



KDK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Church of St Mary and All Saints
Main Street
Fotheringhay
Northamptonshire



Quality Check

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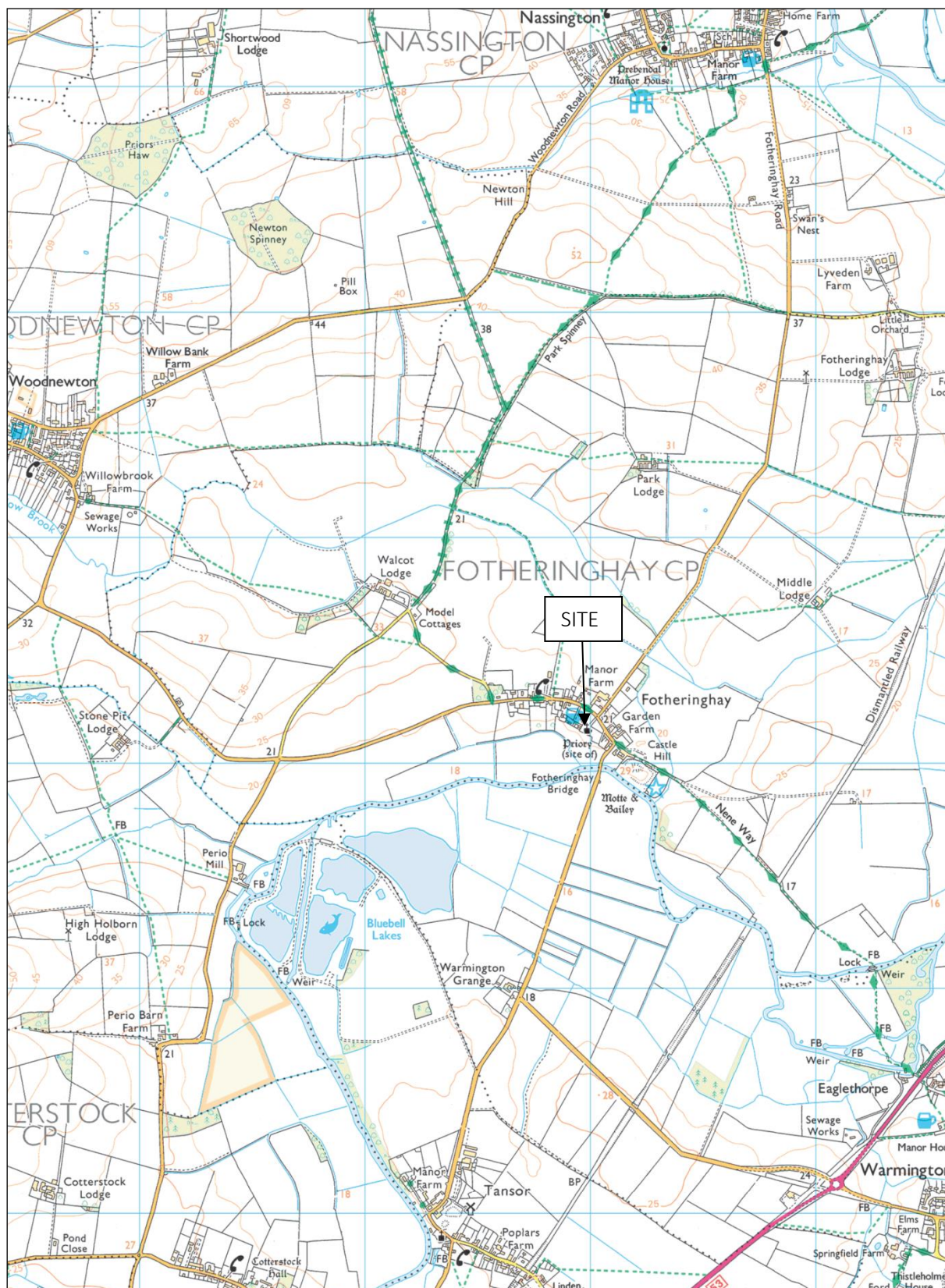


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)



Summary

In December 2015 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation at the Church of St Mary and All Saints, Main Street, Fotheringhay, Northamptonshire, in order to inform planning proposals, and to determine a viable drainage path through the churchyard. Initially provision was made for up to eight evaluation trenches, though fewer were to be excavated should results warrant it. In the event, only four were required and these were all excavated to the west of the church.

Several stone features were revealed, including a patterned pathway next to the north door and another path or wall foundation roughly parallel with the west wall. Evidence of structural demolition was also present, though no dating evidence of the associated stone spread was found. No articulated burials were encountered, though a small amount of charnel relating mainly to sub-adults was recovered from excavation close to the church wall.

The trial trenching demonstrated that there is an area some 2m wide immediately next to the west wall of the church that has few archaeological remains. As such this provides an ideal location for the trench arch as the impact on archaeological remains is likely to be less here than in other previously considered areas.

1 Introduction

1.1 In December 2015 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation at the Church of St Mary and All Saints, Main Street, Fotheringhay, Northamptonshire. The project was commissioned by Caroe Architecture on behalf of the Fotheringhay Parochial Church Council, and was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by KDK (Kaye 2015), and approved by Quinton Carroll, Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAA) to the Diocese of Peterborough.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This evaluation has been required by request of the DAA in order to inform planning proposals, and to determine a viable drainage path through the churchyard.

1.3 *The Site*

Location & Description

The Church of St Mary and All Saints is located in the core of the village and civil parish of Fotheringhay. It is situated in the administrative district of East Northamptonshire on National Grid Reference TL 0599 9314 (Fig. 1). It is set back from Main Street to the north, and is bounded by private residences to the east and west, and a field to the south (Fig. 2). The church is Grade I listed (English Heritage Building ID: 232628). The listed building description reads as follows:

Collegiate church now parish church. Begun as a college about 1370 for Edmund Langley and founded 1411 by his son Edmund of York. Nave rebuilt for Richard Duke of York by mason William Hanwood about 1434. Chancel cloisters and college buildings demolished at the Dissolution. Restored C19. Originally aisled nave, chancel west tower, north porch, cloisters and college buildings. Limestone ashlar with some squared coursed limestone to south and east walls, Lead roofs. South aisle of 6 bays, 5-window range of 4-light windows with 2-centred arch heads and panel tracery. Bay to far right is blank, with various blocked openings originally giving access to the cloisters. 2-stage buttresses, between bays, terminating as crocketed pinnacles decorated with panel tracery. Flying buttresses, springing from the base of each pinnacle to the nave clerestory, are curved above and below. 2 flying buttresses, to left of centre, and one to right are missing. Buttress above east wall is solid with a central 4-centred arch head opening. Lean-to roof with castellated ashlar parapets. 3-light east window of aisle, with 4-centred arch head, is set in former archway to chancel. 4-light west window is



similar to south windows. South nave clerestory of 6 bays. 5-window range of 4-light windows with 4-centred arch heads. The bay to the far right has 2 windows, one of which is only 3-lights. 2 bays to far left are blank. Shallow gabled roof with castellated parapet and remains of gargoyles. East wall of nave has blocked chancel arch. 5-light window above has 4-centred arch head. Flanking 3-stage buttresses and central 2-stage buttress. Shallow gable roof has plain ashlar parapet to this elevation. North aisle of 6-bay, 5-window range of 4-light windows similar to the south aisle; the window to the far left is of 3 lights. 2-stage buttresses, between bays, with pinnacles and flying buttresses, all similar to the south aisle. Lean-to roof with castellated parapet. East elevation is a blocked archway to the former chancel. West elevation has a 4-light window similar to the south aisle. Bay to far right of north aisle has 2-storey north porch. Central 4-light, square-head, first floor window. Similar 3-light window, now blocked, in return wall to left has blocked square-head opening below. Single-light window in return wall to right. Outer doorway, to left of centre, has 4-centred arch head with moulded surround and semi-circular reveals. Inner doorway has 4-centred arch head roll moulding and square-head surround. Flat roof, not visible, has castellated parapet. North nave clerestory of 6 bays, 5-window range, similar to south clerestory. 2-windows to far left forming separate bays and wider blank area to far right, appearing as one bay. West tower rises 2 stages from blank end bay of nave clerestory with an octagonal lantern above. West doorway has moulded and shafted archway set in square-head surround with quatrefoils and shields in the spandrels. Panelled doors. Large 8-light window above has panel tracery with transom. Flanking 3-stage buttresses. Nave parapet continues above this stage. Stage above has 2-light windows, to each face, with 4-centred arch heads and hollow reveals. Upper stage of tower has large 4-light bell-chamber openings, to each face, with king mullions, transoms and 4-centred arch heads. Shallow corner buttresses terminate as octagonal corner turrets with castellated parapets. Plain parapet between turrets. The south turrets have remains of armorial beasts. Octagonal lantern has diagonal shafts at corners decorated with panel tracery and carved heads, each terminating as a crocketed pinnacle. Tall, 3-light, windows to each face of octagon have 2-centred arch heads, panel tracery and transoms with cusping. Castellated ashlar parapets between pinnacles. Central leaded spirelet with weathervane. Interior: 4-bay nave arcade of tall Perpendicular arches which are moulded with a continuous double hollow section. Semi-circular responds facing into each archway and plain shafts, facing into nave and aisles, which are continuous to roof level. Similar shafts are reflected in the aisle walls. Clerestory windows, above, are set in plain recesses. Tall tower arch is similar to the nave arcade but with 4-centred arch head, similar lower arches between tower and aisles. Nave roof has curved braces and collars with carved bosses at intersection of purlins. Aisle roofs restored C19 possibly incorporating some original timbers. Fan vaulted tower ceiling c1529. 2-light, square-head, window to right of altar opens into south aisle. Various blocked openings to right of south aisle altar. Perpendicular pulpit with rib vaulted tester with a larger Jacobean tester over. Late C18/early C19 box pews. Early C19 reredos, to east wall, has Gothick panels with the Ten Commandments, The Creed and The Lords Prayer inscribed. Stained glass: mid C20 armorial shields of House of York, east window of south aisle. 16 C20 painted shields in nave relate to families having historical links with Fotheringhay. Fragment of wall painting to right of west window. Perpendicular octagonal font has medieval carving incorporated into cover. Monuments: matrices of medieval brasses in chancel and sanctuary floor. Edmund Second Duke of York and Richard Third Duke of York, identical monuments to either side of altar, erected in 1573 by Queen Elizabeth I. Each is of limestone, ashlar, with central armorial devices with strapwork flanked by pairs of attached Corinthian columns, similar columns on return walls facing into nave. Entablature, with armorial devices of House of York, and moulded cornice with central bracketed sections with semi-circular section above. Thomas Hurland, died 1589: brass tablet in sanctuary floor, Kath Hutchins, died 1726: Rococo style tablet on centre pier of north nave archade. Rev. John Morgan, died 1781: tablet to left of south aisle altar has delicate swags, broken pediment and urn. Various C18 and C19 floor and wall tablets. The college was established for about 30



