

Report number 2015/1361



**St Mary the Virgin Church, Worstead, Norfolk
Archaeological Monitoring**

ENF136021



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Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP



June 2015

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Overview	Niall Oakey	
Draft	Steve Hickling	03.03.2015
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Steve Hickling BA MA ACIfA
 Rebecca Sillwood BA ACIfA

Author
 Archaeological finds

Scandic House
 85 Mountergate
 Norwich
 NR1 1PY

T 01603 756150
 F 01603 756190
 E nau.mail@nps.co.uk
 W nau.nps.co.uk

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Client: Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP
Location: St Mary's church, Worstead, Norfolk
District: North Norfolk
Planning Ref.: N/A
Grid Ref.: TG 30186 26055
HER No.: ENF136021
OASIS ID: norfolka1-201972
Dates of Fieldwork: 26–27 January 2015

Summary

Archaeological monitoring was conducted by NPS Archaeology for Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP during groundworks associated with the installation of new drains and a soak-away at St Mary the Virgin parish church, Worstead, Norfolk (TG 30186 26055).

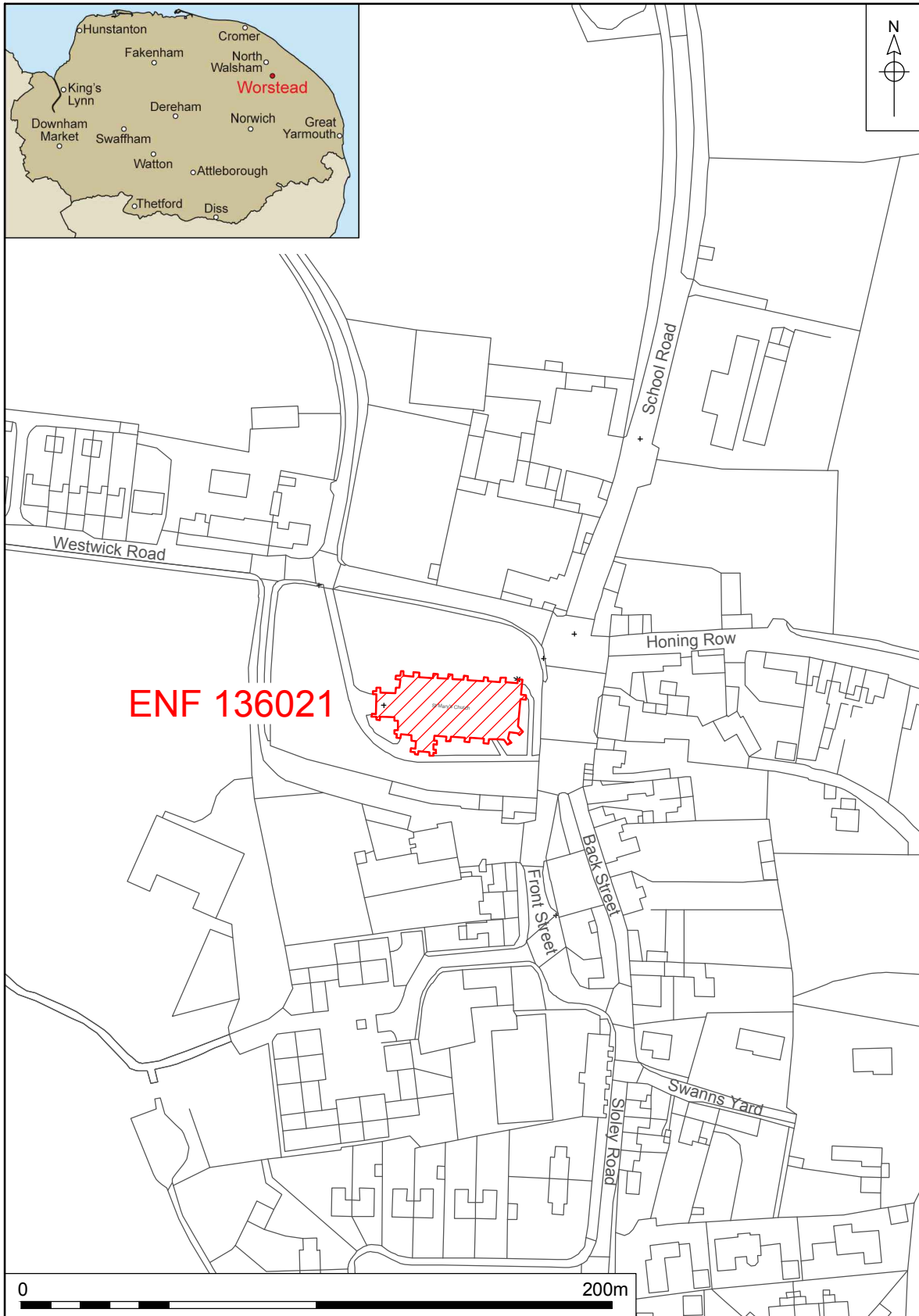
The monitoring project recorded a thick layer of subsoil caused by repeated digging of densely packed and intercutting graves in the graveyard of the medieval church. Disarticulated fragments of human bone were found and one skeleton was recorded in situ.

Other finds from the graveyard subsoil included loosely stratified medieval and post-medieval pottery sherds. The ceramics, along with finds of Flemish tile fragments, indicate activity in this area since the 14th century.

Research ensuing from the archaeological monitoring established that a fragment of a reputed early 14th-century effigy in bas relief on a piece of Purbeck limestone in the churchyard is actually an extremely rare sculpture of likely 13th-century date in Alwalton marble. The figure represented may well be military, but the fragment may derive from either a monument or a decorative sculpture.

Figure 1

- t** A proposal to excavate a new rainwater catch-pit against the exterior of the south aisle of St Mary the Virgin church, a soak-away in the churchyard, and a connecting drain, required a programme of archaeological monitoring of the groundworks due to the location of these works within the historic churchyard.
- u** NPS Archaeology was commissioned by Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP and funded by Worstead PCC to carry out the archaeological project. The work was undertaken to fulfil the requirements of a generic Brief issued by Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (Hamilton 2012). The work was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (01-04-15-2-1361) prepared by NPS Archaeology (2015) (Appendix 6).
- v** This programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the areas affected by groundworks.



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Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:2000

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- y The underlying geology in the area of St Mary the Virgin church consists of Quaternary period deposits of the Briton s Lane Sand and Gravel Member, above Quaternary and Neogene period sands and gravels of the Crag Group (British Geological Survey 2015).

The churchyard is situated on the crest of a small hill, at a height of c. 20.00m OD in the centre of the modern village of Worstead. The village lies 4.60km south of North Walsham and 18.70km northeast of Norwich.

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The primary source for archaeological evidence in the county of Norfolk is the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER), which details archaeological discoveries and sites of historical interest. In order to characterise the likely archaeological potential of the proposed development site, NHER record data was purchased from Norfolk Historic Environment Service for a 500.00m radius search area centred on TG 30186 26055. This exercise returned 28 individual records, including monuments, spot finds and buildings, providing evidence of historical activity spanning the prehistoric modern periods.

