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SLE: 285

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
AT ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH
FENNY DRAYTON
LEICESTERSHIRE
(FSM05)**

Work Undertaken For
Parkinson, Dodson and Associates Ltd

January 2006

Report Compiled by
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National Grid Reference: SP 3505 9715

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES



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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken within the churchyard of St MICHAEL and All Angels Church, Fenny Drayton, Leicestershire, in order to assess the archaeological impact of a proposed extension to the building. A Photographic survey was undertaken of the portion of the interior and exterior of the north aisle wall to be affected by the proposed development.

The evaluation was required as the site is located in a sensitive archaeological location, adjacent to the medieval church, within an area of suspected human burials. Previous work undertaken within the churchyard, east of the church, revealed Roman artefacts, including ceramic building materials.

Three archaeological trial trenches were excavated within the footprint of the proposed extension, located immediately north of the north aisle of the church. The earliest archaeological remains identified date to the Romano-British period and include post holes and a ditch, pottery, roof tile, flue tile, a piece of opus signinum, floor tile and wall tile bricks. These remains indicate that a Roman building of some status and substance stood on, or in close proximity to the site.

Human remains were limited to a single undated adult inhumation and a scatter of small, residual, disarticulated human bones, suggesting that burials are moderately spaced.

A single memorial tablet, dedicated to an individual who died in 1859, is affixed to the interior of the blocked north aisle entrance. Grave-markers are absent from the area of the churchyard affected by the proposed development.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as, 'a limited programme of non-intrusive and / or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (IFA 1999).

2.2 Definition of Photographic Recording

As with any building recording, a photographic survey is defined as:

'... a programme of work intended to establish the character, history, dating, form and archaeological development of a specified building, structure, or complex and its setting, including its buried components on land or under water.' (IFA 1999).

2.3 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by Parkinson, Dodson and Associates to undertake the archaeological evaluation as a condition of a faculty granted by the Diocese of Leicester to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the construction of an extension to the church to provide for kitchen and disabled bathroom facilities. The project was undertaken in accordance with a specification prepared by APS (Appendix 1), based on a brief issued by the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor. The work was undertaken between the 5th and the 8th of December 2005.

2.4 Topography and Geology

Fenny Drayton is located in the county of Leicestershire, approximately 5.5km northwest of Hinckley and 2km east of Atherstone in the District of Hinckley and Bosworth (Figs. 1 and 2). The parish church of St Michael and All Angels lies at the northern end of the village at the junction of Church Lane and Rookery Close. St Michael and All Angels is surrounded by a graveyard, parts of which remain in use (Fig. 2, Plate 1).

The village is situated within a gently sloping upland area at a height of approximately 86m OD. Local soils are of the Compton Association, typically reddish clayey soils that have developed on reddish river alluvium (Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1980, Map sheet 3).

2.5 Archaeological Setting

St Michael and All Angels Church lies within the historic core of Fenny Drayton. Artefacts and deposits ranging in date from the prehistoric through to medieval periods have been recovered in the area and the church lies to the north of a Roman Road which joins Watling Street c.1.5km southwest of the settlement.

The earliest evidence of settlement within Fenny Drayton, consists of Palaeolithic quartzite tools, including a handaxe reported in 1999 (SP 36 97), which along with similar finds from neighbouring parishes form part of a wider concentration straddling the Warwickshire – Leicestershire border (Buckley 1999, 116).

Romano-British artefacts have been found at several locations within Fenny Drayton, including within the churchyard itself, where Roman tile fragments and large amounts of building stone were found next to the church in 1994 (SP 35 98) (Buckley and Wykes 1995, 133). A scatter of

Roman pottery found during fieldwalking elsewhere in Fenny Drayton dates to the 1st to 4th century although a possible late Roman 3rd to 4th century bias was detected (SP 36 96) (Buckley 1999, 116).

References to Fenny Drayton in the Domesday Survey of 1086 indicate that the village was in existence by the Late Saxon period (Morris 1979). Within the survey the village is referred to as Fenny Drayton or Draitone and was part of the lands of Earl Aubrey on behalf of whom Aelmer held 5 carucates of land for 5 ploughs. In the lordship 14 villagers with 8 smallholders had 8 ploughs (Morris 1979). The value of the land increased from 30 to 40 shillings between the conquest and Domesday. The place name Fenny is derived from Old English *fynig* and meant mouldy or musty; while Dray is also derived from the Old English *draeg* denoting a portage, and *tun* a hamlet or farmstead (Ekwall, 1989, 150).

The parish church of St Michael and All Angels is situated at the northern end of the village, north of the line of the Roman road. Dating from the late Norman period (late 12th century) and much restored in 1860, the earliest surviving portions of the church are the south doorway and a window in the northeast wall of the chancel, the small west tower being 14th century in origin (Pevsner, 1992 152-3).

An archaeological evaluation and watching brief undertaken to the east of the church at Old Forge Road revealed pits containing medieval pottery, which were suggestive of pot-manufacture within the area during the medieval period (Buckley and Storey 2000, 255).

3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather information to establish the presence or

absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits in order to enable the archaeological curator to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site

The photographic recording was intended to provide a record of both the interior and exterior elevations of the portion of the north aisle wall to be effected by the proposed re-opening of the former doorway.

4. METHODS

4.1 Trial Trenching

Three rectangular test pits measuring 2 x 1m (Trench 1), 3 x 1m (Trench 2) and 1 x 1m (Trench 3) were excavated, adjacent to the northwest corner of the north aisle of the church, within the footprint of the proposed extension (Fig. 3, Plate 2). The test pits were positioned so as to investigate a representative sample of the area in accordance with the specification agreed with the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAC), although the location of Trench 2 had to be altered slightly and the size of Trench 3 reduced in order to avoid a drainage channel alongside the church wall. All excavations were undertaken by hand due to the limited extent of the investigations and the sensitive nature of the graveyard

Human remains, including disarticulated human bone, were retained on site and reburied after its context had been noted.

Each deposit identified during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A photographic record was compiled. Sections and plans were recorded at a scale

of 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of each test pit was surveyed in relation to fixed points on boundaries and on the existing church. Datum readings taken during the evaluation were related to a fixed Ordnance Survey benchmark located at the base of the church tower.

4.2 Post-excavation

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Artefacts recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible. A list of all contexts and interpretations appears as Appendix 2. Context numbers are identified in the text by brackets. An equals sign between context numbers indicates that the contexts once formed a single layer or feature. Phasing was based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

4.3 Photographic Recording

The photographic survey required:

- the production of a dimensioned plan (Fig. 3) showing the position of monumental tablets on the interior of the aisle wall, and both written and photographic records of the monuments (Plates 11 to 12).
- a detailed photographic study of the exterior elevation showing the blocked doorway (Plates 9 and 10)
- general photographic views of both the exterior and the interior of the north aisle showing its overall

appearance and character (Plates 9 to 12)

- photographs of any memorial stones within the area of the proposed development. None were present.

Photographic recording was undertaken with a manual 35mm camera fitted with a 28-70mm macro lens using both colour and black and white print film. An index of the photographs was compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro forma recording sheets.

5. RESULTS

5.1 Archaeological Trenching

Archaeological contexts are described below. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

5.1.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was north south aligned, measured 2m x 1m and located to investigate the impact of the north side of the proposed extension. Investigation of the northern end of the trench was limited by the presence of an electrical service trench.

The earliest deposit identified was a friable medium brown sandy clay (122) which represents the underlying natural soils of the area. This layer was recorded at 0.55m – 0.60m below ground level and matches contexts (201) and (301) recorded in Trenches 2 and 3.

Overlying the natural was a 0.2m thick, greyish brown firm sandy silt (121) which was truncated by two post holes, (100) and (119), located towards the southeast corner of the trench. Both post holes extended

beyond the eastern limit of excavation. Post hole (100) measured 0.34m wide, 0.17m deep and contained a mid reddish brown firm clayey sandy silt (101). Post (119), located immediately to the northwest, was heavily truncated, measuring 40mm deep, 0.30m wide and containing a mid-greyish red, hard silty clay fill. No finds were recovered from the fills of either of these post holes. A 0.23m deep pit (117), measuring 0.70m in diameter and filled with a soft dark brown sandy clayey silt (118), also cut natural deposit (122) (Figs. 4 and 5, Plates 3 and 4).

These two post holes and the pit were sealed by a 70mm thick deposit of firm mid-greyish brown silty clayey sand (102), through which a third post-hole (103) cut. This post-hole was 0.24m deep, at least 0.22m wide and was filled a firm mid-brown sandy clayey silt (104).

Context (104) was sealed by a 0.17m thick deposit of firm dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt (105), which was in turn sealed by a 90mm thick softer deposit of similar material (106) (Fig. 5, Plates 3 and 4). Although sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from (105) (Appendix 3), disarticulated human bone, present in both deposits, suggest that they relate to the later graveyard.

A sequence of three greyish brown and brown clayey silt deposits (107, 108 and 109=114) sealed (106) (Fig. 5, Plates 3 and 4). Although residual Romano-British material was recovered from (107) and (108) (Appendix 3), the sequence is dated by post-medieval artefacts from (107) and (110) (Appendix 4). Recent activity was limited to cut (111) for a modern electric cable associated with external church lighting, topsoil (110=115) and turf (116).

5.1.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 measured 3m x 1m and was positioned to investigate the impact of the eastern side of the proposed extension and the possibility of buried remains associated with an earlier porch adjacent to the North Aisle of the church.

The earliest deposit identified was 0.5m below ground level and comprised a friable medium brown sandy clay (201) which represents the natural soils of the area and matches contexts (122) and (301) recorded in Trenches 1 and 3.

Natural (201), was cut by an area of irregular root-disturbance (210), measuring 0.82m x 0.56m to the western limit of excavation. This feature was filled with a mixed deposit of loose mid-greyish brown sandy silt and re-deposited natural clay (213) (Fig. 4).

A single 80mm deep, flat-based post-hole measuring 0.42m x 0.35m (211) cut natural deposit (201) (Figs. 4 and 6, Plate 6). Although undated the post-hole contained a friable slightly reddish greyish brown silty sand (212) containing scarce flecks of charcoal and a fine white loam mortar

Six Romano-British contexts were identified within Trench 2, including a late-Roman ditch (206) (Fig.4). The surface of these Romano-British deposits lay at 91.565m OD, 0.25m to 0.31m below the present ground level.

Overlying fill (213) of root disturbed area (210) was a similar deposit of loose mid-greyish brown sandy silt (202) mixed with re-deposited natural clay, containing two sherds of 2nd century or later Roman pot (Appendix 3). This deposit was cut by a 0.29m diameter, 0.31m deep and near vertically sided, flat-based post-hole (204), filled with loose medium yellowish brown

sand (205). This post hole was sealed by a 0.20m thick deposit of friable medium yellowish reddish brown sandy silt clay (203) (Fig.6, Plate 5).

