



University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

An archaeological evaluation
on land at Thorpe End,
Melton Mowbray,
Leicestershire
(SK 7561 1915)

Leon Hunt



ULAS Report No 2012-027
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**An archaeological evaluation
on land at Thorpe End,
Melton Mowbray,
Leicestershire
(SK 7561 1915)**

Leon Hunt

for:

**Berkeley Developments & HSSP Architects
(Planning Application No. 08/00380/FUL).**

Approved by:

Signed: 

Date: 16.02.2012

Name: Patrick Clay

University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH

Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614

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Accession Number X.A14.2012

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An archaeological evaluation on land at Thorpe End, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire (SK 7561 1915)

Leon Hunt

Summary

An archaeological field evaluation was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on land to the rear of 36-44, Thorpe End, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire (SK 7561 1915) in advance of a proposed new development at the site, consisting of the erection of three new retail units and 12 two bedroom flats.

The site lies within the historic medieval core of Melton and close to archaeological finds of medieval date, including a medieval oven from a site less than 100m east of the site.

The site currently consists of a yard and parking area. A single 19m x 3.5m trench was excavated to depth of between 0.6m-1m.

No archaeological features were discovered. However, a sherd of medieval pottery and a prehistoric flint core were discovered from within soil sequences within the trench. Therefore, there may be some potential for archaeological deposits from these periods across the site.

The archive for the work will be deposited with Leicester Museums with accession number X.A14.2012.

Introduction

An archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching was carried out on land to the rear of 36-44, Thorpe End, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire (NGR: SK 7561 1915).

Berkeley Developments & HSSP Architects commissioned the work, which was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) in advance of a proposed new development at the site, consisting of the erection of three new retail units and 12 two bedroom flats (Planning Application No. 08/00380/FUL).

The site currently consists of a yard and parking area to the rear of the 36-44, Thorpe End, which front the street at Thorpe End.

The work was in accordance with PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment. The fieldwork was intended to provide preliminary indications of character and extent of any buried archaeological remains in order that the potential impact of the development on such remains may be assessed by the Planning Authority.

The definition of archaeological field evaluation, taken from the *Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008) is a limited programme of non intrusive and/ or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

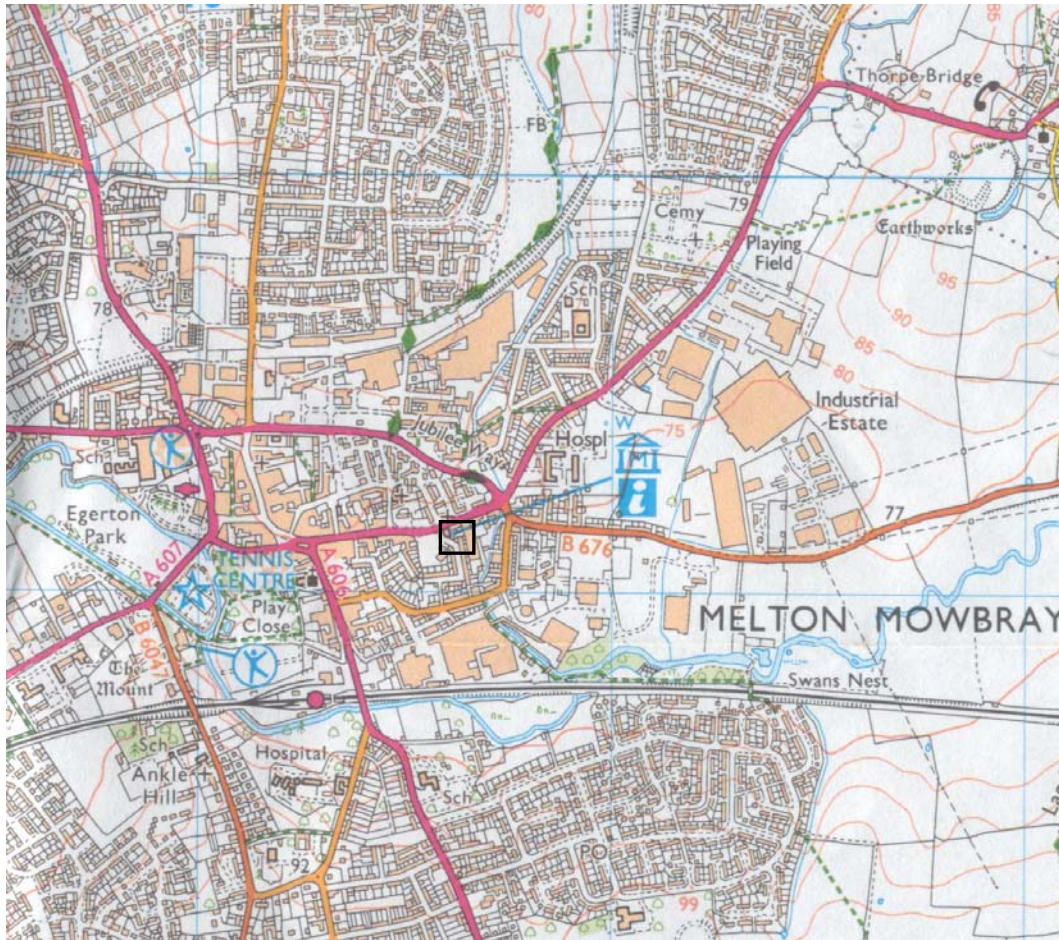


Figure 1: Location of Site within Melton Mowbray

Reproduced from OS map Explorer Sheet 246 1:25 000 map by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright 2009
All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100029495.

