

# Worked Stone Fragments from Holy Trinity Church Great Paxton



**Historic Buildings Recording**



January 2010

**Client: Holy Trinity Church**

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## **Worked Stone Fragments From Holy Trinity, Great Paxton**

*Historic Buildings Recording*

*By Andrew Corrigan BA*

*Editor: Toby Gane MPhil MIFA*

*Illustrator: Andrew Corrigan BA*

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**Position:** Technical Supervisor  
**Date:**  
**Checked by:** Toby Gane  
**Position:** Contracts Manager  
**Date:**  
**Signed:**   
.....

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**Oxford Archaeology East,**  
15 Trafalgar Way,  
Bar Hill,  
Cambridge,  
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500  
f: 01223 850599  
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net  
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast>

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## Summary

*In August 2009 Oxford Archaeology East undertook a project at Holy Trinity Church, Great Paxton. The church has a long and interesting history dating back to the late Anglo-Saxon period. During works to improve facilities at the church, the stone floor of the tower was to be lowered. On commencement of the works it was discovered that many of the stones lifted from the floor had been worked and this project was commissioned to record and briefly analyse the stone fragments.*

*There were many fragments of worked stone, much of which was largely un-diagnostic, but there were several fragments of particular interest that probably date back to the early phases of the church. Perhaps the most interesting was a fragment of a coffin slab, thought to pre-date 1275, on which a design had been carved and later defaced. Many of the fragments appear to have been pieces of unfinished stonework, so whilst analysis and dating is difficult, they probably date to one of the periods of major refurbishment at the church.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 A Historic Buildings Recording survey was conducted at Holy Trinity, Great Paxton, Cambridgeshire (Plate 1).
- 1.1.2 This archaeological assessment was undertaken at the request of the Church; supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (formerly Cambridgeshire County Council's CAM ARC) and approved by the Diocese Archaeological Advisor.
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990).
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

### 1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 Holy Trinity church is situated on Boulder Clay (BGS 1:50,000, sheet 187) at the north end of the village of Great Paxton on the East bank of the River Great Ouse, about 3 miles northeast of St Neots, Cambridgeshire.

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 Holy Trinity Church is a Grade 1 listed building; for the full listed building entry see appendix B. The history of the church is also fairly well documented by Pevsner (1968, 254-255) and Dickinson (1995), from which a summary is presented below.
- 1.3.2 Probably built in the early half of the 11th century, Great Paxton Church was comparatively large and unique in Britain for a Saxon church. It is thought to have been a minster church with an aisled nave, the architectural style of which has been compared to Germanic styles of the 10th and 11th centuries, and is unique in England. The pier capitals are particularly unusual (Plate 2).
- 1.3.3 The Royal Archaeological Institute researched and visited the church in 1967, Huntingdonshire Local History Society carried out some excavations on the north side of the church in 1971, which revealed the substantial foundations of the Saxon transept. It was this, among other evidence, that assisted Dickinson to suggest a reconstruction plan of the minster church (Dickinson 1995, 9)
- 1.3.4 The present walls of the chancel were built in the late 13th century and the south porch was constructed in the mid 14th century. The present piscina and sedilla were added to the chancel and the tower at the west end of the church was constructed in the late 14th century. Presumably around this time the previous central tower was removed or was falling down. Firstly the north aisle and later the south aisle were both re-modelled in the 15th century. There were also some additions/alterations in the early 16th century.
- 1.3.5 There were extensive restoration works carried out in 1880, when a vestry was added at the western end of the north aisle, a door was blocked in the north aisle and much of the window tracery was replaced.

## **1.4 Acknowledgements**

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Holy Trinity Church for commissioning the work, particularly Rev. Annette Reed, the church wardens and local parishioners who showed great interest in the work and provided many interesting stories about the church and its history. The workmen carrying out the alterations and ground-works also committed their time to assisting the moving of some of the heavier stones. This project was managed and the report edited by Toby Gane, and the illustrations produced by the author.

## **2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Aims**

- 2.1.1 The objective of this Historic Buildings Recording survey was to record any worked stone fragments that had been re-used as a floor surface on the ground floor of the church tower.

### **2.2 Methodology**

- 2.2.1 The Brief required that the floor surface – re-used stonework – of the church tower be lifted, and any fragments that had been worked be recorded by the use of photography, description and brief interpretation.
- 2.2.2 After being lifted from the floor of the tower and brushed clean, the photography of selected fragments was carried out on site using a Canon 450D.
- 2.2.3 Each stone photographed was then given an identification number to enable description and analysis.

### 3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 There were several pieces of very plain worked stone, none of which had any particularly defining features or markings (Plate 3). There were also many fragments of rubble or broken stonework that had no discernible form or evident working (Plate 4). Each stonework fragment that did show any obvious tool marks or carving is individually described and discussed below, as well as being considered in their group context.

#### 3.2 Individual Worked Stones

3.2.1 **Stone 1 (Plate 5):** Three small fragments make up this stone that when put together measures approximately 0.43m long, 0.22m wide and 0.05m deep, although there is clearly a fragment missing. A partial letter – probably a “D” or “B” - is visible at one end of the stone. Due to the rectangular form of the stone and the partial letter, it is thought that the original use for this stone was a a gravestone/marker – the letter being one initial. The style of the stone and lettering would suggest it was of 18th or 19th century date.

3.2.2 **Stone 2 (Plate 6):** Stone 2 comprises of three small fragments and is clearly missing a large portion of its original form. In its present state it measures approximately 0.25m long, up to 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep. The form of the stone strongly suggests it was rectangular in shape with a convex top. Several letters have been carved into one surface, although it is likely that further letters are missing. It is thought there would originally have been three lines of text, each line consisting of two letters, with each pair separated by a central dot. As such the inscription reads: “? - E, ?(possibly an E or F) – D, ? - D”. This inscription means it is likely to have been a small gravestone/marker – although if all the letters are initials it might suggest the grave contained more than one person. The style of the stone and lettering suggests an 18th or 19th century date.

3.2.3 **Stone 3 (Plate 7):** Stone 3 is flat and rectangular in form, consisting of two pieces it appears some small fragments may be missing from the bottom corners. Together the two pieces measure approximately 0.4m long, 0.25m wide and 0.05m deep. The top of the stone is flat, although the two remaining original corners have been slightly rounded. The letters “A” and “B” have been carved, separated in the middle by a dot, into one face at what would be the top – these are likely to be initials. It is thought, as with Stones 1 and 2, that Stone 3 was a small gravestone/marker dating to the 18th or 19th century.

