

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCHEME OF WORKS REPORT:
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ST. MARYS LANE, CLAXBY, LINCOLNSHIRE**

Planning Reference: 125018
NGR: TF 1114 9460
AAL Site Code: CLAX 10
Accession Number: 2010.23
OASIS Reference Number: allenarc1-76028



Report prepared for Claxby Parochial Church Council

By
Allen Archaeology Limited
Report Number 2010024

April 2010



The
Authority on
Archaeological
Planning
Services

Contents

Summary	1
1.0 Introduction	2
2.0 Site Location and Description	2
3.0 Planning Background	2
4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	2
5.0 Methodology	3
6.0 Results	3
7.0 Discussion and Conclusions	3
8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology	4
9.0 Acknowledgements	4
10.0 References	4
11.0 Site Archive	4
List of Appendices	
Appendix 1: Colour Plates	5
Appendix 2: Context Summary List	6

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site location at scale 1:25,000, with site shown in red

Figure 2: Site location plan at scale 1:500, with the area of groundworks outlined in red (inset at scale 1:5000)

List of Plates

Plate 1: General site location looking west

Plate 2: Collapsed wall spread 02 looking east

Document Control

Element	Name	Date
Report prepared by:	Kevin Trott	22/04/2010
Illustrations prepared by:	Chris Clay	21/04/2010
Report edited by:	Mark Allen	23/04/2010
Report produced by:	AAL 2010024	23/04/2010

In line with AAL environmental policies, this document is printed double sided on 100% recycled paper to reduce our carbon footprint

Summary

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned to undertake an archaeological scheme of works in advance of the construction of a new car parking area on land at St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's Lane, Claxby, Lincolnshire.
- The site is situated within an area of former garden to the east of the Church of St. Mary's, to the west of the village core.
- The proposed development lies within an archaeologically sensitive area containing prehistoric, Romano-British, Anglo-Saxon and medieval sites and finds.
- The archaeological monitoring programme encountered topsoil and subsoil deposits along with a spread of debris associated with a fallen boundary wall.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) was commissioned by Claxby Parochial Church Council to carry out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks on land at St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's Lane, Claxby, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The scheme of works, recording and reporting conforms to current national guidelines, as set out in the Institute for Archaeologists '*Standards and guidance for archaeological watching briefs*' (IfA 1994, revised 2001 and 2008). All appropriate English Heritage guidelines on archaeological practice were also followed (www.helm.org/server/show/nav.7740) as well as the specification prepared by this company (Clay 2010).
- 1.3 The documentary archive will be submitted to the "The Collection" in Lincoln, within six months of the completion of the project and will be stored under the accession number 2010.23

2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Claxby is situated c.6km north of Market Rasen and 20km south-west of central Grimsby, in the administrative district of West Lindsey. St. Mary's Church is to the west of the village, and on the west side of St. Mary's Lane. The proposed development area comprises an area of former garden, to the north-east of the church, centred on NGR TF 1114 9460. The local geology comprises superficial deposits of blown sand, overlying Ancholme Group Clay (British Geological Survey 1982).

3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 Full planning permission has been granted (Planning Application 125018) for '*change of use of the rectory garden and church land to parking area consisting of turning bay, 2 disabled bays, 2 car bays and cycle racks. Also, to erect an oak hand gate on the footpath between the church and the rectory*'. Permission was granted subject to conditions, including the undertaking of a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording by a suitably competent archaeologist. The scheme of works will comprise the monitoring of all groundworks for the scheme, and the recording of any archaeological remains exposed, effectively '*preserving the archaeology by record*'. This approach is consistent with the guidelines that are set out in *Archaeology and Planning: Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (DoE 1990).

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 Prehistoric activity in the area is represented by a Neolithic polished stone axe and a number of other flints found c.1km to the north-west of the site (Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (hereafter LHER) Reference 50127).
- 4.2 Evidence for a possible Roman villa has been recorded in Claxby, c.80m to the south-south-west, where fragments of a blue and white mosaic floor have been recorded, along with coins and a fragment of box-flue tile (LHER Reference 50137). A spread of pottery and building material, as well as a possible hearth or smelting site are recorded 250m to the west (LHER References 51953 and 51954). Scatters of Romano-British pottery of 2nd to 4th century AD date are also recorded c.250m to the south (LHER Reference 50138 and 50142), c.900m to the south (LHER References 50139 and 51945), and c.350m to the east (LHER Reference 51950).
- 4.3 Anglo-Saxon activity is also well represented, with a number of Saxon coins having been found c.350m to the east (LHER Reference 51952), and a sherd of pottery found c.800m to the south

(LHER Reference 51942). The place name of the village is Old Danish in origin, meaning 'Klak's farmstead' (Cameron 1998).