The online mapping resource *Historic Map Explorer* (Norfolk County Council 2015) was consulted for this section of the report to help place the monitoring site in a broader historical landscape context.

The NHER data considered most relevant to the current project are referenced and summarised below, along with details of previous archaeological work in the vicinity. The information presented that is sourced from Norfolk Historic Environment Record remains copyright of Norfolk Historic Environment Service/Norfolk County Council. A reference table listing dates for the historical periods referred to is provided in Appendix 4.

Little evidence of prehistoric and Roman activity is known from the area, except for the remains of a probable Iron Age ditch recorded by an archaeological excavation on Front Street, 75.00m southeast of the church in 2001 (NHER 41157).

- ts** It is known from the Domesday Book of 1086 that Worstead parish was populous, considered to be economically valuable, and had two churches. From at least the 13th century, and probably significantly earlier, its wealth was founded on the wool trade and cloth weaving, which remained important through the medieval period and beyond.
- tt** The development lies within the churchyard of St Mary the Virgin church (NHER 8209), which ranks as one of the most impressive of Norfolk's many churches. The present building was begun in the early 14th century and remodelled in the late 14th century, but the majority of the fabric is Perpendicular in style. Although the wool trade peaked in the 14th century, there was still revenue enough to support the raising of the clerestory and the installation of a hammer-beam roof in the 15th century.
- tu** In 2012, a fragment of an effigy in bas relief on a piece of Purbeck limestone was discovered to the west of St Mary's south porch (NHER 58019). The NHER describes the inscribed features of a human head, consisting of a helmet or other hat, eyes, an ear, and part of a nose. The effigy is broken off beneath the nose. The stone is smooth, as though it has been polished, and the naturalistic style of carving has prompted a suggestion that the effigy dates from the early 14th-century. The piece was noted again during the current monitoring work.
- tv** The site of St Andrew's church, which was recorded in 1256 and received funds for repair in 1529, is thought to lie 175.00m southeast of St Mary the Virgin (NHER

8208). No remains of the church have been discovered at this location, although Late Saxon human remains and medieval and post-medieval pottery sherds discovered in 1954, 280m southeast of the monitored groundworks, may belie the site of St Andrew's graveyard (NHER 8184).

- 14 A fine medieval brick undercroft is known beneath St Andrew's Cottage 65.00m east of the monitoring site (NHER 19461). It consists of three irregular rib-vaulted bays with transverse arches. The third bay is a later, lower, addition, and the whole is plastered.
- 15 An archaeological evaluation on Sloley Road in 2003, 200m southeast of St Mary's church, found a wide linear feature, possibly a boundary ditch, containing sherds of early and late medieval pottery (NHER 38050). An ephemeral gully of unknown function was also identified.
- 16 A group of field boundaries, at least one of which is of post-medieval date, is visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs 460m south of the parish church (NHER 49220). The post-medieval field boundary, which is defined by a substantial bank, is depicted on 19th-century maps. The remainder, which fit the same pattern, probably represent part of a contemporary system of land division, although the curved form and irregularity of many of the boundaries suggests that they may have originated in the medieval period.

Post-medieval

- 17 The medieval prosperity of the area, derived from the wool trade, continued through the 16th–18th centuries and shows itself archaeologically through the wealth of post-medieval architecture in the village.
- 18 Manor House, 70.0.0m northeast of the current work, was originally two houses, and was built in the early and late 16th century (NHER 17023). Many additions and alterations have taken place since.
- 19 Geoffrey the Dyer's House, 75.00m northeast of the parish church, dates to the 16th century and later, and is of brick and flint with a pan-tile roof and 18th- and 19th-century alterations (NHER 17024). One ground-floor room is double-sized and has a very high ceiling, built to accommodate looms.
- 20 The Thatched House, 70.00m east of St Mary the Virgin, dates to the late 17th and 18th centuries, and is of brick and flint (NHER 17025).
- 21 Norwich House, 70.00m east of the archaeological monitoring site, is an L-shaped jettied house with a gable chimney stack and another building to the rear (NHER 30613). The front house is thought to date to the 18th century. The rear building may date to the 17th century, and has been suggested as a possible weaver's cottage or workplace.
- 22 An archaeological evaluation at Laburnum Cottage in 2004, 100.00m southeast of the church, revealed a large number of pits of late post-medieval date, a metallised surface overlying a small undated pit, and a large undated quarry hollow (NHER 40820). Laburnum Cottage itself, is a small house, probably originally a single-storey and attic structure, and may have been built as early as the 17th century (NHER 40937). It was raised in height around 1800 and given a rear out-shut containing a reused medieval stone block.

- 23 Worstead Park (NHER 40884), 550.00m southeast of the current work, was laid out at the time of the construction of Worstead House in the 1790s (NHER 15440). It is surrounded by tree belts and has a large lake with small square islands, as well as an impressive avenue of trees along the drive from Hall Farm.
- 24 An archaeological watching brief at 18 Horning Road in 2005, 160.00m east of the parish church, revealed two late post-medieval brick-lined wells or soak-aways (NHER 41995).
- 25 The New Inn public house, 40.00m south of the current monitoring site, is dated 1825, and is of brick and flint with a pan-tile roof (NHER 47221). It has a front of two storeys and five bays and is built on a flint plinth.
- 26 Church Cottage, 35.00m southeast of St Mary's church, dates to the earlier and later 18th century, and is of brick and flint with a thatch roof (NHER 47652). The south front is of two storeys and the ground floor has some brick and flint chequerwork.
- 27 White Cottage, 60.00m southeast of the current work, is a house of two periods, apparently c. 1700 and c. 1800 (NHER 50420).
- 28 In October 2009, an archaeological excavation 195.00m south of the parish church, revealed two post-medieval pits (NHER 53087).
- 29 Worstead Church of England Primary School, 360.00m north of St Mary the Virgin, was built in 1852, and has several later 19th-century additions and inserted windows (NHER 55847).

Modern

- 30 The site of Worstead Park World War Two training camp lies 550.00m southeast of the current groundworks (NHER 34541). It is visible as extant earthworks, structures, and buildings on aerial photographs taken in 1946. It was used as a base for artillery and signals training, and as a holding unit. It comprised a large number of Nissen-type huts, which were widely dispersed across much of Worstead Park (NHER 40884). A small building to the south of Worstead House Stables (NHER 15440), which may have been built as part of the camp, still survived as a ruin in 2004.

Undated

- 31 It is recorded that a 'bundle of swords' was recovered from a site 155.00m southwest of the current work in c. 1900 (NHER 8202).
- 32 A group of undated, fragmentary linear ditches is visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs 420.00m east of the parish church (NHER 49219). The date and function of the ditches is unclear, and their archaeological significance is uncertain.
- 33 A cellar or undercroft was discovered during excavations of footings for an extension to The Laurels, 85.00m south of St Mary the Virgin church (NHER 52509).

