



**A Programme of Archaeological Monitoring
Investigation and Recording on land at the former
Welland Motor Factors site
North Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire
May 2013 – January 2015**

Report No. 15/216

Author: David J Leigh

Illustrator: Amir Bassir



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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		OASIS: molanort1- 232985	
Project name	A programme of archaeological monitoring, investigation and recording on land at the former Welland Motor Factors site, North Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire		
Short description	A programme of archaeological monitoring, investigation and recording was undertaken by MOLA Northampton, on behalf of Burmor Construction between May 2013 and January 2015 during redevelopment works on land at the former Welland Motor Factors site, North Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire. A truncated natural substratum was recorded throughout the investigation area, and a post-medieval cellar of brick and stone construction was recorded. No archaeological artefacts were present.		
Project type	A Programme of Archaeological Monitoring, Investigation and Recording		
Site status	None		
Previous work	None		
Current Land use	Former Motor Factors		
Future work	No		
Monument type/ period	-		
Significant finds	-		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County	Lincolnshire		
Site address	Former Welland Motor Factors, North Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire		
Study area (sq metres)	270m		
OS Easting & Northing	TL 029 073		
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation	MOLA Northampton (Formerly Northamptonshire Archaeology)		
Project brief originator	Heritage Lincolnshire		
Project Design originator	MOLA Northampton		
Director/Supervisor	David J Leigh		
Project Manager	Anthony Maull		
Sponsor or funding body	Burmor Construction		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date	May 2013		
End date	January 2015		
ARCHIVES	Location	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)	
Physical		none	
Paper	Lincolnshire Museums	Watching brief forms (3) Photographic record sheets (1) Black and white photographs (8) Digital photographs ()	
Digital		Report text and figures	
BIBLIOGRAPHY			
	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (MOLA report)		
Title	A programme of archaeological monitoring, investigation and recording on land at the former Welland Motor Factors site, North Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire		
Serial title & volume	MOLA Northampton report 15/216		
Author	David J Leigh		
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Abstract

A programme of archaeological monitoring, investigation and recording was undertaken by MOLA Northampton on behalf of Burmor Construction, during redevelopment works on land at the former Welland Motor Factors site North Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire. A truncated natural substratum was recorded throughout the investigation area along with a post-medieval cellar. No archaeological artefacts were present.

1 INTRODUCTION

A programme of archaeological monitoring, investigation and recording was undertaken by MOLA Northampton between May 2013 and January 2015 during redevelopment works on land at the former Welland Motor Factors site, North Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire (NGR: TL 029 073; Figs 1, 2, and 3). The work was undertaken on behalf of Burmor Construction, following a requirement for archaeological observation and investigation as required by the Senior Historic Environment Officer, Lincolnshire County Council.

The work followed a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by MOLA (NA 2013) and adhered to the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012) and the procedural document MoRPHE issued by English Heritage (EH 2006) along with the appropriate national standards and guidelines, as recommended by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008a & b).