- 4.4 All the Domesday Book entries for Claxby record it together with Normanby-le-Wold, the adjacent parish. The Domesday survey records the parishes as containing five estates, owned by Ivo Tallboys, Jocelyn son of Lambert, Drogo of la Beuvriere, Norman of Arcy and Durand Malet. There was extensive farmland in the parish as well as two churches, and one mill owned by Ivo Tallboys, and another in which Drogo of la Beuvriere had a quarter share. The population of these five estates totalled 79 villagers of varying status, along with their dependants, with the majority (54) being in the estate of Ivo Tallboys (Morgan and Thorn 1986).
- 4.5 Approximately 100m to the east of the site are the earthworks of three sides of a medieval homestead moat, but there is no internal building platform visible (LHER Reference 50151). There are ridge and furrow cropmarks to the south of the village indicating medieval agriculture (LHER Reference 51612).

5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 The archaeological scheme of works was carried out on Friday 26th February by Thomas Smith of AAL. Stripping of the site was conducted using a tracked mini digger fitted with a 1.2m wide toothless bucket.
- 5.2 All exposed plan and section surfaces were inspected for any archaeological features and deposits to determine the stratigraphic sequence. Each context was recorded on pro-forma AAL context record sheets, accompanied by plan and section drawings at appropriate scales. A photographic record was maintained by the use of a digital camera with selected digital shots included as an appendix to this report (see Appendix 1).
- 5.3 Each deposit, layer or cut was allocated a unique identifier (context number), and accorded a written description, a summary of these are included in Appendix 2.

6.0 Results

- 6.1 Topsoil stripping of the development removed approximately 0.2m of mid to dark brown silt topsoil 01, with occasional stone inclusions and tree roots. Several modern glass vessels (not retained) represented the only finds from this context. A small hand dug trench approximately 0.3m square was subsequently excavated to locate services running through the area. This slot showed the topsoil to be approximately 0.4m deep and sealing a yellow/brown silty clay subsoil, 03.
- 6.2 Located along the northern boundary of the churchyard and mixed in with the topsoil layer, 01 was a linear concentration, 02, of mortared ironstone rubble and brick fragments. This linear arrangement was orientated broadly east – west and respected the northern limits of the churchyard, suggesting it represented the remains of a fallen or demolished boundary wall.

7.0 Discussion and Conclusion

- 7.1 The groundworks associated with the scheme of works revealed a spread of rubble associated with a former churchyard boundary wall. No further archaeologically significant finds or features were recorded.

8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

- 8.1 The archaeological scheme of works methodology was appropriate to the scale and nature of the development. It has demonstrated that the development area contains no finds or features of archaeological interest.

9.0 Acknowledgements

- 9.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank the Claxby PCC for this commission.

10.0 References

British Geological Survey, 1982, *Brigg. England and Wales Sheet 89. Drift Edition. 1:50,000 Series*. Keyworth, Nottingham: British Geological Survey

Cameron, K., 1998, *A dictionary of Lincolnshire place-names*, English Place-Name Society, University of Nottingham, Nottingham

Clay, C., 2010, *Specification for an archaeological scheme of works: St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's Lane, Claxby, Lincolnshire*, Allen Archaeology Limited

IfA, 1994 (revised 2001 and 2008), *Standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs*, Institute for Archaeologists, Reading

L.C.C., 2009, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: a manual of archaeological practice*. Lincoln, Lincolnshire County Council, Built Environment Dept.

Morgan, P., and Thorn C., (eds.), 1986, *Domesday Book: vol.31: Lincolnshire*, Phillimore & Co. Ltd, Chichester

11.0 Site Archive

- 11.1 The documentary archive is currently in the possession of Allen Archaeology Limited. It will be submitted to 'The Collection' in Lincoln within six months of the completion of the project where it will be stored under the accession number 2010.23.

