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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND  
RECORDING AT  
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH,  
POTTERHANWORTH,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(POSA 12)**

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**Work Undertaken For  
Mr A Reid**

January 2013

Report Compiled by  
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons)

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APS Report No. 2/13

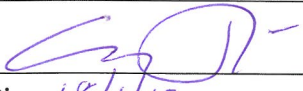
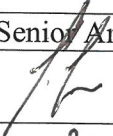
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES**





**Quality Control**  
**St Andrew's Church,**  
**Potterhanworth**  
**POSA 12**

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## Table of Contents

### List of Figures

### List of Plates

1.	SUMMARY .....	1
2.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.1	PLANNING BACKGROUND.....	1
2.2	TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY.....	1
2.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING .....	1
3.	AIMS .....	1
4.	METHODS .....	2
5.	RESULTS .....	2
6.	DISCUSSION .....	2
7.	CONCLUSION .....	2
8.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	3
9.	PERSONNEL .....	3
10.	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	3
11.	ABBREVIATIONS .....	3

### Appendices

1. Context descriptions
2. The Finds *by Gary Taylor*
3. Glossary
4. The Archive

## **List of Figures**

- Figure 1      General location plan
- Figure 2      Site location plan
- Figure 3      Plan showing the drainage trench and section locations
- Figure 4      Sections 1 to 6

## **List of Plates**

- Plate 1      View showing the extent of drainage works in relation to the church
- Plate 2      Section 2
- Plate 3      Section 3 showing the construction deposit (003)
- Plate 4      Sections 5 and 6 with the rebuilt/restored north aisle and associated construction deposits

## 1. SUMMARY

*A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken during groundworks at St Andrew's Church, Potterhanworth, Lincolnshire. The investigations monitored the excavation of a drainage trench to the north of the church.*

*The church incorporates a medieval (AD 1066-1540) west tower dating to the 13<sup>th</sup> century with the remainder constructed during the 18<sup>th</sup> century and extensively restored in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. The church is believed to have replaced an earlier, possibly Late Saxon (AD 850-1066), predecessor.*

*The investigations revealed an extensive graveyard soil which was partly overlain by construction deposits relating to the rebuild or restoration of the north aisle during the post-medieval period. No other archaeological deposits were encountered. Finds were restricted to a single fragment of mortar, which could be either Roman or medieval in date.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr A Reid to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated with new drainage works at St Andrew's Church, Potterhanworth, Lincolnshire. The investigations were carried out on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

### 2.2 Topography and Geology

Potterhanworth is situated 9km southeast of Lincoln and 21km north of Sleaford, in the administrative district of North Kesteven, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

St Andrew's Church is located in the

southern part of the village at National Grid Reference TF 0549 6608 (Fig. 2). The church lies immediately west of Main Street at a height of c. 20m OD on land that slopes moderately down to the south, towards a minor watercourse.

Local soils are of the Beccles 1 Association, typically stagnogley soils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 117). These are developed on a drift geology of older sand and gravel, which overlies glacially derived till and seals a solid geology of Jurassic Blisworth Clay and Cornbrash (BGS 1973).

### 2.3 Archaeological Setting

Potterhanworth is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Haneworde*, the name is derived from the Old English and means 'the enclosed settlement (*worth*) belonging to *Hana*' (Cameron 1998, 59). The prefix Potter was added later (first recorded in 1327) and is probably a reference to pottery production in the village.

At the time of Domesday, Potterhanworth was held by Walter de Aincourt and contained a church with resident priest, 150 acres of meadow and woodland for pannage (Foster and Longley 1976).

St Andrew's church has a tower of 13<sup>th</sup> century date with the remainder of the building rebuilt in 1749 and heavily restored in 1854 (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 604). The church presumably replaced the church mentioned in the Domesday Survey.