persons and its buildings probably included cloisters, dormitories, chapter house, hall and kitchens.

(RCHM: An Inventory of Architectural Monuments in North Northamptonshire: p64; Buildings of England: Northamptonshire: p220)

Geology & Topography

The sedimentary geology comprises sand and gravels which overlie argillaceous rocks with subordinate sandstone and limestone that are part of the Rutland Formation (NERC 2015).

Development

A series of trial trenches and test pits were to be dug to ascertain the least destructive routes for the services for the proposed new toilets and catering areas (Fig. 3).



Figure 2: Site location (scale 1:1250)

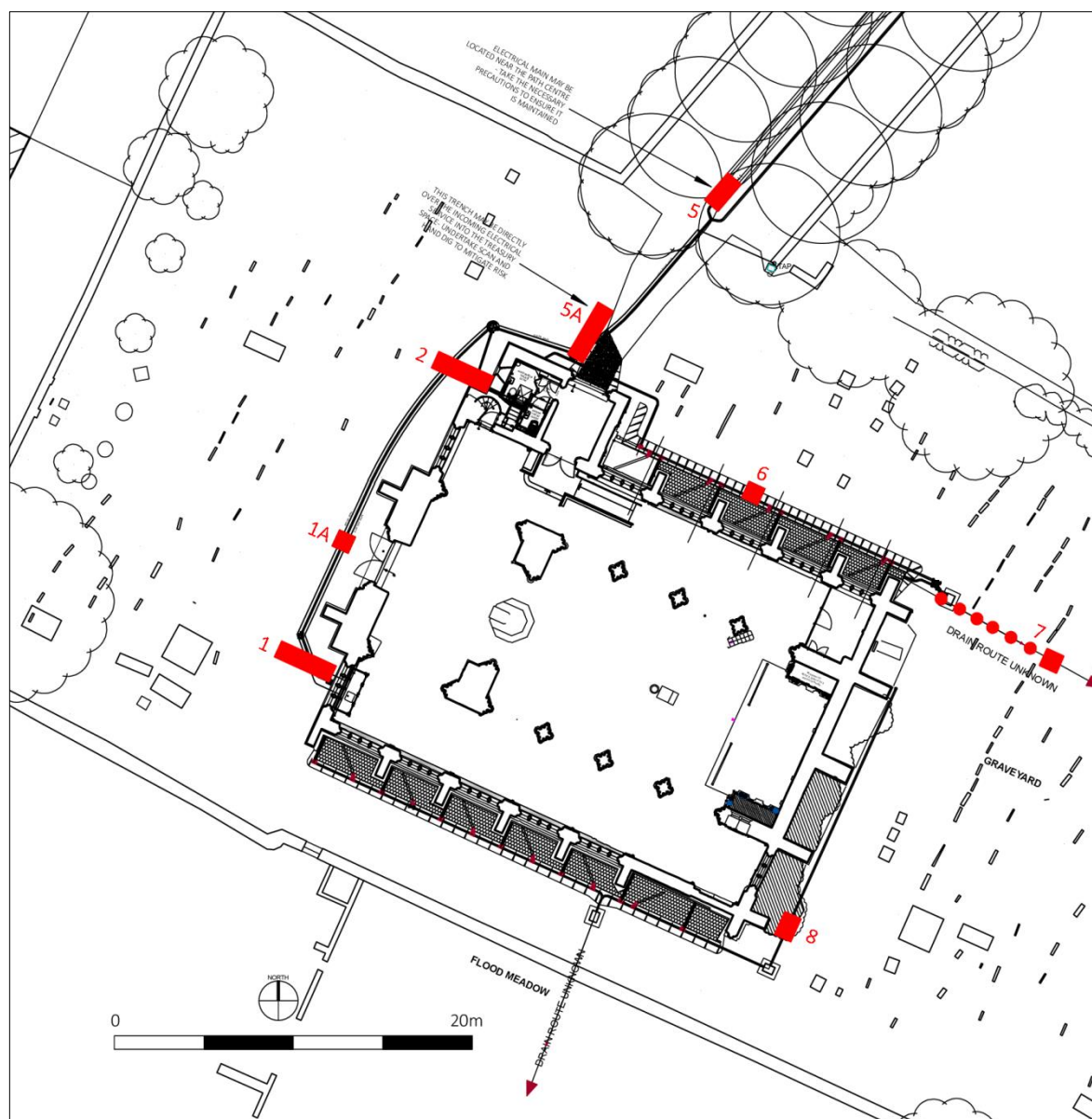


Figure 3: Proposed areas of investigation (scale 1:400)



2 Aims & Methods

2.1 The aims of this evaluation as defined in the approved WSI (Kaye 2015) were:

- To determine the depth, nature, significance and extent of archaeological deposits in the churchyard,
- To ascertain the possibility of surviving buried structural remains from the former college, and
- To ascertain the depth and density of burials in the graveyard.

2.2 *Methods*

In line with the requirements outlined via email (Carroll 2015), the methods used were as follows:

The following test pits, which are numbered for easy cross-referencing against the site plan (Fig. 3), were excavated by hand and inspected by the DAA. The trenches were excavated in the following order:

- 1) Tr. 5a: 3500 x 1000 x 900mm.
- 2) Tr. 2: 3500 x 1000 x 800mm. Minimum 1m from the wall.
- 3) Tr. 1: 3500 x 1000 x 800mm. Extended from the foot of the wall to expose the footing. Minimum 1m from the wall to the north.
- 4) Tr. 1a: 1000 x 1000 x 800mm.

The trial trenches were excavated in the above order to determine the least destructive path through the churchyard for a new drainage system. A suitable drainage route was identified early on, and Trenches 5 through 8 were not excavated at the agreement of the DAA.

A CAT and Genny were deployed to determine the location of electricity services to the north of the church.

2.3 *Standards*

The work conformed to the following requirements:

- Those outlined in email (Carroll 2015)
- The relevant sections of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance Notes* (CIfA 2014)
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014)
- Current Historic England guidelines (EH 2008; HE 2015)
- Association of Diocesan and Cathedral Archaeologists Guidelines (ADCA 2013, 2010a, & 2010b)



3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 Fotheringhay is small stone village that is rich in historical and architectural association. It is within a landscape that was widely settled in the prehistoric and Roman periods, and archaeological as well as documentary evidence suggests that Fotheringhay was well established by the late Saxon period (Foard 2000: 7-9). However, it is the medieval period that provides the immediate archaeological and historical context for the proposed evaluation and will be the focus of the remainder of this section.

As a landholding of the House of York from 1377, it was the birthplace of Richard III in 1452. It is also renowned as the place where Mary Queen of Scots was executed in 1587, although the long connection between the Earldom of Huntingdonshire, the Royal House of Scotland, and Fotheringhay Castle is often overlooked. Whilst the political and royal connections are of interest, of greater significance to this particular investigation is religious expression in architectural form and burial rite.

The following sections look briefly at links with the House of York, the Royal House of Scotland, and collegiate foundation before addressing the historical and archaeological aspects in more detail.

- 3.2 Fotheringhay is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as *Fodringeia*, a 6 hide estate held by Thorkil the Dane in 1066. It was a fairly large and wealthy estate being worth £8 at the time (Williams & Martin 2002: 619). The manor was awarded to Countess Judith, niece of William the Conqueror and wife of the last Anglo-Saxon Earl, Waltheof of Northumberland, Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire (ODNB 2015).

