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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

**37 – 39 MARKET ROW,  
GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING**

Authors: Matthew Adams BA (Report & Fieldwork)	
NGR: TG 5231 0765	Report No. 3495
Parish: Great Yarmouth	Site Code: 53868
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No.3801
Signed:	Date: March 2010

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**OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name	37 – 39 Market Row, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk: Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		
<p><i>Summary:</i>  <i>In February 2010, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at 37 – 39 Market Row, Great Yarmouth (TG 5230 0765). The monitoring was commissioned by Oxbury &amp; Company Chartered Surveyors on behalf of Orwell Housing Association, and was undertaken in conjunction with ground investigation works prior to the development of the site. It was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition required by Great Yarmouth Borough Council (Ref. 06/08/0723CC).</i></p> <p><i>Within the confines of the investigation, the monitoring revealed that the site has suffered truncation associated with the last phase of modern development. The borehole data points to the lower Subsoils L1008 and L1010 as being of possible archaeological interest. These deposits are present at 1m below the current ground level.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	21/02/2010		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work (Y/N/?)	N
P. number	3801	Site code	53868
Type of project	Monitoring & recording		
Site status	Area of Archaeological Interest - Historic 'Rows' of Gt. Yarmouth		
Current land use	Derelict buildings and scrub		
Planned development	Residential properties		
Main features (+dates)	Modern walls, Possible post-med subsoils		
Significant finds (+dates)	None		
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish	Norfolk	Great Yarmouth	Great Yarmouth
HER/ SMR for area	Norfolk HER		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site	c.500m <sup>2</sup>		
NGR	TG 5231 0765		
Height AOD (max/min)	c.3.85m AOD		
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by	Norfolk Landscape Archaeology		
Project supervisor/s (PO)	Tim Schofield		
Funded by	Orwell Housing Association		
Full title	37 – 39 Market Row, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk: Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		
Authors	Adams, MC		
Report no.	3495		
Date (of report)	February 2010		

## **37 – 39 MARKET ROW, GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING & RECORDING**

### **SUMMARY**

*In February 2010, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at 37 – 39 Market Row, Great Yarmouth (TG 5230 0765). The monitoring was commissioned by Oxbury & Company Chartered Surveyors on behalf of Orwell Housing Association, and was undertaken in conjunction with ground investigation works prior to the development of the site. It was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition required by Great Yarmouth Borough Council (Ref. 06/08/0723/CC).*

*Within the confines of the investigation, the monitoring revealed that the site has suffered truncation associated with the last phase of modern development. The borehole data points to the lower Subsoils L1008 and L1010 as being of possible archaeological interest. These deposits are present at 1m below the current ground level.*

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In February 2010, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at 37 – 39 Market Row, Great Yarmouth, (TG 5230 0765; Figs.1-2). The monitoring was commissioned by Oxbury & Company Chartered Surveyors on behalf of Orwell Housing Association, and was undertaken in conjunction with ground investigation works prior to the development of the site. It was undertaken in compliance with a planning condition imposed by Great Yarmouth Borough Council (Ref. 06/08/0723CC).

1.2 The monitoring and recording was conducted in accordance with a brief issued by the Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (NLA; dated 01/02/2010), and a specification prepared by AS (dated 04/02/2010). The recording conformed to the Institute of Archaeologists' (IfA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2001), and the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, Gurney (2003).

1.3 The site lies within the historic 'Rows' of Great Yarmouth. There is therefore a potential for the presence of significant medieval and post-medieval remains.

1.4 The objectives of the project were:

- To ensure the archaeological excavation and monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect the buried archaeological remains
- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quantity of any surviving archaeological remains and geological deposits that are threatened by the proposed development;

- To secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme;
- To secure the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive and the publication of the project results, if appropriate;
- To secure the conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual/ecofactual material recovered from the site.

### *Planning policy context*

1.5 The relevant planning policies which apply to the effect of development with regard to cultural heritage are Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 'Planning and the Historic Environment' (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16) (Department of the Environment).

1.6 PPG16 (1990) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology. It states that there should always be a presumption in favour of preserving nationally important archaeological remains *in situ*. However, when there is no overriding case for preservation, developers are required to fund opportunities for the recording and, where necessary, the excavation of the site. This condition is widely applied by local authorities.

1.7 PPG15 (1994) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to conservation of the historic environment by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible. This condition is also widely applied by local authorities.