3.2.4 **Stone 4 (Plate 8):** Measuring approximately 0.3m by 0.25m by 0.1m, Stone 4 has an irregular shape and has been decoratively carved. The scallop-like design and form of this stone suggest it may have possibly been a capital for a pillar or arch, or part of a window. There are still many rough chisel marks on parts of the stone, suggesting that perhaps it was an unfinished or possibly abandoned piece. It is estimated that Stone 4 is of a Late medieval/Post-medieval date, although if it is an unfinished/abandoned piece then it would perhaps be most likely to date to the time at which the floor was laid. This would perhaps logically coincide with a major phase of other development work at the church. The earliest possible date would be during construction of the tower – late 14th century – although it appears the ground level has been raised, which could tie-in to the late 19th century refurbishments at the church.

- 3.2.5 **Stone 5 (Plate 9):** An irregular shaped piece of limestone measuring approximately 0.35m by 0.15m by 0.15m, Stone 5 is carved with various ribs fanning out in several directions. It is likely to have been a capital or other piece of decorative stonework that received ribbed vaults from various angles. The stone is incomplete, making it difficult to tell much more about its function or even it was a completed and used. There is not a great deal of ribbed vaulting visible in the church as it is today, so could this and potentially other fragments have come from another building? Either way, it is thought this fragment is likely to be of a similar late medieval/Post-medieval date to Stone 4.
- 3.2.6 **Stone 6 (Plate 10):** A roughly hewn block that measures approximately 0.4m by 0.3m by 0.15m and has some partially carved tracery work on one side – more of the design can be seen to have been scored into the face. This piece of decorative masonry could have been intended for use as window sill, but the carving has clearly been abandoned before the piece was finished. Stone 6 possibly dates to the medieval period.
- 3.2.7 **Stone 7 (Plate 11):** Stone 7 is a flat, almost square block measuring approximately 0.4m by 0.3m by 0.1m, but missing one corner. There are incised rebates/fillets along two edges. The function of this piece is unclear, although the fillets/rebates suggest it could possibly have been a lid – perhaps for a coffin. It is difficult to date this fragment, as there is not much stylistic evidence, but it is probably of Post-medieval origin.
- 3.2.8 **Stone 8 (Plate 12):** An interesting piece of limestone tracery, Stone 8 measures approximately 0.45m by 0.2m by 0.1m. It is unclear if it is an unfinished piece or has just been heavily abraded/damaged. The curved form and cusped design suggest that it is likely to have been/intended to be a window surround, and probably dates to the 14th or 15th century. A similar design is seen on the sedilia in the chancel, which dates to the Late 14th century.
- 3.2.9 **Stone 9 (Plate 13):** Stone 9 is a fragment measuring approximately 0.4m by 0.3m by 0.1m, with two opposing sloped faces on one side. It is likely that this stone is a fragment of a grave slab/coffin lid, but could perhaps also be a coping stone. Stone 9 little datable stylistic design, but probably dates from the medieval/post-medieval periods.
- 3.2.10 **Stone 10 (Plate 14):** A curious slab fragment measuring approximately 0.5m by 0.4m by 0.1m, Stone 10 has an ovolo moulding on one edge, and oddly part of a possibly drilled hole. The most likely function of this piece of stonework is that it was part of an abacus. It could potentially be part of a grave slab, or a door surround, but only the ovolo moulding is a smoothly finished surface, making this a less likely explanation. It is likely to date to the Post-medieval period, but the partial hole is almost certainly more recent than this, perhaps being carried out in the 19th century to allow for the insertion of pipework or for drainage.
- 3.2.11 **Stone 11 (Plate 15):** Stone 11 has a convex top surface, measures approximately 0.5m by 0.3m by 0.1m and tapers in on two edges towards one end. The corners are quite rounded, the two at the thinner end possibly by abrasion, but the one surviving corner at the wider end looks to have been carved as a rounded corner. There is an incised line running down the centre (from the wide to narrow end) stopping in a gradual point about 0.1m from the widest end. It is thought this fragment would have formed part of a grave slab with an incised cross design as would have been common in the 12th or 13th centuries (Dirszty 1978, 76). The tapering form of the grave slab means it is highly likely to precede 1275 AD, as after this date they were the same width at both ends (Needham 1944, 43 and Dirszty 1978, 76).



- 3.2.12 **Stone 12 (Plate 16):** Stone 12 measures approximately 0.45m by 0.2m by 0.1m and has been worked on several sides. The front has been smoothly faced and worked along one edge, with varying degrees of quality. It is therefore possible that this is another unfinished or abandoned fragment of decorative stonework. There is also a rebate carved into the rear face of this fragment. It is likely that this fragment is Post-medieval, and originates from a phase of re-working at the church.
- 3.2.13 **Stone 13 (Plate 17):** Measuring approximately 0.4m by 0.4m by 0.1m, Stone 13 has been smoothly faced on one surface and worked along one edge. The worked edge has an incised/carved ovolo moulding on the smoothly faced surface, and an angled (approximately 45 degrees) edge on the rear. It is likely that this fragment is of Post-medieval date, but its function is unclear.
- 3.2.14 **Stone 14 (Plate 18):** Stone 14 measures approximately 0.4m by 0.4m by 0.1m, and although quite abraded, it is still possible to see elements of a carved design on one face. Several angled faces have been carved into the top surface, that give the impression this fragment was once part of a much larger one, and the design appears to be part of a cruciform design (Fig 2). It is therefore likely that this fragment is part of a coped grave slab. The heavy abrasion that has occurred to this fragment might suggest it was of some age, as is the design, but this design was also common in the 19th century (<http://www.hertsfhs.org.uk/hfphs34.html> accessed 1/12/09), so it is difficult to give a precise date for this fragment – it could be medieval or Post-medieval.
- 3.2.15 **Stone 15 (Plate 19):** Stone 15 measures approximately 0.3m by 0.3m by 0.1m, and whilst it has no smoothly finished faces, it has clearly been worked. There are several flat edges/faces and one curved edge. It is possible that this fragment has been heavily abraded, but it appears more likely that it is an unfinished or discarded piece of decorative masonry. It is therefore likely to have a similar date to the other unfinished fragments that have occurred at some point of re-refurbishment on the church during the medieval or post-medieval periods.
- 3.2.16 **Stone 16 (Plate 20):** Measuring approximately 0.5m by 0.4m by 0.2m, Stone 16 has a fairly worn surface, but also a cavetto moulding along two edges. The other two edges are fairly cleanly cut, so whilst this fragment could have been part of a bigger slab to cover a grave, it is also likely due to these edges that Stone 16 was part of a pier base or plinth for a monument. Due to the moulding style, it is most likely that this stone fragment dates from the Post-medieval period.
- 3.2.17 **Stone 17 (Plate 21):** Measuring approximately 0.2m by 0.1m by 0.15m, Stone 17 is a small fragment of limestone that has a rebate along one edge. Its function is unclear, but it is likely to date to the Post-medieval period.
- 3.2.18 **Stone 18 (Plate 22):** Measuring approximately 0.2m by 0.2m by 0.1m, Stone 18 is a small roughly square limestone fragment with a rebate along one edge. It is similar to several other fragments, and is likely to date to the Post-medieval period.
- 3.2.19 **Stone 19 (Plate 23):** Stone 19 is another fragment similar to Stone 17; likely to be of Post-medieval date, it measures approximately 0.2m by 0.2m by 0.1m and has a rebate along one edge.
- 3.2.20 **Stone 20 (Plate 24):** Similar to Stone 18 and again likely to be of Post-medieval date, Stone 20 measures 0.2m by 0.2m by 0.1m, is roughly square in shape, has a rebate along one edge and has many rough chisel marks on one face.



