

# St. Bene't's Church, Cambridge

An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Deposit Model



Richard Newman

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With illustrations by Vicki Herring

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## SUMMARY

*This archaeological desk-based assessment and deposit model has been commissioned by Freeland Rees Roberts Architects in order to assess the potential impact of proposed works at the site of St. Benet's Church, Cambridge. Constructed c. 1040-1070, St Bene't's represents the rare survival of a Late Saxon urban church. It is the oldest standing building in Cambridge. Of the original fabric, the west tower with its impressive arch and part of the nave remain extant. North and south aisles were appended to the structure in the early 14th century. Then, in 1352, it took on a dual role as the chapel for the adjacent Corpus Christi College; a position it retained until a purpose-built chapel was constructed in 1579. During the period of its dual use a gallery was built to facilitate access to the church from the college. Despite being one of the earliest Cambridge parishes, by the late 13th century St Bene't's had been significantly reduced in size and fragmented into two portions. In the town centre, only a small fragment measuring 1.4ha in area remained. Although threatened with closure in the 17th century, St Bene't's survived and remained a functioning burial ground until the mid-19th century; meaning that a sizable cemetery population representing over 800 years of activity is present. The building was extensively renovated in the mid to late 19th century and remains an active parish church.*

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

This study has been commissioned by Freeland Rees Roberts Architects, on behalf of St Bene't's Parochial Church Council, in order to better define the scope of archaeological interest within the area of St Benet's Church, Cambridge, and its surrounding churchyard (centred at TL 44860 58276; Figure 1). The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is bounded to the north by Free School Lane, to the east by Bene't Street and to the south and west by standing buildings that comprise part of Corpus Christi College (Figure 1). It is situated in the core of the historic town and extends over 1108 sqm in area. The objective of this assessment is to examine the probability of archaeological remains occurring within the PDA, and to assess the potential impact of proposed development on the site upon any such remains. Notably, as St Bene't's comprises the oldest standing building in Cambridge, and the only example of pre-Conquest architecture in the city, it is of particular significance in understanding the origins and development of the medieval town.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

This desk-based assessment has been compiled under the guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologist's (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (2001) and *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment* (2014). The Cambridge Archaeological Unit is a Registered Archaeological Organisation of the CIfA.

The archaeological baseline has been established using the following methods:

- Desk-based assessment of historic and cartographic sources
- Consultation with curatorial bodies
- Literature search
- Examination of previous fieldwork and survey results
- Site visit (11/05/2017)

The methodology comprises assessing the known or potential archaeological resource within the study area in order to characterise the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the resource within a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate. The assessment is based upon existing sources of data including Historic Environment Records (HER), published and unpublished archaeological reports, aerial photographs and historic maps. Utilising data from adjacent sites, a model of the resource will also be produced (Section 6). Finally, an impact assessment, Section 9, takes account of two factors; the potential for and relative importance of the archaeology, and the likely impact of the proposed

development upon that archaeology.

Archaeology is covered by both local and national policy. Nationally, the primary policy affecting archaeology is the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF; March 2012). The aim of the NPPF is that action required as part of the planning process is appropriate and proportionate. Historic England's *Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment* (2015) provides good practice advice towards the implementation of historic environment policy in the NPPF. The relevant local policy is the Cambridge Local Plan (2006; due to be updated 2017). In addition, *The Building Regulations* (2010) set standards for the management of and alterations to listed buildings, of which both Grades I and II assets are registered for St Bene't's Church, which is also located within the Central Cambridge Conservation Area; a designated character area (Cambridge City Council 2015). Relevant sections of national and local policies are reproduced in Appendix 1.

Heritage Assets are defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF as; a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. They include designated heritage assets (as defined in the NPPF) and assets identified by the local planning authority during the process of decision-making or through the plan-making process. Annex 2 also defines Archaeological Interest as a heritage asset that holds, or potentially could hold, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them. A Designated Heritage Asset comprises a World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area. Significance is defined as; the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

### **3 BASELINE CONDITIONS**

#### *Layout of study data*

This report operates at two different scales of analysis. Firstly, an intensive study area – within which all recorded finds and investigations are detailed – has been defined. This is centred in the first instance upon the church itself, the complex developmental sequence of which is discussed in detail, as well as its surrounding churchyard. It also encompasses the historic town-centre portion of the parish of St Bene't's – a dislocated remnant of the parish located further to the south of Cambridge is not included – which extends around the church for an area of 1.4ha (Figure 1). The second scale of analysis comprises an outer study area, which extends in a radius of

250m from the PDA (Figure 1). Within this second area, all pertinent investigations and discoveries are detailed, but most unstratified finds – those without a secure date or provenance – and unrelated sites have been excluded. This is because, within an intensively urbanised area, unstratified material serves to obfuscate rather than enhance the pattern represented by the wealth of stratified data. Throughout the following text, gazetteer numbers are referenced in bold (e.g. **1**). The gazetteer points themselves are plotted on Figure 7 and are listed in detail in Appendix 2.

### *Topography and Geology*

St Bene't's Church is located in the southern portion of the historic core of Cambridge, within the circuit of the medieval King's Ditch (Figure 1). The Cam rises from springs situated along a northwest-southeast aligned Cretaceous chalk ridge that is located to the southeast of the town. Valley gravels and alluvium cover the valley bottoms, while the surrounding terraces are formed from drift deposits. Chalk rivers have conditioned the topography of the surrounding area, and drain in a general northeasterly direction into the Fen Basin. Geologically, the PDA is situated upon 2nd terrace river gravels, which are underlain by Gault clay (British Geological Survey, sheet 188). At present, the surface height of the PDA lies at around 10.0m AOD (following 19th-century truncation); an average of 1.0m lower than the surrounding pavement level. The underlying gravels probably sit at between c. 7.4m and 7.8m AOD (see Section 6).

### *Constraints*

The PDA is subject to a number of constraints. Firstly, as a building of significant architectural, archaeological and historical interest, St Bene't's Church is Grade I listed (DCB7439; **21**). In addition, the railings, gates and supporting brick wall of the present churchyard are themselves Grade II listed (DCB7109; **83**). The latter features are 19th century in date and were probably constructed at the same time as extensive renovations were undertaken to the interior of the church, in either 1852-3 or 1872-74. It is likely that the ground height of the churchyard was lowered by at least 1.0m during these works, thereby necessitating the construction of a new retaining wall. Moreover, within the churchyard itself around 900 years of burial activity has occurred, meaning that several thousand interments are likely to be present.

### *Known and Potential Archaeology*

The church of St Bene't's represents one of the most architecturally-significant buildings in Cambridge. Investigations conducted here during the 19th and 20th centuries uncovered features associated with the early history of the building, as well as burials associated with its churchyard. In addition, a range of excavations, evaluations and individual finds of interest have been made in the surrounding area;

these will also be discussed below in order to provide a wider archaeological and historical context for the proposed development area.

#### *Past and Current Land Use*

The PDA has remained in constant ecclesiastical use for around 1000 years. Established around the middle of the 11th century, St Bene't's Church initially supported a sizable parish. By the late 13th century, however, this had been significantly reduced in size as newer churches were established in the vicinity and the parochial landscape altered accordingly. Burials almost certainly occurred at the site from the Late Saxon period onwards, a consistent pattern all across East Anglia (Blair 2005, 463-71). From the late 15th century, it also became widespread practice to introduce burials into the interior of parish churches (Peters 1996, 73-4). The latest date recorded upon a monument in the churchyard is 1858, suggesting that burial activity potentially ceased at the site in response to the 1857 Burial Act. The church has undergone numerous alterations and additions throughout its long history, while the churchyard was gradually encroached upon as the surrounding area became increasingly urbanised. The present boundary, covering a relatively modest 1108 sqm, had been established by 1592 and was probably in place by the end of the 14th century.

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT**

#### *Aims and objectives*

The study aims to collate and assess existing information relating to the archaeology and history of the area within and immediately surrounding the development area. This will be used to assess areas of archaeological potential and determine the likely survival of such remains. This data will then be used to assess the likely impact of development on the archaeological record and suggest means of mitigation.

The principal sources consulted for the study comprised:

- Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER)
- Cambridgeshire Records Office (CCRO)
- The Cambridgeshire Collection
- Literature search (University Library, Cambridge)
- Historic map sequence, 1574-1886
- Ordnance Survey 1886 First Edition 1:500, and Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1:10000, 1:10560 and 1:25000 series of Cambridge maps from 1887 to the present day
- Site visit (11/05/2017)

#### 4.1 St. Bene't's Church

Before proceeding to a wider analysis of the area surrounding the PDA, it is pertinent to begin by examining the site itself in some detail. St Bene't's church, which is dedicated to St Benedict of Nursia (c. 480-543), is a Grade I listed building of significant architectural and archaeological interest (21). In the following section the form of the early church will be explored, as well as the nature of its later architectural and historical development. Finally, a history of investigations at the site will be presented.

##### *The Anglo-Saxon church*

A detailed summary of the surviving Anglo-Saxon architecture of St Bene't's was presented in Harold and Joan Taylor's seminal *Anglo-Saxon Architecture* (Taylor and Taylor 1965, 129-32). The following account is primarily drawn from this source, supplemented by a range of more recent publications.

Externally, St Bene't's has a square tower with uncoursed, 'random rubble' walling and cut-back long and short quoining (thus rendering it very similar to All Saints, Wittering, Cambridgeshire). Cutting back the quoins in this manner resulted in a more regular appearance when the exterior was rendered. The tower is in three stages, subdivided by square string courses but without strip-work, and there are possible vestiges of a blocked rounded-headed window on the second storey. The third storey has round-headed double-belfry openings, originally present in all four faces, with mid-wall baluster shafts and round sound holes. Above the belfry openings, centrally placed pilaster strips – the only extant examples on the tower – may originally have originally extended onto higher triangular gables supporting a 'Rhenish Helm' roof. This elaborate roof-type is pyramidal in shape, supported upon four triangular gables at the top of a square tower; the resulting diamond-shaped roof panels give it the appearance of a hood or helm (Figure 2). The only surviving example of a Rhenish Helm roof in England is at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Sompting, Somerset.

Internally, the tower arch has 'Escomb' jambs – a type of long and short quoining first identified in the Anglo-Saxon church at Escomb, County Durham – and a hood moulding that terminates in two crouching beasts that are most probably lions (RCHM(E) 1959 II, 264), with stylised whiskers that closely resemble contemporary depictions of moustaches (Figure 3). The imposts extend across the west wall of the nave and probably connected to a moulded string course; this would have been removed when aisles were first appended to the nave in the 13th century (Points 2015, 116). It has been stated that the tower arch "shows two things, both historically significant: that the masons had a notion of the construction and detailing of arches in the Continental Romanesque style, and that their notion was vague and superficial" (Bradley and Pevsner 2014, 288). Above the arch there is a round-headed doorway with Escomb jambs at first floor level, suggesting that there was originally a western

gallery. Where it survives, the exposed fabric of the original nave wall is of random rubble with long and short quoining. Although no trace of the original chancel arch remains, it is likely to have closely mirrored that of the tower.

As originally built, the main portion of St Bene't's was two-celled in form with a chancel almost the same width as the nave (Figure 4). Despite the addition of later aisles, which extend around and 'clasp' the tower, the quoining of the four corners of the nave remains extant and while the chancel was demolished in 1872 it was primarily rebuilt upon its original foundations. Although simple two-celled churches, without towers, were the most common type of ecclesiastical structure during the Late Saxon period, at St Bene't's the west tower is of near-identical build to the remainder of the church may well have been constructed at the same time; a pattern that is certainly paralleled elsewhere (Taylor 1980, 962-83). Yet it was also not uncommon for towers to be added later, particularly as a development from a preceding porch structure (Rodwell 1986, 171-5), and since no detailed fabric analysis has yet been conducted the precise relationship between this church and its tower remains perforce conjectural. Typically, Late Saxon parochial churches such as St Bene't's had beaten earth floors, perhaps covered by straw or reeds, and thatched or turf roofs; render/plaster was also applied both inside and out, and may well have been painted.

In terms of date, Harold Taylor initially assigned St Bene't's to the period 950-1100, the latest of his three broad phases (Taylor and Taylor 1965, 129). In the later 20th century, a broad consensus emerged that it was constructed "early in the second quarter of the 11th century" (RCHM(E) 1959 II, 263; Woudhuysen 1997, 15; Everson and Stoker 1999, 181). This conclusion has recently been reappraised, however. Following the recognition of "a school of minor churches, inhabiting the hundred years from the first quarter of the eleventh century to the second quarter of the twelfth, which is neither simply 'Saxon' nor simply 'Norman'" (Ferne 1983, 171), the dating of many 'transitional' churches has been brought forward. For St Bene't's, this means that "a date of 1040-70" is now considered probable (Bradley and Pevsner 2014, 288). The same is also true of All Saints, Wittering – the closest Cambridgeshire parallel to St Bene't's – which has been redated to c. 1060-90 (Blair 2005, 413) and St Mary's, Stow-in-Lindsey, Lincolnshire – which has a very similar arch to St Bene't's – which has been redated to c. 1040-70 (Bradley and Pevsner 2014, 288).

#### *Subsequent architectural and historical development*

There is no evidence of Norman work in St Bene't's. Instead, the initial Late Saxon church appears to have remained largely unaltered until the late 13th or early 14th century when the north and south walls of the nave were removed and new aisles appended to each side (RCHM(E) 1959 II, 263-4; Figure 4); these aisles extended around to 'clasp' the west tower, a common pattern when additional internal space



was required. A new chancel arch was also constructed around the same time, but the chancel itself was retained (Willis and Clark I 1886, 278). It is possible that these works were precipitated by fire damage that occurred “during the reign of Edward I” (1272-1307) (Clark 1907, 159), although there is at present no physical evidence to corroborate this documentary reference. The apparent absence of investment in the church’s fabric between c. 1050 and the early 14th century – which is highly unusual locally – suggests that the focus of such activity was transferred instead to other nearby churches that had been established subsequently and at least partially superseded its role. This would also accord with the historical evidence of the parish’s rapid diminution during this same period.

A contributing factor to this lack of investment may have been the fact that the advowson was gifted by Edward of Cambridge and his mother to St. Alban’s Abbey “in the days of Abbot Paul” (1077–1093) (Cooper 1842-53 III, 244). It thus moved beyond local purview soon after the church’s construction. By 1279, however, the advowson had returned to Cambridge and was held by the Argentine family, from whom the Guild of Corpus Christi purchased it in 1350 as part of the preparations for establishing Corpus Christi College (Cam 1959, 126-7). Although licensed for appropriation in 1352, it was not until 1578 that the church was actually appropriated to the college (Masters 1753, 115), and Corpus remain both patron and rector of the church to this day. A number of changes were made during the 15th century. Firstly, in 1452 a new roof was installed in the nave. Although this is no longer extant, the original receipts associated with its construction survive. Based upon these documents, Robert Willis reconstructed its appearance (Figure 6). Secondly, at the end of the 15th century a narrow gallery was constructed, linking the church to the collage and greatly improving access between the two (Figure 4). A vestry was also appended to the south side of the chapel at this time. In addition, during the Middle Ages the church housed the guilds of Corpus Christi, St. Augustine and St. Catharine as well as a *Scala Caeli* (ladder of heaven), while a chapel of St. Anne was licensed in 1487 (Cooper 1842-53 III, 247-8; Willis and Clark 1886 I, 288).

In 1579 a dedicated chapel was constructed for the use of Corpus Christi College (72) and St Bene’t’s returned to solely parochial use. During the subsequent post-medieval period, however, the wealth and status of the parish diminished. Indeed, “in 1650 it was reported that the acting minister was supported at the charge of the parish, as there was no provision for house or stipend. The town commissioners proposed that St. Benedict should be united to St. Edward, St. Edward being the fitter church, and that the parish should be distributed between St. Botolph and Barnwell (St. Andrew the less)” (Cam 1959, 126-7). This change never occurred, but the parish’s straightened circumstances possibly account for the low level of structural alterations that were undertaken to the fabric of the building during this period. In the 18th century a number of changes were made to the interior, including the introduction of an organ gallery at the west end of the nave, as well as a large pulpit

and box pews with associated wooden panelling; the latter were paid for by subscription in 1732 (Willis and Clark 1886 I, 285).

During the 19th century an extensive programme of renovation and investigation occurred; this will be discussed in depth below. By the early 20th century the church appeared very much as it does today. In 1900 it was recorded of St Bene't's that "the living is a vicarage, net yearly value £60, including 23 acres of glebe, in the gift of Corpus Christi college, and held since 1895 by the Rev. Charles Peter Littlejohn M.A. of that college" (Kelly's Directory 1900). Usefully, a number of primary documentary sources survive in relation to the post-medieval history of St Bene't's Church. The Cambridgeshire Archives hold a record of monumental inscriptions in the churchyard spanning the years 1621 to 1858 as well as a record of baptisms (1539-1925), marriages (1539-1984), burials (1539-1943) and banns (1754-1958) drawn from the parish registers. The Bishop's Transcripts for the years 1599-1691 and 1713-1847 can also be found in Cambridge University Library.

### *History of investigation*

The survival of a large proportion of St Benet's' early fabric is unusual, particularly given its urban location; most urban parish churches were repeatedly updated, modernised and rebuilt during the Middle Ages (primarily via the beneficence of their parishioners). Furthermore, not only was Cambridge easily accessible for later visitors – unlike the remote locations of many rural Anglo-Saxon churches – it was also a University town. As a result, St Bene't's attracted significant interest from antiquarians from the early 19th century onwards and an unusually detailed record of the works that were undertaken during this period has survived.

Although mentioned by earlier antiquarians such as William Cole, the first known investigator of the church was Thomas Rickman, originator of the still-dominant classification system of English medieval ecclesiastical architecture (Rickman 1817). Significantly, St Bene't's formed one of a group of twenty churches that Rickman identified as having been constructed before 1000AD. "The long and short portions have been here obscured by plaster and rough cast; but during the sitting of the British Association at Cambridge in the year 1833, I had permission of Dr. Lamb, Master of Corpus Christi College, to remove so much plaster as should settle the construction of the tower, which was done, and the long and short masonry clearly developed" (Rickman 1836, 39). He concluded that "this tower is not sufficiently known, being a good specimen and in excellent preservation" (*ibid.*, 40). Following Rickman's example, by 1840 all of the render had been stripped from the tower and much of the rest of the church's exterior (Willis and Clark 1886 I, 273). Unfortunately, no record of the tower's previous appearance – which may well have included moulded and/or painted decoration – has yet been identified.

In 1837 the interior of the church was depicted by James Le Kleux as part of a series

for the *Memorials of Cambridge* (Wright 1847; Figure 5). This engraving reveals a number of important features that have since been removed. Firstly, dominating the western end of the nave was a large organ gallery that blocked almost the entire upper portion of the tower arch from view. Below this was panelling associated with the 18th century box pews, which in turn concealed much of the remainder of the structure. Other notable differences at this time include the roof of the nave, which comprised a simple kingpost design, while the flooring primarily consisted of flagstones. The combination of organ gallery, panelling and box pews will have made the interior of the church dark and somewhat claustrophobic; a common occurrence during the 18th and early 19th centuries. The “elegant screen of modern workmanship” that had separated the nave and chancel in 1744 when William Cole visited the church (Willis and Clark 1886 I, 285) had evidently been removed by this date.

Over the next few years the reputation of St Bene't's as an important example of Anglo-Saxon ecclesiastical architecture continued to grow, and it was discussed in several publications (e.g. Holbeche Bloxam 1841; Wright 1845, 30). Then, in 1852, work began upon improving the interior of the church, beginning with the construction of a new north aisle designed by Raphael Brandon. Yet the committee of the Cambridge Architectural Society soon reported that “while the new aisle is progressing towards completion, your Committee regret to observe no symptoms of any intention to remove the gallery which now blocks up the arch opening into the well-known Saxon tower of this ancient church” (Anon 1853, 450). Subsequently, the completion of the works in 1854 led to “the discovery of the quoins of at the east end of the nave, which belonged to the original Saxon church” (Anon 1854, 414) as well as “part of a screen” (Willis and Clark 1886 I, 273-4).

The next major development was reported in *The Builder* – ‘a journal for the Architect, Engineer, Operative & Artist’ – in September 1865. Here, it was noted that “the tower-archway, or belfry archway, of this church has long been known to antiquaries as one of the most perfect of the few remaining specimens of Saxon work. Till recently, however, it was so far concealed by a modern gallery, that neither its fine proportions nor its curious details could be sufficiently seen or appreciated. It has now been thrown entirely open; the whitewash and plaster have been removed, the masonry cleaned down and pointed, and such portions of stonework as had evidently been chiselled away (fortunately only to a very small extent), have been carefully restored” (Anon 1865, 691). A detailed account of the restoration work was given, and a number of associated discoveries cited.

