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Environmental Impact Assessment

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Interpretation, Design & Display

**Land at Lower Street,
Salhouse, Norfolk:**

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. MK099/17

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**Land at Lower Street, Salhouse, Norfolk:
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1. SUMMARY

CFA Archaeology Ltd carried out an archaeological evaluation for Lanpro Services on behalf of Heritage Developments on the site of a housing development at land at Lower Street, Salhouse, Norfolk (centred on TG 3120 1457). The Site comprised an unused land plot. Six trenches were excavated revealing no archaeology.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1. General

This document presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on the 15th of August 2017 at land at Lower Street, Salhouse, Norfolk. The work was commissioned by Lanpro Services on behalf of Heritage Developments.

The work was carried out to fulfil a planning condition attached to planning application Ref. 20151129 and in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated July 2017 (Gajos 2017), covering this programme of works produced by Lanpro Services and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

2.2. Project Background

The Site (Fig. 1) covered 0.70ha and was located on the north-eastern edge of Salhouse. It was bounded to the west by properties on Ward Road, the north by properties on Lower Street, and to the south and east by farmland.

The Broadland District Council has granted a planning permission for residential development of four dwellings with associated car parking and access from Lower Street.

2.3. Archaeological Background

A Norfolk HER database search with a 1km radius study area of the Site identified 53 HER records.

The oldest known assets are a lower to middle Palaeolithic flint handaxe and a flake found in the early 20th century (MNF8462). The find was unprovenanced.

Several Neolithic unstratified finds spots are listed within the study area (MNF8464, 8468, 56758, 59847, 68906). One polished flint axe was found less than 60m to the NE of the Site (MNF8464) in private garden. All those finds were unstratified and in most cases Neolithic artefacts were found

together with much more recent material – like in the case of MNF56758, where a Neolithic blade was found together with a Neolithic/BA retouched flake, medieval, Roman and post-medieval coins and other objects.

Few HER assets were dated to the Bronze or the Iron Age. A possible Bronze Age scraper was found around 700m from the Site and a flint arrowhead was found 500m SW of the Site. A possible cropmark ring ditch is visible as on aerial photos, just about 1 km SE of the Site. To the NNW of the Site, several cropmarks were registered. Some of those are believed to be of Iron Age origin, however the actual dating could be more recent – Roman, medieval or even post-medieval (MNF56326).

One undated HER asset is located within the Site itself. Findspot MNF8494 is described as large patch of iron slag, found during ploughing in 1947. The asset is therefore associated with some sort of metal working site. Another asset of similar character was located about 450m to the W of the Site (MNF8472). Although in both cases (MNF8494 and MNF8472) dating of the slag was impossible due to lack of any object or structures present, it was thought that an Iron Age origin could be possible.

HER sites dated to Roman period are represented only by a few find spots. Less than 200m from the Site, one copper alloy coin representing Constantin I was found (MNF8471). Other finds of Roman artefacts were unstratified or found near material from other periods (MNF56758, 57469, 63894). No HER asset within the study area can be described as containing a high concentration of Roman finds.

Medieval assets listed by the HER are relatively scarce. All Saints Church is dated to the 13th to 14th century and is located approximately 900 m to the NW of the Site (MNF8500). A medieval road is listed about 1000m to the SW of the Site (MNF8166). Several undated cropmarks were found 900m to the N of the Site. A rectilinear enclosure and three ditches were identified in the field (MNF54489). Another area of cropmarks identified as pits and field boundaries, possibly of medieval date were recorded 700m to the NE of the Site (MNF54507). Unstratified finds of medieval date were found in various areas around the Site by metal detectorists (MNF68652, 57469, 59847, 56757, 56274)

Post-medieval and modern HER assets are represented by several standing houses (MNF31053, 50695, 51072, 51074, 51138, 56900, 56904, 57375, 61430, 64364), the closest to the Site being MNF56904. This was two post-medieval cottages. No iron industry has been recorded in this period; the only iron-related entry is a multi-period metal object scatter 600m north-west of the Site.

2.4. Geology

The bedrock in the area consists of Crag Group sand and gravel. The superficial geology is Bacton Green Till Member diamiction (BGS).

2.5. Objectives

The overall aim of the programme of archaeological works was to obtain sufficient information as to the archaeological significance and potential of the site to determine the scope and extent of any further mitigatory work that may have been required. This was achieved through the following objectives:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site;
- To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site;
- To assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence;
- To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- To produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Norfolk HER.

3. WORKING METHODS

3.1. General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance (2014a, 2014b, 2014c, 2014d).

3.2. Trenching

Six trenches measuring 15m x 1.8m were excavated targeting the footprint of the proposed new buildings.

3.3. Excavation and Recording Strategy

Topsoil and subsoil were removed by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision until the features of archaeological interest were exposed.

