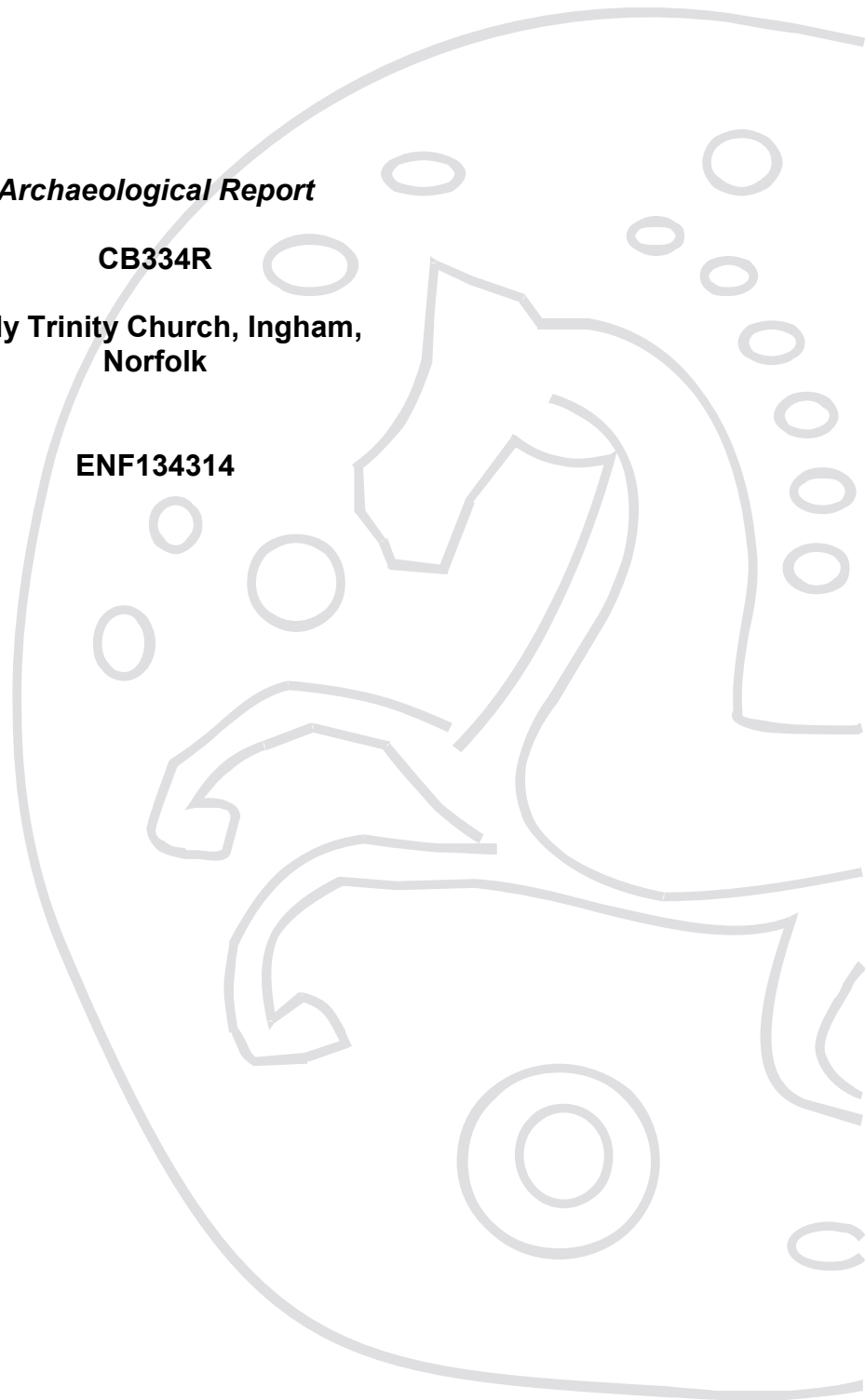


Archaeological Report

CB334R

**'Holy Trinity Church, Ingham,
Norfolk**

ENF134314



Reference No. CB334R
© Chris Birks October 2014

All rights reserved



**Report on an Archaeological Watching
Brief at 'Holy Trinity Church, Ingham, Norfolk'
ENF134314**

Prepared for:
Pikestaff Building Company Ltd
on behalf of
Ingham Parochial Church Council