A north-south aligned concave based linear (206) cut through layer (203) (Fig.6, Plate 6). Measuring at least 0.78m wide and 0.40m deep (206) was filled with a firm medium greenish yellowish brown sandy clay (207), containing fragments of mortarium and other Romano-British pottery dated to the late 3rd to mid 4th centuries (Appendix 3). Two fragments of Romano-British tile (Appendix 4) were also recovered from this deposit. A single fragment of post-medieval roof tile from this layer was clearly intrusive, relating to an adjoining feature (209), an east-west aligned near vertical cut which truncated (207) (Fig. 6). At least 0.60m wide and with a minimum depth of 0.36m (209) was filled with loose dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil (208), which extended across the trench. Fragments of 19th century stoneware 18th century clay pipe, post-medieval tile, brick and ironwork were recovered from (208), along with quantities of residual Romano-British tile, opus signinum, and a pot-herd (Appendixes 3 and 4).

5.1.3 Trench 3

Cutting natural (301) was an east-west aligned cut [302] in-filled with a dark greyish brown sandy clay mixed with sandy clay (303=305) re-deposited from (301) (Figs. 4 and 7, Plates 7 and 8). Within the fill of this cut was an adult inhumation (304) of which only the skull and part of the right arm of the skeleton was revealed. As required by the specification excavation was limited to that necessary to establish that the burial was *in-situ*. The skull was recorded at an elevation of 91.035m O.D., 050m below current ground level.

The grave fill was cut by a near vertical sided cut (306), which extended largely beyond the limit of excavation. At least 0.14m wide and 0.33m deep [306] it contained a friable medium greyish brown sandy silt clay fill (308).

A 0.38m thick topsoil (308) (Figs. 5 and 7), overlay the grave fill and contained a 16th to 17th century CuA Nuremburg trading jetton. (Appendix 4)

5.2 Photographic Recording

By Gary Taylor

Exterior Elevation

Part of the north wall of the north aisle is of coursed rubble and is probably of medieval date. However, this coursed rubble terminates at the base of the north aisle window and to the west (right) of the window the walling is of coursed ashlar up to the eaves (Plates 9 and 10).

Within the area of the proposed extension is a doorway, now blocked. This doorway has a simple angled head with a curved soffit, formed from two dressed blocks. The form of this door-top suggests an early post-medieval, perhaps 17th century, date for this entry. A little to the east (left) of the blocked door is a partial straight join. Although the size and position of this would suggest the location of a blocked window in a domestic structure, its dimensions and placing are inappropriate for such a function in a church and it is more likely to represent an earlier doorway. To the west of the door, and butting against the wall, is a buttress of neatly cut ashlar.

The interior elevation is plastered over, obscuring structural detail. However, the area of the blocked door is covered by a memorial to Amica Bracebridge, died 1826, and the Reverend Samuel Bracebridge-Heming whose death occurred in 1859 (Fig.4, Plates 11 and 12).

6. DISCUSSION

A single deposit of sandy clay (122), (201) and (301) present in all three trenches represents the natural soils of the area.

Dateable material was not recovered from pits and post-holes ([100], [119], [117], [103] and [211]) but these probably relate to Romano-British settlement activity.

Direct evidence of Romano-British activity was found in Trench 2, where six contexts including a post-hole (204) and a north south linear ditch (206) were dated to this period (Phase 3). Fragments of pot, Samian, mortaria and roof tile recovered from these contexts date this activity to the mid to late Roman period with a clear late 3rd to mid 4th century bias (Appendices 3 and 4).

The quantity of residual Romano-British pottery and building material recovered from later contexts, permitted group analysis of the overall assemblage. The Romano-British pottery dates to a 200-300 year span, but principally comprised mid-third to mid-fourth century mortaria from the Mancetter – Hartshill kilns, located approximately 3km west of Fenny Drayton (Appendix 3). The presence of mortaria and jar fragments within the pottery assemblage and domesticated species such as cattle, sheep/goat, pig and fowl among the animal bone (Appendix 4), clearly implies domestic occupation within this period.

The range of Roman building material, recovered in some abundance, is significant as the collection included, roof tiles (including both *tegulae* and *imbrices*), a single keyed flue tile (associated with under floor heating systems), fragments of wall tile or brick and a piece of *opus signinum*, a hard-wearing Roman cement (Appendix 4). The quantity and condition of this material means that it is likely to be localised, and coupled with the discovery

of similar material, along with building stone, adjacent to the church in the 1990s, clearly implies that Fenny Drayton church stands within immediate proximity to a comparatively high status Roman building. The presence of domestic artefacts, biased towards the third to fourth century, when villas were commonly established, suggests that the building is more likely to be a villa than a temple.

With the exception of the burial recorded in Trench 3, churchyard activity was limited to the discovery of disarticulated human remains within later deposits (105) (106) and (109). The small size of the fragments and their limited quantity suggests that burials within the proposed development are moderately spaced. This is borne out by the absence of post-medieval grave markers within this area. No evidence for a earlier porch to the north aisle of the church was identified at the site.

The church was rebuilt in 1860, and it is likely that the north aisle door was blocked by, or at, this time as a memorial tablet affixed to the infilling of the interior commemorates an individual who died in 1859. The foundations of the north aisle wall have been rebuilt with engineering brick of 19th or 20th century date and the ground around the aisle pulled back to form a 1.70m wide gutter (Fig. 6 Sections 5 and 6 and Fig. 7 Section 9, Plates 2, 9 and 10), dislocating the stratigraphy of the churchyard from the church fabric. It is possible that linear [209] relates to this work.

Recent disturbance was limited to an ESE-WNW aligned cut for an electricity cable ([111]) and beyond the limits of excavation, drainage channels adjacent to the aisle wall.

7. CONCLUSIONS

Evaluation of the proposed development site was undertaken to assist the determination of a planning application as the site was of archaeological significance, located within the burial ground, adjacent to the north aisle of a medieval parish church. Earlier investigations within the churchyard undertaken during the 1990's revealed quantities of Romano-British building material.

Deposits of Romano-British, probable medieval and Post-Medieval date were identified. The surface of the Romano-British remains lay at 91.565m OD, 0.25m to 0.31m below the present ground level, whilst the single undated burial identified lay at 91.035m OD, 0.50m below current ground level.

The Romano-British features, coupled with a quantity of residual artefacts and building materials within later contexts, imply that a comparatively high status building of domestic usage stood within close proximity to the church.

Human remains were limited to a single undated adult inhumation and a scatter of small, residual, disarticulated human bones, suggesting that burials are moderately spaced.

A photographic survey was also undertaken of the portion of the north aisle door affected by the proposed reopening of the doorway. A single memorial tablet, dedicated to an individual who died in 1859, is affixed to the interior of the blocked entrance. Grave-markers are absent from the area of the churchyard affected by the proposed development.

Recording of the section of the north aisle wall to be affected by the proposed extension has shown several phases of construction. Differences in masonry in the

elevation indicate that, although the lower part is probably medieval, a section of the upper half of the wall was rebuilt, perhaps as part of the 19th century restoration. Additionally, a straight join near to the existing blocked doorway implies that the doorway was originally wider. The form of this doorway suggests an early post-medieval date, perhaps the 1600s.

The evaluation has demonstrated the presence of remains of Romano-British date and human burials associated with the church. Depending on the depth of the groundworks associated with the development it is therefore likely that the extension, its drainage and related works will have an impact upon these remains.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of John Dodson of Parkinson Dodson Associates who commissioned both the fieldwork and this report on behalf of the Fenny Drayton Parochial Church Council.

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Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1980, *Map Sheet 3: Midland and Western England*.

10. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

DAC Diocesan Advisory Committee

IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

SMR Sites and Monuments Record

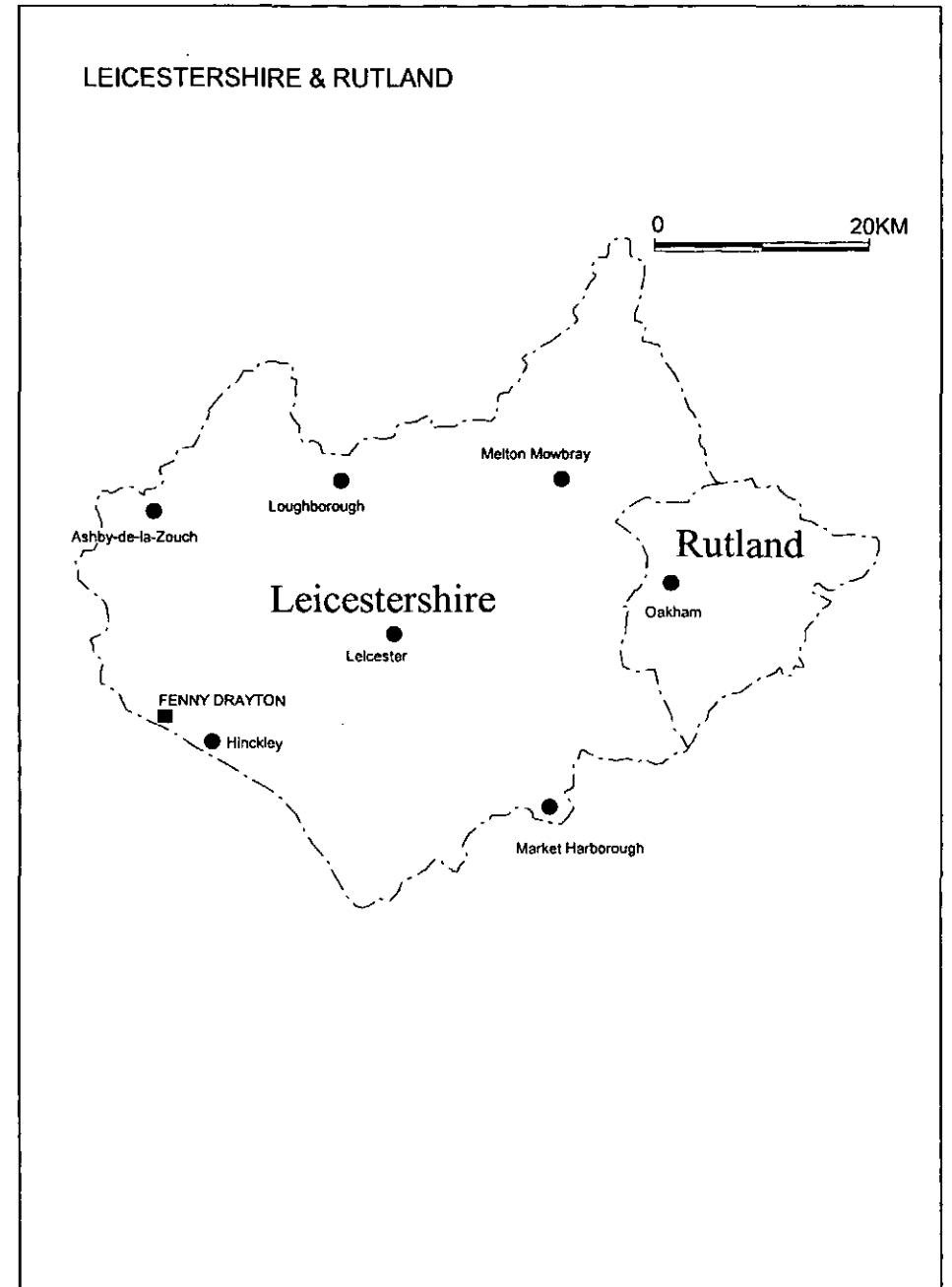
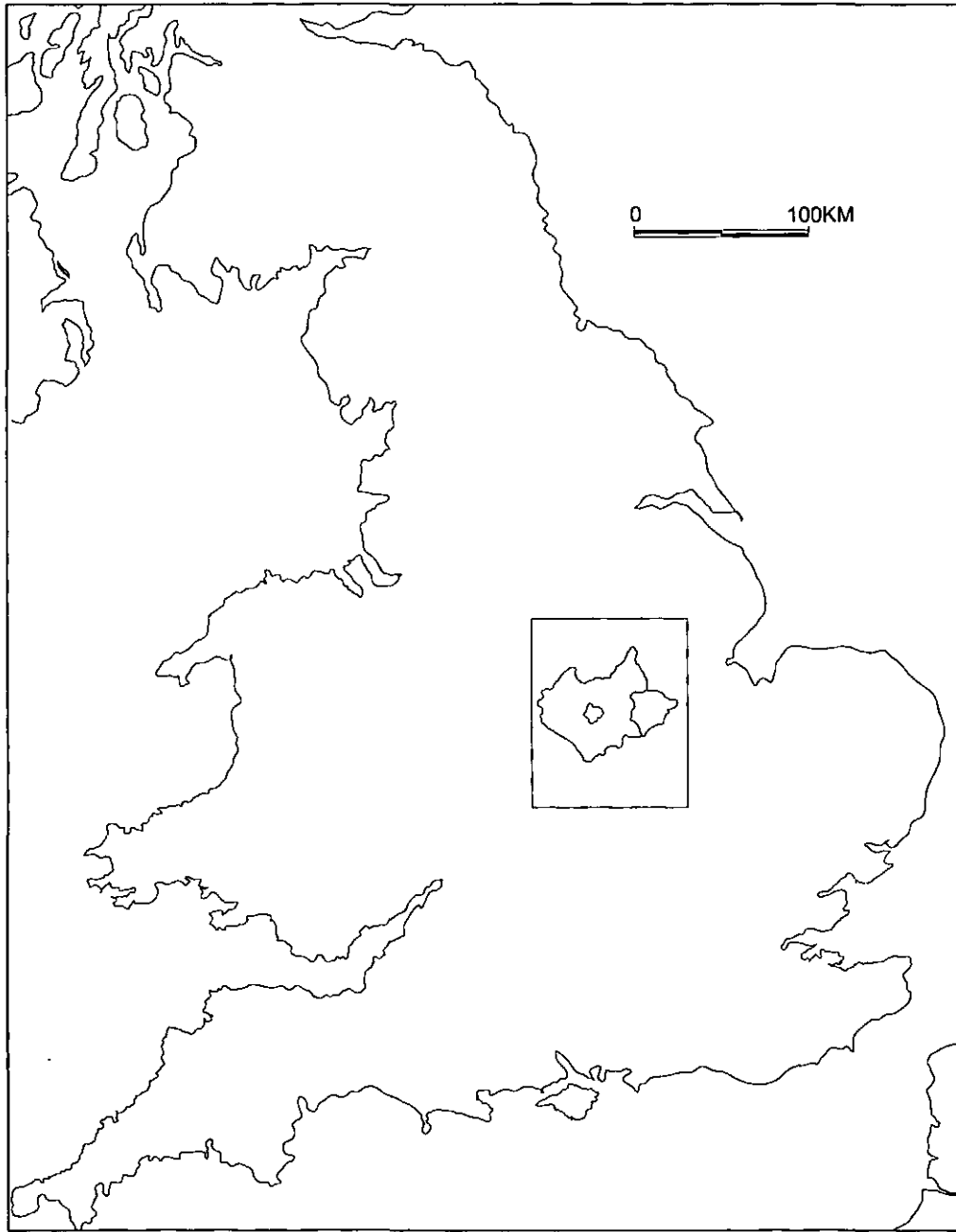