Cartographic evidence

- 34 A colourful copy made in 1781 of a late 16th-century original is the earliest map available to this report (Martin and Satchell 2008). Its principal purpose appears to be to show ownership of the small and irregular-shaped fields scattered around the village, but it also depicts a busy settlement focused on the crossroads immediately

northeast of St Mary the Virgin church. Buildings line either side of the road to the east (modern-day Church Plain), and the arrangement of what is currently Front Street and Back Street is also drawn. More buildings are shown on the north side of the road to the north of the church (Westwick Road). To the west are agricultural fields, but to the south and southwest, apparently up to and including the curtilage of the church, there are 'meadowes', which extend south towards what appears to be a series of canalised or managed streams or drains.

- 35 The next earliest accessible map for Worstead is that by William Faden published in 1797 (Macnair 2015). For all that Faden's mapping is taken to be reliable, it actually shows significantly less detail than the copied landholding map of 1781. Aside from blocks of buildings clustered around the crossroads, the church is depicted almost on its own. The grounds and buildings of Westwick Hall are shown less than a mile to the west.
- 36 The enclosure map of Worstead from 1821 presents a comparatively detailed plan of the village centre and a profile drawing of St Mary the Virgin church (Norfolk County Council 2015). The meadow land southwest of the church had, by this time, been taken into private ownership and was presumably farmed. The map records that much of the land around the village centre had either been acquired by, or passed on by, G.B. Brograve. The only significant visible difference in the vicinity of the church between that time and today is a pair of buildings on the east edge of the churchyard, fronting Church Plain, which are no longer extant. Other buildings no longer present are shown on the opposite side of the road to the north of the church.
- 37 By contrast to the enclosure map, the c. 1840 Tithe map depicts very little structural detail, and does not even show the church (Norfolk County Council 2015). It does depict a formal circuit of lanes around the south and west side of the churchyard for the first time, but detail within the village centre is disregarded in favour of the label 'The Town'.
- 38 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map (c. 1885) shows almost precisely the same layout of church, churchyard, and immediate environs as can be seen today (Norfolk County Council 2015).

- v Methodology for the archaeological monitoring followed the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation (01-04-15-2-1361, NPS Archaeology 2015) (Appendix 6). Archaeological procedures conformed to guidelines issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a)
- ys The objective of the monitoring project was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence or absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.
- yt The generic Brief required that all groundworks be monitored by a qualified archaeologist. However, excavation of the catch-pit and most of the linking drain run had already been completed before NPS Archaeology was informed of the works. All excavation was carried out by hand, with the soak-away excavation being completed under constant archaeological supervision.
- yu Spoil and exposed surfaces were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds other than those that were obviously modern were retained for inspection.
- yv All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NPS Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales. Monochrome and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits where appropriate.
- yy Human remains disturbed by the groundworks were kept on site for reburial.
- y Site conditions were good and the work took place in fine weather.
- y The site archive is currently held at the offices of NPS Archaeology. Upon completion of the project, the documentary archive will be prepared and indexed following guidelines obtained from the relevant museum and relevant national guidelines (CIfA 2014b). The archive, consisting of all paper elements created during recording of the archaeological site, including digital material, will be deposited with Norfolk Museums Service.
- y A summary form of the results of this project has been completed for Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations (OASIS) under the reference norfolka1-201972 (Appendix 5), and this report will be uploaded to the OASIS database.

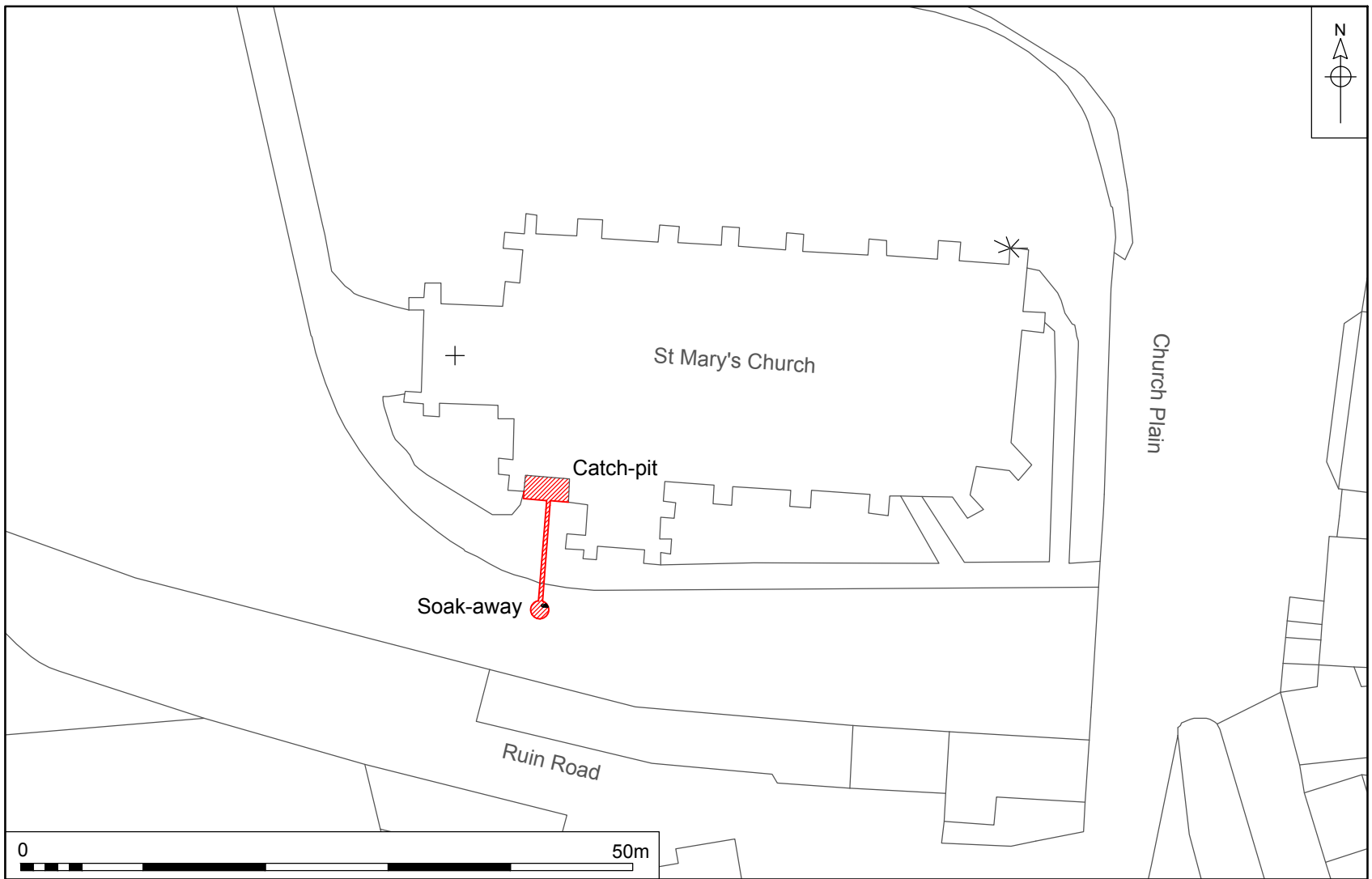
Figures 2, 3, 4

- y The rainwater catch-pit and most of the drain run had already been excavated before NPS Archaeology was informed of the work. However, an inspection made on 26 January 2015 showed that the excavations were less than 0.30m deep and did not penetrate below the topsoil **01**.