Site Location, Geology and Topography

The site lies to the rear of 36-44 Thorpe End, on the southern side of Thorpe End in the centre of Melton Mowbray. The site consists of a concreted yard, partially enclosed by metal fencing, with access from the north-eastern side of Rosebury Avenue. Part of the yard was inaccessible behind a further set of metal fences and part of the site was on rough ground, partially metalled and covered in weeds and small young trees.

The total size of the assessment area is *c.*700 square metres (including the adjacent buildings) and the land lies at a height of around 72m aOD. The site is flat.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey website shows that the underlying Geology is likely to be Blue Lias Mudstone, possibly overlain by Head (silts, clay sand and gravel) in places.

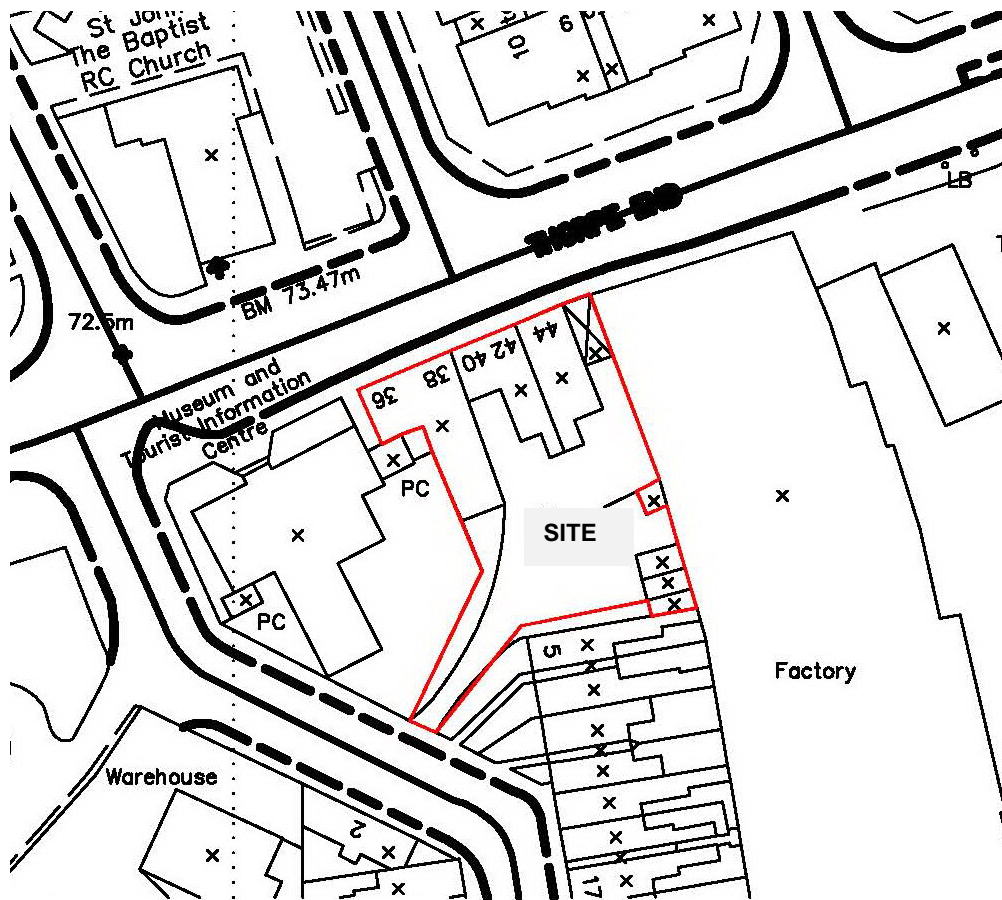


Figure 2: Site Location
Provided by developer. Scale Unknown

Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation were:

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

Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation was to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development.

Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the presence of archaeological deposits that may exist within the area.

Methodology

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct in accordance with their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*

(2008). The archaeological work followed the *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological work* prepared by ULAS (Appendix III).

A 5% sample of the area was requested equating to a 20m x 1.6m trench. Much of the site had been recently re-laid with 0.2m thick concrete and contained a gas pipe, electrical services and two drains. The north-eastern part of the site was inaccessible behind metal railings and so the trench was changed to a 9m x 3.2m trench within a partially metalled area to the east of the site.

The trench was excavated using a JCB back actor fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and was excavated to the natural sub-stratum or archaeological features, whichever the higher in the sequence.

Historical and Archaeological Background

The site lies within the historic core of the village of Melton Mowbray, close to known medieval sites including Windsor Street (MLE16728) and Sherrard Street (MLE9481-MLE9483). Although not recorded on the HER a medieval oven was apparently discovered during an excavation carried out by Melton Mowbray Fieldworkers Group at the current McDonalds site, 100m west of the study area, in 1995 (R. Pollard pers. comm.)



