

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
CRUDWELL  
WILTSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

*For*

**ANDREW TOWNSEND ARCHITECTS**

*on behalf of*

**CRUDWELL PCC**


CA PROJECT: 2880  
CA REPORT: 09110

AUGUST 2009

ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
CRUDWELL  
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CA REPORT: 09110

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date	22 July 2009
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date	12 August 2009
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signed	
date	12 August 2009
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Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Fig. 2 The site, showing location of groundworks (1:200)

## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** All Saints Church  
**Location:** Crudwell, Wiltshire  
**NGR:** ST 9564 9290  
**Type:** Watching Brief  
**Date:** 3-25 June 2009  
**Location of Archive:** To be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes  
**Site Code:** ALS 09

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of new kitchens and WC facilities within the western end of the North Aisle of the church, and the installation of associated services within the church and churchyard.

*In situ* graveyard soils were identified within the churchyard, although no intact burials were identified during the groundworks.

Rubble foundations for the existing northern and western walls of the church, and for a column of the southern side of the North Aisle, were identified during the archaeological watching brief. Make-up deposits and stone bases were also identified and may be associated with the timber supports of the pews which were probably installed during the restoration of the church in the 19th century. An undated probable wall foundation may correspond to an earlier phase of construction.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In June 2009 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Andrew Townsend Architects (ATA) on behalf of the Crudwell Parochial Church Council (PCC) at All Saints Church, Crudwell, Wiltshire (centred on NGR: ST 9564 9290; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken to monitor any disturbance of deposits within the interior of the church or the churchyard during intrusive groundworks associated with the construction of new kitchens and WC facilities within the western end of the North Aisle and the installation of associated services within the churchyard. The objective of the archaeological watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the development.
- 1.3 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the *Brief for Archaeological Consultant* (ATA 2009), and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2009). The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (IfA 2008), the *Standards for Archaeological Assessment and Field Evaluation in Wiltshire* (Wiltshire County Council 1995), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991), the *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (English Heritage 2005) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE)* (English Heritage 2006).

### ***The site***

- 1.4 The site comprised the medieval parish church of All Saints and the associated churchyard, which is situated to the north-east of the centre of the village of Crudwell. The site is bounded to the south and west by Eastcourt Road and residential properties, and to the north and east by agricultural land.
- 1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Kimmeridge Clay of the Upper Jurassic era (BGS 1974). The natural substrate was encountered during the watching brief.

### **Archaeological background**

- 1.6 All Saints Church is located at the north-eastern edge of the village of Crudwell and is Grade I listed. It is constructed from rubblework with stone dressings, ashlar and a stone slate roof. Records show that from the late 7th century AD a church in Crudwell was attached to Malmesbury Abbey. The proportions of the nave of All Saints Church suggest Saxon origins, however, the rest of the building comprises of later additions: the north arcade dates to the late 12th century, the chancel and north chapel are of 13th-century date and the south arcade and the base of the tower are early 14th century in date. Restoration work was carried out in the 15th century, 1868 and 1889 (Heritage Gateway 2009).
- 1.7 Previous watching briefs carried out during the construction of drainage in the churchyard (CAT 1996) and within the church (CA 2006) did not identify any significant archaeological features.

### **Methodology**

- 1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2009). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks, including those associated with the construction of the new kitchen and WC facilities at the western end of the North Aisle and the installation of new drains and inspection chambers around the church (Fig. 2).
- 1.9 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007). All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of Finds Immediately After Excavation* (1995).
- 1.10 The archive and artefacts from the watching brief are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the archive will be deposited with Devizes museum. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 2. RESULTS

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the watching brief results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively.

### ***Trenches 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7-9 (churchyard)***

- 2.2 The natural substrate comprising stone fragments in a sandy matrix was identified in trenches 1 and 7 at depths of 0.33m and 0.6m respectively. It was overlain by topsoil deposits 1000 and 7000. Topsoil deposits were also identified in trenches 2, 3, 5, 8 and 9. In trenches 8 and 9 graveyard soils, 8002 and 9001, were identified and were overlain by topsoil deposits. Modern services and soakaways were identified in trenches 1, 3 and 9.