Figure 1: General location map

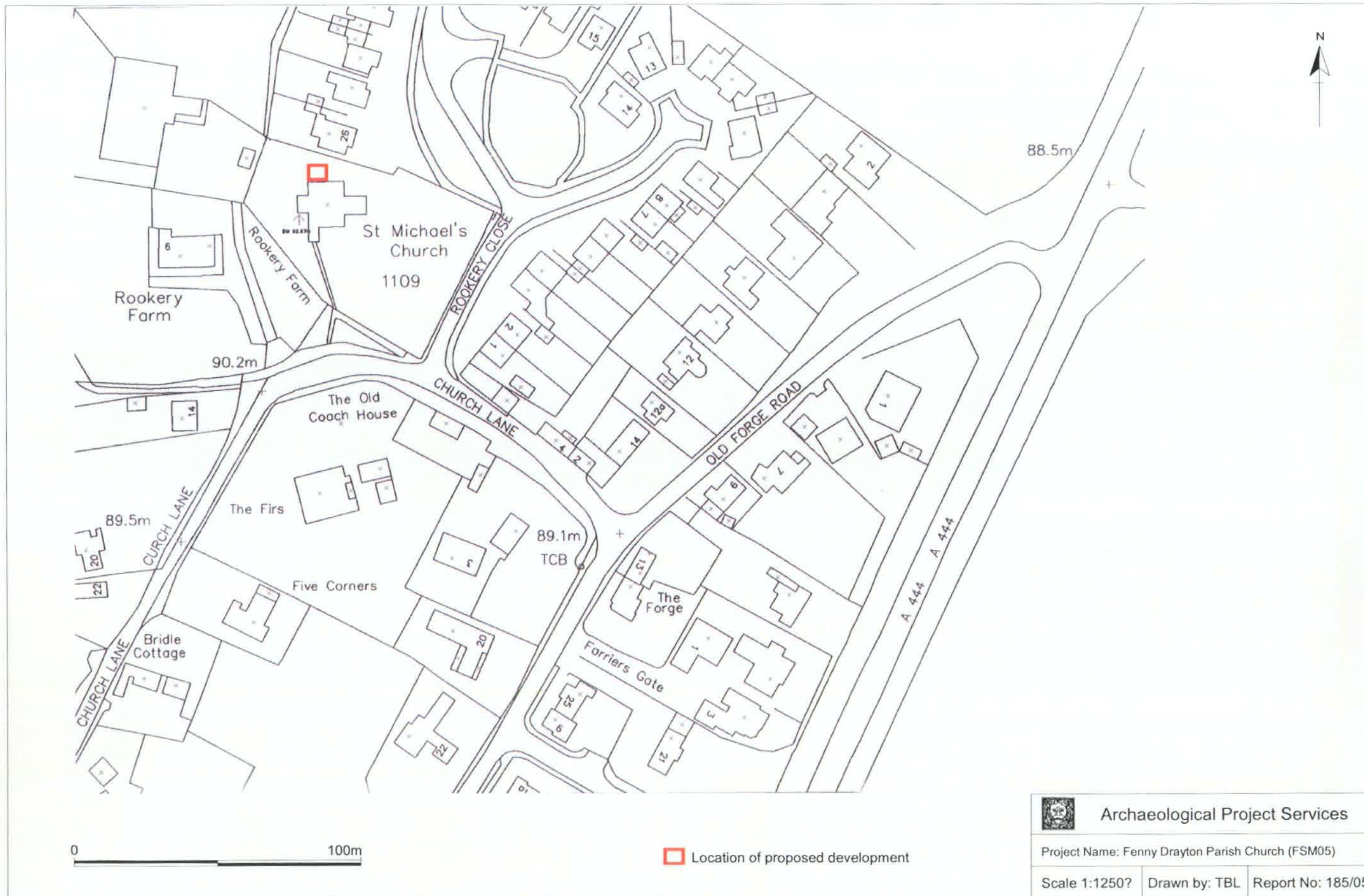


Figure 2 Site Location Plan

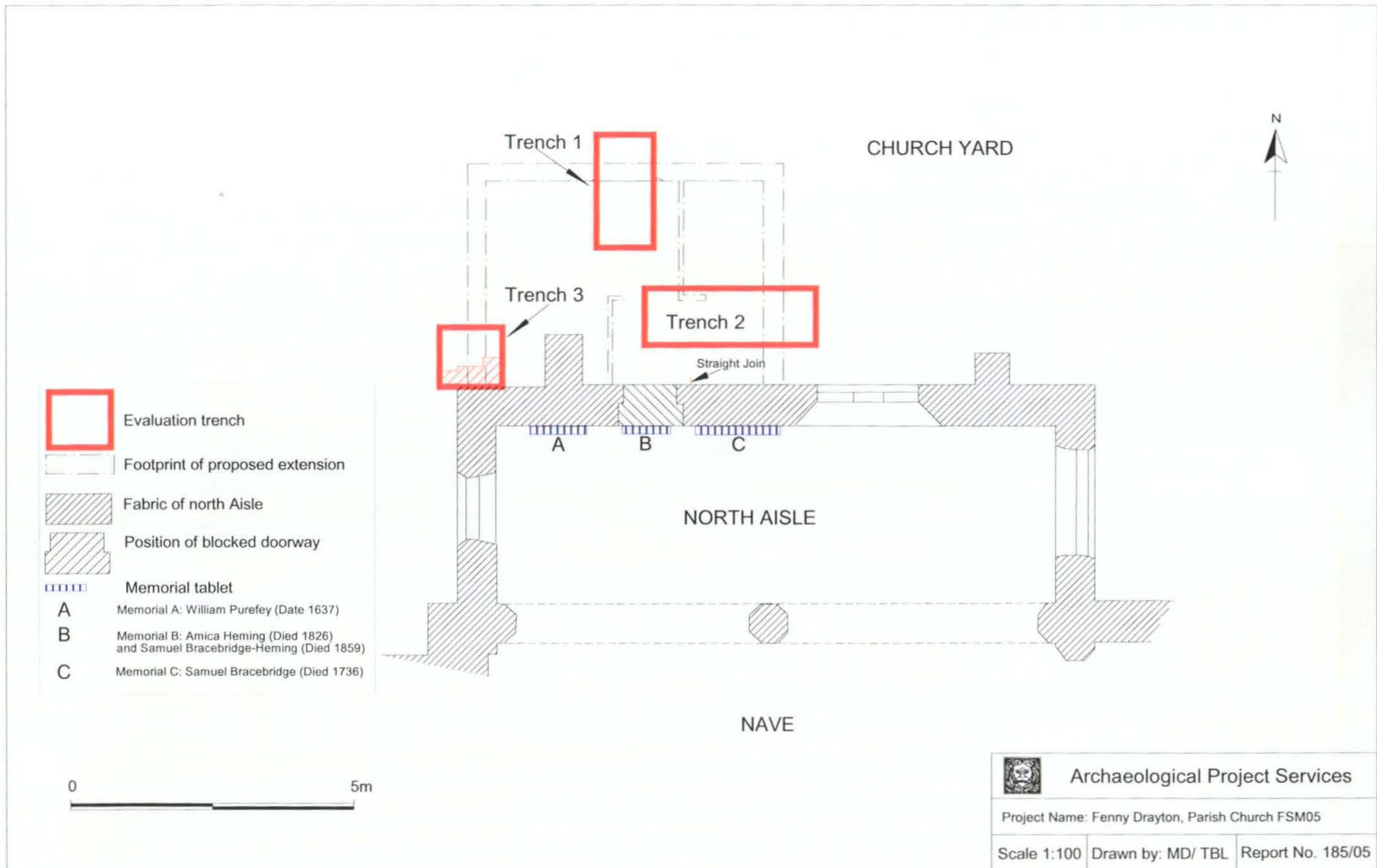


Figure 3 Plan of proposed development showing location of trenches and affected monuments

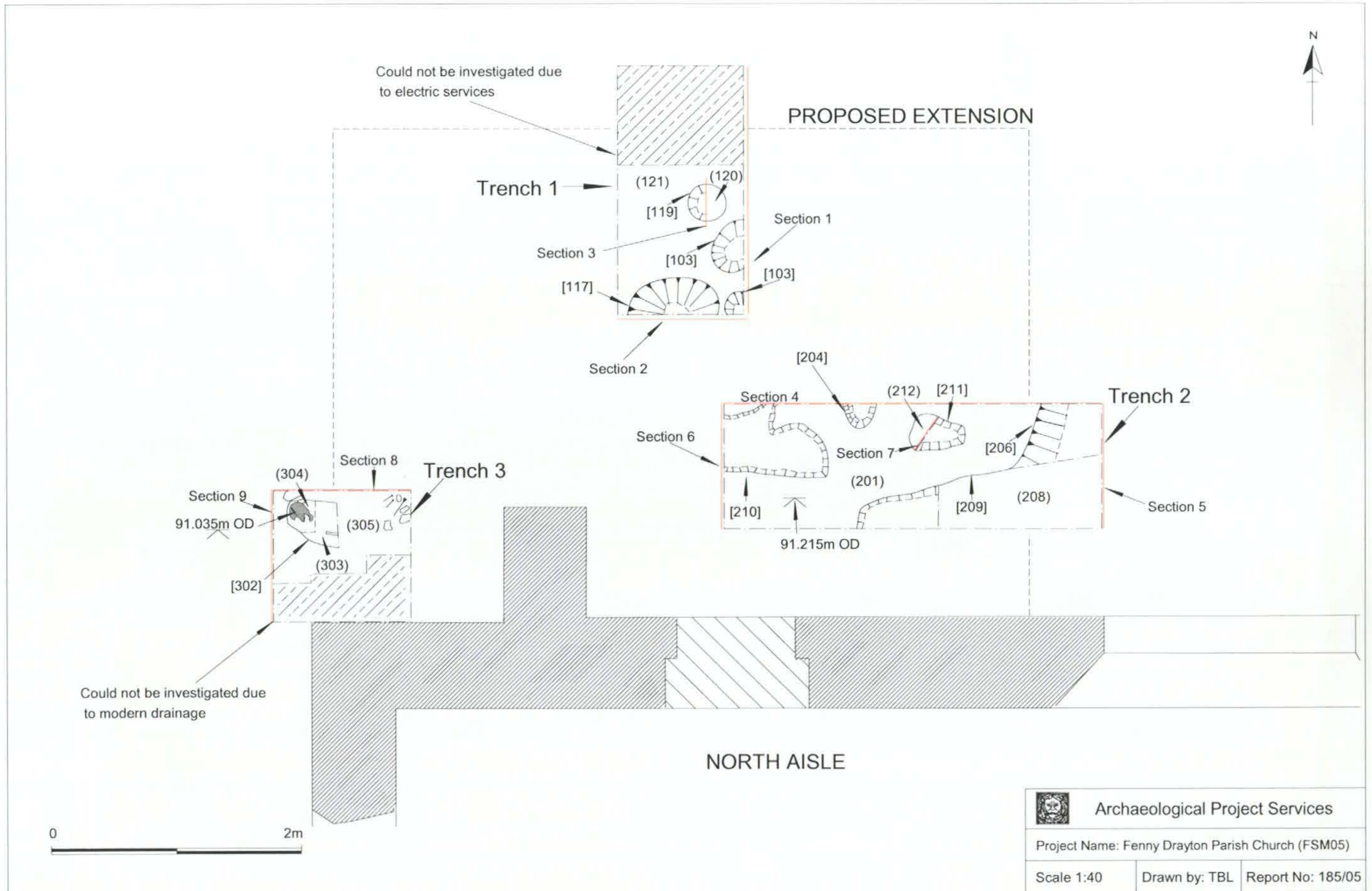
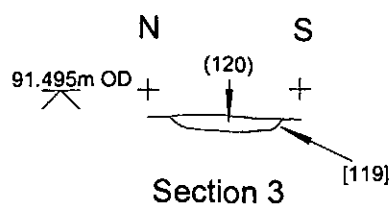
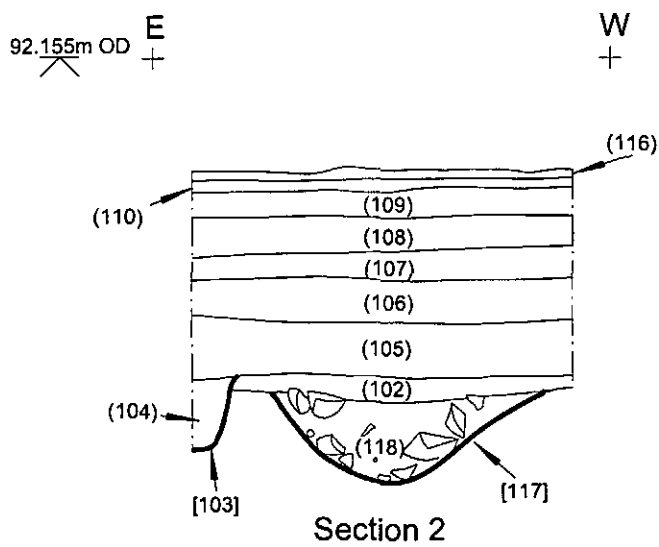
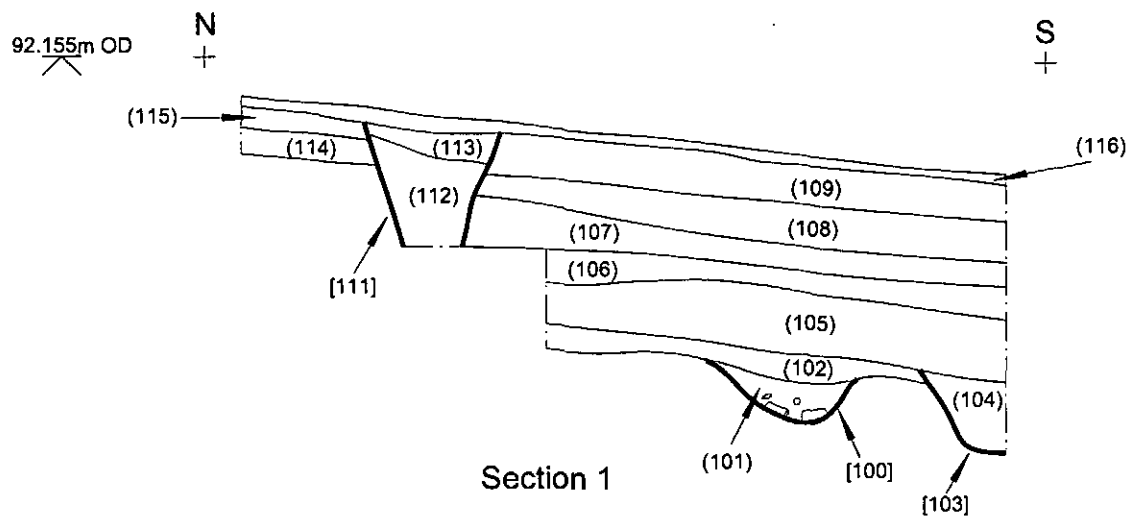