Plate 1: Work in progress, looking north-east

Results

The area was cleared with vegetation and then scanned with a CAT scanner and was found to be free of electrical services.

The trench was excavated from east to west (Plate 1). The sequence consisted of a mixed layer of weak dark brown topsoil and mill waste containing a large amount of crushed ceramic building material (5) overlying a thin layer of clinker or crushed coal (Layer 4), which was only visible in patches (Plate 2). This overlay a yellowish brown silty-clay with very few stones (3) from which a single sherd of splashed ware pottery, dating from c. 1100-1250, was retrieved. Under this was a brownish yellow clay/silty-clay layer (Layer 2), which first appeared to be the natural sub-stratum with a possible grey feature cutting through it. This was sampled with a mattock and shovel and was found to be a further layer of yellowish grey silty clay below (2) (1),

from which a multi-platformed flint core was recovered, dating from the late prehistoric period (Neolithic-Bronze Age). Under this lay the brownish yellow substrate of clay (Plate 3).

Trench 1

Orientation: East-West

Length: 9m

Width: 3.2m

Depth: Between 0.6m and 1m

Interval	0mW	2m	4m	6m	8m	9mE
Layer 5 thickness	0.27m	0.27m	0.26m	0.34m	0.28m	0.28m
Layer 4 thickness	0.14m	0.10m	0.07m	0.04m	0.04m (at 7m)	-
Layer 3 thickness	0.26m	0.35m	0.30m	0.18m	0.21m	0.20m
Layer 2 thickness	-	0.15m	0.11m	0.20m	0.04m	-
Layer 1 thickness	0.10m	0.10m	0.19m	0.18m	0.10m	0.10m
Top of natural (depth)	0.77m	0.97m	0.93m	0.94m	0.67m	0.58m
Base of Trench (depth)	0.9m	1m	0.95m	1m	0.77m	0.60m

No archaeological cut features were revealed. The trench was recorded and then back-filled.