## 3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

#### 4. METHODS

A single trench was excavated by machine from the west tower to the churchyard gate (Fig. 3). Following excavation, the sides of the trenches were then cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were excavated further to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their function. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

#### 5. RESULTS

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

To the north of the church, the earliest deposit was a graveyard soil comprising brown sandy silt (002) that measured over 0.75m thick (Fig. 4, Sections 1 to 4). Closer to the church, the graveyard soil was recorded as (006) and a fragment of mortar, either Roman or medieval in origin, was recovered.

Overlying (006) to the west of the north aisle were construction deposits of brownish orange silty sand and gravel (003), yellow mortar and limestone fragments (004) and orange brown sandy gravel (005). These deposits measured between 0.13m and 0.35m thick (Fig. 4,

Sections 3 to 5).

Part of the north aisle wall was exposed within the drainage trench (Fig. 4, Section 6). A foundation course of coursed rubble limestone (009) was overlain by a single course of bricks (008) upon which was built the ashlar wall of the aisle. These presumably date from the rebuild or restoration of the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Sealing all deposits was the current topsoil of greyish brown sandy silt (001) that measured 0.2m thick.

#### 6. DISCUSSION

No natural deposits were encountered during the investigation and it is possible that further archaeological deposits may lie at depth.

The earliest deposits encountered were graveyard soils, created by continual interment at the site. Closer to the church, these were sealed by construction deposits associated with the north aisle, and relate to either the rebuild of 1749 or its restoration in 1854. All deposits were sealed by the current topsoil.

A single fragment of mortar was retrieved during the investigations. It incorporated broken brick/tile fragments reminiscent of Roman *opus signinum*. However, given the site's proximity to the medieval pottery industry, it could also belong to this period.

#### 7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological investigations were undertaken at St Andrew's Church, Potterhanworth, as the development would impact on buried archaeological remains of medieval and later date which may relate to the development of the church and its graveyard.



However, no medieval deposits were encountered apart from a buried soil which may have its origins in this period. Construction deposits and structural remains were encountered which relate to the building of the north aisle in 1749 or its restoration in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. A single fragment of Roman or medieval mortar was found during the investigation.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr A Reid for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly provided access to the parish files and library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor  
 Site Supervisor: Chris Moulis  
 Finds processing: Denise Buckley  
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner  
 Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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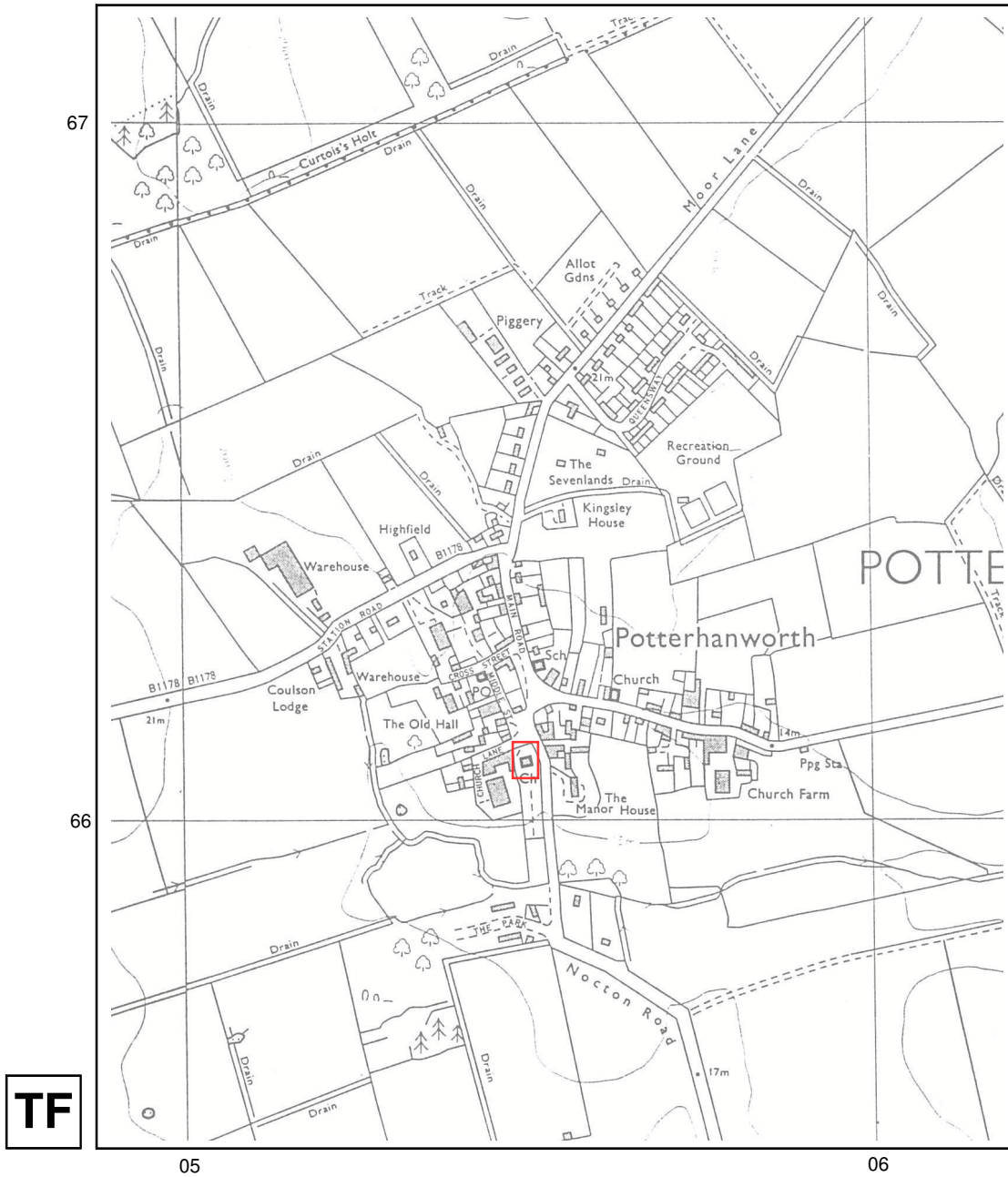
## 11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services