Amongst the most significant of these discoveries was the recovery of Roman bricks from the base of the arch; to date the only recorded example of reused Roman material having been identified within the church's fabric. In the tower itself, a tiled pavement – “in alternate tiles of highly-glazed green and yellow, but without patterns”

(*ibid.*) – was also revealed beneath the extant floor; from the description, it appears likely to have been late medieval in date (it is visible in Figure 5, but no longer survives). Finally, “a blocked arched recess had been cut in the inner face of the northern jamb [of the arch], possibly for a holy-water stoup, though it is larger than those generally used. It appears to have been of the fifteenth century; but it has not been thought advisable to retain it, as it seriously marred the symmetry and really fine masonry of the original work, and it was so much mutilated as to render its restoration difficult” (*ibid.*).

In January 1866 *The Builder* carried the first engraving of the newly revealed arch (Figure 5). By contrasting this depiction with that of 1837 it is immediately apparent that the removal of the organ loft had a dramatic and very positive effect upon the building’s interior, significantly opening up the space. It was further noted at this time that “upon taking down a modern (wooden) doorway on the west front of the tower, remains of a window, of good Perpendicular character, were discovered; also portions of a ringers’ floor of the same date. These will be carefully renewed [the restored window is visible in Figures 3 and 5; the preceding wooden doorway can be seen in Figure 13]. Other works of restoration are in process (to the tower); and it is hoped to rebuild the south aisle of the church, which at the present time is in a very dilapidated state. It is also proposed to remove the present high pews and reseal the church with open benches” (Anon 1866, 46).

Work commenced upon rebuilding the south aisle in 1872 as part of an extensive programme of repair and modernisation that also included the demolition and rebuilding of the chancel. The alterations were reported upon in detail by Robert Willis, one of the 19th century’s most eminent architectural historians, based in part upon notes and measured drawings made the reverend D. J. Stewart. “Mr Blomfield was the architect chosen to carry out this second scheme, and by his direction those walls of the church which Mr Brandon had not touched were pulled down, the roofs of the central and south aisles destroyed, the flooring torn up and a new chancel arch constructed” (Willis and Clark 1886 I, 276). A number of discoveries were made during the course of the work. For example: “the east wall of the chancel that was then pulled down was broadly coeval with the tower, and had been merely faced inside with coarse plaster. When this comparatively modern coating was stripped off, a square almy or cupboard was found.... The large stones of which the cupboard was composed were broken up and used in the new foundation” (Willis and Clark 1886 I, 278).

In addition, it was found that the original chancel “was separated from the body [of the church] by an opening which may have corresponded in style with that which is still preserved in the east wall of the tower, for the remains of the simple bases of the piers were found in the original position. Immediately above them stood fragments of a much later pattern, which may have been put there in the 13th or 14th century, and

on top of these was the ruder work of the chancel set aside by Mr Blomfield, in which were concealed some fragments of a stone screen which have been spared. The walls of the church had been finished inside with a coating of fine plaster, on which various patterns had been painted” (Willis and Clark 1886 I, 278-79). The renovations cost £3,016 and when the church reopened on 25th June 1874 it had seating for 350, the old box pews having been replaced by open seating (Kelly’s Directory, 1900).

The next investigation took place in 1925, when the lancet windows of the belfry – which are later additions – were examined in detail (Cobbett 1927). The windows were found to be made of Ketton Stone rather than the Barnack that is used throughout the Anglo-Saxon and medieval fabric of the church. Two of them, moreover, both situated on the tower’s west face, bore the date 1586 on their heads, one with the initials R P and another with T E incised alongside. They were probably added to accompany the insertion of new bells into the tower (one of which is dated 1588). Later in the 20th century, St Benet’s was subject to architectural review (RCHM(E) 1959, 262-65; Taylor and Taylor 1965, 129-32), but no new investigations were conducted.

Most recently, two archaeological investigations have been conducted at the site. The first occurred in 1988 in advance of the construction of a new kitchen and lavatory (Malim 1988; Figures 14 and 15), the second in 2001 when a new folding screen was installed in the church’s south aisle (Kemp 2001; Figure 14). In the first instance, a single trench measuring 3m by 2m was excavated to the north of the chancel. Three articulated inhumations were encountered here, as well as a brick-built burial vault. The latter probably dates to the late 18th or early 19th century and may have been the vault for one John Challis, whose gravestone was present nearby. The inhumations predated the vault but were probably post-medieval in date. The uppermost skeleton lay only c. 0.50m below the present surface (c. 9.50m AOD), suggesting that the ground level in the churchyard has been truncated. This was confirmed by the identification of the medieval boundary wall with Free School Lane, which indicated that over 1.0m of deposits had been removed from the site in the mid-late 19th century. A redeposited Barnack grave-slab of 12th-13th century date was also recovered during the excavation.

Subsequently, in 2001, archaeological observation and recording was undertaken within the south aisle of the church when an area measuring 7sqm was investigated (Kemp 2001). Evidence of mortared floors predating the present suspended timber surface, as well a robber trench that truncated them, was revealed. The floors probably predate the mid-late 19th-century renovations of the church (although they may have been associated with a phase of demolition and/or construction) but postdate the early 14th century construction of the aisle, while the robber trench is likely to date to 1872 as it corresponds to the line of the former southern wall that was demolished when the aisle was rebuilt.

## 4.2 Wider context

The PDA will now be situated in its wider landscape context. The principal focus will be the historic parish of St Bene't's and to a lesser extent a circuit extending for a radius of 250m from the site. In addition, discoveries of particular pertinence situated at a greater distance from the PDA will also be discussed.

### *Prehistoric (up to 43AD)*

No evidence of prehistoric activity is recorded within the study area. A single stray find of a 'prehistoric stone object' is recorded from the Museum Grounds on the Downing site (Browne 1974, 26; **26**), but this is of questionable date and provenance. Whilst the gravel terraces beside the River Cam were doubtless subject to occasional/seasonal usage in prehistoric times, no stratified features or securely stratified material evidence of such activity has yet been recovered.

### *Roman (43-c. 450 AD)*

In the past, archaeological investigations of Roman Cambridge have predominately focused upon the Castle Hill area (e.g. Alexander and Pullinger 2000; Evans and Ten Harkel 2010). This work has revealed that a small Late Iron Age settlement situated on the summit of the hill was reorganised following the Roman conquest in 43AD, when a series of enclosures were constructed. These were succeeded in turn by a single rectangular enclosure, constructed c. 70AD, which may have comprised a small fort (although this attribution remains debatable). Surrounding this was a contemporary settlement of limited size (Alexander and Pullinger 2000, 27-34). Early in the 2nd century, however, the town appears to have expanded somewhat; the putative 'fort' went out of use and single room wattle and daub houses with yards, along with a small number of more substantial structures of potentially civil function, were built along newly laid-out streets. A large shrine was also constructed (*ibid.*, 35-58). Yet by the mid-4th century the town had contracted in size, to c. 8.6 hectares, and was confined within a series of newly built defences including a 12m wide ditch and a 2m-3m wide stone wall with an internal rampart bank (*ibid.*, 59-74).

Significantly, however, it has been noted that beyond the town "in all directions...there were dense and sometimes wealthy areas of settlement (including villas), cemeteries and pottery kilns. In fact, more signs of status, comfort, industry and general Romanisation are known around the town than within it, despite a much lower level of investigation (*ibid.*, 8). Of particular pertinence to the present site is the presence of an extramural suburb located immediately to the south of the River Cam. First identified via antiquarian discoveries in the 19th century (e.g. Babington 1883; Hughes 1898, 375; Hughes 1907, 410), more recent excavations at Corfield Court (Newman 2008), the Old Divinity School (Cessford 2012) and WYNG Gardens



(Cessford 2016) have identified evidence of 2nd-3rd-century Roman occupation and a small number of scattered burials. The suburb appears to have primarily consisted of a ribbon-type development extending along the contemporary Godmanchester Road. It did not continue into the present study area.

Only a limited number of Roman discoveries have been made within a radius of 250m from the PDA. These include pits of possible (but questionable) Roman attribution excavated at the Bateman Building, Gonville and Caius College, in 1995 (Alexander 1995; **50**) and beneath Petty Cury in 1972 (Dickens 1999; **75**). Yet whilst both features contained exclusively Roman pottery, these sherds were small and abraded and may have been entirely residual. In addition, a sepulchral glass phial was found at King's College but any potential association with human remains was not recorded (Babington 1883, 9; **24**). Other stray finds are also recorded (**33** and **34**). In general, the PDA is likely to have comprised part of an extensive agricultural hinterland lying to the south of an extramural suburb during the Roman Period. Consequently, the probability of encountering features of this date within the PDA is low.

#### *Early to Middle Saxon (AD 450-899)*

From the later 5th century onwards the level of occupation in the Cambridge area appears to have temporarily decreased, as the evidence for Early Saxon (c. 450-700) activity in and around the city primarily comprises material recovered during the 19th century from pagan cemeteries situated on its outskirts (see Fox 1923). Very little occupational evidence from this period has yet been identified, with the exception of a small 6th-7th century settlement around a kilometre to the south of the former Roman town (Dodwell *et al.* 2004). Middle Saxon (c. 700-899) activity, in contrast, appears to have been primarily refocused upon the Castle Hill area, where a 7th-9th-century execution cemetery has been investigated (Cessford *et al.* 2007). By the mid-9th century it is clear that some form of settlement had been re-established, as this was occupied by the Viking Great Army in 875 and the region was incorporated into the Danelaw from c. 886 until its conquest by Edward the Elder in c. 917 (Cam 1934, 39; Lobel 1975, 3).

In the late 19th century a 'dual origin theory' was proposed in relation to the development of post-Roman occupation at Cambridge. This posited that Anglo-Saxon settlements developed contemporaneously on both the north and south banks of the Cam (Maitland 1898, 99-100; Gray 1905, 25-7). Although this view was challenged in 1933 – when Carl Stephenson attempted to apply an alternative 'continental' model of town development to Cambridge, asserting that intensive occupation to the south of the river was a primarily 11th century and later phenomenon (Stephenson 1933, 200-202) – the latter interpretation was firmly rejected one year later (Cam 1934), and the 'dual origin' theory has subsequently been broadly accepted (e.g. Addyman and Biddle 1965, 90-103; Lobel 1975, 2-5; Haslam 1984; Hines 1999, 136; Taylor 1999,

44-50). To date, however, no archaeological evidence to support a dual origin has been identified and it appears increasingly likely that Early to Middle Saxon occupation was exclusively focused on the Castle Hill area until the 10th century (see further below). Here, evidence of a possible 9th century minster has been identified at the Chesterton Lane corner site (Cessford with Dickens 2005). By the early 11th century, however, the minster appears to have transferred to what later became the castle site, as a group of over 20 interlace-decorated 'Fenland Group' grave-slabs were discovered here in the early 19th century (Everson and Stoker 1999, 49).

The only finds of Early to Middle Saxon date within the study area comprise antiquarian discoveries of questionable date and provenance. They include 'decorated' sherds of Anglo-Saxon pottery found at Clare College in 1880 (Fox 1923, 245; 1) and an 'iron object' found opposite Pembroke College in 1899 (Browne 1974, 25; 27). Despite the Market Place area having been proposed as a zone of 5th-9th century occupation (Haslam 1984, 13-29; Taylor 1999, 44-50) no evidence to support this theory has been found during any of the several excavations conducted in the vicinity. Overall, therefore, it is likely that this period saw a low level of background agricultural activity similar to that during the preceding Roman period.

#### *Late Saxon (AD 900-1066)*

It was during the Late Saxon period that Cambridge began to expand significantly, both spatially and economically. Up until the mid-10th century the town appears to have remained only an "economically viable backwater" (Hines 1999, 136); following this date, however, it emerged as a significant urban centre. By the late 10th century a mint had been established (Lobel 1975, 3; Haslam 1984, 21) and the town was being linked to a group of important trading centres including Norwich, Thetford and Ipswich (Cam 1934, 43). This emphasises the central role played by river trade in Cambridge's rapid economic growth (c.f. Clegg Heyer and Hooke 2017). Consistent with the economic expansion of the town, moreover, during the early to mid-10th century the earliest evidence of post-Roman settlement to the south of the former town on Castle Hill has been identified at the Corfield Court and Old Divinity School sites. Here occupation appears to have been relatively limited at first, but rapidly expanded from the late 10th to early 11th century (Newman 2008, 74-77; Cessford 2012, 11-12).

The principal focus of activity at this date appears to have been the newly-established High Street (present-day Kings Parade/Trumpington Street) as opposed to the former Roman road (present-day Bridge Street/Sidney Street). Although it has been suggested that the Late Saxon town was essentially polyfocal in form (Taylor 1999, 44), with several dislocated areas of contemporary settlement, this is highly unlikely in an urban context. Instead, occupation most probably spread in a linear pattern along the settlement's primary arterial routeways before gradually expanding into the

riverside, waterfront zones (which required reclamation prior to settlement). By the mid-late 11th century occupation extended as far as Grand Arcade (Cessford and Dickens *in prep.*) and probably also Trumpington Street. One of the principal indicators of this topographical pattern is the distribution of the town's churches, which are principally clustered along the High Street (Brooke 1985, 50; Figure 18). Whilst St Bene't's itself is the only example to retain extant pre-Conquest fabric (21), interlace grave-slabs of probable 11th-century date have been discovered at Little St Mary's to the south (Taylor and Taylor 1965, 134) and St Edward's to the north (Dawson 1946, 3; 20), as well as an example excavated from beneath the Town Hall (now Guild Hall) in 1781 (Butler 1957, 92; 10); the latter may have been reused as hardcore at some distance from its original use site, however.

Immediately to the west of St Bene't's, probable 11th-century occupation was identified during the Hostel Yard excavations at Corpus Christi College (Cessford 2005; 59). The precise date at which domestic activity commenced here is difficult to determine due to the nature of the pottery fabrics that predominated at this time. Saxo-Norman wares – comprising St Neots-type, Thetford-type and Stamford ware – remained highly conservative between the 10th to 12th centuries, with few changes. This renders identifying distinctively 10th century activity problematic, especially in the absence of large assemblages and/or the presence of substantially complete vessels. Circumstantial evidence of late 10th century activity has been identified in relatively close proximity to St Bene't's, however, in the form of a penny of Ethelred II's Crux type (c. 991-997) from the London mint that was found in Free School Lane (Blackburn and Haigh 1986, 61-2; 48). Its presence suggests that occupation may have been established in the area prior to the masonry church's construction.

### *Medieval (1066-1485)*

By the mid to late 11th century the urban core of present-day Cambridge was well-established, in terms of both size and layout, and was soon enclosed by an extensive boundary work known as the King's Ditch (39). The 'king' in question is usually interpreted as being either John (1167-1216), who repaid the bailiffs of Cambridge the costs of enclosing of the city in 1215, or Henry III (1207-72), who paid for its refortification in 1267 (see Cooper 1842-53). A radio-carbon date obtained during the excavation of the ditch undertaken at Grande Arcade, however, indicates the ditch was most probably created during the early to mid-12th century (Cessford & Dickens *in prep.*; 98). It is thus most likely to have been associated with the Anarchy period (1135-54), when fortifications of various types were erected all across the country (c.f. Creighton and Wright 2017). For the first time, the King's Ditch marked an official boundary between the town and its various suburbs; St Benet's Church lay inside its circuit.

For St Bene't's the medieval period is particularly significant because by the early 12th century the parish, which had originated as a Late Saxon unit of ecclesiastical control and pastoral care, became and remained until the middle years of the 19th century the basic area of secular administration (Pounds 2000). Parishes therefore comprise the primary frameworks with which to explore the wider impact of churches in the physical and social landscape. In addition to forming the venue for a weekly routine of religious worship as well as an annual cycle of ceremonies, festivals and observances, the medieval church also levied a tax upon its parishioners in the form of tithes. These took three forms; praedial (on crops), mixed (on animals and their products) and personal (on profits from trade or industry).

At Cambridge, by the end of the 13th century the majority of parishes appear to have coalesced into stable entities whose boundaries have remained largely unchanged until the present day (Brooke 1985, 54). As of c. 1800, St Bene't's parish was subdivided into two non-contiguous portions; the largest of which was situated to the south of the town, encompassing the southern periphery of the Trumpington and Barnwell Gate suburbs, while the smallest encompassed the church itself and its immediate surroundings (Figure 8). Notably, the latter measures only 1.4ha in area, of which the PDA itself comprises 8% of the total. It is likely that the partitioning of the parish in this fashion is the result of later parishes being effectively 'carved out' from a much larger predecessor. A similar pattern also occurred in relation to St Peter's' and St Giles, both of which are early foundations situated in the northern part of the town. This evidence – allied with the date of the church's construction – has been used to suggest that St Bene't's comprised one of the earliest parishes in the town (Cam 1959, 126).

Using the Hundred Rolls – the record of a large-scale inquiry into land tenure and regalian rights that was instituted by Edward I in 1279-80 (Raban 2004) – it is possible to gain some idea of the size and extent of St Benet's parish in the late 13th century. Overall, 39 *messuages* and 8 vacant plots were recorded in the parish in 1279 (Illingworth 1818, 361-78). A *messuage* consisted of a dwelling house together with its outbuildings and associated land, which in medieval towns typically took the form of a long, narrow burgage plot (Conzen 1960). Assuming that a mean household contained 4.5 residents, as was typical for this date (Holt 2000, 83), this equates to a minimum population of 175 individuals. Cambridge as a whole had c. 595 *messuages* in 1279, with 440 (74%) of these being located in the town core and 155 (26%) in the surrounding suburbs<sup>1</sup>. As there were 15 parishes in central Cambridge at this time, St Bene't's was a little over the mean size of 25.3 *messuages*. This statistic is somewhat misleading, however, as parishes situated in the urban core generally had a greater

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<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that five of the 40 membranes that constituted the town's original record were omitted from the standard published account (Illingworth 1818); the missing membranes contain *inter alia* returns for the parishes of St. Sepulchre, All Saints in the Jewry, Holy Trinity and St. Andrew the Great, but not St Bene't's (Raban 2004, 154).

number of parishioners than those situated on the town's margins. By this measure, St Bene't's can be regarded as atypically small.

Whilst it is not possible to accurately locate the *messuages* cited in the Hundred Roll, due to the nature of the details that were recorded, the general pattern that it presents strongly supports the suggestion that the parish had largely assumed its present form by the late 13th century. Aside from the High Street, the only other laneways named in the account comprise SEGRIMESLANE (later King's Lane, which no longer exists as it was built-over by King's College in the 19th century) and LORTTEBORULANE (present-day Free School Lane); both of which lie within the present-day parish boundary. Notably, one *messuage* was also explicitly located 'outside the Trumpington Gate' (Illingworth 1818, 384); thereby demonstrating that the fragmentation of the parish into two separate, discrete areas had already occurred by 1279. Immediately to the east of the church, it is striking that the parish boundary follows the limit of the adjacent Augustinian Friary that was established here on a piecemeal basis from c. 1290 onwards (Cranage and Stokes 1921; 30). The domestic properties that preceded it may have originally fallen within St Bene't's parish, but at the Dissolution the former friary was assigned instead to St Edward's.

It is possible that the diminishing size of the parish during the 13th to early 14th century is reflected in the recorded value of the church, since a large part of that value was based upon the income from its tithes. In 1217 St Bene't's was valued at £5, in 1254 at £5 6s. 8d., in 1276 at £10, in 1278 at £10 6s. 8d., in 1290 at £6 13s. 4d. and in 1534 at £4 9s. 9½d (Cam 1959, 126). Unlike the adjacent market area – which fell between St Edward's and St Mary the Great's parishes – no shops were explicitly cited in the Hundred Roll, although many of the *messuages* may also have included ground-floor retail/workshop space alongside domestic accommodation. Amongst the occupations of tenants mentioned in the account were a merchant and a barber. Overall, for an urban parish St Bene't's appears to have been relatively small and its inhabitants not particularly prosperous. Together, these factors are likely to have contributed to the apparent absence of investment in and rebuilding of St Bene't's Church prior to the early 14th century (and even then the alterations may have been borne of necessity, following a fire, rather than pure beneficence). This pattern was then further compounded by the church assuming a dual role as a collegiate chapel under the advowson of Corpus Christi College from 1352.

