

**Report on an Archaeological Evaluation on Land to Rear of
No. 3 Top Street, Appleby Magna
LEICESTERSHIRE**

Tina Roushannafas

2014

Project Code – AMT

TPA Report No. 125/2014




Overview of Trench 2 looking East

Trent & Peak Archaeology
Unit 1, Holly Lane
Chilwell
Nottingham
NG9 4AB
Tel: 0115 896 7400
Email: trentpeak@yorkat.co.uk



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Prepared by	Tina Roushannafas
Date	24/10/2014
Checked by	S J Malone
Signed	
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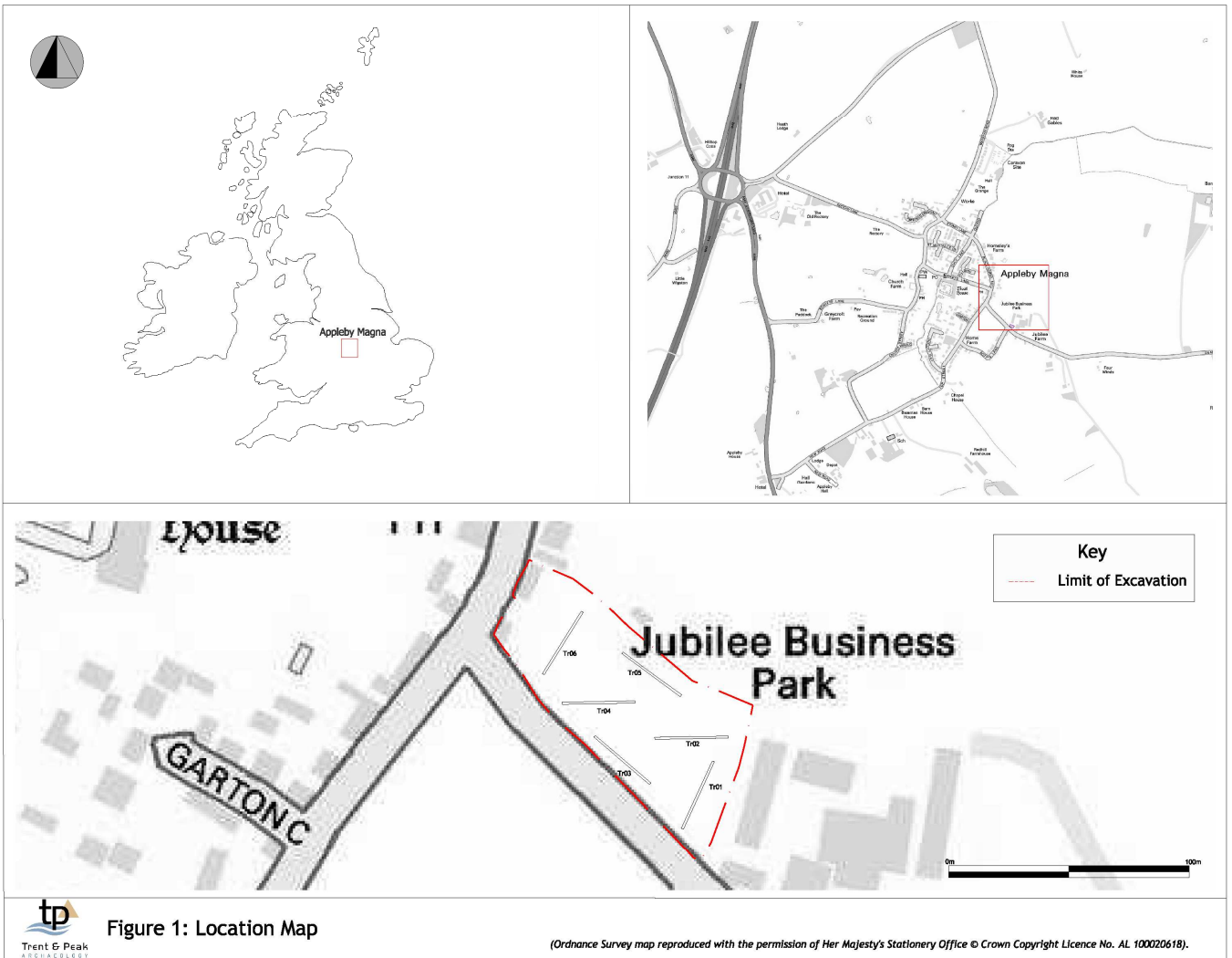
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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Trent & Peak Archaeology was contracted by Mr and Mrs Kavanagh to conduct an archaeological evaluation prior to the submission of planning application for a residential development. The designated area of investigation covered land at, and to the rear of, No. 3 Top Street, Appleby Magna, a village in North West Leicestershire, less than 10 miles north-east of Tamworth
- 1.2 The aim of the evaluation was to provide information for an assessment of the potential impact of development on any cultural heritage resources and, ultimately, to inform decisions relating to any future use of the land. The evaluation took place over three days, on the 8th -10th of October 2014.
- 1.3 To provide a basis for this decision, six evaluation trenches measuring 30 x 1.6m were dug. These were designed to give adequate coverage of the area of proposed development. Investigation sought to rapidly assess the nature, extent and significance of any sub-surface archaeological remains uncovered.



2. PROJECT BACKGROUND

2.1 In advance of the submission of planning application for No. 3 Top Street, Mr and Mrs Kavanagh commissioned a heritage assessment and rapid building appraisal from Archaeological Building Recording services (ABRS 2014). This report advised that a conditioned program of archaeological attendance, agreed by Leicestershire County Council following approval, might be required. It was noted that the area was un-attested archaeologically. Following this Trent and Peak Archaeology were contracted to conduct an archaeological evaluation in the area of proposed development, prior to submission of the application. In advance of the trial trenching Trent & Peak Archaeology prepared a detailed specification (Written Scheme of Investigation), submitted to, and approved by, the Principal Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council..

3. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 While the village name contains the Latin affix '*magna*' (great), which distinguishes it from its little sister Appleby *Parva* (little), it also contains the Old Norse suffix '*bý*'. This is usually translated as 'farmstead', in this case *farmstead or village where apple trees grow* (Mills 2011). The village's origins can therefore probably be traced back to the time of the Danelaw and it appears in the Domesday Book. However, no sites or finds of earlier than medieval date have been recorded within the village itself although these are known in the wider landscape.

3.2 There are a large number of confirmed sites known to date from the medieval period recorded by the HER. The village is centred upon the moated site of a medieval manor house, known as Moat House (HER Ref MLE 4259. This seat was held by the knighted Appleby family from the mid 12th to the 17th century and lies approximately 150 metres north-west of the proposed development area. Moat House and its environs is a Scheduled Monument (SAM 1011458). Further earthworks associated with the moated site, and with more extensive medieval settlement west of the Church of Saint Michael's and All Angels, have also been recorded.

3.3 Medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered from Meadowbrook Court (HER Ref MLE 8587) during an archaeological watching brief in 1999 (Event Nos ELE5374 & ELE5375). A further archaeological watching brief carried out at Top Street, adjacent to Garton Court (Event No ELE6026) observed various pieces of post-medieval glass and pottery (HER Ref MLE 17637). The bedrock geology of the area is Bromsgrove Sandstone.

4. OBJECTIVES

4.1 The digging of the trial trenches and subsequent excavation and recording sought to establish the extent, nature and importance of sub-surface archaeological deposits which could be affected by development at No. 3 Top Street. The evaluation was undertaken prior to the submission of planning application as a means of providing a basis for an assessment of the impact of the proposals on any cultural heritage resources. This assessment, in turn, is designed to inform decisions on the development of the land and help establish what mitigation works might be required.

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 Six evaluation trenches measuring 30mx 1.6m were dug using a mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, in order to expose the first significant archaeological horizon. These trenches gave coverage of the whole development including

one focussed towards the road frontage. All archaeological features and suspected features were cleaned, excavated and recorded by hand.

5.2. Trench sections and plans were recorded by scale drawing at a scale of 1:20 and 1:50 and by digital and black and white (35mm) photographic images.

5.3 All recorded layers and archaeological features, fills and deposits were given a unique context number, with the first digit of each context number representing the trench it came from. For example (1000) was assigned to the topsoil for Trench 1.

5.4 To ensure the required standards were met, the work was undertaken in close consultation with the requirement of the local planning authority and to standards set out by the IFA (2008).

6. RESULTS

Trench 1

6.1 Trench 1 was located in the south-east of the development area and was oriented NNE-SSW. The topsoil, (1000), was recorded as a 250mm thick, mid greyish-brown clay-silt with occasional inclusions of sub-rounded stones and CBM. A 300mm thick layer of subsoil (1001) was also encountered which comprised a light brown fine clay-silt with a medium compaction and containing sub-rounded stones (10-40mm) and occasional flecks of charcoal. Once these soils were removed, a light pinkish-brown, heavily compacted, slightly silty clay was revealed (1002). Lighter patches of clay were noted within this layer, but judged non-archaeological. This material was recognised as the natural superficial geology and the stripping of soils ceased at this depth. Two plough furrows were noted running across the trench on a NE/SW alignment. These were between 2.20-3.25m wide and 4.65m apart and may represent the results of medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow ploughing. It is unclear why ploughing has only affected this trench.

Trench 2

6.2 Trench 2 was located towards the north-east of the development area and was oriented east-west. The topsoil, (2000), was recorded as a 250mm thick, mid greyish-brown sandy silt with occasional inclusions of sub-rounded stones and CBM. A 250mm thick layer of subsoil (2001) was encountered below it, which comprised a light brown fine clay-silt with a medium compaction and containing sub-rounded stones (20-40mm) and occasional flecks of charcoal. Once these soils were removed, a light pinkish-brown, heavily compacted, slightly silty clay was revealed (2002). Lighter patches of clay were noted within this layer, but judged non-archaeological. This material was recognised as the natural superficial geology and the stripping of soils ceased at this depth. No features of archaeological interest were revealed in this trench.

Trench 3

6.3 Trench 3 was located towards the west of the development area and was oriented north-west to south-east. The topsoil, (3000), was recorded as a 250mm thick, mid greyish-brown sandy silt with occasional inclusions of sub-rounded stones and CBM. Beneath this, a 300mm thick layer of subsoil (3001) was observed, which comprised a light brown clay-silt with a medium compaction and containing sub-rounded stones (10-40mm) and occasional flecks of charcoal. Once these soils were removed, a light pinkish-brown, heavily compacted, slightly silty clay was revealed with occasional inclusions of sub-rounded stones (3002). This material was recognised as the natural superficial geology and the stripping of soils ceased at this depth. No features of archaeological interest were revealed in this trench.

Trench 4

6.4 Trench 4 was situated towards the centre and west of the development area and was oriented east-west. The topsoil, (4000), was recorded as a layer of 250mm thick, dark brownish-grey sandy silt with occasional inclusions of sub-rounded stones and CBM. A 300-400mm thick layer of subsoil (4001) was observed below it, which comprised a light brown clay-silt with a medium compaction and containing sub-rounded stones (10-40mm) and occasional flecks of charcoal. Once these soils were removed, a light pinkish-brown, heavily compacted, slightly silty clay was revealed with occasional inclusions of sub-rounded stones (4002). This material was recognised as the natural superficial geology and the stripping of soils ceased at this depth.

6.5 The machine stripping of soils revealed feature [4003], which excavation established to be a U-shaped linear ditch running NE/SW across the trench and measuring 1.70m wide and 600mm deep. This ditch contained fill (4004), a mid to dark brown silty clay which was moderately compacted and contained occasional charcoal and fragments of brick. Also within was a small piece (5g weight) of a rim of glazed coarse earthenware, probably dating from the 17th or 18th century, as well as an undated, heavily abraded piece of roof tile (45g). It is possible that [4003] represents a disused field boundary.

