomatics



A live example can be downloaded at:
<https://shelley.burialgrounds.co.uk/mapmanagement/#/>



Phase 3 (optional): The burial ground manager can update the online map, add grave reservations and new memorials, plan paths and utilities, create tours, etc



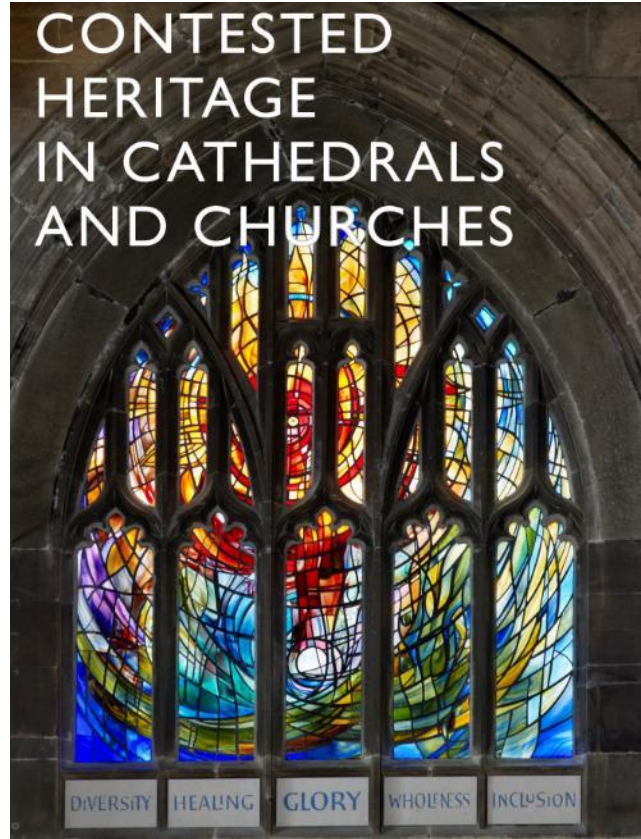
Scanning burial (and other parish) records at
County Record Office (or other diocesan
repository)

- In progress now for diocese of Carlisle
- Agreement in place with national association for local archives
- The records are the property of the parish



Contested heritage

- review of guidance
- faculty rule change



Interpretation / explanation



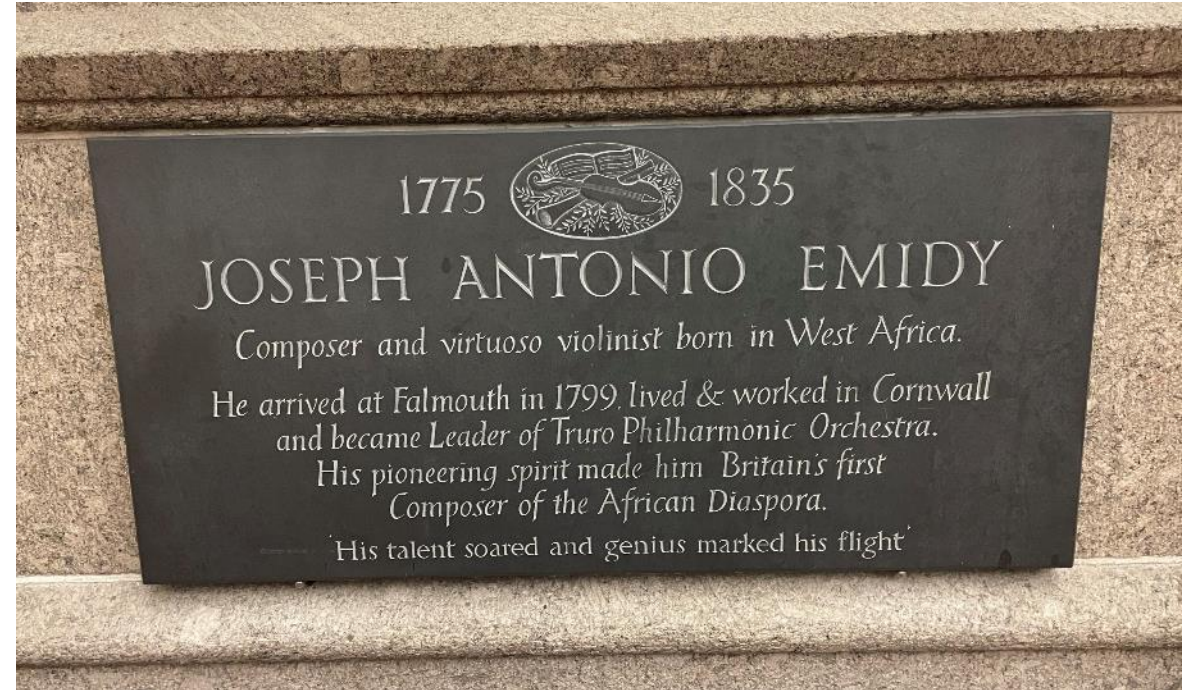
Slindon, St Mary (Chichester)
Memorial to Edward Long
(1734 – 1813)



Addition



Bristol, St Stephen (Bristol)
[Reconciliation reredos](#)
(Copyright Graeme Mortimer Evelyn)



Falmouth, King Charles the
Martyr (Truro)
New memorial to Joseph
Anthony Emidy



Communication & reconciliation

Falmouth, King Charles the Martyr (Truro)
Temporary covering of memorial to Thomas
Corker





Relocation on loan

Removal from Dorchester, St Peter (Diocese of Salisbury) of memorial to John Gordon (Image courtesy of Diocese of Salisbury)

[Monument to slave owner moved to museum - The Diocese of Salisbury \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org/monument-to-slave-owner-moved-to-museum-the-diocese-of-salisbury)



Permanent alteration

Bristol, St Mary Redcliffe (Bristol)
Faculty granted for removal and storage
in building
of 4 panels in window and replacement
with new panels





Martyn's Law

- invacuation to emerge as new theme
- Protect UK
- focus is on people, not property



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[Home](#)



Vigilance Communications Toolkit for The Coronation

ProtectUK publication date: 26/04/2023

User feedback form

Please click on link to contact us

[Feedback form →](#)

The Coronation of the King and The Queen Consort will be celebrated with events across the country between 6 – 8 May. This includes the ceremonial events in central London, 30 large screens showing the Coronation live across the UK, a concert in Windsor and local community events.



E-LEARNING

Learn the importance of counter terrorism and security through our e-Learning.

If you are starting on your security journey, the Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) Awareness e-Learning package is a good place to start.



[Accessing e-Learning and frequently asked questions](#)



Questions?

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