

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
GREAT CHESTERFORD
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND EXCAVATION



Essex County Council

FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

August 2006

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
GREAT CHESTERFORD
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND EXCAVATION

Prepared By: Mark Germany	Signature:
Position: Project Officer	Date:
Approved By: M. Atkinson	Signature:
Position: Unit Manager	Date:

Doc. Ref.	1672Report1
Report Issue Date	August 2006
Circulation	Great Chesterford Parochial Church Council
	ECC Historic Environment Management
	ECC Historic Environment Record
	Saffron Walden Museum

As part of our desire to provide a quality service, we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or the presentation of this report.

Please contact the Archaeological Fieldwork Manager at the
Field Archaeology Unit,
Fairfield Court, Fairfield Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 3YQ
fieldarch@essexcc.gov.uk
Tel: 01376 331470
Fax: 01376 331428

CONTENTS

	SUMMARY	1
1.0	INTRODUCTION	2
2.0	BACKGROUND	2
2.1	Location	2
2.2	Geology	2
2.3	Archaeology	2
3.0	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	3
3.1	Aims	3
3.2	Objectives	4
4.0	METHOD	4
5.0	FIELDWORK RESULTS	5
5.1	Sewer trench	5
5.2	Toilet facilities	5
6.0	FINDS	7
6.1	Pottery	7
6.2	Brick and tile	7
6.3	Glass	9
6.4	Stone	9
7.0	CONCLUSIONS	9
8.0	ASSESSMENT	10
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	10
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	12

APPENDICES

1.	Context data	13
2.	Finds data	14
3.	Contents of archive	15
4.	EHER summary sheet	16

PLATES

1.	Sewer trench at point of postulated Roman wall foundation	17
2.	Footprint of proposed toilet facilities, looking south towards church tower	17
3.	Footprint of proposed toilet facilities, looking north	18
4.	Copper-alloy plate, earthing point for lightning conductor	18

FIGURES

1.	Location plan	19
2.	Excavation area	20
3.	Sections	21
4.	Plan of church	22

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, GREAT CHESTERFORD, ESSEX

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AND MONITORING

Client: Great Chesterford Parochial Church Council

NGR: TL 5058 4276

Planning application number: UTT/0625/06/FUL

ECC FAU project number: 1672

Site code: GC 42

Oasis entry number: essexcou1-16950

Date of fieldwork: 13/7/06, 14/7/06 and 19/7/06 to 21/7/06

SUMMARY

Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit monitored the excavation of a sewer trench, and excavated the footings for toilet facilities at All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford. The footings were sited at the foot of the church tower and to the immediate west of the lobby, and revealed a section of wall, which is thought to have been part of the north aisle, prior to the collapse/demolition of the west end of the church in c.1400. The excavation of the footings also revealed pieces of residual Roman pottery, brick and tile, a small quantity of medieval/post-medieval floor tile, and the earthing point for a 20th-century lightning conductor. The sewer trench exposed the truncated remnants of three graves, which are assumed to be post-medieval or later, but no other archaeological deposits, features or finds. The fieldwork found no trace of the wall, which is known to exist beneath the existing north wall of the churchyard, and is conjectured to be part of a Roman enclosure.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of the archaeological monitoring and excavation of a sewer trench and toilet facilities at All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford, Essex. The archaeological work was carried out by Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit (ECC FAU) on behalf of Great Chesterford Parochial Church Council. It took place in accordance with a written scheme of investigation and an archaeological brief (ECC FAU 2006; ECC HEM 2006) and was monitored by the Essex County Council Historic Environment Management team (ECC HEM).

Copies of this report will be supplied to the client, to ECC HEM, and to the Essex County Council Historic Environment Record. A copy of the report will be uploaded to the OASIS online archaeological record at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>. The site archive will be held at Saffron Walden Museum.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Location

The village of Great Chesterford sits near the boundary between Essex and Cambridgeshire and overlooks the River Cam. It is surrounded by farmland and low-lying hills. The nearest main roads are the M11 and the B1383 to the west, and the B184 to the east.

The parish church of All Saints is sited in the south-west part of the village. The surrounding churchyard contains grave stones and is covered by grass. Access to the churchyard is via two gates on Church Street. Gravel footpaths link the gates and Church Street to the entranceway at the NW corner of the church.

2.2 Geology

The geology of Great Chesterford comprises river terrace deposits of sandy gravel and bands of clay above Chalk and Chalky Boulder Clay.

2.3 Archaeology

The parish church lies south of the scheduled area of the Roman walled town (Medlycott 1999).

The foundation of an earlier wall lies beneath the north wall of the churchyard and is conjectured to be part of a Roman enclosure; an annex of the Roman town (Collins 1996; Gadd 1999; ECC HER 13922). Archaeological excavations have previously taken place within the area of the churchyard and have found Roman ditches and pits, and the remains of a possible Roman wall (Miller 1988; Ennis 2001; ECC HER 14814).