Archaeologically, medieval remains have been encountered throughout the study area as Cambridge was by this date a thriving regional centre with a highly urbanised core. Stray finds, predominately of pottery, are numerous (3, 4, 9, 15 and 16) but of little interpretive value. Much more relevant to the present study are discoveries of human remains made to the southwest and northeast of the PDA. Firstly, immediately to the southwest a series of west-east aligned skeletons were encountered in 2006 during a watching brief conducted on behalf of Corpus Christi College (Cessford and

Fallon 2006; **57**). The investigation took place within the passageway that links the Old Court of Corpus Christi College to Bene't Street (Figures 14 and 16). This was probably the original entrance to the college, established between 1352 and 1377, which occupied what had initially comprised part of St Bene't's cemetery; the boundary wall on the eastern side of the passageway was constructed in 1618 (Willis and Clark 1886 I, 249-50). Beneath an extensive horizon of modern truncation, the inhumations were laid out in well-ordered rows with men, women and children represented (Cessford and Fallon 2006, 24-34).

Two of the skeletons have been radiocarbon dated (Craig Cessford *pers. comm.*). When allowance is made for various factors that affect the radiocarbon dating of human bone, the stratigraphically earlier example dates to between the late 11th and early 14th centuries and is probably mid-12th to late 13th century in origin. The stratigraphically later example dates to the late 13th to mid-15th century and thus was probably interred during the early to mid-14th century, before this part of the cemetery was transformed into part of the access route to the newly-established Corpus Christi College. Although only limited areas were excavated to depth, where new lightwells were to be constructed, a 13th-century boundary ditch was identified beneath the inhumations (Cessford and Fallon 2006, 30). This appears to have separated the churchyard from domestic plots further to the west. The ditch had in turn truncated a series of gravel quarry pits that had probably been dug to the rear of the initial Saxo-Norman properties that fronted onto the High Street. This sequence suggests that the early boundary of the cemetery was re-established at least once, at which time the footprint of the churchyard was potentially reduced.

A further discovery has been made a few metres to the northeast of Free School Lane, beneath Mortlock's House (No's 15 and 16 Bene't Street), where "a number of human bones &c., relics [sic] of the Friars' ancient burying ground were discovered; but soon decomposed by the accession of air" (Browne 1974, 23; **6**). While the discovery is undated, it occurred "when the preceding building was torn down by a Mr Finch, ironmonger, in order to build a new brick house" (Cranage and Stokes 1921); this is most likely to have occurred between the mid-18th and mid-19th century. As the quote suggests, the area immediately to the east of St Bene't's previously comprised the precinct of an Augustinian Friary that was established c. 1290 (Ellis and Salzman 1948b; **30**). Further discoveries of human remains associated with the Friary were made in the early 20th century (Duckworth and Innes Pocock 1909; Cranage and Stokes 1921) and during a recent excavation conducted beneath the former Art School (Cessford in prep.; **97**). In both the latter instances, the burials were located around 50m further to the southeast, however, in the area of the monastic cloister. Whilst it is entirely possible that the Mortlock's House discovery was associated with the Friary, an additional possibility is that it represents a second remnant of St Bene't's churchyard that was again later reduced in area.



More broadly, a number of excavations and monitoring projects conducted within the study area have encountered medieval features. These were predominately associated with domestic occupation, which was both intensive and widespread during this period. The most pertinent of these investigations, undertaken in relatively close proximity to the PDA, include: Hostel Yard, Corpus Christi College (Cessford 2004; Cessford 2005; Cessford and Fallon 2006; **59**); the Bath Hotel (Edwards 1997; **53**); King's Parade Water Main watching brief (Cessford 1999; **65**); Bene't Court (Hunter 1992; Edwards 1996a; **52**); Cavendish Laboratory (Hunter 1991; **57**); St Catherine's College (Newman 2013; **70**) and; New Museums (Cranage and Stokes 2001; Cessford in prep.; **97**). The results obtained from these sites will form part of the basis for the deposit model presented below.

#### *Post-Medieval (1486-Present)*

In general, the last five centuries have seen significant topographic and economic changes in Cambridge compared to the town at the beginning of the 15th century. Many of these alterations are attributable to the increasing wealth and influence of the University and its colleges, which expanded significantly in both size and number over the course of this period (Leedham-Green 1996), but the changing economic role of Cambridge from the leading sea-port of the county at the start of the 13th century to the academic, research and tourist centre of today has also formed an important factor (Bryan 1999, 97). Up until the late 19th century, river-borne trade remained an important component of many of the inhabitant's livelihoods. Yet although trade continued throughout, minimal growth occurred during the 18th century due to the town's low level of industrialisation. Subsequently, at the beginning of the 19th century, the passing of a series of Enclosure Acts led to a dramatic escalation in the rate of the town's suburban expansion.

Consistent with this broader pattern, St Bene't's parish also saw a number of changes during the post-medieval period. Although domestic occupation continued – as demonstrated by the cluster of Grade II-listed 18th- and 19th-century townhouses in nearby Bene't Street (e.g. **82** and **86-96**) – the gradual expansion of Corpus Christi, Queens and King's Colleges, particularly during the 19th century, significantly encroached upon the formerly densely-occupied King's Parade/Trumpington Street frontage. Today, all of the buildings on both the eastern and western sides of the former High Street are in collegiate use. Consequently, alongside a reduction in retail space the residential population of the parish has also declined (a common pattern in urban parishes all across England during the late 19th and 20th centuries). The various alterations undertaken to St Bene't's Church itself during this period have previously been discussed in detail in section 4.1, above.

Archaeologically, remains of post-medieval date have been encountered all across the study area. Amongst the most significant discoveries are a group of pits

containing high-status material culture at Hostel Yard, Corpus Christi College (Cessford 2004; **59**), a large ceramic assemblage representing over 140 vessels from beneath the former Barclay's Bank (McCarthy 1974; **22**) and a further substantial ceramic assemblage from Bene't Court (Edwards and Hall 1997; **52**).

## 5 CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

The cartographic evidence for Cambridge is extensive, with maps having been produced from the late 16th century onwards (see further Clark & Gray 1921; Baggs & Bryan 2002). Usefully, due to the PDA's location within the historic core of the town it has been included on the majority of historic cartographic sources (Table 5.1), the most significant of which are illustrated in Figure 9. In this particular instance, however, few changes are apparent over time as the boundaries of the PDA had largely been established prior to the compilation of the earliest map of the town.

| Date | Description                                      | Illustrated (Figure 9) |
|------|--|------------------------|
| 1574 | Lyne's map of Cambridge                          | Yes                    |
| 1575 | Braun's map of Cambridge                         | /                      |
| 1588 | Smith's map of Cambridge                         | /                      |
| 1592 | Hammond's map of Cambridge                       | Yes                    |
| 1610 | Speed's map of Cambridge                         | /                      |
| 1634 | Fuller's map of Cambridge                        | /                      |
| 1688 | Loggan's map of Cambridge                        | Yes                    |
| 1798 | Custance's map of Cambridge                      | Yes                    |
| 1830 | Baker's map of Cambridge                         | /                      |
| 1840 | Dewhurst & Nichols' map of Cambridge             | /                      |
| 1863 | Lowry's map of Cambridge                         | /                      |
| 1886 | 1:500 scale Ordnance Survey map (1st edition)    | Yes                    |
| 1903 | 1:2,500 scale Ordnance Survey map (1st revision) | /                      |
| 1927 | 1:2,500 Ordnance Survey scale map (2nd revision) | /                      |
| 1952 | 1:10,560 scale Ordnance Survey map               | /                      |
| 1967 | 1:2,500 scale Ordnance Survey map                | /                      |

Table 5.1. Cartographic sources consulted during this study

The earliest map to depict St Bene't's was that of Richard Lyne, which was published in 1574. Unfortunately, the depiction itself is rather unreliable as the perspective in Lyne's map was highly distorted; it was not intended to act as an accurate survey of the town, but rather as a generic guide. Further maps were produced by George Braun 1575 and William Smith in 1588, but these essentially represent copies of Lyne's work that replicate if not magnify many of its inaccuracies (Baggs & Bryan 2002, 3). But, in 1592, John Hammond produced a fourth and much more reliable map (Figure 9). Only one complete copy of this work is known to have survived, held

by the Bodleian Library in Oxford, and of this many of the sheets are in a very poor state of preservation. Nevertheless, Hammond's map provides the first reliable depiction of the site. St Bene't's Church is highly recognisable, for example, including the 15th century gallery that connected it to Corpus Christi College. The bend at the head of Free School Lane was also present by this date, but may not have been an original feature of its layout. The next map to be published was compiled by John Speed in 1610. In contrast to Hammond, Speed did not survey the town himself and his depiction was therefore largely copied from that of his predecessor (Baggs & Bryan 2002, 5). The same was also true of the map produced by Thomas Fuller in 1634.

In 1688, however, David Loggan produced the first map of the town in which the perspective view was vertical as opposed to tangential (Figure 9); his plan represented the most accurate cartographic depiction of Cambridge to date (*ibid.*, 6). By comparing Loggan's map to Hammond's, it is apparent that the density of occupation surrounding the PDA had gradually increased between 1592 and 1688 (a common urban pattern). This increase also continued into the 18th century, as by 1798 – when William Custance compiled a new, highly detailed map of the town (Figure 9) – the number of buildings had increased once again. Few additional alterations can then be discerned on the small-scale maps produced by Baker (1830), Dewhurst & Nichols (1840) and Lowry (1863). But in 1885/6 the Ordnance Survey produced a map at a scale of 1:500 that catalogued the town in unprecedented detail (Figure 9). By this date, the Bene't Street and Free School Lane frontages were extensively built-up. Yet encroaching into these formerly primarily domestic areas were an increasing number of collegiate and University buildings. To the south of Bene't Street, for instance, no domestic properties remained on either side of Trumpington Street.

## **6 DEPOSIT MODEL**

Utilising the results of previous investigations conducted in the surrounding area, this section will examine the likely extent and nature of the archaeological deposits that are located within the PDA. An indication of the likely depth of the sequence will be presented and issues such as the types of features that may be present, as well as their number and extent, will also be explored.

Before proceeding to the model, it is pertinent to discuss the present condition of the site prior to the commencement of the proposed works. The new access ramp is to be situated in the northeast corner of the churchyard, where entry is currently made via a flight of steps (Figure 10). A drop of 0.70m is present here from the Bene't Street level at 10.72m AOD to the current surface height inside the PDA. To the northeast of the steps, tight against the Grade II-listed boundary wall (83), is a 19th-century hand pump (Figure 11). The arch of the well-head below is built-in to the base

of the wall. Leading from the base of the steps to the pump, and then continuing to curve around to the southeast, is a roughly paved surface composed of reused grave-slabs (recumbent monuments, often situated over brick-built vaults) and headstones (which stand vertically to demarcate a plot) (Figures 11 and 12). Whilst the inscriptions on most of these most of these slabs have been rendered indecipherable due to weathering, or else are positioned face-down, a small number could be recorded (Table 6.1).

| Identifier<br>(Figure 10) | Dimensions<br>(m) | Inscription   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
| A                         | 1.40 x 0.62       | None evident  |
| B                         | 0.75 x 0.55       | SACRED / TO THE MEMORY OF / SUSANNA / Wife of the Rev <sup>d</sup> C. COULCHER / [IN]CUMBENT OF THIS PA[RISH] / BORN JULY 2... / ...IED MARCH ...   |
| C                         | 0.64 x 0.60       | None evident  |
| D                         | 0.94 x 0.66       | None evident  |
| E                         | 0.98 x 0.70       | None evident  |
| F                         | 1.52 x 0.65       | None evident  |
| G                         | 1.98 x 0.72       | Sacred / to the Memory of / ANN the wife / of JOHN COODE sen. / Obit June 4, 1803 / ÆTAT 55 / JOHN COODE jnr. / Obit Jan. 4, 1819 / ÆTAT 30 / EDWARD COODE / Obit Oct. 22, 1822 / ÆTAT 36 |
| H                         | 0.82 x 0.23       | ...ES SKINNER MATT...   |

Table 6.1. Preliminary record of grave-slabs and headstones in area of proposed works (see Figure 10 for locations)

It is probable that the path was constructed to provide access to the pump – which would have provided freshwater to parishioners – during the mid-late 19th century, at the same time as the new boundary wall was constructed. It is also likely to have been at this time that the ground level of the cemetery was reduced. Evidence of the deposit's former depth can be found in a measured elevation of the southeast corner of the chancel drawn in 1872 and a view of the churchyard published in 1847 (Figure 13). In both images, the cemetery soil can be seen to have risen much higher against the church's walls than it does at present. It was common practice for such deposits to be removed during 19th-century church restoration works in order to re-expose architectural features that had become subsumed, usually after the active use of the cemetery had concluded. Previously, it is likely that repeated and intensive sepulchral use had resulted in the cemetery soil rising as high as, if not perhaps above, the surrounding street level, despite the church itself having been constructed when the ground-height in the area was significantly lower.

Some indication of the original ground level prior to the commencement of anthropogenic activity at the site can be gained by examining the depths at which

naturally-occurring 2nd terrace river gravels were encountered during previous nearby investigations (Table 6.2). In general, this data reveals a pattern consistent with a broadly level but undulating gravel terrace. Caution must be exercised, however, as later features have frequently cut into and removed the pre-existing natural horizon, thereby artificially lowering the result. To mitigate this effect, only the highest surviving measurement has been cited in each instance. The model predicts that within the PDA, natural gravels are likely to have originally lain between c. 7.4m and 7.8m AOD (although, as previously noted, the uppermost horizon of material may not be accounted for in these results). Furthermore, given the site's prolonged and intensive use as a cemetery, it is probable that within the churchyard the gravels have been systematically truncated, perhaps to a depth of 1.0m or more. Consequently, the likely depth of the archaeological deposits ranges between 2.5m and 3.5m, meaning that the base of the sequence probably lies between c. 6.5m and 7.5m AOD (a degree of variability is almost certainly present across the area).

| <b>Gazetteer No. (Figure 7)</b> | <b>Site</b>                     | <b>Distance from PDA</b> | <b>Top of archaeology (AOD)</b> | <b>Highest natural (AOD)</b> | <b>Depth of sequence</b> | <b>Reference</b>                                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <b>57</b>                       | Cavendish Laboratory            | 10m                      | 10.30m                          | 7.30m                        | 3.0m                     | Hunter 1991  |
| <b>59</b>                       | Hostel Yard, Corpus Christi     | 15m                      | 10.0m                           | 7.57m                        | 2.43m                    | Cessford 2004; Cessford 2005; Cessford and Fallon 2006 |
| <b>53</b>                       | Bath Hotel, Bene't Street       | 25m                      | 9.60m                           | Halted at 8.80m              | 0.8m+                    | Edwards 1997   |
| <b>65</b>                       | King's Parade Water Main        | 35m                      | 9.78m                           | Halted at 8.50m              | 1.28m+                   | Cessford 1999  |
| <b>52</b>                       | Bene't Court                    | 50m                      | 10.25m                          | 8.20m                        | 2.05m                    | Hunter 1992; Edwards 1996a                             |
| <b>70</b>                       | St Catherine's College          | 70m                      | 9.47m                           | 6.17m                        | 3.3m                     | Newman 2013  |
| <b>62</b>                       | Master's Garden, Corpus Christi | 110m                     | 10.08m                          | 8.05m                        | 2.03m                    | Edwards 1996b; Alexander 1997                          |

Table 6.2. Depth of archaeological deposits encountered during archaeological investigations conducted in closest proximity to St Bene't's Church (distances are measured from the boundary of the PDA)

Despite the probable depth of the sequence, the likelihood of encountering evidence of domestic activity predating the erection of St Bene't's in the mid-11th century is low. The church was probably constructed to the rear of the earliest plots that

comprised the Late Saxon settlement, which would have principally been focused upon the nearby High Street as opposed to Bene't Street. Any potential early activity, moreover, is likely to have been extensively truncated by later burials. Sepulchral activity almost certainly commenced at the same time as the church itself was established, since churchyard burial became a universal practice in East Anglia from the 10th century onwards (Blair 2005, 463-71). As a result, long-established parish churches are typically surrounded by large numbers of burials (O'Brien and Roberts 1996; Rodwell 2012, 146-66). Indeed, multiple 'generations' of burial are often present; a generation in this context being defined as "the period of time taken to fill the space available before burying over it again" (Heighway and Bryant 1999, 195).

Just such a pattern of multiple layers of interments is indicated by the results of the trench that was excavated to the north of the chancel in 1988 (Figures 14 and 15). Here, 178 human bones, representing a minimum of 7 adults (of whom three were articulated) and three children were recovered, despite the trench being small in size and shallow in depth (Malim 1988, 9). Significantly, the uppermost burial lay only 0.5m below the present ground level (at c. 9.5m AOD). This indicates that the truncation of cemetery in the mid-late 19th century removed the uppermost portion of many of the graves, leaving articulated human remains lying relatively close to the surface; an important consideration when future works are conducted. Immediately to the west of the PDA, the uppermost skeleton encountered during the monitoring work undertaken in 2006 lay at 8.55m AOD (Cessford and Fallon 2006, 26-33; Figures 14, 16 and 17). The passageway had been truncated by numerous service trenches, however, in addition to which burial activity probably ceased here in the mid-14th century, meaning that the cemetery soil had had less time to accrue.

Some suggestion can be made of the potential population of the cemetery. Studies have demonstrated that medieval urban populations, particularly women, experienced higher mortality rates than their rural counterparts (Walter and DeWitte 2017); up to 36% of men and 56% of women living in urban areas may have died before the age of thirty-five, for example. Furthermore, even though it was relatively small for an urban parish – in Cambridge terms at least; some towns such as Norwich, Winchester and York had very many small parishes instead of several larger ones – the population of St Bene't's is nevertheless likely to have been in excess of 150 individuals throughout most of its history, with the most significant decline occurring after the cemetery had closed. Consequently, the number of interments introduced between c. 1050 and c. 1858 is likely to have been substantial; a minimum of 5,000 must be considered, but the overall total - including burials introduced into the church itself, a practice that became increasingly common from the late 15th century onwards (Peters 1996, 73-4) – could potentially be as high as 10,000.

After c. 1600, the provision of internal brick-lined burial vaults became almost ubiquitous, particularly in urban churches (Gilchrist and Morris 1996, 119; Gilchrist



2003, 402). Across England four main types of intramural burial vault have been identified. These consisted of: large dynastic vaults, which were typically located beneath aisles or in side chapels; family vaults, which were usually brick-lined graves with a barrelled roof (at least one grave slab inside St Bene't's is explicitly marked 'FAMILY VAULT', and many more are probably present); single-width brick-lined graves capped by a ledger stone identifying the occupant(s); and extensive private and parochial vaults, which often contained a large number of individuals (Litten 1991, 211-2). Single-width brick-built vaults also occurred to a lesser degree in external churchyards, and one such example has already been identified immediately to the northeast of the chancel (Malim 1988; Figure 15). Based upon the nature of several of the extant grave markers, many other examples are also likely to be present.

Usefully, an updated guidance document has recently been produced concerning archaeological excavations conducted in Christian burial grounds (Mays 2017). This outlines many of the issues, both practical and legal, that can be encountered whilst undertaking work in such an environment. In addition, specialist guidance documents have also been produced in relation to the excavation of burial vaults (Cox 2001; Elders *et al.* 2010), as these can present particular archaeological and health and safety-related challenges. This guidance will form the basis for any mitigation strategy prepared in advance of development at the site.

## **7 DISCUSSION**

The archaeological importance of St Bene't's principally resides in its antiquity. As the only surviving example of a pre-Conquest church in Cambridge, it offers a unique insight into the origins and early development of the settlement to the south of the River Cam. When first constructed, c. 1040-70, it would not have been alone but instead comprised one of several contemporary churches, the remainder of which have since been comprehensively rebuilt. These early churches were founded through individual initiatives, such as the patronage of wealthy burgesses, rather than as the result of a centralised programme of ecclesiastical establishment (Blair 2005, 402). They were also founded during a period of transition, from the Late Saxon minster system – which remained the official organisational church structure until the end of the 11th century – to the ubiquitous medieval pattern of multiple parishes that succeeded it. In East Anglia and southeast England a significant 'boom' in church construction occurred during the 11th century (Blair 2005, 406), thereby laying the groundwork for the subsequent emergence of these parishes. Cambridge has been cited in several sources as an example of this pattern of rapid church proliferation (e.g. Addyman and Biddle 1965, 94-6; Lobel 1975, 4; Haslam 1984, 21; Brooke 1985).