Trench 5

6.6 Trench 5 was situated in the north of the investigation area and was oriented north-west to south-east. The topsoil, (5000), was recorded as 250mm thick, mid greyish-brown clay-silt with a loose compaction and occasional inclusions of sub-rounded stones and CBM. Beneath lay a 250-300mm thick subsoil (5001), recorded as a light brown silty clay with a medium compaction and containing sub-rounded stones (10-50mm) and occasional flecks of charcoal. The natural (5002) was observed to be a light pinkish brown silty clay with heavy compaction and occasional sub-rounded stones (10-50mm) diameter.

6.7 The stripping of soils revealed feature [5003] through which an investigatory slot was dug. [5003] was found to be a U-shaped linear ditch on a NE/SW alignment, which dipped slightly at the centre. The ditch measured 3.20m wide and 900mm deep and contained two fills. The primary fill (5004), which was 180mm thick, consisted of a dark reddish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and pea gravel inclusions. The upper fill (5005), which was 220mm thick, comprised a mid brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded stones (10-50mm) and charcoal flecks. It also contained a body sherd (87x63mm; 48g weight) of Chilvers Coton pottery, manufactured in Warwickshire during the 14th and 15th century and often traded into north-west Leicestershire.

6.8 It is possible that [4003] and [5003] represent cuts in the same ditch, and that the ditch widened, or is better preserved, as it came further north-east. This theory may be reinforced by the similarity of the fills (4004) and (5005). If this was a field boundary with a long period of usage, potentially subject to later plough disturbance, the differences in pottery date, based as they are on only single sherds, need not discount this.

Trench 6

6.9 Trench 6 was situated in the west of the investigation area at the rear of the buildings fronting Top Street and was oriented north-east to south-west. The topsoil, (6000), was recorded as 100mm thick, mid greyish-brown clay-silt with a loose compaction and occasional inclusions of sub-rounded stones and CBM. About 20m along the trench to the south-west, this gave way to a layer designated as 'modern dump' which, according to the landowner, was deposited around twenty years ago. Beneath the subsoil was a 300mm thick subsoil (6001) consisting of a light brown silty clay with a medium compaction and containing sub-

rounded stones (10-50mm) and occasional flecks of charcoal. The natural (6002) was observed to be a light pinkish brown silty clay with heavy compaction and occasional sub-rounded stones (10-50mm) diameter.

6.10 Uncovering the first archaeological horizon revealed a linear ditch [6003] running NW/SE. This U-shaped ditch measured 1.25m wide and 700mm deep. It contained fill (6004), a mid brown compacted silty clay with sub-rounded stones (10-50mm) and frequent charcoal flecking. No artefactual material was recovered from this feature.

6.11 It may be noted that [5003] and [6003] are of a similar morphology and have similar dimensions. Given that they run perpendicular to one another, it may be suggested that they, along with possibly [4003], are part of the same field system.

6.12 Another feature investigated in Trench 6 was found to be of substantial size. On observing a significant change in the bed of the trench, a box-cut 1.60m wide by 400mm deep was made, revealing a steeply sloping cut [6005] which appeared to continue down to some depth. A mechanical excavator was then used to cut one metre below the stripped surface at the south-west terminus of the trench. This box section suggested that the cut continued beyond the limit of the evaluation trench and at considerable depth. The size and potential excessive depth of this feature meant that it was not investigated further. It is interpreted as a possible quarry pit. The quarry cut [6005] contained two fills, the primary fill (6006) consisting of a mid brown clay silt with a firm compaction and frequent inclusions of charcoal and stones (1-10mm). The upper fill (6007) was interpreted as re-deposited natural and contained crushed CBM, clay and stone, possibly representing deliberate in-filling at a later stage.

6.13 The quarrying theory may be supported by the fact that the bedrock geology in this area consists of Bromsgrove sandstone. This type of sandstone is easily worked and extracted and was frequently used to build churches in the past. Indeed the local 14th century church, St Michael and All Angels, as well as listed residential dwellings from the 18th century, also in Appleby Magna, were built from this sandstone (NERC 2014).

7. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Trenches 1, 4, 5 & 6 exhibited evidence of human activity. Trench 1 contained evidence of ridge and furrow ploughing. The features in Trenches 4, 5 and 6 consisted of linear ditches which are interpreted as field boundaries. It is suggested on the basis of their alignment, morphology and fills that they are contemporary, or at least nearly so, and probably dug as part of the same field system.

7.2 Pottery recovered from within linear ditch cuts in Trenches 4 and 5 consisted of a 17th/18th century piece of coarse earthenware and a 14th/15th century sherd of Chilvers Coton ware respectively. As noted above, if these were indeed field boundaries with a long period of usage, potentially subject to later plough disturbance, the differences in pottery date need not discredit the theory that these are contemporary features.

7.3 There is also the possibility of quarrying activity of unknown date on this site, as suggested by the substantial cut observed in Trench 6. This theory is supported by the suitability for and local use of, the underlying bedrock geology of Bromsgrove sandstone for building

7.4 Given that there are few, if any, records of archaeological evidence dating prior to the Medieval period in this area, any Prehistoric, Roman or Anglo-Saxon remains found would have carried high significance. As it is, the evaluation uncovered no evidence of human activity prior to the medieval period.

7.6 It may be that the agricultural use of the land and ploughing evidenced may have disturbed or destroyed prehistoric features. Furthermore the signs of potential quarrying in Trench 6 suggest that deposits in this part of the site may have undergone significant

disturbance. Health and safety concerns prevented the full investigation of this quarrying activity.

7.7 It is concluded that evidence of human activity is only clearly visible as relating to agricultural activity of medieval/post-medieval date, although the potential of quarrying activities being carried out in this area should be considered in future research.

7.8 The results of this evaluation should provide the information required regarding impact on archaeological cultural heritage resources by the proposed residential development.

