

## **Archaeology Report Number CB701R v.1.2**

### **Extension to 7 Tower Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk**

Grid reference TF 6194 1974 (centred at)

Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk planning reference 18/01163/F

**Norfolk County Council Environment Service reference CNF46232**

### **Monitoring of Works under Archaeological Supervision and Control**

09 August 2021

**Norfolk Historic Environment Record event number ENF151897**

**Norfolk Museums Accession Number NWHCM: 2021.137**

**OASIS ID; chrisbir1-426486**

### **Prepared for**

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Title	Report on Monitoring of Works under Archaeological Supervision and Control at 'Extension to 7 Tower Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk'
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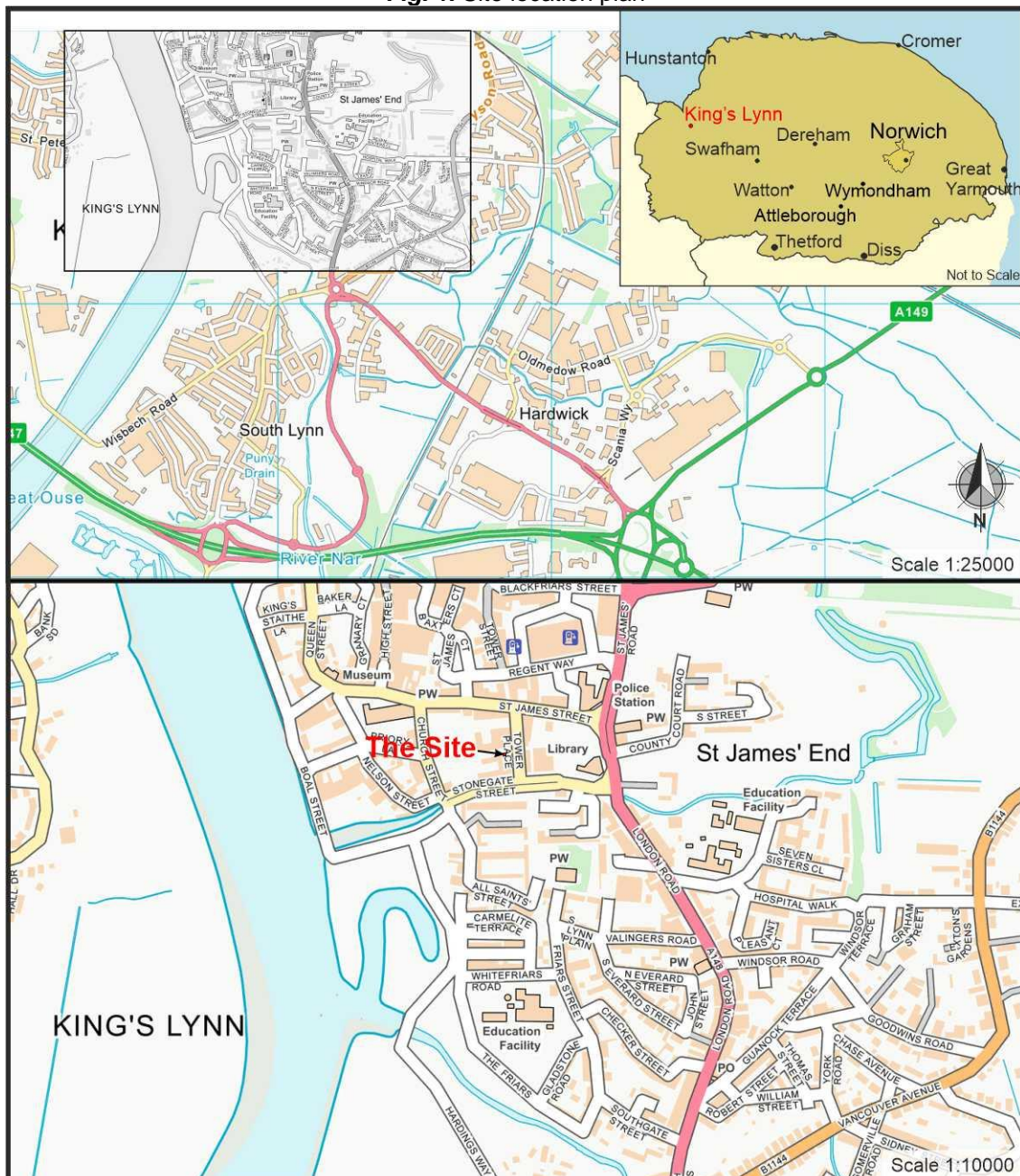
## Summary

Groundworks associated with the construction of an extension to an existing building at 'Extension to 7 Tower Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk' (Norfolk Historic Environment Record event number ENF151897) were carried out under archaeological supervision and control on 09 August 2021. No archaeological remains were observed and modern truncation of deposits was recorded.