Unlike the minster – which was almost certainly located on Castle Hill, probably

beneath the later castle where a large cluster of 11th-century 'Fenland Group' grave-slabs were discovered in the early 19th century (Everson and Stoker 1999, 49) - Cambridge's privately-owned 11th-century churches were initially 'proprietary' in nature (*ecclesia propria*); that is, churches built on private ground by an individual who then retained a proprietary interest, such as the right to nominate ecclesiastic personnel (advowson). Notably, two of the town's churches remained proprietary into the 13th century without developing an associated parish. Both St Edmund's Chapel and St Lucy's Chapel were owned by wealthy families in the Trumpington suburb to the south of the town (Ellis and Salzman 1948a, 254-6; Ellis and Salzman 1948c, 290-1; Figure 18). Many 11th-century proprietary churches – including St Benet's – were set back from the principal street frontage, often to the rear of pre-existing properties. This reflects their origin as an addition to, rather than a primary element of, the emerging pattern of 11th century occupation. A similar topographic position for early urban churches has also been identified elsewhere (e.g. Biddle 1976, 340-2, 382-5, 453; Morris 1989, 171; Blair 2005, 403).

Several other Cambridge churches are sited in a similar set back position, including Little St Mary's, St Edward's, Holy Trinity, St Giles and St Peter's (Figure 18). Notably, almost all of these churches also demonstrate archaeological and/or architectural evidence of 11th century activity. This includes residual interlace grave-slabs at Little St Mary's (Taylor and Taylor 1965, 134) and St Edward's (Dawson 1946, 3), plus post-Conquest architectural remnants at St Giles (Taylor and Taylor 1965, 132-4) and St Peter's (RCHM(E) 1959, 287-8). Holy Trinity was comprehensively rebuilt in 1174 following an extensive fire (this same event may also have precipitated the rebuilding of St Edward's), but no details regarding the earlier building are known. Whilst St Benet's is the only building to retain pre-Conquest fabric, it was not necessarily the first to be built. Nor does its surviving architecture necessarily represent the first iteration of a church on the site. During the 10th and early 11th centuries most churches were constructed of timber, later being replaced in stone (Blair 2005, 407; Shapland 2015). It is possible that a similar sequence of development occurred in relation to St Benet's.

Whilst identifying an earlier timber iteration of the structure without full-scale excavation would be next to impossible, burial activity almost certainly commenced at the same time as the church's initial foundation. Identifying the earliest burials in the cemetery would therefore make a significant contribution to understanding the developmental history of the site and, by extension, of this part of Cambridge. Such burials would be located at depth, at the base of the sepulchral sequence, and are thus unlikely to be encountered during small-scale development such as the installation of the proposed access ramp. Instead, this work is likely to be restricted to the upper portion of the cemetery, which is predominately post-medieval in date. This does not mean that the results would be without archaeological significance, however. The archaeology of post-medieval death and burial represents an area of

increasing research (Cherryson, Crossland and Tarlow 2012; Tarlow 2015). Any excavation would therefore be able to contribute towards the wider understanding of this previously relatively-neglected subject (see Mays 2017).

## 8 CONCLUSION

The PDA encompasses the oldest standing building in Cambridge, which is also one of the oldest structures in the county. St Bene't's Church itself is Grade I listed due to its architectural, archaeological and historical importance while the surrounding churchyard contains burials spanning at least 800 years. Its archaeological potential is therefore very high. In practical terms, the church and its cemetery are likely to contain in the region of 5,000-10,000 interments. This means that even small-scale works conducted at the site are likely to encounter both articulated and disarticulated human remains. The potential of encountering architectural remains, either *in situ* or in the form of redeposited moulded blocks, is also moderate to high. Aside from the importance of the physical assets in and of themselves, their wider potential should also be considered. In terms of the broader history of Cambridge, St Bene't's occupies a unique place in its developmental trajectory. It represents the sole survivor of an 11th-century boom in church foundation that accompanied a rapid escalation and expansion of the settlement's footprint to the south of the River Cam. This also renders it significant nationally, as only a limited number of pre-Conquest urban churches remain extant in comparison to their rural counterparts.

## 9 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS

This impact assessment takes account of two factors; the potential for and relative importance of the archaeology, and the likely impact of the proposed development upon that archaeology. The following criteria will be used to determine the significance of the impact (Tables 9.1-9.3).

| Importance of feature | Description of feature   |
|-----------------------|--|
| <i>National</i>       | Scheduled ancient monuments; Grade I listed buildings  |
| <i>Regional</i>       | Sites listed in HER or identified from other sources which comprise important examples in the context of the East Anglian area; Grade II* listed buildings   |
| <i>District</i>       | Sites listed in the HER or identified from other sources which comprise important examples in the context of the South Cambridgeshire area; Grade II listed buildings  |
| <i>Local</i>          | Sites listed in the HER or identified from other sources which comprise important examples in the context of the site and its immediate surroundings; locally listed buildings, hedgerows of defined archaeological or historic importance |

Table 9.1. Establishing importance of feature

| Magnitude of impact | Description of impact  |
|---------------------|--|
| <i>Severe</i>       | Site or feature entirely or largely removed / destroyed (over 75%)   |
| <i>Major</i>        | Site or feature substantially removed / destroyed (50–75%) or undergoing a fundamental alteration to its setting |
| <i>Moderate</i>     | Site or feature partially removed (15-50%) or with considerable alteration to its setting                        |
| <i>Minor</i>        | Site or feature suffering some disturbance / removal (<15%) or with a discernible alteration to its setting      |

Table 9.2. Establishing significance of impact

| Magnitude of impact | Importance of receptor |                 |                     |                     |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                     | <i>National</i>        | <i>Regional</i> | <i>District</i>     | <i>Local</i>        |
| <i>Severe</i>       | Major                  | Major/moderate  | Moderate            | Moderate/minor      |
| <i>Major</i>        | Major/moderate         | Moderate        | Moderate/minor      | Minor               |
| <i>Moderate</i>     | Moderate               | Moderate/minor  | Minor               | Minor/insignificant |
| <i>Minor</i>        | Moderate/minor         | Minor           | Minor/insignificant | Insignificant       |

Table 9.3. Establishing magnitude of impact

### *Effects during construction*

The main impact upon surviving heritage assets during construction will be caused by building demolition, vehicle movements (including possible compaction), provision of constructors' compounds, installation of services, the type, methodology and depth of foundation construction and any substantial excavations (such as service installation, ground levelling/lowering or ground reinstatement). Depending upon the scale of the intrusion, these impacts are likely to range in scale from minor to severe (Table 8.4). In the broader urban landscape the archaeological impact of the proposed development will be of moderate significance, as it is a building of significant interest situated in Cambridge's historic town core.

| Importance      | Magnitude      | Impact          |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <i>National</i> | Minor          | Insignificant   |
| <i>Regional</i> | Minor          | Minor           |
| <i>District</i> | Moderate/minor | Moderate/minor  |
| <i>Local</i>    | Moderate       | Moderate/severe |

Table 8.4. Classification of sensitive landscape receptors and impact magnitude during construction

### *Effects post construction*

Once construction work has been completed, any lingering impact upon the archaeological resource will be minimal. The only possible continuing impact will be any further unscheduled works. Such works, where necessary, will require a separate schedule of mitigation.

| Importance      | Magnitude     | Impact        |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>National</i> | None          | None          |
| <i>Regional</i> | None          | None          |
| <i>District</i> | Insignificant | Insignificant |
| <i>Local</i>    | Minor         | Insignificant |

Table 8.5. Classification of sensitive landscape receptors and impact magnitude post-construction

### *Mitigation*

Mitigation for the archaeology will adhere to the principles outlined in national, local and industry guidelines, which favour the preservation *in situ* of significant archaeological remains where they have been identified and, where preservation is not practicable, an appropriate level of recording of the archaeology will be completed prior to further work.

The probability of archaeological remains being encountered within the PDA is high. The church itself is a Grade I listed building of national significance, which is surrounded by a long-lived and intensively utilised cemetery; in both locations, large quantities of articulated and disarticulated human remains are likely to be present. Architectural elements pertaining to the long usage of the site may also be encountered. Dependent upon the scale and extent of any future development, therefore, archaeological mitigation may be required. Any potential fieldwork should be conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation, drawn up in consultation with and approved by the local planning authority and with reference to the *Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* (Mays 2017) and *Archaeology and Burial Vaults: A Guidance Note for Churches* (Elders *et al.* 2010). In addition, dependent upon the nature, scope and location of any future works, an accompanying programme of above-ground standing building recording may also be required.

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## 11. ILLUSTRATIONS



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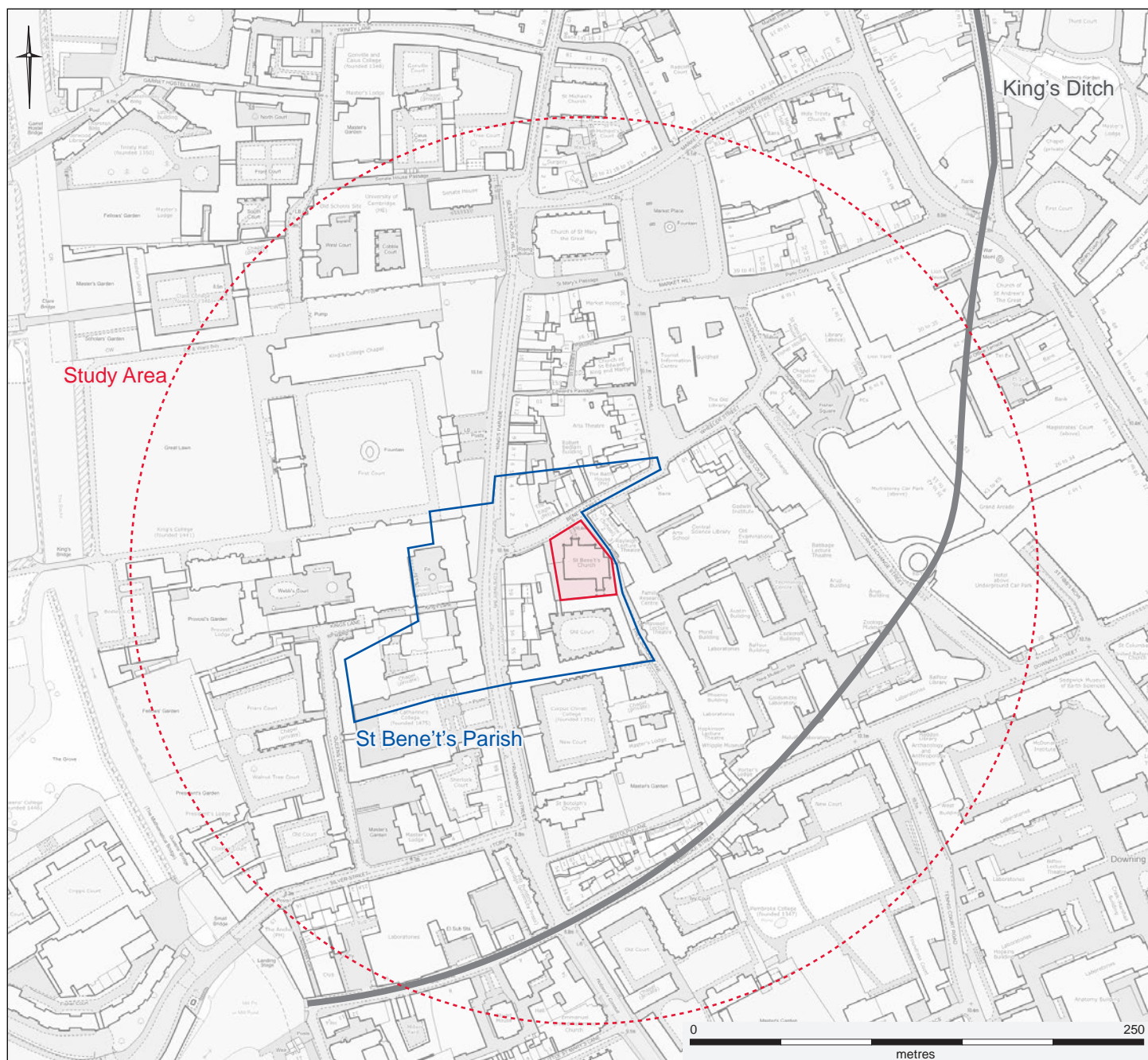
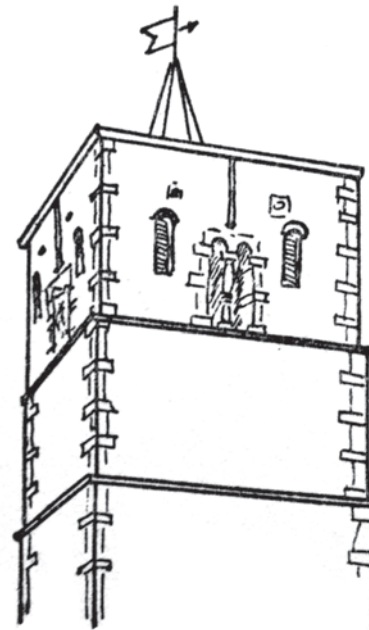
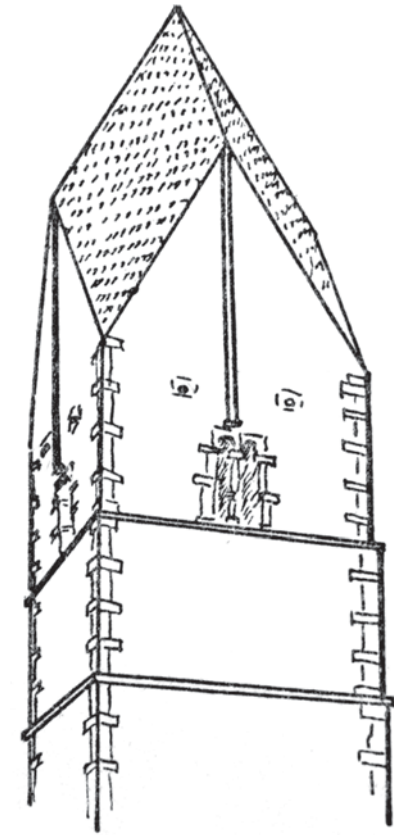


Figure 1. Site location, showing PDA, historic boundary of town-centre portion of St Bene't's parish and limit of outer study area





Present State



Conjectural Original State

Figure 2. The west tower of St Bene't's, as depicted by Willis and Clark in 1886 (left), and as hypothetically reconstructed with a Rhenish Helm roof by Harold Taylor (right)





Figure 3. The interior of the nave today, facing west, showing the Late Saxon tower arch with contemporary doorway above

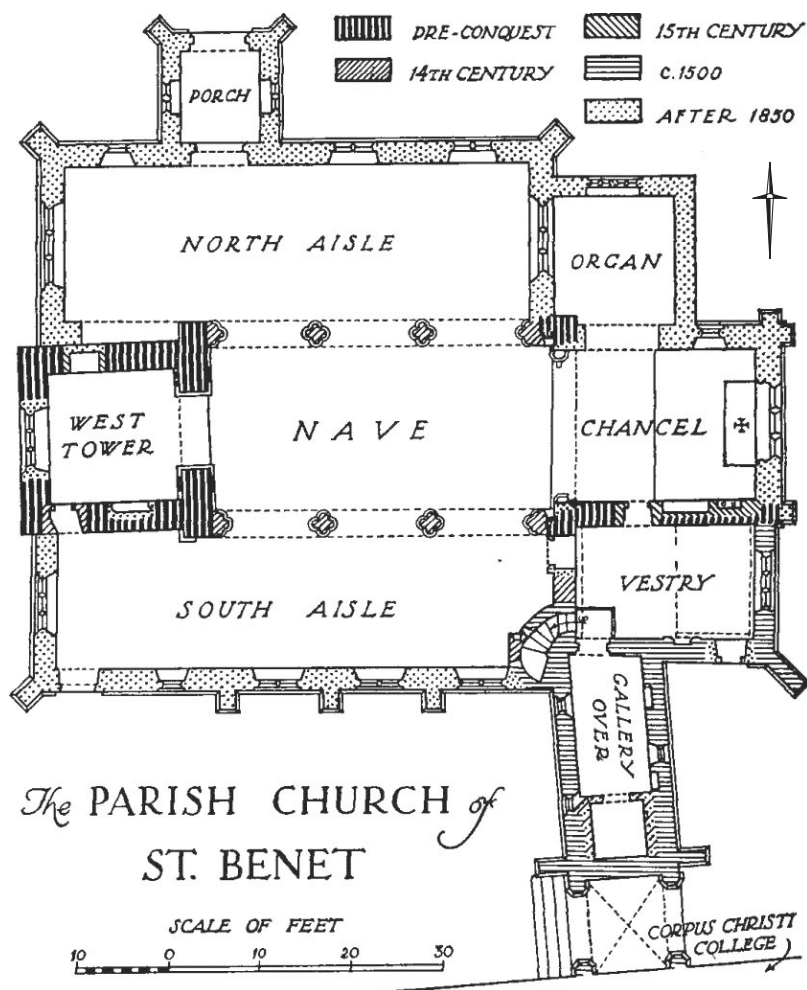
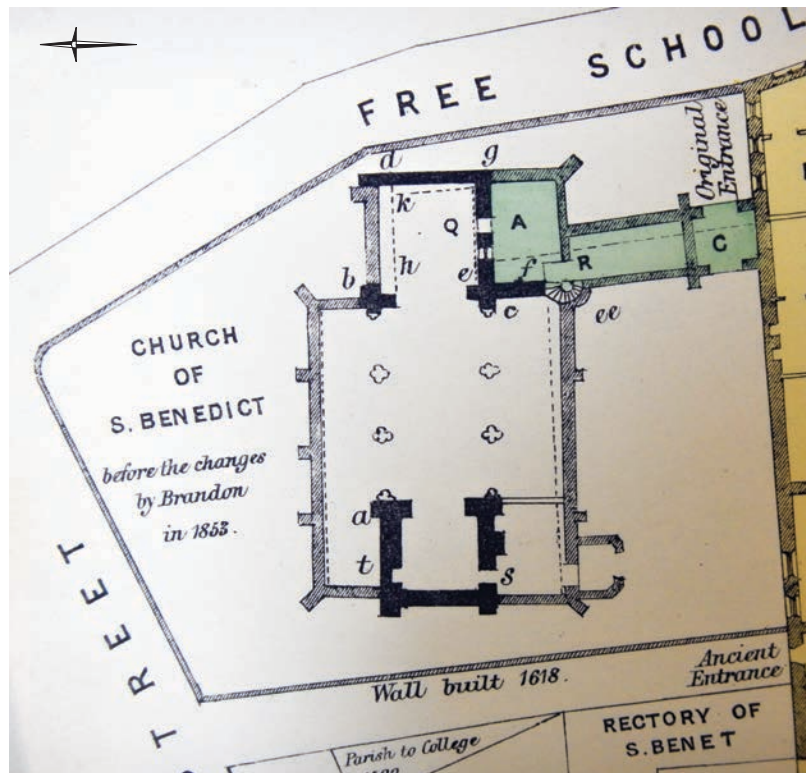


Figure 4. Phased plans of the church's development, including: top, the layout pre 1853 (from Willis and Clark 1886 I, 241) and bottom the layout as it appeared in 1959 (RCHM(E) 1959 II, 264)





Figure 5. Two historic views of the church's interior, both facing west. To the left is Le Kleux's engraving of 1837 (from Wright 1847) and to the right is the depiction that appeared in *The Builder* in 1866 following the organ gallery's removal