References:

BGS, 2012 *Geology of Britain Viewer*, <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology>

NERC, 2014 *English Heritage County Building Stone Atlases*

Emery, A. 2000 *Greater Medieval Houses of England and Wales, 1300-1500: Volume 2, East Anglia, Central England and Wales*, Cambridge University Press

Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) 2008 *Standard and Guidance: for archaeological field evaluation*, (published October 1994, revised September 2001 and October 2008).

Knight, D., Vyner, B. and Allen C. 2012 *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*

Mills, A.D. 2011 *A Dictionary of British Place Names*, Oxford University Press

Appendix 1. Summary context list

Context	Trench	Context type	Interpretation	Description	Dimensions
(1000)	1	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish-brown clay-silt	~250mm thick
(1001)	1	Layer	Subsoil	Light brown clay-silt	~300mm thick
(1002)	1	Layer	Natural	Light pinkish-brown slightly silty clay. Heavily compacted.	Unknown
(2000)	2	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish-brown sandy silt	~250mm thick
(2001)	2	Layer	Subsoil	Light brown clay-silt	~250mm thick
(2002)	2	Layer	Natural	Light pinkish-brown slightly silty clay. Heavily compacted.	Unknown
(3000)	3	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish-brown clay-silt	~200mm thick
(3001)	3	Layer	Subsoil	Light brown clay-silt	~300mm thick
(3002)	3	Layer	Natural	Light pinkish-brown silty clay. Heavily compacted.	Unknown
(4000)	4	Layer	Topsoil	Dark brownish-grey sandy silt	~250mm thick
(4001)	4	Layer	Subsoil	Light brown clay-silt	300-400mm thick
(4002)	4	Layer	Natural	Light pinkish-brown silty clay. Heavily compacted.	Unknown
[4003]	4	Cut	Cut of NE/SW aligned linear		W:1700mm D:600mm
(4004)	4	Fill	Fill of [4003]	Mid-dark brown silty clay.	600mm thick
(5000)	5	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish-brown clay-silt	~250mm thick
(5001)	5	Layer	Subsoil	Light brown silty clay	250-300mm thick
(5002)	5	Layer	Natural	Light pinkish-brown silty clay. Heavily compacted.	Unknown
[5003]	5	Cut	Cut of NE/SW aligned linear		W:3200mm, D:900mm
(5004)	5	Fill	Primary fill of [5003]	Dark reddish brown silty clay	180mm thick
(5005)	5	Fill	Upper fill of [5003]	Mid brown silty clay	720mm thick
(6000)	6	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish-brown clay-silt	100mm thick
(6001)	6	Layer	Subsoil	Light brown clay-silt	300mm thick
(6002)	6	Layer	Natural	Light pinkish-brown slightly silty clay. Heavily compacted.	Unknown
[6003]	6	Cut	NW/SE aligned linear		W:1250mm, D:700mm
(6004)	6	Fill	Fill of [6003]	Mid brown silty clay	D:700mm
[6005]	6	Cut	Cut of quarry		Unknown
(6006)	6	Fill	Primary fill of [6005]	Mid brown clay-silt	Unknown
(6007)	6	Fill	Upper fill of [6005]	Redeposited natural and CBM	~300mm thick
(6008)	6	Layer	Modern dump	Recent dumped material	400-500mm thick

Appendix 2. Figures



Figure 2 Overview of Trench 1 Looking South



Figure 3 Representative section of strata in Trench 1



Figure 4 Overview of Trench 2 Looking West



Figure 5 Overview of Trench 3 Looking West



Figure 6 Overview of Trench 4 Looking NE



Figure 7 North facing section of [4003] + (4004)



Figure 8 Overview of Trench 5 Looking East



Figure 9 North Facing Section of [5003]



Figure 10 Overview of Trench 6 Looking N



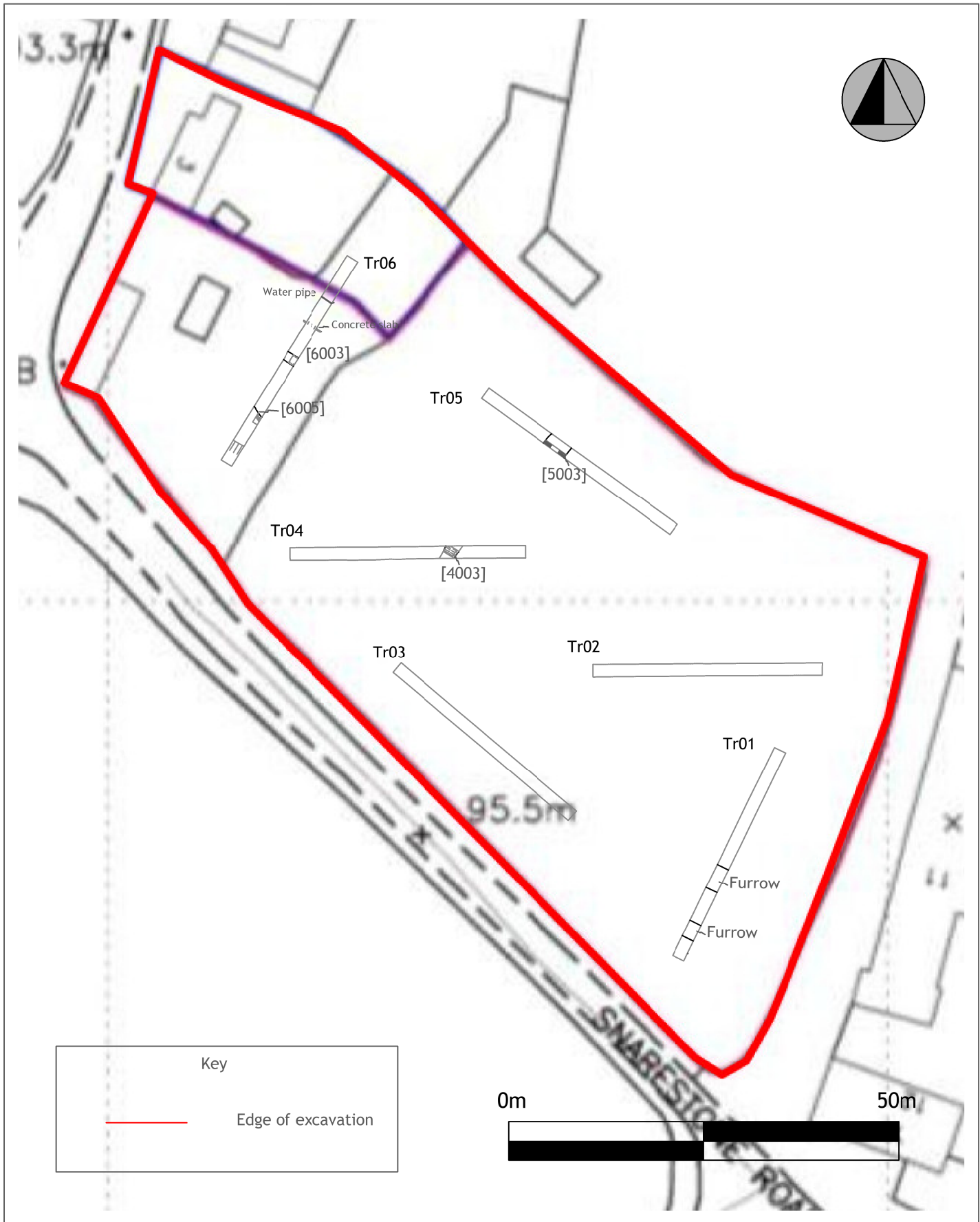
Figure 11 East Facing Section of [6003]