The chancel is early 13th century and is the oldest standing part of the church. The second half of the 13th century witnessed the construction of the nave and the aisles and probably a west tower. The nave was originally two bays longer than it is today. The west tower and the two western-most bays of the nave collapsed or were demolished in the late 14th/early 15th century. Following this event, there were the addition of north and south chapels, the widening of the two aisles, the building of the existing west end of the nave, and the construction of a replacement tower on the site of the present-day tower. The early 16th century saw the demolition of the south chapel and part of the south aisle, and the construction of the existing south chapel in their place. In the 18th century, the replacement tower collapsed. The present-day tower occupies the same site as the late 14th/15th-century tower, and was built in 1790. Restoration work in 1842 and 1891 involved the removal of the porch and the room over the vestry, the discovery and the rebuilding of the north-west door, and the construction of the present-day lean-to lobby. The fabric of the church is flint with stone dressings. The tower and the south chapel are covered with plaster (Medlycott 1999; RCHME 1916; HER 13891, 13890 and 25353).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

The general aim of the archaeological work was to record, report on and assess all archaeological deposits and features within the footprint of the proposed toilet facilities and sewer trench.

The specific aims of the fieldwork were to identify the postulated Roman enclosure wall where it was assumed to be cut by the sewer trench, to find and investigate evidence for Roman and later occupation, and to record the positions of uncovered graves.

3.2 Objectives

The research objectives for the project were in line with those that are laid out in *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research Agenda and Strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000).

4. METHOD

The ECC FAU monitored the excavation of the sewer trench by J.F. Knight Ltd. The sides of the trench were examined for archaeological deposits, finds and features. The sewer trench began at the north-west corner of the church, and was approximately 0.6m wide and 1.2m deep. It followed the west side of the existing footpath, and passed through the main gate (Fig. 1).

The proposed toilet facilities measured 2.6m by 4.8m and lay in the north-west corner between the tower and the lobby at the west end of the north aisle (Figs 1 and 2). The ECC FAU archaeologically excavated the wall footings of the toilet extension, and reduced the level of the footprint by 0.3m. The wall footings followed the west and north sides of the footprint and measured 0.6m wide and 0.9m deep. The underlying natural was not exposed.

The ECC FAU uses its own recording system to record all uncovered archaeological deposits and features (ECC FAU 2002). The minimum sample sizes are 50% for self-contained features (e.g. pits and post-holes), and 10% for linear features (e.g. ditches and gullies). Plans are drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Black and white prints and colour transparencies are taken of significant features and of work in progress. Each context is recorded on individual pro-forma sheets. The work is undertaken in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IFA 1999), and the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officer's *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). The ECC FAU is a registered archaeological organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

Human bones were encountered, but were not analysed or retained. All human bones were reburied on-site, close to where they were found.

5. FIELDWORK RESULTS

Further context information can be found in appendix 1.

5.1 Sewer trench (Fig. 1)

The sewer trench revealed three grave cuts, but no other archaeological deposits, features or finds. There was no trace of the Roman enclosure, one side of which is conjectured to lie beneath the existing flint wall along the north side of the churchyard.

Wall foundation

A modern kerbstone and concrete and c. 0.5m of modern disturbance above natural were revealed at the point in the sewer trench where the wall foundation for the postulated Roman enclosure was expected to be present (Plate 1). There were no archaeological deposits, features or finds in that location.

Grave cuts (27, 28 and 29)

The truncated remains of three grave cuts were identified in the cut for the sewer trench. The remains of each grave lay beneath c.1m of disturbed ground (*i.e.* 'grave-earth') and were about 0.2m deep. The graves were aligned east-west and contained bones, but no coffins. It is assumed that the graves are 19th century or later.

5.2 Toilet facilities (Figs 2 and 3)

The archaeological excavation of the footings for the toilet facilities revealed the foundation deposits for the adjacent sections of the tower and lobby (6, 7 and 8); a modern drain and drainage pipe (25); a wall constructed from stone, tile and flint (14); two lightning conductors; a probable grave cut (16); a cut with an unknown function (19), and a small rectangular feature that may have been a grave for a neonate (10). Overlying all these deposits and features were 0.15m of overburden (1), and a modern damp course of loose gravel (23).

Wall 14

Wall 14 ran east-west across the site. It stood about 0.2m high and was 0.8m wide (Plates 2 and 3). The centre of the wall was cut by the trench for a ceramic drainage pipe (25), and the west end by a pit (12) for the earthing-point for a lightning conductor. Within the fabric of the wall, which consisted of brownish-white lime-based mortar (2),

were large flint nodules, pieces of limestone and a large fragment of Roman brick. Some of the limestone pieces were faced.

The wall rested on a foundation deposit of yellowish-brown clay sand (15), which had vertical sides and was at least 0.9m deep. It contained occasional flint nodules and fragments of limestone, and infrequent pieces of Roman tile. No construction cut for this wall foundation was identified

An extensive deposit of compacted brownish-yellow clay sand (21) lay immediately north of the foundation deposit. It contained thin bands of dark brown clay sand, frequent flint nodules, and infrequent fragments of Roman tile and medieval/post-medieval floor tile. The purpose of the deposit is not known.

