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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND  
RECORDING  
ON FOOTINGS FOR DETACHED DWELLING,  
LYNN ROAD, WALTON HIGHWAY,  
NORFOLK  
(ENF130942)**

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**Work Undertaken For  
Peter Humphrey Associates**

March 2013

Report Compiled by  
Liz Murray BA(Hons)

Planning Application No. 11/0171/O  
National Grid Reference: TF 4912 1285  
OASIS Record No. archaeo11-145694

APS Report No. **28/13**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES**





**Quality Control  
Walton Highway,  
Lynn Road  
(WHLR13)**

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Date: 18/3/13	Date: 18.3.13



## Table of Contents

### List of Figures

### List of Plates

1.	SUMMARY .....	1
2.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.1	PLANNING BACKGROUND.....	1
2.2	TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY .....	1
2.3	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING .....	1
3.	AIMS .....	1
4.	METHODS .....	1
5.	RESULTS .....	1
6.	DISCUSSION .....	2
7.	CONCLUSION .....	2
8.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	2
9.	PERSONNEL .....	3
10.	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	3
11.	ABBREVIATIONS .....	3

### Appendices

1. Context descriptions
2. Glossary
3. The Archive

### **List of Figures**

Figure 1	General location plan
Figure 2	Site location plan
Figure 3	Plot location and plan
Figure 4	Foundation trench plan
Figure 5	Sections

### **List of Plates**

Plate 1	General view of site
Plate 2	Section 2
Plate 3	Section 3

## 1. SUMMARY

*A programme of monitoring and recording was undertaken during groundworks for a detached dwelling on land at Lynn Road, Walton Highway, Norfolk. Historic maps indicate the presence of a medieval moat adjacent to the site. The work revealed a sequence of former topsoil and probable garden deposits. No archaeological features, either associated with the nearby moat or otherwise, were revealed. A modern brick water tank was noted. No finds were retrieved.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Planning Background

A planning application (11/0171/O) was submitted to King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council for the construction of a detached dwelling. Norfolk Historic Environment Service specified that an archaeological investigation involving a scheme of monitoring and recording during development groundwork was required. Archaeological Project Services was commissioned to undertake this work, which was carried out on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

### 2.2 Topography and Geology

Walton Highway is located 15km southwest of King's Lynn in the administrative district of King's Lynn and West Norfolk (Fig 1).

The site is to the south of Walton Highway just to the north of the junction of Lynn Road with Common Road North at National Grid Reference TF 4912 1285 (Fig 2).

Soils of the area are Blacktoft Association gleyic brown calcareous alluvial soils developed on marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 124). The site is on flat land at

about 2m OD.

### 2.3 Archaeological Setting

The proposed development site lies adjacent to the site of a medieval moat shown on a 19<sup>th</sup> century Ordnance Survey map. There is therefore the potential for buried archaeological remains in this area to be affected by the proposed development.

## 3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks should be recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

## 4. METHODS

The footprint of the foundations measured approximately 7m x 10m with the foundation trenches measuring 0.8m wide and up to 1m in depth. The trenches were excavated using a mini mechanical excavator fitted with a toothed bucket. Approximately two-thirds of the trenches were to be dug through a current car park with a compacted gravel surface, whilst the remainder was through former lawn and gardens.

Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

## 5. RESULTS

Archaeological contexts recorded during

the programme of works are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

The earliest deposit observed across the trench was mid-greyish brown clayey silt (002) containing moderate charcoal and occasional ceramic building material (CBM) fragments (Fig 4, Plates 2 and 3). These items were post-medieval to modern and not retained.

Within the northern section of the footings (002) was overlain by a mid to dark greyish brown, slightly sandy silt (003) (Fig 4, Plate 3). This appeared to be a buried former topsoil and contained small fragments of modern pottery, which was not retained.

This former topsoil was in turn sealed by the modern car park surface that contained several layers of gravel, sand and rubble up to 0.4m thick (001). Within the southern section of the footings, the carpark surface immediately overlaid the silt layer (002) (Fig 4, Plate 2).

Elsewhere (003) was overlain by a 0.2m layer of silt and large gravel (005) that appeared to be a make-up layer for the modern garden topsoil (004) that covered the northern section of the footings (Fig 4, Plate 3).

A modern single brick well or former cess pit was noted in section in the far west of the footings; this was cut through the silt and sealed by the layers of the car park.

## 6. DISCUSSION

A large section of the footprint of the footings was excavated through the former car park of an adjacent commercial property. There were several layers of former car park levels including a layer of possible block paving, and a large concrete pad.