- 3.2.21 **Stone 21 (Plate 25):** Two fragments together make up Stone 21, which measures 0.3m by 0.2m by 0.1m. Much like Stones 17-20, it has a rebate along one edge, is quite roughly hewn and probably dates from the Post-medieval period.
- 3.2.22 **Stone 22 (Plate 26 A):** This particularly interesting fragment measures approximately 0.7m by 0.5m by 0.1m. On one surface there are incised borders along two edges, some remnants of a design and some large chisel marks. The two bordered edges taper inwards towards one end, and the other engraving appears to make up a torc-like design, although the design clearly extended further than the limits of this remaining fragment. The large chisel marks are unusual, and it perhaps appears that some of the design, possibly where a cross may have been engraved, has been chiselled away at some point. It is almost certainly part of a coffin slab, the tapering form implying that it pre-dates 1275 (Needham 1944, 43 and Dirsztay 1978, 76). Although only partially remaining, the design could be 13th century or earlier, so Stone 22 could well date from early on in the churches history.
- 3.2.23 The torc-like design visible on Stone 22 is similar in design to a stone coffin lid found at St Vigor's Church, Fulbourn (<http://www.bvsda.org.uk/fulbournpcc/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=8896> accessed 1/12/09). This torc-like form appears on several other grave slabs discovered locally, in addition to this one at Fulbourn, there are examples found at Steeple Gidding, Oakington, Trumpington and Landbeach as well as slightly further afield in Norfolk (Cutts 1849, 44 and plates 53 and 54 – from which an example is shown here in Plate26,B). Whilst this design is found further afield, it does seem to be more common locally and within the east of England which is quite interesting. Although it is unclear what this part of the design represents, some of these examples also have crosses of a type that is associated with the Knights Templar (Cutts 1849, 43-44), but unfortunately, any evidence of a cross on Stone 22 has been lost or vandalised.
- 3.2.24 **Stone 23 (Plate 27):** Stone 23 measures approximately 0.3m by 0.3m by 0.1m. It has two straight edges that taper in towards one end and the other two edges are both curved. There are large chisel marks, perhaps indicating the fragment was never fully faced. The form of this fragment might suggest the original intention was to use it in some sort of arch – probably to span either a window or door. It is possible this fragment was unfinished, so it is difficult to assign a stylistic date, and although it is likely to be Medieval or Post-medieval it could possibly have been a voussoir or keystone from one of the earlier arches in the church – the large chisel marks could have been made at the time of re-use.
- 3.2.25 **Stone 24 (Plate 28):** Measuring approximately 0.3m by 0.3m by 0.1m, Stone 24 has a hollow chamfered edge along one side. It is unclear what the function may have been although it could perhaps have been an abacus, base or other architectural member. As with many other fragments, Stone 24 could be Medieval or Post-medieval.
- 3.2.26 **Stone 25 (Plate 29):** Probably a square stone paviour, Stone 25 approximately measures 0.2m by 0.2m by 0.05m. It is possibly Purbeck marble – a different stone type to the majority of the stone both present in this assemblage and in the church. It could be of Medieval or Post-medieval date.
- 3.2.27 **Stone 26 (Plate 30):** Stone 26 measures approximately 0.2m by 0.2m by 0.1m, and appears to be a small broken fragment of masonry that has part of a hole in it. It is likely this hole has been made in more recent times to allow the insertion of pipework, so the date and function of fragment is unclear.
- 3.2.28 **Stone 27 (Plate 31):** Comprising of two fragments, Stone 27 is one of the largest stones recorded, measuring approximately 0.8m by 0.4m by 0.25m. It has a boldly

carved border in a roughly Classical style along three edges, suggesting it probably dates to the 17th or 18th century. Stone 27 could have been a tomb lid or other funerary monument, but given the lack of the rest of the stone, it is also possible that it could have been a base or plinth for some other architectural purpose. If it was indeed part of a tomb lid it is likely to have been a table-tomb – there being too much relief to the moulding to have been a floor slab. The whole dimension remaining – approximately 0.8m – might also suggest a sizeable tomb, possibly big enough for two side by side burials, so perhaps a husband and wife.

- 3.2.29 **Stone 28 (Plate 32):** Square shaped with four slightly rounded edges to one face, Stone 28 approximately measures 0.5m by 0.5m by 0.2m. It could have been a flagstone, but its depth might indicate it was perhaps a step or base for something. There are no obviously datable features.
- 3.2.30 **Stone 29 (Plate 33):** Measuring approximately 0.5m by 0.2m by 0.2m, Stone 29 is very roughly hewn/worn and has a rebate along one edge. Its function is unclear, but it could perhaps be a partially prepared/rough out for a corbel. The date of this stone is equally ambiguous, but it is likely to have originated in either the Medieval or Post-medieval periods.
- 3.2.31 **Stone 30 (Plate 34):** An ashlar block with fairly worn surfaces, probably used as a quoin. It measures approximately 0.4m by 0.2m by 0.15m, and would be difficult to date due to the ambiguous form, but it likely to be medieval/post-medieval.
- 3.2.32 **Stone 31 (Plate 3):** A large stone measuring approximately 0.8m by 0.3m by 0.2m, Stone 31 is a rectangular block with fairly worn surfaces. It could have been used as a quoin or a step, but again the regular form with no distinctive marks means it could be medieval or post-medieval. Together with Stone 30, Stone 31 is typical of several other fragments discovered that were not individually recorded due to their regularity, all of which could have been used as quoins or steps prior to their re-use as floor slabs in the tower.
- 3.2.33 **Stone 32 (Plate 35):** Stone 32 is a long, fairly flat rectangular block measuring approximately 0.4m by 0.25m by 0.1m. Some of the edges and one of the larger surfaces have been smoothly faced, whilst the other large surface is fairly rough in comparison, and most of the edges are very worn. One feature that sets this fragment apart from others is a small hole in one end. It is thought the probable purpose of this hole would have been to support a metal bar, making Stone 32 likely to have been part of a window, which probably dates to the medieval or post-medieval periods.
- 3.2.34 **Stone 33 (Plate 36):** Stone 33 is a large fragment that measures approximately 0.8m by 0.45m by 0.2m and was probably part of a larger slab. This fragment is quite interesting as, on one side, there are some numbers carved and filled with lead that read “164”, of which can be discerned no meaning without the possible and heavily worn superscript numeral “0” between the “6” and “4” (Plate 36A) - In which case the number could be the date “1604”, making it likely the fragment dates from the 17th century. The style of the script would fit a 17th century date. Having a date means it is likely that this fragment has come from a grave slab/marker. Although on the reverse side, two of the edges have been chamfered, with a number of straight chisel marks visible (Plate 36C).
- 3.2.35 It is then odd that the intention is clearly that the two sides would have been visible at the same time – perhaps meaning this fragment was part of a standing grave marker/stone. But the numbers are too low down in relation to the remaining straight edge to enable enough of the stone to be buried and give it sufficient support to remain

standing. Perhaps then, the edges were either chamfered in order for the stone to fit in its original place – an attempt to avoid any flush edges for some purpose.