Plate 1. The rainwater catch-pit, looking north

- y The excavations had revealed, however, that the fragment of the (presumed) 14th-century effigy that had been recorded on the surface close to the south porch in 2012 (NHER 58019), had since been incorporated into the cement capping for a Victorian, or earlier 20th-century, brick-built soak-away. The stone was set in a place where rainwater from roof gutters drained onto it, and it had taken on a verdigris tinge from the copper pipework. The grey stone can be seen in Plate 1, set into the cobbles to the left of the blue shovel, and is shown with a scale in Plate 2 in raking sunlight to emphasise the relief.
- s A descriptive sketch, notes and a photographic record were made of the effigy. The piece measures 370mm x 320mm, with the representation of the head 200mm x 200mm. The marble is a hard, shelly limestone, but unlike the characteristic mollusc inclusions of Purbeck marble, this stone is packed with bivalve fossils (F. Green pers. comm. 10 March 2015). It is, in fact, Alwalton marble, a much rarer sculpted stone. Details of the effigy were forwarded to specialists Brian and Moira Gittos, and their remarks are presented in Appendix 3.



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Figure 2. Site plan. Scale 1:500



Plate 2. Fragment of effigy in bas relief on marble (NHER 58019)

- t The drain run linking the catch-pit to the soak-away was not monitored, but measured only 0.30m at its deepest point.
- u The soak-away was hand-excavated on the morning of 27 January 2015. It was circular, with a diameter of 1.50m, and was excavated to a depth of 1.20m.



Plate 3. The soak-away under excavation, looking south

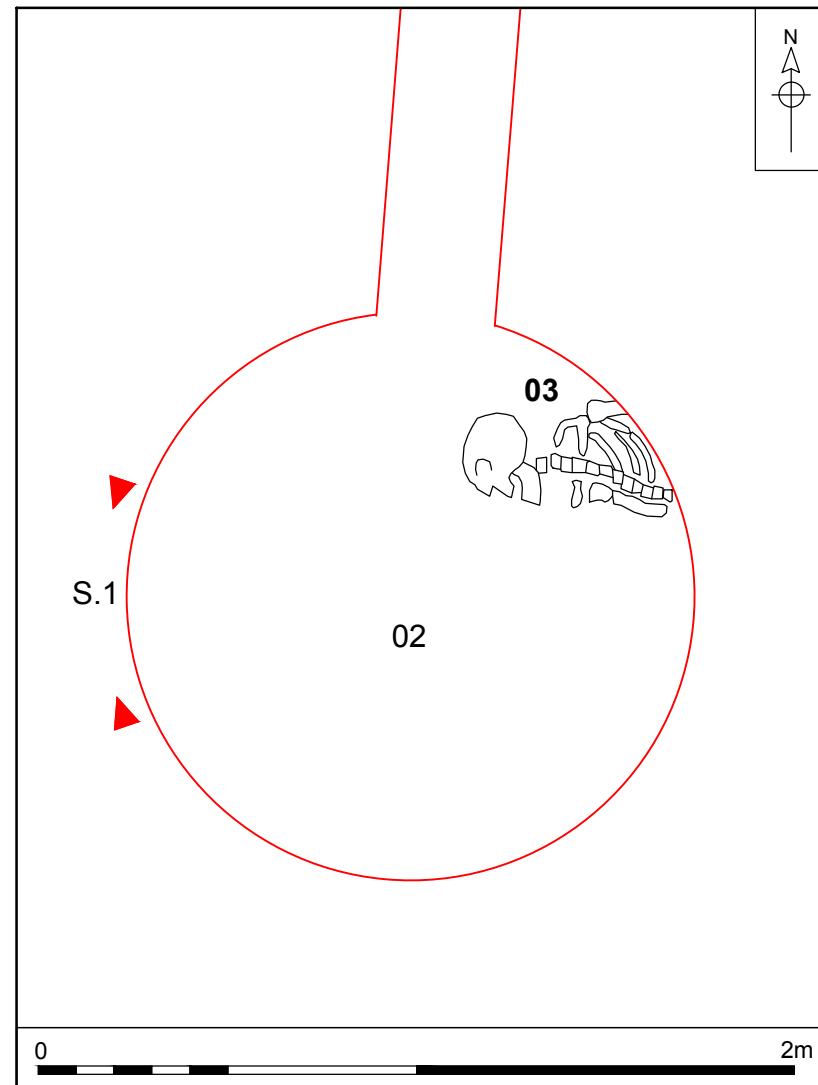
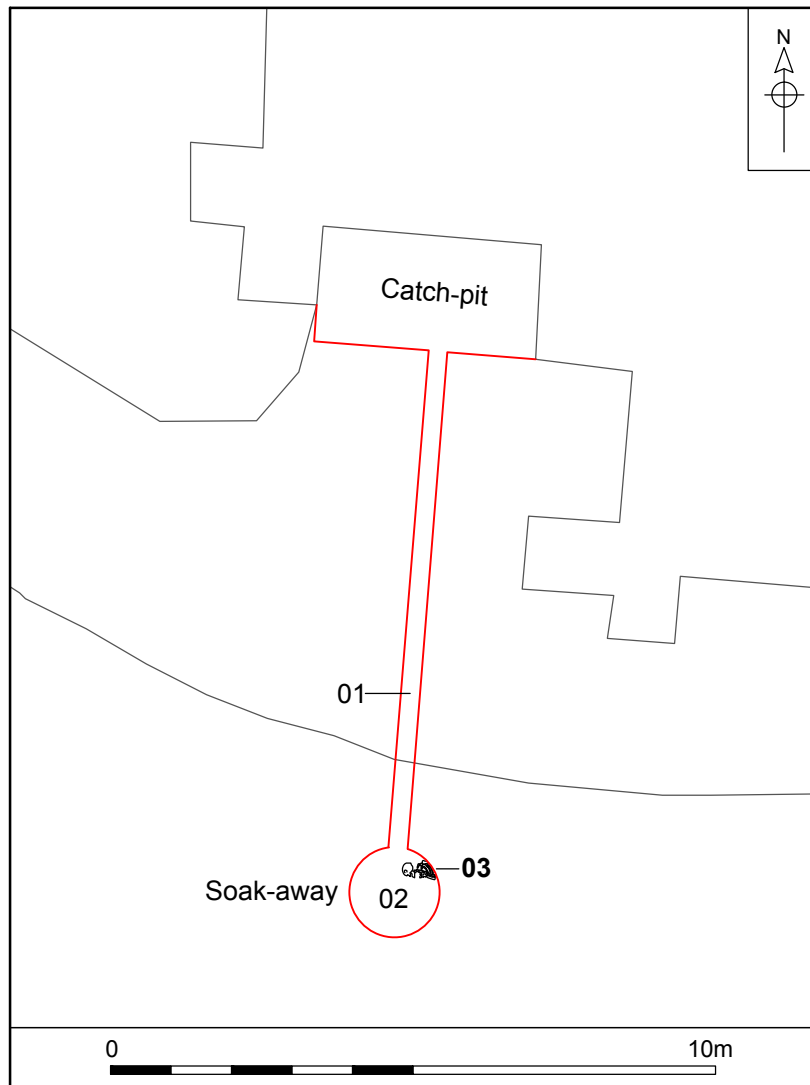


Figure 3. Plan showing location of Catch-pit and Soak-away, scale 1:125. Plan of skeleton **03**, Scale 1:20

- v The stratigraphy recorded (Figure 4, Section 1) consisted of 0.30m of topsoil **01**, dark brown silty sand with occasional flint gravel and rare fragments of ceramic building material. Beneath the topsoil, there was mid-brown silty sand subsoil **02** with occasional flint gravel and rare ceramic building material fragments. The subsoil was a typical deep churchyard soil created by repeated digging and re-filling of graves. There was no particular stratification evident in the subsoil, but finds of 16th-18th-century earthenware pottery were collected from the upper parts of the excavated graveyard soil, whilst two sherds of local medieval unglazed ware were found from the lower part of the excavation.

