
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND
RECORDING AT 89 HIGH ROAD,
WESTON,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(WEHR 15)**

Work Undertaken For
Mr and Mrs P. Coleman

September 2015

Report Compiled by
Mark Peachey BA (Hons)

Planning Application No: H22-0494-14
National Grid Reference: TF 2932 2517
The Collection Accession No: LCNCC: 2015.72
OASIS Record No: archaeol1-223944

APS Report No. **89/15**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



Quality Control

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at
89 High Road,
Weston,
Lincolnshire
WEHR 15

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Site Supervisors	Mark Peachey, Jonathon Smith
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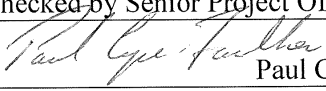
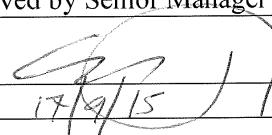
Checked by Senior Project Officer	Approved by Senior Manager
 Paul Cope-Faulkner	 Gary Taylor
Date: 17-9-15	Date: 17/9/15

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1. SUMMARY

Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken on footings for a house plot and outbuildings at 89 High Road, Weston, Lincolnshire.

The site lies within an archaeologically sensitive area, close to Iron Age and Roman salterns (salt production sites) with Roman settlement also identified in the area. Late Saxon and medieval features were recorded north of the site during the construction of the Weston bypass and the site is located adjacent to the 12th -13th century church of St Mary.

The monitoring and recording of the house plot revealed a slightly curving, but undated, ditch which may, nevertheless, have been related to the remains found on the bypass. A possible former roadside ditch was also identified. Both features were covered by subsoil.

No finds were retrieved during the investigation.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

A planning application (Ref: H22-0494-14) for the construction of a detached dwelling with outbuildings was granted by South Holland District Council with conditions for archaeological investigations. Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr and Mrs P. Coleman to undertake this work which was carried out on 11th and 16th June 2015 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Historic Environment Team, Lincolnshire County Council.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Weston is located 5km east of Spalding in

the administrative district of South Holland, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The site is towards the eastern end of the village adjacent to St Mary's parish church at National Grid Reference TF 2932 2517 (Fig. 2).

Local soils are of the Wallasea 2 Association composed of pelo-alluvial gley soils developed on reclaimed marine alluvium (Hodge *et al.* 1984). The site lies at a height of c. 3m OD on level ground in the South Lincolnshire Fenland.

2.3 Archaeological Setting

The site is in an area of late Iron Age and Roman remains, much of it associated with saltmaking. Evidence of possible late Iron Age saltmaking was found at Weston after large calcite-gritted briquetage objects were discovered in the early twentieth century. In addition, find spots of 2nd to 1st century BC briquetage have been recovered (Lane and Morris 2001) and Roman settlement and saltmaking is also known in the parish.

Weston is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of c1086, and, therefore, probably originated in the Late Saxon period.

The site lies immediately east of St Mary's church which dates to the late 12th-13th century. Medieval and later pottery has also been found in close proximity to the site.

Archaeological works prior to the construction of the Weston bypass revealed Late Saxon and medieval features to the north of the site (Wood 2008).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work was to record and interpret the deposits and any archaeological features exposed during the development groundwork.

The objectives of the investigation were to:

- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features; and
- Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

4. METHODS

The foundation trenches were excavated by machine to depths required by the development. Following excavation, selected sides of the trenches were cleaned. 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 are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

The natural deposit recorded in the footings was mottled orange/grey sand (007).

At the northern end of the footings, this was cut by northwest-southeast aligned steep-sided ditch [006] (Fig 5, Section 1; Plate 2). Measuring 2.4m wide and at least 0.22m deep, it was filled by mid greyish brown sandy silt (005).

The ditch continued, curving slightly, at least 11.75m to the southeast, where it was recorded as [009] (Fig 5, Section 2; Plate 3). Here, it was steep-sided, 2.2m wide, at least 0.22m deep and was filled with mid greyish brown sandy silt (008).

In the south part of the footings, a large feature [011] (Fig 5, Section 3; Plate 4) cut the sand. This was probably linear, at least 15m long, over 4.25m wide and more than 0.3m deep. It was filled with mid greyish brown slightly clayey silt (010), which was excavated only so far as to remove tree roots and defunct service pipes, providing a firm surface for the footings.

