

**LAND NORTH OF 4 SALTPANS CLOSE,
KINGS LYNN NORFOLK**

**MONITORING OF WORKS UNDER ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SUPERVISION AND CONTROL**

Authors: Laszlo Lichtenstein (Fieldwork & report) Peter Thompson (Research)	
NGR: TF 6217 2098	Report No: 4235
District: Kings Lynn & West Norfolk	Site Code:
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 4988
Signed:	Date: January 2013

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	<i>Land North of 4 Saltpans Close, Kings Lynn, Norfolk. Monitoring of Works under Archaeological Supervision and Control.</i>		
<i>In January 2013 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording at land north of 4 Saltpans Close, Kings Lynn, Norfolk (NGR TF 6217 2098). The monitoring was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for a new detached chalet bungalow (Planning ref. 11/02167/F).</i>			
<i>The site abuts the location of a bastion situated to the north of the town's Civil War defences (NHER 5846; Fig. 3). A post-medieval brick and tile kiln was located behind a bastion of the town defences some 50m or so north-east of the site (NHER 14465), and another is located 150-180m to the east (NHER 14466). The Old East Sea Bank is a post-medieval sea defence that runs into Kings Lynn and appears to pass approximately 50-100m west of the site (NHER 5528).</i>			
<i>In the event the archaeological monitoring and recording revealed no archaeological features or finds.</i>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	<i>3rd January 2013</i>		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)	<i>N</i>
P. number	<i>4988</i>	Site code	
Type of project	<i>Archaeological Monitoring & Recording</i>		
Site status	<i>n/a</i>		
Current land use	<i>Open grass plot in residential area</i>		
Planned development	<i>New detached chalet bungalow</i>		
Main features (+dates)	<i>None</i>		
Significant finds (+dates)	<i>None</i>		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	<i>Norfolk</i>	<i>Kings Lynn & West Norfolk</i>	<i>Kings Lynn</i>
HER/ SMR for area	<i>Norfolk Historic Environment Record</i>		
Post code (if known)	<i>PE30 2AP</i>		
Area of site	<i>c.300m²</i>		
NGR	<i>TF 6217 2098</i>		
Height AOD (min/max)	<i>c. 3.20m</i>		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	<i>Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service</i>		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	<i>Laszlo Lichtenstein</i>		
Funded by	<i>Mr Gary Kirk (Eastern Builders)</i>		
Full title	<i>Land North of Saltpans Close, Kings Lynn, Norfolk. Monitoring of Works under Archaeological Supervision and Control.</i>		
Authors	<i>Laszlo Lichtenstein & Peter Thompson</i>		
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LAND NORTH OF 4 SALTPANS CLOSE, KINGS LYNN, NORFOLK

MONITORING OF WORKS UNDER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUPERVISION AND CONTROL

SUMMARY

In January 2013 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording at land north of 4 Saltpans Close, Kings Lynn, Norfolk (NGR TF 6217 2098). The monitoring was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for a new detached chalet bungalow (Planning ref. 11/02167/F).

The site abuts the location of a bastion situated to the north of the town's Civil War defences (NHER 5846; Fig. 3). A post-medieval brick and tile kiln was located behind a bastion of the town defences some 50m or so north-east of the site (NHER 14465), and another is located 150-180m to the east (NHER 14466). The Old East Sea Bank is a post-medieval sea defence that runs into Kings Lynn and appears to pass approximately 50-100m west of the site (NHER 5528).

In the event the archaeological monitoring and recording revealed no archaeological features or finds.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In January 2013 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording at land north of 4 Saltpans Close, Kings Lynn, Norfolk (NGR TF 6217 2098; Figs. 1-2). The monitoring was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for a new detached chalet bungalow (Planning ref. 11/02167/F).

1.2 The monitoring was undertaken in accordance to a brief issued by the Norfolk CC Historic Environment Service (NCC HES, dated 24th August 2012) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS (dated 29th August 2012), and approved by NCC HES. The project conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (revised 2008), as well as the document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

1.3 The objectives of the project of archaeological monitoring and recording were:

- to ensure the archaeological monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect buried archaeological remains;
- to secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme; and
- to secure the analysis, interpretation, publication (if required), long-term conservation and storage of the project archive.