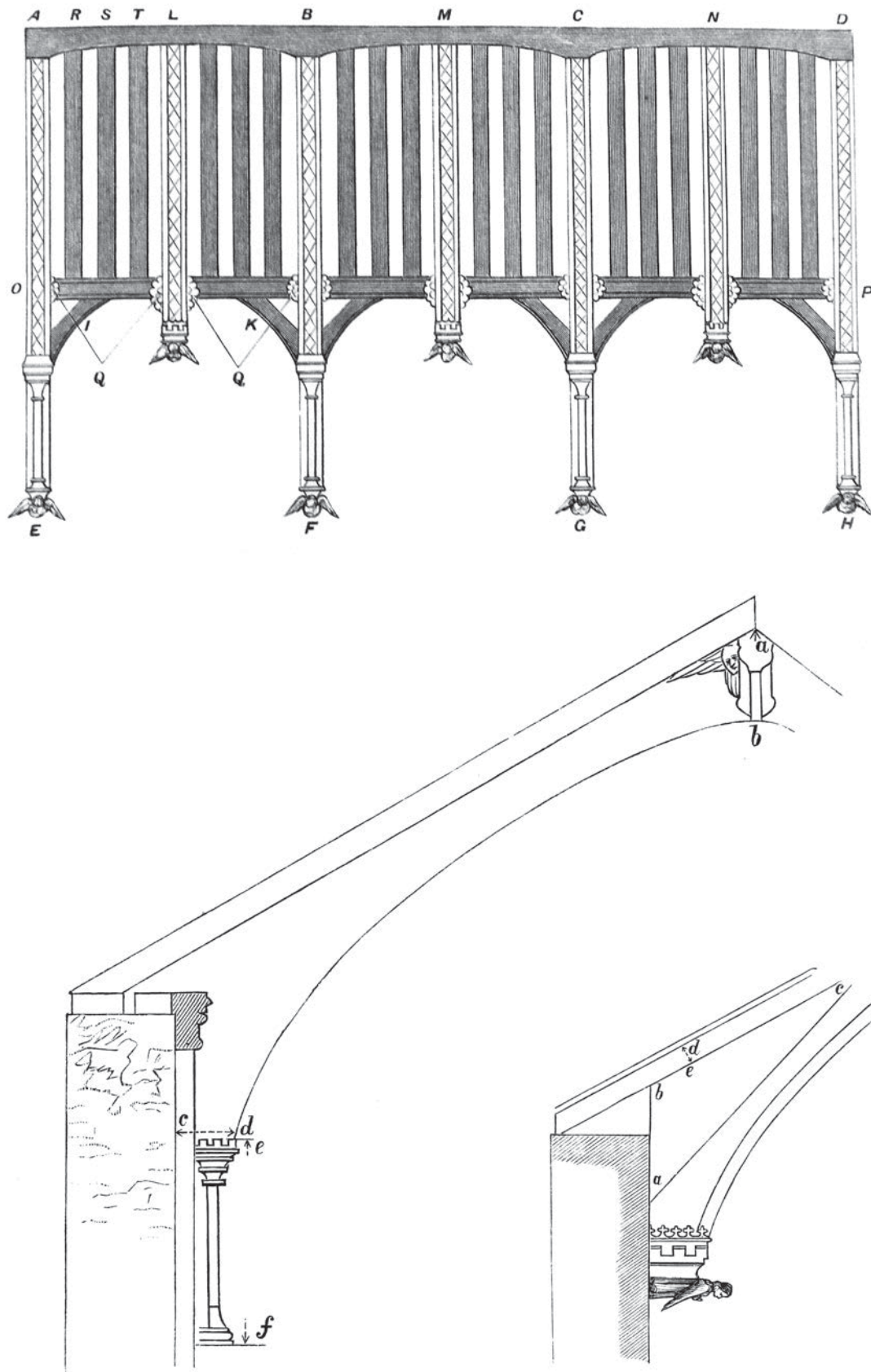


Figure 6. Robert Willis's reconstruction of the nave roof of 1452, based upon surviving documentary sources. This roof was no longer extant by 1837, but a broad (though inaccurate) replica was reintroduced in the 1870s and remains extant today



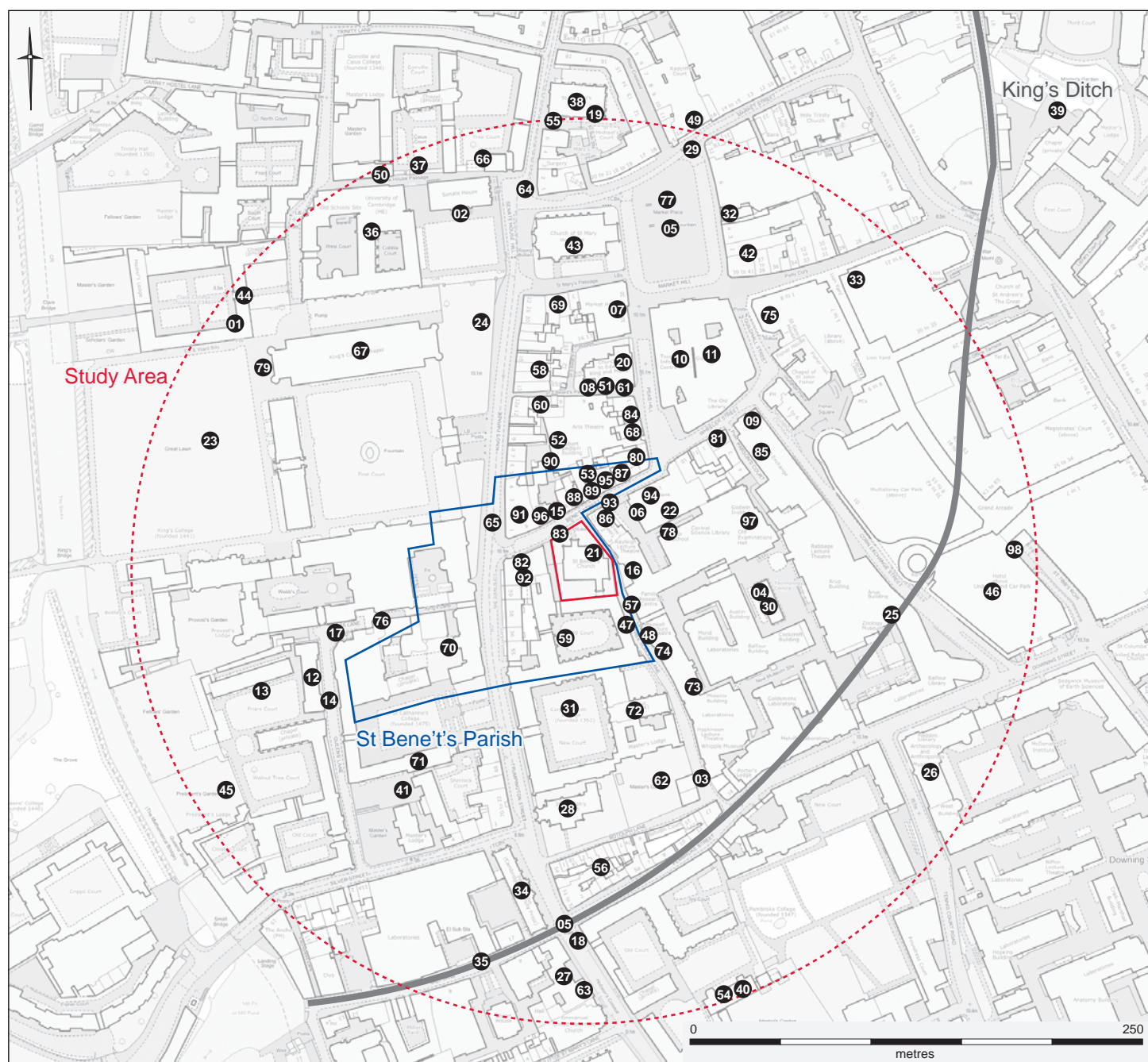


Figure 7. Gazetteer of sites, monuments and find spots referred to in the text



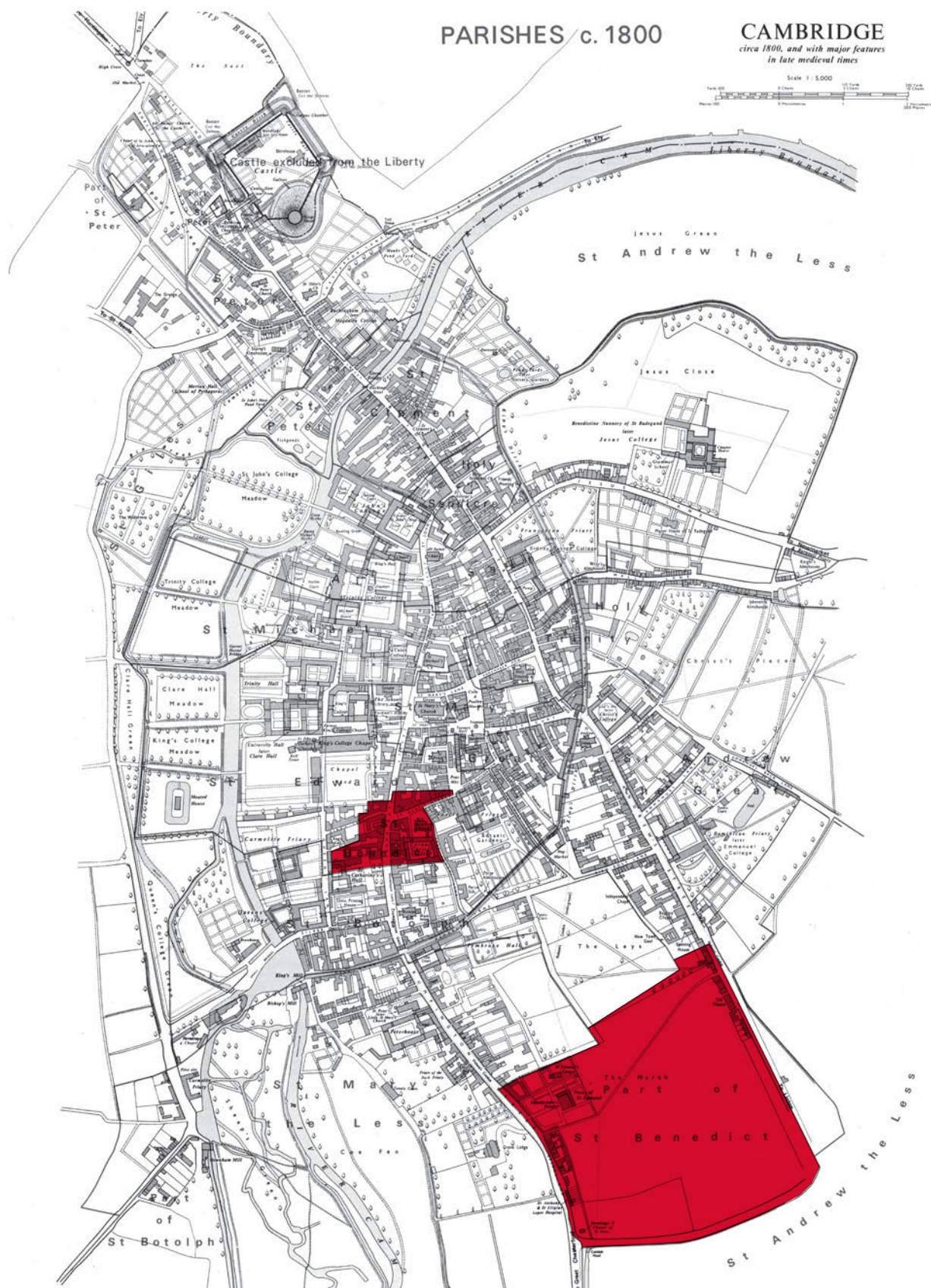


Figure 8. The historic parish of St Bene't's as it survived c. 1800, but fossilising the probable late 13th century pattern (after Lobel 1975, map 6)



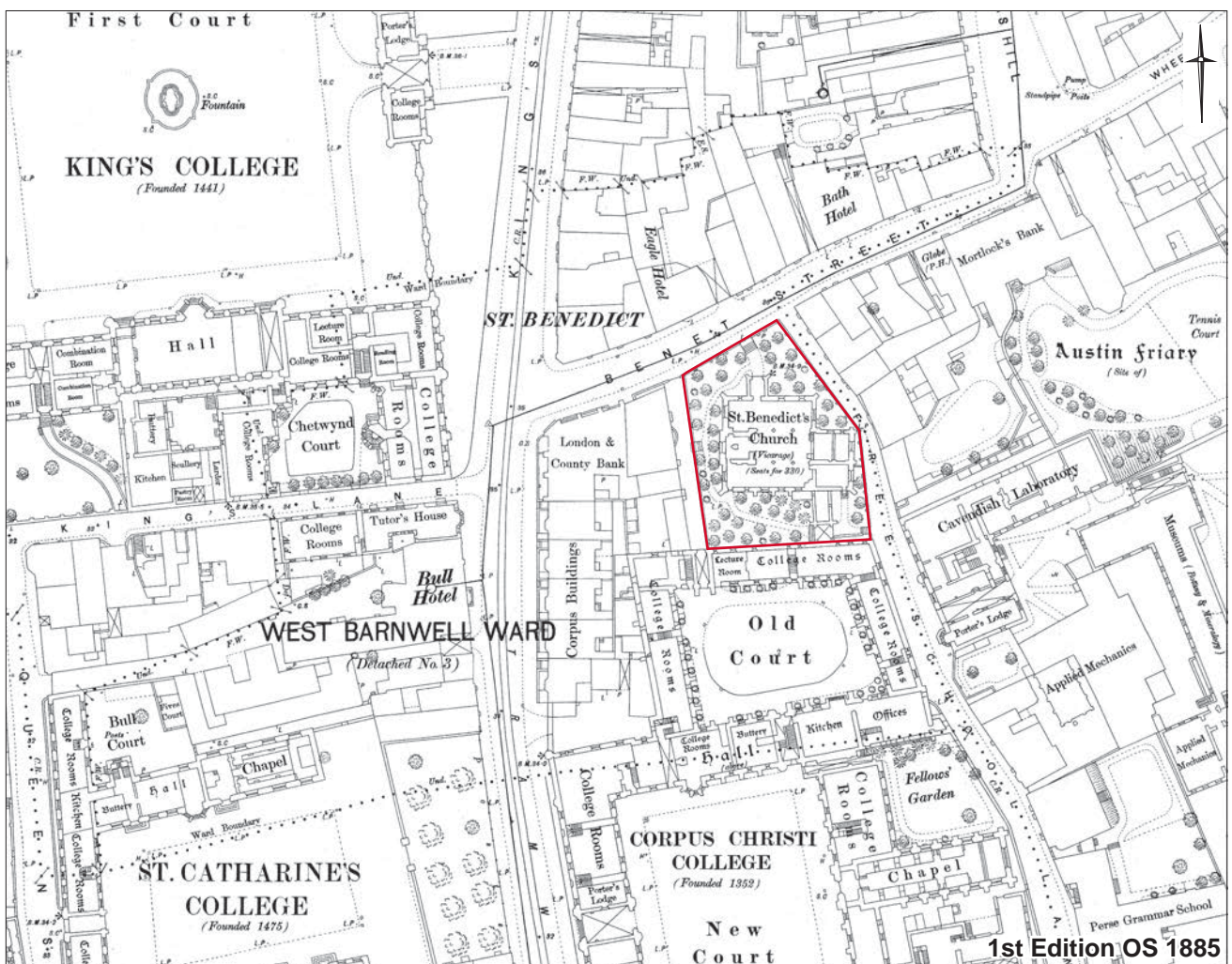
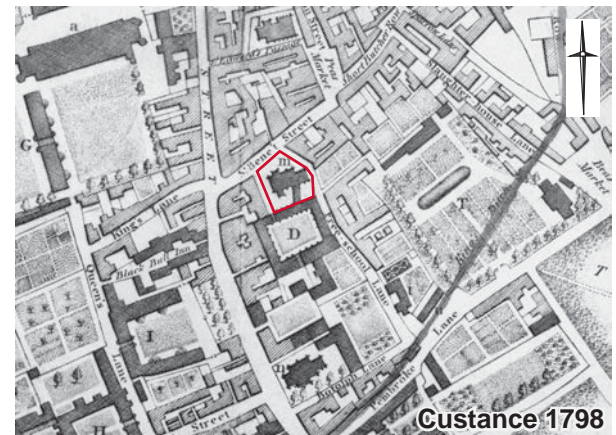
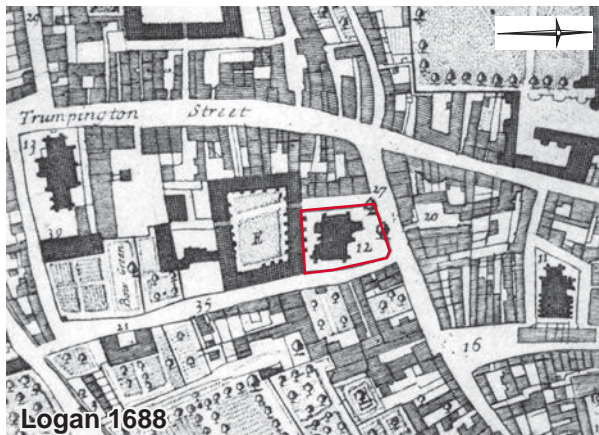
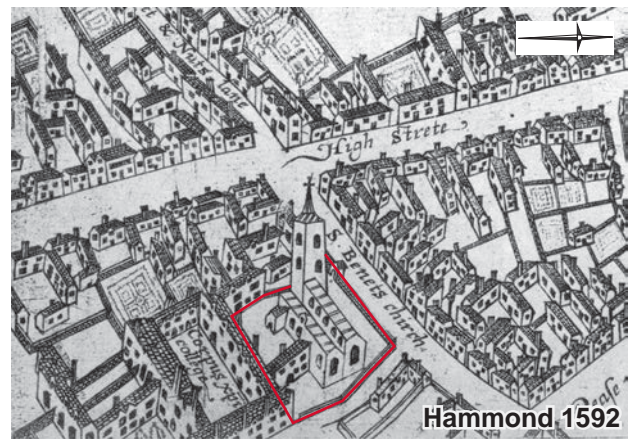
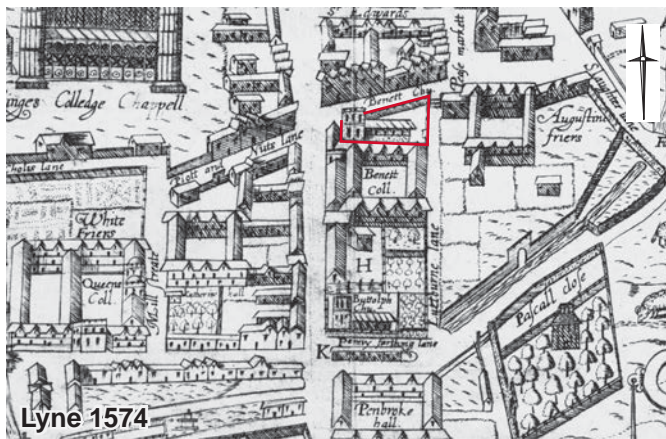


Figure 9. Historic map sequence, showing: Lyne's map of 1574 (top left); Hammond's map of 1592 (top right); Logan's map of 1688 (middle left); Custance's map of 1798 (middle right), and; 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885 (bottom)



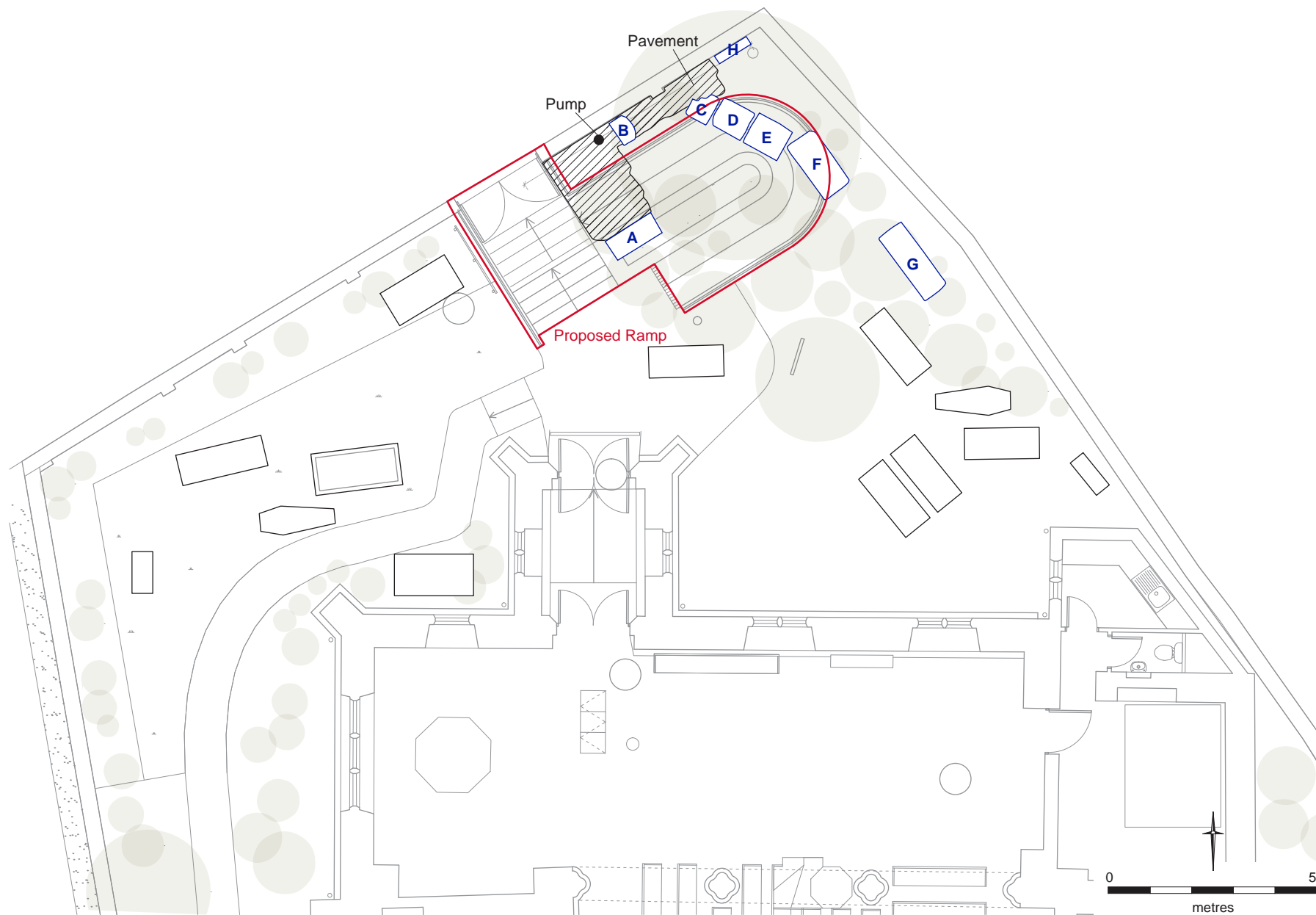


Figure 10. Plan of present-day churchyard, showing gravestones recorded during preliminary survey along with location of proposed access ramp