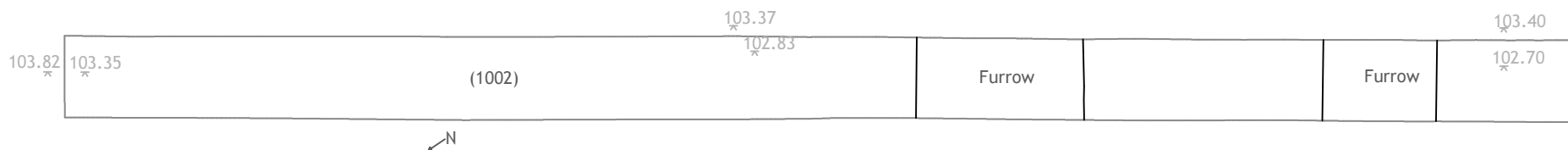
Figure 12 West Facing Section of [6005]



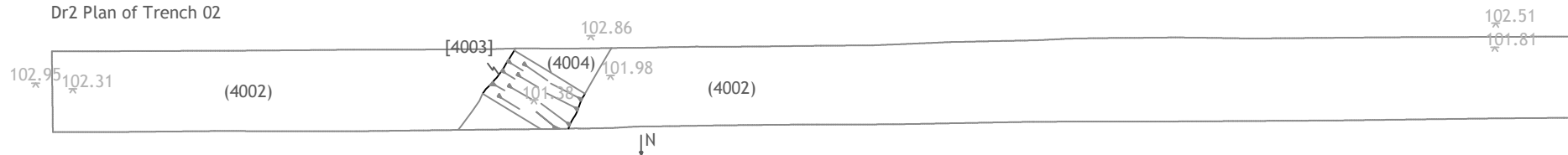
Figure 13 Cut demonstrating depth at which [6005] continues



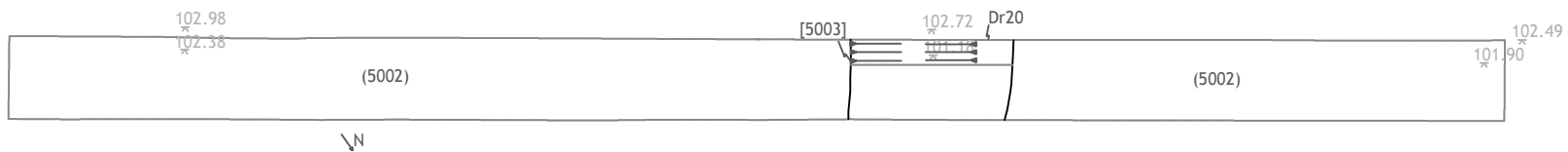
Dr1 Plan of Trench 01



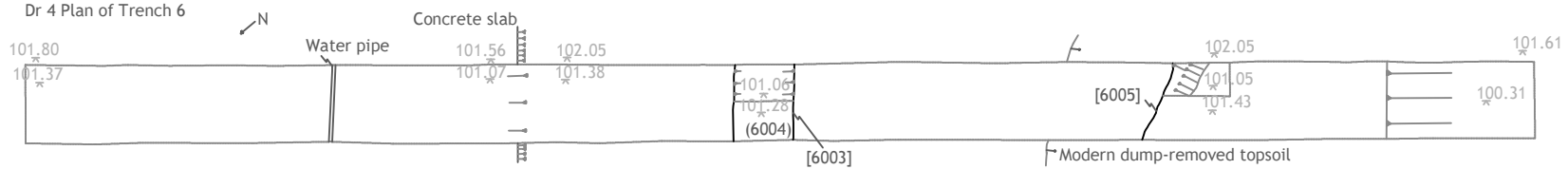
Dr2 Plan of Trench 02



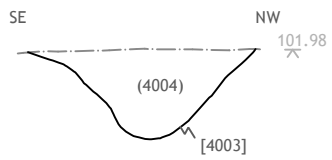
Dr3 Plan of Trench 5



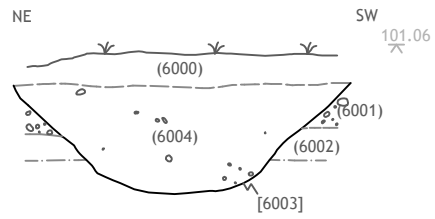
Dr 4 Plan of Trench 6



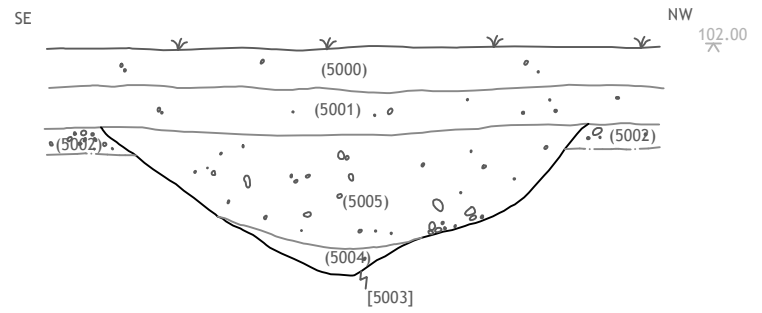
Dr1 NE Facing Section of [4003]