Planning policy context

1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.5 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE (Fig. 1-2)

2.1 Kings Lynn is situated in north-west Norfolk 70km west of Norwich, and 8km south of the Wash to which it is linked by the Lynn Channel. The site is in a residential area just to the north of the area

known as North End, and has an industrial estate to the west. The site is an open plot of land to the rear (east) of houses lining Sir Lewis Street, and has allotment gardens to the south and east. The site is accessed from the south via Salt Pans Close which joins the end of Cresswell Street.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 The site lies at 3.2m AOD in an area of low lying marshy ground with the canalised Great Ouse 750m to the west. The local soils have not been surveyed owing to the urban setting but it is likely that they consist of one of the two closest types identified to the north. The first is of the Wisbech association described as calcareous alluvial gley soil which normally has a thickness of at least 30cm. The second is of the Blacktoft association comprising 'gleyic brown calcareous alluvial soil'. These are alluvial soils with a calcareous sub-surface which develop in or over permeable materials. The underlying geology is Ampthill Clay (soilsworldwide.net).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric 500 BC – AD 43

4.1 A Neolithic arrowhead was recovered from Bentinck Dock 350m west of the site (NHER 5495), and an early Bronze Age long, barbed and tanged arrowhead was found at Black Drain, Salter's Road some 450m to the east (NHER 5494). A late Iron Age jug was found at the angle of Birchwood Street and Loke Road approximately 300m to the south (NHER 29543).

Romano-British AD 43 - 410

4.2 The only Roman find from within 500m of the site is a coin found at 4 Fermoy Gardens 300m to the east (NHER 14628).

Anglo-Saxon 410 - 1066

4.3 No Anglo-Saxon remains are recorded from within 500m of the site.

Medieval 1066 – 1539

4.4 The core of the medieval town lay to the south-south-west around North Street, and extended to within approximately 400-450m of the site. Remains include the site of the bishop's residence which now contains a 17th century house (NHER 12956), and other medieval structures and finds (NHER 1151, 1152, 20497, 22264, 39850, 49124). Possible medieval saltern sites are located east of the site along the

line of Columbia Road. One such possible medieval earthwork containing a post-medieval stack stand is located approximately 450m to the east (NHER 27906). Three further possible salterns visible as low mounds on aerial photographs are located 500m to the south-east (NHER 27893 & 27894).

Post-medieval 1539+

4.5 The site lies within, and abuts the site of the wall, of a bastion situated to the north of the town's Civil War defences (NHER 5846; Fig. 3). The defences were originally medieval earthwork banks which had stone walls built on them in the 13th-14th centuries and were further strengthened in the 16th century. The defences were re-planned during the Civil War closely following the medieval works, but were interrupted by a Parliamentary siege and not completed until 1645. A post-medieval brick and tile kiln was located behind a bastion of the town defences some 50m or so north-east of the site (NHER 14465), and another is located 150-180m to the east (NHER 14466). The Old East Sea Bank is a 17th or 18th century sea defence that runs from the north into Kings Lynn and appears to pass approximately 50-100m west of the site (NHER 5528; Fig. 3). The Kings Lynn Dock Railway opened in 1848 running to the west of the A1078 and south of Loke Road (NHER 13592). Most of it is still in operation today bar the branch line to Hunstanton which closed in 1992.

Negative evidence

4.6 An archaeological evaluation at the Anglia Cannery site 200m to the south-west, and two further evaluations in Sir Lewis Street some 250-300m to the south found no archaeological features or artifacts (NHER 39589, 37384 & 42012). Closer to the site, two archaeological evaluations to the south at Creswell Street were also negative (NHER 50078 & 55271).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The monitoring encompassed the ground reduction and the excavation of the foundation trenches associated with the groundworks for the chalet bungalow.

5.2 The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all ground works, inspection of subsoil, make-up layers, and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps for archaeological finds and the recording of soil profiles. Deposits were recorded by means of *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

6.1 The ground works observed comprised the ground reduction and the excavation of foundation trenches for the new dwelling, The foundation trenches were excavated using a tracked 360° mini mechanical excavator fitted with a 0.50m wide toothless bucket.

6.2 The deposits located within the area of excavation are recorded below.

<i>Sample section 1.</i> <i>North facing</i> <i>0.00m – 0.3.23m</i>		
0.00– 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. Friable, dark grey brown sandy silt.
0.30m+	L1001	Natural deposits. Friable, pale brownish yellow clayey sand.