Their daughter, Maud, married Simon de St Liz. Following his death Maud married David I, King of Scotland, thereby forming the initial connection between Scotland, the earldom of Huntingdon and Fotheringhay in 1113. Fotheringhay was held by various Scottish holders of the Huntingdon title until the death of Devorgilla of Galway, the wife of John the 5th Baron de Balliol and mother of King John I of Scotland (Oundle Deanery 2015; Wikipedia 2015a & 2015b).

When Devorgilla died in 1290, Fotheringhay was granted to the Earl of Richmond and then to Marie de St Pol, Countess of Pembroke in 1331. Following her death in 1377 it was given to Edmund Langley, 4th son of Edward III, and Duke of York who invested heavily in the rebuilding of Fotheringhay Castle (Oundle Deanery 2015; RCHME 1984). The importance of Fotheringhay as an administrative centre and mausoleum for the House of York as well as being the birthplace of Richard III need not be re-iterated.

Whilst the political and familial connections of Fotheringhay are of great interest, the collegiate connection is less discussed. The foundation of modern colleges in England began in the late 12th and early 13th century, and was not limited to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. One of the earliest, albeit rather tenuous, connections between Fotheringhay and collegiate establishment is Balliol College, Oxford, which was founded by John de Balliol in 1263, and re-founded by his wife Devorgilla of Galway in 1282 (Balliol College 2015). Marie De St Pol established a college, initially known as the Hall of Valence Marie and later as Pembroke College, in Cambridge in 1347. This was the first Cambridge college to be founded by a woman, and followed the establishment of Kings Hall in 1317 by Edward II and Michaelhouse by Edward III in 1324. Edmund Langley followed his father's footsteps by establishing a college for priests consisting of a Master, twelve fellows, and four clerks in Fotheringhay Castle by 1398 (RCHME 1984).

3.3 *The Nunnery*

A Cluniac nunnery, which moved to Delapre near Northampton just four years later, was established c.1141 by Simon de St Liz; the second earl of Huntingdon (Johnston 2001: 162).



Although generally thought to have been sited in the field to the south of the church, it is possible that it stood on land between the church and the road to the north (Foard 2000: 19).

3.4 *The College*

There is little archaeological evidence of the Cluniac nunnery, no doubt largely due to the brevity of its sojourn in Fotheringhay. The parish church, which would have served the nuns as well as the villagers, continued in use after their removal to Delapre, and the nunnery held the advowson to the church until 1415 when they forfeited it and the vicarage to Fotheringhay's new college in exchange for the church of Great Doddington and Earls Barton (Thompson 1918: 246).

In 1411 - 12, the Collegiate Church of the Annunciation and St Edward the Confessor within the Castle of Fotheringhay was re-founded by Edmund of Langley's son, Edward, Duke of York, and Henry IV on the site of the Cluniac Nunnery. It was re-dedicated to St Mary and All Saints and was intended for a master, twelve fellows, eight clerks, and thirteen choristers, whose main role was to pray for the good estate and for the souls of the king and queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, and all the royal family, as well as for all faithful souls (Serjeantson and Adkins 1906). The rebuilding of the original chancel of the parish church was well underway when Edward fell at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415, which resulted in a hiatus in the building programme. In 1432 his brother, Richard, started the next building campaign, which was again promoted by the re-foundation of the college by Edward IV in 1461 (*ibid.*).

Of particular interest is the contract between Richard, Duke of York, and William Horwood, stonemason of Fotheringhay, dated 24th September 1434 for the construction of the present nave. It was to be 80ft long, the same length as the choir, with a stone screen, side aisles a tower with an octagonal section above the square base, and a porch on either side of the nave (Salzman 1997: 505). The men and materials were to be provided by the Duke of York, but Horwood was responsible for the men's pay, which was to come out of the £300 he was to be paid in instalments as specified. Neither the detail regarding the instalments nor the time allowed for the construction of the nave are given in the contract. Nonetheless, Horwood agreed to being imprisoned if he failed to complete the nave within a reasonable time (*ibid.*: 508 - 9). Whilst the contract is otherwise very detailed, what is not mentioned is the construction of an ossuary in the north porch. This was discovered during the installation of new bells in 1990, and was subsequently excavated by the Middle Nene Archaeology Group (Johnston 2001). It was found to have been deliberately backfilled when the church was renovated in the early 19th century. Ashlared and worked pieces of stone from the 12th and 13th century were identified in the walls, which bore some masons marks including those of Horwood himself (*ibid.*: 170).

Other collegiate buildings mentioned in the Statutes include the hall, buttery, pantry, kitchen, chambers, library, Master's chapel, almshouse, treasury and a Chapter House (Serjeantson & Adkins 1906), although it is recorded that the Lady Chapel, which stood to the east of the chancel, served as the Chapter House (RCHME 1984). The church lay to the north of the cloister and was linked to a library in the north range by a 2-storey block. The claustral buildings were all 2-storeyed and consisted of 4 chambers on each floor to east and west, 3 chambers to the south, along with 2 corner chambers and a parlour with a great chamber above, which may have been part of the Master's Lodge. A hall, guest chamber, kitchen and associated offices are thought to have been in a parallel range to the south of the cloister court (*ibid.*; Figure 6).

The completion dates of the various buildings are not always certain; the library was not finished by 1438 and it is not recorded when the nave was completed. However, the hospitium or almshouse was operating in 1441, so it has been surmised that the nave had been completed by this time (RCHME 1984). It is thought that the cloister was rebuilt 1480 - 83 (*ibid.*), which raises the question of whether it had originally been timber built.



The college fell victim to the Dissolution of Monasteries in 1539, when it was formally surrendered to the Crown. However, it was allowed to continue in use until 1553 when it was given to Dudley, Earl of Northumberland, who demolished the choir and stripped the lead off the college roofs (Serjeantson & Adkins 1906). The Inventories of 1546 and 1548 leading up to the closure, detail the contents of the stables, forge, brewhouse and other external offices as well as the various collegiate rooms (Cox 1904: 160 - 7, 172 - 78). Whilst the choir and north claustral range were demolished (the latter some time before 1603), the remaining buildings became a substantial residence, which was, however, also demolished in 1662 (RCHME 1984). Nonetheless, remains of the college were observed in 1763 and 1787 by Horace Walpole and John Nichols respectively (Johnston 2001: 65).

Other than the present church, little of the college survives other than as earthworks in the field to the south of the church (Fig. 5). However, a small excavation was undertaken in the former cloister by Oundle School in 1926 which revealed walls, window tracery and glass, Collyweston slate and 15th century glazed tiles (Johnston 2001: 163).

3.5 *The Church*

Although the history of the earlier church on the site is obscure, the mention of a priest in the Domesday Survey would suggest that a church of some form existed by this time. The chancel of the earlier church was replaced c.1415 when the advowson of the church had been relinquished by the nunnery, and the nave was rebuilt sometime between 1434 and 1441. To the east of the choir was a Lady Chapel, which served as a Chapter House. The choir itself housed the remains of four members of the House of York; Edward Duke of York who died at Agincourt in 1415, his nephew Richard and Richard's second son, Edmund, who were killed during the Battle of Wakefield in 1460, and Cecily, Richard's widow who was buried next to her husband in 1495. Their remains were reburied in the present church in 1573 and their tombs consist of wall monuments differentiated only by their heraldry (Matich & Alexander 2011: 84).

The dissolution of the college led to the demolition of the choir, Lady Chapel and north claustral range. The surviving church comprises a nave with a chancel created within its eastern bay, side aisles, a porch to the north which has an entrance to the east, a room to the west and a single room above, which is may have acted as a Treasury. The excavation of the ossuary beneath the porch revealed earlier building fabric including a window mullion dating from the 12th century within its walls and a pit containing early medieval pottery including part of a late Saxon St Neots Ware lamp (Johnston 2001: 171). The tower is distinguished externally by an octagonal lantern and internally by its fan vaulted ceiling.

The church was extensively restored by Thomas Belsey in 1806 - 17 at which time stalls with misericords from the medieval choir were given to the churches in Hemington, Tansor, and Benefield. Kings Cliffe church acquired stained glass along with other items (*ibid.* 165). Figure 7 depicts the church in 1850 following the restoration.

3.6 *The Grammar School*

Along with a school for choristers, it is thought that a Grammar School was established c.1412 when Henry IV was involved the foundation of the new college. The school is said to have been located in the churchyard, although no archaeological evidence for this was revealed during a watching brief in 1990 (*ibid.*: 166). The school survived until 1876 when it became an elementary school that was rehoused in a purpose built school.

