



University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Watching Brief
at Highfield,
Church Lane,
Goadby, Leicestershire
(SP 7499 9884)**

Gerwyn Richards



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**An Archaeological Watching Brief
at Highfield, 1 Church Lane,
Goadby, Leicestershire.
(NGR SP 7499 9884)**

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Planning Application: 11/00382/FUL

For: Mr & Mrs Durham.

Checked by

Signed:



Date: 12th August 2011

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Goadby, Leicestershire (SP 7499 9884)**

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Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Durham to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks in advance of the construction of an extension to the rear of Highfield, Church Lane, Goadby, Leicestershire.

The proposed development area had been identified as being of archaeological potential, located within the historic settlement core of the village and adjacent to sites of known archaeological significance. No evidence of archaeological deposits or artefacts was encountered during the course of the watching brief.

The archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council, under the accession number X.A100. 2011.

1. Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Durham to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for the construction of an extension to Highfield, 1 Church Lane, Goadby (SP 7499 9884; *Figures 1 & 2*). The proposed development area was located to the rear of the house at the northern end of Church Lane. The groundworks consisted of the excavation of foundation trenches.

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) indicates that the proposed development area lies in an area of archaeological interest, located within the medieval and post-medieval historic settlement core of the village of Goadby (HER Ref MLE9320). To the east, sharing a boundary with the proposed development area is the medieval Church of St John the Baptist which is likely to have been a focus for settlement and other activity during the medieval and subsequent periods. In addition, evidence of prehistoric activity in the vicinity includes a cropmark thought to represent the buried remains of a Bronze Age ring ditch, approximately 90m to the east of the proposed development area (HER Ref MLE1564).

The Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council as advisor to Harborough District Council advised that the proposed works may have an impact upon buried archaeological remains. In view of this a programme of archaeological attendance was approved. This consisted of a watching brief carried out during the groundworks undertaken by the client's contractors. This work followed Planning Policy Statement 5 (*Planning and the Historic Environment*) (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2010).

