

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING REPORT:

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, COLEBY, LINCOLNSHIRE

NGR: SK 97523 60593

AAL Site Code: COAS17



Report prepared for All Saints Coleby Village Church Council

By
Allen Archaeology Ltd
Report Number AAL 2017177

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Allenarchaeology



Contents

Executive Summary	3
1.0 Introduction.....	4
2.0 Site Location and Description.....	4
3.0 Planning Background.....	4
4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	4
5.0 Methodology	4
6.0 Results	5
7.0 Discussion and Conclusions.....	6
8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology.....	6
9.0 Acknowledgements	6
10.0 References.....	7

List of Plates

Plate 1: Trench and churchyard wall, looking east.....	5
Plate 2: Trench and church wall, looking west.....	6

List of Appendices

Appendix 1: Context Summary List	8
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List of Figures

Figure 1: Site outlined in red	9
Figure 2: Plan and section of trench.....	10

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Cover image: View of site, looking south

Executive Summary

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by All Saints Coleby Village Church Council to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks in the churchyard of All Saints Church, Coleby, Lincolnshire, in order to satisfy a faculty condition.
- The works lie in an area of high archaeological potential, being situated within the grounds of the church which dates back to c.1040.
- The groundworks comprised a c.9m long cable trench and only impacted upon the upper levels of the graveyard soil and revealed no archaeological deposits or artefacts of interest.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by All Saints Coleby Village Church Council to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks in the churchyard of All Saints Church, Coleby, Lincolnshire, in order to satisfy the requirements of a faculty for installation of a gas boiler.
- 1.2 The site works and reporting conformed to current national guidelines as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief' (CIfA 2014), the Historic England document 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (Historic England 2015), local guidelines set out in the Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook (LCC 2016).

2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 Coleby is situated in the North Kesteven district of Lincolnshire, approximately 11km south of central Lincoln. All Saints Church is situated to the north of Church Lane, in the historic core of the village, at NGR SK 97523 60593 (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The bedrock geology comprises Lower Lincolnshire Limestone, with no overlying superficial geology recorded (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 The works were carried out in accordance with the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Lincoln, Form 7 (Rule 7.4) Faculty for the installation of a gas fired boiler in the vestry of the church, and the installation of a gas supply and associated pipework in the churchyard. All excavations were subject to archaeological monitoring.

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 All Saints church is a Grade I Listed Building, which dates back to the Anglo Saxon period, with later additions including the tower, which was constructed c.1040. The main church building is 13th to 15th century in date with further restoration taking place in the 19th century (Lincolnshire HER Number 61911).
- 4.2 Evidence that the medieval settlement of Coleby could date to the late 9th to early 10th century was revealed during monitoring of the Harmston to Coleby Watermains replacement in 1993 with the recovery of a sherd of Lincoln kiln shell-tempered pot of this date from the Church Lane area (Lindsey Archaeological Services 1993).

5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 Archaeological monitoring was undertaken on Monday 13th November 2017 and consisted of the monitoring of all groundworks related to the installation of a gas supply and associated pipework to the northeast of the Church building. The service trench was excavated manually by two groundworkers using hand tools.

- 5.2 All exposed plan and section surfaces were inspected for archaeological features and deposits.
- 5.3 A full written record of the archaeological deposits was made on standard AAL context recording sheets. Archaeological deposits were drawn in plan and section at an appropriate scale (1:20), with OD heights being displayed on each class of drawing. Colour photography formed an integral part of the recording strategy, with all photographs incorporating scales, an identification board and directional arrow, as appropriate.
- 5.4 Each deposit or layer was allocated a unique identifier (context number), and accorded a written description, a summary of these are included in Appendix 1.

6.0 Results

- 6.1 The excavated trench was 9m long, 0.25m wide and between 0.75m and 1m deep. The stratigraphic sequence comprised a 0.35m thick topsoil layer of dark greyish brown clayey silt, 100, and against the church buildings to the west, a made ground layer comprising small to medium sub-rounded stones, 102. These deposits overlay a graveyard soil of mid yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate inclusions of small to medium pieces of limestone, 101.
- 6.2 The monitoring did not identify any features or artefacts of archaeological significance. No disarticulated human remains were recovered.



Plate 1: Trench and churchyard wall, looking east



Plate 2: Trench and church wall, looking west

7.0 Discussion and Conclusions

- 7.1 The archaeological monitoring identified a consistent stratigraphic sequence comprising modern topsoil, 100, and made ground, 102, overlying a graveyard soil, 101, encountered at a depth of c.0.35m below ground level (BGL).
- 7.2 The excavation did not impact upon any archaeological features, and there were no burials or disarticulated human bone encountered.

8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

- 8.1 The monitoring and recording methodology was appropriate for the nature and scale of these works. It has proven that the groundwork has had no impact upon any archaeologically significant deposits or features.

9.0 Acknowledgements

- 9.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank Sue Mackinson-Sanders and All Saints Coleby Village Church Council for this commission. Thanks also go to the ground workers for their cooperation during the fieldwork.