Reference No. CB334R
© Chris Birks October 2014

All rights reserved

Contents

<i>Section</i>	<i>Page</i>
<i>Summary</i>	1
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Project Background	1, 2
3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	2, 3
4.0 Geology and Topography	3
5.0 Observations	3 - 6
6.0 Conclusions	6

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

Appendix 1 Context Summary

Appendix 2 OASIS Record

- Figure 1** Site location
Figure 2 Site plan
Figure 3 Wall [4] plan and section drawings

Plate 1. General view of Soakaway 1, looking approximately north

Plate 2. General view of Soakaway 2, looking north

Plate 3. General view of Soakaway 3, looking north

Plate 4. General view of Soakaway 4, looking north

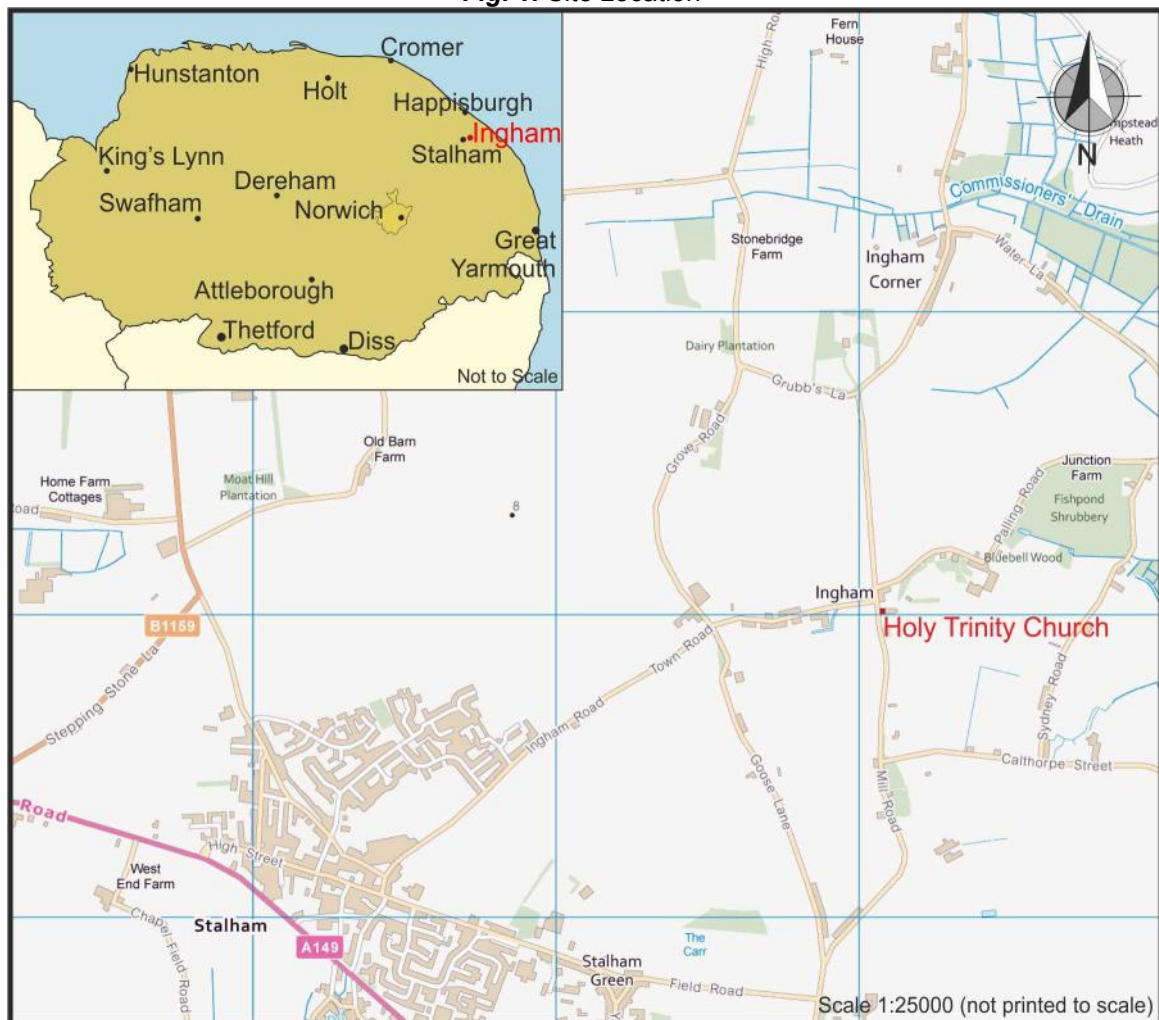
Summary

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken at ‘Holy Trinity Church, Ingham, Norfolk’ (ENF134314) during groundworks associated with the installation of a new drainage system in May 2014. Small quantities of disarticulated human remains were recovered from subsoil deposits and the remains of a small section of flint wall were observed to the south of the nave that may relate to the former south transept. No further archaeological finds, features or deposits were present.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out resulting from improvements at ‘Holy Trinity Church, Ingham, Norfolk’ (Grid refs. TG 39107 26021) and was requested by the Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service.
- 1.2 This report, CB334R, details how Chris Birks undertook these works and summarises the results. A copy of the report has been submitted to the Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service.

Fig. 1. Site Location



2.0 Project Background

- 2.1 A proposal for the construction of a new drainage system was approved subject to a Programme of Archaeological Work. Archaeological monitoring ('Watching Brief') at a level of constant attendance was required to determine the presence/absence, date, and extent, state of preservation and significance of any archaeological layers or subsoil archaeological features.

- 2.2 This archaeological watching brief was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by the Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service and a generic Project Design for Archaeological Monitoring (“Watching Briefs”) by Chris Birks (Birks 2004). This forms part of the research agenda for the eastern counties of England in *Research and Archaeology; a Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy* (Brown, N., and Glazebrook, J. (eds) 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011). It is hoped that information resulting from this project would contribute to some or all of these research aims. Full details of research aims, methodology and standards are provided in the Project Design.