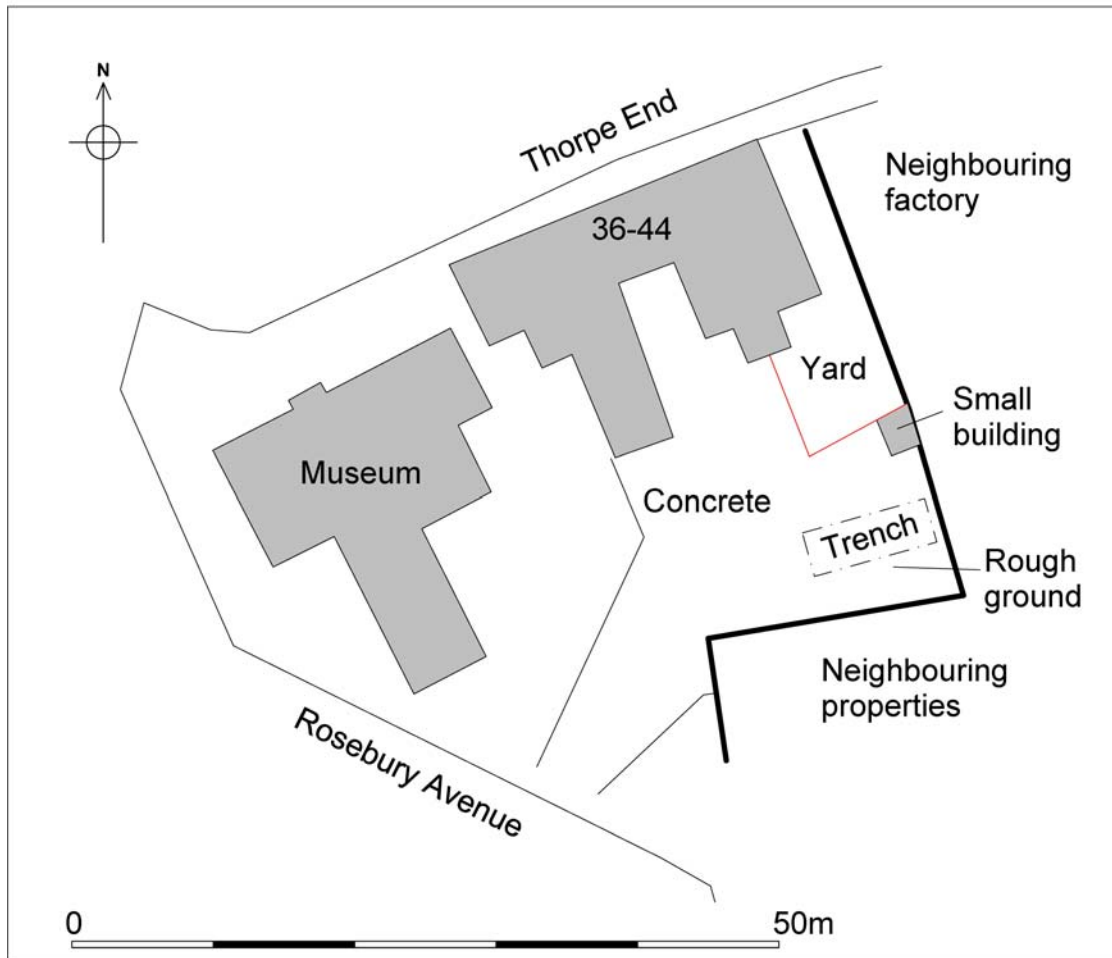


Figure 3: Plan of site with position of trench indicated



Plate 2 South facing section of trench, showing layers



Plate 3: Trench after excavation, looking east

Conclusion

No archaeological features were revealed during the evaluation. Although the finds recovered may be residual there is the possibility that the sequence of deposits revealed and the finds retrieved from Contexts (1) and (3) indicate potential for archaeological deposits across the site. On the basis of the very few finds recovered a tentative interpretation may be for a possible early medieval soil horizon to be present at around 0.60m-0.70m below surface level (3) and a possible prehistoric layer between 0.67m-0.97m below surface level (1). However there is also the possibility of the finds being residual in contexts (1) and (3).

Acknowledgements

ULAS would like to thank Berkeley Developments & HSSP Architects for organising the work. The author, who carried out the evaluation, would like to thank Mark Downing and Dave Cockin for their help and co-operation during the work. Thanks are also due to Geoff Smith of Planters (Leicester) Ltd for the excavator work. The project was managed by Patrick Clay of ULAS.

Archive

The archive for this work will be lodged with Leicestershire Museums with accession number X.A14.2012. The archive consists of the following:

- 1 Unbound copy of this report (2012-027)
- 1 Trench recording sheet
- 1 Photographic record

- 1 CD of digital photographs
- 1 Contact sheet of digital photographs
- 1 Set B & W contact sheets
- 1 Set B & W Negatives

The report will be listed on the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York. Available at: <http://oasis.ac.uk/> (see Appendix II).

Leon Hunt
ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH
Tel: 0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614
Email: lh90@le.ac.uk
13-02-2012

Appendix I: The Finds

The Lithics *Lynden Cooper*

A multi-platformed flake core was recovered from (1), dating from the late prehistoric period (Neolithic-Bronze Age).

Post Roman Pottery *Deborah Sawday*

The pottery, one sherd, weighing 29 grams was catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Davies and Sawday 1999). The results are shown below (Table 1).

The pottery is early medieval in date. The weight and unabraded condition of the sherd suggest that there may be undisturbed archaeological levels in the vicinity.

Bibliography

Davies, S., and Sawday, D., 1999 'The Post Roman Pottery and Tile' in A. Connor and R. Buckley, 1999, *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeology Mon. **5**.165-213.

Table 1: The medieval and later pottery by fabric, sherd numbers and weight (grams) by context.

Context	Fabric/Ware	Nos	Grams	Comments
3	Splashed ware	1	29	Flattish basal angle, possibly hand made, coarse sandy fabric with Fe, spots of copper glaze on inner base. Sooting externally. Date <i>c.</i> 1100- <i>c.</i> 1250

Site/ Parish: Thorpe End, Melton Mowbray, Leics. Accession No.: XA14 2012 Document Ref: melton9.docx Material: pottery Site Type: village core	Submitter: L. Hunt Identifier: D. Sawday Date of Identification: 13.02.12 Method of Recovery: evaluation Job Number: 12-557
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Appendix II: Oasis Summary

Project Name	Thorpe End, Melton
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Leon Hunt
Previous/Future work	Not known
Current Land Use	Industrial/ car park
Development Type	New housing
Reason for Investigation	PPS 5
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	SK7561 1915
Start/end dates of field work	09-02-2012
Archive Recipient	LMARS
Height min/max	72m aOD
Study Area	700 sq. m
Finds	Flint and pottery

Appendix III: Written scheme of investigation for archaeological work

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Written scheme of investigation for archaeological work

Job title: Thorpe End, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire

NGR: SK 7561 1915

Client: Berkeley Developments and HSSP Architects

Planning Authority: Melton Borough Council

Planning application No. 08/00380/FUL

1 Introduction

1.1 Definition and scope of the specification

This document is a design specification for a second phase of archaeological field evaluation (AFE) at the above site, in accordance with PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, partially addressing the requirements of Planning Condition 10. The fieldwork specified below is intended to provide further indications of character and extent of any buried archaeological remains in order that the potential impact of the development on such remains may be assessed by the Planning Authority and an appropriate mitigation strategy put in place.

- 1.2 The definition of archaeological field evaluation, taken from the Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2008) is a limited programme of non-intrusive and/ or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

2. Background

Context of the Project

- 2.1 The development area is to the rear of 36-44 Thorpe End, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire (SK 7561 1915; Fig.1).
- 2.2 *Geology*
The British Geological Survey websites indicates that the superficial geology comprises Head - Silts clay sand and gravel (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?pub=HEAD>).
- 2.3 Planning permission has been granted for three retail units and 12 two bedroom flats. Condition 10 requires a Scheme of Archaeological work commencing with exploratory trial trenching.
- 2.4 Following Planning policy Statement 5 (PPS5) Policy HE6 Leicestershire County Council, Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCCHNET) as archaeological advisors to the planning authority require that further evaluation by trial trenching is undertaken.

Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.5 The area lies within the historic core of Melton Mowbray close to known medieval sites including Windsor St (MLE16728) and Sherrard St (MLE9481-3). Iron Age and Roman remains are recorded from King Street (MLE15937; MLE39450) and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery is recorded north of Beck Mill (MLE3911).

3. Archaeological Objectives

- 3.1 The main objectives of the evaluation will be:
- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
 - To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
 - To produce an archive and report of any results.
- 3.2 Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation is to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development.
- 3.3 Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area.

4. Methodology

General Methodology and Standards

- 4.1 All work will follow the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct (2010) and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008). The LCC *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological work Leicestershire and Rutland* (1997) will be adhered to.
- 4.2 Staffing, recording systems, health and safety provisions and insurance details are included below.
- 4.3 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site by the project manager. These will ensure that project targets are met and professional standards are maintained. Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Planning Authority and the Client, if required.

Trial Trenching Methodology

- 4.4 Prior to any machining of trial trenches general photographs of the site areas may be taken.
- 4.5 A 5% sample of the c. 700 sq. m. area is proposed comprising one 20m by 1.6m trench.
- 4.6 Topsoil and overburden will be removed carefully in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket. Trenches will be excavated down to the top of archaeological deposits or natural undisturbed ground, whichever is reached first. All excavation by machine and hand will be undertaken with a view to avoid damage to archaeological deposits or features which appear worthy of preservation in situ or more detailed investigation than for the purposes of evaluation. Where structures, features or finds appear to merit preservation in situ, they will be adequately protected from deterioration.
- 4.7 Trenches will be examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located will be planned at an appropriate scale. Archaeological deposits will be sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence. Particular attention will be paid to the potential for buried palaeosols and waterlogged deposits in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer.
- 4.8 Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan. All plans will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Relative spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

- 4.9 Sections of any excavated archaeological features will be drawn at an appropriate scale. At least one longitudinal face of each trench will be recorded. All sections will be levelled and tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum, or a permanent fixed benchmark.
- 4.10 Trench locations will be recorded by an appropriate method. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 4.11 Any human remains encountered will initially be left in situ and will only be removed if necessary for their protection, under Ministry of Justice guidelines and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations.
- 4.12 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the project a contingency may be required to clarify the character or extent of additional features. The contingency will only be initiated after consultation with the Client and the Planning Archaeologist and Planning Authority. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the Planning Archaeologist, ULAS shall, if required, implement an amended scheme of investigation on behalf of the client as appropriate.
- 4.13 The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.

Recording Systems

- 4.14 Any archaeological deposits encountered will be recorded and excavated using standard procedures as outlined in the ULAS recording manual. Sufficient of any archaeological features or deposits will be hand excavated in order to provide the information required.
- 4.15. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets.
- 4.16 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made on drawing film, related to the OS grid and at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Elevations and sections of individual layers of features should be drawn where possible. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans.
- 4.17 An adequate photographic record of the investigations will be prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.
- 4.18 This record will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the project.

5. Finds

- 5.1 The IfA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.
- 5.2 Before commencing work on the site, a Site code/Accession number will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist that will be used to identify all records and finds from the site.
- 5.3 All antiquities, valuables, objects or remains of archaeological interest, other than articles declared by Coroner's Inquest to be subject to the Treasure Act, discovered in or under the Site during the carrying out of the project by ULAS or during works carried out on the Site by the Client shall be deemed to be the property of ULAS provided that ULAS after due examination of the said Archaeological Discoveries shall transfer ownership of all Archaeological Discoveries unconditionally to the appropriate authority for storage in perpetuity.
- 5.4 All identified finds and artefacts are to be retained, although certain classes of building material will, in some circumstances, be discarded after recording with the approval of the Planning Archaeologist.
- 5.5 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner. Where appropriate they will be cleaned, marked and receive remedial conservation in accordance with recognised best practice. This will include the site code number, finds number and context number. Bulk finds will be bagged in clear self sealing plastic bags, again marked with site code, finds and context.
- 5.6 Finds which may constitute 'treasure' under the Treasure Act, 1996 must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner. Where removal cannot take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

6. Environmental Sampling

6.1. If features are appropriate for environmental sampling a strategy and methodology will be developed on site following advice from ULAS's Environmental Specialist. Preparation, taking, processing and assessment of environmental samples will be in accordance with current best practice. The sampling strategy is likely to include the following:

- A range of features to represent all feature types, areas and phases will be selected on a judgmental basis. The criteria for selection will be that deposits are datable, well sealed and with little intrusive or residual material.
- Any buried soils or well-sealed deposits with concentrations of carbonised material present will be intensively sampled taking a known proportion of the deposit.
- Spot samples will be taken where concentrations of environmental remains are located.
- Waterlogged remains, if present, will be sampled for pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and radiocarbon dating provided that they are uncontaminated.

6.2 All collected samples will be labelled with context and sequential sample numbers.

6.3 Appropriate contexts (i.e datable) will be bulk sampled (50 litres or the whole context depending on size) for the recovery of carbonised plant remains and insects.

6.4 Recovery of small animal bones, bird bone and large molluscs will normally be achieved through processing other bulk samples or 50 litre samples may be taken specifically to sample particularly rich deposits.