Figure 4 Plan of trenches showing location of features recorded



Archaeological Project Services

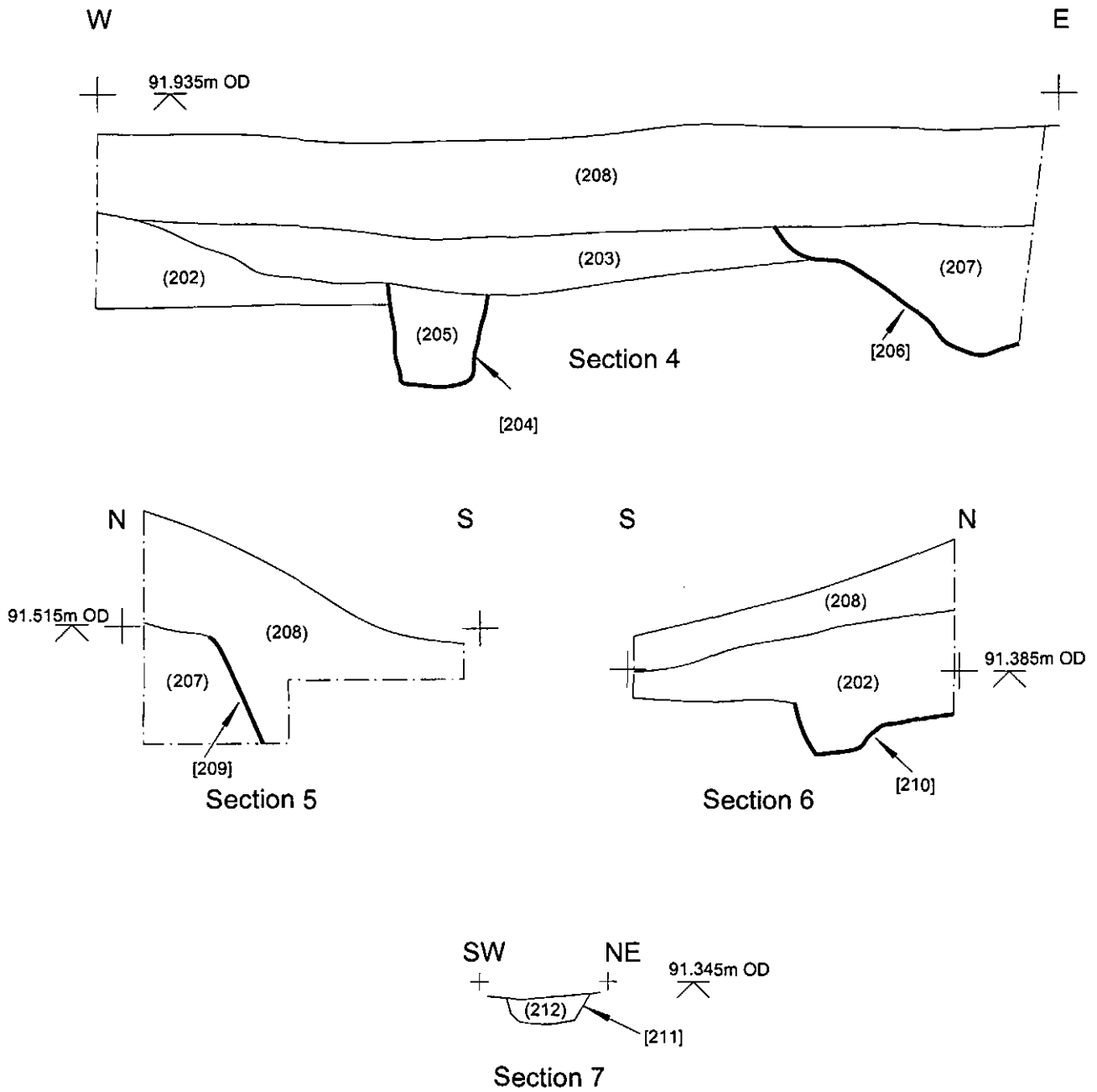
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Scale 1:20

Drawn by: TBL

Report No: 185/05

Figure 5 Sections 1 to 3 (Trench 1)




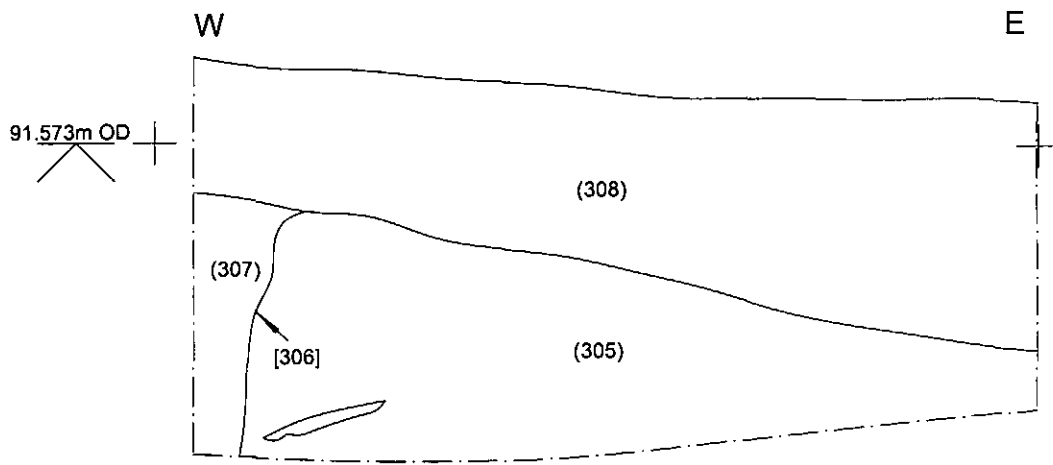
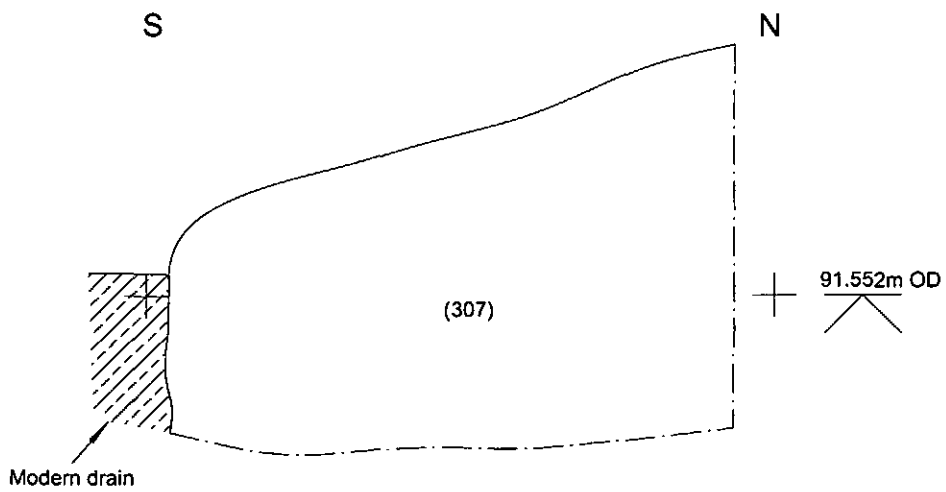
 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Fenny Drayton Parish Church (FSM05)		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: TBL	Report No: 185/05

Figure 6 Sections 4 to 7 (Trench 2)



Section 8



Section 9




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Fenny Drayton Parish Church (FSM05)		
Scale 1:10	Drawn by: TBL	Report No: 185/05

Figure 7 Sections 8 and 9 (Trench 3)



Plate 1 Northwest facing view across churchyard towards parish church



Plate 2 East facing view across proposed development



Plate 3 East facing view of Section 1



Plate 4 South facing view of Section 2



Fig. 5 Northwest facing view of Section 4



Fig.6 Northeast facing view of Trench 2 showing [211] and [206]



Plate 7 Northwest facing view of Sections 8 and 9 showing burial (304)



Plate 8 Detailed view of burial (304), 0.30m scale.



Plate 9 South facing view of exterior of north aisle

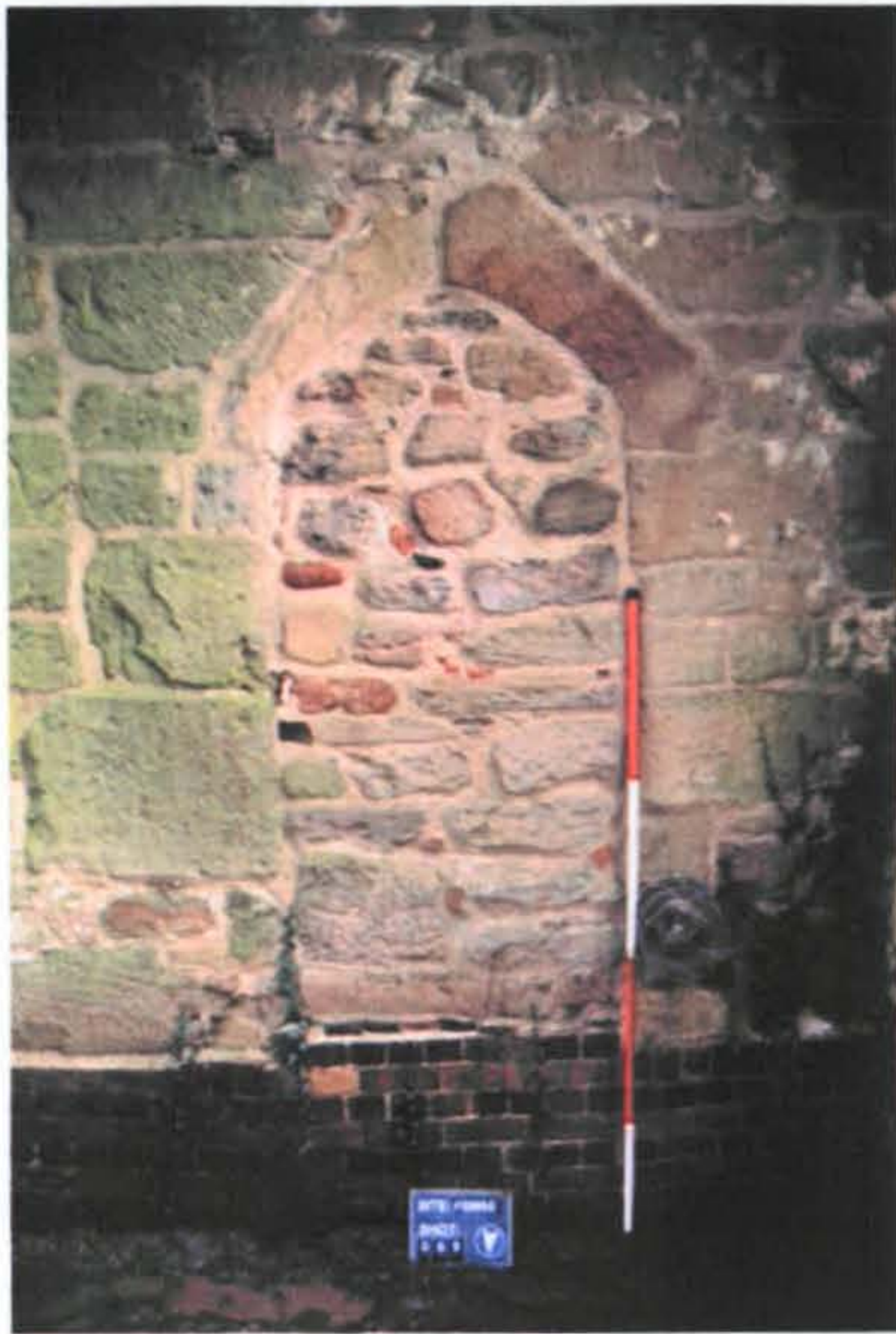


Plate 10 South facing detail of exterior of blocked doorway



Plate 11 North facing view of Memorial B



Plate 12 Northwest facing view of interior of north aisle showing Memorials A, B and C

Appendix 1

**SS MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH
ROOKERY CLOSE
FENNY DRAYTON
LEICESTERSHIRE**

National Grid Reference: SP 351 971

**SPECIFICATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION,
PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDING & MONITORING**

PREPARED FOR

**PARKINSON, DODSON
& ASSOCIATES, ARCHITECTS**

BY

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES
Institute of Field Archaeologists'
Registered Archaeological Organisation No. 21**

November 2005

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This document comprises a specification for an archaeological evaluation, photographic recording and monitoring at the church of SS Michael and All Angels, Rookery Lane, Fenny Drayton, Leicestershire.*
- 1.2 *A faculty has been granted by the Diocese of Leicester to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the creation of a new extension to the north side of the parish church of St Michael and All Angels, which will provide new kitchen and disabled toilet facilities. A condition has been attached to this faculty by the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAC) requiring that an archaeological programme of works should take place prior to and during the site construction works. This will initially comprise the photographic recording of a section of the north aisle wall and the archaeological monitoring of its subsequent removal; and trial trenching within the footprint of the proposed new extension to take place prior to the site construction works.*

- 1.3 *On the completion of the fieldwork, a report will be prepared detailing the findings of the whole programme. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits and/or remains located, which will be supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This document comprises a specification for archaeological field investigations at the parish church of SS Michael and All Angels, Rookery Lane, Fenny Drayton, Leicestershire compiled in response to a Brief prepared by the DAC.

