



University of  
**Leicester**

**Archaeological Services**

**An Archaeological Evaluation  
On Land at Nailstone Road  
and Barton Road, Carlton  
Leicestershire**

**NGR: SK 401 054**




Roger Kipling

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**An Archaeological Evaluation**  
**On Land at Nailstone Road and Barton Road,**  
**Carlton, Leicestershire**  
**NGR: SK 401 054**

**Roger Kipling**

**For: Nottingham Community Housing Association  
and Pelham Architects**

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## **An Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Nailstone Road & Barton Road, Carlton, Leicestershire**

**[NGR: SK 401 054]**

Roger Kipling

### **Summary**

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on 18th-19th December 2012 by University of Leicester Archaeological Services on behalf of Nottingham Community Housing Association and Pelham Architects. The fieldwork was a post-determination requirement on a planning application for residential development on land between Barton Road and Nailstone Road, Carlton, Leicestershire, in order that the potential impact of the development on such remains may be assessed by the Planning Authority and, if necessary, an appropriate mitigation strategy put in place.*

*The archaeological evaluation at Barton Road and Nailstone Road, Carlton, revealed no archaeological evidence, with the exception of two possible pre-enclosure strip field furrows.*

*The site archive will be deposited with the Leicestershire County Council under the accession number X.A124.2012.*

### **Introduction**

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land on the eastern edge of the village of Carlton on land at the junction of Barton Road and Nailstone Road, and to the south of Bufton Lane (SK 401 054).

In view of the potential impact of the development upon archaeological remains, in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework Section 12: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment (DCLG March 2012), partially addressing the requirements of Planning Condition 5., and following recommendations by the Leicestershire County Council (LCC) Senior Planning Archaeologist, the planning authority required that evaluation by trial trenching be undertaken. The fieldwork specified was intended to indicate whether buried archaeological remains were present in order that the potential impact of the development on such remains might be assessed. Fieldwork was carried out between 18th and 19th December 2012 and involved the machine excavation of five trial trenches in order to assess the archaeological potential of the development area. All archaeological work was in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct (2010) and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2010). The LCC *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological work Leicestershire and Rutland* (1997) was also adhered to.

## Site Description, Topography and Geology

The assessment area lies behind the houses that lie on the eastern edge of the village of Carlton on land at the junction of Barton Road and Nailstone Road, and to the south of Bufton Lane (SK 401 054). The village lies in the Hinckley and Bosworth district of Leicestershire, approximately 3 miles (5km) south-west of Coalville (Figure 1). The site consists of a sub-rectangular area covering *c.*0.45 hectares.

The Ordnance Survey for England and Wales indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of deposits of the Oadby Member and Glaciofluvial Deposits, Mid-Pleistocene (GFDMP).



Figure 1: Site Location (Scale 1:50 000)

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## Archaeological and Historical Background

No archaeological investigative work had previously been undertaken in the vicinity of the proposed development, although a watching brief undertaken in 2011 in the western area of Carlton, at Shackerstone Walk, produced two sherds of 13th century pottery (Morris 2011). In addition, an archaeological evaluation in 2002 on Bosworth Road, to the south of the present site, revealed post-medieval made ground (Duncan 2000). Hence there was deemed to be low potential for medieval and post-medieval remains to be present within the application area, whilst the potential for other periods remained unknown.

## Aims and Methods

The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to:

1. Identify the presence/absence of any earlier building phases or archaeological deposits.
2. Establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by proposed ground-works.
3. Record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground-works.
4. 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 development. All work was recorded in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field evaluations* (2010). The University of Leicester's Health and Safety policy was adhered to.

The Written Scheme of Investigation (ULAS 2012) approved by the LCC Senior Planning Archaeologist, on behalf of the planning authority, recommended a programme of archaeological evaluation consisting of c. 200m<sup>2</sup> of trenching, the equivalent of one 30m x 1.6m and four 20m x 1.6m trenches, targeting the location of the proposed dwellings and access road (Figure 3, Figure 4). Excavation was undertaken using a JCB mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket, with topsoil and overburden removed carefully in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision.



Figure 2: Machining in progress; view west



Figure 3: Evaluation trenches location plan in relation to area of proposed development



Figure 4: Proposed trench locations in relation to the proposed housing development

## Results

The five trial trenches, measuring 30m (Trench 2) and 20m (Trenches 1, 3, 4 & 5) x 1.6m, were positioned in order to provide an even, representative coverage of the area

of the proposed dwellings and access road, spread across two small rectangular fields of rough pasture. Trenches 1-3 were situated in the southern field, and Trenches 4-5 directly north in the second field.