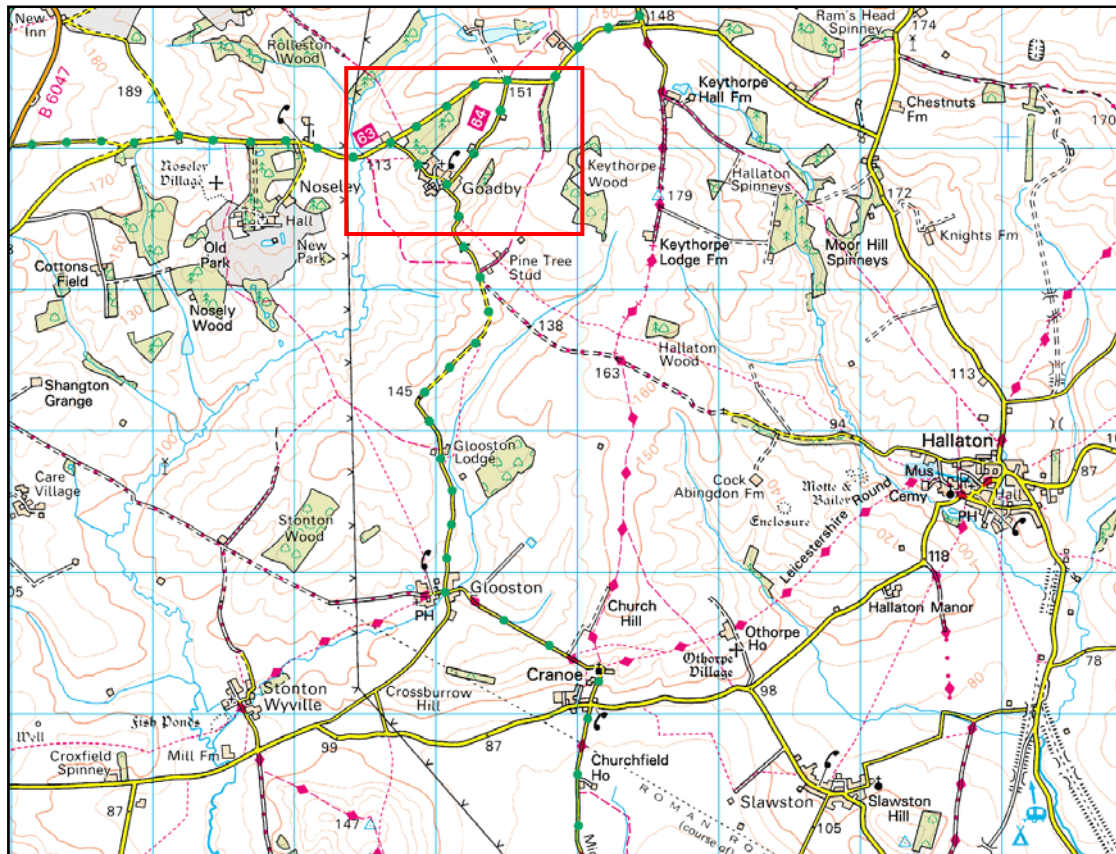


Figure 1. Site location

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2. Aims and Methodology

The aim of the archaeological work, through archaeological inspection and recording of groundworks by the client's contractors, was to:

- To identify the presence/absence of archaeological deposits.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- To record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
- To produce an archive and report of any results

The work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2010) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2008), the *Guidelines for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (LMARS) and adhered to the University's Health and Safety policy. The methodology to be followed was detailed in the *Design Specification for Archaeological work* (ULAS 11-352).

All groundworks were carried out by a 4.5 tonne mini digger fitted with a toothed bucket under continuous archaeological supervision. The exposed substratum was observed and the spoil searched for finds. The watching brief took place on July 21st 2011.

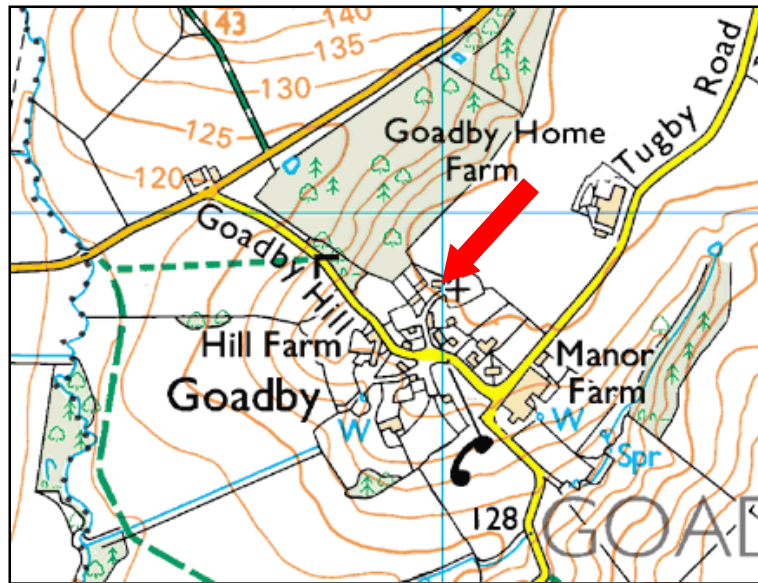


Figure 2 Goadby village centre in detail.

3. Results

The proposed development area is located to the rear of the property, abutting the north facing elevation (*Figures 2 and 5*); part of the proposed development area was recently occupied by a single storey conservatory and garden. A total of five footing trenches were excavated, all 0.5m wide and approximately 1m deep. There was approximately 0.25m of garden soil overlying the undisturbed orange-brown silty clay substrata. All the trenches uncovered the same undisturbed substrata.

Towards the eastern end of the site, concrete footings of the recently demolished conservatory were encountered, it is likely that these would have truncated any potential archaeological remains within this part of the proposed development area.

No remains of archaeological importance were observed within any of the trenches nor were any finds of archaeological significance recovered.

4. Conclusion

The proposed development area occupied a promising location within a rich archaeological landscape within the medieval village of Goadby, but no evidence of archaeological deposits or artefacts were encountered during the course of this watching brief. There was limited evidence of modern ground disturbance which may have truncated any shallow earthfast archaeological remains.

5. Archive & Publication

The site archive consists of:

- 1 A3 permagrah sheet containing section, sketch plan & site notes
- 1 A3 paper plan showing proposed excavations
- 15 Black & White negatives and contact prints
- CD containing 15 digital images
- 1 A4 contact sheet
- 1 A4 watching brief sheet
- Unbound copy of this report (ULAS Report Number 2011-125)

The archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council under the Accession Number X.A100. 2011.

A version of the summary (above) will be published in *Transactions of Leicestershire Historical & Archaeological Society* in due course and placed on the Oasis database.

6. References

Department for Communities and Local Government March 2010, *Planning Policy Statement 5 (Planning and the Historic Environment)*

IfA, 2008 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

IfA, 2010 *Code of Conduct*

ULAS, 2011, *Design Specification for Archaeological work* (ULAS 11-352).

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Figure 3 Representative section in northernmost trench (looking north).