BGS British Geological Survey



Figure 1 - General location plan



Ordnance Survey © 1981. All rights reserved.  
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 Area detailed in Figure 3




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: St Andrew's Church, Potterhanworth		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 2/13

Figure 2 - Site location plan

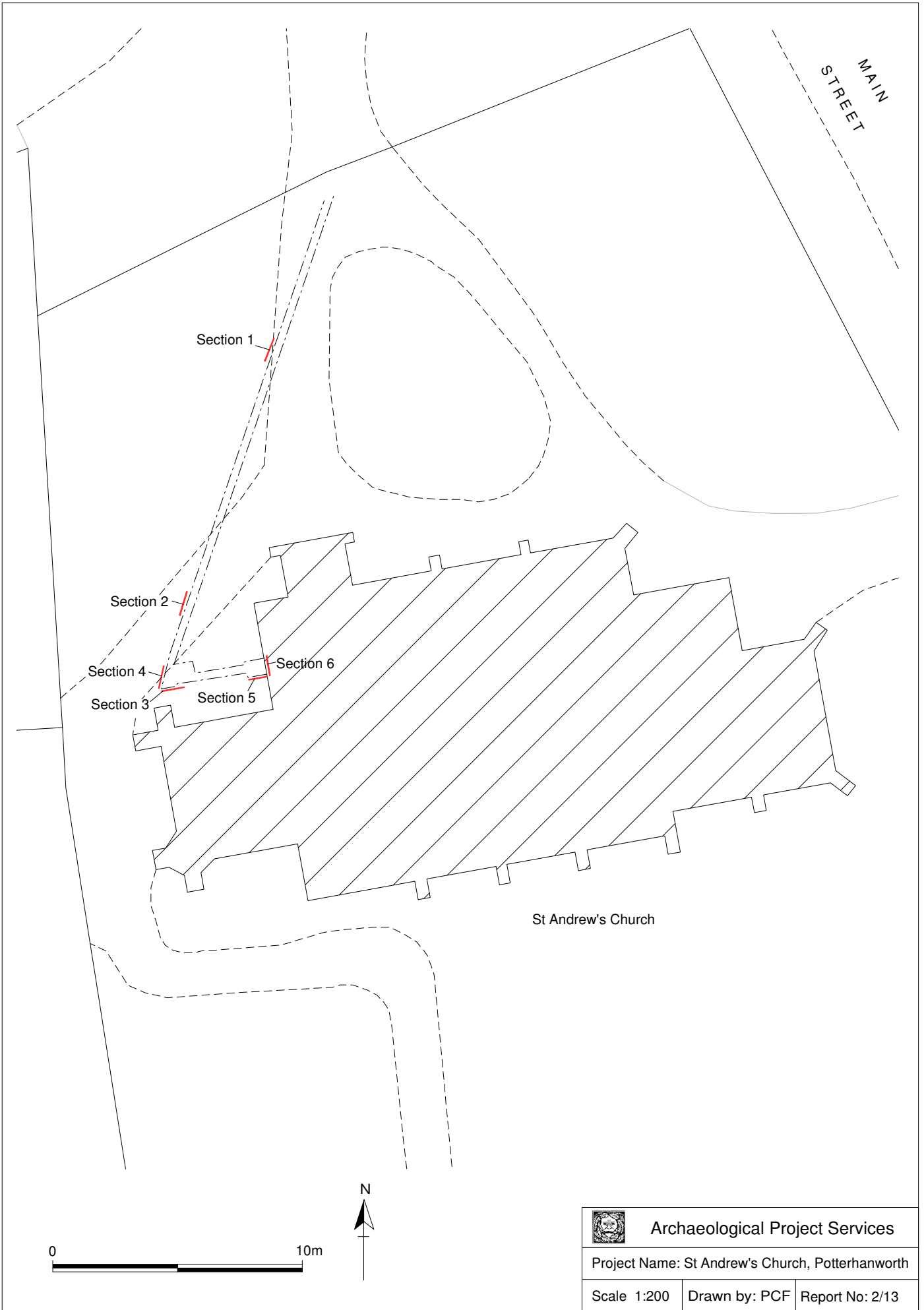
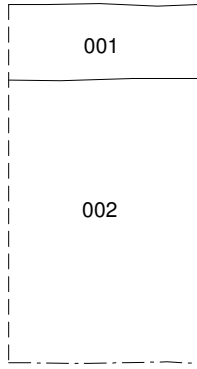


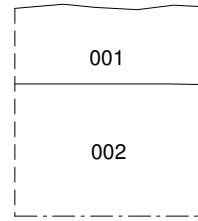
Figure 3 - Plan showing the drainage trench and section locations