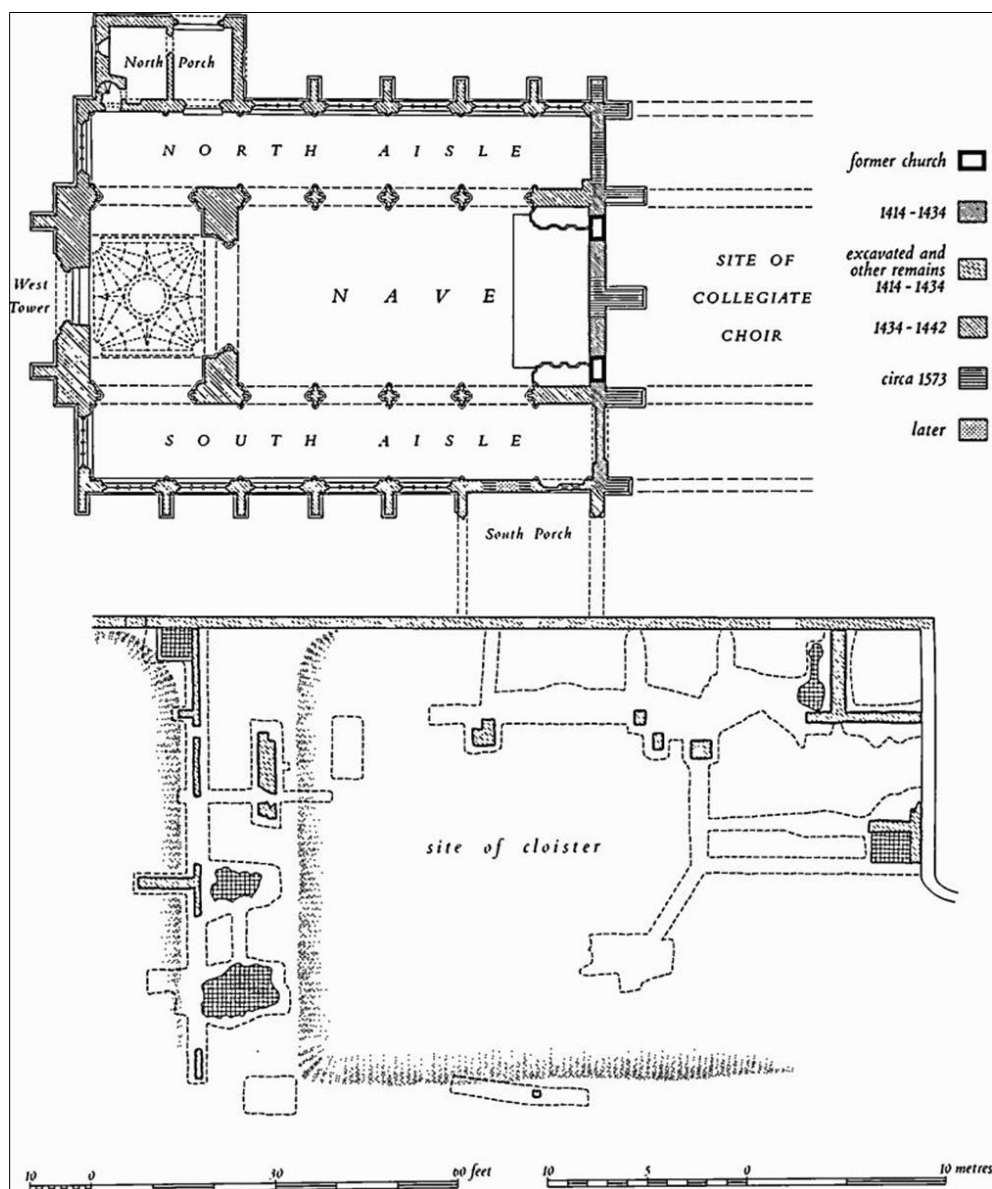


Figure 4: The remains of the church and the excavated cloister
(Copyright RCHME 1984)

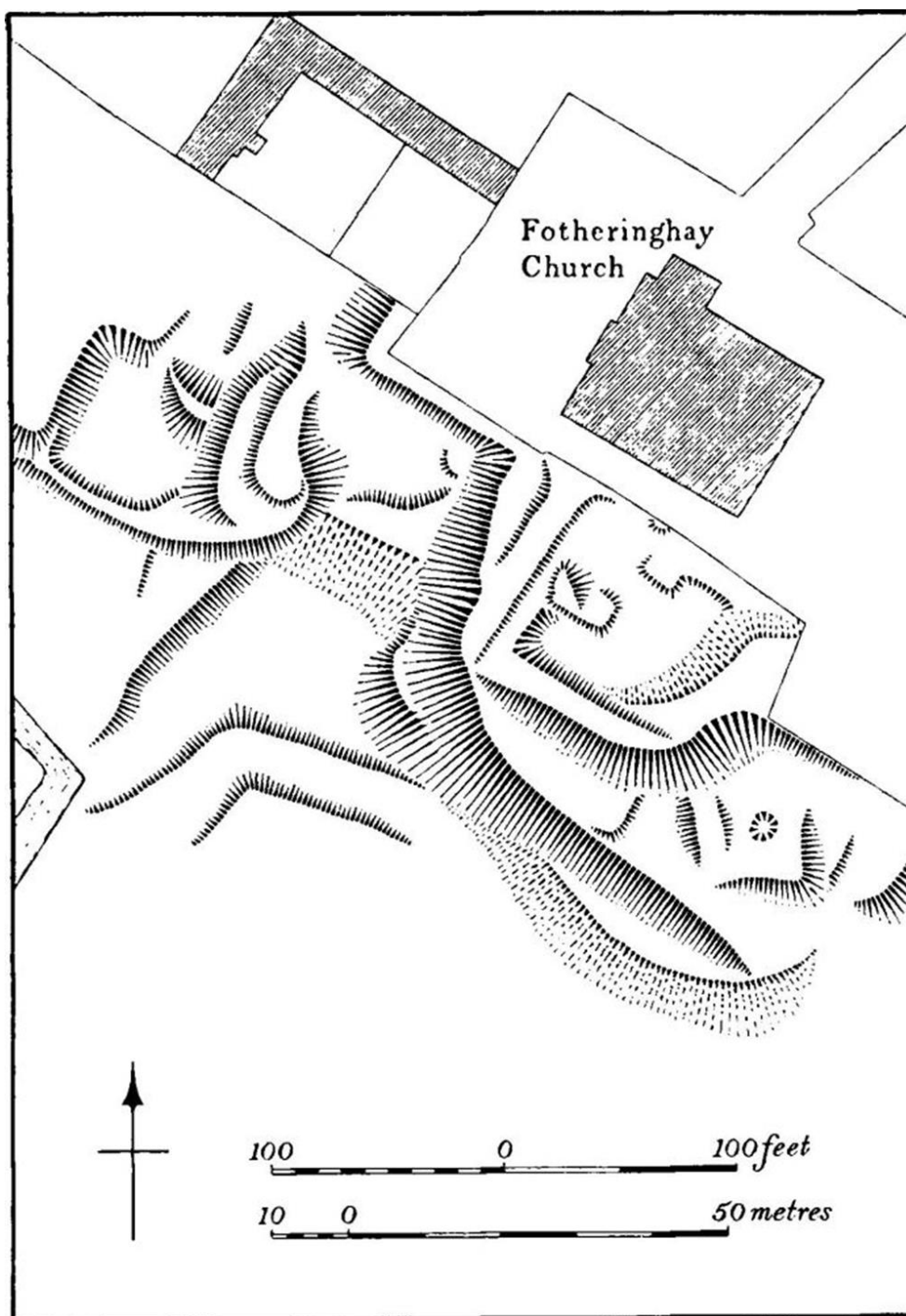


Figure 5: The earthworks to the south of the church
(Copyright RCHME 1975)

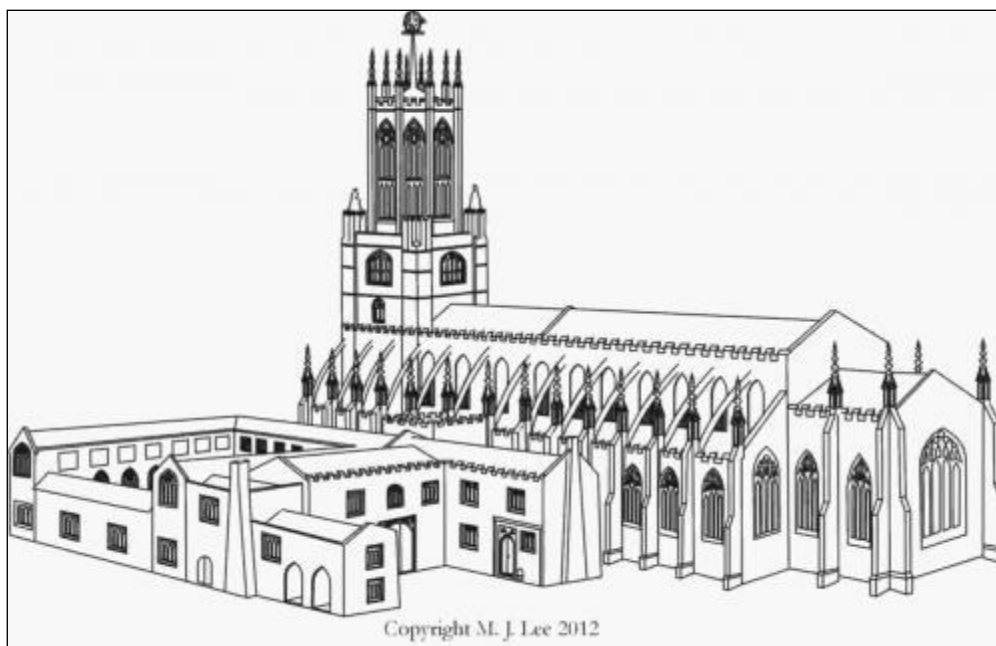


Figure 6: A reconstruction of the medieval college
(Copyright M. J. Lee)



Figure 7: The church in 1850 by John Bradshaw



4 Results

4.1 Introduction

The Church of St Mary and All Saints is orientated north-west to south-east, however for the purposes of this report it will be treated as being orientated west to east. A total of four evaluation trenches were excavated by hand; three were excavated along the west wall, and one to the west of the north door of the church (Fig. 7). Trenches will be discussed in order of their excavation. Some photographs have been altered to enhance quality.