Dr 2 NW Facing section of [6003]



Dr3 NE Facing Section of [5003]



Appendix 3. Written Scheme of Investigation

No 3 Top Street (& Land Rear Of), Appleby Magna, Leicestershire

Project Design and Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation (Trial Trenching)

Project Code: AMT

2014

Report Number 116/2014

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Figure 1 Location of the site and proposed trench layout.

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

Site Name: Land at Top Street, Appleby Magna, Leicestershire.

NGR: SK 31858 09704

Client/Agent: Mr & Mrs Kavanagh

Planning Application No.: Archaeological evaluation is being undertaken prior to submission of a planning application in order to inform decision making and to establish what mitigation works might be required.

Brief: Leicestershire County Council Brief for Archaeological Field Evaluation

Proposed Development: Residential Development.

Geology: Bedrock: Tarporely Siltstone Formation - Siltstone, Mudstone and Sandstone. (BGS Geology Viewer)

Previous Archaeological Work: Archaeological Heritage Assessment and Rapid Building Appraisal (ABRS 2014).

No sites or finds of earlier than medieval date have been recorded within the village itself although these are known in the wider landscape. The village is mentioned in the Domesday Book and therefore likely to have Saxon origins. There are a large number of confirmed sites known to date from the medieval period recorded by the HER. The village is centred upon the moated site of a medieval manor house, known as Moat House (HER Ref MLE 4259), approximately 150 metres north west of the proposed development area. Moat House and its environs is a Scheduled Monument (SAM 1011458). Further earthworks associated with the moated site and with more extensive medieval settlement west of the Church of Saint Michael's and All Angels have also been recorded.

Medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered from Meadowbrook Court (HER Ref MLE 8587) during an archaeological watching brief in 1999 (Event Nos ELE5374 & ELE5375). A further archaeological watching brief carried out at Top Street, adjacent to Garton Court (Event No ELE6026) observed various pieces of post-medieval glass and pottery (HER Ref MLE 17637).

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1. *The objective of the archaeological evaluation can be stated as:*

2.1.1 To characterise the archaeological potential of the site of the proposed development. This will provide the basis for an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the cultural heritage resource.

2.1.2 Any buried archaeological remains relating to the medieval and later settlement identified beneath the proposed redevelopment area, would offer an opportunity to address research priorities for the Medieval and Post-Medieval periods highlighted in the recent East Midlands Updated Research Agenda and Strategy (Knight, Vyner and Allen 2012).

2.1.3 There are few, if any, records of earlier (Prehistoric, Roman or Anglo-Saxon) remains in the vicinity. Any such remains, depending on their nature, could also be highly significant. The significance of the discovery would depend on the coherence of the remains that were recovered. All features recorded

and excavated as well as artefacts recovered will be analysed in the light of the research agenda set out

in the above.

2.1.4 All excavations potentially provide an opportunity to recover palaeoenvironmental samples which contribute to an understanding of the nature of the landscape and the uses to which it was put. If appropriate archaeology is identified then a representative proportion of excavated features will be sampled in line with the methodology set out in Appendix 1. The results of processing and analysis will be assessed in the light of the research objectives set out above.

2.2. The proposed archaeological fieldwork can be summarised as:

2.2.1 **Trenching:** Six trial/evaluation trenches measuring 30m x 1.6m will be excavated giving coverage of the whole proposed development site, including two focussed towards the road frontage. To ensure the required standards are met, the work will be undertaken in close consultation with the requirement of the local planning authority and to standards set out by the IFA (2008a, 2008b).

2.2.2 The trial trench evaluation will rapidly establish the depth at which the sensitive archaeological horizon lies. The evaluation will aim to establish the presence, extent, nature and importance of the sub-surface archaeological deposits. All the above detailed elements will be reported upon in a single concise report, with recommendations for further work if necessary.

2.2.3 Trench positions will be agreed with the Development Control Archaeologist on the basis of this document. Trenches will be located in the field by GPS/Total Station prior to machining and their final positioning will take account of surface topography, services/safety requirements and all existing site features.

2.2.4 All recording will result in 'the preparation of a report and ordered archive', in line with the guidelines of the IFA Institute for Field Archaeologists (*Standard and Guidance: for archaeological field evaluation*, 2008)

2.2.6 The fieldwork and the report will aim to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological deposits and their significance, value and extent as set out in English Heritage, MoRPHE, 2008. Where archaeological deposits are present the report will aim to inform on the need for, scope and resourcing of future investigation as set out in English Heritage, MoRPHE 2008.

3. PROJECT TIMETABLE

3.1.1 The machining, recording and backfilling of the trenches will occur over a period of 3-4 days at times to be agreed with the client. Currently it is envisaged that the evaluation will take place in October 2014. Timescales will vary relative to the depth and complexity of any archaeological and/or palaeoenvironmental deposits.

3.1.2 Reporting

Report to be supplied within 20 working days after completion of the fieldwork, dependent on the need for specialist contributions.

4. GENERAL PROVISIONS

4.1 **Notice.** Trent & Peak Archaeology will liaise with the clients to ensure access to the site. T&PA will give at least one week's notice of the commencement of works to both the client and the Principal Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council.

4.1.2 **Services.** The client will provide plans of all services within the study area and/or confirm appropriate checks have been completed.

4.1.3 **Environmental Impact Statement.** The client will provide a copy of their Environmental Impact Statement or Risk Assessment in order that T&PA can take appropriate notice of it in the Risk Assessment.