In the north of the site the trenches were excavated through lawn and gardens. Directly below these there was a layer of silt and gravel that appeared to be a make-up layer for the modern garden. The dark greyish brown sandy silt, below the make-up layer, in the northern sections of the trench, is probably a buried former topsoil.

The silty layer extant across the base of the foundation trenches appeared to be a former garden soil that contained patches of ash and charcoal as well as small fragments of CBM and post-medieval pottery.

It seems likely therefore that the entire area may have been the garden of the property to the south before being raised, landscaped and a car park constructed when the dwelling became a commercial property. This would also account for the brick tank sealed by the car park surface.

## 7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks on land to the east of Lynn Road, Walton Highway, Norfolk as the site lay within an area of archaeological interest, close to a moat of probable medieval date.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of topsoil and buried garden soil deposits. No archaeological features either associated with the nearby moat or otherwise, were revealed.

A modern single brick well or former cess pit was noted in section; this was cut through the silt and sealed by the layers of the car park. No finds were retained.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Peter Humphrey Associates for commissioning



the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of P. Hawes. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane.

## **9. PERSONNEL**

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor  
Site Supervisors: Liz Murray  
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
Illustration: Liz Murray  
Post-excavation analysis: Liz Murray

## **10. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13**

IfA, 2008, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

## **11. ABBREVIATIONS**

APS Archaeological Project Services

IfA Institute for Archaeologists



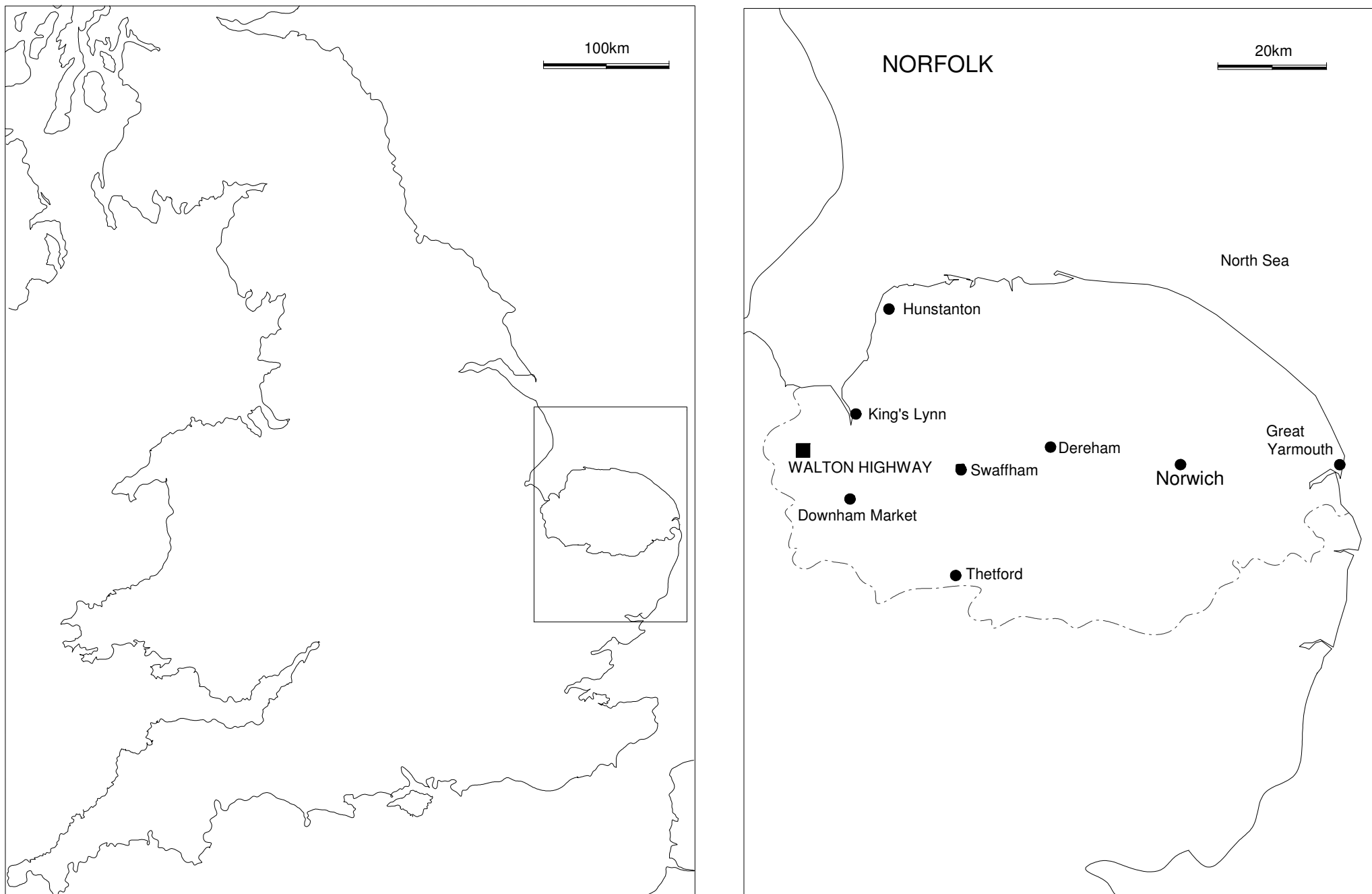
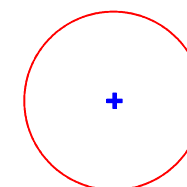