The features were sealed by 0.2m thick mid brown sandy silt (004), probably a former agricultural subsoil. Above this was topsoil, a 0.2m thick dark greyish brown sandy silt (003). At the north end of the site, a 0.28m thick layer of brick rubble, sand and gravel hardcore (002) provided the base for a 0.1m thick concrete surface (001) (Fig 5, Section 1; Plate 2).

6. DISCUSSION

The natural deposits on the site were identified as orange/grey sand which relate to the underlying drift geology of younger marine alluvium.

The slightly curving northwest-southeast aligned ditch revealed in the house footings may be related to the Late Saxon and medieval remains previously found north of the site. However, no dating was retrieved from it.

The large feature in the south part of the footings may represent a roadside ditch, particularly as it parallels the road. No ditch is shown on early Ordnance Survey maps and it is likely to pre-date the late 19th century (OS 1887). Both features were sealed by a subsoil that was probably formed by agricultural activity, perhaps

medieval or later ploughing. This suggests that the ditches are medieval or earlier.

7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken at 89 High Road, Weston because the site lay in an archaeologically sensitive area, close to Iron Age and Roman salt production sites and Roman settlement. Late Saxon and medieval features were recorded north of the site, during the construction of the western bypass, and the site is located adjacent to the 12th -13th century church of St Mary.

The investigation revealed a ditch and a further large feature at the south end of the site, possibly a former roadside ditch. Both of these were undated but neither appear on maps of 19th century and later date. Both were covered by an agricultural subsoil of perhaps medieval origin, suggesting they predate this.

No finds were retrieved.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr and Mrs P. Coleman for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was co-ordinated by Paul Cope-Faulkner who edited this report along with Gary Taylor.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Paul Cope-Faulkner
 Site Supervisors: Mark Peachey, Jonathon Smith
 Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey
 Illustration: Mark Peachey
 Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

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**

Lane, T, and Morris, EL, 2001 *A Millennium of Saltmaking: Prehistoric and Romano-British Salt Production in the Fenland* Lincolnshire Archaeology and Heritage Reports Series No **4**

OS 1887 *Lincolnshire* Sheet **CXXXIV SE. 6"** map

Wood, M, 2008 *Archaeological Investigations along the Weston Bypass, Weston, Lincolnshire (WBP 01)* unpublished APS report **145/06**