4.2 Trench 5A (Figs. 7 - 9: Plates 1 - 2)

Trench 5A was orientated north to south and positioned parallel to the existing gravel pathway to the north of the church (Fig. 7). The trench was 3.5m long, 1m wide and 0.2m deep (Fig. 8, Plate 1). The contexts observed in this trench are as follows:

Context no.	Type	Dimensions	Description
500	Layer	0.05m deep	Topsoil; moderately loose, dark grey brown loamy clay with occasional small rounded stone inclusions. Evidence of rooting. No finds.
501	Layer	0.15m deep	Fine, coarse, and moderately loose dark grey brown sandy clay with frequent small rounded and subangular stone inclusions. Finds include modern coin and button.
502	Surface	0.15m deep	Patterned surface of small to medium stones, set on edge within a firm, dark brown grey sandy clay matrix. Cut by modern services to the north-west and south south-east. Extends beyond trench in all directions. Finds include iron object and ceramic building material (CBM).
503	Surface	0.15m deep	Same as (502). No finds.

The stratigraphy of the trench comprised 0.05m of topsoil (500) above a stony layer (501) 0.15m in depth, beneath which was stone surface (Fig. 9, Plate 2). Although layer (501) may have been deliberately laid to cover the stone surface, it could also have been produced naturally by soil movement from the surrounding higher cemetery ground.

Surfaces (502) and (503) had both been cut by modern services, however it is clear from their close proximity and composition that they were the same surface (Fig. 8, Plate 1). Probing by hand with a metal rod showed a high probability that the surface extends a further 4m to the north of the trench. A single fragment of ceramic building material and an iron nail were found within the matrix of (502).

The area between Trench 5A and Main Street was scanned using a CAT and Genny, which indicated electrical services running through the centre of the gravelled avenue.

Trench 2 (Figs. 7, 10 - 11: Plates 3 - 5)

Trench 2 was orientated east to west on the north-east corner of the church, perpendicular to Trench 5A (Fig. 7). The trench was 3.5m long, 1m wide, and a maximum of 0.7m deep (Fig. 10, Plate 3). The contexts observed in this trench are as follows:

Context no.	Type	Dimensions	Description
200	Layer	0.15m deep	Topsoil; same as (500). Finds include glass, pottery, stoneware, animal bone, and iron objects.
201	Layer	0.1m deep	Demolition layer; moderately firm, dark grey brown sandy loam with very frequent small subangular and rounded stones, and medium to large stone. Finds include pottery, and human and animal bone.
202	Structure	0.9m wide x 0.1m deep	Wall foundation; small to medium stone in a firm, dark grey brown sandy loam matrix. Orientated east to west. No finds.



203	Layer	Unknown	Cemetery soil; loose, dark grey brown loamy sand with frequent small to large rounded and subangular stones. Finds include pottery, human bone and clay pipe.
204	Layer	Unknown	Natural; firmly packed, mottled light to mid yellow orange sand.

The stratigraphy at the west end of this trench comprised 0.15m of topsoil (200) overlying cemetery soil (203) (Fig. 11, Plate 4). The cemetery soil continued beyond the edges of the trench to the north, south and west, and also underlay the wall foundation (202) but did not continue beyond (202) to the east. A moderate amount of human charnel remains, pottery, and clay pipe was discovered in (202).

The stratigraphy at the eastern end of the trench comprised 0.15m of topsoil (200) above a demolition layer (201), which was 0.1m deep that overlay the natural geology (204) (Fig. 11, Plate 4). The demolition layer (201) contained pieces of stone rubble throughout and was most likely created from the destruction of the stone feature (202) to the west. A small amount of adult human charnel remains were also revealed in this layer. The natural (204) was only exposed close to the church wall.

A stone feature (202), which may have been a footpath or a wall foundation, was observed at the western end of the trench (Fig. 10, Plate 5). There were no finds within this feature. Probing by hand with a metal rod indicated the feature may extend on the same alignment to the north and south of the trench.

Trench 1 (Figs. 7, 12 - 13; Plates 6 - 9)

Trench 1 was orientated east to west, parallel to Trench 2. It was positioned perpendicular to the church wall at the south-western corner of the building (Fig. 7). The trench was 3.5m long, 1m wide and a maximum of 0.8m deep (Fig. 12, Plate 6). The contexts observed in this trench are as follows:

Context no.	Type	Dimensions	Description
100	Layer	0.26m deep	Topsoil; same as (500).
101	Layer	0.34m deep	Fine, coarse, and moderately loose dark grey brown sandy clay with small to medium rounded and subangular stone inclusions. Finds include animal and human bone, and iron objects.
102	Surface	1m wide x 0.24m deep	Loose, light yellow beige sand with very frequent small to large stone inclusions. No finds.
103	Surface	0.1m deep	Small to large stone within a firm, mid yellow brown sand matrix. No finds.
104	Structure	0.5m deep	Church foundation; the rubble foundation below an offset and the basal course of the ashlar stone wall, which had become obscured by soil build up
105	Layer	Unknown	Cemetery soil; loose, dark grey brown loamy sand with frequent small to large rounded and subangular stones. Finds include human and animal bone, CBM, oyster shell, glass and clay pipe.

The stratigraphy of this trench comprised 0.26m of topsoil (100) above a stony layer (101), 0.34m deep, which overlay cemetery soil (105) (Fig. 13, Plate 7). Layer (101) was most likely formed in a similar manner to (501) in Trench 5A. This layer contained a small amount of adult, and a moderate amount of subadult human charnel remains. The cemetery soil (105) was the same in composition as (203), and finds from this layer included a moderate amount of adult and subadult human charnel remains, CBM, oyster shell, glass and clay pipe.

Surface (102), which was rectangular with straight edges, underlay surface (103), and was most likely a demolition layer or a path rather than a wall due to the loose nature of the



structure and its positioning in relation to the extant church wall (Fig. 13, Plate 8). It was, however, only observed in the north facing trench section having been cut, presumably for burial purposes. No datable finds were recovered.

Surface (103), which appeared to have been a demolition layer, had also been truncated (Fig. 12, Plate 6). As there were no finds, this cannot be accurately dated.

The church foundations (104) were revealed at the eastern end of the trench (Fig. 12, Plate 9) and consisted of rubble stone footings beneath the corbelled basal course of the dressed stone wall. The base of the wall had been completely obscured by soil that had built up since the wall was first constructed in the 15th century.

The subadult human charnel remains found in layer (101) consisted of a right mandible with an unerupted left first permanent incisor and a partially erupted right first permanent molar suggesting an age of 3.5 – 7 years (Gustafson & Koch 1974), a left clavicle measuring 8.5cm in length suggesting an age of 6 – 7 years (White *et al.* 2012), foetal humeri and tibiae, and incomplete juvenile humeri, vertebrae, and skull. The standard age ranges represented in this sample are foetal to child (Buikstra & Ubelaker 1994).

The subadult human charnel remains found in layer (105) consist of femora measuring 14cm in length suggesting an age of 1 – 2 years (White *et al.* 2012), femora measuring 19.5cm suggesting an age of about 3 years of age (*ibid.*), incomplete humeri, tibiae, fibulae, ribs, ischiums and skull. The standard age range represented in this sample is infant (Buikstra & Ubelaker 1994).

Trench 1A (Figs. 7, 14 - 15: Plates 10 - 11)

Trench 1A was located to the west of the west door and measured 1m² with a maximum depth of 0.65m (Figs. 7 & 14, Plate 10). The contexts represented in this trench comprised:

Context no.	Type	Dimensions	Description
106	Layer	0.19m deep	Topsoil; same as (500). No finds.
107	Layer	Unknown	Cemetery soil; same as (203). Finds include human bone, animal bone and iron objects.

The stratigraphy of this trench comprised 0.19m of topsoil (106) overlying cemetery soil (107) (Fig. 11, Plate 11). Finds in (107) included a small amount of adult human charnel remains, iron objects and animal bone. There was a modern service cutting through the southern part of the trench.