2.2 The document contains the following parts:

2.2.1 Overview

2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting

2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used

2.2.4 List of specialists

2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 The village of Fenny Drayton is situated some 5.5km to the north west of Hinckley and 2km to the east of Atherstone, in the administrative district of Hinckley and Bosworth, County of Leicestershire. The parish church of St Michael and All Angels is located at the northern end of the village and to the north east of Rookery Close at National Grid Reference SP 351 971.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A faculty has been granted to the PCC for the creation of a new extension to the north side of the parish church of St Michael and All Angels for the provision of new disabled toilet and kitchen facilities. A condition has been attached to this faculty by the DAC requiring that an archaeological programme be carried out prior to and during construction works taking place. Archaeological Project Services have been commissioned by Mr John Dodson of Parkinson, Dodson and Associates, Architects on behalf of the PCC, to undertake this work.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The local soils are of the Compton Association, typically reddish clayey soils that have developed on reddish river alluvium. The village is situated within a gently

undulating upland area at a height of approximately 86m OD.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The church of SS Michael and All Angels is situated to the north of a Roman road which runs through Fenny Drayton to join Watling Street some 1.5km to the south west of the village. The church is situated at the northern end of the village; the earliest portions of which date from the late Norman period (late 12th century). These comprise the south doorway and a window in the north east wall of the chancel. The small west tower is of 14th century origin while the church was much restored in 1860 (Pevsner, 1992).
- 6.2 The settlement of Fenny Drayton is likely to have had late Anglo-Saxon origins. Fenny is derived from the Old English *fynig* – mouldy or musty; while Dray is also derived from the Old English *draeg* denoting a portage, and *tun* a hamlet or farmstead (Ekwall, 1989). The Domesday Survey of 1086 refers to Fenny Drayton or *Draitone* being situated within the Wapentake of Guthlaxton and part of the lands of Earl Aubrey. Aelmer held 5 carucates of land in Fenny Drayton on behalf of the Earl. There was land for five ploughs and two in the Lordship. There were fourteen villages with eight smallholders having four ploughs. The value of the land at the Conquest was 30 shillings and at Domesday – 40 shillings (Morris, 1979).
- 6.3 In 1999 the University of Leicester Archaeology Service (ULAS) undertook an archaeological evaluation followed by a watching brief in advance of and during a new housing development on Old Forge Road. A number of sherds of 13th century pottery were recovered from pits. This was consistent with other similar finds in the area that were suggestive of a centre for medieval pottery manufacture. The Leicestershire Archaeological Unit undertook a watching brief in 1993 during a new housing development in Fenny Drayton. However, no archaeological finds or features were found.
- 6.4 It is anticipated that the excavation of trial pits within the footprint of the proposed new extension may reveal the remains of the former north porch of the medieval church.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aim of the work will be record and interpret any archaeological remains revealed during the archaeological programme.
- 7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:
- 7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological remains that may be present within the site.

- 7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.
- 7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.
- 7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.
- 7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.
- 7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.
- 7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

8 **LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR**

- 8.1 Close contact will be maintained with the DAC throughout the investigations in order to ensure that the work complies with their Brief and requirements.

9 **TRIAL TRENCHING**

9.1 Reasoning for this Technique

- 9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the in situ determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.
- 9.1.2 It is proposed that three trial trenches will be excavated within the footprint of the proposed new extension. Trench 1 will measure 1 x 3m; Trench 2 – 1 x 2m and Trench 3 – 1 x 1m. Please refer to the accompanying trial trench layout proposal.

9.2 General Considerations

- 9.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.
- 9.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No.

21) managed by a Member of the Institute (MIFA).

9.3 Methodology

- 9.3.1 The trial trenches will be opened up by hand excavation. Following the removal of topsoil and any other overburden, the trial trenches will continue to be hand excavated in order to enable the identification and analysis of any archaeological features and/or remains exposed.
- 9.3.2 Investigation of the features and/or remains will be undertaken only so far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required, and where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located that are deemed to be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*i.e.* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function, and date of the features.
- 9.3.3 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.
- 9.3.4 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.
- 9.3.5 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- 9.3.5.1 the site before the commencement of field operations.
 - 9.3.5.2 the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.
 - 9.3.5.3 individual features and, where appropriate, their sections
 - 9.3.5.4 groups of features where their relationship is important
 - 9.3.5.5 the site on completion of field work
- 9.3.6 Should undisturbed human remains be encountered, they will be left *in situ* if possible, with excavation being limited to the identification and recording of such remains. If removal of human remains proves necessary

then this is covered by the Faculty for works and a Home Office licence will not be required. Consideration will be given at all times to ensure that no offence is caused to any interested parties. All disturbed skeletal remains will be bagged and retained for re-internment.

9.3.7 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.

10 PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDING

10.1 Methodology

10.1.1 The photographic recording will comprise a brief written account of the section of the wall of the north aisle wall of the church that will be recorded prior to its removal. This will be incorporated within the overall written report for the whole project.

10.1.2 A photographic record of the interior and exterior of the north aisle wall will be compiled using a 35mm camera in both monochrome prints and colour slide formats. The photographic record will be reproduced in the final report along with an accompanying plan that will show the direction and location of these records, which will also be incorporated in the final report.

11 MONITORING

11.1 The removal of a section of the north aisle wall prior to the construction of a new entrance from the church leading onto the proposed new extension will be monitored archaeologically under watching brief conditions. The same recording techniques outlined during the trial trenching will be utilised during this section of the programme. The results of this work will be incorporated into the overall project report.

12 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

12.1 If appropriate, during the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. The specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report.

13 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

13.1 Stage 1

13.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

13.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

13.2 Stage 2

13.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

13.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

13.3 Stage 3

13.3.1 On completion of the analysis, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:

13.3.1.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

13.3.1.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the site.

13.3.1.3 Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.

13.3.1.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.

13.3.1.5 A text describing the findings of the investigation.

13.3.1.6 Plans showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

- 13.3.1.7 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.
- 13.3.1.8 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- 13.3.1.9 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- 13.3.1.10 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.
- 13.3.1.11 A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

14 **ARCHIVE**

- 14.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the investigation will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to Leicestershire County Council Museum and in line with guidelines published in *UKIC Guidelines for the preparation of archives for long term storage (1990)* and *The transfer of Archaeological Archives to LMARS (LMARS 2001)*.

15 **REPORT DEPOSITION**

- 15.1 Copies of the programme report will be sent to: the clients - Parkinson, Dodson and Associates, Architects; the PCC; the DAC; Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services Archaeology Section (2 copies) and the National Monuments Record.
- 15.2

16 **PUBLICATION**

- 16.1 A report of the findings of the investigation will be submitted for inclusion in the journal Transactions of the Leicestershire Historical and Archaeological Society. Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

17 **CURATORIAL MONITORING**

- 17.1 Curatorial responsibility for the project lies with Archaeological Advisor to the Diocesan Advisory Committee, Mr Michael Hawkes. As much written notice as possible, ideally at least seven days, will be given to the archaeological curator prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

18 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

- 18.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator.
- 18.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

19 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 19.1 The trial trenching work will be directed by Tom Lane MIFA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Project Officer or Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological investigations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.
- 19.2 The photographic recording and monitoring will be carried out by a Project Officer or Supervisor suitably qualified and experienced in this type of work.
- 19.3 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

Conservation Museum, Lincoln.	Conservation Laboratory, City and County
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: Dr D Knight, Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust Roman: B Precious, independent specialist, or ULAS specialist Anglo-Saxon and later: J Young/H Healey, independent specialists; or G Taylor, APS
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist; or G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, independent specialist

Animal Remains Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy; or P Cope-Faulkner, APS
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

20 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 20.1 The trial trenching within the footprint of the proposed extension is scheduled to take three days, using one Project Officer and one Site Assistant. The photographic recording of the section of the north aisle wall and the archaeological monitoring of the removal of this section will take one day in total using one Project Officer.
- 20.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production for the investigation is expected to take up to 5 person-days. A Project Officer will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor and CAD illustrator. Two half-days of specialist time are allotted in the project budget.

21 INSURANCES

- 21.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

22 COPYRIGHT

- 22.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.
- 22.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.
- 22.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these

circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* and may result in legal action.

22.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

23 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Ekwall, E., 1989, *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Place Names*. (5th ed.), p150.

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Appendix 2

Context Descriptions

Trench 1

Context	Description	Depth	Interpretation
100	Sub-circular concave based cut, 0.34m diameter. Fill (101) contains flat stones at base of cut.	0.17m	Pit or Post-hole cut
101	Firm mid-reddish brown clayey sandy silt	0.11m	Fill of [100]
102	Firm mid-greyish brown silty clayey sand. Seals (101) cut by [103]	0.07m	Deposit
103	Sub-circular concave based cut, measures 0.22 x 0.12m.	0.24m	Post-hole cut
104	Firm mid brown sandy clayey silt	0.20m	Fill of [103]
105	Firm dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt. Contained 3 fragments of disarticulated human bone.	0.17m	Deposit
106	Soft dark greyish brown clayey sandy silt. Contained two fragments of disarticulated human bone	0.09m	Deposit
107	Soft light greyish brown sandy clayey silt	0.13m	Deposit
108	Soft dark brown sandy clayey silt. Possible buried soil	0.12m	Deposit
109	Soft light greyish brown sandy clayey silt. Same as (114). Possibly material re-deposited from drainage cut around church	0.08m	Deposit
110	Soft mid-brown sandy clayey silt. Same as (115)	0.06m	Topsoil
111	ESE-WNW aligned cut for electricity cable, hazard tape exposed	0.30m>	Service trench
112	Friable dark brown clayey sandy silt	0.16m	Primary fill of [111]
113	Friable mid greyish brown clayey sandy silt	0.07m	Secondary fill of [111]
114	Same as (109)	0.07m>	Deposit
115	Same as (110)	0.05m	Topsoil
116	Turf, soil sediment as (110)	0.04m	Turf line
117	Rounded cut feature, only partially exposed, 0.70m diameter and concave based. Contains flat stones at base of cut	0.23m	Pit or post-hole cut
118	Soft dark brown clayey sandy silt	0.21m	Fill of [117]
119	Sub-circular flat based cut, measured 0.30m in diameter	0.04m	Shallow pit cut
120	Hard mid greyish red silty clay	0.05m	Fill of [119]
121	Hard dry greyish yellowish brown fine	c.0.20m	Deposit

	sandy silt. Overlay natural (122=201=301)		
122	Friable medium reddish brown sandy clay containing frequent pebbles average size 1 x 2cm. Unexcavated. Same as (201=301)	-	Natural deposit

