

**A WATCHING BRIEF AT THE HORSE AND JOCKEY PUBLIC HOUSE,  
113 OLD STREET, LUDLOW, SHROPSHIRE 2013**

by  
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A report for  
Charters Property Ltd

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

**1.1** In July 2013 groundworks were carried out at the Horse and Jockey Public House, 113 Old Street, Ludlow, Shropshire (NGR SO 5144 7440) out as part of the conversion of the former public house to residential dwellings.

**1.2** The development site was located within the historic medieval core of Ludlow as defined by the Central Marches Historic Towns Survey (Historic Environment Record [HER] No. 06293), within a group of tenement plots of medieval date on the east side of Old Street (south of Old Gate), (HER 06247). This southern end of Old Street was called Holdgate Fee in the medieval period, and formed part of the manor of Steventon. It was considered possible that archaeological remains relating to the medieval and later development and occupation of this part of the town might survive within the proposed development site.

**1.3** The groundworks involved the excavation of a foundation trench for a retaining wall running north to south to the rear of the former public house.

**1.4** Because of the potential for archaeological remains it was considered necessary that the groundworks be accompanied by an archaeological watching brief during any ground disturbance. The Archaeology Service, Shropshire Council, was commissioned to undertake the archaeological work.

**1.5** The aim of the watching brief was to allow for the preservation by record of any archaeological remains that might be encountered during the groundworks.

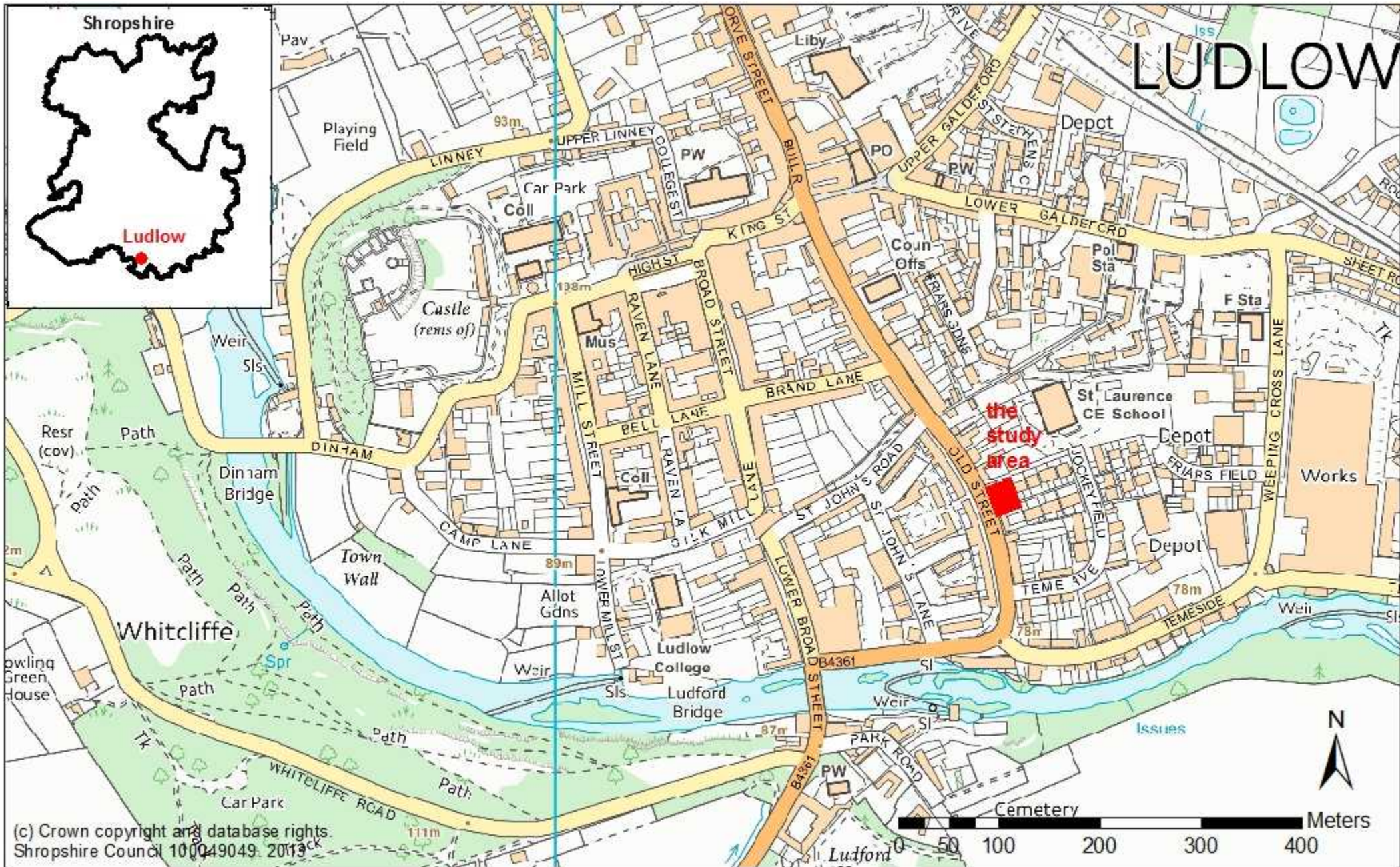
## **2 THE WATCHING BRIEF.**

**2.1** The excavation for the foundation trench for the retaining wall was carried out on 5th July 2013. The excavation employed a mechanical mini-excavator, and was carried out under archaeological supervision.