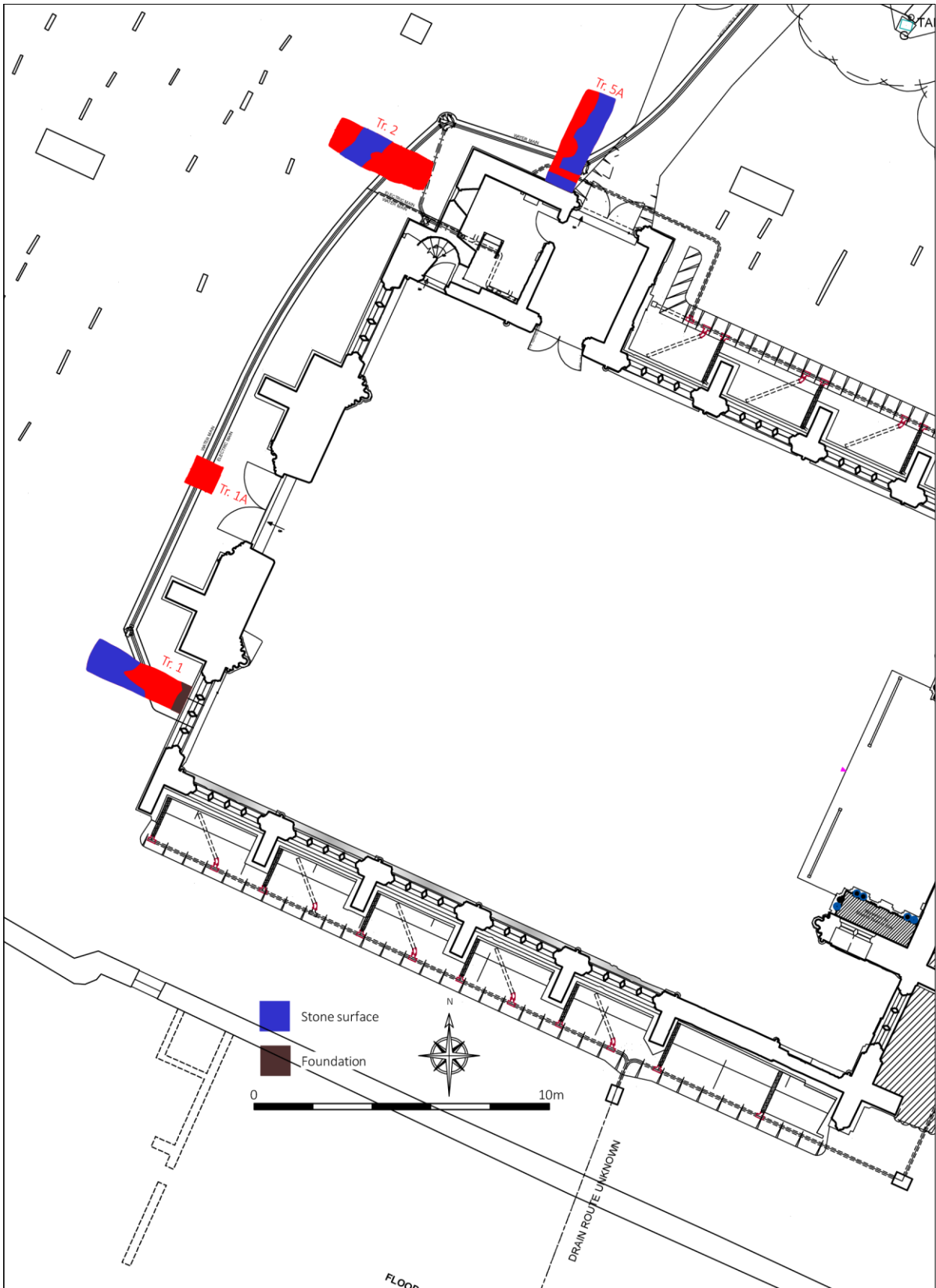


Figure 8: Trench plan (scale 1:200)



Plate 1: Trench 5A, facing south-west, with 1m scales



Plate 2: Trench 5A stratigraphy, south-west facing section, with 1m scale



Plate 3: Trench 2, facing east south-east, with 1m scales



Plate 4: Trench 2 stratigraphy, south-west facing section, with 2m scale



Plate 5: Wall [202], facing south-west, with 1m scale



Plate 6: Trench 1, facing east south-east, with 1m scales



Plate 7: Trench 1 stratigraphy, south-west facing section, with 2m scale



Plate 8: Surface [102], north-east facing section, with 1m scale



Plate 9: Foundation [104], facing east south-east, with 1m scale



Plate 10: Trench 1A, facing north-west, with 1m scales



Plate 11: Stratigraphy of Trench 1A, south-east facing section, with 1m scale

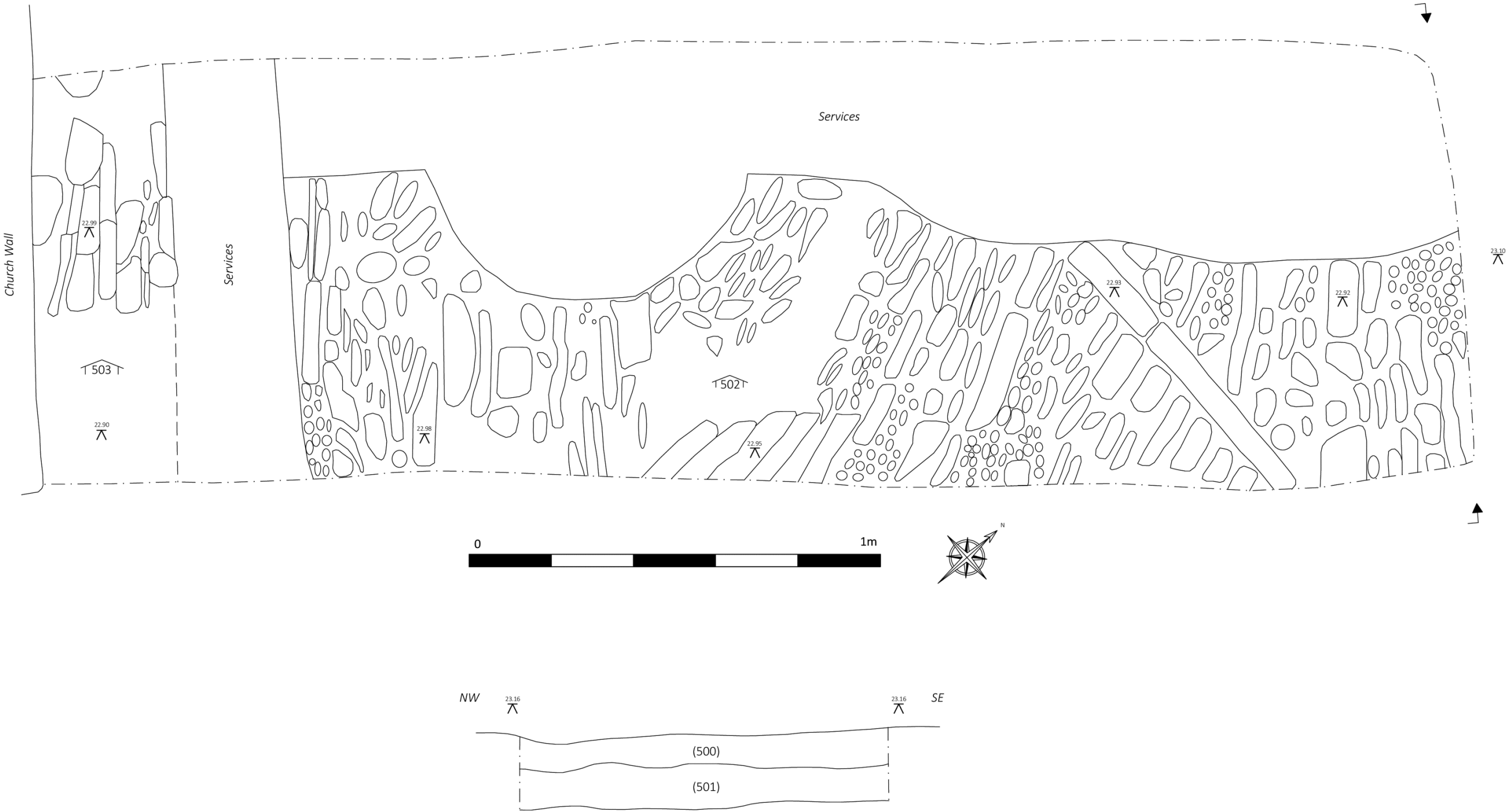


Figure 9: Plan and south-west facing section of Trench 5a (scale 1:10)