The trenches were surveyed using a Trimble Geo7X GPS unit which has an accuracy of 8mm horizontally and 12mm vertically. Each trench was recorded by means of photographs, drawings and written records conforming to CIfA standards (2014c) and CFA's quality manuals. A digital and 35mm B&W film photographic record was made of each trench.

The numbering of layers and features were the trench number followed by the layer number, e.g.: 0101 was topsoil in Trench 1. Where layers are discussed collectively across few trenches, the trench numbers are substituted by a hash tag, e.g.: #01.

3.4. Archiving

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, finds, plans and reports, will be deposited at Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service and will conform to its requirements (NMaAS 2010) and current guidelines e.g. MoRPHE (HE 2015), Brown (2011), CIfA (2014d), MGC 1994, SMA 1995, Walker 1990. A proper transfer of ownership will be ensured, according to the guidance mentioned above. The Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service accession number (TBC) will appear on archived items and all related reports.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1. General

The locations of the trenches are shown in Fig. 1. Illustrations and photos referred to in the text can be found at the back of the report. Overview of the trenches is presented below.

4.2. Trench Descriptions (Figs 2-7)

In all cases, the topsoil (#01) consisted of mid grey-brown sandy silt. Searching the spoil heaps had not yielded any finds. The subsoil (#02) was silty sand varying in colour from mid yellow brown to light grey brown. The natural (#03) consisted of light yellow brown silty sand with yellow to orange-brown patches of gravel (Figs 2 – 7).

An extension of the Trench 2 was dug at its northern end, following a possible feature. This revealed to be a tree throw pit measuring approx. 2.5m in diameter (Fig. 8). It contained a single piece of slag, probably residual.

5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

A piece of slag was found in a tree throw pit but no other finds were recovered from the feature. It is probable that ploughing in the past has brought almost all the slag remains to the surface. Except for this one fragment, no slag was found anywhere else on the Site.

The evaluation has not revealed any significant archaeology.

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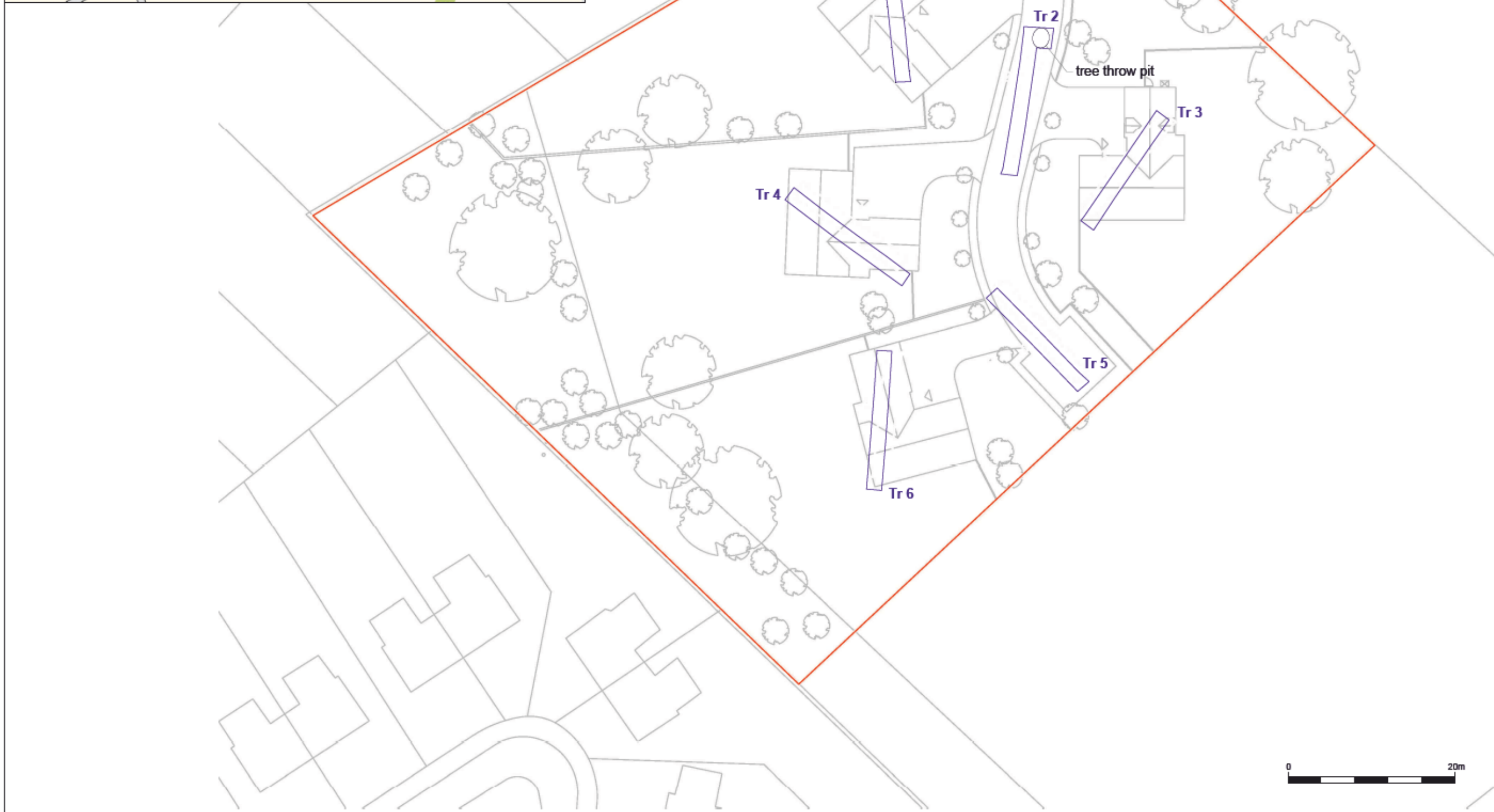
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7. APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARY

Trench 01	Trench Size 15m x 1.8m	Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.44-0.64m	Topsoil Depth 0.33-0.35m	Subsoil Depth 0.07-0.08m
<i>No archaeology</i>		
Trench 02	Trench Size 15m x 1.8m	Orientation: NE-SW
Trench Depth 0.43-0.88 m	Topsoil Depth 0.3-0.33m	Subsoil Depth 0.13-0.21m
<i>No archaeology</i>		
Trench 03	Trench Size 15m x 1.8m	Orientation: NE-SW
Trench Depth 0.41-0.61m	Topsoil Depth 0.34-0.4m	Subsoil Depth 0.09-0.1m
<i>No archaeology</i>		
Trench 04	Trench Size 15m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.53-0.66m	Topsoil Depth 0.18-0.36m	Subsoil Depth 0.08-0.12m
<i>No archaeology</i>		
Trench 05	Trench Size 15m x 1.8m	Orientation: NW-SE
Trench Depth 0.4-0.63m	Topsoil Depth 0.27-0.34m	Subsoil Depth 0.06-0.08m
<i>No archaeology</i>		
Trench 06	Trench Size 15m x 1.8m	Orientation: N-S
Trench Depth 0.38-0.44m	Topsoil Depth 0.23-0.28m	Subsoil Depth 0.09m
<i>No archaeology</i>		



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Trench Outline

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Title:
 Site location and plan

Project:
 Land at Lower Street, Salhouse,
 Norfolk: Archaeological Evaluation

Client:
 Lanpro Services on behalf of
 Heritage Developments

Scale at A3:
 1:500

Drawn by: MP	Checked by: SW	Date: 07/09/2017
Report No.: MK099/17	Fig. No.: 1	



Fig. 2 - Trench 1, taken from N

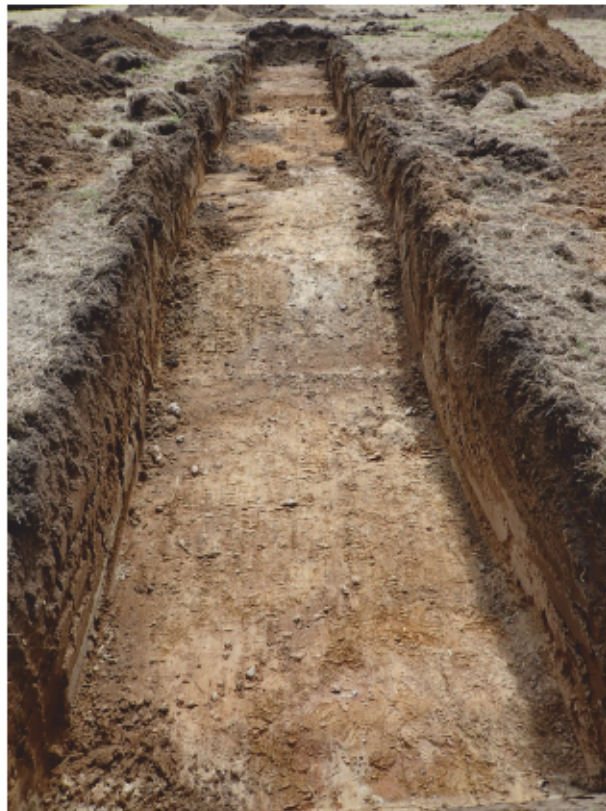


Fig. 3 - Trench 2, taken from NE

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MP	SW	07/09/17
Report No:		Fig. No:
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Fig. 4 - Trench 3, taken from NE