4.1.4 **Base maps.** The client is requested to supply copies (preferably digital) of base maps for Trent

and Peak Archaeology to use in the report and for locating the trenches during fieldwork.

- 4.1.5 *Fencing* At the close of any period of work trenches that have not been backfilled will be fenced off using netlon fencing to prevent access.

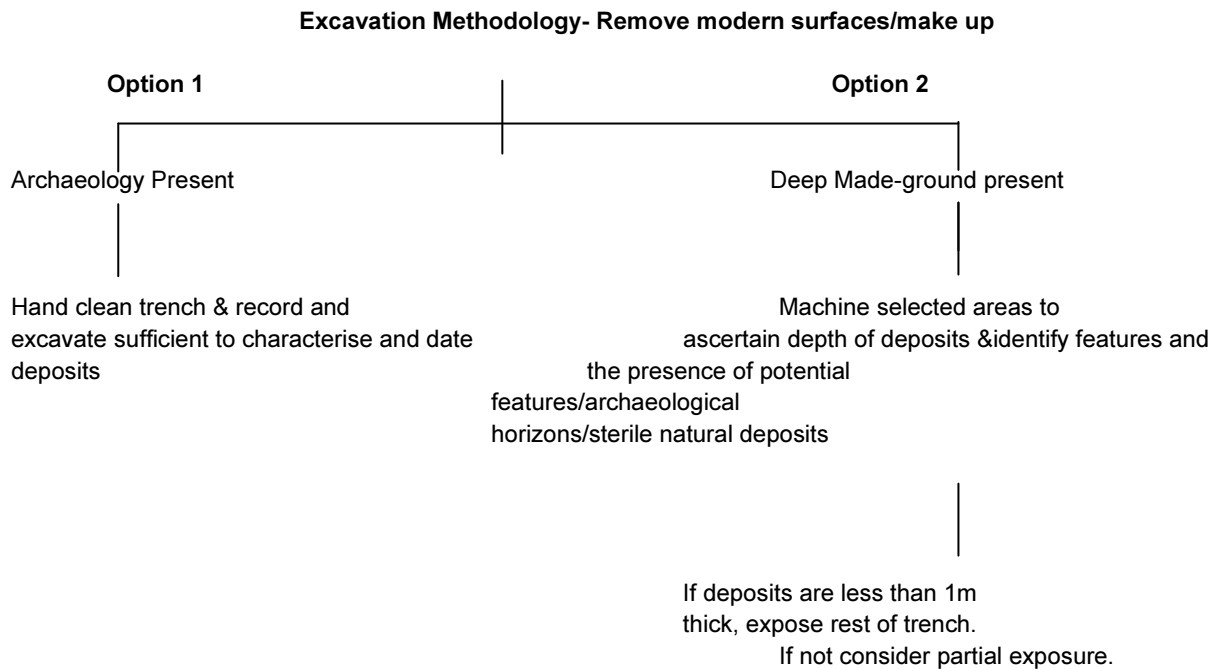
5. DETAILS OF SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

5.1 Trench Excavation

5.1.1 All machining will be done with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. Prior to excavation the area of the trench will be scanned with a CAT Scan to locate any services that are not shown on the services plan supplied by the client.

5.1.2 The trenches and any archaeological features will be located by GPS, Leica CS15/GS15 RTK Differential GNSS prior to excavation. If it is impractical to use GPS the Total Station will be used as an alternative.

5.1.3 Trenches will be excavated to a level at which archaeological deposits are present, or if not present, to a maximum (unsecured) depth of 1.m (see below), to comply with H&S restrictions (or to a perceived safe depth if the sides are stable). Excavation will follow one of two potential sequences depending on the deposits present below modern surfaces.



If it is necessary within the aims of the evaluation to look at deposits deeper than 1m then stepping/shoring of trenches will be carried out as appropriate.

- 5.1.4. Excavated material will be stored on the sides of the trench.
- 5.1.5. The location of any artefacts recovered in the topsoil/subsoil will be recorded three-dimensionally or by context/spit if appropriate.
- 5.1.6. Trenches will be hand cleaned where appropriate and a minimum of one long section of each trench will be photographed, and drawn at 1:50/1:20 (recording will correspondingly increase with the presence of archaeological deposits). The position of each trench will be located with reference to the OS grid.

5.1.7 Where appropriate the depth of potential geological deposits may be determined by a combination of machine excavation and use of a 2m hand auger.

5.1.8 On completion of the fieldwork the trenches will be backfilled by machine in order to make safe; **this will not include full reinstatement.**

5.2 Cleaning/Hand Excavation

5.2.1 All fieldwork will be carried out in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute for Archaeologists.

5.2.2 Archaeological features will be hand-cleaned and planned and then sample excavated sufficient to determine their plan and form, and to recover any datable artefacts.

5.2.3 Feature fills will be removed by contextual change (the smallest usefully definable unit of stratification) and/or in spits no greater than 100mm. Substantial features will be hand excavated to a maximum depth of 1.m, or a perceived safe depth if the sides are unstable.

5.2.4. All finds of medieval date or earlier will be recorded three dimensionally. Post-medieval finds or abundant redeposited structural material will be recorded by context/spit.

5.2.5 Spoil will be searched for artefacts, including the use of a metal detector as appropriate.

5.2.6 In the event of the discovery of human remains disturbance will wherever possible be avoided. Where removal is deemed necessary following discussion with, and the approval of, the client and the Development Control Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council the necessary burial license will be obtained in line with the Ministry of Justice circular dated April 2008.

5.3 Recording and Sampling

5.3.1 Plans of all contexts including features will be drawn on drafting film in pencil at a scale of 1:20/1:50, and will show at least:
context numbers,
all colour and textural changes,
principal slopes represented as hachures,
levels expressed as O.D. values, or levelled to permanent features if a benchmark is absent,
sufficient details to locate the subject in relation to OS 1:2500 mapping.