Figure 11. Views of churchyard, showing: (left) Gravestones C, D E and F, facing southeast; (right) 19th century hand pump, facing northwest. The arched void in the base of the boundary wall overlying the well head is partially visible at the base of the image



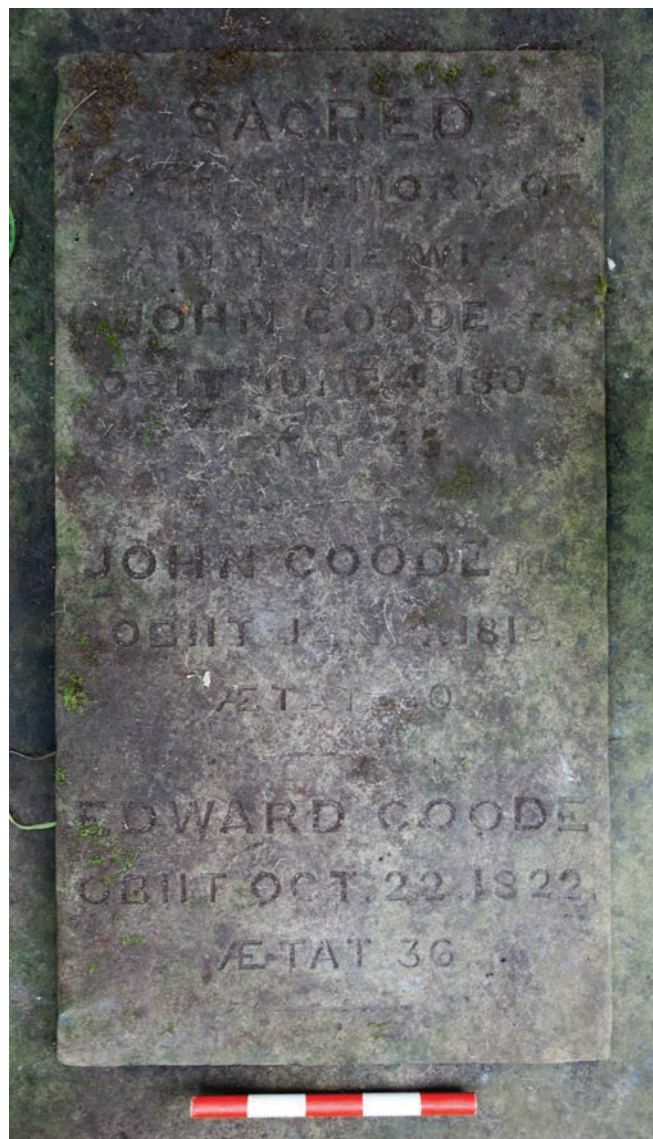


Figure 12. Inscribed gravestones, including: G (left); B (top right) and; H (bottom right)



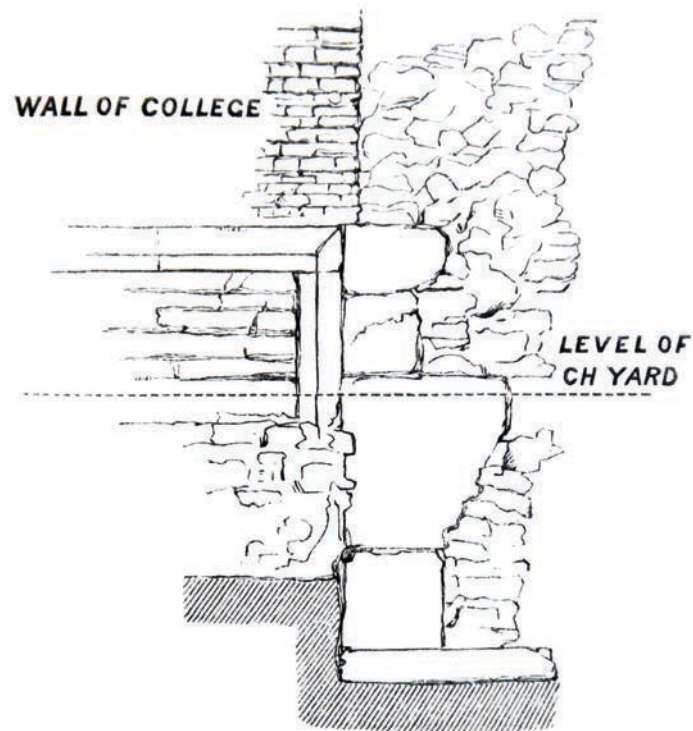


Figure 13. Historic views of the churchyard, including: (top) record of cemetery level relative to the church fabric in the southeast angle of the chancel made in 1872 (after Willis and Clark 1886 I, fig.11); (bottom) 1847 view facing northeast, from *Memorials of Cambridge* (Wright 1847)

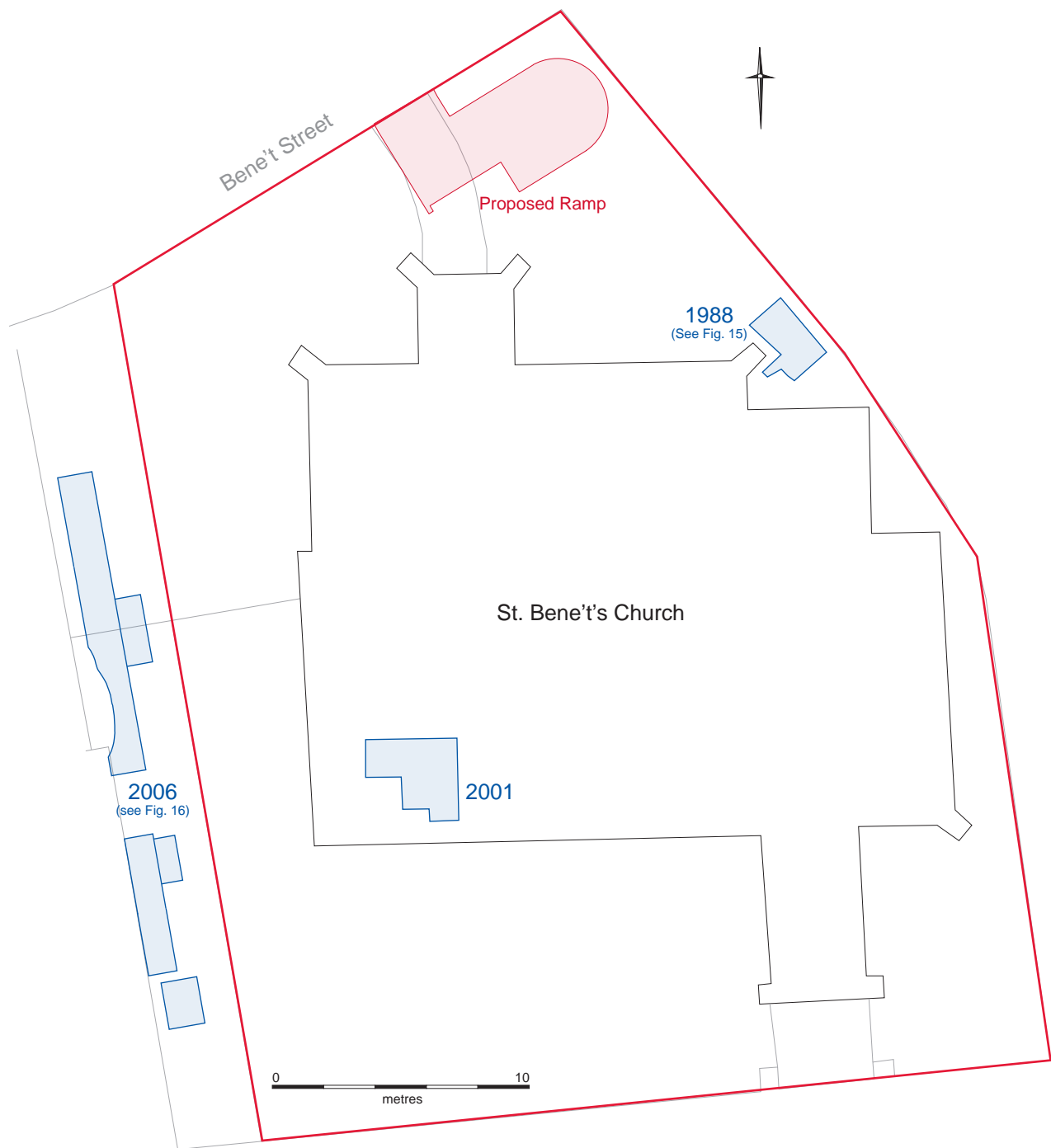


Figure 14. Previous investigations conducted both within and in close proximity to the church



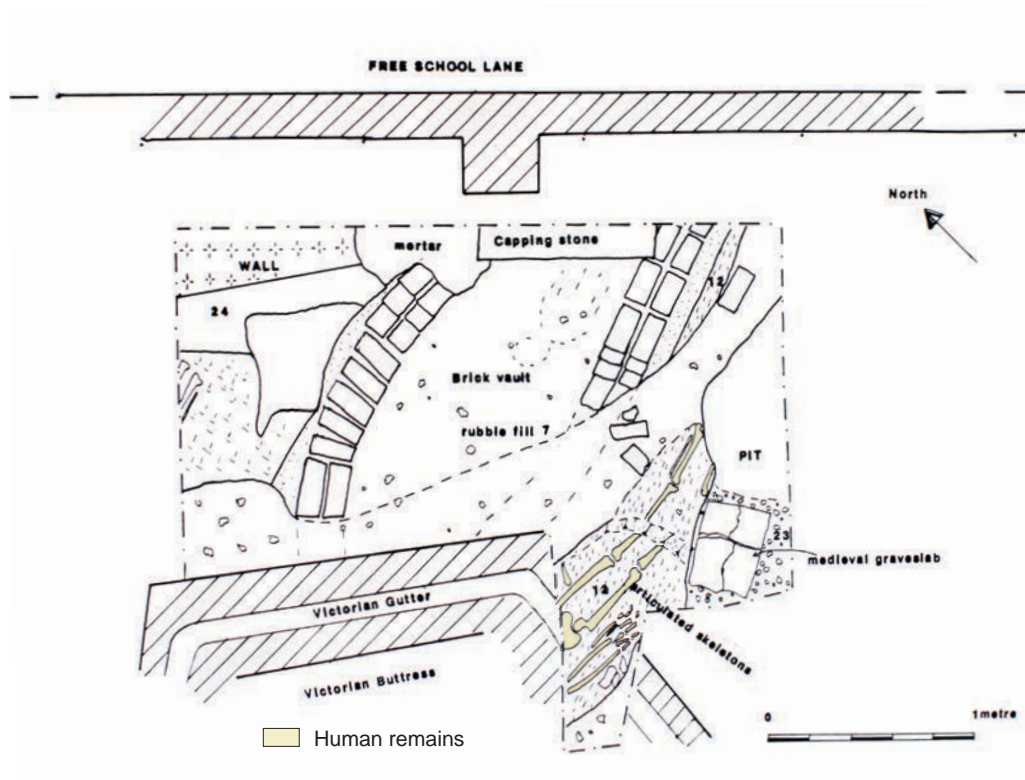


Figure 15. Plan and view of the trench excavated in 1988, facing northwest. Note the relative proximity of the articulated skeleton to the current ground level (after Malim 1988, fig. 3)

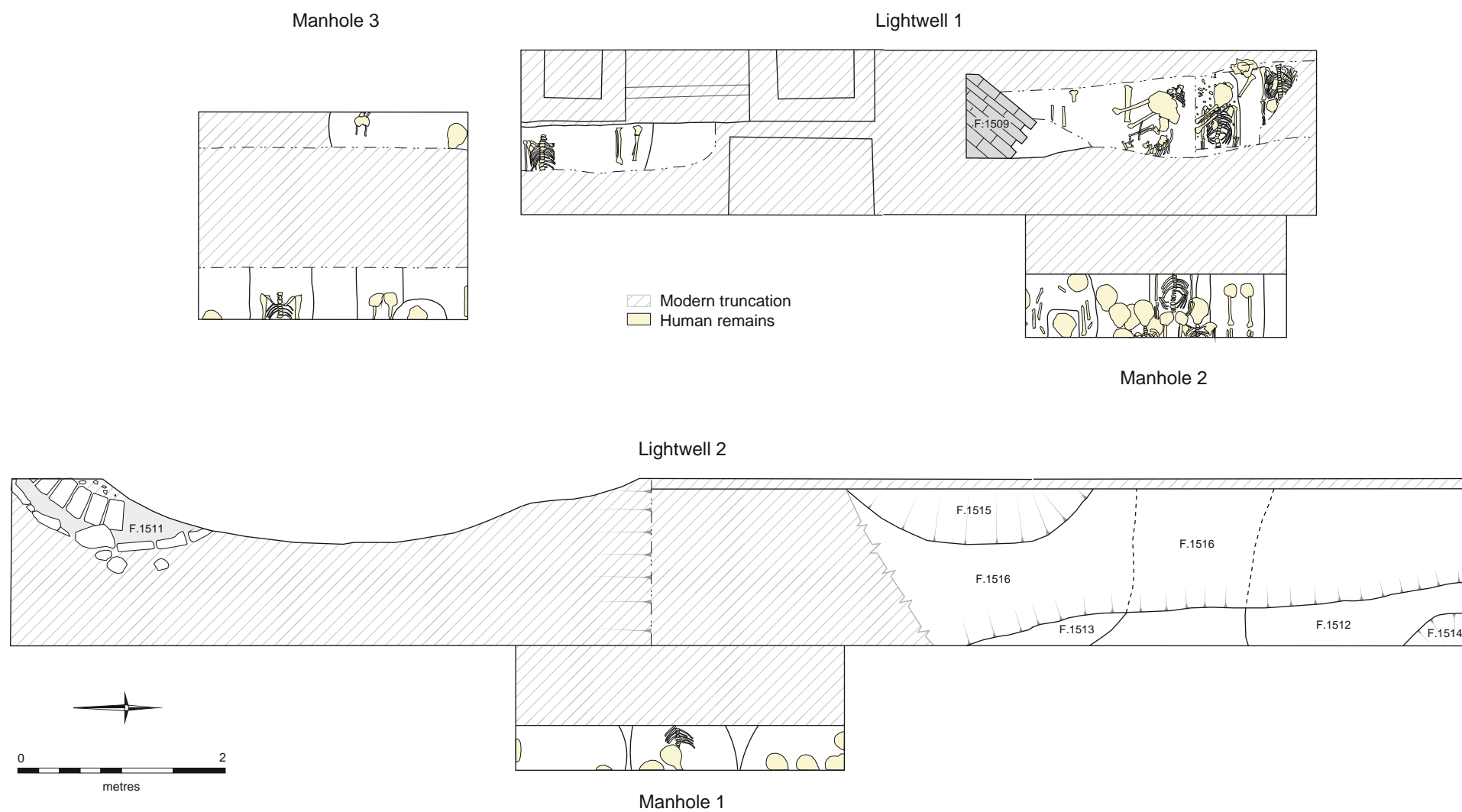


Figure 16. Detail showing skeletons revealed during watching brief undertaken in 2005 (after Cessford and Fallon 2006, fig. 18)

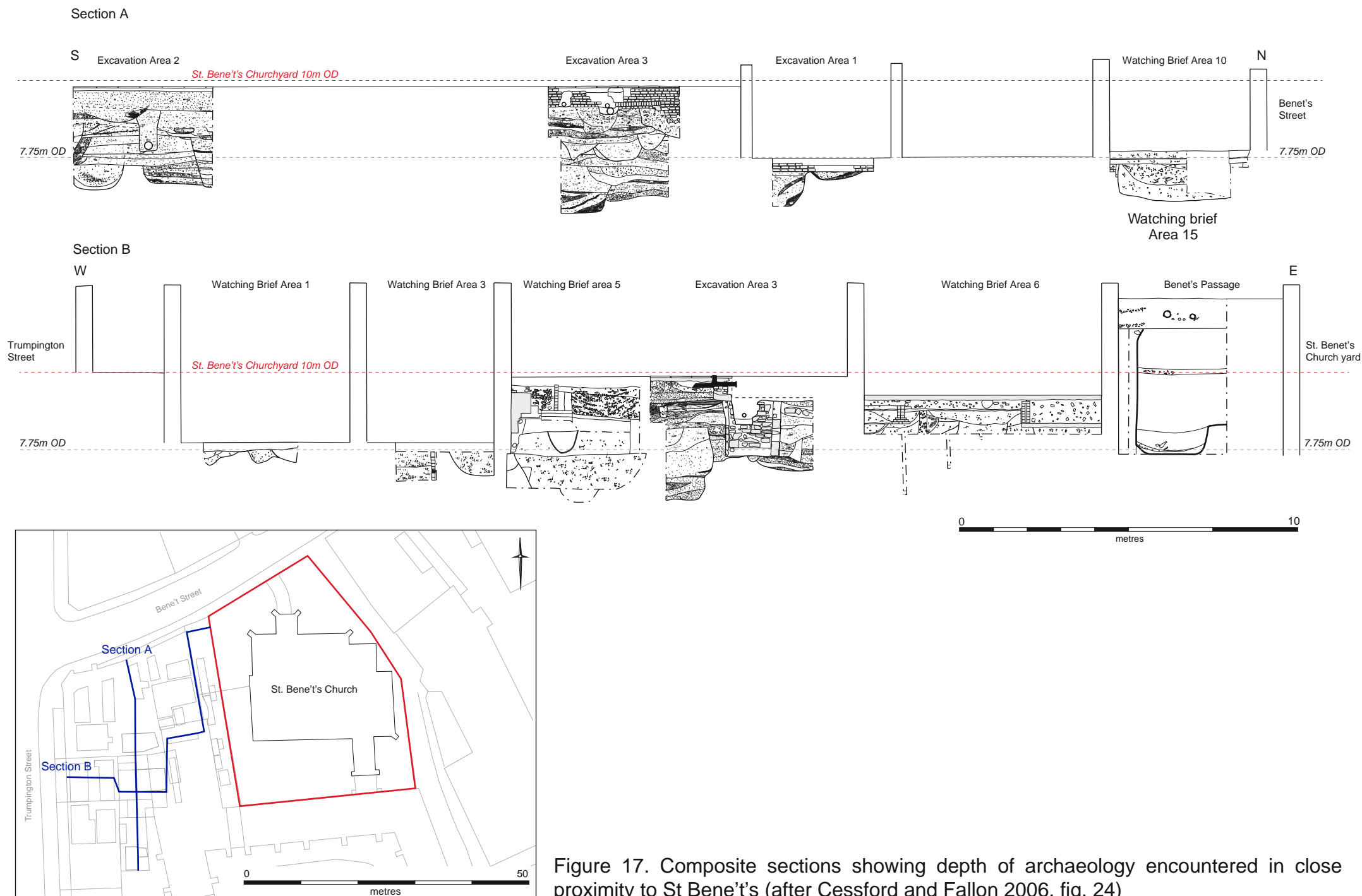


Figure 17. Composite sections showing depth of archaeology encountered in close proximity to St Bene't's (after Cessford and Fallon 2006, fig. 24)