Figure 4 Modern concrete footings in easternmost end of trench (looking east).

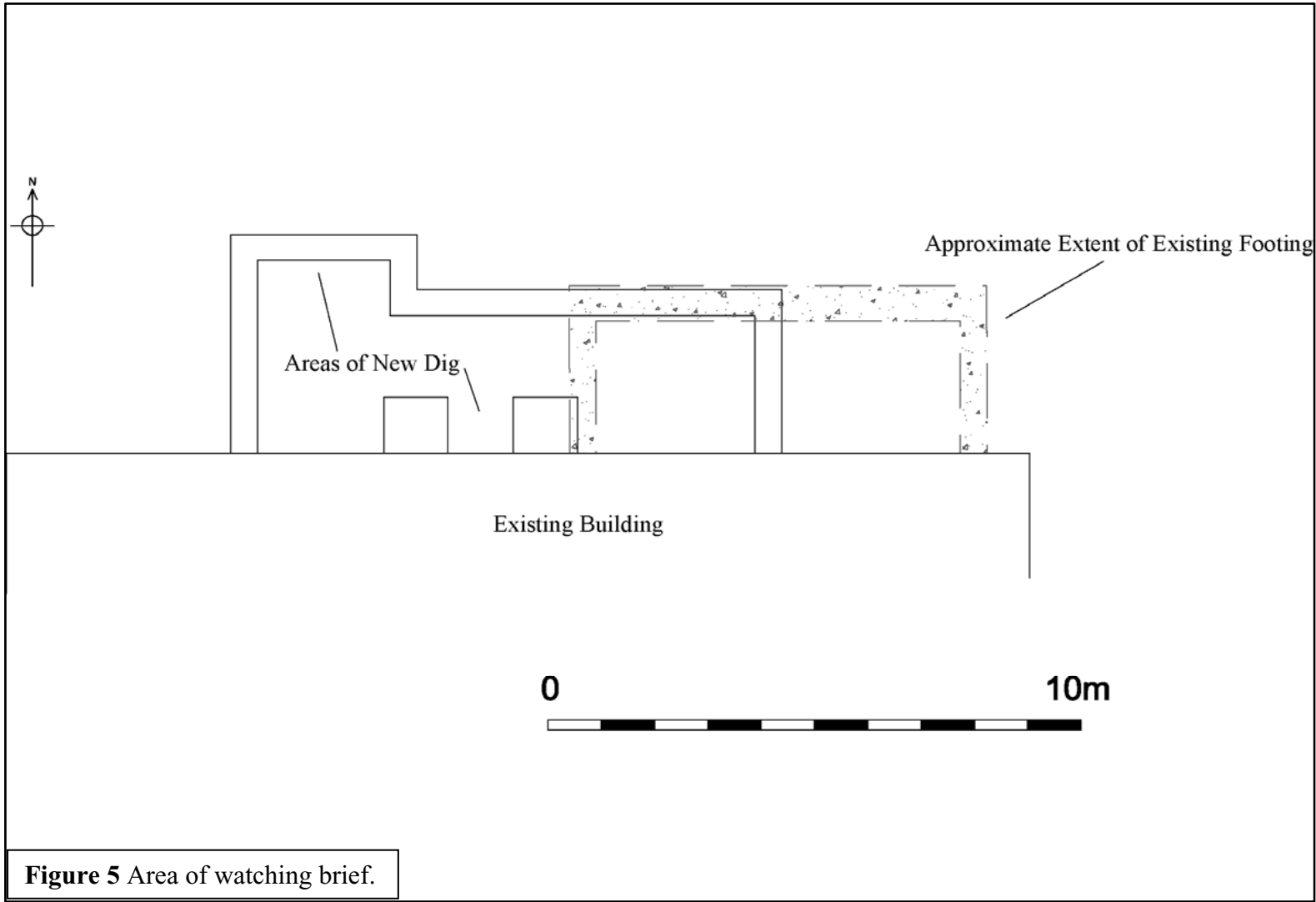


Figure 5 Area of watching brief.

Appendix: Oasis Record

INFORMATION REQUIRED	EXAMPLE
Project Name	Highfield
Project Type	Watching Brief
Project Manager	Vicki Score
Project Supervisor	Gerwyn Richards
Previous/Future work	Previous: None. Future: None
Current Land Use	Garden
Development Type	Residential
Reason for Investigation	PPS5
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	SP 7499 9884
Start/end dates of field work	July 2011
Archive Recipient	LMARS
Height min/max	150mOD
Study Area	N/A
Finds	None

DRAFT

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