6.5 Wet sieving with flotation will be carried out using a York Archaeological Trust sieving tank with a 0.5mm mesh and a 0.3mm flotation sieve. The small size mesh will be used initially as flotation of plant remains may be incomplete and some may remain in the residue. The residue > 0.5mm from the tank will be separated into coarse fractions of over 4mm and fine fractions of > 0.5-4mm. The coarse fractions will be sorted for finds. The fine fractions and flots will be evaluated and prioritised; only those with remains apparent will be sorted. The prioritised flots will not be sorted until the analysis stage when phasing information is available. Flots will be scanned and plant remains from selected contexts will be identified and further sampling, sieving and sorting targeted towards higher potential deposits.

6.6 Where evidence of industrial processes are present (eg indicated by the presence of slag or hearth bases), samples will be taken for the analysis of industrial residues (e.g hammer scale).

7 Report and Archive

7.1 A draft version of the report will normally be presented within four weeks of completion of site works. The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight weeks. Copies will be provided for the client and the Local Planning Authority and deposited with the Historic Environment Record.

7.2 The report will include consideration of:

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the evaluation.
- The nature, location and extent of any structural, artefactual and environmental material uncovered.
- The anticipated degree of survival of archaeological deposits.
- The anticipated archaeological impact of the current proposals.
- Appropriate illustrative material including maps, plans, sections, drawings and photographs.
- Summary.
- a summary of artefacts, specialist reports and a consideration of the evidence within its local, regional, national context.
- The location and size of the archive.
- A quantitative and qualitative assessment of the potential of the archive for further analysis leading to full publication, following guidelines laid down in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage).

7.3 A full copy of the archive as defined in the IfA Standard and Guidance for archaeological archives (Brown 2008) will normally be presented to Leicestershire County Council within six months of the completion of fieldwork. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken and will follow the LCC guidelines detailed in *The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service* (LMARS).

7.4 The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

8 Publication and Dissemination of Results

8.1 A summary report will be submitted to a suitable regional archaeological journal following completion of the fieldwork. A full report will be submitted to a national or period journal if the results are of significance.

8.2 University of Leicester Archaeological Services supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at <http://www.oasis.ac.uk> will be completed detailing the results of the project. ULAS will contact the HER prior to completion of the form. Once a report has become a public document following its incorporation into the HER it may be placed on the web-site.

9 Acknowledgement and Publicity

9.1 ULAS shall acknowledge the contribution of the Client in any displays, broadcasts or publications relating to the site or in which the report may be included.

9.2 ULAS and the Client shall each ensure that a senior employee shall be responsible for dealing with any enquiries received from press, television and any other broadcasting media and members of the public. All enquiries made to ULAS shall be directed to the Client for comment.

10 Copyright

10.1 The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

11 Monitoring arrangements

11.1 Unlimited access to monitor the project will be available to both the Client and his representatives and Planning Archaeologist subject to the health and safety requirements of the site.

11.2 All monitoring shall be carried out in accordance with the IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (2008)

11.3 Internal monitoring will be carried out by the ULAS project manager.

12 Timetable and Staffing

12.1 A start date is likely to be w/c 05.12.2011. The work is likely to take one to two weeks to complete and two experienced archaeologists are likely to be present during the work.

12.2 The on-site director/supervisor will carry out the post-excavation work, with time allocated within the costing of the project for analysis of any artefacts found on the site by the relevant in-house specialists at ULAS.

13 Health and Safety

13.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Statement of Safety Policy and uses the ULAS Health and Safety Manual (revised 2010) with appropriate risks assessments

for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is in the Appendix. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate.

14. Insurance

- 14.1 All ULAS work is covered by the University of Leicester's Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance. The Public Liability Insurance is with St Pauls Travellers Policy No. UCPOP3651237 while the Professional Indemnity Insurance is with Lloyds Underwriters (50%) and Brit Insurances (50%) Policy No. FUNK3605.

15. Contingencies and unforeseen circumstances

- 15.1 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the project, ULAS shall inform the site agent/project manager, Client and the Planning Archaeologist and Planning Authority and prepare a short written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the Planning Archaeologist, ULAS shall, if required, implement an amended scheme of investigation on behalf of the client as appropriate.

16. Bibliography

Brown, D., 2008 *Standard and guidance for the preparation of Archaeological Archives* (Institute for Archaeologists)

IfA, 2008 *Codes of Conduct and Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation.*

Patrick Clay
ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel:0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614