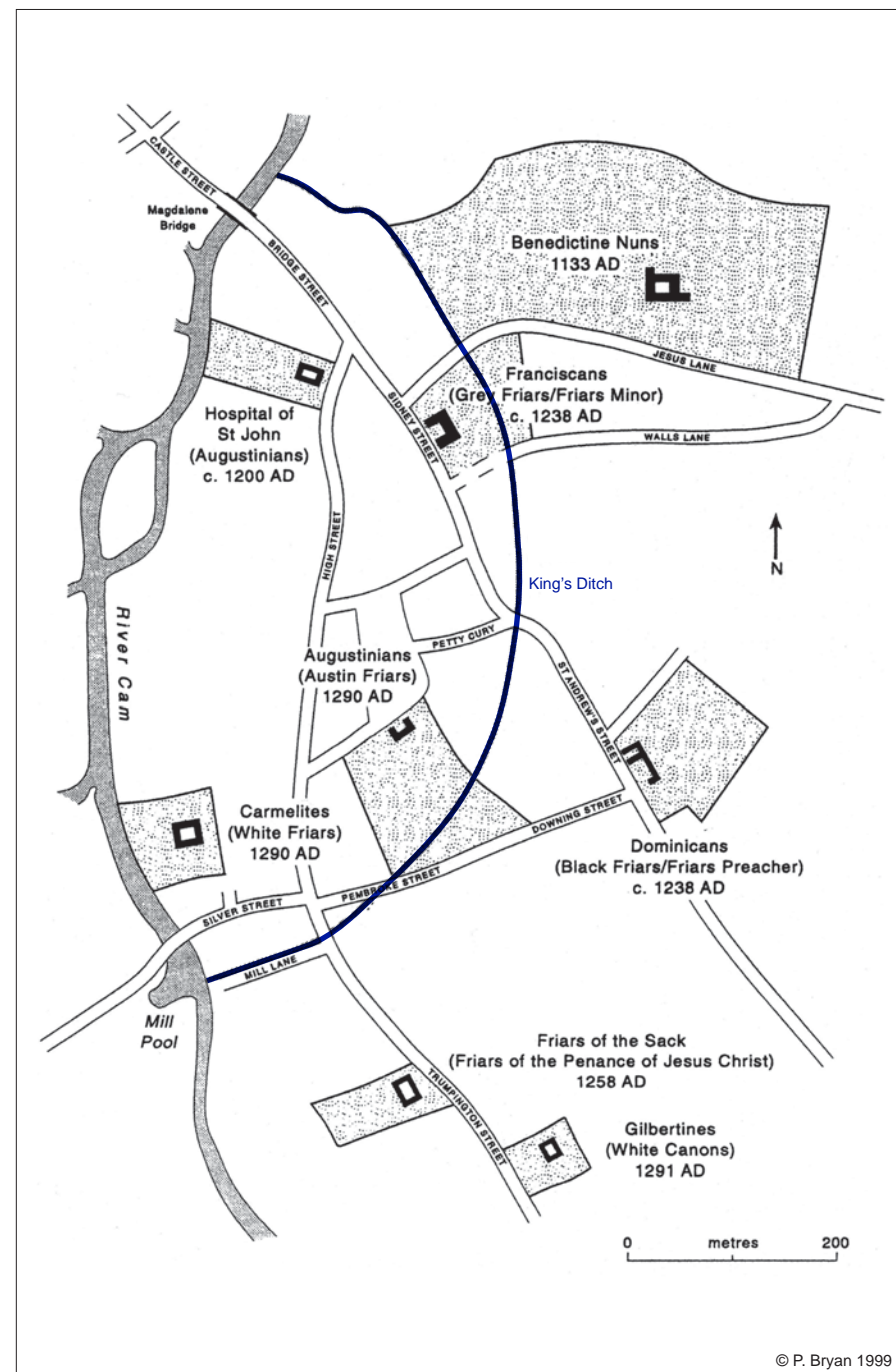
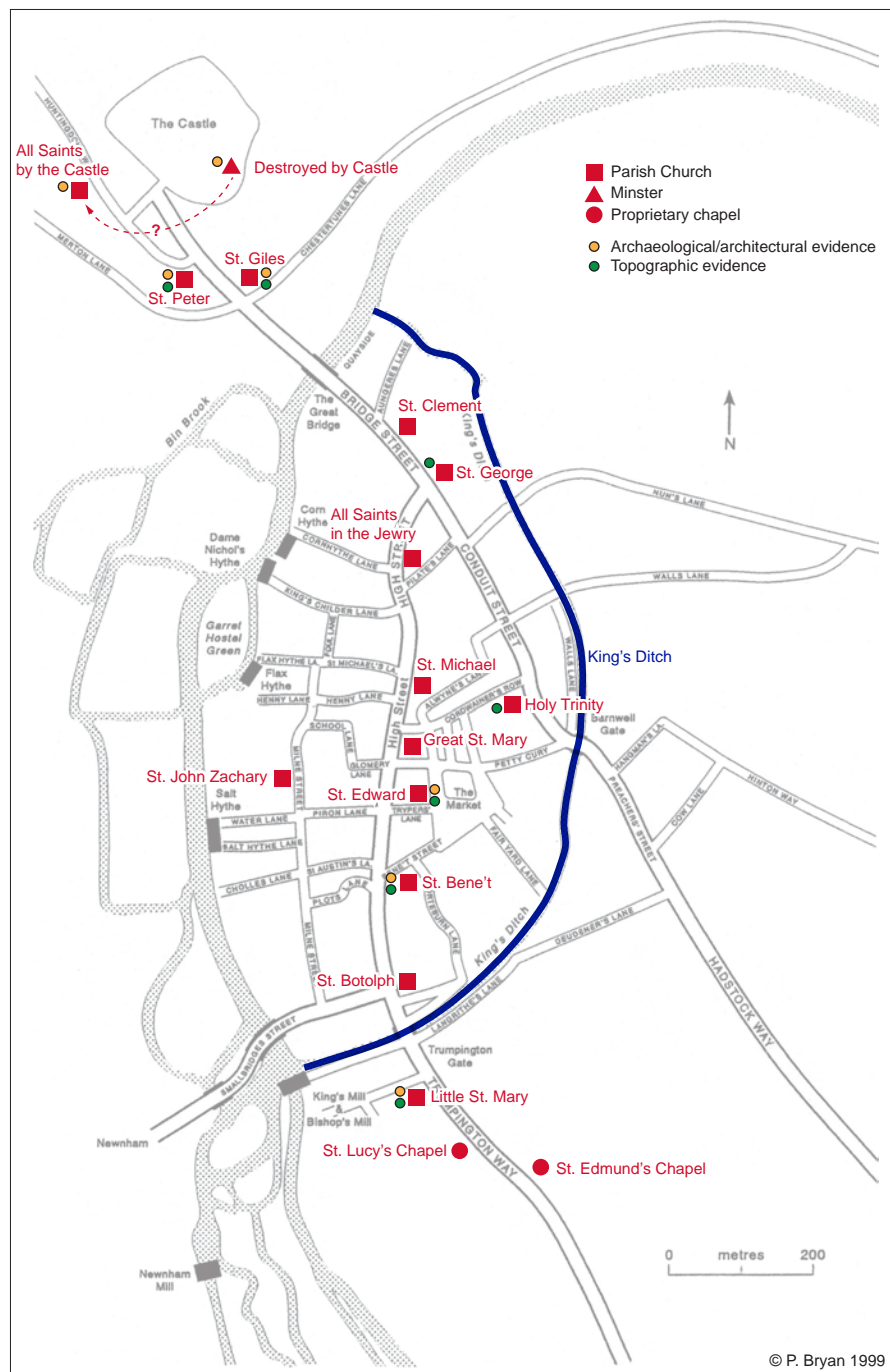


Figure 18. Medieval religious foundations in Cambridge, showing: (left) location of probable minster, parishes churches and proprietary chapels, with architectural/archaeological and topographic evidence of 11th century activity highlighted; (right) religious houses – including monasteries, friaries and hospitals – c. 1300 (background mapping in both images taken from Bryan 1999)



## 12 APPENDIX 1: PLANNING POLICY

### National Legislation and Policy

#### *National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012*

The heritage section of the NPPF incorporates – and streamlines – the existing policies contained in PPS5. It does not alter those policies or create new ones. One policy – HE5 (Monitoring Indicators) – from PPS5 has not been incorporated as a specific policy within the Framework. All other PPS5 policies have been condensed and are included within the heritage section or incorporated elsewhere within the NPPF. Transitional arrangements are provided within the NPPF to ensure that existing plans and submissions are not unduly delayed and reflect previous planning policy and guidelines, even where earlier guidance comes into potential conflict with the NPPF (Appendix 1).

While the NPPF is to be read as a whole in the context of archaeology the NPPF states at Section 17 that the Government's objective is 'to conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations'.

To achieve this, paragraph 126 states that: local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:

- The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation
- The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring
- The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness
- Opportunities to draw on the contribution

Paragraph 128 states that in determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum, the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where an application site includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-

based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the presumption in favour of sustainable development, the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

Paragraph 141 notes states that Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record, evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted”.

### ***Local Policy***

*Cambridge Local Plan* (July 2006; due to be updated 2017).

#### ***Chapter 3: Designing Cambridge***

##### ***3/4 Responding to Context***

Developments will be permitted which demonstrate that they have responded to their context and drawn inspiration from the key characteristics of their surroundings to create distinctive places. Such developments will:

- a) Identify and respond positively to existing features of natural, historic or local character on and close to the proposed development site;
- b) Be well connected to, and integrated with, the immediate locality and the wider City; and
- c) Have used the characteristics of the locality to help inform the siting, massing, design and materials of the proposed development.

##### ***Paragraph 3.10***

Cambridge has many distinctive qualities, which help to define the identity of the City as a whole and individual character of areas within the City. This includes its varied palette of building materials which helps define different character areas within the City. Development that responds to its context will ensure the creation of successful integrated development. Regard should be had to underlying archaeology.

##### ***Paragraph 3.11***

A development which responds positively to its context is one which will either enhance areas of existing high quality, or will seek to introduce a new and distinctive character to areas of weaker character. and minimise loss of countryside and the best

and most versatile agricultural land.

*Paragraph 3.12*

Proposals for development should use the Cambridge Landscape Character Assessment, the Conservation Area Appraisals, the County Historic Environment Record, and the (forthcoming) Historic Landscape Characterisation of Cambridgeshire as starting points to inform the key and desirable qualities to be retained or enhanced in the development.

*4/9 Scheduled Ancient Monuments/Archaeological Areas and 4/10 Listed Buildings.*

Proposals affecting Scheduled Ancient Monuments or other important archaeological remains and their settings must be accompanied by a full assessment of the nature and importance of the remains and the impact of the proposals on them as part of the application. When the remains or their settings are deemed to be of national importance, they should be preserved in situ and development damaging them will not be permitted.

In other cases, development will be permitted where deposits are being left undisturbed or impacts mitigated to an acceptable level and detailed arrangements for the recording, publication and archiving and/or display of and access to any artefacts are secured.

*Paragraph 4.32*

The desirability of preserving ancient monuments and their settings is a material planning consideration. Information on the archaeology of much of the historic core of Cambridge is available in an Urban Archaeological Database (UAD). The Historic Core Conservation Area Appraisal will contain specific archaeological guidance. Those involved in the development of sites need to have an early understanding of the potential for archaeological remains to be found on site.

*Paragraph 4.33*

Where the likelihood of archaeological remains exists, a project brief will normally be prepared by the County Council and endorsed by the City Council. The developer will then employ an archaeological consultant to carry out a thorough investigation based on this brief prior to the start of the development.

*Paragraph 4.34*

It is important that any findings are properly recorded and the information disseminated. This would include ensuring that the information is added to the UAD and copies of any reports lodged with the County Records Office, Cambridgeshire Collection and the City Council.

## APPENDIX 2: SITE AND FINDS GAZETTEER

| Gaz. No. | Grid Reference | Period        | Description  | References                                      | CHER Refs.                   |
|----------|----------------|---------------|--|---|------------------------------|
| 1        | TL 4465 5840   | Anglo-Saxon   | Anglo-Saxon pottery (410-1065) discovered in 1880  | Fox 1923, 245                                   | 04443                        |
| 2        | TL 4478 5848   | Post-Medieval | Monitoring conducted during construction of disabled access Senate House steps   | Cessford 2004                                   | 04515                        |
| 3        | TL 449 581     | Medieval      | Medieval finds recovered from a pit/well in Free School Lane in 1894   | Hughes 1898                                     | 04520<br>ECB4901<br>ECB4902  |
| 4        | TL 449 582     | Medieval      | Finds recovered from beneath the Physical Laboratory in 1895   | Browne 1974, 24                                 | 04521<br>ECB4900             |
| 5        | TL 4538 5539   | Post-Medieval | Hobson's Conduit, an early 17th century fresh water system that runs through the city  | RCHM(E) 1959, 307-9                             | 04529                        |
| 6        | TL 448 583     | Medieval      | Human remains found beneath Mortlock's House (No's 15 and 16 Bene't Street). No date given for discovery   | Browne 1974, 23;<br>Cranage and Stokes 1921     | 04532<br>ECB5071             |
| 7        | TL 448 584     | Medieval      | Medieval and post medieval structural remains found beneath the Central Hotel  | Addyman and Biddle 1965                         | 04533<br>ECB4829             |
| 8        | TL 448 584     | Medieval      | Medieval road surface identified in St. Edward's Passage   | Addyman and Biddle 1965                         | 04534<br>ECB4829             |
| 9        | TL 449 583     | Medieval      | Medieval pottery found at Free Library, Market Hill, 1908  | Browne 1974, 24                                 | 04535                        |
| 10       | TL 449 583     | Medieval      | 11th/12th century grave slab with interlace decoration found in 1781 when the Town Hall was being constructed  | Butler 1957, 92                                 | 04536                        |
| 11       | TL 449 583     | Medieval      | Stone bowl (mortar?) found on Guildhall site in 1935   | Corbett 1937                                    | 04538                        |
| 12       | TL 447 582     | Medieval      | Skeleton and pottery found on west side of Queens' Lane in 1907 during building work   | McKenny Hughes 1908                             | 04560<br>ECB4903             |
| 13       | TL 447 582     | Medieval      | Five inhumations and associated masonry remains found in 1958 -1960 during building work conducted beside the Friar's Building at Queens' College. This was formerly the site of a Carmelite friary that was acquired by the college in 1544 | McKenny Hughes 1908;<br>Addyman and Biddle 1965 | MCB2276304<br>561<br>ECB5032 |
| 14       | TL 447 582     | Medieval      | Medieval road remains found in Queens' Lane during building work in 1907   | McKenny Hughes 1908                             | 04562                        |
| 15       | TL 448 583     | Medieval      | Medieval pottery found beneath Union of London and Smith's Bank (No. 10 Bene't Street) during building work conducted in 1905  | Addyman and Biddle 1965                         | 04564                        |
| 16       | TL 448 582     | Medieval      | Medieval pottery found beneath the foundations of a house opposite St Bene'ts Church in Free School Lane during building work conducted in 1907  | Anon. 1909, 11                                  | 04565                        |
| 17       | TL 447 582     | Medieval      | Saxo-Norman pottery found in King's Lane in 1907   | Hurst 1956, 54                                  | 04580<br>ECB5032             |

| Gaz. No. | Grid Reference | Period                | Description  | References   | CHER Refs.   |
|----------|----------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| 18       | TL 4485 5807   | Medieval              | Site of the former Trumpington Gate, an entry point through the 12th century King's Ditch that partially encircled Cambridge   | Stokes 1908  | 04585  |
| 19       | TL 448 585     | Medieval              | Medieval gravestone of local clunch from Great St Mary's Church (43)   | Butler 1957  | 04590  |
| 20       | TL 4486 5838   | Medieval-present      | Parish church dedicated to Saint Edward King and Martyr. The earliest extant fabric comprises the 13th century west tower. The nave and aisles date to the 15th century, and the church was extensively restored 1858-60. Possible site of Late Saxon church   | RCHM(E) 1959, 271-9                                      | 04620<br>DCB7263   |
| 21       | TL 4485 5828   | Late Saxon-present    | Parish church dedicated to Saint Benedict. The oldest standing building in Cambridge, its west tower and parts of the nave date to the mid-11th century. Aisles were appended in the early 14th century and between 1352 and 1579 the church also served as the chapel of adjacent Corpus Christi College. It was extensively renovated in the mid-late 19th century                                 | RCHM(E) 1959, 263-66; Taylor and Taylor 1965, 129-32     | 04640<br>DCB7439<br>ECB1403<br>ECB1137                               |
| 22       | TL 449 583     | Post-Medieval         | A large ceramic assemblage recovered from a group of 17th century pits found beneath the former Barclay's Bank in Bene't Street. The sherds recovered represent over 140 vessels   | McCarthy 1974  | 04641  |
| 23       | TL 446 583     | Post-Medieval-present | King's College, which was founded by Henry VI in 1441. The original site, part of the Old Schools complex, was too constricted and a new plot was purchased in 1449. The chapel (completed 1515) is particularly noteworthy, and the college itself has continued to expand, particularly in the 19th century  | RCHM(E) 1959; Willis and Clark 1886                      | 04646<br>DCB7187-89<br>DCB7474-75<br>DCB7539-40<br>DCB7673<br>DCB494 |
| 24       | TL 4479 5840   | Roman                 | A Roman lachrymatory (a type of glass phial found with Roman burials and associated with the collection of tears) was found in removing the foundations of the old Provost's Lodge of King's College   | Babington 1883, 9  | 04646d   |
| 25       | TL 450 582     | Medieval              | A section of the King's Ditch excavated during the extension of the Masonic Hall on the east side of Slaughter House Lane (Corn Exchange Street) in 1914   | Browne 1974, 26  | 04651  |
| 26       | TL 450 581     | Prehistoric           | A 'prehistoric stone object' found in the Museum grounds on the Downing Street site  | Browne 1974, 26  | 04670  |
| 27       | TL 448 580     | Anglo-Saxon           | A possible 'Anglo-Saxon iron object' found opposite Pembroke College c.1899  | Browne 1974, 25  | 04673  |
| 28       | TL 4484 5814   | Medieval-present      | Parish church dedicated to Saint Botolph. The earliest surviving fabric is 14th century in date (with reused 12th century elements). The tower is 15th century in date, and the chancel was rebuilt in the 19th century.   | RCHM(E) 1959, 266-9                                      | 04683<br>DCB7635<br>ECB5030  |
| 29       | TL 449 585     | Medieval              | Medieval pottery found on Market Hill in the early 20th century  |  | 04686  |
| 30       | TL 4495 5825   | Medieval              | Site of an Augustinian Friary, which was founded c. 1290. The friary expanded to occupy a relatively substantial plot during the Middle Ages, extending from Pembroke Street to Corn Exchange Street, Wheeler Street and Free School Lane. Excavations conducted in 1908 during the construction of a new Examination Hall encountered structural remains and inhumations associated with the friary | Duckworth and Innes Pocock 1909; Cranage and Stokes 1921 | 04731<br>ECB5015   |
| 31       | TL 448 582     | Medieval-present      | Corpus Christi College, which was uniquely founded by townsmen; members of the Guilds of Corpus Christi and St Mary in St Bene't's parish. Construction of Old Court occurred 1352-77, and the college has subsequently continued to expand, with new courts added in the 19th century   | RCHM(E) 1959; Willis and Clark 1886                      | 04789<br>DCB7197   |