Figure 1 - General Location Plan



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey  
1:25,000 map with the permission of  
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Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Walton Highway, Lynn Road WHLR13

Scale 1:25000	Drawn by: LM	Report No: 28/13
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Figure 2 Site Location

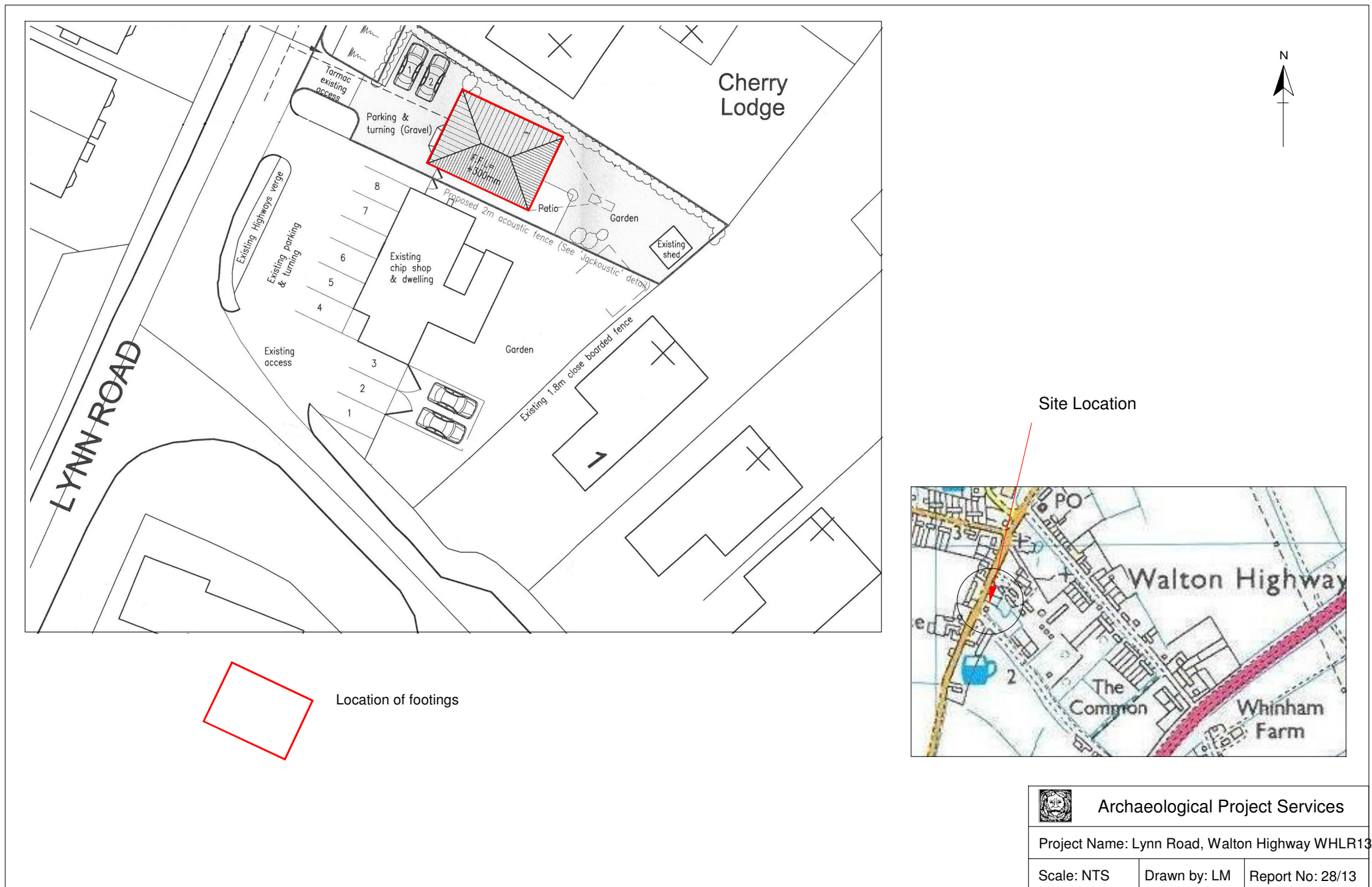
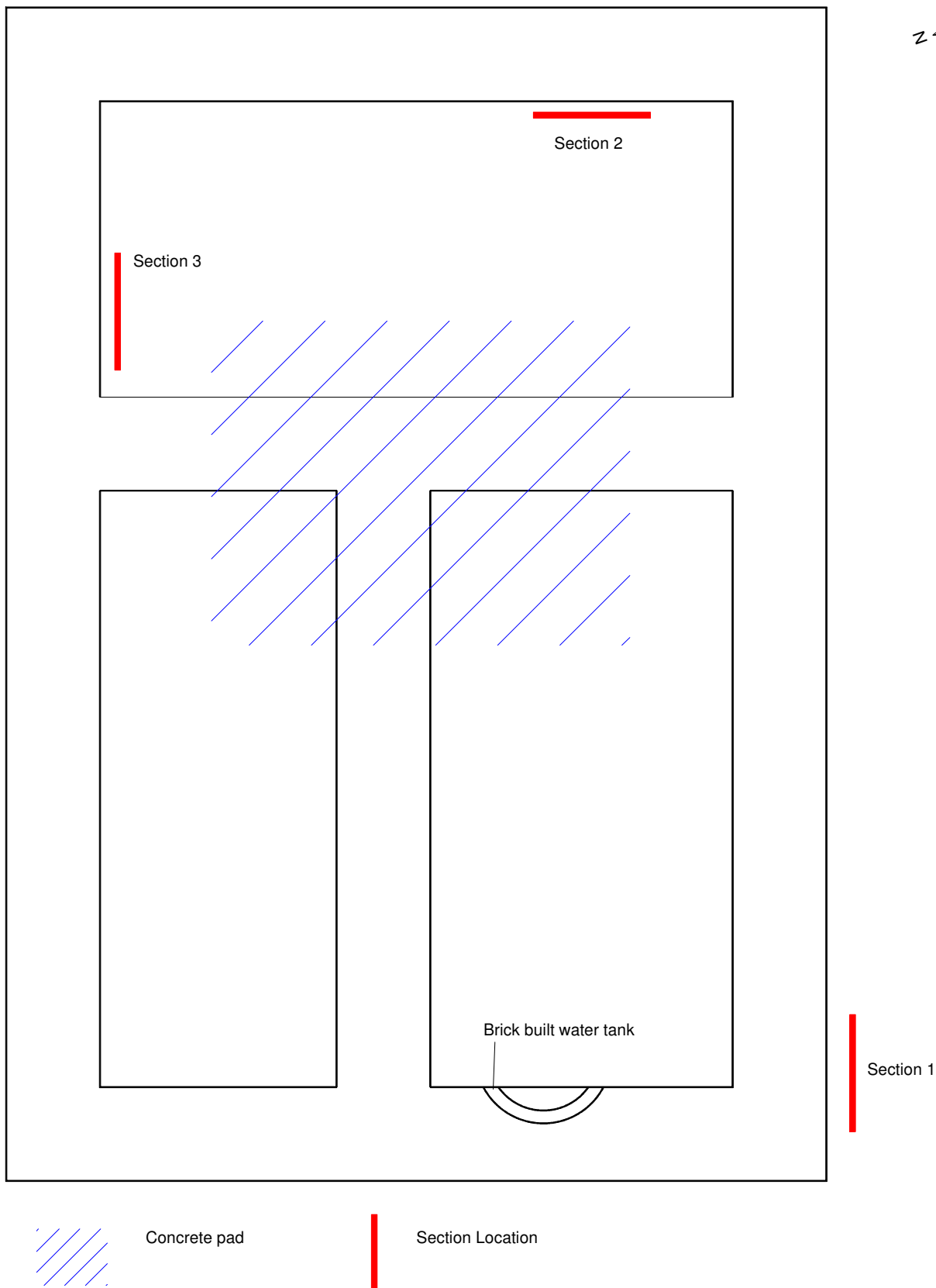