- 3.2.36 **Stone 34 (Plate 37):** Similar in form to Stone 33, although lacking the numerals, Stone 34 measures approximately 0.6m by 0.4m by 0.25m and also has two chamfered edges and many visible chisel marks on its surfaces. Again, this fragment could be from a grave slab or even a coping stone, and probably dates to the post-medieval period.
- 3.2.37 **Stone 35 (Plate 38):** Stone 35 is a fairly rectangular block measuring approximately 0.6m by 0.4m by 0.25m, it is very worn/fairly roughly carved and curiously there is a very worn rectangular hollow carved out of one side. It is this hollow that makes this piece of stone particularly interesting, as this is perhaps indicative of a piscina/stoup or some other kind of water holder. The degree of wear would indicate the stone is of some age, so perhaps dates back as far as Saxon/Early Medieval times. Given the size and lack of drainage, it is more likely to have been a stoup, which could perhaps have been in a previous porch or entrance way prior to the present porch which was added around the same time as the present piscina and sedilia in the mid 14th century (Dickinson 1995, 6). Or perhaps the south aisle extension in the late 15th century removed the previous position of this stoup, leaving it free to be used as building material.

### 3.3 Conclusions

- 3.3.1 The many of the stone fragments that made up the floor of the tower had few or no distinguishing features, although there were several fragments bearing some interesting features and forms that encapsulate the rich history of Holy Trinity Church.
- 3.3.2 A fragment of clay pipe – not retained – was found amongst the fabric that made up the floor of the tower. There was also a flue that passed through the northeast corner of the tower and some evidence of burning under the floor (Plate 39). These are remnants of a heating system that was probably inserted during works in the 1880. This suggests the floor level was raised at this time to allow the insertion of this heating system.
- 3.3.3 This is significant, as many of the fragments of stonework appear to be unfinished or broken. It is therefore likely that many of the fragments could be rejected/reused pieces of stonework from the other refurbishments carried out in 1880. It is likely that the older pieces of stonework found in the floor would have originated from parts of the church that were affected by these refurbishments, such as the wall where the vestry was added and any tracery/window/arch fragments that were replaced.
- 3.3.4 As for some of the stones themselves, there are several fragments that appear to be from coffin lids/slabs. Some of these appear to have incorporated cruciform designs and one in particular – Stone 22 – appears to have been vandalised with some of the design being chiselled away. It is possible that the act of doing this, and possibly why some of these stones have ended up as fragments that have been incorporated/reused into construction fabric, occurred at a time when crosses were seen as a Roman Catholic symbol (<http://www.hertsfhs.org.uk/hfphs34.html> accessed 1/12/09), and it was quite common for these to have been vandalised. It was also common for coffin slabs to be reused as building fabric during any phase of re-working or addition to the church building (Needham 1944, 43).

## APPENDIX A. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Unknown. Date Unknown. Listed Buildings Online: Church of Holy Trinity. Available at:

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### Maps Consulted

BGS 1:50,000, sheet 187

## APPENDIX B. LISTED BUILDING ENTRY

**Building Name:** Church of Holy Trinity

**LBS Number:** 54346

**Grade:** I

**Date Listed:** 14/05/1959

**NGR:** TL2099864173

**Listing Text:**

c.1050 minster church originally of cruciform plan with tower over crossing. In late C13 the chancel was rebuilt and in C14 the West tower added. The North and South aisles were rebuilt in C15. The South porch is C14. The nave and crossing are important examples of late Saxon work. Exterior: Mainly pebblestone and rubblestone with Barnack dressings. Late C14 embattled West tower of three stages on splayed plinth. Three stage angle buttressing and newel staircase in South East angle. Beast gargoyles to centre of main cornice. C14 West doorway (reset) and C15 West window. C14 bell chamber openings of two lights with quatrefoil to spandrel. C11 Nave with clerestory of two round headed windows and part of a third similar window, now sealed. Later parapet and beast gargoyles to moulded string course at eaves height. C15 parapetted South aisle. Two stage buttressing and two C15 three light windows. C14 South porch. Gabled with parapet and coping surmounted by cross. Diagonal buttressing. Outer arch two-centred. C15 doorway to South aisle. Two-centred arch of two moulded orders in square head with carved spandrels. C19 door with C13 ironwork (reset). Chancel. Plain tiled roof with end parapet. Two C15 windows and one C13 doorway on South side. C15 East window. Interior: Late C14 tower arch. Two-centred and of three chamfered orders with moulded capitals and bases. Nave shortened in C15 when West tower built and now of two bays and sealed half-bay at West end. Semi-circular headed double recessed arches on piers. Each pier has four attached shafts, divided by rolls or fillets, with abaci and bulbous capitals and moulded bases. The fillets or rolls to the piers to the West are keeled. Above the nave arcade is a plain string course. At the crossing, only the arch to the North transept remains. Tall, semi-circular headed and on square piers with responds having attached shafts and rolls or fillets similar to those of North arcade. The piers to the South crossing are similar to the North but the arch is C15, two centred and of three chamfered orders. North of the chancel arch is C15 rood loft entry. The roof of the nave is C17 and of four bays. Cambered tie beams, with the easternmost carved with the date 1637. The chancel arch was also rebuilt in C15 and is similar to that of the South crossing, but the responds are C11 and have engaged shafts divided by rolls or fillets similar to those of the arcade. The capitals, however, were replaced by embattled dentils in C15. Late C13 or early C14 piscina in South wall, East end. Hollow-chamfered, two-centred arch. Drain of octofoil form, projecting forward from face of wall and on corbel. Sedilia of same date. Two centred, hollow chamfered arches with cinquefoil heads divided by a round column with moulded capital and base. Hollow moulded labels with mask stops. C15 font, octagonal bowl on plain stem.