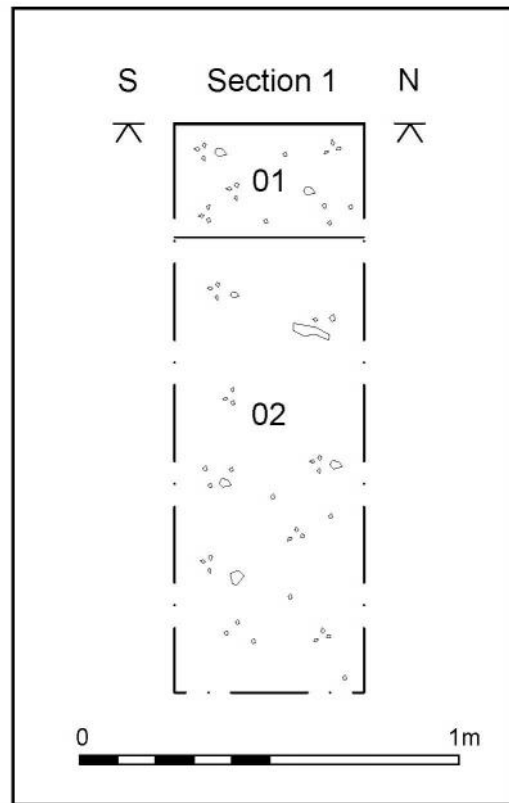


Figure 4. East facing section of soak-away. Scale 1:20

- y A large amount of disarticulated human bone was seen in the graveyard soil **02**, but only one intact inhumation was revealed. Skeleton **03** was situated in the northeast part of the soak-away excavation at a depth of 0.90m below ground level. Only the upper part of the skeleton was visible within the excavated area. The skeleton was positioned in accordance with Christian burial practice, with the skull at the west end, but the body appeared to be laid on its right side rather than supine, which may suggest that it moved from the normal position during interment. There was no evidence of a coffin, or of a grave cut. The skeleton was cleaned and recorded *in situ* during the archaeological monitoring, but neither the skeleton nor any other human remains were removed from the churchyard.

Natural geological deposits were not penetrated at the base of the excavation area, highlighting the great depth of graveyard soils.



Plate 4. Skeleton **03**, looking west

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All archaeological finds were processed and recorded by count and weight, and a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet was produced outlining broad dating. Each category was considered separately and is included below organised by material. Appendix 2a contains a full list of all finds by context.

Six fragments of pottery, weighing 30g in total, were recovered from the graveyard subsoil **02**. The pieces include two of medieval date and four dated to the post-medieval period.

The medieval fragments are both body sherds, in similar sandy fabrics, and both are grey in colour. These are likely to be local medieval unglazed ware (LMU), and as they are not diagnostic forms they can only be dated as broadly medieval.

The earliest of the post-medieval ceramics are two sherds of glazed red earthenware (GRE), which date to the 16th 18th centuries. One piece is a rim and the other a body sherd. Both pieces are apparently glazed internally, one with a light brown speckled glaze, the other with a darker brown.

- s The two remaining pieces are later in date. One piece is a body sherd of refined white earthenware (REFW) of late 18th 20th-century date. The second is part of the base of a ?porcelain bowl, hand-painted under the glaze in blue and white, and of a type made from the 18th century onwards.

- t Nine fragments of ceramic building material were recovered from the graveyard subsoil **02**, weighing 695g. Table 1 provides quantities and details of the assemblage.

Context	Fabric	Form	No	Wt/g	Length	Width	Height	Glaze	Comments
02	fs	FFT	1	195	>92	>89	29	WSY	triangular fragment, two possible nail holes
			1	78	-	-	23	DG	nail-hole
			1	131	>76	-	26	DG	reduced core; green glaze only on edge
			1	86	-	-	30	WSY	same as below?
			1	29	-	-	30	WSY	same as below?
			1	16	-	-	28	WSY	-
			1	81	-	-	-	-	no glaze
	est	LB	1	61	-	-	-	-	
	fs	RTP	1	18	-	-	14	-	grey fabric
Totals			9	695					

Table 1. Ceramic building material data

- u The most frequent form of ceramic building material found was Flemish floor tile, with at least six examples represented, two possibly from the same tile. Most are

glazed or have remnants of glaze, with the most common being yellow over an off-white slip, but also dark green. All are in fine sandy fabrics with occasional inclusions of grog or ferrous fragments. One or two have possible nail-holes on the glazed surface. One is unglazed, but probably a similar type to the others. One has a reduced core, and the only glaze is on the edge. Measurements are difficult to gauge here, as most pieces are very fragmentary, although the thicknesses of all the pieces are measureable and range between 23–30mm. The largest piece measures at least 92mm x 89mm, although it may have been a lot larger originally. This fragment is triangular and has a little mortar on the longest edge, which may imply that although that edge does not appear finished, that it is actually meant to be triangular as part of a pattern and was intentionally finished roughly.

- 63 Floor tiles were in use from the medieval period onwards, and the import of tiles from Flanders was common during the period, with such tiles actually being more common than English-made examples (Drury 1993, 166). Anderson (2014) states that Flemish tiles are 'ubiquitous at moderate to high status sites across East Anglia', and were clearly used inside the church of St Mary the Virgin at Worstead. These tiles usually date to the 14th–15th centuries.
- 64 A fragment of late brick (LB) was also collected from the graveyard subsoil **02**. This is in an estuarine fabric and probably of late medieval date. A small fragment of plain roof tile (RTP) in a grey fabric of post-medieval date was recovered.

Flint

- 65 A single piece of worked flint was recovered from graveyard soil **02**, weighing 12g. The piece is possibly related to the church and the flint dressings in which it is finished. It is difficult to date such a piece, but it consists of a flake of light bluish-grey flint in crisp and fine condition.