### ***Trenches 4, 6 and 10 (interior of church)***

- 2.3 A similar stratigraphic sequence was identified within each of the three trenches excavated within the interior of the church. A make-up deposit, 6004, a probable wall footing, 6005, and a column foundation pad, 6006, were identified in trench 6. The probable wall footing comprised limestone rubble, was orientated north/south and did not correspond to any of the existing structures within the church. The column foundation pad comprised limestone rubble and supported the existing column on the southern side of the North Aisle. These deposits were overlain by make-up deposit 6001 which was in turn sealed by existing flagstone floor 6000. Modern heating ducts were also identified.
- 2.4 Further make-up deposits, 4001 and 10002, were identified in trenches 4 and 10, and are thought to probably be broadly contemporary with deposit 6001. Deposit 10002 contained fragments of probable medieval glass and sherds of ceramic material including a glazed floor tile dating to the later 13th or 14th centuries and a pottery sherd dating to the 17th or 18th centuries. In trench 4 the footings, 4002, of the northern and western walls of the church were also identified, together with a continuation of the existing flagstone floor, 4000. In trench 10 make-up layer 10002 was overlain by irregularly placed roughly hewn stone slabs, 10000, possibly representing support pads for the wooden timbers which formed the bases of the former pews.

### ***The Finds***

- 2.5 Small quantities of artefactual material, including ceramic building material, pottery and glass, were recovered from layer 10002 (Appendix B).
- 2.6 A fragment of decorated floor tile from deposit 10002 dated to the later 13th or 14th centuries, although it is re-deposited. Some wear to the surface of the tile and mortar adhered to the underside are indications that it had been used. The surviving portion of the design, which is deeply inlaid (to a depth of up to 3mm), consists of a double-arching pelleted border and a foliate motif outside. The reconstructed design matches that of a four-tile pattern which features joining fleur-de-lys motifs, known from Nash Hill tiling (Lacock) (Eames 1976, 138, no. 26). The fabric for the fragment from 10002, which is sandy with large fossil shell inclusions, and the method of keying, utilising four knife-cut scoops, are consistent with an origin from the Nash Hill tiling which is located approximately 27km to the south of Crudwell.
- 2.9 A single sherd of pottery, a base sherd from a jar-like vessel in an internally-glazed red earthenware (possibly Ashton Keynes type), probably dates to the 17th or 18th centuries.
- 2.10 Eight fragments of window glass were recovered from deposit 10002. A single small fragment of poor yellowish-green glass exhibits strips of reddish-brown and yellow colour and is probably medieval. The remainder is plain and of clearer green or pale green glass and probably dates to the early post-medieval period.

## **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 *In situ* graveyard soils were identified in trenches 8 and 9. No intact burials were identified during the groundworks. Where small quantities of disarticulated human bone were disturbed, they were reinterred during the course of the groundworks.
- 3.2 The rubble foundations for the existing northern and western walls of the church and the foundation for a column of the southern side of the North Aisle were identified during the archaeological watching brief. The make-up deposits and the stone bases relating to the timber supports of the pews may be associated with the restoration of the church during the 19th century. The probable north/south orientated wall footing

did not correspond to any existing structures within the church, was sealed by the existing floor of the church and may correspond to an earlier phase of construction.

#### 4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jonathan Bennett, David Cudlip and Philippa Mitcheson. The report was written by Philippa Mitcheson. The finds report was compiled by Ed McSloy. The illustrations were prepared by Rachael Kershaw. The archive has been compiled by Philippa Mitcheson, and prepared for deposition by Victoria Taylor. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

#### 5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 1974 *Geological Survey of Great Britain, Swindon, Solid and Drift Edition*. Sheet 252, 1:63360

Andrew Townsend Architects 2009 *Alterations to All Saints Church, Crudwell, Wiltshire for Crudwell PCC: Brief for Archaeological Consultant*

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Heritage Gateway 2009

[http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results\\_Single.aspx?uid=315676&resourceID=5](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=315676&resourceID=5), accessed 3 June 2009

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

### Trench 1

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1000	Deposit	Topsoil: Sandstone rubble in a grey brown silt matrix			0.03	
1001	Deposit	Natural substrate: Sandstone fragments in a red brown clay matrix			>0.3	
1002	Fill	Concrete water pipe		0.12	0.12	
1003	Cut	Construction cut for 1002		0.3	>0.12	