R.C.H.M. (Hunts), p198, mon. 1

Pevsner (Buildings of England), p254

P.G.M. Dickinson: Gt Paxton





Plate 1: Holy Trinity Church, from the southeast



Plate 2: One of the Saxon piers

## APPENDIX C. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

### Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-68450			
Project Name	Worked Stone Fragments From Holy Trinity, Great Paxton			
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	24-08-2009	Finish	25-08-2009
Previous Work (by OA East)	No		Future Work	Unknown

### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	PXGCHU09	Planning App. No.	N/A
HER No.	ECB 3258	Related HER/OASIS No.	N/a

### Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt

### Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Annotated Sketch	<input type="checkbox"/> Photogrammetric Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Dendrochronological Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photographic Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Laser Scanning	<input type="checkbox"/> Rectified Photography
<input type="checkbox"/> Measured Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure

### Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Church	Medieval 1066 to 1540	Architectural Fragments	Medieval 1066 to 1540
	None	Architectural Fragments	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901
	None	Graveslab	Medieval 1066 to 1540
		Gravestone	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901

### Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	Huntingdonshire	Holy Trinity Church Lane Great Paxton St Neots Cambridgeshire	
Parish	Great Paxton		
HER	Cambridgeshire		
Study Area	100 sq.m	National Grid Reference	TL 520986 264170

### Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	N/a
Project Design Originator	Toby Gane, OA East
Project Manager	Toby Gane
Supervisor	Andrew Corrigan

### Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
N/A	OA East	N/A
N/A	PXGCHU09	N/A

### Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
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Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

**Notes:**





Plate 3: A selection of plain worked stone fragments (Stone 31 centre right)



Plate 4: Fragments of rubble/broken stone



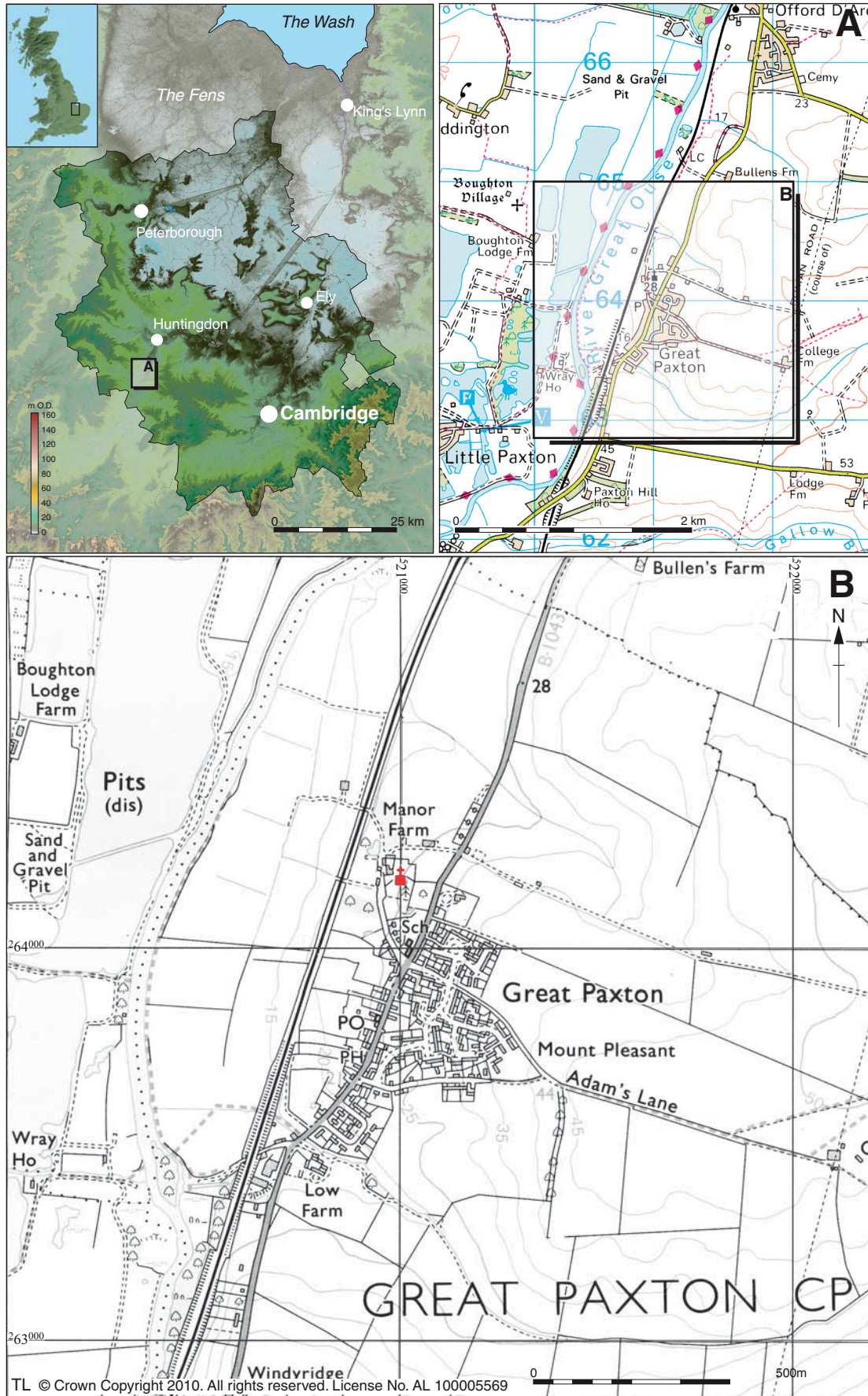


Figure 1: Location of Holy Trinity Church, Great Paxton (red)