SW NE



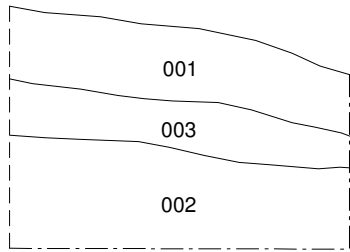
Section 1

SW NE



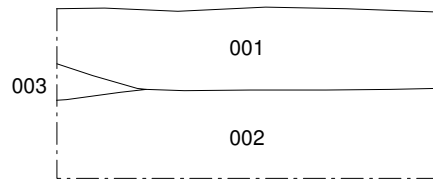
Section 2

E W

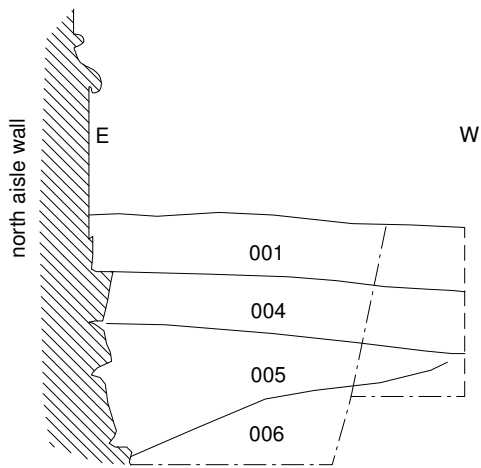


Section 3

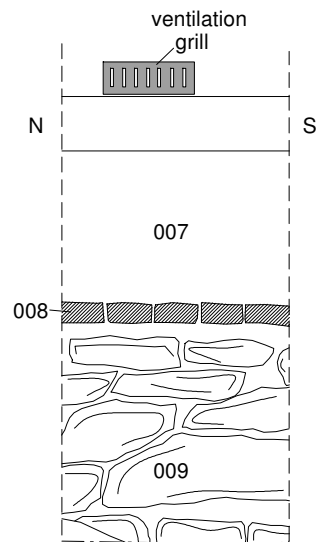
SW NE



Section 4



Section 5



Section 6



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: St Andrew's Church, Potterhanworth

Scale 1:20

Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 2/13

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 6



Plate 1 – View showing the extent of drainage works in relation to the church, looking northeast



Plate 2 – Section 2, looking northwest



Plate 3 – Section 3 showing the construction deposit (003),  
looking south



Plate 4 – Sections 5 and 6 with the rebuilt/restored north aisle (left)  
and associated construction deposits, looking southeast

## Appendix 1

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Soft dark greyish brown sandy silt with moderate small limestone fragments, 0.2m thick	Topsoil
002	Soft dark brown sandy silt with frequent small limestone fragments, >0.75m thick	Graveyard soil
003	Firm mid brownish orange silty sand and gravel with frequent mortar fragments, 0.13m thick	Construction deposit
004	Firm light yellow mortar and limestone fragments, 0.16m thick	Construction deposit
005	Soft mid orange brown sandy gravel, 0.35m thick	Possible construction deposit
006	Soft dark brown sandy silt with frequent limestone fragments, >0.24m thick	Graveyard soil
007	Limestone structure, ashlar	North aisle wall
008	Brick (110mm x 55mm) structure, possible levelling course, light brown/white lime mortar	Brick course below (007)
009	Limestone (500mm x 150mm) structure, rough finish, roughly coursed, 0.55m high (as exposed)	Wall foundation



## Appendix 2

### THE FINDS

By Gary Taylor

#### Introduction

A single other find weighing 66g was recovered. It was recorded in accordance with the requirements of the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* (2012).

#### Condition

The other find is in good archive-stable condition.

#### Results

Table 1, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
006	mortar	Sandy mortar, contains much fragmented red-orange brick/tile	1	66	Medieval or earlier

#### Provenance

The other find was recovered from the graveyard soil (006).

#### Range

A single piece of mortar was recovered. This is a creamy beige colour and it has one smooth though slightly irregular face and a flat but rough side. The latter may have been moulded against another material, such as a piece of masonry. The piece contains abundant fragments of orange-red fired clay, probably brick/tile. This could be crushed tile of Roman date, which is almost always oxidised fired to orange-red, which perhaps suggests that the mortar is also Roman. However, medieval brick/tile could also be orange-red, and Potterhanworth is known as the location of a ceramic industry in the medieval period (13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries) which may, conversely, suggest the mortar is of this date.

#### Potential

The single piece of mortar is of limited potential but indicates the presence of buildings. Although it is perhaps more likely to be of medieval date, and associated with the church, there is a possibility that it is Roman.

#### SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 2 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 2, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
006	Medieval or earlier	Based on 1 mortar

#### ABBREVIATIONS

CXT	Context
NoF	Number of Fragments
W (g)	Weight (grams)

#### REFERENCES

~ 2012, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* [internet]. Available at <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/conservation/archaeology/lincolnshire-archaeology-handbook>>

## Appendix 3

### GLOSSARY

<b>Context</b>	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 interpretations 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).
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
<b>Saxon</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

## Appendix 4

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

9	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
3	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

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

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

The Collection  
Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire  
Danes Terrace  
Lincoln  
LN2 1LP

Accession Number: LCNCC: 2012.190

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: POSA 12

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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