Email: pnc3@le.ac.uk

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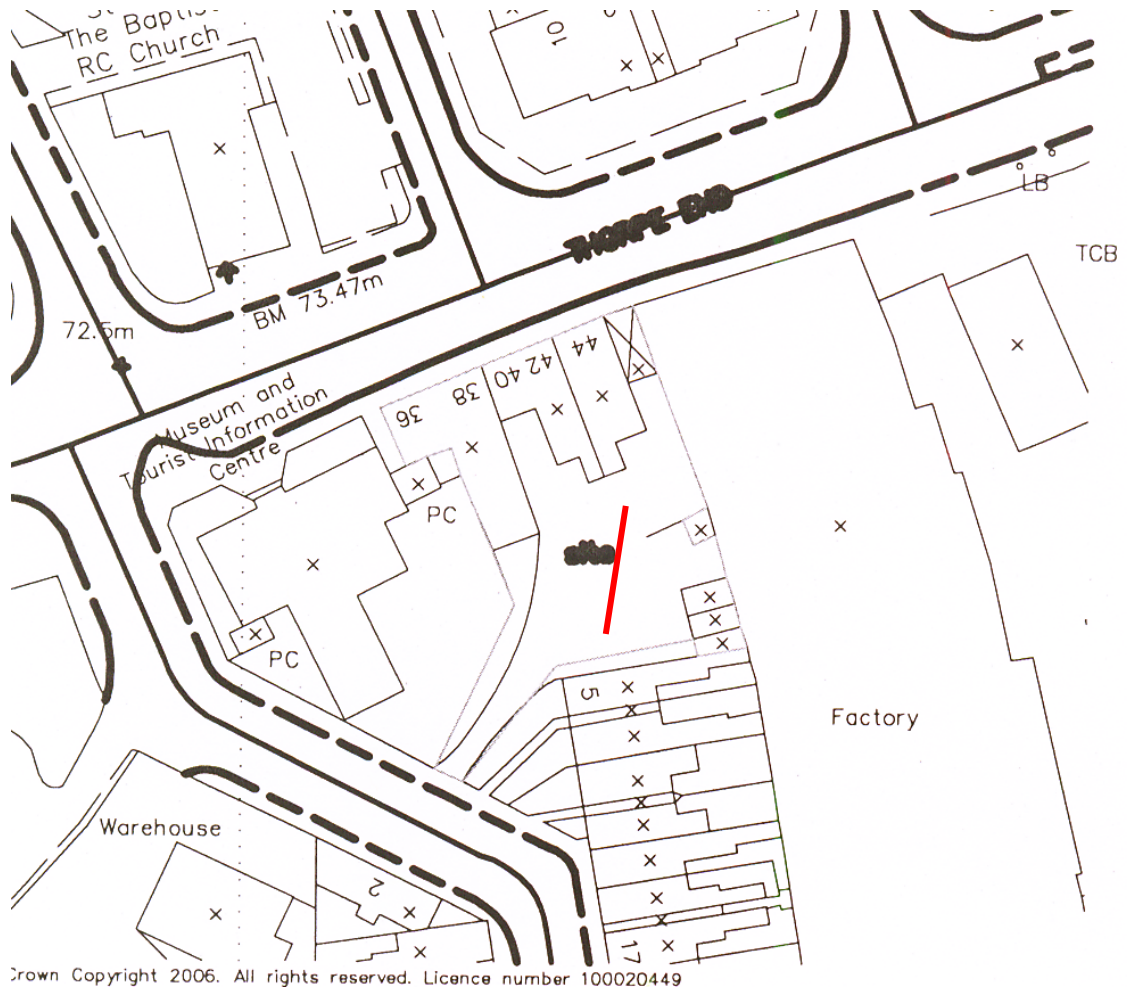


Figure 1. Application area with proposed trench location (in red)

