
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND
RECORDING AT
HOLY TRINITY CHURCHYARD,
TATTERSHALL,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(TACH 15)**

Work Undertaken For
**EB McEvedy Historic Building Consultants
and Tattershall PCC**

December 2015

Report Compiled by
Mark Peachey BA(Hons)

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APS Report No. **117/15**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



Quality Control

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at
Holy Trinity Churchyard,
Tattershall
Lincolnshire
TACH 15

Project Coordinator	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Site Supervisor	Andy Failes
CAD Illustration	Andy Failes
Photographic Reproduction	Mark Peachey
Post-excavation Analyst	Mark Peachey

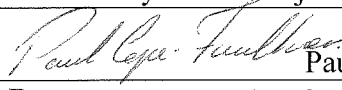

Checked by Senior Project Officer	Approved by Team Leader (Archaeology)
 Paul Cope-Faulkner	 Denise Drury
Date: 11-12-2015	Date: 21/12/15

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1. SUMMARY

A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken on three test pits at Holy Trinity Churchyard, Tattershall, Lincolnshire. The test pits were located against the deteriorating churchyard wall in order to determine ground conditions and the details of the existing foundations in advance of repairs to the structure.

The work was undertaken as the site was archaeologically sensitive, located within the churchyard of Holy Trinity Collegiate Church which was established by Ralph, Lord Cromwell, in the mid-15th century along with the adjacent castle. Part of the wall falls within the Scheduled Monument of the castle and the claustral ranges of the collegiate foundation.

The footings of the churchyard wall and a buttress were revealed in the test pits.

No finds were retrieved during the investigation.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as “a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed.” (CIFA 2014).

2.2 Planning Background

The churchyard wall was in a state of disrepair and was been awarded a grant by Historic England for its conservation. To aid in this conservation, three shallow test

pits were required against the wall to determine ground conditions and the details of the existing foundations. The wall falls partly within a Scheduled Monument though consent was not required as the grant aided works are funded by Historic England. The investigation was carried out on 4th December 2015 in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Archaeological Project Services (APS).

2.3 Topography and Geology

Tattershall is located 27km southeast of Lincoln and 18km northwest of Boston in the administrative district of East Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

Holy Trinity Collegiate Church is located south of the village, adjacent to Tattershall Castle, at National Grid Reference TF 2121 5755 (Fig. 2).

The site is situated at a height of c. 6-7m OD on generally level ground close to the confluence of the Rivers Bain and Witham. Local soils are sandy and coarse loamy soils of the Blackwood Association (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 127). Beneath these soils is a drift geology of Lower River Terrace Sands and Gravels which in turn seal a solid geology of Jurassic Kimmeridge or Ampthill Clay Formations (BGS 1995).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Tattershall is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086. Referred to as *Tatesala*, the name is derived from the Old English and means ‘the nook of land (*halh*) belonging to *Tāthere*’ (Cameron 1998, 123). The Domesday Survey records little about Tattershall, though sokeland in Skirbeck was held by Eudo, son of Spirewic (Foster and Longley 1976). The subsequent Lindsey Survey of c. 1115 records that Eudo’s son, Hugh, held the manor (*ibid.*). It is probable that land at

Tattershall was recorded under the entry for Tattershall Thorpe.

A castle of stone was constructed at Tattershall by Robert de Tateshall in AD 1231 under licence from Henry III (Cathcart-King 1983, 263). It comprised an irregular polygonal wall with round towers of which some remnants are still visible (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 745). The model for this castle may have been Bolingbroke Castle, built by Randolph de Blundevill in the period 1220-1230, which lies some 15km to the northeast (Thompson 1974, 317).

The castle was remodelled by Ralph, Lord Cromwell, in 1434 and 1446, who added the brick built keep, a further two moats and various other buildings in the inner and outer wards, including a possible chapel. The building accounts of the castle survive and have been published and indicate that the castle was not finished until much later in the 15th century (Simpson 1960).