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

2.1 The site lies within the historic 'Rows' of Great Yarmouth. The Rows are street lines that likely have an earlier medieval origin, with their existence conformed by documentary sources by 1280, with plots separated by narrow lanes, possibly developed in a Scandinavian style of street layout. They were subject to heavy bomb damage in WWII and slum clearance works in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but elements of the Rows survive along the South Quay, next to the Market Place and along King Street. The importance of the Rows to the historic character of Great Yarmouth has been set out in the Great Yarmouth Archaeological Map (Hamilton 2006, [www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk)), which highlights the importance and rarity of late medieval and early post-medieval structures inside the area of the former Rows.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

3.1 The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all site investigation groundworks, the inspection of subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Deposits were excavated by hand and recorded by means of *pro forma*

recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for archaeological finds.

3.2 The monitoring and recording encompassed all intrusive activity associated with the test pitting and borehole survey carried out by Scott Wilson Consulting Engineers.

## 4 RESULTS

4.1 The excavation of two test pits and one 15m deep borehole were monitored. The test pits were excavated by hand.

4.2 Two sample sections were recorded of the stratigraphy and are tabulated below.

### Test Pit 1 (Fig. 3; DP 2)

Test Pit 1 measured 0.70 x 0.40 x 1.02m.

Sample Section 1 Located at the eastern limit of the site. Facing west. 0.00 = 3.88m AOD	
0.00 – 0.07m	M1006. Brick Wall. Red brick and cement, rough stretcher
0.07 – 0.38m	M1001. Foundation. Red brick, stone and concrete mix
0.38 – 0.98m	M1002. Foundation. Damaged red brick and cement
0.98m+	L1000. Demolition layer. Dark brown, loose sandy silt and brick hardcore rubble

### Test Pit 2 (Fig. 3; DP 3)

Test Pit 2 measured 0.80 x 0.50 x 1.50m

Sample Section 2 Located at the western limit of the site. Facing east. 0.00 = 3.94m AOD	
0.00 – 1.12m	M1004. Foundation. Concrete and rubble mix hardcore
1.12m+	L1005. Redeposited Natural. Light brown yellow, friable silty sand

4.3 A borehole, 15m deep, was drilled and the resulting stratigraphy is tabulated below.

**Borehole 1 (Fig.3; DP 4)**

Sample Section 3	
Borehole 1 was located c. 2m west of Test Pit 1 (Fig.3)	
0.00 – 1.00m	L1000. Demolition layer. As above.
1.00 - 1.50m	L1008. Subsoil. Dark brown, compact sandy clay with occasional Wood fibres, charcoal and chalk
1.50 – 1.60m	L1010. Subsoil. Dark and light mottled brown, friable gravelly sand
1.60m+	L1009. Natural. Light white yellow sand

*Description*

The uppermost feature on the eastern side of the site (TP1) was Brick Wall M1006 (Fig.3). It comprised red bricks (220mm x 60mm x unknown) with one course of rough finished stretcher bonding. The bonding material was cement. Foundation M1001 was recorded below Wall M1006. It comprised a light red/grey, hard, concrete brick and stone mix. Brick Foundation M1002 below M1001 comprised much-damaged red brick and concrete.

On the western side of the site (TP2) Wall M1007 comprised rendered brick of unknown dimensions, coursing or bonding (due to render). It was contemporary with Wall M1006. It overlay Foundation M1004 which comprised light red/grey, hard concrete and brick rubble hardcore with concrete bonding material. The latter is likely contemporary with Foundations M1001 and M1002.

Re-deposited Natural L1005 was present below Foundation M1004. It was a light brown yellow, friable, silty sand with occasional small brick and mortar fragments.

Beyond the walls and foundations (BH1) the uppermost layer was Demolition Layer L1000 which was also recorded below Brick Foundation M1002 (TP1). It comprised dark brown, loose sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks. It overlay Subsoil L1008, a dark brown, compact sandy clay with occasional charcoal, wood fibres and chalk flecks. L1008 overlay L1010, a light to dark mottled brown, friable gravel and sand with occasional charred wood staining.

All the above layers overlay the natural drift geology which comprised a light white yellow, friable sand.

**5 CONFIDENCE RATING**

5.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the programme of monitoring and recording, excepting the limited size of the test pits and borehole.

## 6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Within the confines of the monitoring, the most recent phase of building has truncated the site considerably with the demolition layer measuring at least 1.00m in depth. The borehole data points to the Subsoils L1008 and L1010 as being of possible archaeological interest.

### DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at Norwich Museum. 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

Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Orwell Housing Association for their co-operation and funding of the monitoring and recording (in particular Mr Greg Dodds). AS is also grateful to Oxbury & Company for commissioning the project (in particular Mr James Oxbury for his assistance).

AS would like to acknowledge the assistance of Scott Wilson Consulting Engineers (in particular Mr Bob Coe).