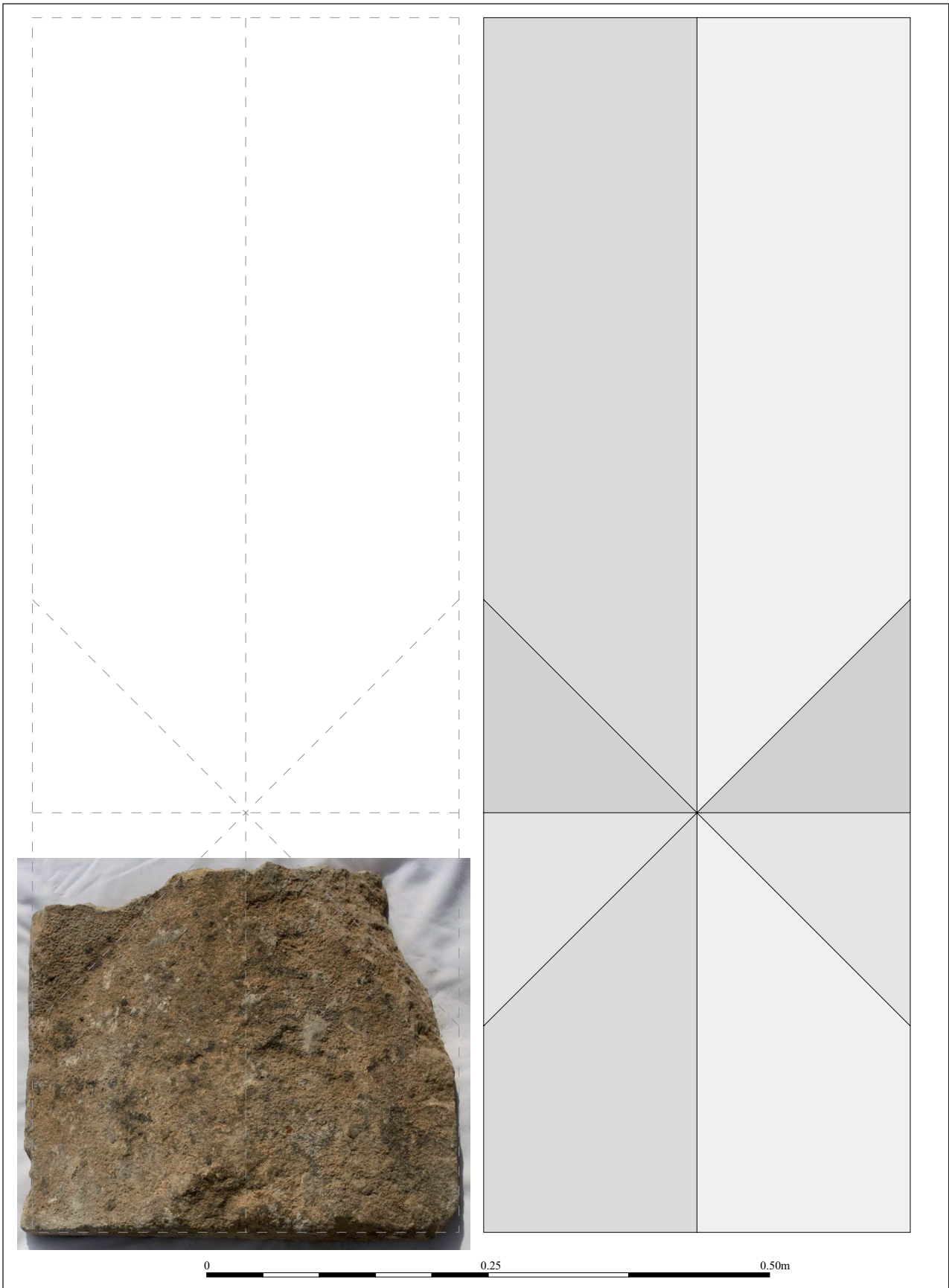


Figure 2: Possible re-construction of Stone 14 showing cruciform shape to top surface