Cromwell also gained a charter in 1439 to establish a college in Tattershall. All that survives is the Collegiate Church of the Holy Trinity that replaced the earlier church of SS Peter and Paul, which was constructed after Cromwell's death (Parsons 1989, 2). The gatehouse to the college was excavated in 1967 and demonstrates that the college, which also had to provide shelter for poor people, was enclosed (Wilson and Hurst 1968, 168-9). The building known as 'Old College', south of the Market Place, was also part of the college but its location away from the main centre suggests that its role was as a grammar school. The college was dissolved in 1545, though the school continued in use for some time.

The south churchyard wall is likely to be part of Cromwell's scheme of the mid-15th century. It may have partly enclosed the quasi-monastic collegiate foundation,

whose buildings are believed to be buried to the east of the church. The area south of the churchyard is supposedly the tiltyard where tournaments took place.

Tattershall Castle and College is a Scheduled Monument (No. 1018394). The scheduling does not cover the entire length of the churchyard wall, with only the eastern part so designated. The wall is not a Listed Structure.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work was to record and interpret the deposits and any archaeological features exposed during the trial pitting.

The objectives of the investigation were to:

- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- as far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features and
- establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

4. METHODS

The hand excavation of two test pits against the churchyard wall (Fig. 3) was monitored in order to identify and record any archaeological features.

Following excavation, selected sides of the test pits were recorded. 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.

5. RESULTS (Fig. 3)

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

Test Pit 1 (Fig. 4, Fig. 5, Sections 1-3)

The natural brownish yellow sand (008) and gravel was revealed in an auger hole, in the base of the test pit, at a depth of 1.3m below the surface. This was overlain by up to 1.2m thick graveyard soil (004).

Encountered only within the auger hole, this was cut by the base of postulated wall construction cut (009) which contained churchyard wall foundation (007) formed of red brick in header bond. The foundation supported wall (006), also formed of red brick, in stretcher bond for the lower courses with english bond higher up. This was supported by buttress (005) (Plates 3, 4) also in stretcher bond. The buttress abutted the wall, rather than being keyed into it, suggesting a later date, and was composed of larger bricks (measuring 100mm rather than 60mm deep). The construction cut was filled by brownish grey sand (002).

In the east side of the test pit, this was cut by a vertical sided feature with a flat base [003] (Plate 5), filled by loose material (001) including modern glass bottles which were not retained.

Test Pit 2 (Fig. 4)

This test pit revealed only the fill of the wall construction cut (002) against wall (006) (Plate 6).

6. DISCUSSION

Above the natural sand and gravel deposits, a graveyard soil was cut by the construction trench for the wall and buttress. No evidence was found for any structures that may relate to the claustral ranges of the collegiate foundation. The only other feature revealed in the test pits was a shallow pit containing modern bottles which were not retained.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out on two test pits at Holy Trinity Churchyard, Tattershall, Lincolnshire. The footings of the churchyard wall and buttress was revealed within the test pits.

No finds were retrieved during the investigation.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of EB McEvedy Historic Planning Consultants for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of the Parochial Church Council. The work was coordinated by Paul Cope-Faulkner who edited this report along with Denise Drury.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Site Supervisor: Andy Failes
 Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey
 CAD Illustration: Andy Failes

Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists



Figure 1 - General location plan

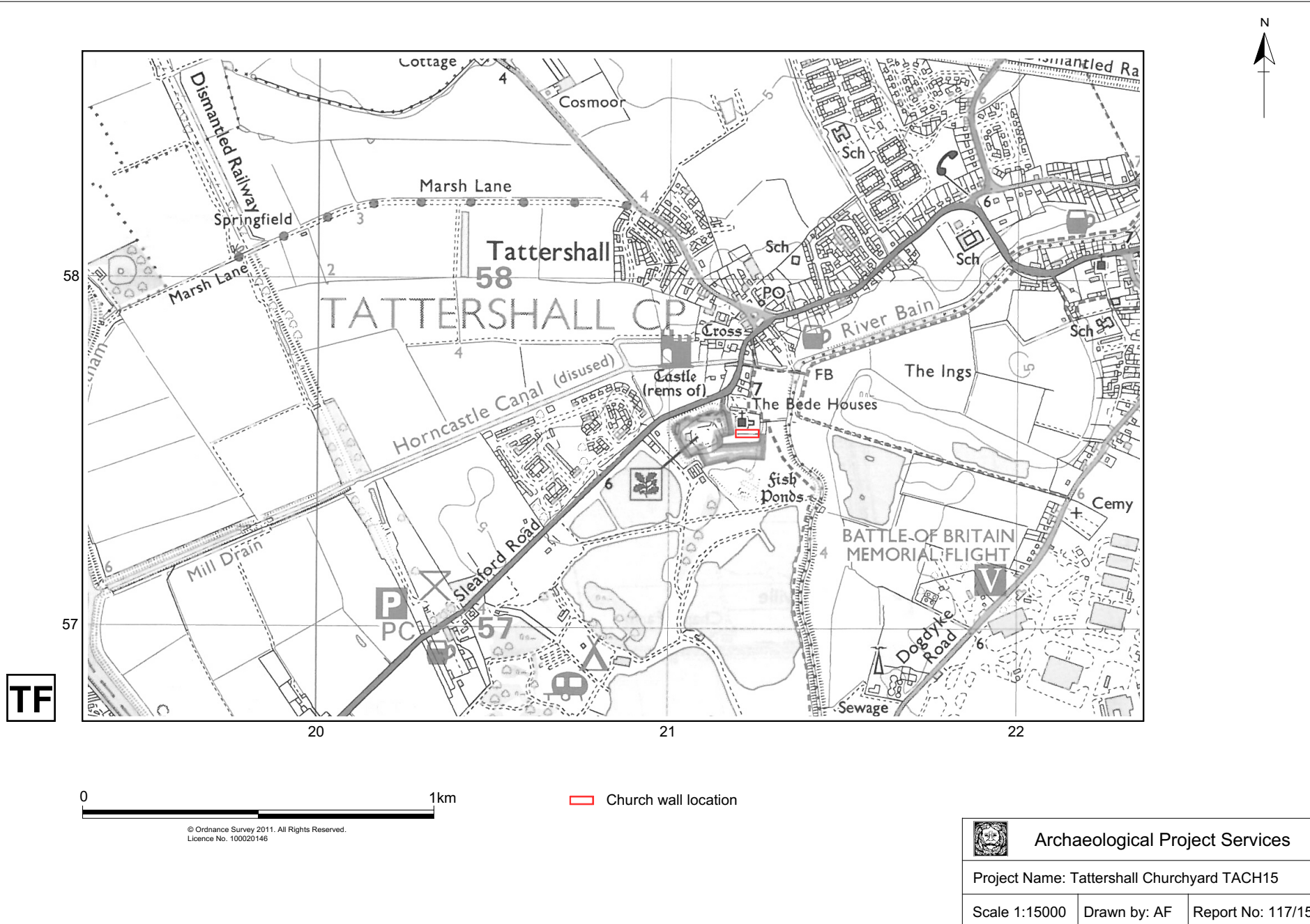