| Gaz. No. | Grid Reference | Period           | Description   | References  | CHER Refs.   |
|----------|----------------|------------------|---|---|--|
| 32       | TL 4493 5847   | Post-Medieval    | No. 5 Market Hill. A Grade I-listed 17th century timber-framed house  | RCHM(E) 1959, 328                                   | 04838<br>DCB7592   |
| 33       | TL 450 584     | Roman            | Roman bronze, bone, ivory and iron objects found in Petty Cury (under old house nearly opposite Falcon Inn) in 1880   | Browne 1974, 26                                     | 04848a   |
| 34       | TL 4481 5809   | Roman            | Roman finds from beneath the Pitt Press in 1892   | Bennett 1893  | 04865  |
| 35       | TL 4481 5809   | Medieval         | Section of the King's Ditch excavated in Mill Lane in 1892-3  | Hughes 1895   | 04865a<br>ECB4964  |
| 36       | TL 4473 5845   | Medieval-present | The Old Schools building complex; this housed the University's first purpose-built teaching facilities. The schools developed on a piecemeal basis from the late 114th to late 15th centuries. First to be built was the Divinity School, followed by the schools of Canon Law and Civil law. The Schools later housed the University Library until 1935  | Newman & Evans 2011;<br>Newman 2014;<br>Newman 2017 | 04943<br>ECB1663<br>ECB3202<br>ECB4936<br>ECB4316          |
| 37       | TL 447 585     | Medieval-present | Gonville and Caius College, founded by Edmund Gonville in 1348. It was moved to its present site in 1353. The College of four courts, of which Gonville Court is the earliest; it retains several 14th and 15th century buildings   | RCHM(E) 1959; Willis and Clark 1886                 | 04972<br>DCB7126<br>DCB7181-82<br>DCB7668<br>DCB7710       |
| 38       | TL 4485 5853   | Medieval-present | Parish church dedicated to Saint Michael. The original church was appropriated to the newly founded Michaelhouse College and rebuilt by its founder, Hervey de Stanton in 1324-1327. It is architecturally-important as a closely dated medieval building of one period. Following a fire, it was restored in 1849-1850   | RCHM(E) 1959, 284-6                                 | 04998<br>DCB7248   |
| 39       | TL 44 58       | Medieval         | The route of the King's Ditch, the 12th-century boundary of Cambridge   | Cessford and Dickens in prep.                       | 04999  |
| 40       | TL 449 580     | Medieval-present | Pembroke College, founded by Mary de Saint Paul, Countess of Pembroke, in 1347. The date of the commencement of the College buildings is not definitely known, but the oldest part, Old Court, was probably begun before 1389. Only the West Range, containing the Gateway and North Range, with the Chapel (now the Old Library), survive of this original building.                             | RCHM(E) 1959; Willis and Clark 1886                 | 05014<br>DCB7087-90<br>DCB7164-67<br>DCB7692-94<br>DCB7731 |
| 41       | TL 447 581     | Medieval-present | St Catharine's College, founded in 1475 by Dr Robert Woodlark, third provost of King's College. The original buildings were ranged around a small court adjacent to Milne Street, now Queens' Lane, and were subsequently extended by the addition of a second court on the south   | RCHM(E) 1959; Willis and Clark 1886                 | 05015<br>DCB7135-39<br>DCB7701-02                          |
| 42       | TL 449 584     | Medieval         | Saxo-Norman pottery found on Market Hill in 1902  | Hurst 1956, 49 & 54                                 | 05071  |
| 43       | TL 4485 5845   | Medieval-present | Parish church of St Mary the Great. The first documentary reference to the church dates to 1205 but this building was destroyed by fire in 1290 and was then rebuilt. Prior to 1352, it was known as The Church of St Mary the Virgin, but since that year has become known by its modern name. The present building was constructed between 1478 and 1519, with the tower finished later in 1608 | RCHM(E) 1959  | 05197<br>DCB7271   |

| Gaz. No. | Grid Reference | Period                 | Description  | References   | CHER Refs.                               |
|----------|----------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| 44       | TL 446 584     | Medieval-present       | Clare College, was initially founded by the University in 1326 as University Hall, before being refounded in 1338 as Clare Hall by Lady Elizabeth, daughter of Gilbert de Clare  | RCHM(E) 1959; Willis and Clark 1886                          | 05317<br>DCB7705                         |
| 45       | TL 446 581     | Medieval-present       | Queens' College, initially founded in 1448 by Queen Margaret of Anjou, wife of Henry VI, and was refounded in 1465 by Queen Elizabeth Woodville, wife of Edward IV. The buildings surrounding Front Court, including the Gatehouse, Hall and Library, were built in 1448-49 with some later alterations. The North and West ranges and South Walk of Cloister Court are of mid-15th century date | RCHM(E) 1959; Willis and Clark 1886                          | 05362<br>DCB7084<br>DCB7700              |
| 46       | TL 4508 5825   | Post-Medieval          | An early post-medieval well encountered beneath the Holiday Inn, Downing Street  | Malim 1989   | 09835                                    |
| 47       | TL 448 582     | Medieval               | Medieval remains encountered beneath the Cavendish Laboratory on Free School Lane  | Hunter 1991  | 10254                                    |
| 48       | TL 449 582     | Anglo-Saxon            | A penny of Ethelred II's Crux type (c. 991 - 997) from the London mint found in Free School Lane. It is likely to have been lost before c. 1000  | Blackburn and Haigh 1986, 61-2                               | 10518                                    |
| 49       | TL 449 585     | Medieval-Post-Medieval | In 1993 an archaeological recording brief was carried out on a deep excavation located in the centre of Cambridge. The remains of a large quarry were noted as well as several large pits  | Bray 1993  | 11140<br>ECB988                          |
| 50       | TL 4472 5849   | Medieval-Post-Medieval | An archaeological excavation conducted at the Bateman Building, Gonville and Caius College in 1995. Saxo-Norman and medieval pits were encountered, as well as an 18th-century stable block  | Alexander 1995   | 11869<br>ECB1658                         |
| 51       | TL 4485 5837   | Medieval-Post-Medieval | An excavation conducted at 7-8 St Edwards Passage in 1995. Medieval pits, wells and an oven/kiln were encountered  | Mortimer 1995  | 11870<br>ECB1593                         |
| 52       | TL 4483 5835   | Medieval-Post-Medieval | Excavations conducted at Bene't Court in 1992 and 1996 revealed evidence of medieval and post-medieval occupation, including a large ceramic assemblage  | Hunter 1992;<br>Edwards 1996                                 | 11927<br>ECB2998<br>ECB977               |
| 53       | TL 4485 5833   | Medieval-Post-Medieval | An archaeological excavation conducted at the Bath Hotel in 1994 encountered medieval and post-medieval features including a group of tanks  | Edwards 1997   | 11933<br>ECB1138                         |
| 54       | TL 44932 58039 | Medieval               | A 16th-century pit group, containing a substantial finds assemblage, excavated beneath Pembroke College Library  | Hall 2002  | CB15247<br>ECB906                        |
| 55       | TL 44836 58521 | Medieval-Post-Medieval | Medieval burials and a cobbled pathway investigated in close proximity to St Michael's Church  | Hall 2000  | CB15505<br>ECB1145                       |
| 56       | TL 44859 58108 | Medieval-Post-Medieval | An archaeological excavation conducted on land behind 52-54 Trumpington Street encountered medieval and post-medieval features   | Whittaker 2001   | CB15507<br>ECB1147                       |
| 57       | TL 44881 58262 | Medieval               | An archaeological excavation conducted at the Cavendish Laboratory, Free School Lane encountered Saxo-Norman and medieval features, with the latter probably associated with the Augustinian Friary (30)   | Hunter 1991  | CB15721<br>ECB1401                       |
| 58       | TL 44829 58389 | Medieval-Post-Medieval | Medieval and post-medieval remains encountered during archaeological monitoring conducted on King's Parade in 2003   | Hall and Brudenell 2003                                      | CB15725<br>ECB1406                       |
| 59       | TL 44825 58262 | Medieval-Post-Medieval | Archaeological excavations and monitoring conducted at Hostel Yard, Corpus Christi College encountered a long-lived domestic sequence extending from the 11th to the 19th centuries. Medieval inhumations associated with St Bene't's churchyard were also identified  | Cessford 2004;<br>Cessford 2005;<br>Cessford and Fallon 2006 | CB15756<br>ECB1455<br>ECB2368<br>ECB2460 |

| Gaz. No. | Grid Reference | Period                 | Description   | References                      | CHER Refs.                     |
|----------|----------------|------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 60       | TL 44842 58389 | Post-Medieval          | Post-medieval structures encountered in St. Edwards Passage   | Alexander 1998                  | MCB15899<br>ECB1594            |
| 61       | TL 44869 58371 | Medieval               | Human remains encountered in St. Edward's Passage. Medieval in date and probably associated with an early graveyard attached to the church of St. Edward King and Martyr  | Reynolds 1996                   | 04620<br>ECB1596               |
| 62       | TL 44893 58157 | Medieval-Post-Medieval | Investigations conducted in the Master's Garden, Corpus Christi College encountered medieval and post-medieval features, including the remnants of a Real Tennis Court  | Edwards 1996;<br>Alexander 1997 | MCB15941<br>ECB1625<br>ECB1624 |
| 63       | TL 44857 58040 | Medieval-Post-Medieval | Well and wall remains excavated at 76 Trumpington Street  | Dickens 1995                    | MCB15982<br>ECB1671            |
| 64       | TL 44812 58481 | Medieval-Post-Medieval | A watching brief was carried out on a trench dug to replace the water mains on Trinity Street and King's Parade in 1998, revealing excellent preservation of archaeological deposits. At least seven earlier road surfaces were identified, as well as medieval features and five post-medieval cellars   | Alexander 1998                  | MCB15991<br>ECB1655            |
| 65       | TL 44806 58342 | Medieval-Post-Medieval | A second watching brief was carried out on a trench dug to replace the water mains on King's Parade in 1999, this time recording the stretch between Great St. Mary's to the junction of King's Parade and Bene't Street. A deep and complex urban sequence was revealed, comprising two lanes of probable pre-Conquest date, 12th/13th century dumping, and 13th-15th century timber buildings. The latter were cut by structures which were demolished in the 18th/19th centuries | Cessford 1999                   | MCB15993<br>ECB1678            |
| 66       | TL 44794 58500 | Post-Medieval          | An excavation conducted at Gonville and Caius College in 1981 revealed structural remains of post-medieval date   | Richmond, Hall and Taylor 1982  | MCB16099<br>ECB1724            |
| 67       | TL 4472 5839   | Post-Medieval          | Finds recovered from beneath the stalls of King's College Chapel during archaeological monitoring   | Dickens 2001                    | MCB17228<br>ECB1818            |
| 68       | TL 44879 58352 | Post-Medieval          | A 16th/17th century timber-framed house recorded at 4-5 Peas Hill   | Dickens and Darrah 2007         | MCB17879<br>DCB7317<br>ECB2822 |
| 69       | TL 44835 58413 | Post-Medieval          | 19th century remains encountered at 1 St Mary's Passage (Aunties Teashop)   | Hall 2000                       | MCB17898<br>ECB2975            |
| 70       | TL 4477 5822   | Medieval-Post-Medieval | An archaeological excavation conducted at St Catherine's College encountered features of medieval and post-medieval date  | Newman 2013                     | MCB19903<br>ECB3801            |
| 71       | TL 4475 5816   | Medieval-Post-Medieval | Archaeological monitoring undertaken within St Catherine's College basement encountered heavily truncated medieval remains  | Newman 2014                     | MCB20244<br>ECB4249            |
| 72       | TL 4487 5819   | Post-Medieval          | Former chapel of Corpus Christi College built some 25 yards south of Old Court in 1579. An early attempt to replace it was made in the late 18th century, but it was not until Wilkin's design for the New Court in 1823 that the original chapel was demolished. The stone was said to have come from Thorney Abbey and Barnwell Priory  | Willis and Clark 1886<br>I, 289 | MCB21988                       |
| 73       | TL 4491 5820   | Medieval               | Medieval pottery found under old house during construction of extension to Engineering Laboratory in 1912   | Browne 1976, 24                 | MCB22283<br>ECB4899            |



| Gaz. No. | Grid Reference | Period                    | Description  | References                 | CHER Refs.          |
|----------|----------------|---------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 74       | TL 4489 5822   | Medieval                  | Medieval pottery and coin from Free School Lane  | Browne 1976, 25            | MCB22284            |
| 75       | TL 4495 5840   | Roman?<br>Medieval        | Possible Roman pit and medieval features encountered during salvage excavation in Petty Cury in 1972   | Dickens 1999               | MCB22636<br>ECB1301 |
| 76       | TL 4473 5824   | Post-Medieval             | Brick and clunch-built well found beneath King's Lane, probably 18th century in date   | McKenny Hughes, T.<br>1908 | MCB22762<br>ECB5032 |
| 77       | TL 4489 5847   | Post-Medieval             | 16th-18th century foundations, wells, ditches and pits observed in the middle of the market square in 1902   | McKenny Hughes, T.<br>1904 | MCB22773<br>ECB5040 |
| 78       | TL 4489 5831   | Medieval<br>Post-Medieval | Opposite the north end of St. Bene't Church, in the north-west corner of the New Museum's site, a stone building once stood which was used as a house. It was called the "Refectory", "Principal Messuage", "Freehold Mansion", or "Great House" and was occupied in the 18th century by a Mr Buck who died in 1746. On his death the building was bought by Mr Finch, who tore it down due to its poor state of repair and replaced it with a brick house which later became the property of Mr Mortlock (of Mortlock's Bank) | Cranage and Stokes<br>1921 | MCB22922            |
| 79       | TL 4467 5838   | Medieval                  | Site of the former medieval parish church of St. John's Zachary and its associated vicarage. In 1445-6 the church was one of many properties demolished by King Henry VI to make room for his expansion of King's College. The parish of St. John's was amalgamated with that of St. Edward. The date of the church's original foundation is not known   | Clark 1881                 | MCB23118            |
| 80       | TL 44879 58338 | Post-Medieval             | No. 7 Peas Hill. A Grade II-listed townhouse of the early 18th century, incorporating timber-framing from an earlier structure   | RCHM(E) 1959, 148          | DCB7029             |
| 81       | TL 44918 58336 | Post-Medieval             | No. 11 Peas Hill. A Grade II-listed timber-framed and plastered townhouse of late 16th/early 17th century date   | RCHM(E) 1959, 144          | DCB7030             |
| 82       | TL 44818 58276 | Post-Medieval             | No. 10 Bene't Street (National Westminster Bank). A Grade II-listed building of 1866 by Horace Francis   | -                          | DCB7108             |
| 83       | TL 44838 58293 | Post-Medieval             | Railings and gates of St Benet's churchyard, Grade II-listed. Cast iron spear-head railings on a low brick retaining wall. Two pairs of gates, facing Free School Lane and Bene't Street respectively  | -                          | DCB7109             |
| 84       | TL 44880 58352 | Post-Medieval             | No's 4 and 5 Peas Hill. A Grade II-listed townhouse of part-medieval, part 17th and part 18th century date   | RCHM(E) 1959, 145          | DCB7317             |
| 85       | TL 44923 58325 | Post-Medieval             | No. 10 Peas Hill. A Grade II-listed townhouse of c. 1830   | RCHM(E) 1959, 147          | DCB7318             |
| 86       | TL 44871 58296 | Post-Medieval             | No. 3 Free School Lane. A Grade II-listed townhouse of late 16th century date  | RCHM(E) 1959, 143          | DCB7404             |
| 87       | TL 44874 58328 | Post-Medieval             | No. 2 Bene't Street (Stanley House). A Grade II-listed townhouse of early 19th century   | -                          | DCB7434             |
| 88       | TL 44852 58323 | Post-Medieval             | No. 4 Bene't Street. A Grade II-listed townhouse of c. 1825  | -                          | DCB7435             |
| 89       | TL 44846 58321 | Post-Medieval             | No. 5 Bene't Street. Grade II-listed timber-framed townhouse of late 16th/early 17th century date, remodelled c. 1700  | RCHM(E) 1959, 137          | DCB7436             |
| 90       | TL 44831 58332 | Post-Medieval             | No. 7 Bene't Street (The Eagle Inn). A Grade II-listed inn of c. 1600, which has been remodelled and extended in the 19th century  | RCHM(E) 1959, 136          | DCB7437             |
| 91       | TL 44819 58311 | Post-Medieval             | No. 9 Bene't Street. A Grade II-listed townhouse of early 19th century date  | RCHM(E) 1959, 133          | DCB7438             |
| 92       | TL 44822 58270 | Post-Medieval             | No.12 Bene't Street (Friar House). A Grade II-listed townhouse of early 17th century date  | RCHM(E) 1959, 142          | DCB7440             |
| 93       | TL 44864 58307 | Post-Medieval             | No. 13 Bene't Street (Culpepper House). A Grade II-listed townhouse of early 19th century date   | -                          | DCB7441             |

| <b>Gaz. No.</b> | <b>Grid Reference</b> | <b>Period</b>          | <b>Description</b>   | <b>References</b>             | <b>CHER Refs.</b>    |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>94</b>       | TL 44890 58311        | Post-Medieval          | No. 16 Bene't Street (Barclay's Bank). A Grade II-listed building of mid18th century date that was substantially rebuilt in the 19th century and restored in 1970  | RCHM(E) 1959, 140             | DCB7442              |
| <b>95</b>       | TL 44856 58322        | Post-Medieval          | No. 3 Bene't Street (Bath Hotel). A Grade II-listed building of 17th century date, which was refronted in the 18th century   | RCHM(E) 1959, 139             | DCB7566              |
| <b>96</b>       | TL 44830 58308        | Post-Medieval          | No.'s 6 and 8 Bene't Street. A Grade II-listed townhouse of early 19th century date  | RCHM(E) 1959, 134-5           | DCB7719              |
| <b>97</b>       | TL 4493 5830          | Medieval               | An excavation conducted in 2016-17 beneath the former Art School at the New Museums site. Medieval remains pertaining to 11th to 13th century domestic occupation were encountered, which were succeeded by masonry buildings and inhumations associated with the Augustinian Friary that was established at the site c. 1290. Some post-Dissolution features were also identified | Cessford in prep.             | -                    |
| <b>98</b>       | TL 451 583            | Medieval-Post-Medieval | A large-scale excavation conducted at the Grande Arcade site in 2005-06. Evidence of 11th-19th century occupation was encountered, including substantial post-medieval finds assemblages   | Cessford and Dickens in prep. | ECB 2379<br>ECB 2389 |

## 13 OASIS FORM

| OASIS ID: cambridg3-286953             |   |
|--|---|
| Project Details                        |   |
| Project name                           | St Bene't's Church, Cambridge   |
| Short description of the project       | A preliminary recording project was undertaken within the churchyard of St Bene't's Church, Cambridge, in advance of proposed development. A group of gravestones that have been reused as paving around a 19th century hand-pump located on the edge of the cemetery were recorded. This work took place as part of a broader desk-based assessment of St Bene't's, standing elements of which date to c. 1050 and represent the only extant pre-Conquest building in the city, and one of only two in the county. |
| Project dates                          | Start: 11-05-2017 End: 11-05-2017   |
| Previous/future work                   | Yes / Not known   |
| Any associated project reference codes | ECB5136 - HER event no.   |
| Type of project                        | Recording project   |
| Site status                            | Listed Building   |
| Current Land use                       | Other 4 - Churchyard  |
| Monument type                          | GRAVESTONE Post Medieval  |
| Significant Finds                      | GRAVESTONE Post Medieval  |
| Investigation type                     | "Field observation", "Recorded Observation"   |
| Prompt                                 | Faculty jurisdiction  |
| Project Location                       |   |
| Country                                | England   |
| Site location                          | CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE St Bene't's Church, Cambridge  |
| Postcode                               | CB2 3PT   |
| Study area                             | 1108 Square metres  |
| Site coordinates                       | TL 44860 58276 52.203222328166 0.120044870714 52 12 11 N 000 07 12 E Point  |
| Height OD / Depth                      | Min: 7.4m Max: 7.8m   |
| Project Creators                       |   |
| Name of Organisation                   | Cambridge Archaeological Unit   |
| Project brief originator               | Parochial Church Council  |
| Project design originator              | Alison Dickens  |
| Project director/manager               | Alison Dickens  |
| Project supervisor                     | Richard Newman  |
| Type of sponsor/funding body           | Parochial Church Council  |
| Name of sponsor/funding body           | St Bene't's Parochial Church Council  |
| Project Archives                       |   |
| Physical Archive Exists?               | No  |
| Digital Archive recipient              | Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Store   |

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Digital Archive ID            | St Bene't's 2017   |
| Digital Contents              | "Survey", "other"  |
| Digital Media available       | "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"  |
| Paper Archive recipient       | Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Store  |
| Paper Archive ID              | St Bene't's 2017   |
| Paper Contents                | "other"  |
| Paper Media available         | "Photograph", "Plan", "Report"   |
| <b>Project Bibliography</b>   |  |
| Publication type              | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  |
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| Author(s)/Editor(s)           | Newman, R.   |
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