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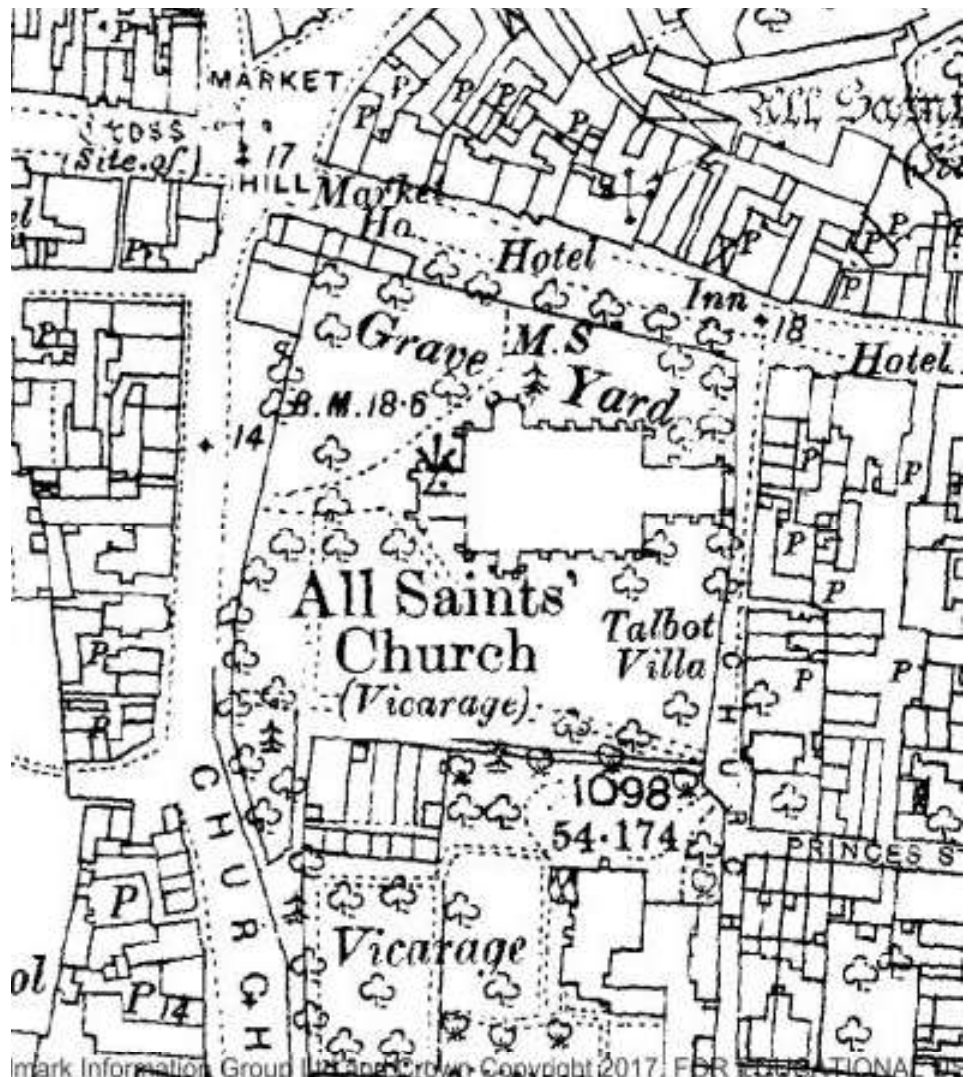
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All Saints Church

**Holbeach
Discovery
Trail**

The churchyard is maintained by Holbeach parish council and planted by Holbeach in Bloom. The present church dates from 14th century but an earlier church stood on part of the site two centuries earlier. The North porch has had many uses over the centuries, before the Reformation it was where exorcisms of baptism were performed before a child was brought into church and the first part of the marriage service was conducted there. Until the 1900s there was an upper floor reached by a stone staircase in the western turret. In 18th century this served as a schoolroom for the Farmer Free School.



In 1932 two friends Ned Hall and Fred Sonny Fox were passing the church when they came across some ladders left in position by steeplejacks who had been working on the steeple during the week. Ned bet Sonny that if he (Ned) climbed the steeple and placed his hat on the weather vane Sonny would not be able to climb up and fetch it. As a crowd gathered Ned picked his way upwards until he reached to the weather vane and placed his hat there as arranged. Sonny started his ascent but froze halfway up and so Ned retrieved his own hat before descending to be greeted by Cannon Hutchinson and PC MacDonald, both men were reprimanded but no further action was taken. There are information boards on the history of the church inside and many interesting features to discover.

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