Foundations for tower and lobby (6, 7 and 8)

Hard foundation deposits of lime-based mortar, flint and gravel lay beneath the north-west buttress and north wall of the tower, and the west wall of the lobby. The deposits extended out from the base of the walls by up to 0.5m. The deposits were left in situ. The excavation of the west wall footing of the toilet extension showed that the one for the church tower extended down into the ground by at least 0.9m.

Cut 19

The function of cut 19, which was identified in section, is not known. It cut deposit 21 and part of the north side of wall 14, and extended beyond the edge of the site. The single fill (20) of the feature contained flint nodules, infrequent pieces of limestone, and small amounts of Roman and medieval/post-medieval tile.

Grave cut 16

Cut 16 was identified in section and is conjectured to be a grave alongside wall 14. It had near-vertical sides and was more than 0.9m deep. No human bones were present in the excavated part of the feature. The single fill (17) comprised greyish brown clay silt sand and gravel.

Deposit 18 lay between cut 16 and the footing for the church tower. It was cut by feature 16 and was more than 0.9m deep; it is either the backfill of an earlier grave, or the backfill of a construction cut for the existing tower. The deposit was similar to the single

fill of cut 16, but was slightly lighter in colour. Unlike deposit 21 at the north end of the footings, it contained relatively few pieces of flint or stone and was largely un-compacted.

Neonate grave 10

A possible grave for a neonate lay near the north-west buttress of the church tower. It was aligned east-west and was 0.38m wide and 0.64m long. The feature was not excavated as it lay beneath the required excavated depth for the floor for the new extension.

Lightning conductors

The existing and the previous lightning rods extended into the site. Both lightning rods consisted of copper strips, and were approximately 2.5cm wide. The existing rod extended off the north wall of the tower and traversed the length of the site. The previous rod began at the base of the tower, and ran towards a large pit (12). Inside the primary fill of pit 12, which consisted of loose clinker (22), was the earthing-point for the lightning conductor. The earthing-point consisted of a copper plate and was 0.6m square (Plate 4). It was attached to the end of the lightning rod.

Modern drain and drainage pipe

A U-shaped trench for a modern drainage pipe (25) ran north-south across the site. It began at a drain pipe for the roof for the lobby, and cut wall 14.

6. FINDS

Small groups of finds were recovered from seven contexts. All of the material has been recorded by count and weight, in grams, by context. Full details can be found in appendix 2. The finds are described by category below.

6.1 Pottery

Sixteen sherds of pottery, weighing 190g, were recovered from a total of five contexts. All of the pottery is Roman, with the datable pieces providing a mid to late Roman date. Five sherds are more firmly dated to the 4th century. The pottery has been recorded using ECC FAU fabric codes; few vessel forms were noted but were categorised using the type series in Going (1987, 13-54). All of the pottery is compatible with that found previously in Great Chesterford, see for instance Garwood (2004).

Most of the assemblage comprises body sherds, in coarse fabrics, along with three sherds of Midlands shell-tempered ware and single mortarium sherds in Oxfordshire cream-slipped red ware and Oxfordshire white ware, which has been burnt after breakage. Other recognisable vessel forms include an E5 bowl-jar (Going 1987, figs 6 and 7) in Hadham grey ware (9, unstratified), a dish or bowl rim in micaceous black-surfaced ware (fill of wall 14) and a jar or bowl-jar rim in well-finished Hadham oxidised ware (layer 21). The dish/bowl has several chevron-like scratches on the outer wall under the rim; these may represent a graffito, unfortunately now incomplete.

6.2 Brick and tile

Five contexts produced brick and tile fragments, weighing a total of 11.3kg, of which more than 90% is of Roman date. Almost all of the Roman fragments are heavily mortared and thus it is difficult to characterise this assemblage. The largest piece is a brick, found in wall 14, and this may be the remains of either a *pedalis* or a *Lydion* (Brodrigg 1987, 36-7). The brick is incomplete, and unevenly made, but the measurements (290+ x 265 x 40mm) conform to those of a standard *Lydion* rather than a *pedalis*. Two joining fragments of a further brick were each recovered from deposits 15 and 21. This piece is overfired and warped, and has fractured along interior voids. There are finger-tip impressions along the edge of the lower surface. Four further, heavily-mortared but unremarkable, Roman brick/tile fragments were recovered from these deposits and a fifth from deposit 20. Three fragments were also recovered from the overburden (1).

Medieval or post-medieval roof tile fragments came from deposits 20 and 21. These are all small and unremarkable. The overburden contained a fragment of medieval floor tile, width 105mm. The surface is very worn and little remains of either the slip or the glaze. The fragment retains a skim of mortar on the underside, used for bedding the tile. Further floor tile fragments were recovered from layer 21. These are larger (width c.130mm), and in a sandier fabric, than the example in the overburden. One piece has a cream slip and the remainder, which may all be from the same tile, have a dark green slip. All have knife-trimmed edges and traces of glaze. These tile fragments are post-medieval types, probably 17th century.