Appendix 1: Colour Plates



Plate 1: General site location looking west



Plate 2: Collapsed wall spread 02 looking east

Appendix 2: Context Summary List

Context No.	Type	Description	Interpretation
01	Layer	Mid to dark brown silt rich in tree roots, some stone interspersed with modern glass bottles	Topsoil
02	Structure	Linear concentration of mortared ironstone un-worked fragments orientated east-west	Collapsed wall spread
03	Layer	Yellow/brown silty clay	Subsoil

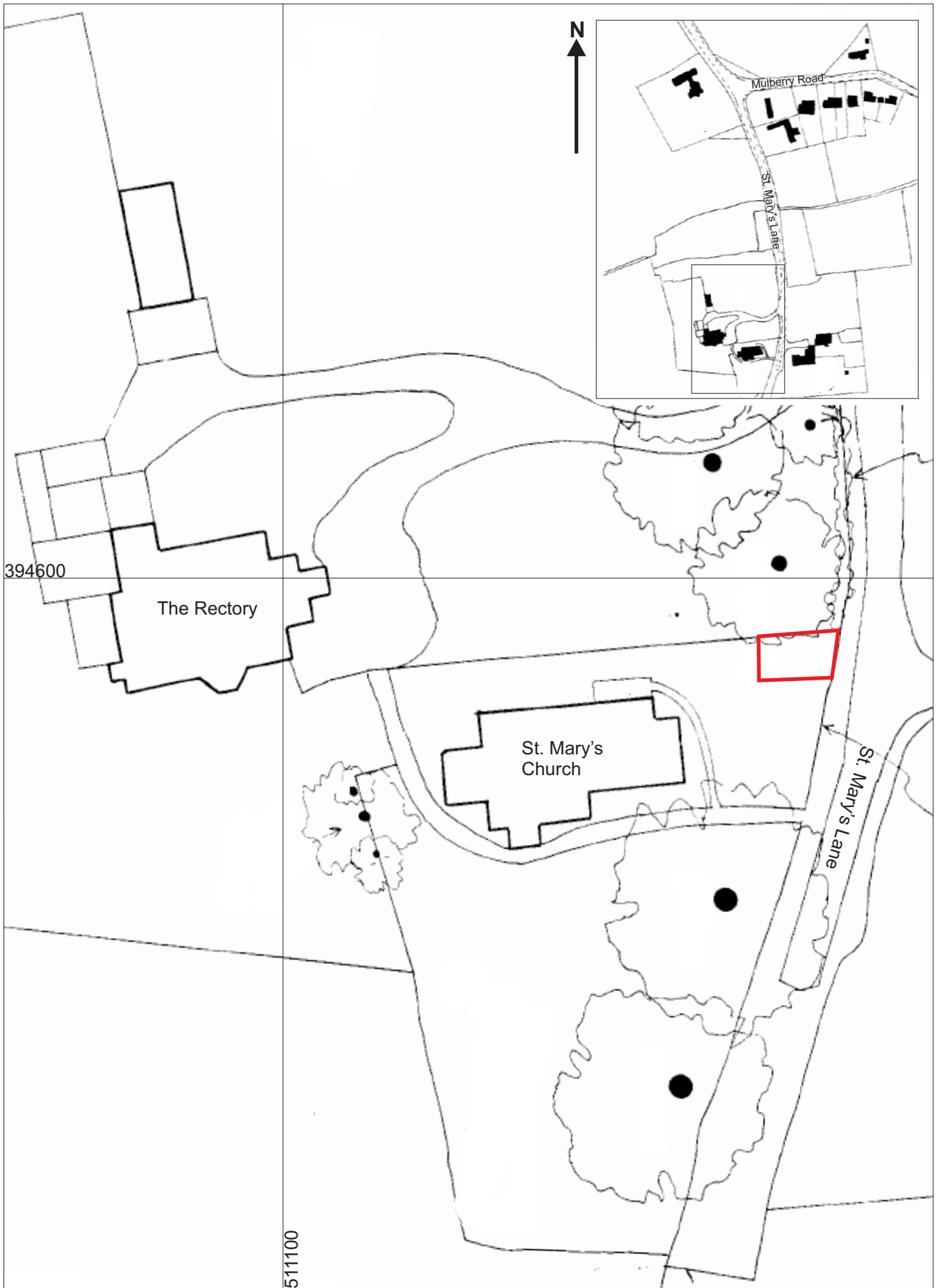


Figure 2: Site location plan at scale 1:500, with the area of groundworks outlined in red (inset at scale 1:5000)