5.3.2 Sections will show the same information, but levelling information will be given in the form of a datum line with O.D./arbitrary value; the locations of all sections will be shown on plan.

5.3.3 Digital images and B&W photos of each context will be taken (as per Brown 2007) together with general views illustrating the principal features of the excavations.

5.3.4 Written records will be maintained as laid down in TPA recording manual.

5.3.5 Where appropriate features are identified, soil samples will be retrieved in order to undertake palaeo-environmental sampling. The sampling of features will follow procedures set out within the English Heritage Centre of Archaeology Guidelines, *Environmental Archaeology* 2011. Samples will generally be 30litres if possible will be processed within the TPA Environmental Lab, under the supervision of TPA Environmental Officer Alison Wilson.

5.3.6 Depending on the type of deposits identified, soil samples may also be retained for the purposes of retrieving industrial residues or for the provision of scientific dating (e.g. C14 dating). The range of techniques applicable to differing preservation and depositional environments is set out in Appendix 1.

5.3.7 Where it is deemed necessary to take samples for palaeo-environmental analysis, scientific dating, or to identify and interpret industrial processes, the DCC archaeologist will be consulted and a contingency cost may need to be enacted with the client.

5.3.8 Samples will be processed within the TPA Environmental Lab, under the supervision of TPA Environmental Officer Alison Wilson.

5.4 Post-excavation Processing

5.4.1 All finds will be cleaned and stored as recommended in "First aid for finds" (by the Archaeology section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 2nd edition 1987), and marked with the site and find codes, and relevant accession numbers. These will be deposited with the appropriate museum on completion of the report, subject to the provisions of the brief and the agreement of the client.

5.4.2 Depending on availability any Prehistoric pottery will be submitted for assessment to Dr.D.Knight (TPA), Romano-British pottery to (I.M.Rowlandson), Anglo-Saxon/Medieval/Post-medieval pottery/tile to (C. Cumberpatch (Independent)/L. Elliot (TPA)), Industrial Residues (Gerry McDonnell). Other specialists to be decided in liaison with the Planning Archaeologist if required.

5.5 Archive

5.5.1 The archive will be fully indexed and contain where relevant:

- copies of correspondence relating to fieldwork
- site notebooks/diaries
- original photographic records
- site drawings (plans, sections, elevations)
- original context records,
- matrix diagrams showing stratigraphic sequence of all contexts.
- artefacts
- original finds records
- original sample records
- original skeleton records
- computer discs and printout

5.6. Archive and Finds Deposition

5.6.1 Finds will remain the property of the client with deposition to the relevant regional museum subject to their approval. A formal request for transfer of finds to the local museum as part of the site archive will be made. A site archive number will be requested at the set-up stage of the project.

5.6.2 Where necessary the documentary archive will be sent to the NMR for copying.

5.6.3. Finds will remain the property of the client with deposition to the relevant regional museum subject to their approval.

5.6.4 The paper and digital archive generated by TPA will remain the property of the Unit until deposited within the appropriate public archive

5.7 Report

- 5.7.1. A report will be provided to the client 30 working days after the completion of fieldwork, unless delayed by the supply of specialist contributions.
- 5.7.2. The report will include:
- background information, a summary of works carried out, a description and interpretation of the findings, and an assessment of the importance of the archaeology found with an appropriate location plan and illustrations.
- 5.7.3 With the approval of the client the results will be submitted for publication within the annual summary, if applicable, of the local archaeological journal. If significant results are discovered then an individual report of an appropriate level of detail, will also be submitted for publication to a suitable academic journal and a presentation made to local archaeology/history societies or similar bodies.
- 5.7.4 Trent & Peak Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved excepting that it hereby provides exclusive licence to the client and their appointed agent/consultant for the use of such documents in all matters directly relating to the project, with no limitation on the number of times that the client/consultant may reproduce any report.

5.8 Monitoring

- 5.8.1. Where possible a minimum 5 working days prior notice of the commencement of the development is to be given to the Development Control Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council.
- 5.8.2 The Development Control Archaeologist may make monitoring visits throughout the duration of the evaluation and will be kept informed of all material facts relating to the excavation.
- 5.8.3. All phases of the investigation will be undertaken in line with the relevant '*Standard and Guidance*' documents prepared by the IFA.
- 5.8.4 Trenches will only be backfilled after they have been monitored by the Development Control Archaeologist.

5.9 Access, Health & Safety, Insurances.

- 5.9.1. The client will arrange safe access to the land.
- 5.9.2. The client will provide plans showing all services/service routes within the development area.
- 5.9.3. Any compensation claims for disruption to the land should be directly between the client and landowner.
- 5.9.4 All health and safety requirements will be adhered to. The procedures outlined in TPA's manual will be followed, a copy of which is available for inspection if required.
- 5.9.5. TPA will prepare and regularly update risk assessments of archaeological fieldwork and recording tasks for each stage of the archaeological project. Copies of all health and safety documentation prepared for the scheme by TPA will be made available to the client.
- 5.9.6 TPA carries the appropriate insurances, copies of which are available for inspection if required.

5.10 Staffing

Provisional list of staffing. CVs can be supplied on request.

Project Manages/Advisors:

Steve Malone, Project Manager TPA

Project Team, dependant on timetable and availability, staff will be selected from:

Mark Dodd, Project Officer, TPA

Sam Dixon, Project Archaeologist, TPA

6. References

Brown, D. 2007 *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum.

BGS. British Geological survey 2012, *Geology of Britain Viewer*, <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology>

English Heritage Centre of Archaeology Guidelines 2002 *Environmental Archaeology*.

English Heritage 2008 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment, PPN3 Archaeological Excavation*.

Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) 2008 *Standard and Guidance: for archaeological field evaluation*, (published October 1994, revised September 2001 and October 2008).

Knight, Vyner and Allen 2012 *East Midlands Heritage An Updated Research Agenda for the Historic Environment in the East Midlands*, Buxton Press.

7. Key Project Contacts

Dr Steve Malone (TPA- Project Manager/Advisor) 0115 8967405 Mob