6.3 Glass

A single sherd of decayed window glass was found in the overburden (1). This is likely to have derived from the church windows and is from a quarry of medieval date.

6.4 Stone

A small piece of shaped sandstone was found in the overburden (1). The piece has been roughly trimmed along the unbroken edge. One face is smooth, but there are no markings. The stone may have been part of the lower edge of a gravestone.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The location and the east-west alignment of wall 14 make it likely that it is part of the north wall of the north aisle as it was from the mid 13th to late 14th century (Fig. 4). In c.1400, the church was reduced in length by removing the westernmost two bays of the nave, following the aftermath of the collapse/demolition of the mid 13th to late 14th-century tower. At the same time, the existing west end of the nave was erected, and the building was broadened by increasing the width of what was then left at that time of the two aisles. A replacement tower was also constructed, probably on the site of the existing tower, which was built in 1790. Wall 14 is not flush with the north wall of the existing north aisle, and implies that the north aisle was originally 1m narrower than it is today. If the initial widths of the north and south aisles were each 1m narrower than that of the existing aisles, and the no longer standing two bays of the nave were of the same width as the existing bays, then the dimensions of the main body (i.e. nave and aisles) of the church in its mid 13th to late 14th-century form would have been roughly 14m by 33m.

The monitoring of the excavation of the sewer trench has found no evidence for the pre-existing north wall of the churchyard or for the postulated underlying Roman enclosure wall. If the 'Roman' wall had formerly been present in the path of the sewer trench than it has either not survived at that point or the sewer trench has passed through an earlier entranceway.

The pieces of Roman tile and pottery are residual and are probably derived from buildings and activity formerly associated with the Roman town. Roman brick and tile

often occurs in the fabrics of medieval churches in Essex, and the use of it was probably partly due as a compensation for the dearth of good quality building stone in the region.

8. ASSESSMENT

The excavation has established the survival of a sequence of remains relating to the development of the church from the mid 13th century onwards, despite 19th/20th-century truncation and disturbance. Wall 14 suggests that evidence for the form and construction of the west end of the church prior to its collapse/demolition in c.1400 is present beneath ground level in the immediate vicinity of the present-day tower. The wall and its foundation extend deep into the ground and are well-preserved.

The Roman artefacts are residual and are probably derived from the Roman town. It remains unknown if Roman structural remains survive in situ beneath the footprint of the proposed toilet extension as the excavation of the footings stopped at a depth of 1.2m and the full stratigraphic sequence was not uncovered.

The monitoring of the sewer trench has found no trace of the possible Roman wall, which is known to lie beneath the existing north wall of the churchyard. From the absence of evidence, it can perhaps be concluded that the remains of the earlier wall are fragmentary, or that the sewer trench has passed through an earlier entranceway.

Nothing in the finds assemblage is of sufficient interest for further analytical work to be carried out. The finds are consistent with what would be expected in the vicinity of the church in Great Chesterford. The re-use of Roman brick and tile in the fabric of Essex churches is well-documented and has, indeed, been noted at All Saints (Ryan 1996, appendix 2). All of the finds should be retained.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The archaeological monitoring and excavation were undertaken with the help and cooperation of Great Chesterford Parochial Church Council, and J.F. Knights Ltd. The ECC FAU would like to thank The Reverend Canon Allan Kemp, and Derek Plumb.

Chris Down, Mark Germany, Andy Robertson and Dave Smith carried out the archaeological fieldwork. Phil McMichael and Joyce Compton respectively processed and analysed the archaeological finds. Andy Lewsey drew the illustrations and Mark Atkinson managed the project. Richard Havis of ECC HEM monitored the archaeological work.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Brodribb, G. 1987 *Roman Brick and Tile* (Gloucester)
- Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J. 2000 *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research agenda and strategy*. E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Paper **8**
- Collins, A.E. 1996 *Great Chesterford: The Origins of a Roman Civitas*. Unpublished text. EHER
- ECC FAU 2002 *Guidelines, procedures and pro-formas for excavating and recording*. ECC FAU
- ECC FAU 2006 *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring and Excavation: All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford, Essex*. ECC FAU 1672
- ECC HEM 2006 *All Saints' Church, Church Street. Great Chesterford*.
- Ennis, T. 2001 *All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford, Essex: Archaeological Evaluation*. ECC FAU rep. 945
- Gadd, D. 1999 *All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford: Archaeological Excavation and Monitoring*. ECC FAU rep. 620
- Garwood, A. 2004 'Late Roman buildings at Bishop's House, Great Chesterford: excavations 1990'. *Essex Archaeol. Hist.* **35**, 1-25
- Going, C.J. 1987 *The Mansio and Other Sites in the South-eastern Sector of Caesaromagus: the Roman pottery*. Chelmsford Archaeol. Trust Rep. **3.2**, Counc. Brit. Archaeol. Res. Rep. **62**
- Gurney, D. 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Paper **14**
- IFA 1999 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations*
- Medlycott, M. 1999 *Great Chesterford: Historic Towns Project Assessment Report*. ECC Planning
- Miller, T.E. 1988 'Excavations in Great Chesterford Churchyard, Essex, 1986'. *Proc. Camb. Antiq. Soc.* **77**, 109-117
- RCHME 1916 *Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England). An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in Essex*. Volume **1**, 113-5
- Ryan, P. 1996 *Brick in Essex: from the Roman conquest to the Reformation* (Chelmsford)

