

**CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, CROYDON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE:
EXCAVATION OF MEDIEVAL BUTTRESSES**

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, CROYDON. (TL 315496). In 1995 archaeological recording was carried out by Alison Taylor (County Archaeologist) and Andrew Hatton for Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit in order to ascertain the state of preservation of two medieval buttresses, revealed when a trench was excavated for the housing of a water drainage pipe (*Figure 1*).

The removal of the overburden (average depth, 0.30m) from the two areas of medieval stone work, revealed further attempts undertaken during the 1970's to halt any subsidence; which took the form of concrete underpinning(*Figure 1*), unfortunately, the trench dug around the Chancel for the aforementioned concrete virtually destroyed the medieval buttresses.

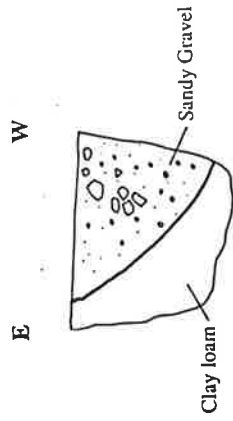
Excavation of the southern buttress (0.65m wide) revealed that the primary structural course of the medieval buttress consisted of Clunch and Sandstone, which had been laid on a layer of sandy gravel (maximum depth, 0.28m and minimum depth, 0.10m), which would have acted as a foundation layer Section 2 (*Figure 1*). The northern buttress (0.60m wide) suffered a greater degree of damage caused by the laying of the concrete, however, enough remained in situ to give an accurate measurement of 5 metres between the two buttresses and also the constructional relationship (*ibid*).

As a consequence of the excavation the pipe trench was relocated in order to avoid any further damage to the medieval buttresses.

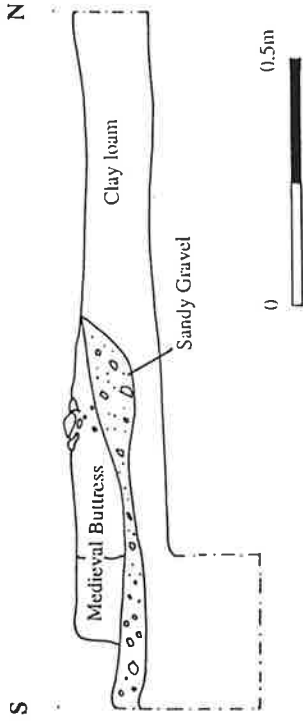
The archive record which consists of site notes, site plan (inked copy as *figure 1*), B/W and Colour photographs, plus colour slides are held by Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit.

Sent by Bob Hatton to
AT
28/4/95

SECTION 1



SECTION 2



SECTION 3

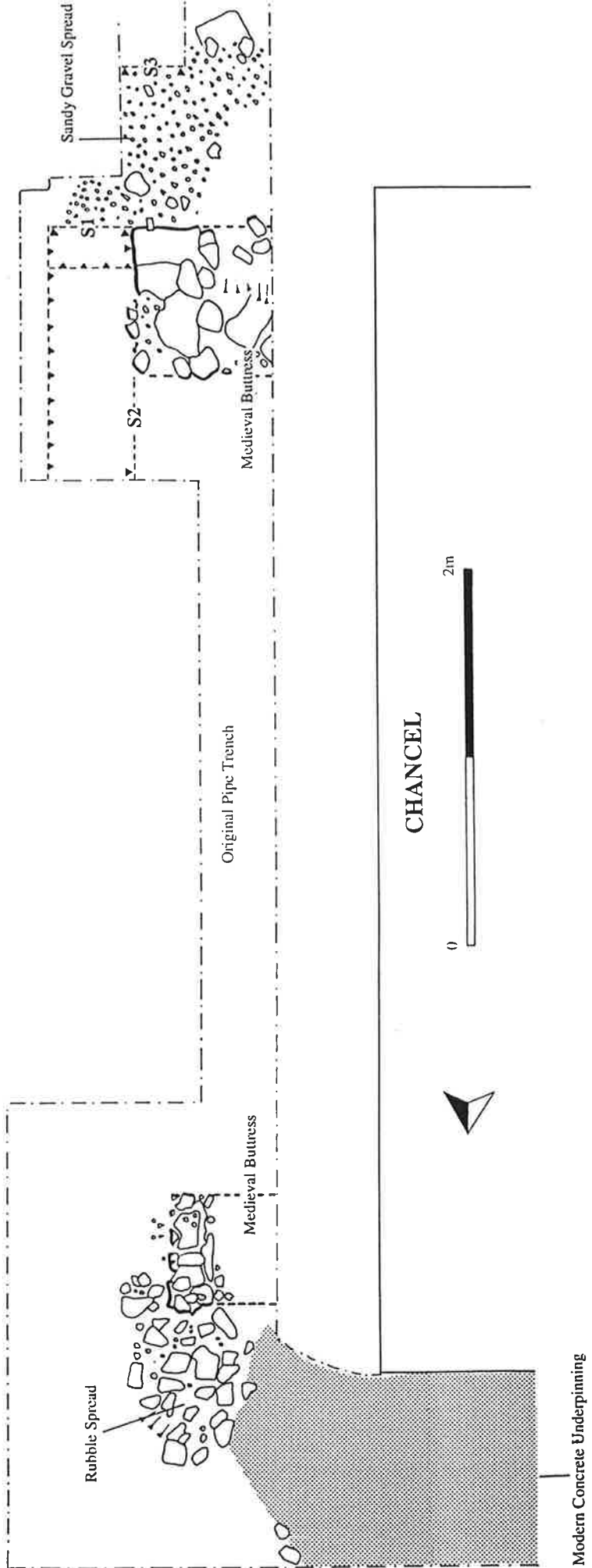
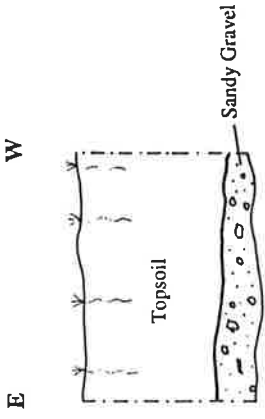


Figure 1 Plan and section drawings of medieval buttresses at All Saints Church, Croydon.