Finds conclusions

- 66 The NHER records that St Mary the Virgin church in Worstead was begun in the early 14th century and was remodelled in the later 14th century (NHER 8209). It states, 'Cloth was produced in Worstead from at least the 13th century, but Flemish weavers in the 14th century expanded trade dramatically'. The specific mention of Flemish weavers is interesting, given the presence of Flemish floor tiles in the ceramic building material assemblage from the monitoring project. Floor tiles from Flanders, however, were so ubiquitous at this time that it is not likely to be significant that Flemish weavers had a hand in the prosperity of Worstead, nor that they are the reason for the presence of the tiles here. It is considered more likely that the trade in tiles was already established, and that the arrival of Flemish weavers in Worstead merely added to the prospect that Flemish tiles might be used inside the church, a building which the weavers perhaps helped to subsidise.
- 67 The dating of the tile pieces found by the archaeological monitoring project coincides with the construction of the church in the 14th century.

CONCLUSIONS

- 68 Monitoring by NPS Archaeology of groundworks at St Mary the Virgin church, Worstead, recorded below-ground deposits consistent with the graveyard of a busy medieval church. Close to the church building, a deep layer of subsoil engendered by repeated digging of graves produced many fragments of cut and disarticulated human bone, and one intact skeleton *in situ* beyond the depth of repeat grave digging. None of the human bone was removed from site, but was left for re-interment. The graveyard deposits were recorded in the excavation of a soak-away; other groundworks were not intrusive beyond the depth of the topsoil.
- 69 Finds from the graveyard subsoil include medieval and post-medieval pottery sherds, perhaps indicative of broad stratification of horizons within the subsoil, though no differentiation in the soil was visible.
- 70 Floor tile fragments collected from the subsoil are of more intrinsic interest, and some date from the period of the church's construction in the 14th century. The tiles were made in Flanders, and although they were a very common commodity in medieval England, their use at the church and the renowned presence of Flemish weavers in Worstead from this time may not be wholly coincidental.
- 71 Lastly, the excavations for the rainwater catch-pit against the church wall, close to the south porch, revealed that the reputed early 14th-century bas relief effigy on Purbeck limestone (NHER 58019) had been incorporated in the cement capping of a 19th–20th-century brick soak-away. Research ensuing from the archaeological monitoring established that the effigy is actually an extremely rare sculpture in Alwalton marble and of likely 13th-century date. The figure represented may well be military, but the fragment may derive from either a monument or a decorative sculpture.

Acknowledgements

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The project was overseen by Niall Oakey for NPS Archaeology and monitored by Ken Hamilton on behalf of Norfolk Historic Environment Service.

Thanks are offered to Brian and Moira Giottos, Julian Litten and Stephen Heywood for identification of the Alwalton marble bas relief. Additional recording and photography of the stone fragment was carried out by Frances Green.

The archaeological finds from the monitoring project were processed by Louise Weetman and recorded and reported on by Rebecca Sillwood.

This report was illustrated by David Dobson and edited by Andrew Crowson.

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Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill Of	Description	Period
01	Deposit			Topsoil	modern
02	Deposit			Graveyard soil - subsoil	unknown
03	Skeleton			Skeleton	unknown

Appendix 1b: Feature Summary

Period	Category	Total
Unknown	Inhumation burial	1

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
02	Ceramic building material	7	616g	Medieval	Floor tiles
02	Ceramic building material	1	61g	Medieval/post-medieval	Brick
02	Ceramic building material	1	18g	Post-medieval	Roof tile
02	Flint worked	1	12g	Unknown	
02	Pottery	2	6g	Medieval	
02	Pottery	4	24g	Post-medieval	

Appendix 2b: Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Medieval	Ceramic building material	7
	Pottery	2
Medieval/post-medieval	Ceramic building material	1
Post-medieval	Ceramic building material	1
	Pottery	4
Unknown	Flint worked	1

Appendix 3: Comment on the stone effigy fragment (NHER 58019)

Giottos, B. and Giottos, M. 2015. *Effigy fragment*. [email] (Personal communication, B. Giottos to J. Litten, 9 March 2015)

What an interesting piece. First reaction is that it looks as though it might be Alwalton marble – a polishable limestone from near Peterborough. It was used, largely in the 13thC, in Peterborough Cathedral but some pieces did find their way further afield, as monuments (a slab with a cross in Crowland Abbey, for instance) but they are EXTREMELY rare. We know of no more than a handful. Since the beds were rather thin, the sculpture they produced is all bas-relief – there wasn't the depth to do anything else. It appears, from the right hand side of the head, as though the relief has been produced by cutting down (even further) into the slab.

It would be very helpful to know what size this piece is because, from the pebble back ground, it seems quite small. It looks as though, above the head, there might be the remains of a flat, fillet-like, margin above a chamfer. Coupled with the seeming lack of a cushion to support the head, this suggests it may be the head of a supporting figure rather than that of an effigy per se. Its size would also be an indicator of whether or not it was an effigy. He certainly does seem to be wearing a reinforced cap of some kind but we can't make out whether the flares at either side of the head represent hair springing out from underneath the cap or whether they are the remains of a brim that has been worn away from across the front of the head. If the latter were the case, it could be a kettle hat, worn by military figures over a long period but again rarely shown on monuments.

There must, at this stage, of course, be a question over whether it is part of a monument or some decorative sculpture. 'Soldiers at the tomb' are sometimes shown with kettle hats on Easter Sepulchres (for example, Patrington in the East Riding). However, it does look potentially a very important medieval piece which it would be well worth preserving inside the church. As it happens the annual conference of the British Archaeological Association is being held at Peterborough this year and one of the lectures will be dealing specifically with Alwalton marble. So, if the stone could be identified quickly enough, it could have exposure at a national event!

Appendix 4: Historical Periods

Period	Date From	Date To
Prehistoric	-500,000	42
Early Prehistoric	-500,000	-4,001
Palaeolithic	-500,000	-10,001
Lower Palaeolithic	-500,000	-150,001
Middle Palaeolithic	-150,001	-40,001
Upper Palaeolithic	-40,000	-10,001
Mesolithic	-10,000	-4,001
Early Mesolithic	-10,000	-7,001
Late Mesolithic	-7,000	-4,001
Late Prehistoric	-4,000	42
Neolithic	-4,000	-2,351
Early Neolithic	-4,000	-3,001
Middle Neolithic	-3,500	-2,701
Late Neolithic	-3,000	-2,351
Bronze Age	-2,350	-701
Early Bronze Age	-2,350	-1,501
Beaker	-2,300	-1,700
Middle Bronze Age	-1,600	-1,001
Late Bronze Age	-1,000	-701
Iron Age	-800	42
Early Iron Age	-800	-401
Middle Iron Age	-400	-101
Late Iron Age	-100	42
Roman	42	409
Post Roman	410	1900
Saxon	410	1065
Early Saxon	410	650
Middle Saxon	651	850
Late Saxon	851	1065
Medieval	1066	1539
Post-medieval	1540	1900
Modern	1900	2050
World War One	1914	1918
World War Two	1939	1945
Cold War	1945	1992
Unknown	--	--

after English Heritage Periods List, recommended by Forum on Information Standards in Heritage available at: <http://www.fish-forum.info/inscript.htm>