Archaeological Solutions is also pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Dr Ken Hamilton of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

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## PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



*DP 1. Site Shot. View N*



*DP 2. Sample Section 1. View E*



*DP 3. Sample Section 2. View W*

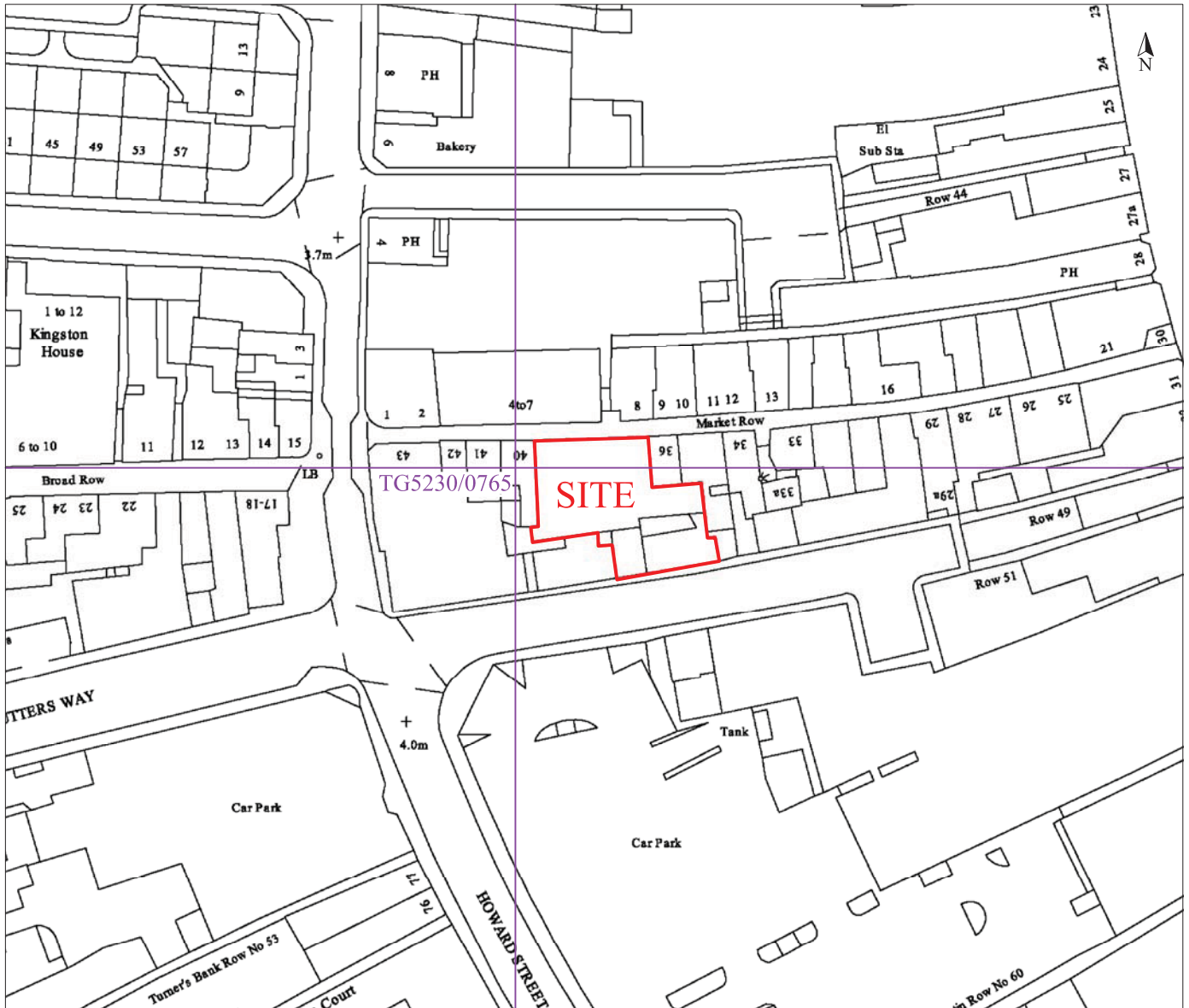


*DP 4. Borehole Operation. View N*

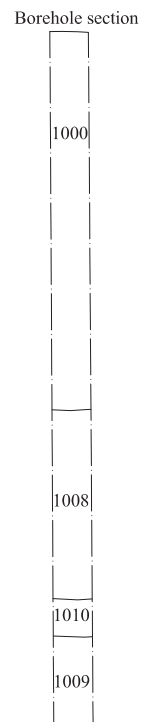
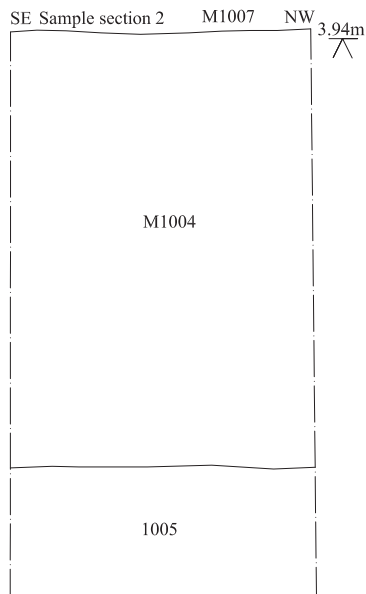