10.0 References

CIfA, 2014, *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Historic England, 2016, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*, Swindon: Historic England

LCC, 2016, *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook*. Lincolnshire County Council

Lindsey Archaeological Services, 1993, *Harmston to Coleby Watermain Replacement*, (Intervention Report). SLI5158.

Appendix 1: Context Summary List

Context	Type	Description	Thickness/ Depth (m)	Interpretation
100	Layer	Firm dark greyish brown silt with moderate small to medium stones	0.35	Modern topsoil
101	Layer	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate inclusions of medium stone	0.40	Mixed graveyard soil
102	Layer	Loose grey small to medium sub-rounded stones	0.40	Gravel Layer (Made Ground)

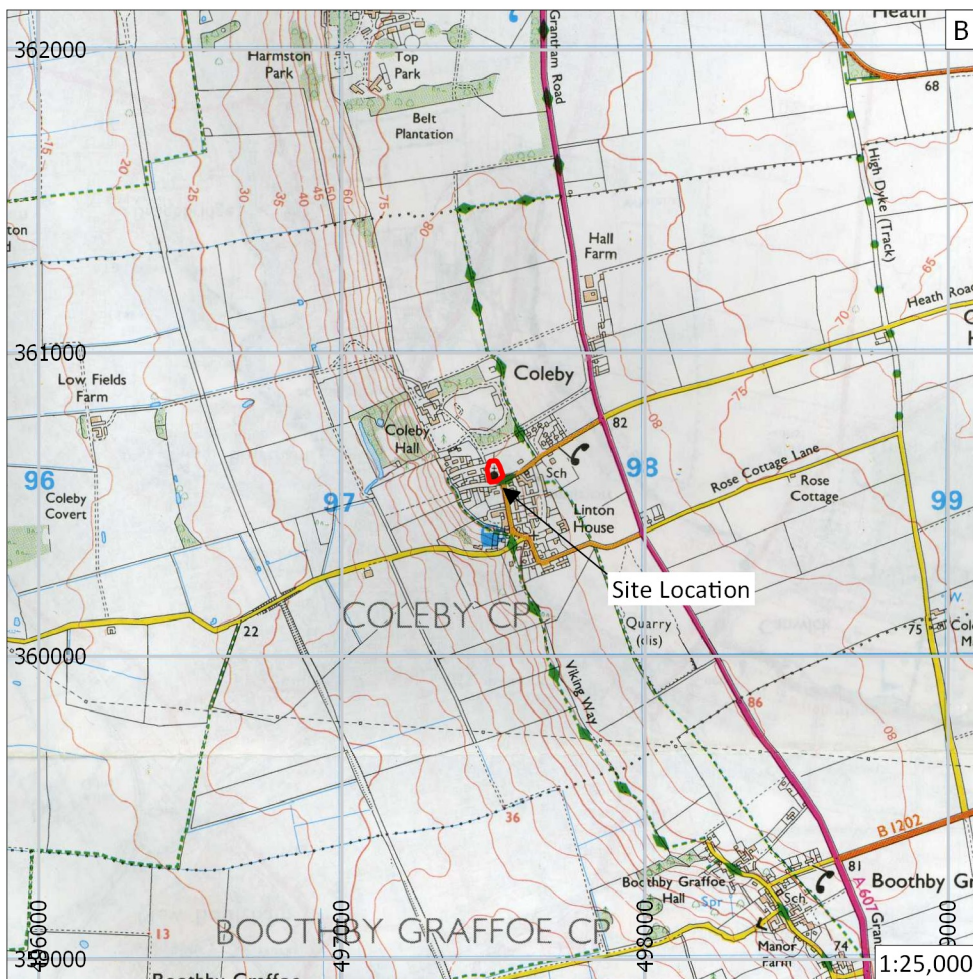
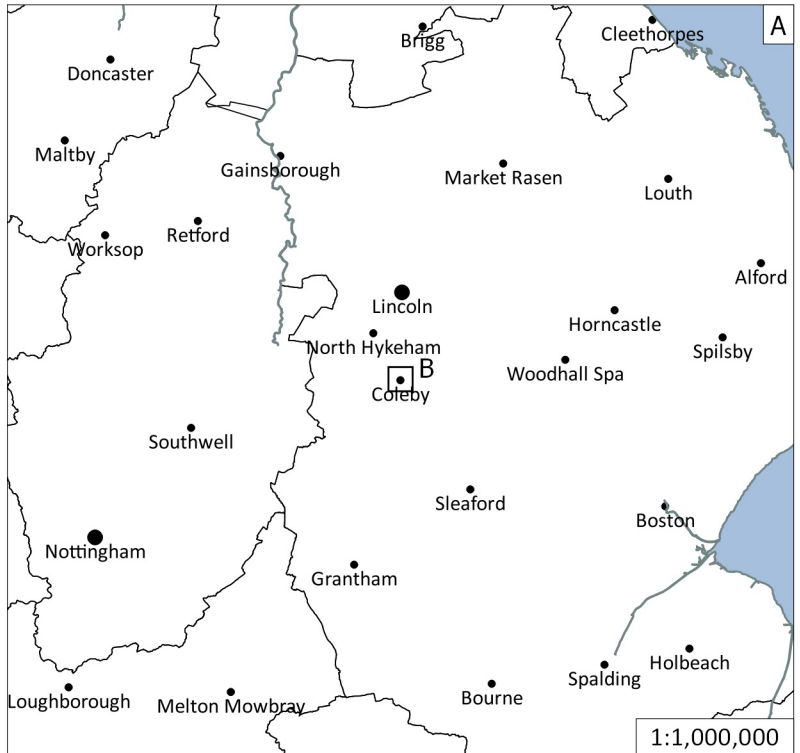


