

**NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT**

Report No. 767

**Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief at  
Land adjacent to The Gatehouse,  
Shop Street, Whinburgh,  
Norfolk**

381311 WHB

Chris Phillips

2004

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Location: Land adjacent to The Gatehouse, Shop Street, Whinburgh.

Grid Ref: TG 0006 0902

HER No.: 38131 WHB

Date of work: 30th and 31st October 2002

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## **Summary**

*A watching brief was undertaken by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit to monitor the excavation of footings for a new dwelling. Nothing of archaeological significance was observed or retrieved from the site.*

## **1.0 Introduction**

The site is situated on land next to The Gatehouse in Shop Street, Whinburgh. The work was commissioned by J.R. Harby.

This archaeological watching brief was undertaken in accordance with a Method Statement prepared by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit and a Brief issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA Ref: AH/28/02/02). Whinburgh is situated in Breckland district.

A watching brief during construction works was considered necessary as the site of the proposed dwelling is situated close to important an archaeological site.

The site archive is currently held by the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service, in accordance with the relevant policy on archiving standards.

The objective of this watching brief was to record any archaeological evidence revealed during the excavation of foundation trenches for the proposed development. The Brief required that an archaeologist be present during the excavation.

Utilising a toothed bucket fitted to a wheeled digger, the contractors excavated a 0.6m wide and 1.2m deep footing for the proposed dwelling.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using the Norfolk Archaeological Unit's *pro-forma* sheets. Colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

The area of excavation was made up of soil which had a very high clay content which, in conjunction with a considerable amount of rainfall, meant that the contractors had considerable difficulty in excavating the footings.

## **2.0 Observations**

Nothing of archaeological significance was observed or retrieved from the excavated footings.

## **3.0 Conclusion**

The area of development appears to lie outside areas of archaeological interest

### ***Acknowledgements***

The project was undertaken on behalf of J R Harby. The fieldwork was carried out by Chris Phillips who also drafted the report. Maggie Footitt prepared the illustration and produced the report, which was edited by Jayne Bown.

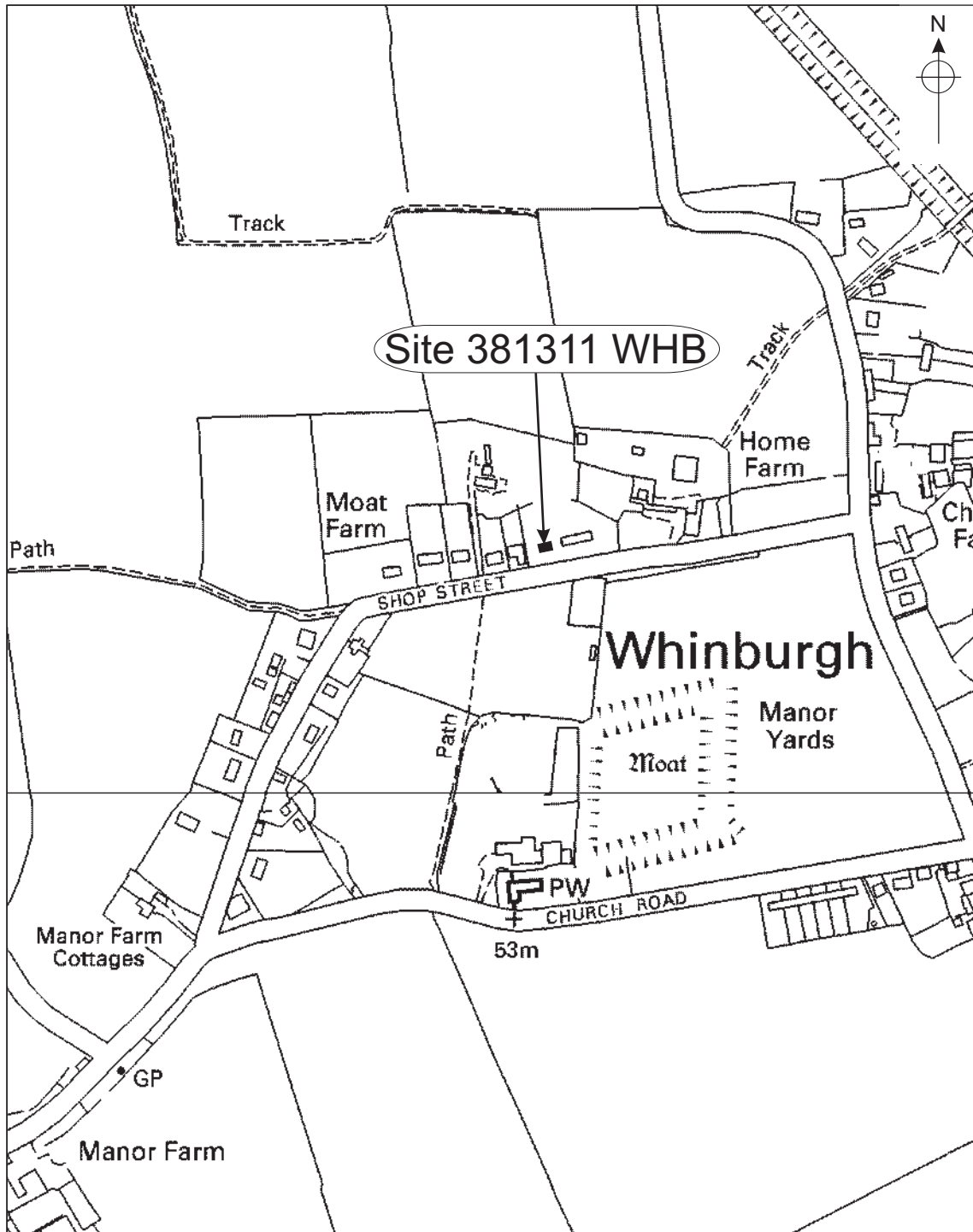


Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:5000

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