**Trench 1** (Figure 5) was positioned at the west end of the southern field adjacent to Barton Road and was broadly aligned north-south. The trench measured 20m x 1.60m x 0.45m-0.65m deep. A 0.20m-0.30m depth of mid to dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil overlay 0.14m-0.39m of mid to light grey-brown sandy clay subsoil. An underlying light grey brown sandy natural clay substratum was revealed at the base of the trench.



Figure 5: Trench 1: view looking north (1m scales)

To the east, and aligned with the southern boundary of the proposed development, **Trench 2** (Figure 6), measuring 30m x 1.6m and between 0.29m and 0.57m in depth, revealed the same topsoil and subsoil as was observed in Trench 1. A reddish brown natural clay with occasional medium gravel inclusions was observed at the western end of the trench; the gravel content increased markedly towards the eastern end of the trench.





Figure 6: Trench 2; view looking west; 1m scales

A third trench (3), positioned to the north of Trench 2, measured 20m x 1.6m and between 0.33m and 0.45m in depth. The same topsoil as previously observed overlay a 0.12m-0.17m thick patchy, discontinuous mixed mid brown sandy clay and sandy clay gravel subsoil.

Two further 20m x 1.6m trenches were opened in the northern field of rough pasture. The eastern of the two, **Trench 4**, produced the same topsoil and subsoil sequence as observed in the southern trenches (Figure 7). The natural substratum was, however, of different character, consisting of a reddish-brown sandy natural clay with sub-angular at the eastern end and a markedly sandier mid reddish brown to the west. Ephemeral indications of two possible medieval plough furrows, measuring *c.* 3m in width and aligned north-south, provided the only indications of archaeological evidence from the evaluation.

**Trench 5**, positioned immediately west of Trench 4, revealed the same topsoil and subsoil overlying a light yellow silty clay natural sand with occasional sub-rounded stone inclusions.



Figure 7: Trench 4: view east (1m scales)

TRENCH	ORIENTATION	LENGTH AND WIDTH (metres)	DESCRIPTION	DEPTH (MIN-MAX metres)
1	N-S	20 x 1.60	Topsoil 0.20-0.30m, subsoil 0.14-0.39m. No archaeological finds or deposits.	0.45-0.65
2	E-W	30 x 1.60	Topsoil 0.14-0.28m, subsoil 0.06-0.19m. No archaeological finds or deposits.	0.29-0.57
3	E-W	20 x 1.60	Topsoil 0.15-0.23m, subsoil 0.12-0.17m. No archaeological finds or deposits.	0.33-0.46
4	E-W	20 x 1.60	Topsoil 0.25-0.40m, subsoil 0.12-0.19m. Two possible N-S aligned furrows.	0.24-0.47
5	E-W	20 x 1.60	Topsoil 0.22-0.30m, subsoil 0.13-0.17m. No archaeological finds or deposits.	0.51-0.59

Table 1: Trench details

## Conclusions

The archaeological evaluation at Nailstone Road and Barton Road, Carlton, revealed no archaeological evidence, with the exception of ephemeral indications of medieval plough furrows in one of the five trenches. Consequently it appears that the area was part of the open fields around Carlton in the medieval and post-medieval periods but there is no evidence of activity in the area during earlier periods.

## Archive and Publications

The site archive (XA.124.2012), consisting of paper and photographic records, will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council.

The archive consists of:

- 5 trench recording sheets
- photographic record indices
- 19 digital photographs
- A risk assessment form

## Publication

A version of the summary (see above) will appear in due course in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*.

## Acknowledgements

Roger Kipling and Steve Baker of ULAS undertook the archaeological evaluation on behalf of Nottingham Community Housing Association and Pelham Architects. The project was managed by Patrick Clay.

## Bibliography

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Duncan, M., 2002 *18 Main Street Carlton, Leicestershire: An Archaeological Evaluation*. Birmingham University Field Unit

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<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway>

## Oasis Information

Project Name	Nailstone Road and Barton Road, Carlton, Leicestershire
Project Type	Archaeological evaluation
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Roger Kipling
Previous/Future work	Development
Current Land Use	Pasture
Development Type	Residential
Reason for Investigation	NPPF
Position in the Planning Process	Post-determination
Site Co ordinates	NGR SK 401 154
Start/end dates of field work	18th & 19th December 2012
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire County Council
Study Area	c.0.45ha.

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