## 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Monitoring of Works Under Archaeological Supervision and Control at 'Extension to 7 Tower Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk' (grid reference TF 6194 1974, centred at, Fig. 1) were required during groundworks associated with the construction of an extension to an existing building. Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk Planning Reference 18/01163/F applies.

Fig. 1. Site location plan



1.2 Report, CB701R v.1.0, details how Chris Birks undertook these works and summarises the results and a copy was submitted to the Norfolk County Council Environment Service for consideration on 15 September 2021. A revised draft copy, CB701R v.1.1 was submitted to the Norfolk County



Council Environment Service for consideration on 06 October 2021. Approval was received on 23 November 2021 prior to preparation of this final copy, CB701R v.1.2.

## 2.0 Project Background

- 2.1 There was potential that heritage assets with archaeological interest (buried archaeological remains) of medieval date in particular may be present at the site and that their significance may be affected by the proposed development. Works were undertaken in accordance with Written Scheme of Investigation, CB701 v.1.1, approved by the Norfolk County Council Environment Service.
- 2.2 Works were carried out according to guidelines set out in *The Code of Conduct* (CIFA 2014), *Regulations for Professional Conduct* (CIFA 2019), *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (CIFA 2020), *Standards for Development-led Archaeological Projects in Norfolk* (Robertson *et al* 2018) and *Management of research projects in the historic environment. The MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England 2015). This forms part of the research agenda for the eastern counties of England in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).
- 2.3 Norfolk Historic Environment Record event number ENF151897. Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) ID: chrisbir-426486 (*Appendix 1*).
- 2.4 The archive will be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of research projects in the historic environment. The MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England 2015) and submitted to the Norfolk Museums Service for long-term storage under accession number NWHCM:2021.137.

## 3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 A search of entries in the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) within a 250m radius of the site was obtained on 28 July 2020 and produced 208 records. Due to the lack of archaeological remains encountered during the monitoring, only summaries of records within the immediate vicinity of the site are provided in this report. Further details of these and all other entries can be seen at the Historic Environment Record office at Gressenhall near Dereham by prior appointment.
- 3.2 The development site lies within the walled area of the town, close and to the west of Tower Gardens, a public open space laid out in 1911 to mark the coronation of George V (NHER 64023). It incorporates Greyfriars Tower, the last standing remains of a Franciscan Friary founded in the 13<sup>th</sup> century (NHER 5477), and the public library of 1904 (NHER 52803) and at its centre is a war memorial commemorating those who fell in the two World Wars (NHER 64026). Also within Tower Gardens are three (NHER 1161) and two further (NHER 64025) 14<sup>th</sup> century stone arches thought to have been moved to this location in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century from a medieval house on Tuesday Market Place (NHER 1161) The site of the Theatre Royal, built in 1813 and destroyed by fire in 1936 (NHER 64027) and the site of a Post-medieval smock mill (NHER 17318) also lie within the gardens.
- 3.3 To the immediate southwest of the site, archaeological trial trenches and excavation in 2004 revealed the remains of a substantial limestone building, thought to have been a medieval merchant's premises, perhaps comprising a house and warehouses fronting onto the Millfleet dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century (NHER 40196). Waterlogged timbers from the site indicate a revetment or wharf, placing the north bank of the Millfleet some 15m further north than was previously thought following excavations on Stonegate Street in 1974 (NHER 1133), or suggesting the presence of a small wharf to the north of the Millfleet.
- 3.4 To the northwest, archaeological excavation of a former garage site in 1998 revealed a contaminated Post-medieval garden soil deposit that contained medieval artefacts and residual prehistoric flint pot boilers (NHER 33518).
- 3.5 The NHER entry for 1 Stonegate Street (NHER 12084), close-by to the south of the development site, states that it is a red brick house dating from around 1700 with late-18<sup>th</sup> century alterations and additions. However, the map for this entry shows that this record relates to the adjacent property at 4 to 6 Stonegate Street. The NHER office have been contacted accordingly. The remains of an 18<sup>th</sup> century courtyard lie adjacent to this building (NHER 37520).