- 2.3 Norfolk Historic Environment Record ENF134314 and Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) id chrisbir1-192513 apply. The site archive will be held by the Norfolk Museums Service, in accordance with the relevant policy on archiving standards.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 A number of entries exist in the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) for Ingham and the surrounding area and only those within the immediate vicinity of the site are described in this report. Full details of these and all other entries can be seen at the NHER office based at Gressenhall, near Dereham, by prior appointment.
- 3.2 Cropmarks of ring ditches), possibly round barrows dating to the Bronze Age, have been identified in the area of the church from aerial photographs; NHER 38543 to the east of the churchyard; NHER 38549 with a northwest facing entrance to the southwest of the church; NHER 38542 to the southeast of the church, crossed by cropmarks of a medieval to Post-medieval road (NHER 38567) and NHER 8221 with three internal pits that may represent graves, approximately north of the church. The course of a trackway, probably relating to an Iron Age or Roman field system (NHER 38576) respects the latter ring ditch indicating that it was an extant monument at that time.
- 3.3 Fieldwalking in 1989 (NHER 28189) recovered prehistoric worked flint and two sherds of Roman greyware pottery to the southwest of the churchyard. Two sherds of Roman pottery were found southeast of Ingham Church (NHER 8218, also 8219) recovered from a sand pit in 1939.
- 3.4 Cropmarks (NHER 38574) of undated, Iron Age, Roman and Post-medieval ditches, enclosures, field boundaries and trackways to the south of the churchyard and part of a northwest-to-southeast aligned coaxial field system of probable Roman date (NHER 38576) to the north of the church have been identified from aerial photographs. Ditches and trackways probably related to these cropmarks are present to the north (NHER 38541 and 38545) and west (NHER 38530 and 38546). A north-to-south aligned trackway of probable Roman date (NHER 38575) crosses this field system at a diagonal angle suggesting that the landscape was extensively replanned during this period.
- 3.5 The site of a medieval fair (NHER 8258 and 38542, previously NHER 12820) is located to the south and southwest of the churchyard.
- 3.6 Holy Trinity Church (NHER 8220) was formerly used as the conventual church of the Trinitarian priory of St. Mary and Holy Trinity. The Trinitarian Order was founded in 12th century France and a third of income was used to pay the ransoms of Christians held captive by nonbelievers during the crusades. Unusually, Holy Trinity Church was used jointly by the priory and the parish and was rebuilt in 1360 when the priory was founded by this uncommon monastic order. Ingham is the only Trinitarian house in Britain with any surviving buildings and the only Trinitarian priory in East Anglia (the nearest neighbour being Hertford) and it is a good example of a small, rural monastic house. The tall and imposing tower of the church was built in the 15th century. Gravel quarrying in the 19th century destroyed much of the priory site though the church and part of the cloister wall (now built into the churchyard boundary wall) survived. Parts of the precinct wall were used during the construction of Post-medieval houses in the area and the