Plate 5: Stone 1, with close-up of letter



Plate 6: Stone 2



Plate 7: Stone 3



Plate 8: Stone 4





Plate 16: Stone 12



Plate 17: Stone 13, underside (A) and top (B) faces



Plate 9: Stone 5

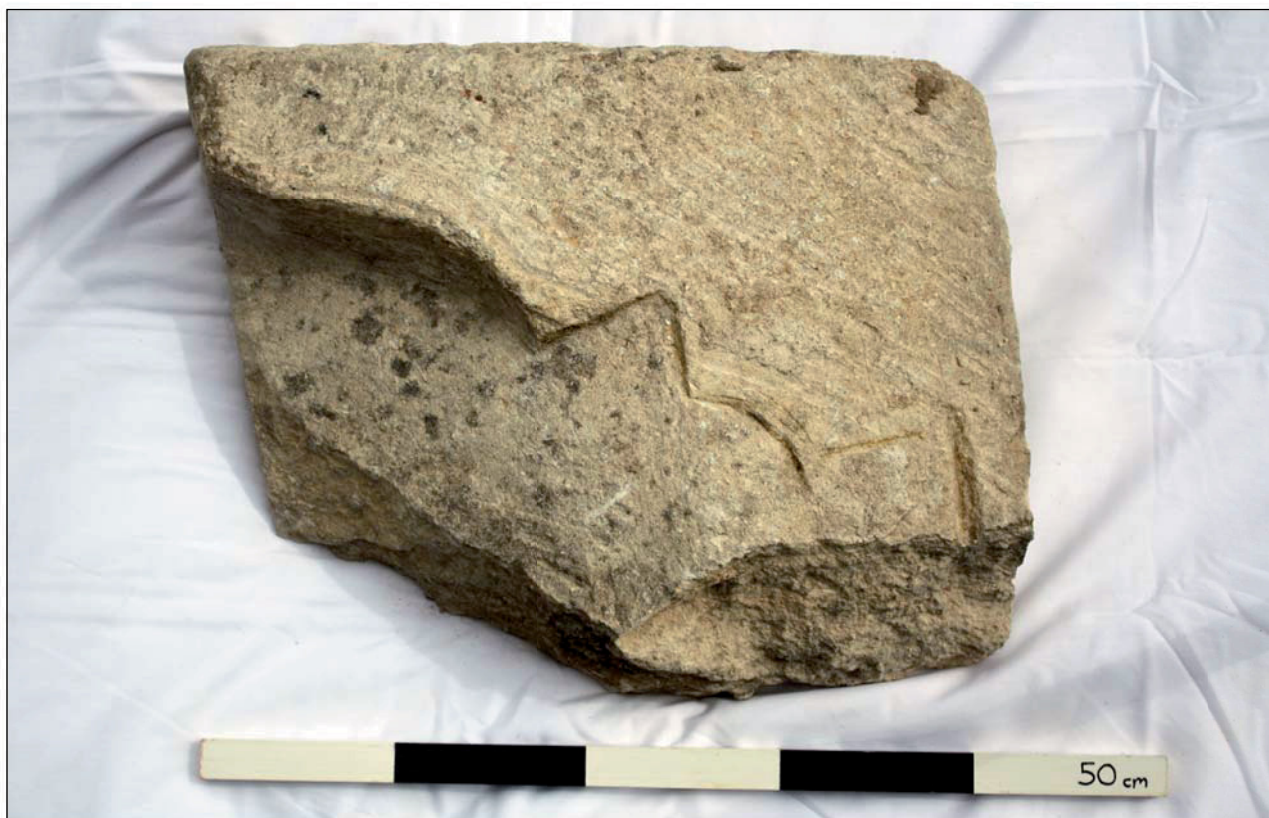


Plate 10: Stone 6





Plate 11: Stone 7

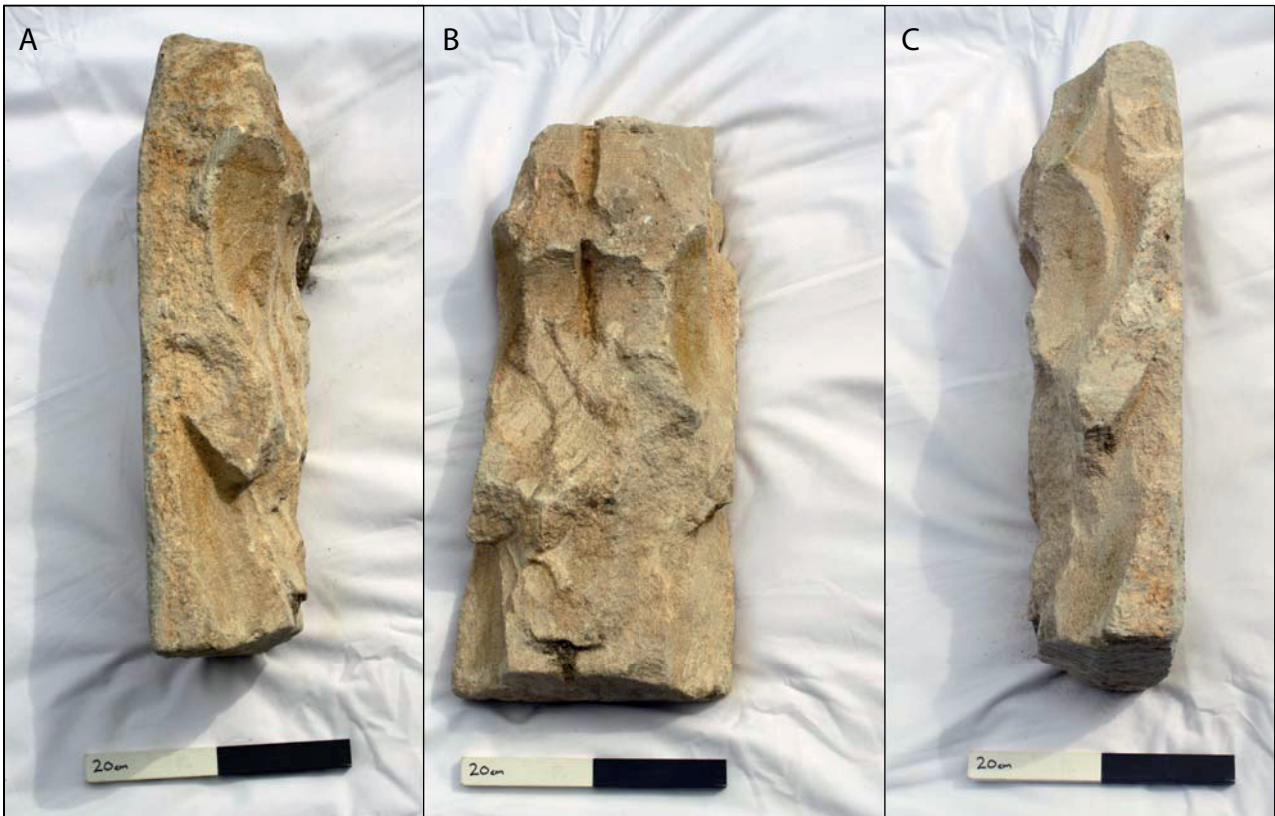


Plate 12: Stone 8





Plate 18: Stone 14



Plate 19: Stone 15



Plate 13: Stone 9, profile (A) and top surface (B)





