



## About All Saints'

Standing in the midst of an ancient medieval field system, this simple red brick Georgian church is perfectly proportioned. It comprises a box-like nave and chancel, promoting the neo-classical ideals of symmetry and utility. The church's brick shell with its limestone stringcourse stands on a foundation of greenstone in lush marshland. It boasts impressive arched classical windows, with keystones and plain leaded glass.

The church was built in 1748, replacing the earlier medieval church. The name Great Steeping is of Scandinavian origin, probably meaning Steapa's people. The early settlement must have been substantial because the Domesday Book records two churches present, and earthworks from the ancient fields are still prominent. Nothing survives of the earlier church. The later rebuilding may have been part of a Baptist initiative that swept the area in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1891, a new church was built in Great Steeping, causing this church to fall into decline, despite efforts to restore it in 1908.

The church was vested with The Churches Conservation Trust in 1977.

## A thousand years of English history awaits you

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity protecting historic churches at risk.

We've saved over 340 beautiful buildings which attract more than a million visitors a year. With our help and with your support they are kept open and in use – living once again at the heart of their communities.



### Access

Due to their age, historic church floors can be uneven and worn and lighting can be low level. Please take care, especially in wet weather when floors can be slippery.

### Help us do more

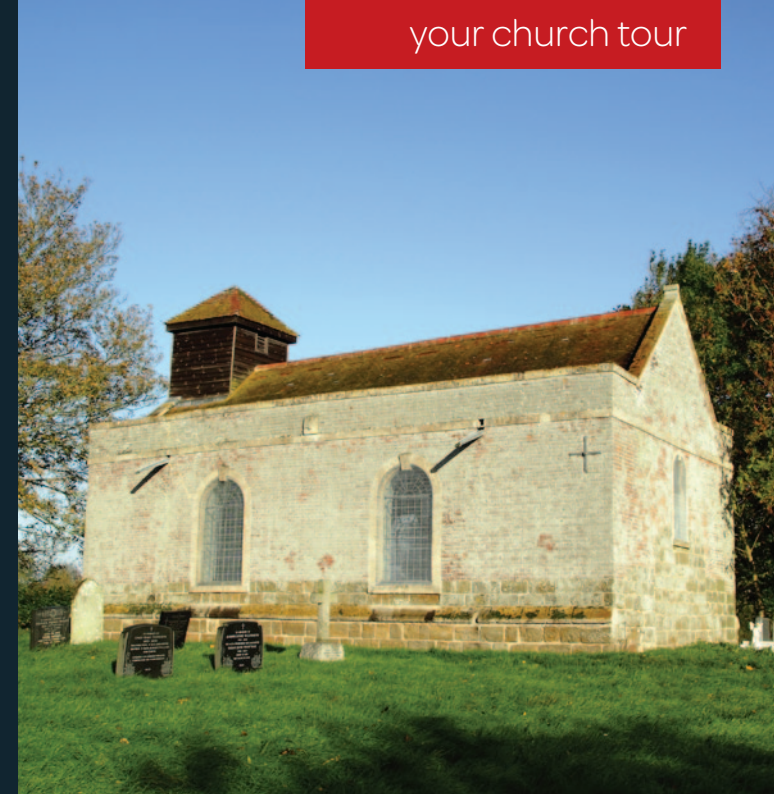
To protect these churches, and others like them, we need your help. If you enjoy your visit please give generously or if you would like to become a CCT supporter and join in our exclusive 'behind-the-scenes' visits please go to our website.



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CONSERVATION TRUST

[visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk)

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Registered Charity No: 258612  
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## Church of All Saints

Great Steeping



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## The historic church of St Peter

### 10 things to see before you leave...

- 1 The wooden **beam** across the door is marked with the date 1708 and the initials B B I G C W.
- 2 The single **bell** dates to the late-19<sup>th</sup> century.
- 3 The roof is supported by a wooden **king post**, positioned below the bell turret. This is the only carved decoration to be found in the church.
- 4 Among the few surviving furnishings are the **communion rails** which date to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.
- 5 The simple wooden **altar** is of mid- to late-20<sup>th</sup> century date.
- 6 The **plaque** above the door describes the construction and subsequent restorations of the church.
- 7 On the external western wall is a small **oeil-de-beouf window**. Oeil-de-beouf means 'bull's eye' and is a typical design of Baroque architecture in France and of Jacobean manor houses in England.
- 8 The small wooden **bell turret** was added to the church after it was rebuilt in 1748.
- 9 On the external east wall a **roofline** can be seen, suggesting the church was once larger.
- 10 Beneath the roofline on the external east wall is a **blocked arch**, indicating that the 1748 church originally incorporated the medieval chancel.