Appendix 5: OASIS Report Summary

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

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OASIS ID: norfolka1-201972

Project details

Project name	St Mary's Church, Worstead
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was conducted by NPS Archaeology for Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP during groundworks associated with the installation of new drains and a soak-away at St Mary's parish church, Worstead, Norfolk (TG 30186 26055). The watching brief recorded a thick layer of subsoil caused by repeated digging of densely packed and intercutting graves in the graveyard of the medieval church. Disarticulated fragments of human bone were found and one skeleton was recorded in situ. Other finds from the graveyard subsoil included loosely stratified medieval and post-medieval pottery sherds. The ceramics, along with finds of Flemish tile fragments, indicate activity in this area since the 14th century. The excavations also revealed that a fragment of an early 14th-century effigy in bas relief on a piece of Purbeck limestone had been incorporated in the capping of a 19th- or early 20th-century soak-away.
Project dates	Start: 26-01-2015 End: 27-01-2015
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	136021 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	58019 - Related HER No.
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	INHUMATION BURIAL Uncertain
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Uncertain
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country England

Site location	NORFOLK NORTH NORFOLK WORSTEAD St. Mary's Church, Worstead
Study area	0 Kilometres
Site coordinates	TG 30186 26055 52.7824019682 1.41371419416 52 46 56 N 001 24 49 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 20.00m Max: 20.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	NPS Archaeology
Project brief originator	Norfolk Historic Environment Service
Project design originator	NPS Archaeology
Project director/manager	Steve Hickling
Project supervisor	NPS Archaeology

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums Service
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	NPS Archaeology
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums Service
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	St Mary's Church, Worstead, Norfolk. Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hickling, S.
Other bibliographic details	2015/1361
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	NPS Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Norwich

Entered by A. Crowson (andrew.crowson@nps.co.uk)
Entered on 24 March 2015

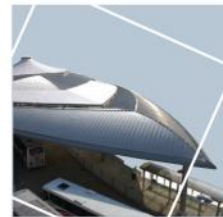
Appendix 6: Archaeological Specification

01-04-15-2-1361



**Archaeological monitoring
St Mary, Worstead
Written Scheme of Investigation**

Prepared for
Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP
18 Hatter Street
Bury St Edmunds
IP33 1NE



NPS Archaeology

March 2015



www.nps.co.uk

Location	St Mary, Worstead
District	North Norfolk
Client	Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP

DOCUMENT CHECKLIST		
Project Manager	Niall Oakey	
Completed by	Niall Oakey	27/01/2014
Reviewed by	Jayne bown	28/01/2014
<i>Issue 1</i>		

Scandic House
85 Mountergate
Norwich
NR1 1PY

T 01603 706148

F 01603 756190

E niall.oakey@nps.co.uk

www.nau.org.uk

01-04-15-2-1361

NPS Archaeology

Archaeological monitoring

Written Scheme of Investigation

1. Introduction

- 1.1 A proposal for excavating a new catchpit against the exterior of the south aisle, a soakaway in the churchyard and a connecting drain at the church of St Mary, Worstead, Norfolk (TG 3015 2609) includes ground disturbance, which requires a programme of archaeological monitoring.
- 1.2 In order to comply with that recommendation the Whitworth Co-Partnership LLP requested NPS Archaeology to produce costs and this Project Design for the programme of monitoring.

2. Mitigation Strategy

- 2.1 The programme of archaeological works presented in this document has been designed to mitigate the impacts of the proposed works. Where archaeological remains are identified, and these cannot be preserved *in situ*, the potential impact of the scheme will be minimised by appropriate levels of archaeological excavation and recording (preservation by record).
- 2.2 The mitigation strategy will include monitoring to record any archaeological remains exposed during the works with reporting. The different elements to be employed are presented below in the anticipated order that they will take place.

- 2.3 The stages of the mitigation strategy may be summarised as follows:

- i. Watching Brief Monitoring.* Due to the potential for previously unidentified archaeological remains to exist almost anywhere within this area, all ground disturbance works will be monitored by an archaeologist. If previously unrecorded archaeological features and deposits are encountered and these are deemed to be of significance appropriate levels of excavation and recording will be required.
- ii. Post-fieldwork Processing.* The drawn and written, photographic, stratigraphic and structural record will be cross-referenced and entered onto a database to provide a consistent and compatible record of the results of the various elements of fieldwork. Artefactual and ecofactual material recovered during the fieldwork will be cleaned, marked and packaged in accordance with the archive requirements of the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service.
- iii. Analysis, Reporting and Archive.* The results of the fieldwork will be presented as a client report. If appropriate, a synthesis of the results will be published in an appropriate archaeological journal. The archive will be prepared for deposition with the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service.

- 2.4 The procedures and methodology for each of the stages outlined above are described in detail below.

2.5 Watching Brief Monitoring

- 2.5.1 All works that affect the standing structure or below ground deposits will be monitored by an experienced archaeologist. The monitoring will be carried out in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2008) and the guidelines set out in the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).
- 2.5.2 If areas of significant archaeological remains are encountered that cannot be recorded safely or to the appropriate standard within the watching brief, consultation will take place

with the client and Norfolk Historic Environment Service and more detailed excavation may be required.

- 2.5.3 All archaeological deposits, features and layers will be assigned individual context numbers and recorded on standardised forms employing a pro forma recording system approved by Norfolk Historic Environment Service. The records will include full written, graphic and photographic elements with site and context numbering compatible with the Norfolk Historic Environment Record numbering system. Plans will be made at a scale of 1:50, with provision for 1:20 and 1:10 drawings. Sections will be recorded at scales of 1:10 and 1:20 depending on the detail considered necessary. A digital photographic record will be maintained of archaeological deposits, layers and features to record their characteristics and relationships. Monochrome 35mm photographs will be taken of remains considered to be significant. Digital photographs will also be taken to record the progress of the work.

6 Post-Fieldwork Processing

- 2.6.1 The drawn, photographic and written stratigraphic and structural records will be cross-referenced and, if appropriate, entered into an archaeological database.
- 2.6.2 The cleaning and cataloguing of any artefactual materials recovered will be undertaken on completion of the excavation. Finds data will be stored on a database to allow summary listings of artefacts by category and context to provide basic quantification.
- 2.6.3 An archive structured in accordance with Norfolk County Council Archive guidelines and *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2007) will be created.

2.7 Report and Archive

- 2.7.1 The report will present data in written, tabular, graphic and appendix form. A list of archive components generated by the work will also be included in the report. Copyright of the reports will be retained by NPS Archaeology.
- 2.7.2 A draft copy of the report will be presented to Norfolk Historic Environment Service for approval.
- 2.7.3 Once approved, multiple copies of the report will be produced as appropriate and presented to the client and two copies to Norfolk Historic Environment Service. A copy will also be deposited with the Norfolk Historic Environment Record. One copy of the report will also be sent to the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science, if considered appropriate. An NHER form will accompany the report and will include a reference to the archive and the intended place of archive deposition. The report will be submitted within eight weeks of the completion of the work.
- 2.7.4 NPS Archaeology supports the OASIS project. An online record will be initiated immediately prior to the start of fieldwork and completed when the final report is submitted to Norfolk Historic Environment Service. This will include a pdf version of the final report.
- 2.7.5 A single integrated archive for all elements of the work will be prepared according to the recommendations set out in *Environmental standards for the permanent storage of excavated material from archaeological sites* (UKIC, Conservation Guidelines 3, 1984) and *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2007), and in accordance with the Norfolk Historic Environment Record own requirements for archive preparation, storage and conservation.
- 2.7.6 The archive will be fully indexed and cross-referenced and prepared in a form that can be microfilmed on behalf of the National Monuments Record. It will also be integrated with the Norfolk Historic Environment Record numbering system. Deposition of the archive and finds (by prior agreement with the landowners) will take place within six months of the completion of the final report and confirmed in writing to the Norfolk Historic

Environment Record. A full listing of archive contents and finds boxes will accompany the deposition of the archive and finds.