Appendix 1: Context Data

No.	Category	Description	Date
1	Deposit	Overburden. Compacted silt and gravel. 0.15m thick	Modern
2	Structure	Mortar, worked flint nodules and limestone. Stands 0.2m high. Part of 14	13th century
3	Structure	Same as 14	13th century
4	Deposit	Same as 20	Post-medieval+
5	Deposit	Thin layer of redeposited chalk. 0.01m thick	Post-medieval+
6	Deposit	Mortar, flint and gravel. Underpinning for west wall of porch. Not excavated	19th century
7	Deposit	Mortar, flint and gravel. Underpinning for west wall of porch. Not excavated	19th century
8	Deposit	Mortar, flint and gravel. Underpinning for north wall of tower. Not excavated	18th/19th century
9	Deposit	Same as 17 and 18	-
10	Cut	Pit or grave for neonate. Filled by 11. Not excavated.	Post-medieval
11	Deposit	Single fill of 10. Very dark brown friable silt. Not excavated.	Post-medieval
12	Cut	Pit for lightning conductor. 0.8m+ deep. Filled by 13 and 22.	Modern
13	Deposit	Top fill of 12. Brownish white friable clay sand and occasional nodules of flint	Modern
14	Structure	Wall. Comprises 2 and 15	13th century
15	Structure	Compacted clay sand, worked flint nodules and limestone. Underpins 2. Part of 14	13th century
16	Cut	Vertical-sided cut, south of 14. 0.8m+ deep. Filled by 17	Post-medieval
17	Deposit	Single fill of 16	Post-medieval
18	Deposit	Greyish brown friable clay silt sand and occasional gravel	Post-medieval
19	Cut	Cut of unknown function. 0.55m+. Filled by 20.	Post-medieval
20	Deposit	Single fill of 19	Post-medieval
21	Deposit	Layer. Compacted clay sand and flint nodules. 0.8m+ thick	Post-medieval
22	Deposit	Clinker. Primary fill of 12. Contains 0.6m ² copper-alloy plate, and tail end of earlier lightning conductor.	Modern
23	Cut	Drainage. Follows edge of church tower. Filled by 24	Modern
24	Deposit	Pea grit and gravel. Single fill of 23	Modern
25	Cut	Drain. Filled by 26	Modern
26	Deposit	Single fill of 25. Contains ceramic water pipe	Modern
27	Cut	Grave	?Post-med.
28	Cut	Grave	?Post-med.
29	Cut	Grave	?Post-med.

Appendix 2: Finds Data

Context	Feature	Count	Weight	Description	Date
1	Unstrat	1	6	Window glass sherd, decayed	Medieval
		1	450	Worked sandstone fragment, thickness 37mm	-
		1	212	Floor tile, worn upper surface, mortar on lower and knife-trimmed edges, width 105mm, depth 20mm	Medieval
		3	1100	Tile fragments, average depth 40mm, heavily mortared	Roman
		10	112	Pottery; rim/flange sherd, fine grey ware; mortarium body sherds, Oxford cream-slipped ware and white ware (burnt); body sherds, sandy grey and fine grey wares; lower wall sherd, shell-tempered ware	Late Roman
2	Wall	1	6150	Tile fragment, extant length 290mm, width 265mm, depth 40mm	Roman
4 = 20	3 =19	1	14	Pottery; rim sherd, dish, micaceous black-surfaced ware, with possible graffito	Mid Roman
9	Finds	3	40	Pottery; rim sherd, Hadham grey ware; body sherds, shell-tempered ware and sandy grey ware	Late Roman
15	Wall	3	2275	Tile fragments, heavily mortared, one overfired joins with piece in 21, average depth 45mm, the smallest may be post-Roman	Roman
20	19	2	122	Roof tile fragments, one with two peg holes	Med/post med.
		1	210	Tile fragment, mortared	Roman
		1	8	Pottery; body sherd, shell-tempered ware	Late Roman
21	Layer	1	10	Roof tile fragment, depth 15mm	Med/post med.
		6	500	Floor tile fragments, depth 25mm, knife-trimmed edges, one with all-over cream slip, the remainder with green	Post med.
		3	735	Tile fragments, one heavily mortared, one overfired joins with piece in 15, average depth (without overfired) 35mm	Roman
		1	16	Pottery; jar rim sherd, Hadham oxidised ware	Late Roman

