



## About St George's

St George's church marks the site of a former ancient settlement, deserted during the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The present structure, of 16<sup>th</sup>-century date, was built on the site of an earlier medieval church, the foundations of which were discovered in the 1970s. There is some dispute about the meaning of the name 'Goltho'. An early English place name, it may translate as 'ravine' or 'the place where the marigolds grow'.

The first church at Goltho was probably built around the mid-12<sup>th</sup> century when the parish first came into existence after the foundation of the nearby Gilbertine Priory at Bullington. The settlement comprised two manors held by Philip de Kyme and was fortified by a motte and bailey castle, the earthworks of which can be found nearby.

The Granthams, a 14<sup>th</sup>-century merchant family, had been involved with the church over many centuries and their patronage is evident in the fabric. This includes Thomas Grantham's ledger stone which can be seen before the chancel arch. Many believe they were the family who actually built the church in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1996 the church was featured in the wedding scene of "The Fortunes and Misfortunes of Moll Flanders".

The church was painted in the authentic colours of the early-18<sup>th</sup> century for the filming.

The church was vested with The Churches Conservation Trust in 1976.

## 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.



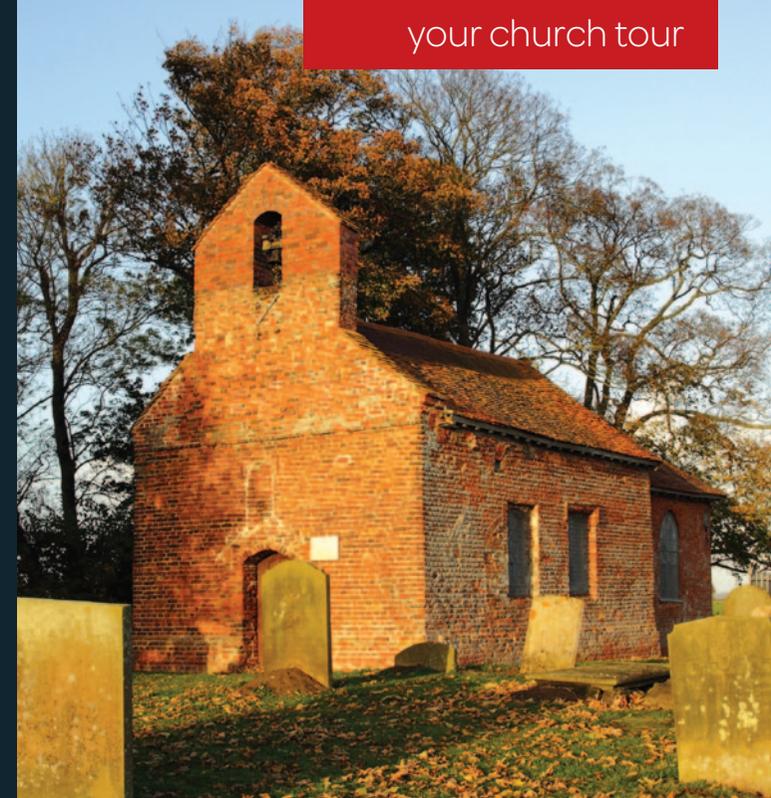
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[visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk)

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Church of  
St George

Goltho



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## The historic church of St George

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

- 1 A typical feature of Georgian churches was the **West gallery**. These were frequently used by village bands to accompany the hymns in church.
- 2 The plain octagonal **font** is probably medieval but has been substantially re-carved in more recent years.
- 3 The double-decker Georgian **pulpit** is a simple design. It is painted in a colour reminiscent of the era.
- 4 Two Georgian **box pews** have remained intact. Box pews would have been rented by individual local families.
- 5 The medieval **grave slabs** indicate that there was a church here by the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century. One is shaped like a coffin lid and bears a Latin inscription commemorating Margaret Mustill, who died in 1507. The matrix in another stone once held a brass coat of arms, probably for a knight.
- 6 The carved **bench ends**, decorated with lions and poppy-heads, may date to the late-medieval period
- 7 The **reredos** dates from the early-18<sup>th</sup> century. Although now blank, it would originally have displayed the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.
- 8 The church itself is entirely built with **brick** and dates to the 1530s when brick was still a relatively new building material. The black diamond pattern on the exterior wall is a common 16<sup>th</sup>-century design.
- 9 The **bellcote** is one of the more modern features of the church, dating from the Victorian era.
- 10 The churchyard contains the **grave** of Lieutenant John Bailey Mawer, who served in the Royal Air Force in the First World War and was just 28 years old when he died in 1918.