Plate 14: Stone 10



Plate 15: Stone 11





Plate 20: Stone 16

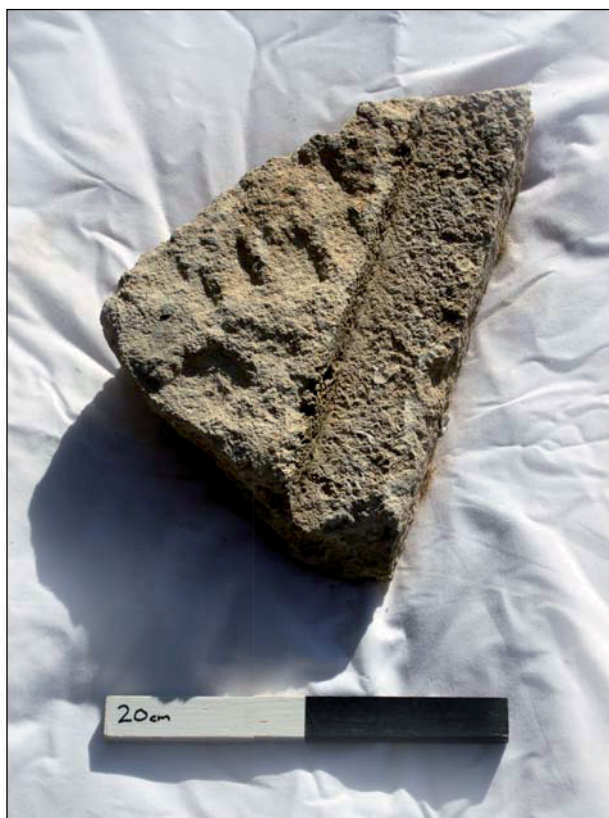


Plate 21: Stone 17



Plate 22: Stone 18





Plate 23: Stone 19



Plate 24: Stone 20



Plate 25: Stone 21



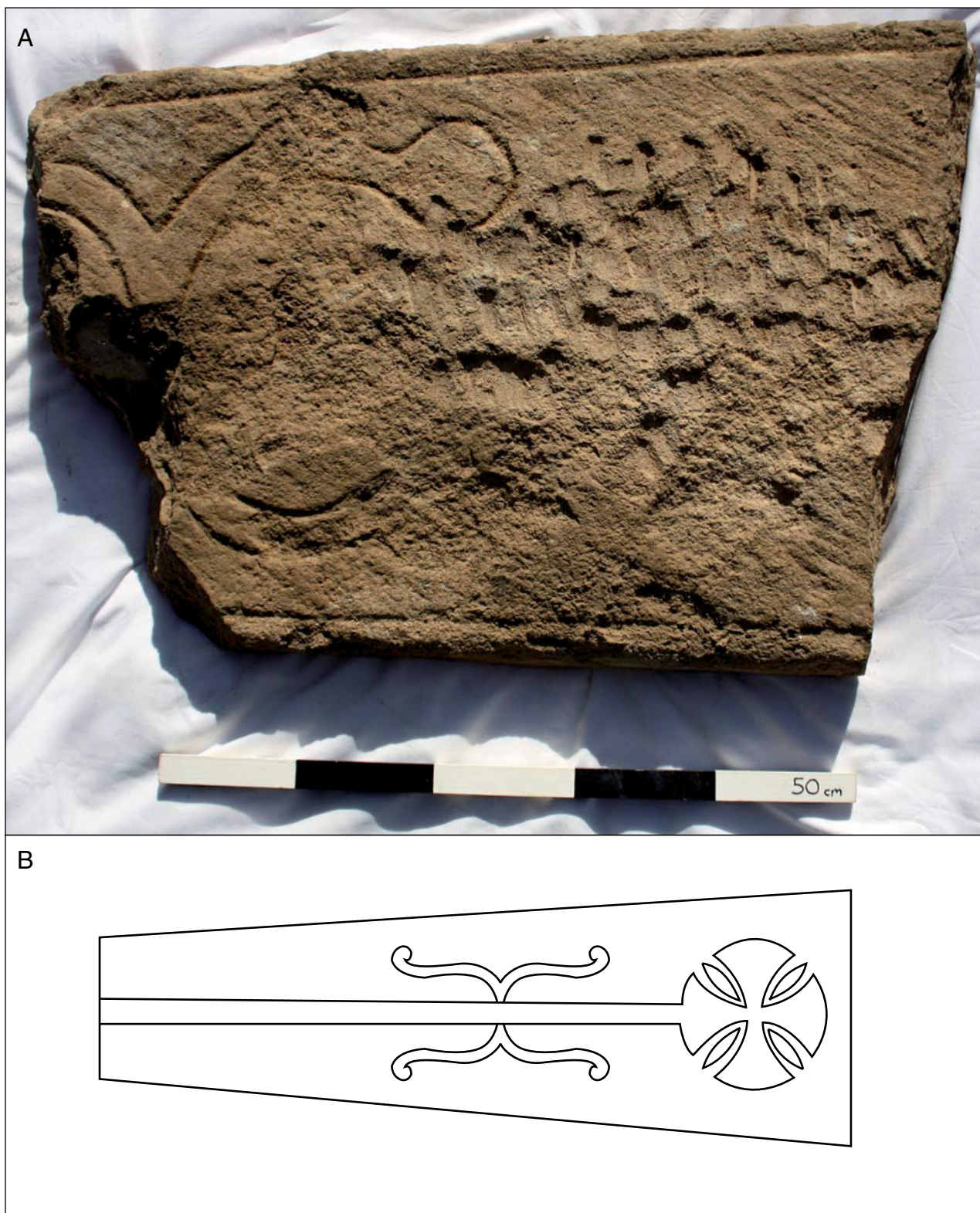


Plate 26: Stone 22 (A) and a grave slab of a similar design from Norfolk (B), after Cutts 1849, plate 53





Plate 27: Stone 23



Plate 28: Stone 24, from above (A) and profile (B)

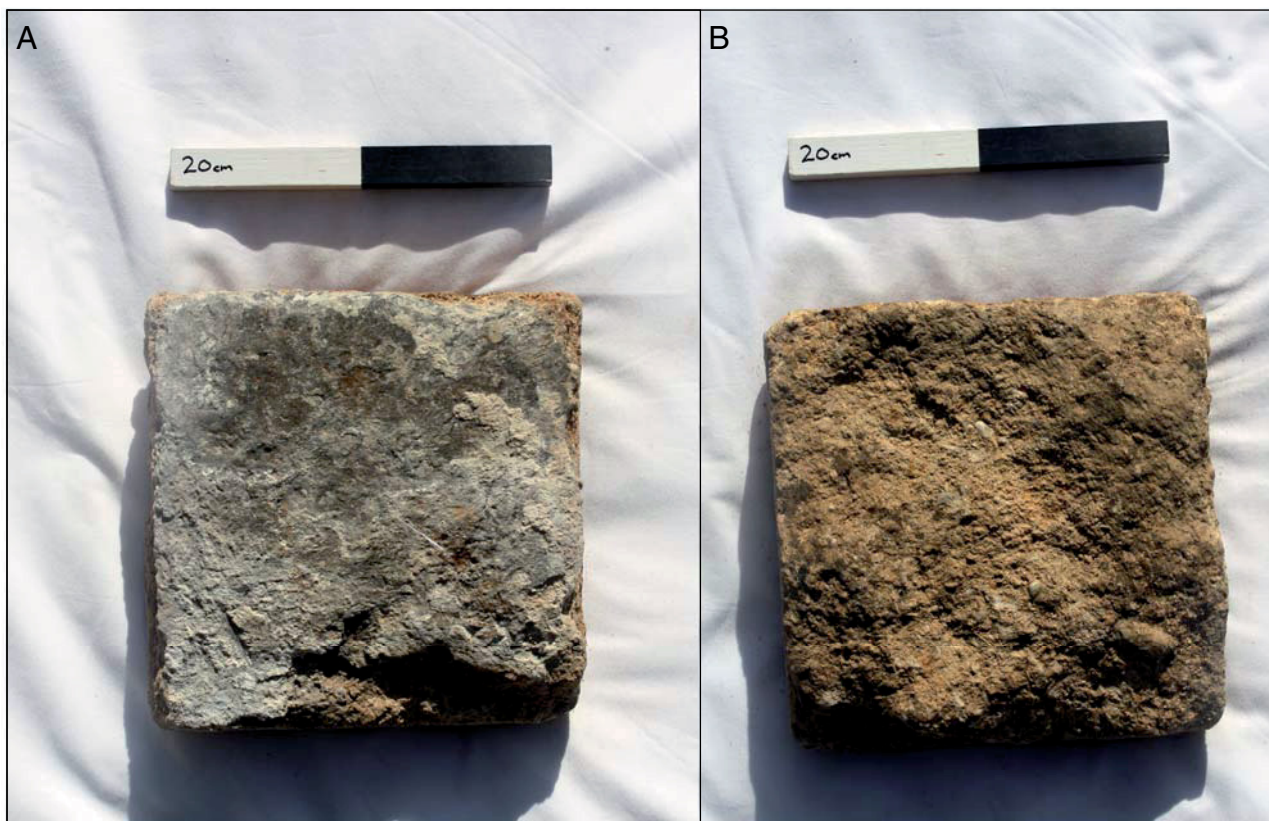


Plate 29: Stone 25, top (A) and bottom (B) faces



Plate 30: Stone 26





Plate 31: Stone 27



Plate 32: Stone 28 (centre)





Plate 33: Stone 29



Plate 34: Stone 30



Plate 35: Stone 32





Plate 36: Stone 33, close up of numerals (A) front face (B) and rear face (C)





Plate 37: Stone 34



Plate 38: Stone 35





Plate 39: Burning under the floor



### **Head Office/Registered Office**

Janus House  
Osney Mead  
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800  
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496  
e: [info@thehumanjourney.net](mailto:info@thehumanjourney.net)  
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net>

### **OA North**

Mill 3  
Moor Lane  
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000  
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606  
e: [oanorth@thehumanjourney.net](mailto: oanorth@thehumanjourney.net)  
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net>

### **OA East**

15 Trafalgar Way  
Bar Hill  
Cambridgeshire  
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850 500  
f: +44 (0) 1223 850 599  
e: [oaeast@thehumanjourney.net](mailto: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net)  
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast>

### **OA Méditerranée**

115 Rue Merlot  
ZAC La Louvade  
34 130 Mauguio  
France

t: +33 (0) 4.67.57.86.92  
f: +33 (0) 4.67.42.65.93  
e: [oamed@oamed.fr](mailto: oamed@oamed.fr)  
w: <http://oamed.fr/>



**Director:** David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

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