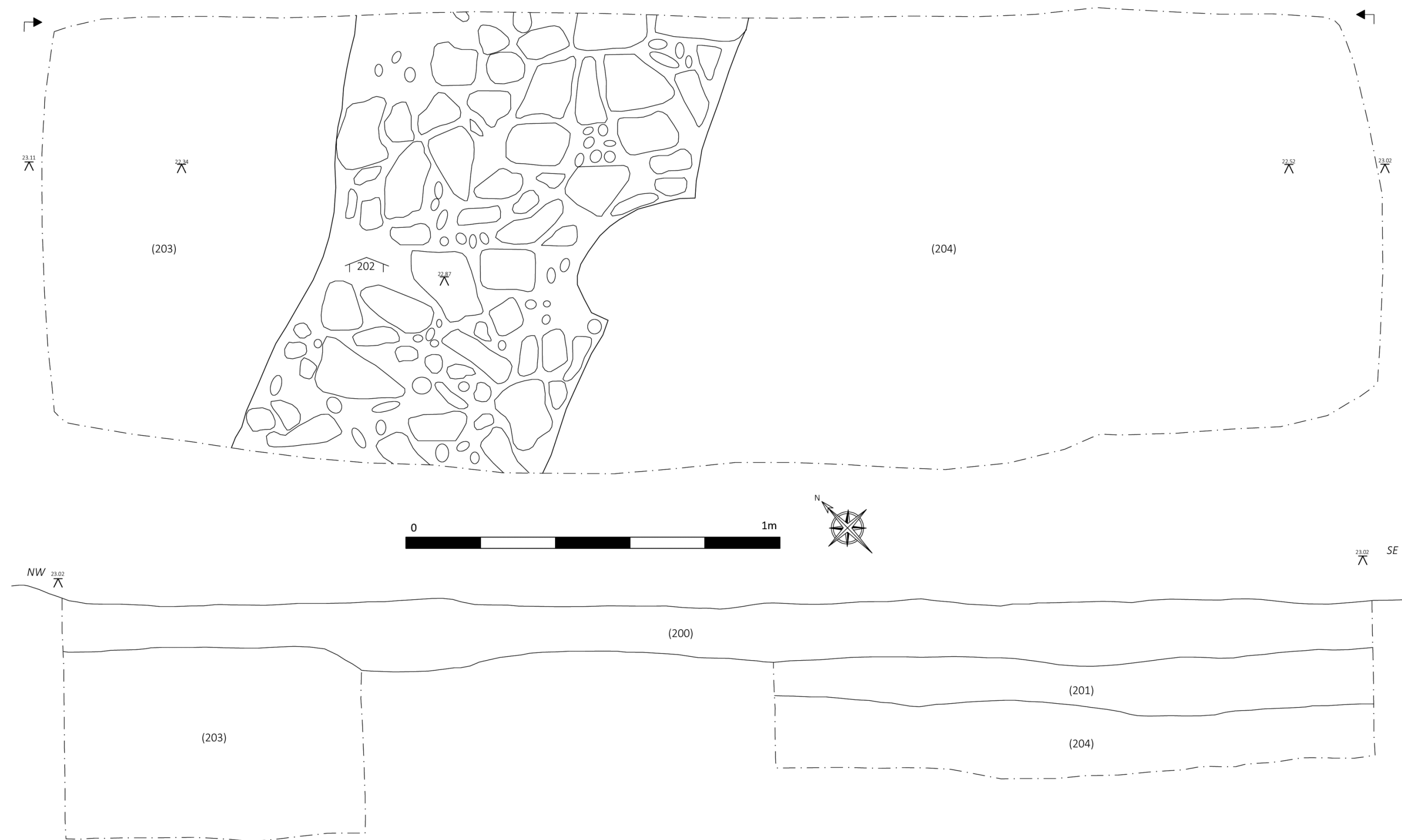


Figure 10: Plan and south-west facing section Trench 2 (scale 1:10)

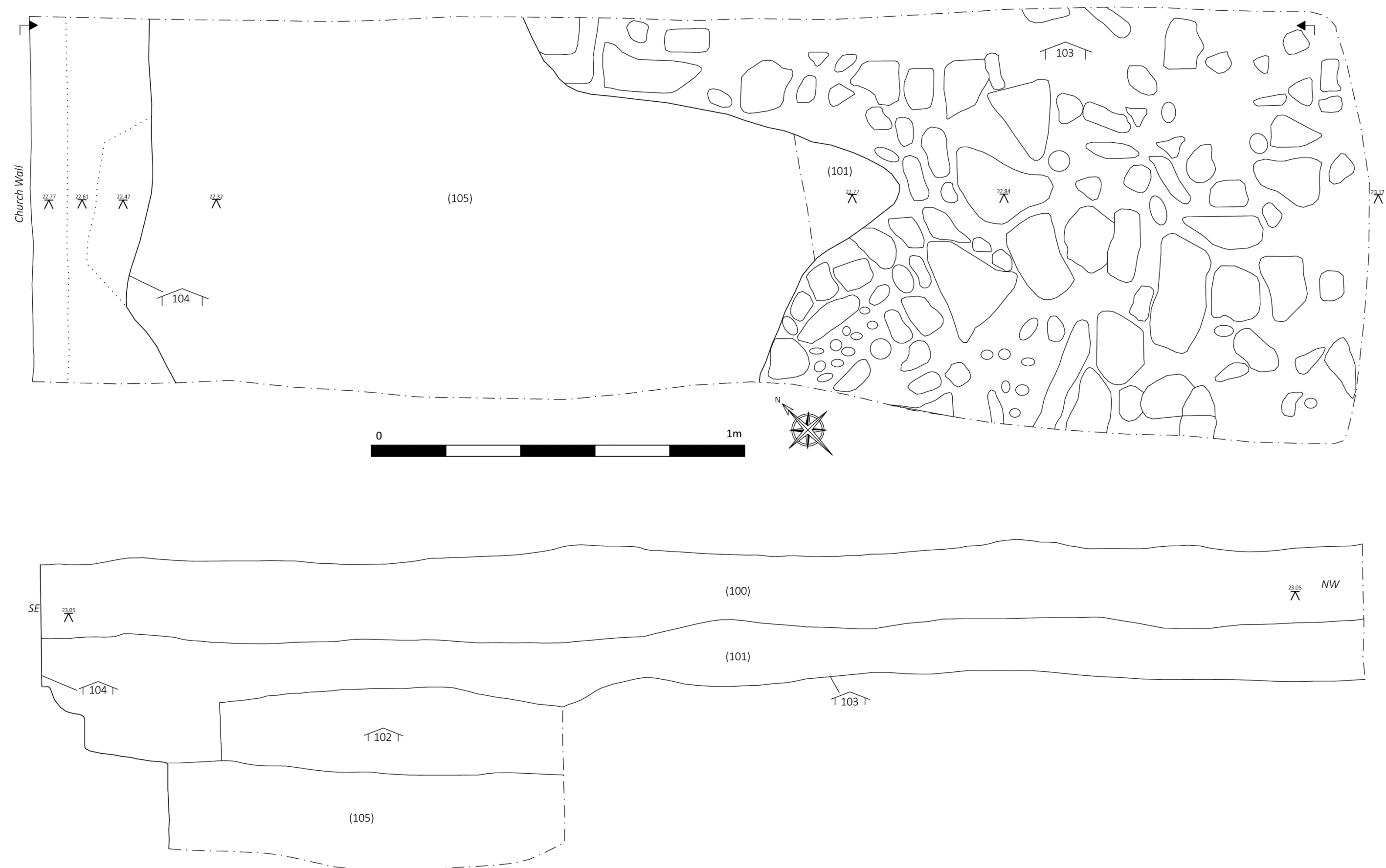


Figure 11: Plan and north-east facing section Trench 1 (scale 1:10)