Trench 2

Context	Description	Depth	Interpretation
201	Friable medium reddish brown sandy clay containing frequent pebbles average size 1 x 2cm. Unexcavated. Same as (301)	-	Natural deposit
202	Mixed deposit of loose mid greyish brown sandy silt and chunks of natural clay re-deposited from (201). Scarce fine pebbles in silt	0.30m	Deposit
203	Friable medium yellowish reddish brown sandy silt clay, frequent rounded pebbles and angular gravel	0.20m	Deposit
204	Sub-circular post-hole cut 0.29m diameter, near vertical sided and flat based.	0.31m	Post-hole cut
205	Loose medium yellowish brown sand scarce fine rounded pebbles.	0.31m	Fill of [204]
206	North south aligned concave based linear, 0.68m> diameter	0.40m	Ditch/ gully cut
207	Firm medium greenish yellowish brown sandy clay, mod fired clay flecks, fired clay flecks, mod mortar flecks, frequent rounded pebbles and scarce charcoal.	0.40m	Fill of [206]
208	Loose dark greyish brown sandy silt. Scarce fired clay, frequent CBM and moderate rounded pebbles	0.32m	Topsoil
209	East-west aligned near vertical linear cut, 0.60m> diameter	0.60m	Cut feature
210	Irregular disturbance measured 0.82>m x 0.56m. Filled with (202)	0.16m	Root disturbance
211	Sub-ovoid steep sided flat based cut, measured 0.42 x 0.35m	0.08m	Post hole cut
212	Medium slightly reddish greyish brown friable silty sand. Contained scarce charcoal and scarce flecks of fine white loam mortar	0.08m	Fill of [211]
213	Mixed deposit of loose mid greyish brown sandy silt and chunks of natural clay re-deposited from (201).	-	Fill of [210]

Trench 3

Context	Description	Depth	Interpretation
301	Friable medium reddish brown sandy clay containing frequent pebbles average size 1 x 2cm. Unexcavated. Same as (201)	-	Natural deposit
302	East west aligned cut through (301), only partially exposed and unexcavated	-	Grave cut
303	Mixed deposit of predominantly dark greyish brown sandy clay mixed with reddish brown sandy clay re-deposited from (301). Identical to (305)	-	Fill of [302]
304	Human burial, adult, aligned west east. Only the skull, positioned on its side, with packing stones behind, and the top of a humerus were exposed.	-	Adult Inhumation
305	Mixed deposit of predominantly dark greyish brown sandy clay mixed with reddish brown sandy clay re-deposited from (301). Contains angular gravel, rounded gravel, CBM and pot Identical to (303)	0.32m	Deposit
306	Near vertical west facing cut, 0.14m> wide	0.33m	Cut feature
307	Friable medium greyish brown sandy silt clay. Frequent rounded and angular gravel	0.33m	Fill of [306]
308	Friable dark greyish brown sandy clay, moderate rounded pebbles, average size 1cm x 1cm	0.32m	Topsoil

Appendix 3

Report on the Romano-British pottery from excavations at St Michael's and All Angels Church, Fenny Drayton, (FSM04)

For Archaeological Project Services

By R.S. Leary

22 December 2005

The pottery came from initial evaluation excavation at St Michael's and All Angels Church, Fenny Drayton, Leicestershire in 2005 by Archaeological Project Services.

The total quantity of Romano-British pottery numbered 21 sherds, weighing 451 grams (table 1) from a minimum of 17 vessels. The condition of the pottery was stable and the sherds were in good condition. The pottery was catalogued according to the guidelines laid down by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 2004a) and quantified by sherd count and weight and rim % values. A catalogue was compiled with spot dates for each sherd.

Summary

A small group of pottery was recovered including a stratified assemblage dating to the late third to fourth century with earlier sherds in less securely stratified contexts indicating the possibility of a multi-phased site lasting some 2-300 years. The pottery was principally Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria of the mid third to mid fourth centuries with a small amount of locally produced grey ware, at least one jar from Harrold in Bedfordshire and a samian mortarium from Gaul.

Fabrics

The fabric of the pottery was first examined by eye and sorted into fabric groups on the basis of colour, hardness, feel, fracture, inclusions and manufacturing technique. Samples of the sherds were further examined under an x30 binocular microscope to verify these divisions. The size of the sample was as large as was felt necessary for each fabric group. National fabric collection codes are given wherever possible (Tomber and Dore 1998). Codes used in the Leicestershire and Warwickshire fabric series are also indicated.

Colour: narrative description only

Hardness: after Peacock 1977
soft - can be scratched by finger nail
hard - can be scratched with penknife blade
very hard - cannot be scratched

Feel: tactile qualities
smooth - no irregularities
rough - irregularities can be felt
sandy - grains can be felt across the surface
leathery - smoothed surface like polished leather
soapy - smooth feel like soap

Fracture: visual texture of fresh break, after Orton 1980.
smooth - flat or slightly curved with no visible irregularities
irregular - medium, fairly widely spaced irregularities
finely irregular - small, fairly closely spaced irregularities
laminar - stepped effect
hackly - large and generally angular irregularities

Inclusions:

Type: after Peacock 1977

Frequency: indicated on a 4-point scale - abundant, moderate, sparse and rare where abundant is a break packed with an inclusion and rare is a break with only one or two of an inclusion.

Sorting: after Orton 1980

Shape: angular - convex shape, sharp corners
subangular - convex shape, rounded corners
rounded - convex shape no corners
platey - flat

Size: subvisible - only just visible at x30 and too small to measure
fine - 0.1-0.25mm
medium - 0.25-0.5
coarse - 0.5-1mm
very coarse - over 1mm

Fabric code	Description	National fabric code (Tomber and Dore 1998)	Warwickshire fabric series	Leicestershire fabric series code
CTA2	Dark to medium brown, hard with rough feel and laminar fracture. Abundant ill-sorted fine to very coarse shell, angular fragments probably limestone, sparse, fine to medium, rounded, ferruginous inclusions. Source likely to be Harrold, Bedfordshire	HAR SH	C11	CG1B
GRA1	Grey-black. Hard, smooth, Moderate, well-sorted, fine, quartz, source possibly Mancetter-Hartshill		R11	GW3 possibly also GW7
GRB1	grey wares. A group of grey fabrics tempered with moderate quantities of medium-sized quartz not otherwise subdivided due to the endless variations in the attributes and impossibility of either consistently identifying subgroups or identifying their sources. Distinctive fabrics are given their own code once recognised. Source unknown but more like later grey wares from Tiddington.		R00	GW1
MH2	Fine-textured, cream fabric, varying from soft to very hard, sometimes with pink core; self-coloured or with a self-coloured slip. Inclusions usually moderate, smallish, transparent and translucent white and pinkish quartz with sparse opaque orange-brown and rarely blackish fragments; rarely white clay pellets (or re-fired pottery). The range in fabric is, in fact, quite wide, from that with virtually no inclusions to fabrics with a fair quantity and fabrics with hard, ill-sorted black inclusions. The trituration grit after AD130-140 consisted of hard red-brown and/or hard blackish material. MH signifies this fabric but with no trituration grits present	MAH WH	M22	M04
TS	Samian		S00	SAM

Table 1 Fabrics

Fabric	No.	Weight
CTA2	2	20.9
GRA	2	19
GRB1	5	33.6
MH	1	20.6
MH2	9	340.3
TS	2	16.9
Total	21	451.3

Table 2 Quantification of wares present

The excavation yielded a surprising amount of mortaria from such a small scale investigation – at least seven vessels were present and all those with diagnostic form were of late type except a flange from context 107 which is more likely to belong to the second century, probably the middle of that century. The remainder comprised hammerhead, reeded hammerhead and wall sided examples, including two painted vessels and these forms belong to the mid third to mid fourth centuries. The wall sided example is likely to be of at least late third or fourth century date. All these mortaria were products of the nearby kilns at Mancetter-Hartshill but a further mortarium from context 207 was in samian. This is one of the latest forms in the samian range and was current in the late second to third century.

Two sherds of shell-tempered ware from rilled jars compare well with material from Harrold. The products of these kilns appear in this area towards the late third century growing more common in the fourth century. The rest of the pottery is less well-dated being common grey ware. One sherd, from 200, may be rather earlier in date than the mortaria as its fine fabric is better compared with the products of the Mancetter-Hartshill kilns in the late first and second century. A GRB1 sherd with acute lattice decoration is also likely to date to the second century when local copies of BB1 jars were being made. A cavetto rim jar is slightly later in type, being common in the late second to third century.

Spot dating catalogue

Context	Fabric	No.	Weight	Part	Form	Vessel type	Abrasion	Diam	Rim %	Dec	Date range	Comments
105	MH2	1	18.8	Incomplete rim	Hammerhead mortarium	Mortarium	A			Brown diagonal paint lines on flange	Mid 3-Mid 4	Burnt and chipped around rim
105	MH2	1	10.6	Rim	Reeded, hammerhead mortarium with 5 reeds	Mortarium	M		2		Mid 3-Mid 4	
105	CTA2	1	8.7	Bodysherd	Closed vessel	Jar	M			Rilled	Late 3-4	
107	MH	1	20.6	Flange		Mortarium	M	32	2		2ND	Near spout so it is difficult to be sure of profile and narrow dating, prob mid 2
108	CTA2	1	12.2	Bodysherd	Closed vessel	Jar	U			Rilled	Late 3-4	
200	GRA	1	9.2	Bodysherd	Closed vessel	Jar	M				2+	
200	GRA	1	9.8	Bodysherd	Closed vessel	Jar	M			Burnished all over outside, upper part of jar	2+	
200	GRB1	1	8.6	Bodysherd	Closed vessel	Jar	M				2+	
207	TS	2	16.9	Base and body	Dr 45	Mortarium	Unabraded but trituration worn				Late 2-3	

Context	Fabric	No.	Weight	Part	Form	Vessel type	Abrasion	Diam	Rim %	Dec	Date range	Comments
207	GRB1	1	4.9	Bodysherd	Closed vessel	Jar	U			burnished body with multiple spaced grooved		
207	GRB1	1	1.9	Bodysherd	Closed vessel	Jar	M			burnished lattice	2+	
207	GRB1	1	12.8	Rim	Cavetto rim	Jar	A	22	6		Late 2+	
207	MH2	1	66.4	Rim and body	Reeded, rim hammer head incomplete rim, only one reed present	Mortarium	M				Mid 3- Mid 4	Freshly broken in three
207	MH2	1	106.8	Base and body		Mortarium	M				130/40+	Freshly broken in two may be the same vessel as above but lacks the darker slip it has
207	MH2	3	110.4	Base and body		Mortarium	M				130/40+	One large sherd freshly broken in two, two others freshly broken but non-adjointing. Not the same vessel as above two. Trituration grits rather concentric in arrangement

Context	Fabric	No.	Weight	Part	Form	Vessel type	Abrasion	Diam	Rim %	Dec	Date range	Comments
207*	MH2	1	16	Rim	Wall rim	Mortarium	U	30	2	brown paint occupying half of rim sherd with edge running diagonally across	Late 3-Mid 4th	
208	GRB1	1	5.4	Bodysherd	Closed vessel	Jar	U			Burnished outside body	2+	
308	MH2	1	11.3	Bodysherd		Mortarium	U				130/40+	

* Three additional unreported sherds from (207)

Chronology of context group

The only well-stratified group came from context 207. This can be dated to the late 3rd-4th century on the basis of the late shell-tempered ware and the Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria types present. The material was in good condition with large fresh sherds. The earlier pottery from contexts 107 and 200 suggests there may be earlier occupation in the area.