Swan Inn (NHER 44232) is thought to be a monastic barn - remains of an archway were uncovered in the east wall of the inn thought to relate to the former Trinitarian Priory. Several skeletons have been recovered from within the precinct area. Parch marks of the south transept and Lady chapel south of the church can be seen on 1956 aerial photographs.

- 3.7 A listed building is present south of the church at The Old School, Mill Road, Ingham (NHER 55238); a single-room school with a porch dated 1863.

4.0 Geology and Topography

- 4.1 The parish of Ingham lies upon a solid geology of Norwich Crags (Funnell 2005). The soil landscape is characterised as that of Rich Loams, the most widespread being a brown earth overlying glacial till or outwash (Corbett & Dent 1994). These soils are amongst the most agriculturally productive in the country (Corbett & Dent 1994).
- 4.2 The church lies towards the east side of Ingham village, to the southeast of the crossroads of Long Lane, Mill Road, Town Road and Palling Road on generally level ground at an elevation of c. 13m OD.

5.0 Observations

- 5.1 Monitoring was carried out during excavations associated with the installation of the new rain water drainage system (*Fig. 2*). Deposits were scanned with a metal detector. Context numbers were allocated during fieldwork and are summarised in *Appendix 1*.
- 5.2 Site conditions were good and access was gained from Mill Road to the west of the church. The weather was mostly warm and sunny with occasional showers. Human bone remains were retained on site for reburial by the parish vicar. All drainage trenches measured c. 0.3m wide.
- 5.3 Trench 1 lay to the northwest of the tower and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m beneath present ground level removing 0.15m of dark greyish brown sandy silt grass-covered topsoil [1] that overlay mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2], the full extent of which was not reached. No fragments of human bone were present.
- 5.4 Soakaway 1 measured c. 1.8m by 1.8m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.1m beneath present ground level (*Plate 1*). Initially, 0.18m of grass-covered dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil [1] was removed that overlay 1.32m of mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2]. Subsoil [2] overlay light brownish yellow sand undisturbed 'natural' deposit [3], the full extent of which was not reached. A total of 12 fragments of human bone were recovered from subsoil deposits.

