

Somerset County Council



Planning Department
County Hall
Taunton TA1 4DY
Eric Barnett
County Planning Officer
Telephone Taunton (0823) 73451

your reference	my reference	extension
	IB/PAP/3/3	232
		please ask for
		Dr. Burrow,
		Field Archaeologist

28th January 1982

Mr. D. N. Forbes,
Woolcotts,
Brompton Regis,
Dulverton.

Dear Mr. Forbes,

MEDIEVAL CARVING, THE VICARAGE, BROMPTON REGIS

I examined this stone, to which you recently drew my attention, on 25th January.

It appears to be a late medieval corbel, probably of the fifteenth century. Its function would have been to support either a principal rafter of the roof structure or possibly the voussior of a stone arch. The end of the timber would have been supported on the flat surface forming the top of the grotesque head. The head itself projects forward from the main bulk of the stone, which is itself dressed and probably formed the uppermost section of a shaft or pilaster running up the wall from ground level to the wall plate. The enclosed sketch will, I hope, clarify this.

The stone is certainly a local type and the simplest answer is that it was brought to its present position during restoration of Brompton Regis church during the restoration of 1853. It is difficult to see now from where it would have derived on the building, but the Victorian restoration may have destroyed earlier arrangements of the roof structure. It may of course have come from a nearby church. Consultation of the many topographical collections held by the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society at Taunton Castle may provide some clues.

The stone should certainly be preserved. I suggest that it is placed indoors where it will not be affected by the weather, perhaps in the church porch or some other convenient place. Perhaps you could inform me of any decision reached on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Burrow

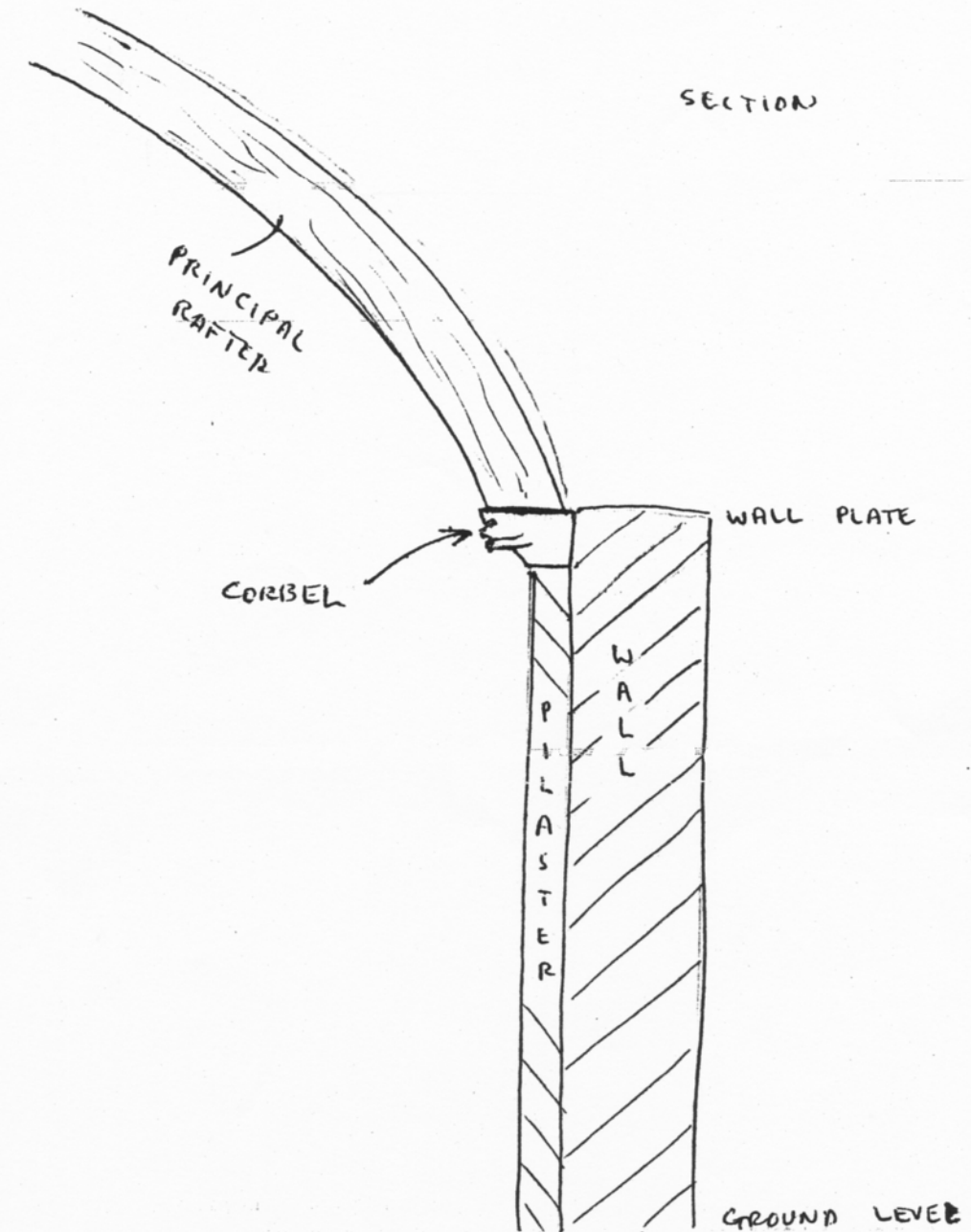
Field Archaeologist for
County Planning Officer.

Dr. Burrow

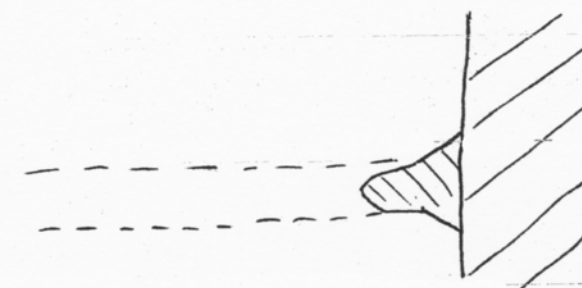
Dr. Henry

Dr. Dunning - Royal - Stone Hill Taunton.

STONE CORBEL, BROMPTON REGIS



PLAN:



J. Burrow 26/1/82