Figure 2 - Site location plan

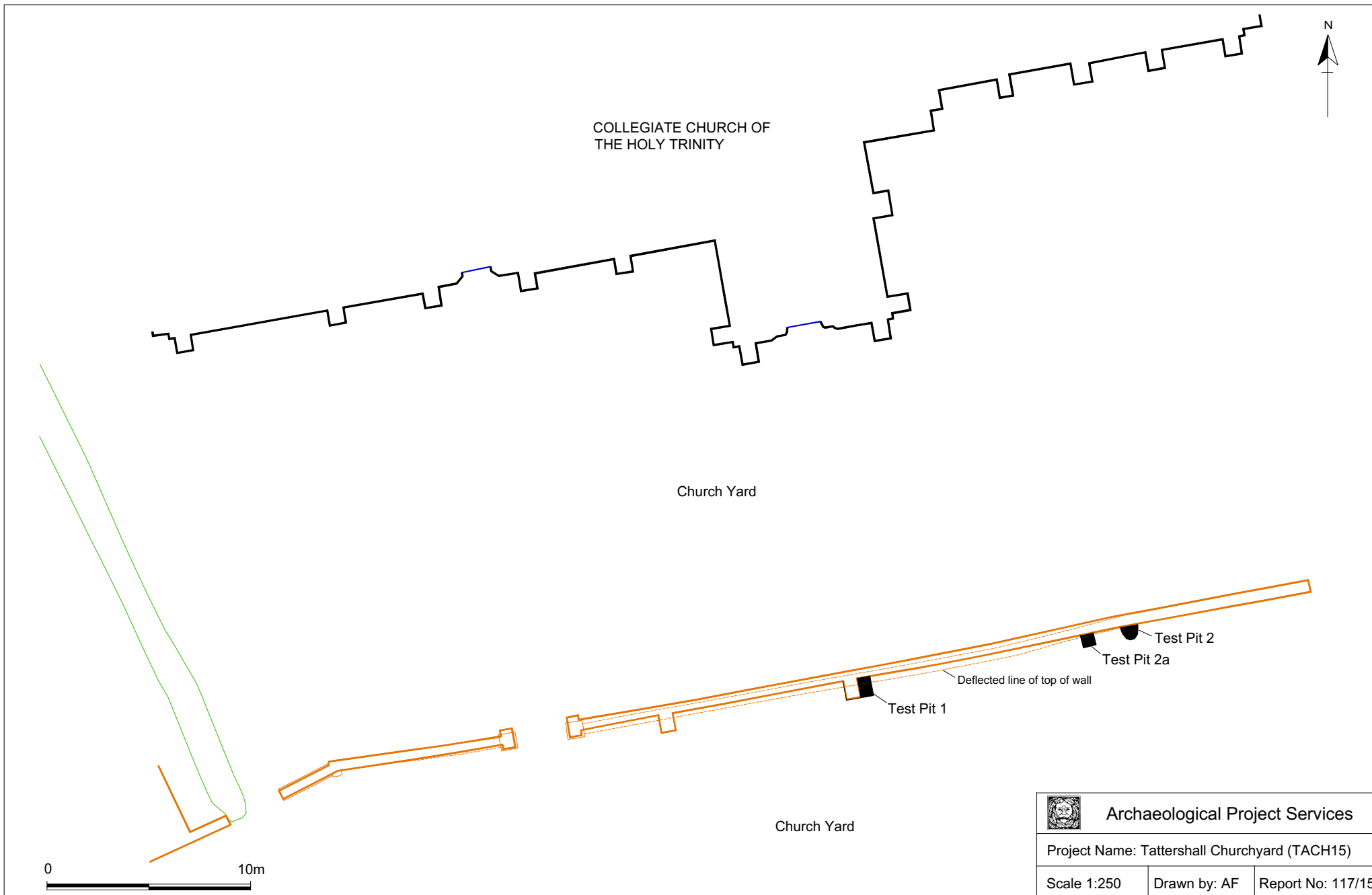
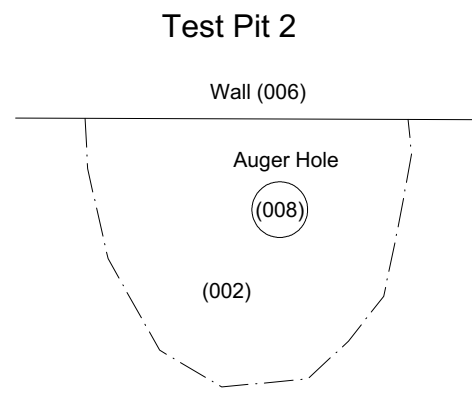
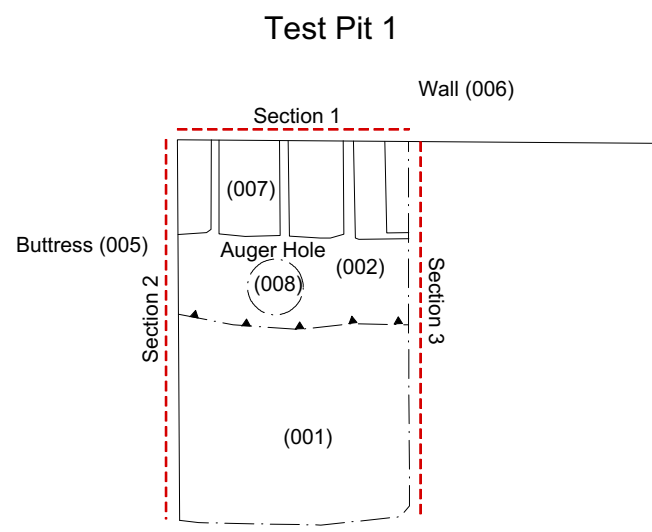