#### 4.0 Geology and Topography

- 4.1 The site lies upon a solid geology of the Upper Jurassic series (Funnell 2005). Bedrock comprises the Kimmeridge Clay Formation - Mudstone. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 152 to 157 million years ago in the Jurassic Period with overlying Tidal Flat Deposits - Clay And Silt - Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>). The soil landscape is typical of Marshland and Gault Clays (Williamson 2005).
- 4.2 The site lies to the rear (west) of Tower Place, centrally in King's Lynn in a residential and commercial area at an elevation of c. 5m OD.

#### 5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 Groundworks associated with the development comprising a concrete raft foundation were carried out under archaeological supervision and control. The construction team employed mechanical and manual techniques for the groundwork excavations.

#### 6.0 Results

##### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Site conditions were good and access was gained from Tower Place to the east of the site. The weather remained dry and overcast. Archaeological monitoring was carried out on 09 August 2021 during groundwork excavations (*Fig. 2*). Context numbers were allocated during fieldwork and are summarised in *Appendix 2*.

##### 6.2 Observations

Context No.	Type	Description	Thickness	Depth	Finds	Spot date
1	D	Upper deposits	c. 0.3 – 0.35m	-	No	-
2	D	Subsoil deposits	<i>Extent not reached</i>	-	No	-

- 6.2.1 Excavations for the raft foundation measured c. 4.8m by 4.4m to a maximum depth of c. 0.5m beneath present ground level removing c. 0.15m of concrete, c. 0.3-0.35m of deposit [1] above subsoil deposit [2], the full extent of which was not reached (*Plate 1*). A large metal fuel tank was present within the east side of the excavations and a modern ceramic drain and brick manhole to the west. No archaeological remains were observed.

**Plate 1.** General view of the excavations, looking approximately east



Scale is 1m in 0.5m increments



## 7.0 Conclusions and Discussion

- 7.1 The author has a high confidence rating of the results. Whilst there was potential that heritage assets with archaeological interest (buried archaeological remains) may have been present, none were observed. A modern fuel tank, drain and manhole truncated deposits. This and the minimal area and depths of excavation associated with the groundworks may be a reason why no remains were observed and any such remains may lie beyond the excavated areas. Similar truncation of deposits at a former garage site to the northwest was observed during an archaeological excavation in 1998.



## **Acknowledgments**

The project was undertaken by Chris Birks on behalf of JTC Warehouses Ltd who also funded the work. Many thanks to Mr G Carter at JTC Warehouses Ltd and to Ian Bix of Ian H Bix Associates Ltd. Thanks also to DPE Groundworks and Construction Ltd who carried out the excavations. Fieldwork was undertaken by Andy Barnett and the report was written by Chris Birks.

Many thanks to Lorraine Houseago, Steve Hickling and John Percival at the Norfolk County Council Environment Service and to Peter Watkins at the Norfolk Historic Environment Record office for providing information relating to Historic Environment Record entries.





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CIFA - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists



## Appendix 1 OASIS Record

### OASIS ID: [chrisbir1-426486](#)

#### Project details

Project name	WUASC at 'Extension to 7 Tower Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk'
Short description of the project	Groundworks associated with the construction of an extension to an existing building were carried out under archaeological supervision and control. No archaeological remains were observed and modern truncation of deposits was recorded.
Project dates	Start: 09-08-2021 End: 09-08-2021
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ENF151897 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK KINGS LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK KINGS LYNN Extension to 7 Tower Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk
Study area	18 Square metres
Site coordinates	TF 6194 1974 52.750597693418 0.39965874112 52 45 02 N 000 23 58 E Point

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Chris Birks
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Chris Birks
Project director/manager	Chris Birks
Project supervisor	Andy Barnett
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

#### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
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Digital Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums Service
Digital Archive ID	NWHCM: 2021.137
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums Service
Paper Archive ID	NWHCM: 2021.137
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Plan","Report","Unpublished Text","Context sheet","Photograph"

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### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Report on Monitoring of Works under Archaeological Supervision and Control at 'Extension to 7 Tower Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk'
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Birks, C.,
Other bibliographic details	Report Number CB701R
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	Chris Birks
Place of issue or publication	Contractor's report
Description	Unbound A4 single-side printed report with site location plan, text, colour digital image and site plan drawing

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Entered by	Chris Birks (chris.birks@chrisbirksarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	15 September 2021