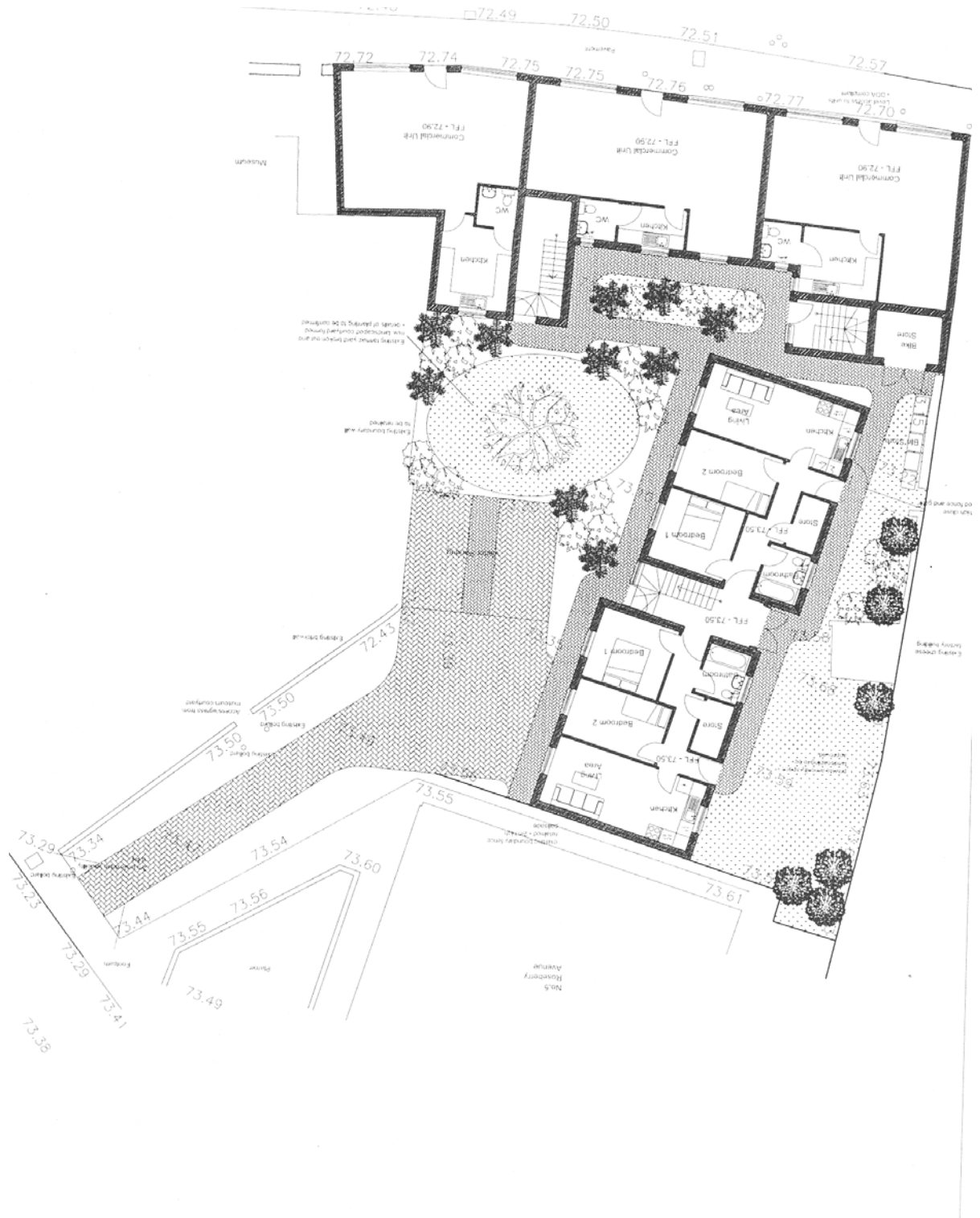


Figure 2 Proposed layout

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING METHOD STATEMENT & RISK ASSESSMENT

Site Name	Job No	PM	Contact
Thorpe End, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire	11/557	Patrick Clay	0116 252 2848 07796940240
Site Director	Site Contacts		Team (Nos)
TBA	TBA		2

SITE WORKS & METHOD STATEMENT

Evaluation trenches are to be machine excavated as detailed in the specification to look at archaeological deposits

Excavation Method Statement

- Access and parking will be gained via authorised routes to be arranged with the land owner/tenant.
- All staff will be inducted by the site director prior to starting work on site (Appendix 3).
- **Services:** A CAT Scanner may be used in both POWER and RADIO mode to scan trench lines for services prior to excavation. [The CAT must be in calibration and used by a competent person and used in both POWER and RADIO mode.
 - Trenches will not be excavated within 15m of known water mains or sewers or in the vicinity of other underground services or electrical cables without a separate SSOW. Any known services will be marked on the ground and avoided. All machine excavation will be carefully monitored.
 - No work will be undertaken beneath overhead cables. If a tracked machine is required to pass below an overhead cable a separate SSOW will be followed.
- **Excavation:** Trenching we conducted as per the *Trial Trenching Methodology* in the specification. Machining will be conducted using ULAS SSOW1. Excavation of trenches will be undertaken according to ULAS SSOW3 (Appendix 1). All trenches will be inspected each day by an appointed person and noted on the trench sheet (Appendix 4).
- Any lone working on site will be undertaken according to ULAS SSOW2 (Appendix 1).
- A first aid kit and a site phone will be available on site at all times. At least one member of staff will have first aid training.

Equipment

A mechanical excavator will be used for trench excavation. The site director will ensure that the appropriate certification is carried.

ULAS vehicles or personal cars will be used (all appropriately insured and maintained).

Besides the plant, equipment will include a variety of hand tools (e.g. shovels, mattocks, trowels), recording materials (e.g. photographic equipment, computers, levels etc.), survey equipment (e.g. EDM, DGPS) CAT scanners and metal detectors may be used.

Personnel

The site director will be responsible for the day to day running of the site. Specialists and visitors may be invited to visit the site during fieldwork. It is expected to hire plant and operators from a reputable local company.

All personnel are experienced in working with plant and in the excavation of trenches. All site staff hold CSCS cards and many also hold a SPA quarry passport. All site staff have some first aid training.

Normal working hours are 7 hours a day between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday.

Monitoring and communications

ULAS management and site staff details are as above.

Work will be monitored internally by the ULAS Project Manager and/or Health & Safety Co-ordinators.

ULAS method statements are prepared following standard guidelines and after consultation with the University Safety Services Department. Communication of the contents of the method statement to site staff is the responsibility of the Site Director. The risk assessment will be updated weekly or when conditions change.

Accident Reporting

All accidents will be logged using ULAS accident forms and report to the ULAS Main Office (0116 2522848) and if necessary to the University of Leicester Safety Services Dept (Appendix 2).

Contact Details

Richard Buckley or Patrick Clay
University of Leicester Archaeological
Services (ULAS)
University of Leicester,
University Road,
Leicester LE1 7RH

T: +44 (0)116 252 2848

F: +44 (0)116 252 2614

E: ulas@le.ac.uk

w: www.le.ac.uk/ulas



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