Figure 1: Site location outlined in red

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Site Code	COAS 17
Scale	1:10,000,000 1:1,000,000 1:25,000 @ A4
Drawn by	D Leigh
Date	16/11/17

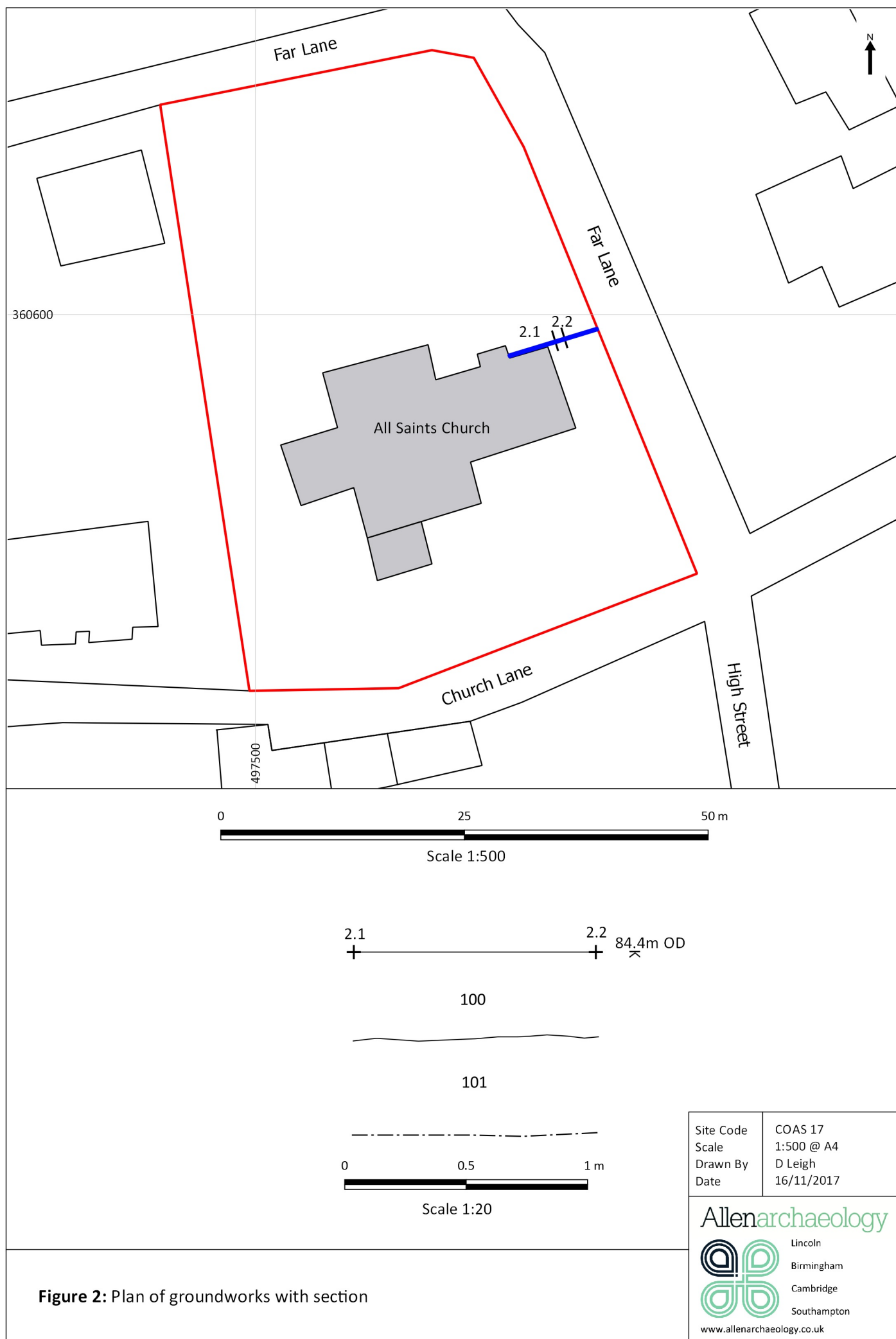


Figure 2: Plan of groundworks with section



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