Plate 1. General view of Soakaway 1, looking approximately north



- 5.5 Trench 2 lay to the southeast of the porch and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m beneath present ground level removing 0.18m of dark greyish brown sandy silt grass-covered topsoil [1] that overlay mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2], the full extent of which was not reached. No fragments of human bone were present.
- 5.6 Soakaway 2 measured c. 1.8m by 1.8m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.1m beneath present ground level (*Plate 2*). Initially, 0.18m of grass-covered dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil [1] was removed that overlay 1.24m of mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2] and light brownish yellow sand undisturbed 'natural' deposit [3], the full extent of which was not reached. A total of 22 fragments of human bone were recovered from subsoil deposits.

Plate 2. General view of Soakaway 2, looking north



- 5.7 Trench 3 lay the southeast of the nave and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m beneath present ground level removing 0.4m of dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil [1] that overlay mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2], the full extent of which was not reached. No fragments of human bone were present.
- 5.8 Soakaway 3 measured c. 1.8m by 1.8m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.1m beneath present ground level (*Plate 3*). Initially, 0.4m of dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil [1] was removed and 1.32m of mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2] that overlay light brownish yellow sand undisturbed 'natural' deposit [3], the full extent of which was not reached. A total of 35 fragments of human bone were recovered from subsoil deposits.
- 5.9 Approximately east-to-west orientated lime-mortared flint wall [4] was exposed in the south-facing section of Soakaway 3 and extended beyond the east and west edges of excavation. It lay 0.31m beneath present ground level and measured 0.36m wide by 0.41m deep.

Plate 3. General view of Soakaway 3, looking north



- 5.10 Trench 4 extended to the south of the chancel and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m beneath present ground level removing 0.16m of dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil [1] that overlay mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2], the full extent of which was not reached. No fragments of human bone were present.
- 5.11 Soakaway 4 measured c. 1.8m by 1.8m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.1m beneath present ground level (*Plate 4*). Initially, 0.16m of dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil [1] was removed that overlay c. 1.3m of mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2]. Subsoil [2] overlay light brownish yellow sand undisturbed 'natural' deposit [3], the full extent of which was not reached. A total of 42 fragments of human bone were recovered from subsoil deposits.

Plate 4. General view of Soakaway 4, looking north



- 5.12 Trench 5 lay to the north of the north transept and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m beneath present ground level removing 0.23m of dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil [1] with frequent mortared-flints and frequent roots that overlay mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2], the full extent of which was not reached. No fragments of human bone were present.
- 5.13 Soakaway 5 measured c. 1.8m by 1.8m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.1m beneath present ground level (not illustrated). Initially, 0.21m of dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil [1] was removed and 1.43m of mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil [2] that overlay light brownish yellow sand undisturbed 'natural' deposit [3], the full extent of which was not reached. A total of 26 fragments of human bone were recovered from subsoil deposits.

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 The remains of a wall at a location south of the nave were observed in Soakaway 3. It is possible the wall relates to the former south transept recorded from a 1956 Aerial Photograph during the Norfolk Mapping Programme although it was not present in Soakaway 2 to the west. No further remains of archaeological significance were revealed.
- 6.2 No specific information was gained from the human bone recovered during the excavations due to the fragmentary nature of the remains. They are typically found in such locations and are the result of the disturbance of earlier graves through successive grave digging over centuries of use of the churchyard.

Acknowledgments

The project was undertaken by Chris Birks for Pikestaff Building Company Ltd who also funded the work. Monitoring was undertaken by John Simmons.

The *draft* report was written by Chris Birks and John Simmons.

Many thanks to Anj Beckham and Heather Hamilton at the Norfolk Historic Environment Record office based at Gressenhall. Thanks also to James Albone, David Gurney, Ken Hamilton, Kelly Powell, David Robertson and Andrew Rogerson at the Historic Environment Service.

Many thanks also to David Lemon at the Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP.