11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

OS Ordnance Survey



Figure 1: General Location Plan



0 500m



Area shown on Fig 3



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Weston High Road WEHR 15

Scale 1: 7500

Drawn by: MJP

Report No: 89 /15

Figure 2. Site location plan

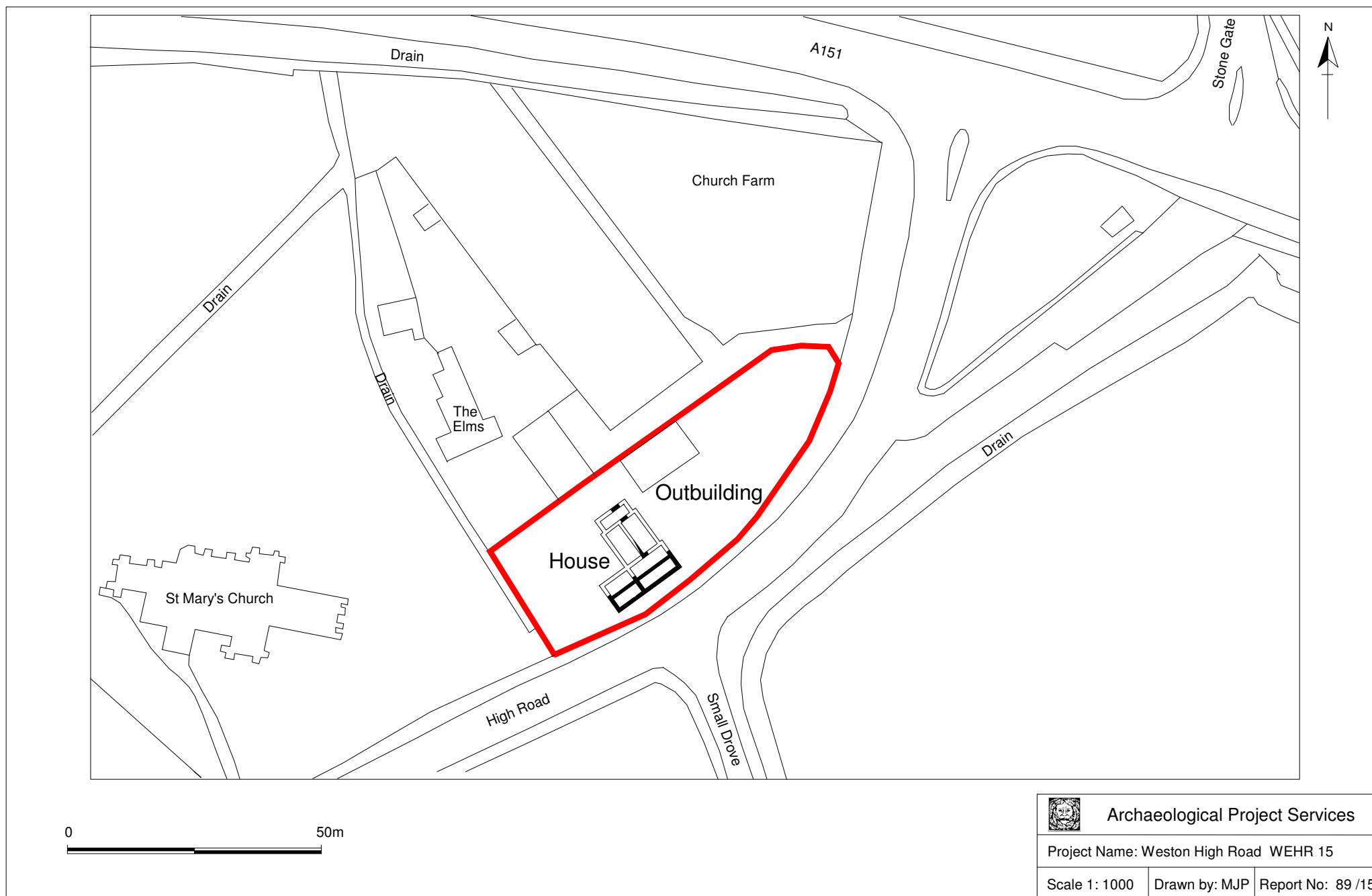


Figure 3. Trench location plan

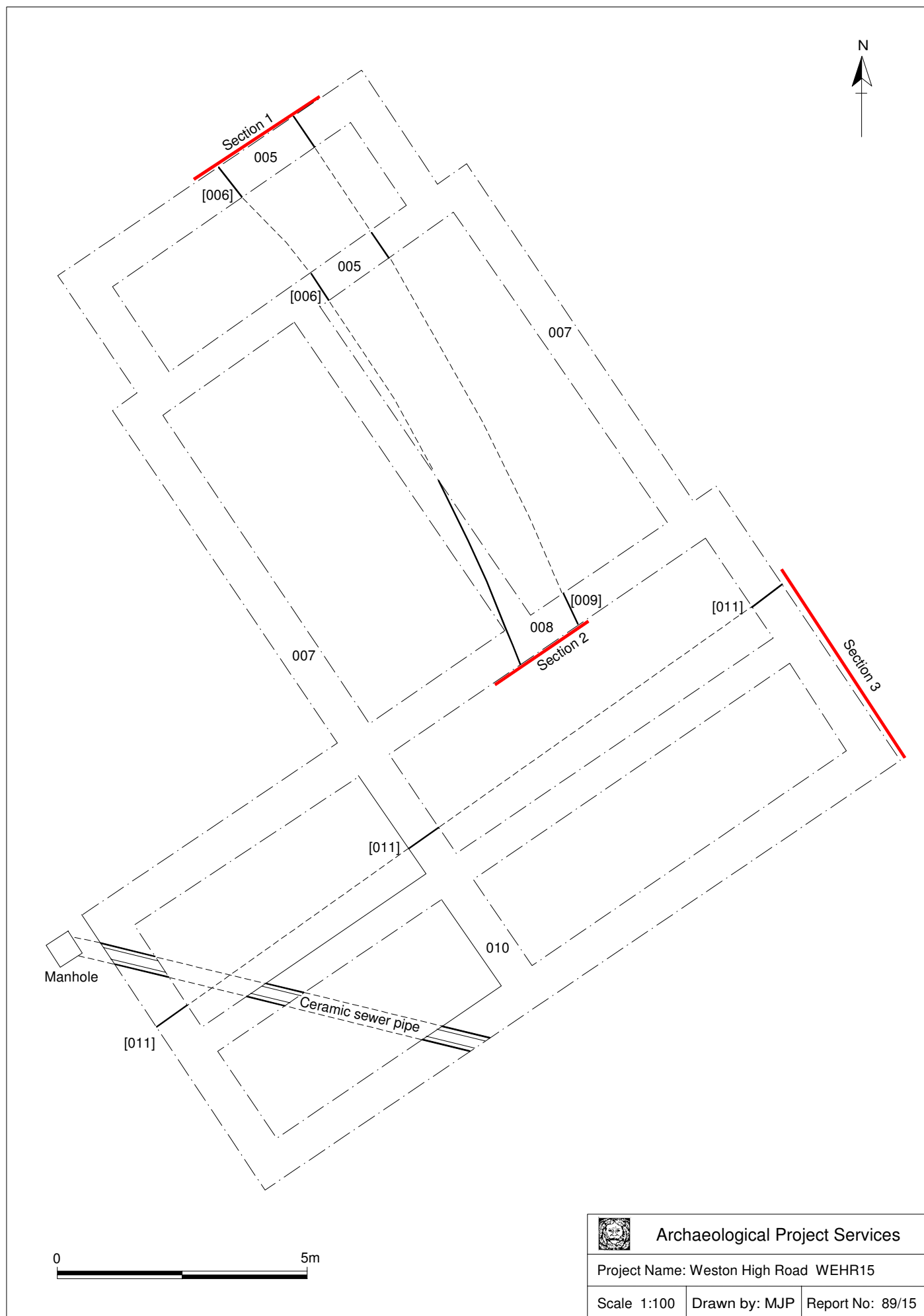
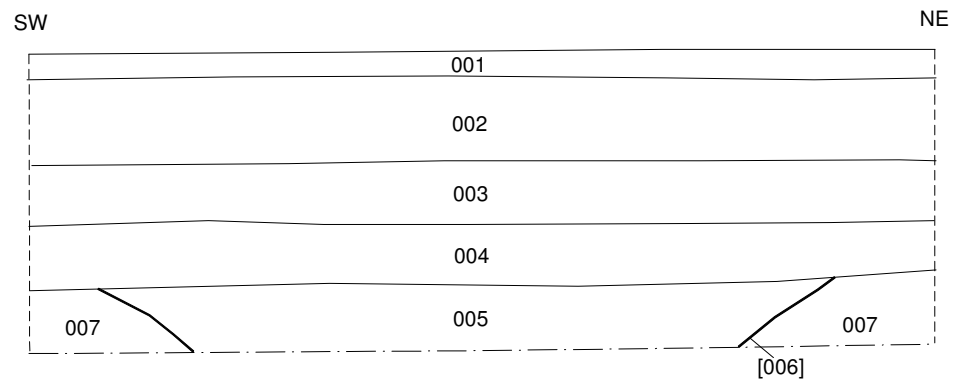
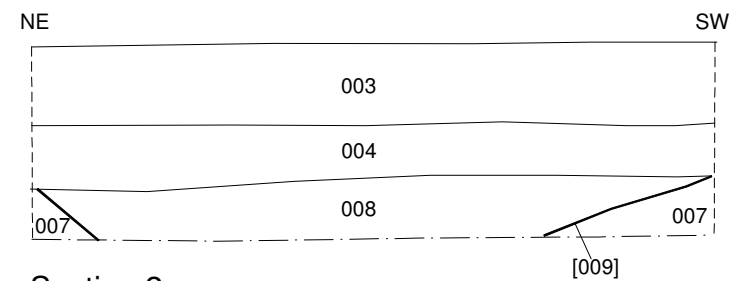