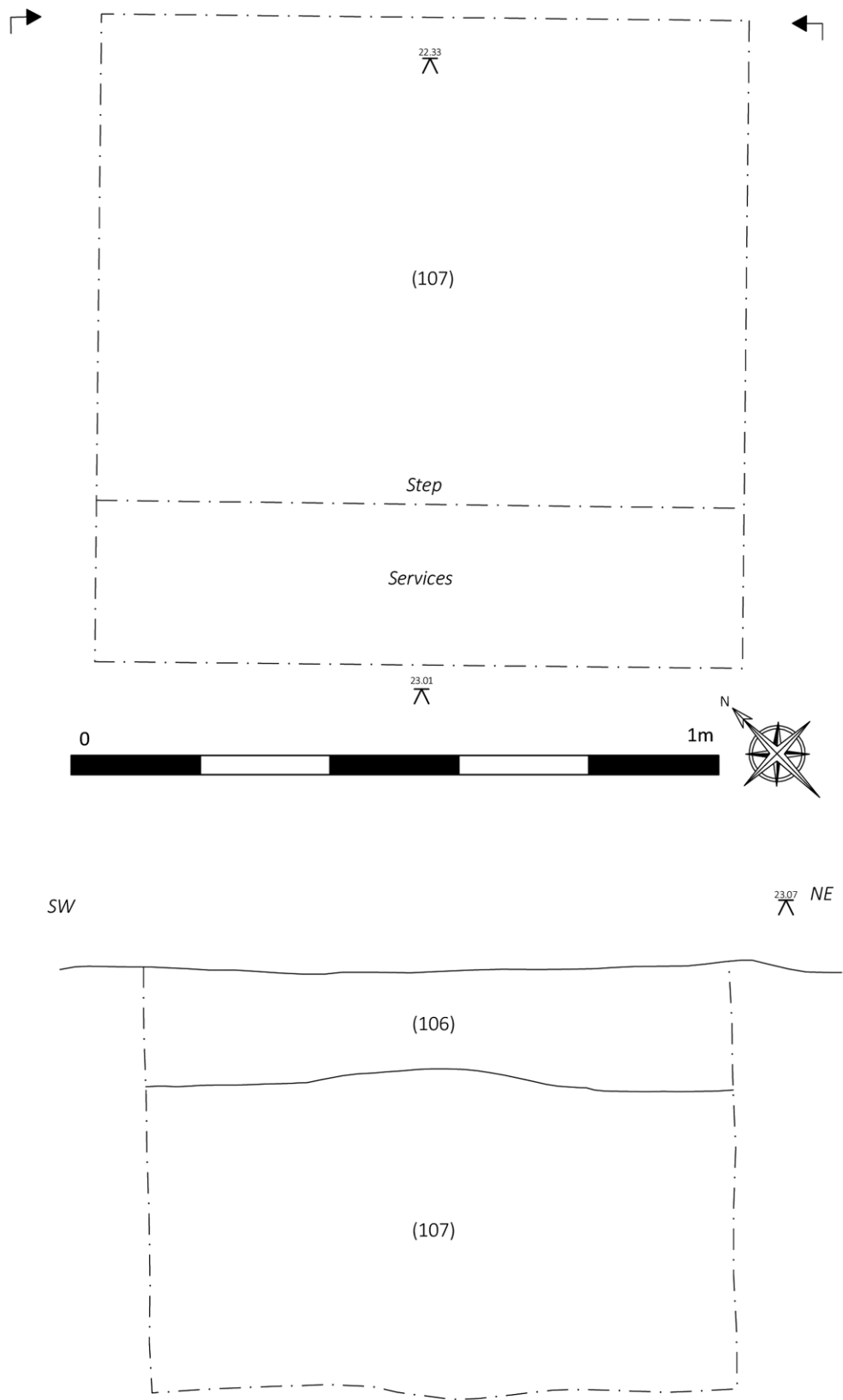


Figure 12: Plan and south-east section of Trench 1A (scale 1:10)



5 Conclusions

The purpose of this evaluation was to identify a location for the proposed trench arch and other drainage works that would disturb the least number of archaeological remains. Although 8 areas had been initially been identified for investigation only 4 trenches needed to be dug to establish a viable route.

Following the trial trenching, a geophysical survey was undertaken using Ground Penetrating Radar, in order to further investigate stone features revealed during the evaluation and the location of the existing northern drain run. The results were not available at the time of writing this report, but will be incorporated in the results of the forthcoming works.

The trial trenching revealed a stone pathway (502) adjacent to the north door In Trench 5a, which, on probing with a metal rod, appears to extend at least 4m further to the north. The date of the path is uncertain, but it may have been laid when the church was first completed. It had been cut by modern services, but sufficient was revealed to identify a pattern in the stonework, which had all been set on edge. The stone appears to be the same as or very similar to that used to build the church, and that found in the other trenches.

To the southwest of the path was a stone feature (202), which ran parallel to but on a slightly different alignment from the west wall of the church. The location and composition of the feature as well as the lack of burials to the east of it would suggest that this was a wall, possibly a retaining wall for the burial ground or a building that has since been demolished. However, an illustration of the church from 1850 depicts a path in much the same location, which, if the drawing is accurate, could provide an alternative function for this feature. Probing indicated the feature extended some way north and south of the trench, but the GPR survey may provide further information on the size and function of the feature.

Stone deposits were found to the south of wall (202) in Trench 1, which appear to have been the result of two separate events. A possible path (102) was revealed in the southern trench section, above which was a more loosely arranged assemblage of rubble stone (103) extending westwards that appeared to have been the result of demolition. Again, it is hoped that the extent, and possibly function, of these features will be discernible in the GPR survey.

Whereas burial evidence was scant in the other trenches, the disarticulated remains of two children and an infant were discovered close to the church wall in Trench 1.

The purpose and inter-relationship of the stone surfaces revealed during the evaluation are clearly of interest given the church was formerly part of a mediaeval college and that earlier ecclesiastical buildings are known to have been present on the site. Whether these stone surfaces were associated with the college, the earlier monastic house or the post-Dissolution church is not certain, nor is it yet known how far these features extend. However, what the trial trenching demonstrated was that there is an area some 2m wide immediately next to the west wall of the church that has few archaeological remains, including articulated and disarticulated burials. As such this provides an ideal location for the trench arch as there is likely to be less disturbance to archaeological remains here than in other previously considered areas.



6 Acknowledgements

KDK Archaeology is grateful to Caroe Architecture for commissioning this report on behalf of Fotheringhay Parochial Church Council. Thanks are also due to Quinton Carroll, DAA of the Diocese of Peterborough, for monitoring the project.

KDK Archaeology Ltd would also like to recognise Bill James, Rosalie Clayton, and the residents of Fotheringhay for their ongoing help and support during the excavation.

The fieldwork was carried out by Jessica Bertrand MA PCIfA and Simon Burke. The report was written by Jessica Bertrand, and edited by David Kaye BA ACIfA.



7 Archive

Currently there is no depository for archaeological material in Northamptonshire. Until a facility becomes available, KDK will provide temporary storage of archive material, which will be archived in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre (2014), the Museums and Galleries Commission (Paine 1992) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014).



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Appendix 1: Photograph List

SITE NO/CODE: 177/FSN			Site Name: Church of St Mary and All Saints, Main Street, Fotheringhay, Northamptonshire
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	✓	✓	Trench 5A, facing SW, with tile and 1m scales
2		✓	Trench 5A, facing SW, with 1m scales
3	✓	✓	Trench 5A stratigraphy, SW facing section, with tile and 1m scale
4		✓	Trench 5A stratigraphy, SW facing section, with 1m scale
5	✓	✓	Trench 2, facing ESE, with tile and 1m scales
6		✓	Trench 2, facing ESE, with 1m scales
7	✓	✓	Trench 2 stratigraphy, SW facing section, with tile and 2m scale
8		✓	Trench 2 stratigraphy, SW facing section, with 2m scale
9	✓	✓	[202], facing SW, with tile and 1m scale
10		✓	[202], facing SW, with 1m scale
11	✓	✓	Trench 1, facing ESE, with tile and 1m scales
12		✓	Trench 1, facing ESE, with 1m scales
13	✓	✓	Trench 1 stratigraphy, SW facing section, with tile and 2m scale
14		✓	Trench 1 stratigraphy, SW facing section, with 2m scale
15	✓	✓	[104], facing ESE, with tile and 1m scale
16		✓	[104], facing ESE, with 1m scale
17	✓	✓	[102], NE facing section, with tile and 1m scale
18		✓	[102], NE facing section, with 1m scale
19	✓	✓	Trench 1A, facing NW, with tile and 1m scales
20		✓	Trench 1A, facing NW, with 1m scales
21		✓	Trench 1A stratigraphy, SE facing section, with tile and 1m scale
22		✓	Trench 1A stratigraphy, SE facing section, with 1m scale



Appendix 2: OASIS and Site Data

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name & Address	Church of St Mary and All Saints, Main Street, Fotheringhay, Northamptonshire	Project Site Code	177/FSM
OASIS reference	kdkarcha1-230804	Event/Accession no	TBC
OS reference	TL 0599 9314	Study area size	11.5 sq. m.
Project Type	Evaluation	Height (mAOD)	22.93
Short Description	<p>In December 2015 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological evaluation at the Church of St Mary and All Saints, Main Street, Fotheringhay, Northamptonshire, in order to inform planning proposals, and to determine a viable drainage path through the churchyard. Initially provision was made for up to eight evaluation trenches, though fewer were to be excavated should results warrant it. In the event, only four were required and these were all excavated to the west of the church.</p> <p>Several stone features were revealed, including a patterned pathway next to the north door and another path or wall foundation roughly parallel with the west wall. Evidence of structural demolition was also present, though no dating evidence of the associated stone spread was found. No articulated burials were encountered, though a small amount of charnel relating mainly to sub-adults was recovered from excavation close to the church wall.</p> <p>The trial trenching demonstrated that there is an area some 2m wide immediately next to the west wall of the church that has few archaeological remains. As such this provides an ideal location for the trench arch as the impact on archaeological remains is likely to be less here than in other previously considered areas.</p>		
Previous work	Yes	Site status	Grade I Listed
Planning proposal	Installation of WCs and kitchen area	Current land use	Place of worship
Local Planning Authority	East Northamptonshire Council	Planning application ref.	N/A
Monument type	Surface x 2, foundation and wall	Monument period	Medieval to modern
Significant finds	Human remains, pottery, glass, CBM, animal bone, Fe objects, clay pipe.	Future work	Yes
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation	KDK Archaeology Ltd		
Project Brief originator	Q. Carroll	Project Design originator	KDK Archaeology Ltd
Project Manager	K. Kaye	Director/Supervisor	J. Bertrand
Sponsor/funding body	Fotheringhay Parochial Church Council		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date	1/12/15	End date	4/12/15
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical	KDK Archaeology Ltd	None.	
Paper		WSI, report, site drawings, site notes, B&W photos.	
Digital		CDROM with digital copies of documents, digital photos	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			



Title	Archaeological Evaluation Report: Church of St Mary and All Saints, Main Street, Fotheringhay, Northamptonshire		
Serial title & volume	KDK/177/FSN/2		
Author(s)	Jessica Bertrand MA PCIfA		
Page no's	35	Date	11/12/15