Figure 3 - Test Pit locations




	Archaeological Project Services	
Project Name: Tattershall Churchyard (TACH15)		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: AF	Report No: 117/15

Figure 4 - Test Pit plans

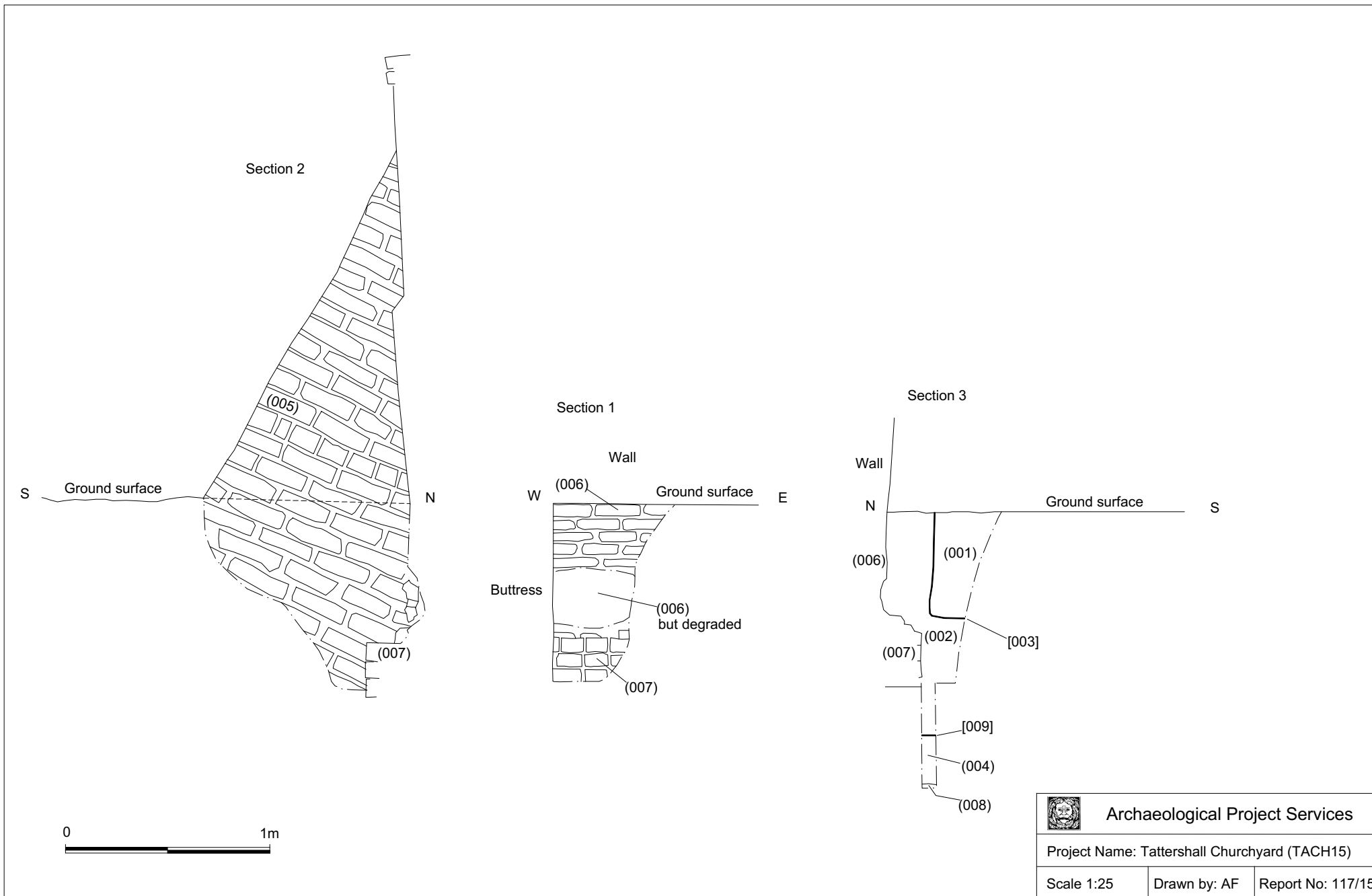


Figure 5 - Sections



Plate 1. General view of churchyard wall and buttress looking north



Plate 2. Leaning churchyard wall looking west



Plate 3. Test Pit 1, Section 1, looking north



Plate 4. Test Pit 1, Section 2, looking west



Plate 5. Test Pit 1, Section 3, looking east



Plate 6. Test Pit 2, looking northwest

Appendix 1

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Loose dark blackish grey slightly silty sand with frequent angular pebbles and glass bottles	Fill of [003]
002	Loose dark brownish grey sand with frequent angular pebbles and brick frags	Fill of [009]
003	Vertical sided cut with flat base	Modern cut in graveyard
004	Loose mid reddish brown sand with frequent gravel and sub-angular pebbles, 1.2m thick	Graveyard soil
005	Brick buttress bonded with mortar, stretcher bond, bricks 75mm x 220mm x 100mm	Buttress
006	Brick wall, English bond, 220mm x 60mm	Wall
007	Brick wall, header bond, 70mm x 65mm x 110mm	Wall foundation
008	Loose light brownish yellow sand and gravel	Possible natural
009	Base of cut postulated within auger hole	Wall construction cut

Appendix 2

GLOSSARY

Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity
Old English	The language used by the Saxon (<i>q.v.</i>) occupants of Britain.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Soke	Land considered to the property of the occupying peasants, rather than the lord of the manor. Also, land that, although within one manor, came under the jurisdiction of a separate manor.

Appendix 3

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

1	Context register sheet
8	Context record sheets
1	Plan record sheet
1	Section record sheet
1	Daily record sheet
1	Photographic record sheet
4	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records 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: 2015.233
Archaeological Project Services Site Code:	TACH 15
OASIS record number	archaeo11-233937

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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Project details

Project name	Monitoring and Recording at Holy Trinity Churchyard, Tattershall, Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	Augering within two trial pits excavated against the churchyard wall to determine the ground conditions and state of foundations revealed the depth of the wall construction trench.
Project dates	Start: 04-12-2015 End: 04-12-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	TACH15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LCNCC:2015.233 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Other 4 - Churchyard
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	BUTTRESS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Faculty jurisdiction

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE EAST LINDSEY TATTERSHALL Holy Trinity Churchyard
Postcode	LN4 4LR
Study area	4 Square metres
Site coordinates	TF 2121 5755 53.101052795011 -0.189381859558 53 06 03 N 000 11 21 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 6m Max: 6m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Project Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Project director/manager	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Project supervisor	Andrew Failes
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Type of sponsor/funding body	Parochial Church Council
Name of sponsor/funding body	EB McEvedy Historic Building Consultants and Tattershall PCC

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	The Collection
Digital Archive ID	LCNCC:2015.233
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	The Collection
Paper Archive ID	LCNCC:2015.233
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Diary", "Map", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Unpublished Text"

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