6.3 No archaeological finds or features were present.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the programme of archaeological monitoring and recording.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The topsoil (L1000) was a 0.30m thick layer of friable, dark grey brown sandy silt. It directly overlay the natural deposits (L1001) of friable, pale brownish yellow clayey sand.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The site lies adjacent to King Lynn's Civil War defences and close to a former post-medieval tile kiln and consequently there was potential for post-medieval remains. In the event the monitoring revealed no archaeological features or finds.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 Archive records, with inventory, will be deposited at Norwich Castle Museum in accordance with their requirements. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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AS is pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Dr Ken Hamilton of Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service.

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WEB SITES

Norfolk Heritage Explorer
www.soilsworldwide.net

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



1

General view of site. Looking East.



2

General view of site. Looking West.



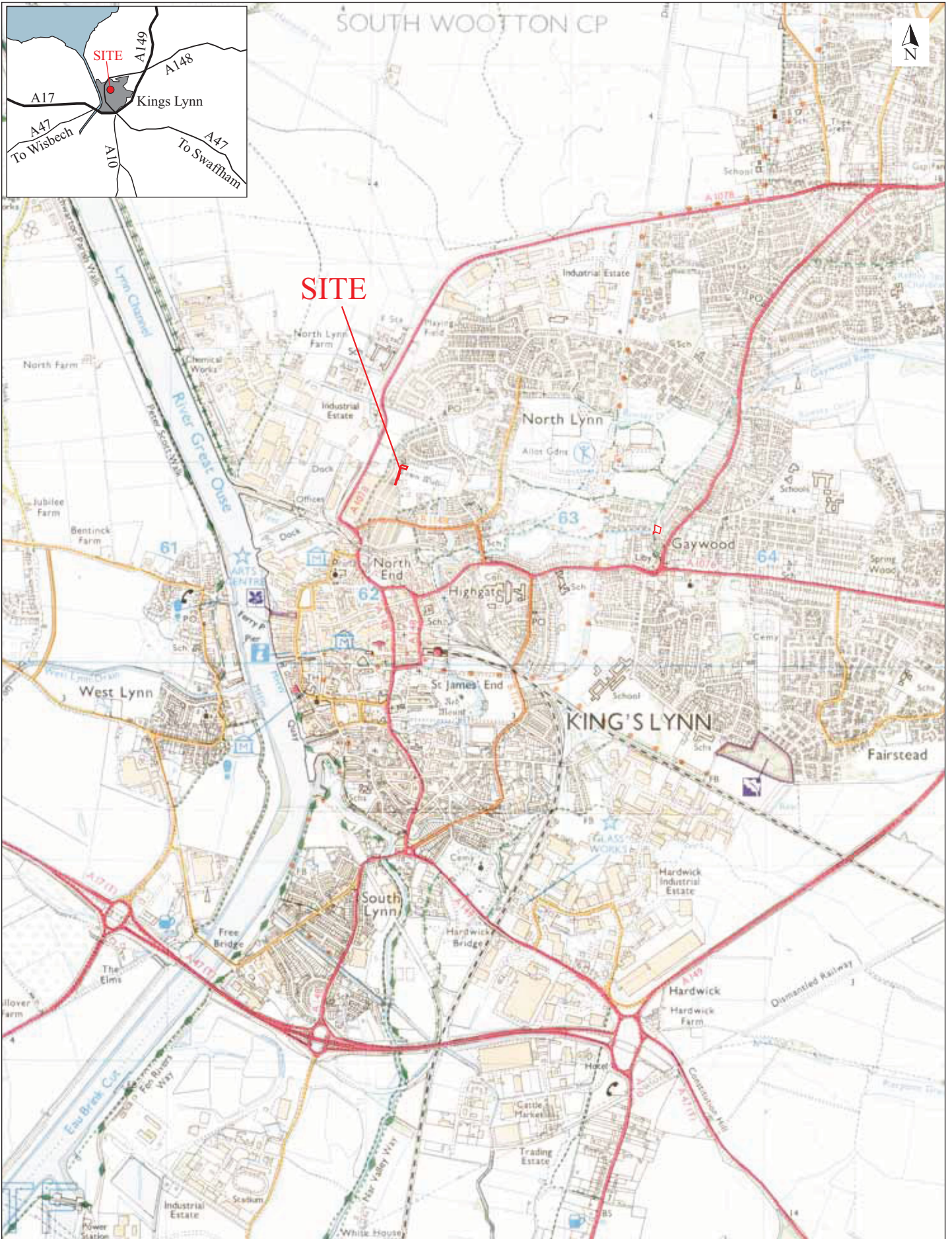
3

View of footing trench. Looking west.