- 2.7.7 All archaeological materials, excepting those covered by the *Treasure Act, 1996*, will remain the property of the landowners. NPS Archaeology will seek to reach a formal agreement with the landowners for the donation of the finds to the Norfolk Historic Environment Record.

3. Timetable and Resources

- 3.1 The different stages of archaeological work have different time and staff requirements. The timetable for fieldwork assumes that there are no major delays to the work programme caused by factors outside of NPS Archaeology's reasonable control.
- 3.2 The costs for this project have been supplied in a separate document and are not reproduced here.

4. Project staff

- 4.1 The project will be co-ordinated on a day-to-day basis by the Project Officer who will be dedicated to the project throughout its duration. The Project Manager will assume responsibility for all aspects of the project including finance, logistics, standards, health and safety, and liaison with the client and curators. All project staff will have substantial experience in urban archaeology and post-excavation analysis.
- 4.2 Other members of staff involved in the project will be the Finds Coordinator. The Project Officer and/or Experienced Excavator staff will be experienced metal detector users.
- 4.3 NPS Archaeology staff associated with the project is as follows:

Project Management	
Archaeology Manager	Jayne Bown BA, MCIfA
Project Manager	Niall Oakey BA, MA

Project Staff	
Project Officer	Steve Hickling
Finds Coordinator	Becky Sillwood

- 4.4 NPS Archaeology reserves the right, because of its developing work programme, to change its nominated personnel at any time. This will be in consultation with the client and Norfolk Historic Environment Service.
- 4.5. The analysis of artefactual and ecofactual materials will be undertaken by NPS Archaeology staff or nominated external specialists Nominated Unit and external specialists and their areas of expertise are as follows:

4.5.1 Specialist staff used by NPS Archaeology

Specialist	Research Field
<i>Andy Barnett</i>	<i>Metal-detectorist, Numismatic Items</i>
<i>Sarah Bates</i>	<i>Worked Flint</i>
<i>Fran Green</i>	<i>Palaeo-environmental remains</i>
<i>Julie Curl</i>	<i>Faunal Remains</i>
<i>Sue Anderson</i>	<i>Post-Roman Pottery, Ceramic Building Material</i>
<i>Debbie Forkes</i>	<i>Conservation</i>
<i>Val Fryer</i>	<i>Macrofossil analysis</i>
<i>David King</i>	<i>Window Glass</i>
<i>Andrew Peachey</i>	<i>Prehistoric pottery, Roman Pottery, flint</i>

5. General Conditions

- 5.1 NPS Archaeology will not commence work until a written order or signed agreement is received from the Client. Where the commission is received through an Agent, the Agent is deemed to be authorised to act on behalf of the Client. NPS Archaeology reserve the right to recover unpaid fees for the service provided from the Agent where it is found that this authority is contested by said Client.
- 5.2 NPS Archaeology would expect information on any services crossing the site to be provided by the client.
- 5.3 A 7.4 hour working day is normally operated by NPS Archaeology, although their agents may work outside these hours.
- 5.4 NPS Archaeology would expect the client to arrange suitable access to the site for its staff, plant and welfare facilities on the agreed start date.
- 5.5 NPS Archaeology would expect any information concerning the presence of TPOs and/or, protected flora and fauna on the site to be provided by the client prior to the commencement of works and accept no liability if this information is not disclosed. No excavation will take place within 8m or canopy width (whichever is the greater) of any trees within or bordering the site.
- 5.6 NPS Archaeology shall not be held responsible for any delay or failure in meeting agreed deadlines resulting from circumstances beyond its reasonable control. Such circumstances would include without limitation; long periods of adverse weather conditions, flooding, repeated vandalism, ground contamination, delays in the development programme, unsafe buildings, conflicts between the archaeological recording methods and the protection of flora and fauna on the site, disease restrictions, and unexploded ordnance.
- 5.7 Whether or not CDM regulations apply to this work, NPS Archaeology would expect the client to provide information on the nature, extent and level of any soil contamination present. Should unanticipated contaminated ground be encountered during the trial trenching, excavation will cease until an assessment of risks to health has been undertaken and on-site control measures implemented. NPS Archaeology will not be liable for any costs related to the collection and analysis of soils or other assessment methods, on-site control measures, and the removal of contaminated soil or other materials from site.
- 5.8 Should any disease restrictions be implemented for the area during the evaluation, fieldwork will cease and staff redeployed until they are lifted. NPS Archaeology will not be liable for any costs related to on-site disease control measures and for any additional costs incurred to complete the fieldwork after the restrictions have been removed.
- 5.9 NPS Archaeology will not accept responsibility for any tree surgery, removal of undergrowth, shrubbery or hedges or reinstatement of gardens. NPS Archaeology will endeavour to restrict the levels of disturbance of to a minimum but wishes to bring to the attention of the client that the works will necessarily alter the appearance of any landscaped gardens.

6. Quality Standards

- 6.1 NPS Archaeology fully endorses the *Code of Practice* and the *Code of Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. All staff employed or subcontracted by NPS Archaeology will be employed in line with The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Practice*.
- 6.2 The guidelines set out in the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) will be adhered to. Provision will be made for monitoring the work by Norfolk Historic Environment Service in accordance with the procedures outlined in the document *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991). Monitoring opportunities for each phase of the project are suggested as follows:
- during Watching brief/monitoring
 - during Post-Fieldwork Analysis
 - upon receipt of the final report
- 6.3 A further monitoring opportunity will be provided at the end of the work upon deposition of the integrated archive.
- 6.4 NPS Archaeology operates a Project Management System. Most aspects of this project will be co-ordinated by a Project Officer who has the day-to-day responsibility for the successful completion of the fieldwork and report. Overall responsibility for the successful delivery of the project lies with the Project Manager. The Archaeology Manager has the responsibility for all of NPS Archaeology's work and ensures the maintenance of quality standards within the organisation.

7. Health and Safety

- 7.1 NPS Archaeology will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with NPS Property Consultants Limited's Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in *the Health and Safety at Work, etc Act, 1974* and *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations, 1992*, and in accordance with the health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (SCAUM 2007).
- 7.2 A risk assessment will be prepared for the fieldwork. All staff will be briefed on the contents of the risk assessment and required to read it. Protective clothing and equipment will be issued and used as required.
- 7.3 NPS Archaeology will provide copies of NPS Property Consultants Limited's Health and Safety policy on request.

8. Insurance

- 8.1 NPS Archaeology's Insurance Cover is:

Employers Liability	£5,000,000
Public Liability	£50,000,000
Professional Indemnity	£5,000,000

- 8.2 Full details of NPS Archaeology's Insurance cover will be supplied on request.