PRELIMINARY REPORT GREYFRIARS, CANTERBURY

GSB SURVEY No.	2000/56	NGR	TR 145 578 (Approximate)
SMR / NAR No.	SAM Kent No 2	COUNTY	Kent
SITE TYPE	Abbey		
DESCRIPTION	Greyfriars Abbey. Small area of parkland and a grass lawn overlying the site of the cloisters and chancel.		
PERIOD	Medieval		
GEOLOGY	Borderline chalk / limestone	SURVEY TYP	E Resistance - RM15 Twin 0.5m separation
SOILS LAND-USE	Urban soils - largely unmapped Parkland / lawn	SAMPLE INT TRAVERSE I	1.0 m
SURVEYAREA	c. 0.3ha	METHOD	Zig-zag
SURVEY START	8th June 2000 8th June 2000	DATE OF REP AUTHOR	ORT 20th June 2000

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Two small areas in the centre of Canterbury, on the site of Greyfriars Abbey, were investigated by resistance survey; unfortunately the results are confused and difficult to interpret. Although there are marked changes in the resistance levels, the anomalies are generally poorly defined and lacking in any shape or archaeological form. There are a few clear, high resistance responses that appear to represent surviving wall foundations, but there is only fragmentary agreement between the geophysical results and wall lines marked on local maps. Given that trees have been uprooted, the ground consolidated and the park has been landscaped (J Butterworth *pers. comm.*) these factors will all have affected the results. It is likely that any surviving wall foundations will be 'hidden' below imported soil and rubble concentrations. The possible presence of old paths is also thought to be confusing matters.

Subsequent information has come to light regarding the excavation of some 25 archaeological trenches within the survey area (J Butterworth *pers. comm.*). These will clearly have produced spurious anomalies and any archaeological interpretation of the resistance results must be treated as tentative.