Figure 3 Plot location and plan




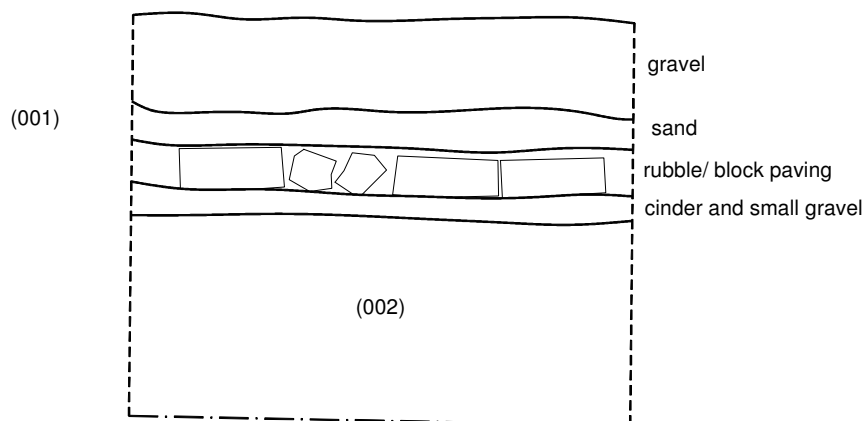
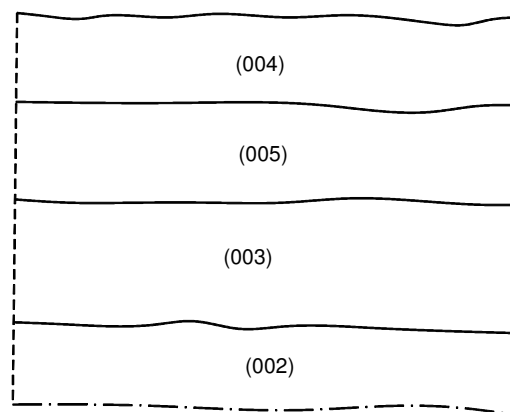
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Project Name: Walton Highway Lynn Road WHLR13		
Scale 1: 50	Drawn by: LM	Report No: 28/13

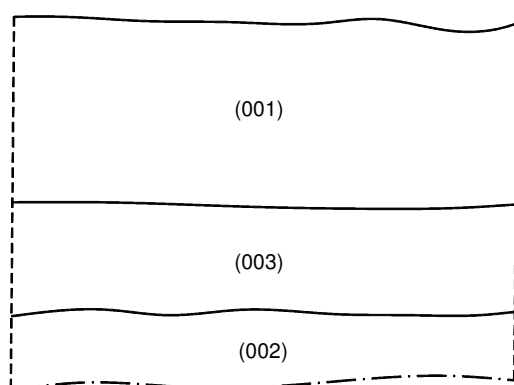
Figure 4: Foundation trench plan



**Section 1**



**Section 3**



**Section 2**



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Scale 1:15

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**Figure 5 Sections**





## Plates



Plate 1: General view of site



Plate 2: Section 2



Plate 3: Section 3

## Appendix 1

### CONTEXT SUMMARY

Context	Description	Interpretation
001	Compact deposit of varying construction, sand, gravel, cinder, demolition and rubble and some block paving	Car park make-up layers
002	Firm, mid greyish brown, slightly clayey silt, moderate small gravel, frequent charcoal patches, occasional post medieval pot, at least 0.4m thick	Buried garden soil, probably contemporary with construction of house to south
003	Friable, mid to dark, greyish brown, slightly sandy silt, frequent charcoal , occasional Ceramic Building Material (CBM) and modern pottery frags, up to 0.2m thick	Probable former topsoil
004	Dark blackish brown, slightly sandy silt, occasional modern rubbish, up to 0.2m thick	Modern garden soil/ topsoil
005	Firm, mid to light greyish brown, silt and gravel, occasional charcoal	Levelling/drainage layer below modern topsoil.

## Appendix 2

### GLOSSARY

<b>Alluvium</b>	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004].
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

## Appendix 3

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

5	Context records
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Section record sheet
1	Plan record sheet
1	Daily record sheet
2	Sheets of scale drawings

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services  
The Old School  
Cameron Street  
Heckington  
Sleaford  
Lincolnshire  
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Norwich Castle Museum  
Castle Meadow  
Norwich  
Norfolk  
NR1 3JU

Accession Number

ENF 130942

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

WHLR13

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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