Bibliography

- Birks, C., 2000 *Generic Project Design for Archaeological Watching Briefs*. Chris Birks unpublished document
- Brown, N., and Glazebrook, J.(eds), 2000 *Research and Archaeology; a Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research agenda and strategy*
- Corbett, W & Dent, D., 1994 'The Soil Landscapes', in *An Historical Atlas of Norfolk*, Wade-Martins, P. (ed.)
- English Heritage 1991 *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*
- Funnell, B., 1994 'The Soil Landscapes', in *An Historical Atlas of Norfolk*, Wade-Martins, P. (ed.)
- Funnell, B., 2005 'Solid Geology' in *An Historical Atlas of Norfolk*, edited by Ashwin, T., and Davison, A.
- Gurney, D., 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East Of England* (East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14
- Medlycott, M., 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England*). East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24
- SCAUM 1997 *Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992 and Health and Safety in Field Archaeology*

Appendix 1. Context Summary

Context No.	Type	Description	Initials/Date
1	D	Dark greyish brown silty sand topsoil	JS/May 14
2	D	Mid greyish brown sandy silt subsoil	JS/May 14
3	D	Light brownish yellow sand undisturbed 'natural' deposit	JS/May 14
4	M	East-west flint wall	JS/May 14

Key

D Deposit
M Masonry

Appendix 2. OASIS Record

OASIS ID: [chrisbir1-192513](#)

Project details

Project name	Holy Trinity Church, Ingham
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring was undertaken at 'Holy Trinity Church, Ingham, Norfolk' during groundworks associated with the installation of a new drainage system in May 2014. Small quantities of disarticulated human remains were recovered from subsoil deposits and the remains of a small section of flint wall were observed to the south of the nave that may relate to the former south transept. No further archaeological finds, features or deposits were present.
Project dates	Start: 13-05-2014 End: 15-05-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ENF134314 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 4 - Churchyard
Monument type	CHURCH Medieval
Monument type	CHURCHYARD Medieval
Significant Finds	HUMAN BONE Uncertain
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK NORTH NORFOLK INGHAM Holy Trinity Church, Ingham
Study area	30.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TG 39107 26021 52.7781930079 1.54571928583 52 46 41 N 001 32 44 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Chris Birks
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Chris Birks
Project director/manager	Chris Birks
Project supervisor	John Simmons
Type of	Pikestaff Building Company Ltd on behalf of PCC

sponsor/funding
body

Type of
sponsor/funding
body Parochial Church Council

Project archives

Physical Archive
Exists? No

Digital Archive
Exists? No

Paper Archive
recipient Norfolk Museums Service

Paper Archive ID ENF134314

Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media
available "Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Paper Archive notes Colour digital images in report

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief at 'Holy Trinity Church, Ingham, Norfolk'

Author(s)/Editor(s) Birks, C.

Other bibliographic
details Report Number CB334R

Date 2014

Issuer or publisher Chris Birks

Place of issue or
publication Contractor's Report

Description Bound A4 single-side printed report with text, colour digital images, site location plan, trench and section drawings

Entered by Chris Birks (chris@chrisbirksarchaeology.co.uk)