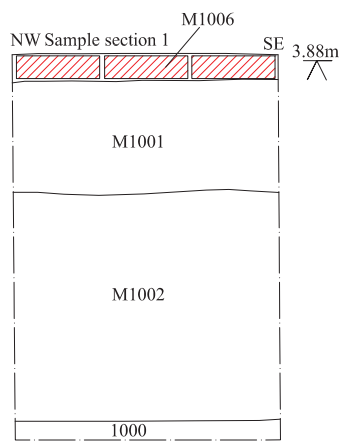
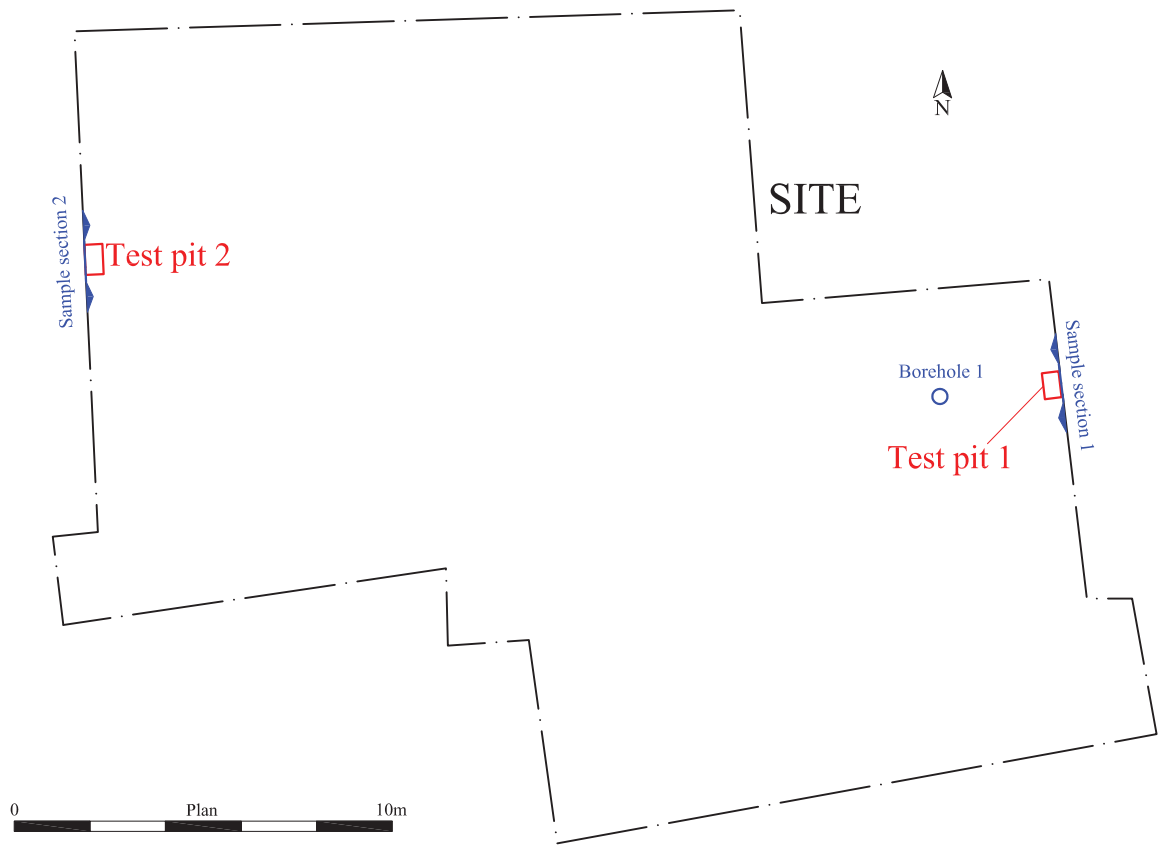


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**Fig. 1 Site location plan**  
 Scale 1:25,000 at A4



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**Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan**  
 Scale 1:1000 at A4



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**Fig. 3 Area of watching brief & sections**

Scale plan at 1:200, sample sections at 1:20 & borehole section at 1:40 at A4