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## OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](mailto:help@historicengland.org.uk) for OASIS help and advice

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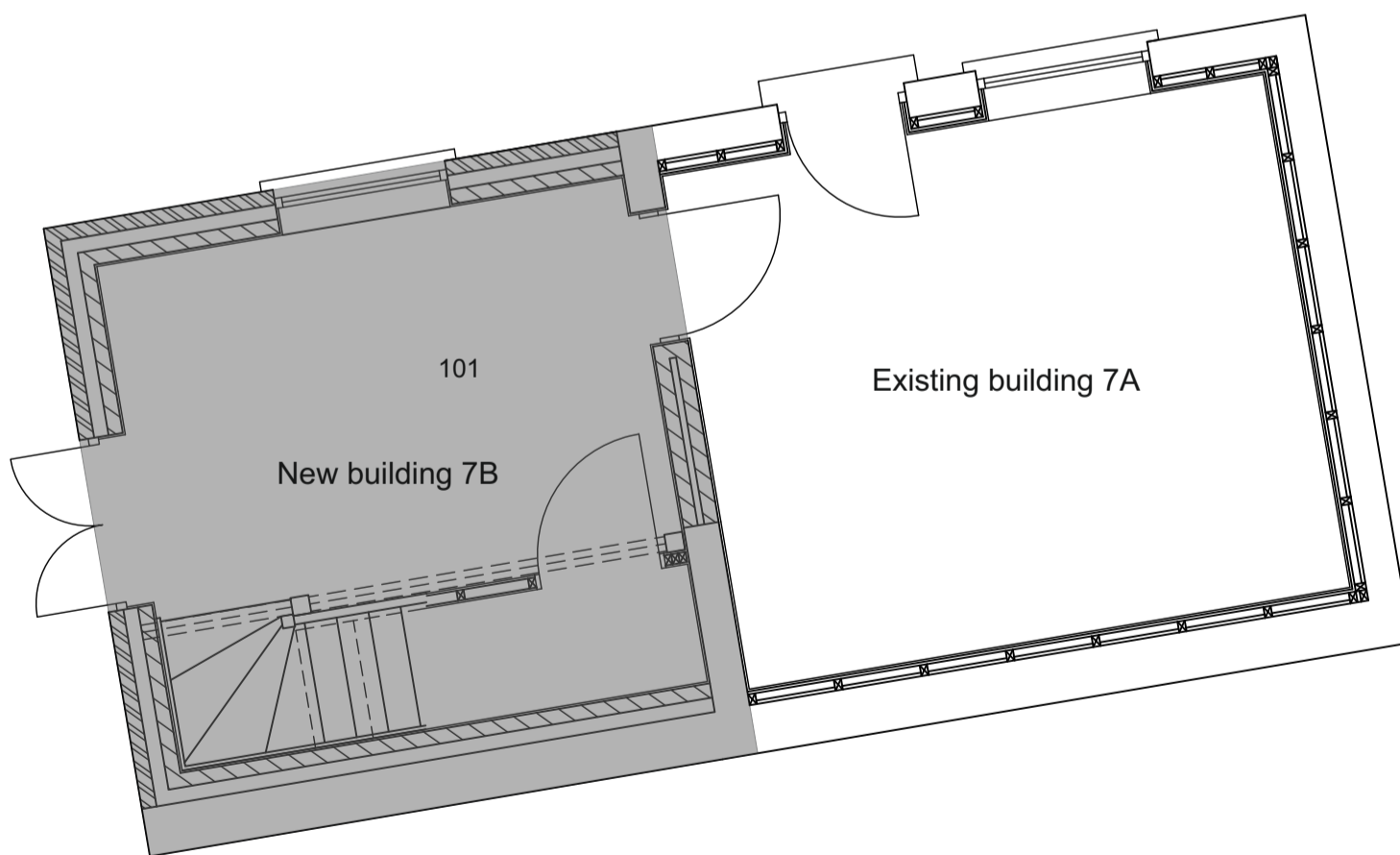
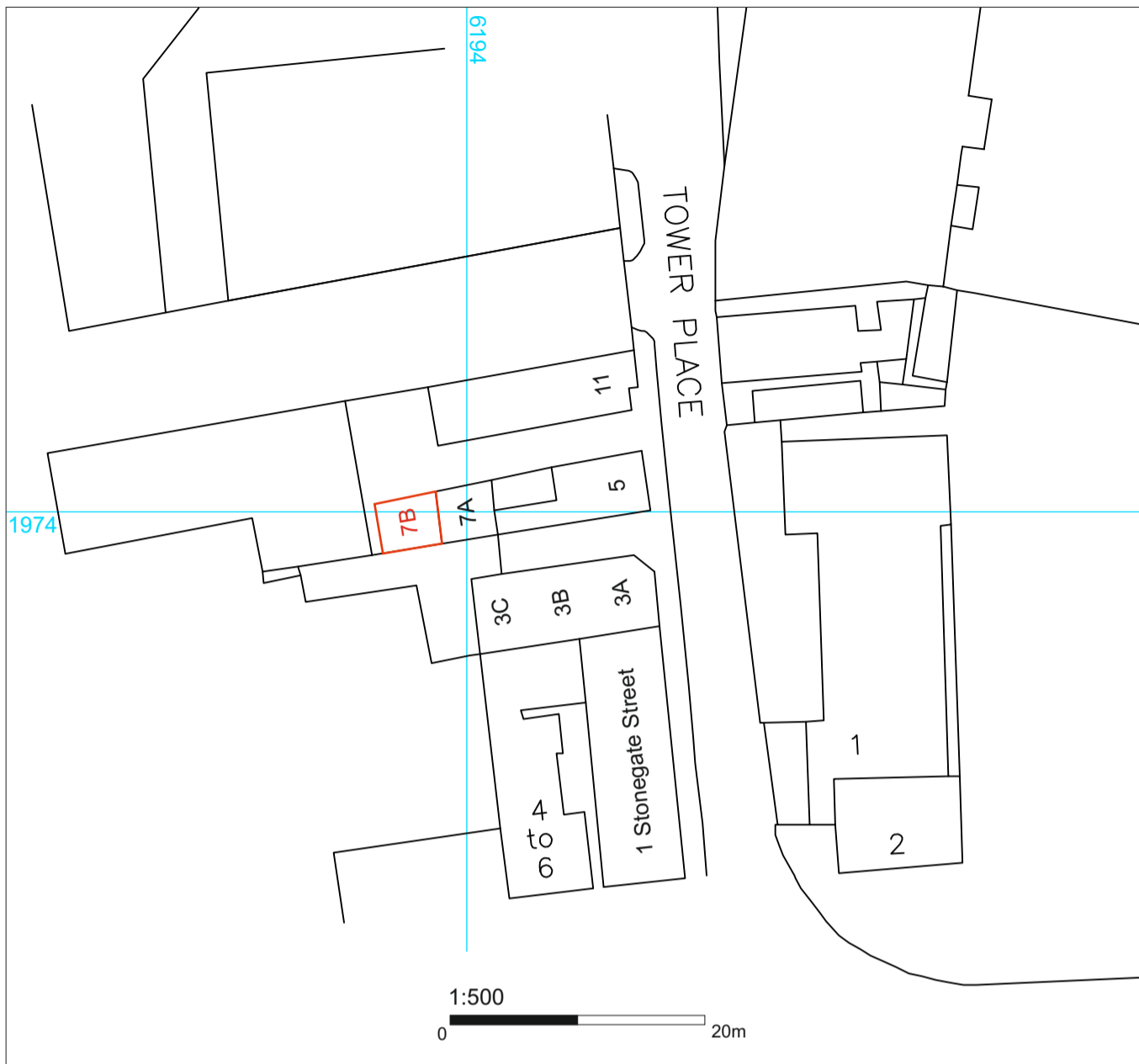


## Appendix 2 Context Summary

Context No.	Type	Description	Thickness	Depth	Finds	Spot date	Initials/Date
1	D	Dark grey sandy silt <b>upper deposits</b> with occasional small- to medium-sized subangular and rounded flints, occasional small- to medium-sized CBM fragments, occasional small-sized chalk pieces and occasional charcoal flecks	c. 0.3 – 0.35m	-	No	-	AB/09 Aug 21
2	D	Mid greenish grey sandy silt <b>subsoil deposits</b> with occasional small- to medium-sized subangular and rounded flints	<i>Extent not reached</i>	-	No	-	AB/09 Aug 21

### Key

CBM Ceramic Building Material  
D Deposit



■ Area monitored

**Chris Birks** Archaeological Services - Urban & Rural

Extension to 7 Tower Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk

Scale 1:500, 1:50

CB701R v.1.2

23 Nov 21

Based on drawings by Ian H Bix Associates Ltd

**Figure 2.** Site plan drawing