Fig. 5 - Trench 4, taken from NW

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MP	SW	07/09/17
Report No:		Fig. No:
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Fig. 6 - Trench 5, taken from NW



Fig. 7 - Trench 6, taken from N

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Report No: MK099/17		Fig. No: 6-7



Fig. 8 - Tree throw pit found in Trench 2, taken from N

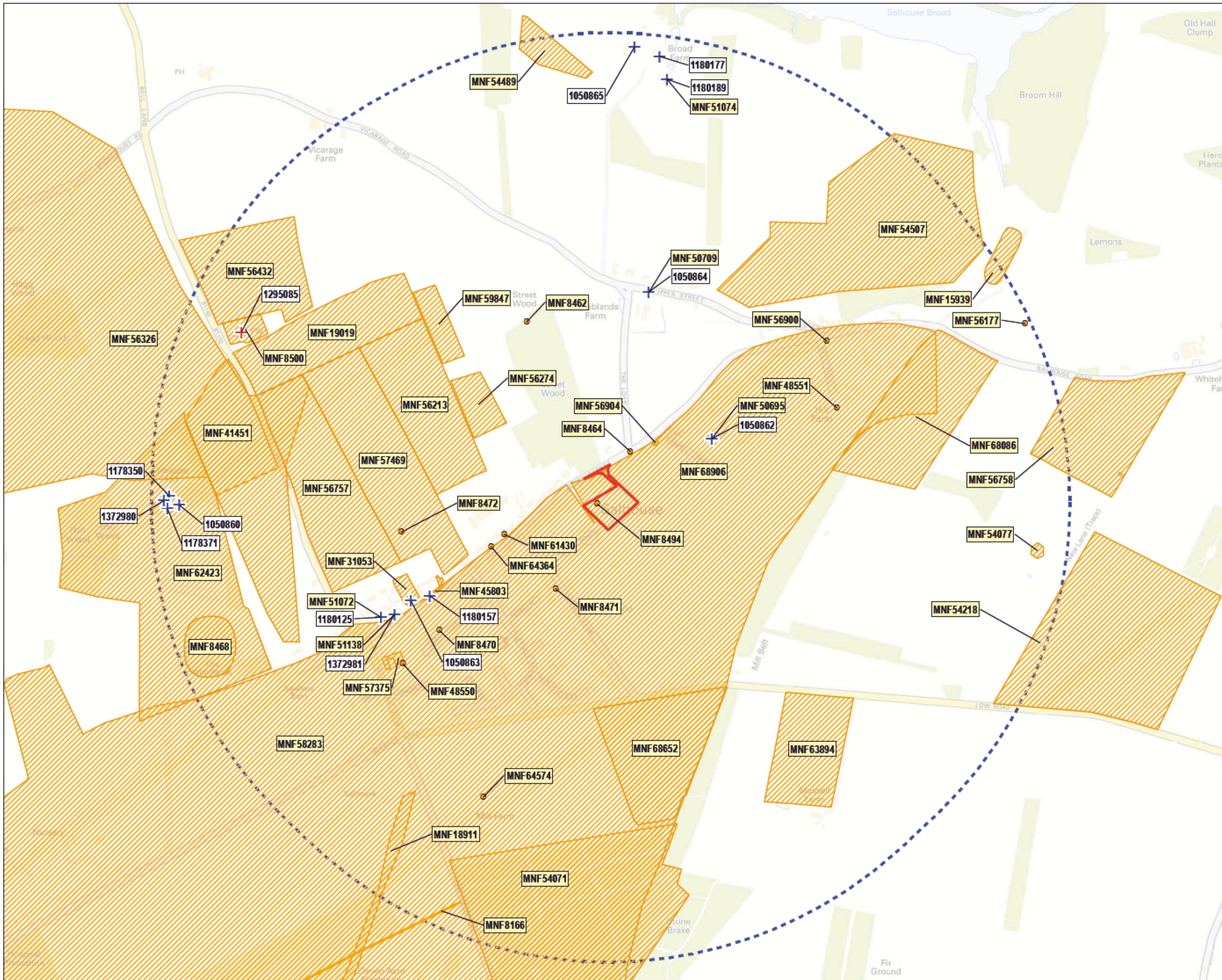
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Key:

- Site Boundary
- - - 1km Study Area
- + Grade I Listed Building
- + Grade II Listed Building
- HER Site (point)
- HER Site (linear)
- ▨ HER Site (area)

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Title:
 Heritage assets within 1km of the Site

Project:
 Land at Lower Street, Salhouse, Norfolk: Archaeological Evaluation

Client:
 Lanpro Services on behalf of Heritage Developments

Scale at A3:
 1:8,000

Drawn by: MP	Checked: SW	Date: 19/09/2017
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Report No: MK099/17	Fig. No: 9
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