2 BACKGROUND

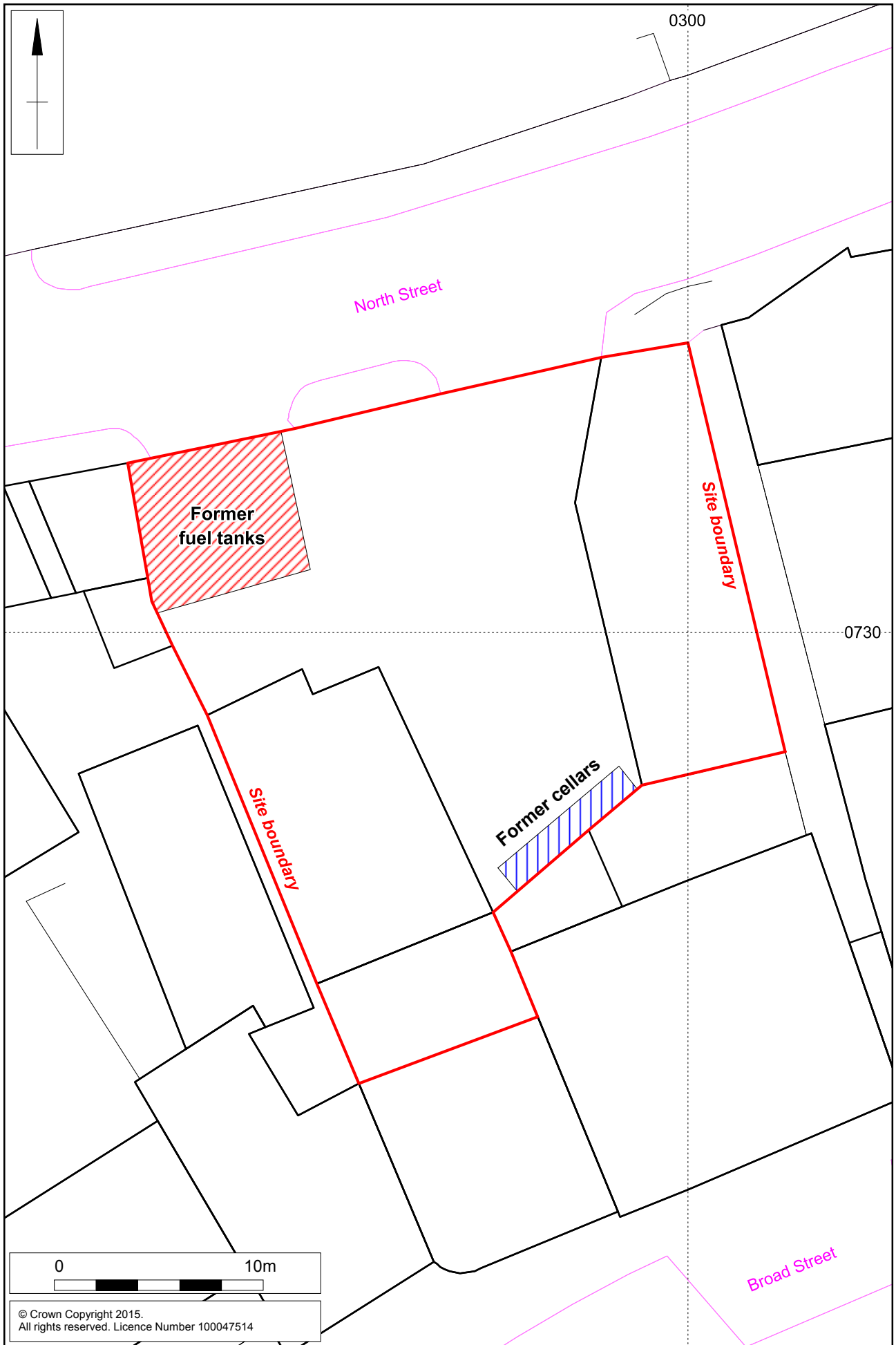
2.1 Location and topography

The town of Stamford lies in south-west Lincolnshire, adjacent to Rutland, Peterborough and Northamptonshire. The development area is located on the southern side of North Street on the northern edge of Stamford. The site lies on level ground and up to the present application has comprised an area occupied by the former motor factors building demolished prior to archaeological observation. Along the frontage in the south-eastern corner of the site were situated the former fuel tanks. The underlying geology has been mapped by the British Geological Survey of Great Britain as comprising Jurassic Limestone



Scale 1:10,000

Site Location Fig 1



Scale 1:250

The area of archaeological observation Fig 2

2.2 Historical background

The development area lies on the northern side of Stamford in an area of archaeological interest close to the medieval town defences and within the boundaries of the medieval town.

Stamford has a well documented history. Settlement is known from the post-Roman era with both Danish and Saxon *burhs* situated within the core of the modern town. To the south of the site a possible Romano-British burial urn was found at Barn Hill house. During the Middle Ages Stamford was situated on a major north-south communication route, and was an important market centre with fourteen churches as well as several religious houses. All saints Hospital, also referred to as Brownes Hospital lies close by, to the immediate west of the site. This was founded in 1485 by William Browne and was originally known as Claymonte Hospital. The building subsequently underwent partial re-construction by J Fowler into almshouses. The town is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086AD, where it is listed under the Kings Borough of Stamford.

Close by is the position of one of the medieval gateways known as New Gate. To the south Wharf Road is believed to lie on the line of the towns 13th century defences as does North Street.

No previous archaeological investigations are recorded as having been carried out within the development area.

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The aims of the archaeological investigation were to:

- ◆ Observe the groundworks for the redevelopment and to record all archaeological deposits uncovered;
- ◆ Determine the date, character, state of preservation and depth of any archaeological deposits observed and to retrieve all datable artefacts;
- ◆ Create a permanent archive and record of the archaeological information collected during the course of the fieldwork and analysis.

A photographic record in both black and white negative and digital format was kept. The written record used MOLA pro-forma sheets (MOLA 2014). The programme of archaeological monitoring, investigation and recording was carried out in accordance with the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2008).

The fieldwork was undertaken between May 2013 and January 2015 during redevelopment works. The groundworks were carried out using a 360° mechanical excavator.



General view of the modern overburden and cellars Fig 3



General view of the cellars Fig 4

4 THE RECORDED EVIDENCE

A truncated natural substratum was recorded throughout the investigation area. The natural substratum was encountered in the north-east corner of the site at a depth of approximately 2m below present ground level and comprised grey-blue compact clay. In the south-eastern corner of the site were located the former motor factors fuel tanks, the installation of which had significantly truncated the natural substratum. This was cut by the former motor factors building and its cellars (Figs 2, 3, 4 and 5).

No archaeological artefacts were present.



The interior of the cellar Fig 5

5 THE SITE ARCHIVE

The project has generated a small archive comprising:

RECORD	NUMBER
Watching brief forms	3
Photographic record sheets	1
Black and white photographs	8
Digital photographs	187

The project archive will be consolidated and prepared for deposition with Lincolnshire Museums.

6 CONCLUSIONS

A truncated natural substratum was recorded throughout the investigation area, and a post-medieval cellar was recorded, no archaeological artefacts were present. The construction of the former motor factors building resulted in complete truncation of the natural substratum throughout the investigation area, and it is not possible to determine whether any archaeological deposits were present prior to this construction.

The watching brief was carried out in favourable conditions and the results are considered to be reliable.

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