**2.2** The lowest deposit encountered was a layer of dark grey silty clay (Figure 2; 4) at a depth of 0.7m below the ground surface. This lay beneath a deposit of very dark grey silty sandy loam (3 & 10) up to 0.4m thick. In the northern half of the trench this deposit (3) was only 0.25m thick, and lay beneath a further deposit 0.15m thick (2) of similar material containing mortar flecks. These deposits probably represented soils that had accumulated in a back yard. They lay beneath a further yard soil of very dark grey silty sandy loam (1 & 9) 0.3m thick. Although no artefacts were recovered to date them, the yard deposits were likely to be of post medieval to early 20<sup>th</sup> century in date. The upper yard soil had been cut by a mid- 20<sup>th</sup> century drain trench (8) and a more recent rubbish pit (6).

**2.3** No significant archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the excavations.

**2.4** The excavation of a small pit for a gas connection in the lane on the north boundary of the property was also monitored. Again no archaeological features or deposits were seen here.



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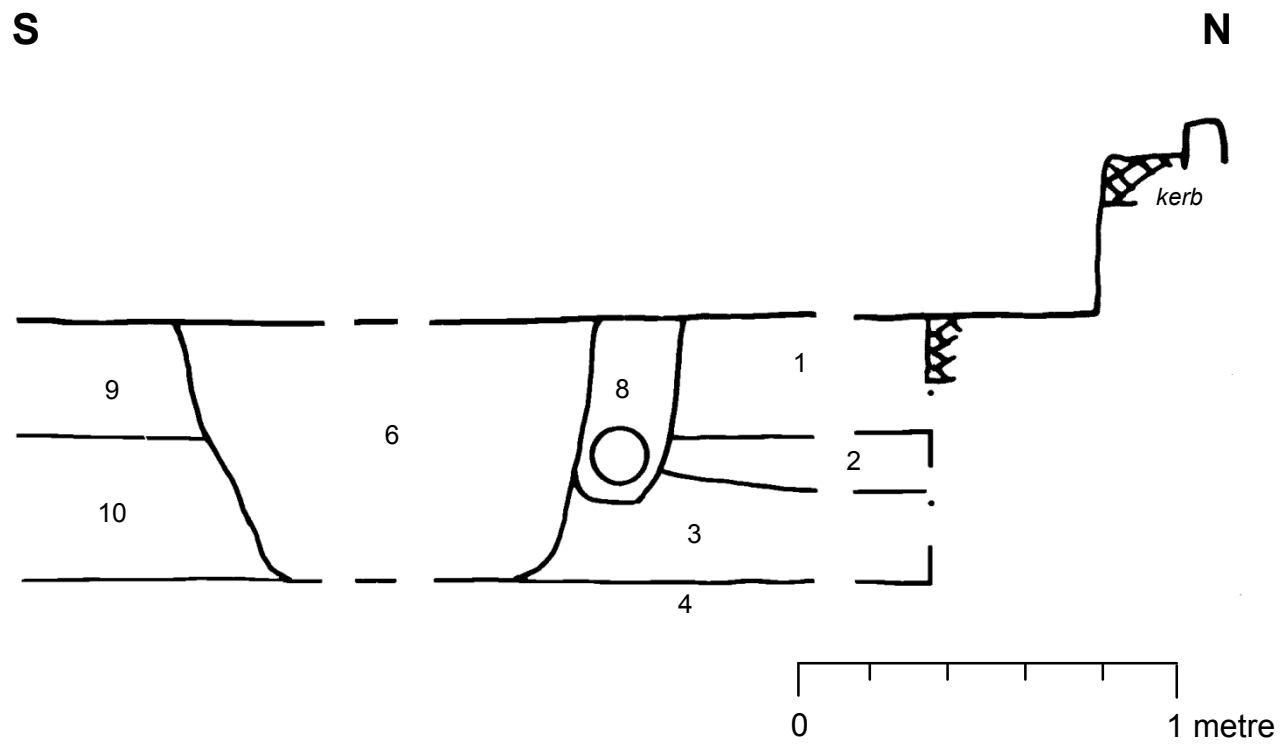
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Figure 1: The location of the study area



**Archaeology Service**

Shropshire Council  
Historic Environment Team, Business Growth & Prosperity,  
Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND  
1:5,000



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Figure 2: Part of the east-facing section of the new retaining wall foundation trench; scale 1:20



Photo 1: The development site, looking SW



Photo 2: The deposits at the N end of the foundation trench, looking W, scale 1m



Photo 3: The deposits at the S end of the foundation trench, looking NW, scale 1m