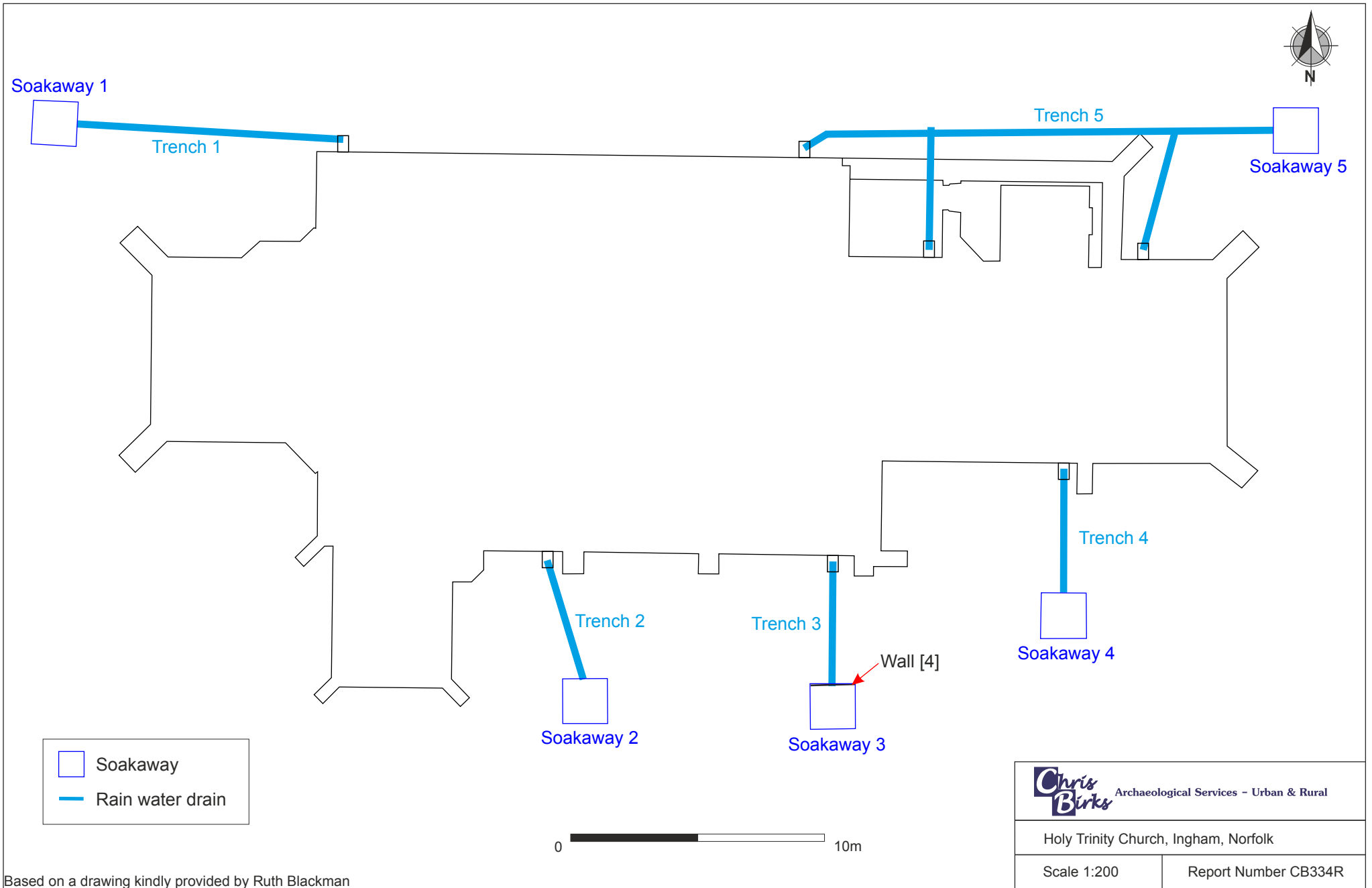
Entered on 13 October 2014

OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2012 Created by [Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email](#) Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012