### Trench 2

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
2000	Deposit	Topsoil: dark brown silty clay			0.15	
2001	Cut	Cut for soak away around church		0.5	0.25	
2002	Fill	F/O 2001. Wooden board and gravel		0.5	0.25	
2003	Void					
2004	Void					
2005	Fill	F/O 2006. Pink red sandy mortar				
2006	Cut	Cut for soakaway around church				

### Trench 3

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3001	Deposit	Topsoil: dark brown silt containing abundant sandstone fragments			0.4	
3002	Cut	Cut for soak away around church		0.5	0.25	
3003	Fill	F/O 3002. Wooden board and gravel		0.5	0.25	
3004	Fill	F/O 3005. Pink red sandy mortar				
3005	Cut	Cut for soakaway around church				

### Trench 4

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
4000	Surface	Flagstone floor of church			0.1	
4001	Deposit	Levelling layer for 4000: brown silt containing abundant sandstone fragments			0.2	
4002	Wall	Wall footings for church wall: roughly hewn sandstone blocks in brown silty clay matrix		>0.3		
4003	Wall	Church wall				

### Trench 5

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
5000	Deposit	Redeposited topsoil: brown silt containing abundant sandstone fragments and modern electrical cable				

### Trench 6

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
6000	Surface	Flagstone floor of church			0.1	
6001	Deposit	Levelling layer for 6000: brown silt containing abundant stone fragments			0.1	
6002	Fill	Pipes of modern heating system				
6003	Cut	Construction cut for 6002				

6004	Deposit	Bedding layer for former floor surface: gravel, and sandstone fragments in a light brown silt matrix				
6005	Deposit	Column base footing: Rubble	>1.5	>0.8		
6006	Deposit	Column base footing: Rubble (only partially revealed)				

#### Trench 7

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
7000	Deposit	Topsoil: dark brown silty clay			0.2	
7001	Deposit	Natural substrate: sandstone fragments in a red brown sand matrix			>0.4	
7002	Fill	Backfill of water pipe trench: dark brown silty clay				
7003	Cut	Construction cut for water pipe trench				

#### Trench 8

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
8001	Deposit	Topsoil: dark brown silty clay			0.1	
8002	Deposit	Graveyard soil: dark brown silty clay containing sandstone fragments			>0.5	

#### Trench 9

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
9000	Deposit	Turf and topsoil: dark brown silty clay			0.1	
9001	Deposit	Graveyard soil: dark grey brown clay silt containing sandstone fragments			>0.4	

#### Trench 10

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
10000	Deposit	Pew bases: wooden timbers:			0.02	
10001	Deposit	Floor level make-up: irregularly placed roughly hewn stone slabs			0.07	
10002	Deposit	Floor level make-up: light brown sandy silt containing frequent sandstone fragments			>0.15	C17-C18

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Description	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
1002	Medieval floor tile: inlaid Nash Hill type?	1	296	C17-C18
	Post-medieval pottery: Ashton Keynes type?	1	94	
	Medieval(?) painted window glass	1	2	
	Post-medieval window glass	7	60	

## APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	All Saints Church, Crudwell, Wiltshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of new kitchens and WC facilities within the western end of the North Aisle of the church, and the installation of associated services within the church and churchyard.</p> <p><i>In situ</i> graveyard soils were identified within the churchyard, although no intact burials were identified during the groundworks.</p> <p>Rubble foundations for the existing northern and western walls of the church, and for a column of the southern side of the North Aisle, were identified during the archaeological watching brief. Make-up deposits and stone bases were also identified and may be associated with the timber supports of the pews which were probably installed during the restoration of the church in the 19th century. An undated probable wall foundation may correspond to an earlier phase of construction.</p>	
Project dates	3-25 June 2009	
Project type	Watching brief	
Previous work	Yes	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	All Saints Church, Crudwell, Wiltshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	0.1ha	
Site co-ordinates	ST 9564 9290	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Andrew Townsend Architects	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman, Project Manager	
Project Supervisor	Jonathan Bennett, David Cudlip and Philippa Mitcheson	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes	Ceramic sherds
Paper	Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes	Pro forma registers, permatrace plans and black and white photographs and negatives
Digital	Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes	Digital photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 <i>All Saints Church, Crudwell, Wiltshire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . CA typescript report <b>09110</b>		





**COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY**

PROJECT TITLE

**All Saints Church, Crudwell  
Wiltshire**

FIGURE TITLE

**Site location plan**

DRAWN BY

**RK**

SCALE

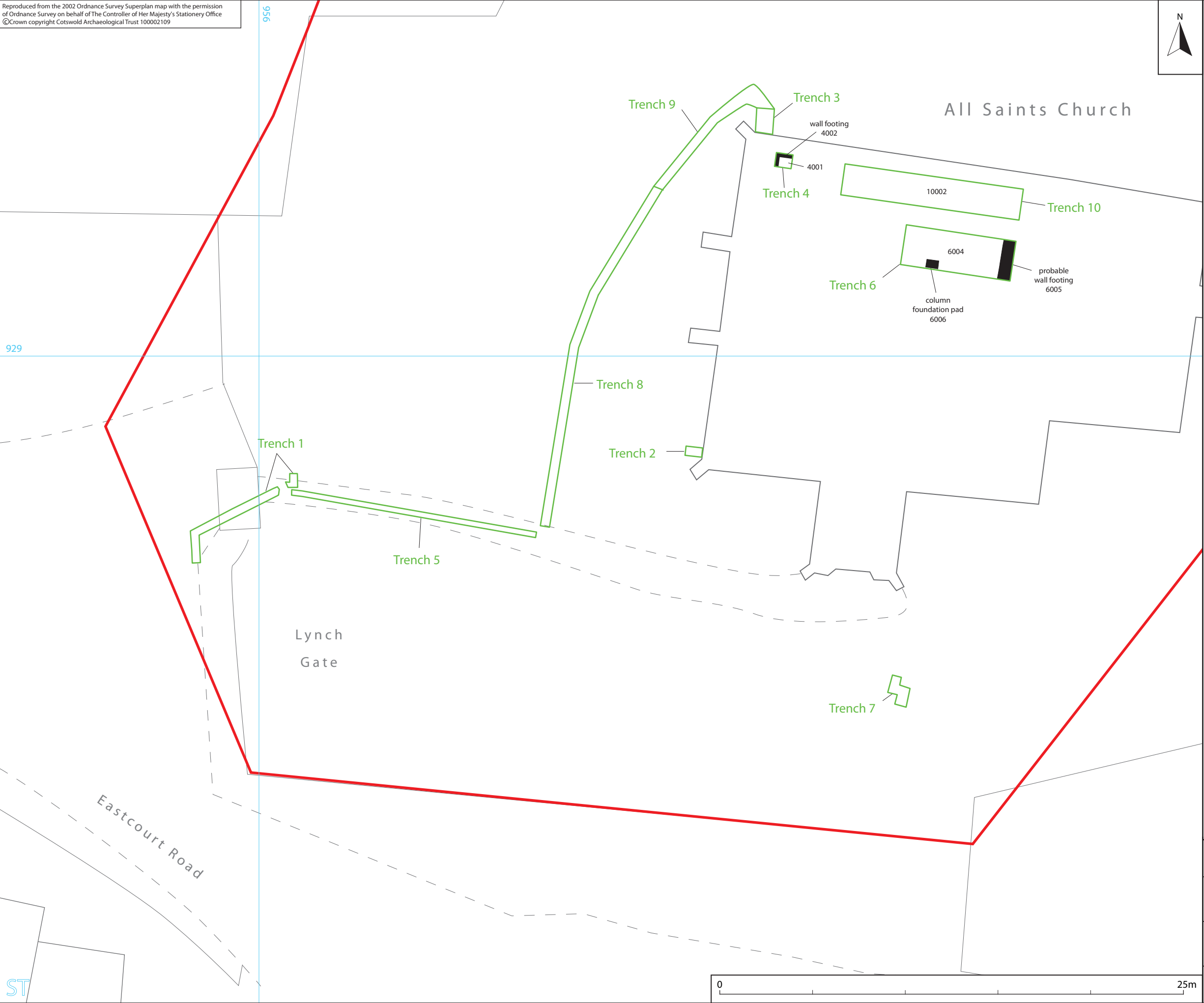
**1:25,000@A4**

PROJECT NO.

**2880**

FIGURE NO.

**1**



- site
- area of observed groundworks
- archaeological feature