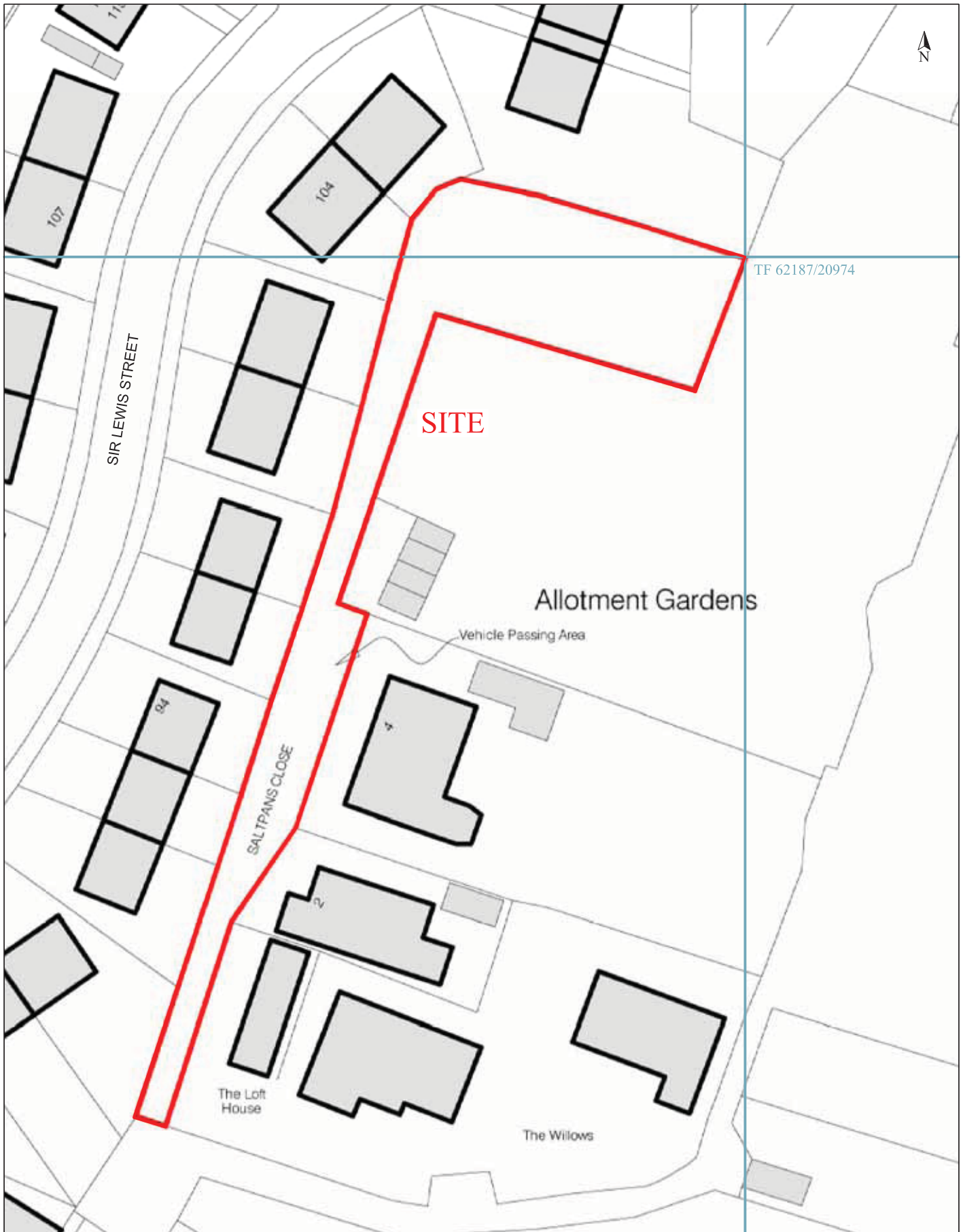
4

Sample Section 1. Looking south.



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Fig. 1 Site location plan
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



0 25m

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Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan
 Scale 1:500 at A4