Appendix 3: Contents of Archive

Contained in one A4 folder:

- 1 Copy of this report
- 1 Copy of the archaeological brief
- 1 Copy of the written scheme of investigation
- 1 Context register sheet
- 26 Context sheets
- 1 Levels register sheet
- 1 Section register sheet
- 1 Plan register sheet
- 1 Finds report and set of archive tables
- 19 Black and white prints
- 20 Colour transparencies
- 19 Digital photographs

Separate from A4 file:

- 1 Roll of site drawings (3 trench plans, 2 section drawings)
- 1 Box of finds

Appendix 4: Essex Historic Environment summary sheet

Site Name & Address: All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford, Essex	
Parish: Great Chesterford	District: Uttlesford
NGR: TL 5058 4276	Site Code: GC 42
Type of Work: Archaeological monitoring and excavation	Site Director/Group: Mark Germany, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
Date of Work: 13/7/6, 14/7/6 and 19/7/6 to 21/7/6	Size of Area Investigated: Sewer trench: 22m ² Toilet facilities: 12.5m ²
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Saffron Walden	Funding Source: Great Chesterford Parochial Church Council
Further Work Anticipated? No	Related HER Nos: 13890, 13891, 13897, 13922, 14814
Final Report: Essex Archaeology and History (Summary)	
Periods Represented: Roman Medieval Post-medieval Modern	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit monitored the excavation of a sewer trench, and archaeologically excavated the footings for a toilet extension at All Saints' Church, Great Chesterford. The sewer trench ran across the churchyard, starting at the church tower and ending at the main sewer in Church Street. It followed the path leading away from the church door, and exited through the main gate. The toilet extension lay in the north-west corner between the church tower and the lobby.</p> <p>The sewer trench exposed the truncated remnants of three undated graves, but no other archaeological deposits, features or finds.</p> <p>The footings of the toilet extension uncovered a wall, which was once part of the church fabric. The wall stood 0.2m high and was 0.8m wide. It comprised stone and flint nodules in a matrix of lime-based mortar and rested on a foundation deposit of compacted yellowish-brown clay sand. The position and the east-west alignment of the wall suggest that it was part of the north wall of the north aisle of the church during the mid 13th to late 14th-century, prior to the collapse/demolition of the west end of the church in c.1400. The other deposits and features uncovered by the excavation of the footings were all post-medieval and modern and included a pit for an earthing point for a lightning conductor, mortar footings for the tower and lobby, two possible grave cuts, and several extensive deposits, more than 0.8m thick.</p> <p>The finds from the excavation of the footings comprised residual Roman tile, brick and pottery, and fragments of medieval/post-medieval roof and floor tiles.</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports: None	
Author of Summary: Mark Germany	Date of Summary: August 2006



Plate 1. Sewer trench at point of postulated Roman enclosure wall foundation



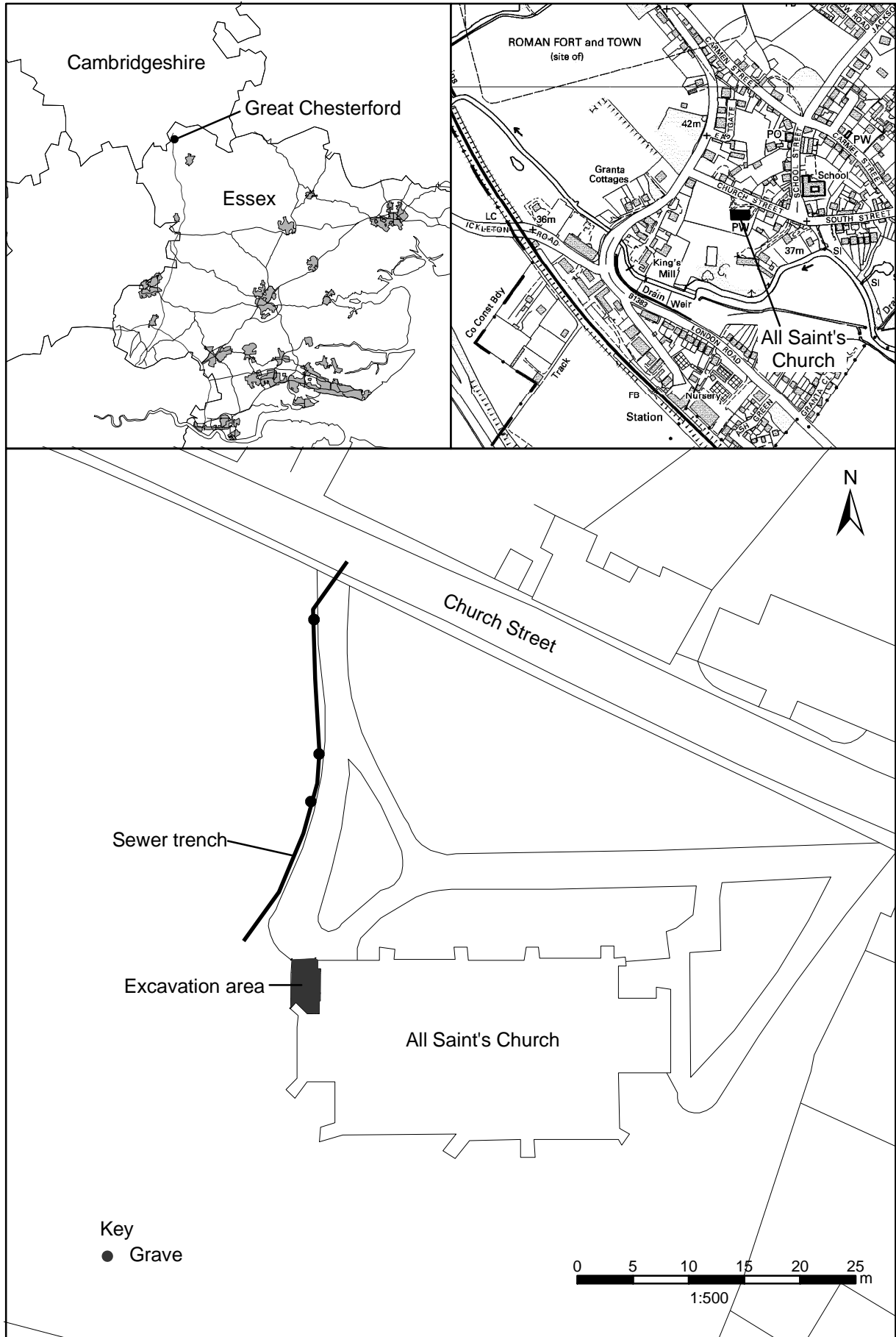
Plate 2. Footprint of proposed toilet facilities, looking south towards church tower