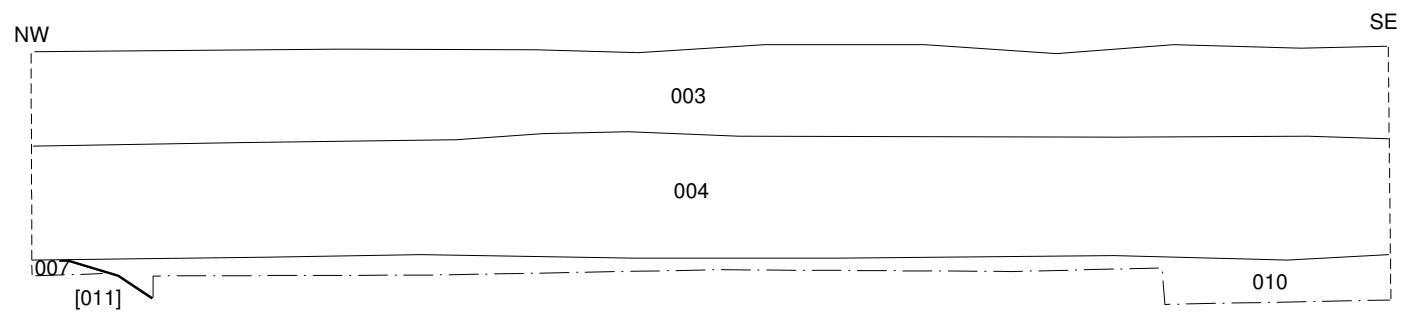
Figure 4. Plan of house footings



Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Weston High Road WEHR 15

Scale 1: 25

Drawn by: MJP

Report No: 89 /15

Figure 5. Sections



Plate 1. View of house plot at start of excavation looking southwest



Plate 2. Ditch [006], Section 1, looking north



Plate 3. Ditch [009], Section 2, looking southeast



Plate 4. Probable ditch [011], Section 3, looking northeast



Plate 5. Overall view of house footings looking west

Appendix 1

CONTEXT SUMMARY

No.	Plot	Description	Interpretation
001	House	Hard light grey concrete, 0.1m thick	Current surface
002	House	Loose red/yellow frogged bricks with sand and gravel, 0.28m thick	Hardcore base for concrete
003	House	Friable dark greyish brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick	Topsoil
004	House	Soft mid brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick	Subsoil
005	House	Soft mid greyish brown sandy silt with rare small rounded to angular stones, at least 0.22m thick	Fill of [006]
006	House	NW-SE aligned linear cut with steep sides, 2.6m wide, at least 0.22m deep	Cut of ditch
007	House	Soft mottled orange/grey sand, at least 0.22m thick	Natural
008	House	Soft mid greyish brown sandy silt with rare small rounded to angular stones, at least 0.2m thick	Fill of [009]
009	House	NW-SE aligned linear cut with steeper NE than SW side, 2.2m wide, at least 0.2m deep	Cut of ditch
010	House	Friable mid greyish brown slightly clayey silt, at least 0.3m thick, machine excavated only to extent of removing tree roots and old services rather than bottomed	Fill of [011],
011	House	SW-NE aligned linear cut, at least 15m long, at least 4.25m wide, at least 0.3m deep, machine excavated only to depth needed for firm enough surface for footings	Possible roadside ditch

Appendix 2

GLOSSARY

Alluvium	Deposits laid down by water. Marine alluvium is deposited by the sea, and fresh water alluvium is laid down by rivers and in lakes.
Briquetage	A coarse ceramic material used to make evaporation vessels and supporting pillars used in extracting salt from seawater.
Context	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, <i>e.g.</i> [004].
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Domesday Survey	A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany, Denmark and adjacent areas.

Appendix 3

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

1	Context register sheet
11	Context record sheets
1	Plan record sheet
1	Section record sheet
2	Daily record sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
2	Sheets of scale drawings

All primary records and finds 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:

The Collection
Art and Archaeology in Lincolnshire
Danes Terrace
Lincoln
LN2 1LP

Accession Number: LCNCC: 2015.72

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: WEHR 15

OASIS record number archaeo11-223944

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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OASIS ID: archaeol1-223944

Project details

Project name	Archaeological monitoring and recording at 89 High Road, Weston, Lincolnshire
Short description of the project	Archaeological monitoring and recording on new house footings revealed a northwest-southeast aligned ditch and a roughly east-west aligned roadside ditch. Although undated, they may be related to remains of Late Saxon and medieval date found on the bypass site immediately to the north.
Project dates	Start: 11-06-2015 End: 16-06-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	WEHR15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	LCNCC:2015.72 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	H22-0494-14 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE SOUTH HOLLAND WESTON 89 High Road
Postcode	PE12 6RA
Study area	1845 Square metres
Site coordinates	

TF 2932 2517 52.808204611828 -0.081233589028 52 48 29 N 000 04 52 W
Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 3m Max: 3m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Project Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Project director/manager	Paul Cope-Faulkner
Project supervisor	Mark Peachey
Project supervisor	Jonathon Smith
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Mr and Mrs P. Coleman

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	The Collection
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	The Collection
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Diary", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at 89 High Road, Weston, Lincolnshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Peachey, M.
Other bibliographic details	89/15
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Project Services Heckington

Place of issue or
publication

Description A4 comb bound

Entered by Mark Peachey (info@apsarchaeology.co.uk)

Entered on 18 September 2015