Recommendations

The pottery should be deposited with a local Museum and a summary of the report included in an appropriate local journal. The association of the pottery with quantities of brick and tile suggests the possibility of a building of some pretensions in the area. If further building work and, therefore, excavation is to be undertaken, quantities of well-preserved Roman pottery may be expected and provision for its study should be made. More precise dating of the samian mortarium could be obtained from a specialist in these wares for little cost. Given the indications of earlier phases of activity, deep and/or complex stratigraphy might be encountered spanning some 2-300 years of Roman occupation.

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Appendix 4

THE FINDS

by Jen Kitch and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Leicestershire post-Roman pottery fabric type series (Davies and Sawday 1999). Three fragments of post-medieval pottery weighing 113g were recovered from 2 separate contexts. In addition to the pottery, a large quantity of other artefacts, mostly brick/tile, comprising 167 items weighing a total of 12237g, was retrieved (2 discarded). Faunal remains were also recovered.

The excavated animal bone assemblage comprises 22 stratified fragments of bone weighing 429g. The animal bone was identified by reference to published catalogues. No attempt is made to sex or age animals represented within the assemblage, although where this is readily apparent is noted in the comments column.

Provenance

The material was recovered from deposits and the fill (207) of a linear ([206]).

Most of the ceramic building materials were probably made in the area of Fenny Drayton in southwestern Leicestershire.

Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
110	SW4	White salt glazed stoneware, 18 th century	1	6	18 th century
	EA3	Staffordshire mottled ware bowl, 18 th century	1	22	
208	SW	London brown stoneware flagon, impressed mark LAMBE[1	85	19 th century

The impressed mark on the London stoneware is the word 'Lambeth', the place of production.

Table 2: Other Artefacts

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
105	Flint	Natural broken pebble (discarded)	1	11	
107	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, post-medieval	13	469	Post-medieval
	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, mortar adhering, post-medieval	1	45	
	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, knife-trimmed, Roman	3	457	
	CBM	Glazed floor tile, triangular, very dark green-brown glaze, medieval	1	135	
	CBM	Imbrices, abraded, Roman	5(2 link)	315	
	CBM	Keyed flue tile, Roman	1	58	
	CBM	Tegula, Roman	1	26	

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
	CBM	Tegula? Roman	1	47	
	Slate	Roofing slate, Swithland?	1	24	
	Glass	Light green window glass, fire-rounded edge, post-medieval	1	1	
108	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, post-medieval	28	1684	Post-medieval
	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, mortar adhering, post-medieval	3	238	
	CBM	Roof tile, reduced surface, post-medieval	1	328	
	CBM	Roof tile, overfired, waster?, post-medieval	1	55	
	CBM	Glazed floor tile, pale yellow slip,	1	56	
	CBM	Handmade brick, post-medieval	1	128	
	CBM	Handmade brick, vitrified waster, 55mm thick, post-medieval	1	352	
	CBM	Handmade brick/thick tile, 35mm thick, post-medieval	1	178	
	CBM	Tegulae, Roman	2	135	
	CBM	Tile, oxidized throughout, Roman	2	81	
	Slate	Roofing slate, Swithland?	1	16	
	Mortar	Mortar/plaster, pale pink	1	8	
110	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, post-medieval	13	465	Post-medieval
	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, mortar adhering, post-medieval	3	120	
	CBM	Nibtile, post-medieval	1	104	
	CBM	Roof tile, overfired/burnt, post-medieval	2	96	
	CBM	Imbrices, Roman	2	127	
207	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, post-medieval	1	15	Post-medieval
	CBM	Tegula, Roman	1	53	
	CBM	Imbrex, Roman	1	107	
208	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, post-medieval	37	2134	18 th century
	CBM	Roof tile, oxidized throughout, mortar adhering, post-medieval	7	373	
	CBM	Nib tile, oxidized throughout, post-medieval	2	120	
	CBM	Handmade brick, post-medieval	2	147	
	CBM	Tile, oxidized throughout, Roman	2	390	
	CBM	Handmade brick/thick tile, 170mm wide, 35mm thick, mortar adhering to 1, Roman	4(2 link)	1229	
	CBM	Imbrices? Roman	2	127	

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
	CBM	Glazed floor tile, light green glaze, worn-extremely worn, mortar adhering, medieval	2	387	
	Slate	Roofing slate, Swithland?	3	362	
	Mortar	Grey mortar	4(2 link)	328	
	Mortar	White mortar with CBM, opus signinum, Roman	1	18	
	Clay pipe	Stem, bore 5/64", 18 th century	1	1	
	Iron	Gutter pipe support, late post-medieval	1	262	
	Stone	Natural (discarded)	1	364	
308	Mortar	White mortar	1	60	16 th -17 th century
	Copper alloy	Nuremburg jetton, 16 th -17 th century	1	1	

Note: CBM = Ceramic Building Material

Ceramic building materials dominate the assemblage. Although much of this material is post-medieval, probably late (c. 18th century) there are also some medieval pieces. These are mainly glazed floor tiles and there are examples of both light and dark coloured finishes, which probably suggests the church had a chequerboard pattern pavement during the Middle Ages.

Roman building materials were recovered in some abundance. Roof tiles, both *tegulae* and *imbrices*, occurred in moderate numbers and there was also a single keyed flue tile (associated with underfloor heating systems) and pieces of wall tile or brick, known as *lydion*. A piece of *opus signinum*, a Roman flooring material of cement with inclusions of brick/tile fragments, was also recovered. As a collection, this material indicates the presence of a Roman building on the site or in the immediate proximity and concurs with previous discoveries of Roman building material at the church.

Table 3: The Faunal Remains

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
102	Cattle	Phalanx I	1	22	Broken into two pieces
	Large Mammal	Rib	2	12	
	Cattle	Astragalus	1	1	Slightly abraded
	Sheep/Goat	Tooth	1	5	Upper M3
	Cattle	Tooth	1	26	Upper molar, Abnormal occlusal wear
	Cattle	Scapula	1	37	
	Cattle	Mandible	1	11	
	Pig	Mandible	1	30	Subadult
105	Large Mammal	Rib	1	7	
	Cattle	Astragalus	1	13	Very degraded, possibly caused by carnivore gnawing
	Cattle	Tooth	1	8	Lower M1
118	Large Mammal	Skull	4	82	Possibly all from the same skull
120	Domestic Fowl	Femur	1	2	
207	Cattle	Skull- Maxilla	1	69	M1 and M2 only, fragmentary
	Cattle	Humerus	1	44	
	Sheep/Goat	Skull- Maxilla	1	19	
	Large Mammal	Long Bone	1	17	
305	Large Mammal	Vertebra	1	24	

The recovered animal bone assemblage is very limited in size, providing little further information. The main

domestic species, cattle, sheep/goat, pig and domestic fowl were represented within the assemblage suggesting their presence and utilisation in some form on site. No evidence of butchery was noted within the assemblage. One instance of carnivore gnawing was noted, suggesting possible scavenging of food and butchery waste.

The overall condition of the assemblage is good to moderate, suggesting any further archaeological works will produce more animal bone of a similar condition and nature.

Condition

All the material is in good condition and presents no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

Documentation

There have been few previous archaeological investigations at Fenny Drayton, including at this site, that are the subjects of reports. Moreover, these previous investigations at the church have yielded artefact assemblages of similar nature to that obtained during the present excavation. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Leicestershire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

Potential

In general, the post-medieval material is of limited local potential and significance. Of slightly greater significance are the medieval artefacts, which provide some evidence for the appearance of the church interior during the Middle Ages. Of greatest significance and potential is the Roman aspect of the assemblage. This material supplements previous discoveries of artefacts of this date at the site and together these collections indicate that the church is probably built on, or extremely close to, the site of a significant Roman building. Moreover, the material discovered indicates this Roman building (or buildings) had tiled roofs, underfloor heating systems and cement floors.

The lack of any material earlier than the Roman period is informative and suggests that archaeological deposits dating from prior to this period are absent from the area, or were not revealed by the investigation, or were of a nature that did not involve artefact deposition. Similarly, the absence of any Saxon artefacts would tend to suggest that the site was abandoned at that time.

References

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Appendix 5

GLOSSARY

Anglo-Saxon	Pertaining to the period when Britain was occupied by peoples from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas. The period dates from approximately AD 450-1066.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Disarticulated bone	Loose broken bone that has been disturbed and removed from the burial
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Mortaria	Vessel for grinding wheat, the friction being created by fine gravel pressed into the surface of the bowl, the modern equivalent is the mortar and pestle.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Old English	The language used by the Saxon (<i>q.v.</i>) occupants of Britain.
Opus Signinum	A Roman cement with inclusions of brick and tile, commonly used for flooring.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period when Britain was part of the Roman Empire, AD43 – AD410.
Roman Villa	High status domestic structure within a rural setting, often associated with an agricultural estate. Villas were usually constructed of stone, and sometimes contained elaborate features such as tessellated pavements or bath-houses. Villas were often associated with service quarters and agricultural structures such as barns and granaries.
Saxo-Norman	This term is used to define the transition from the Anglo-Saxon to the Medieval period which occurred between approximately AD 850-1150. The Domesday Survey was

compiled towards the end of this period in AD 1086.

Appendix 6

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

44	Context records
8	Scale drawing sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Box of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

Responsibility for the ultimate destination of the project archive is held by:

Leicestershire County Museums, Arts and Records Service
County Hall
Glenfield
Leicestershire
LE3 8TB

Accession Number: X.A205.2005
Archaeological Project Services Site Code: FSM 05

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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