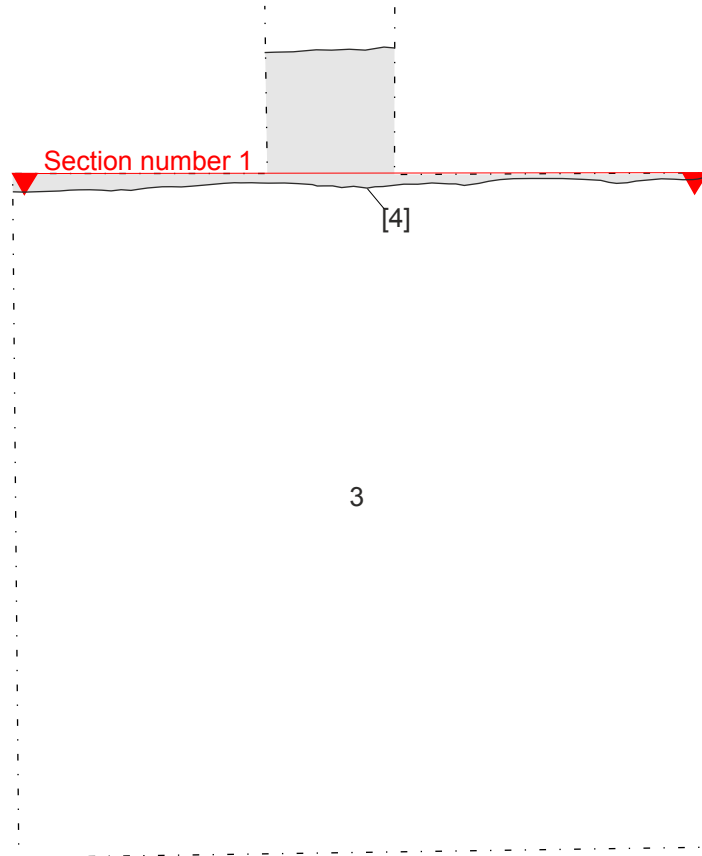
Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page



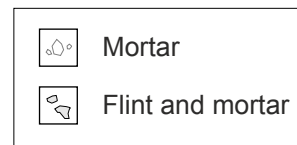
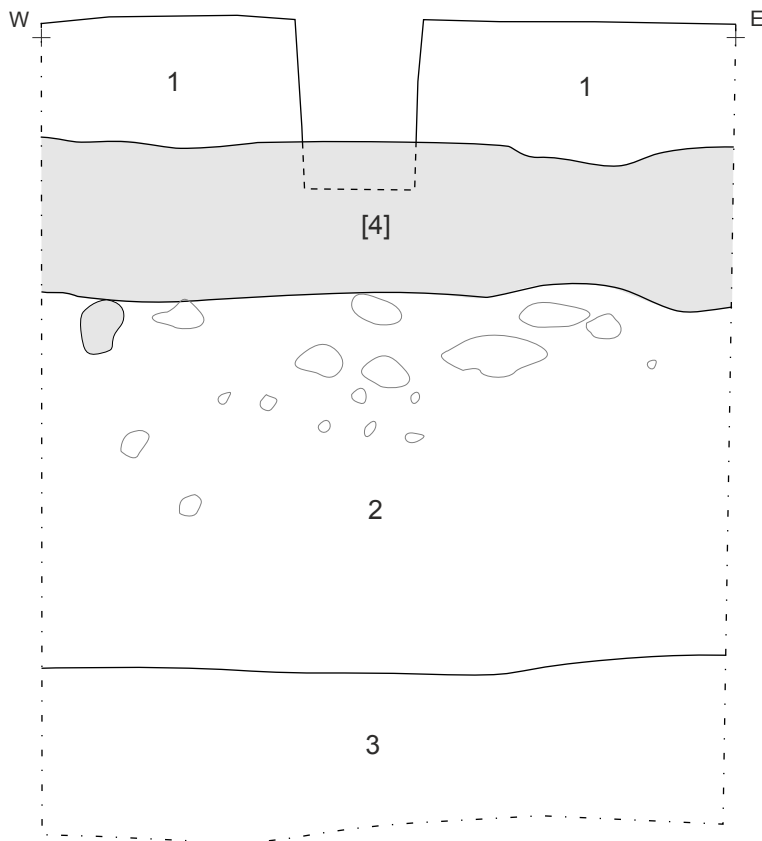
Based on a drawing kindly provided by Ruth Blackman

Figure 2. Site plan

Plan drawing



Section number 1



Chris Birks Archaeological Services - Urban & Rural

Holy Trinity Church, Ingham, Norfolk

Scale 1:20

Report Number CB334R

Figure 3. Wall [4] plan and section drawings