Plate 3. Footprint of proposed toilet facilities, wall 14, looking north



Plate 4. Copper-alloy plate, earthing point for lightning conductor



Mapping reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of HMSO. Crown copyright. Licence no.LA100019602.

Fig.1. Location plan

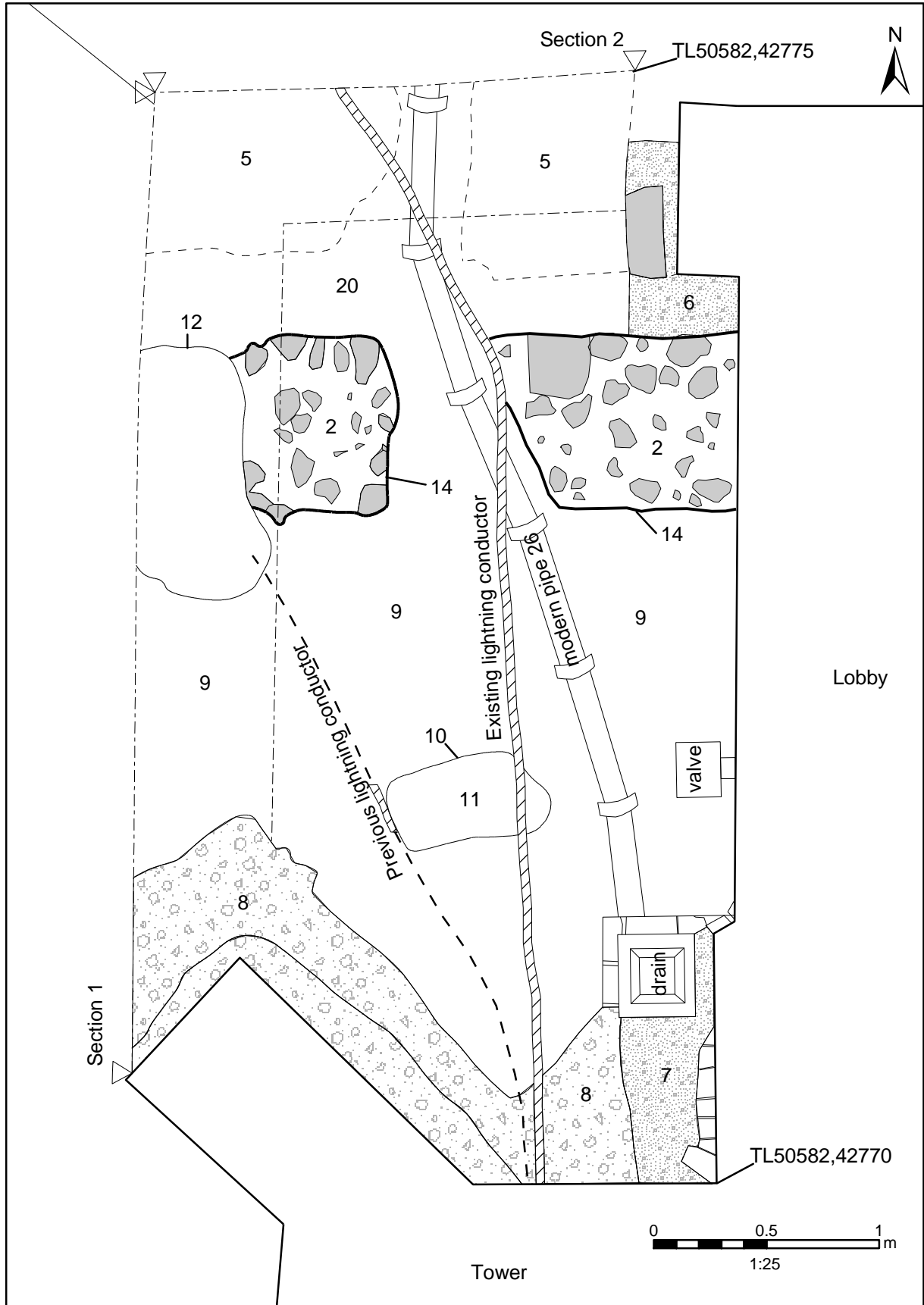


Fig.2. Excavation area



Fig.3. Sections

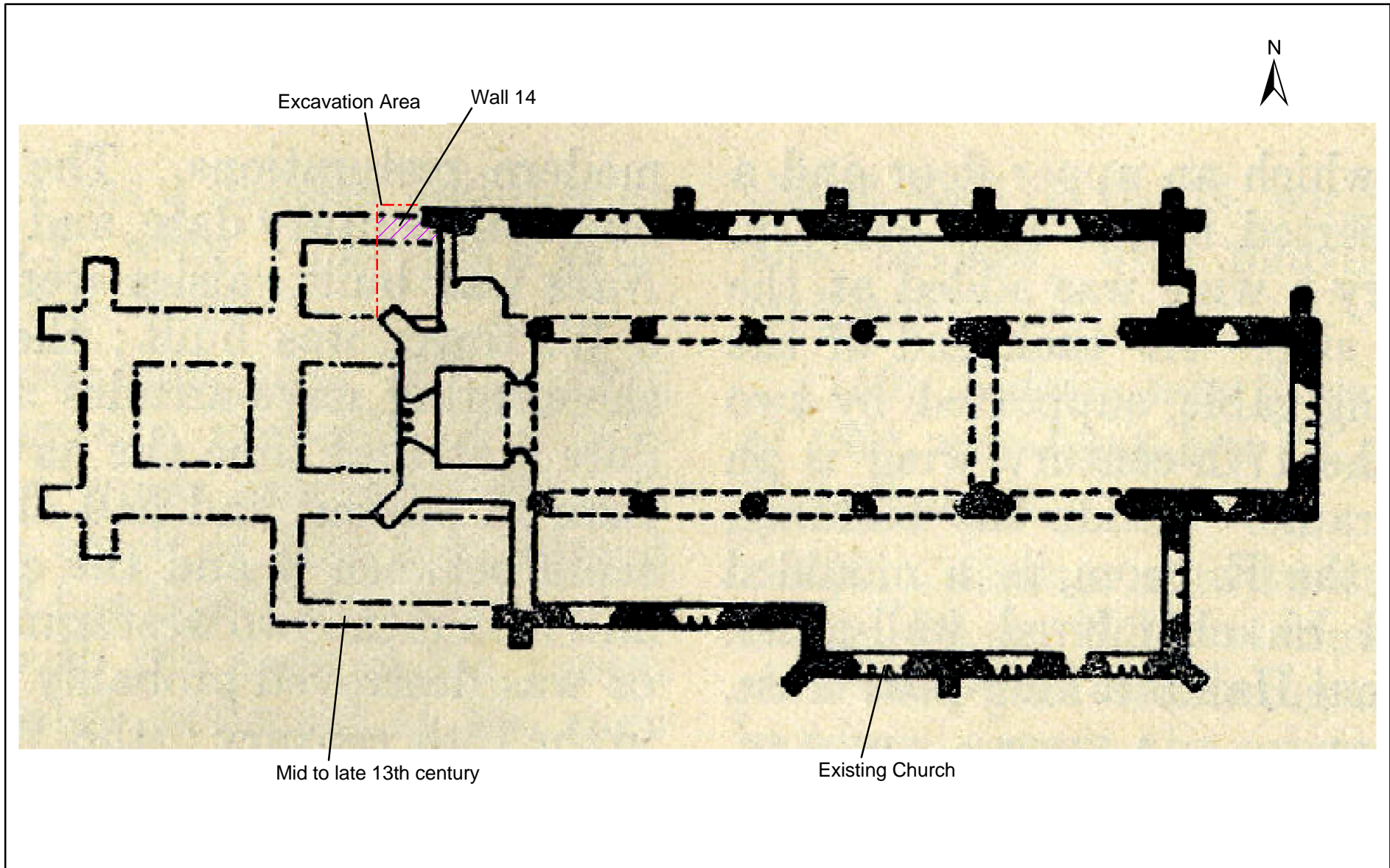


Fig.4. All Saints, Great Chesterford. Ground Plan (RCHME 1916)