



# University of Leicester

## Archaeological Services

**A Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation at  
Rose Cottage, 10 Main Street, Saltby,  
Leicestershire.**

**NGR: SK 8500 2640**

**Andrew Hyam**



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**A Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation at  
Rose Cottage, 10 Main Street, Saltby  
Leicestershire**

**NGR: SK 85010 26290**

**A R Hyam**

**For: P Ringrose**

Checked by

**Signed:**



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## **A Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation at Rose Cottage, 10 Main Street, Saltby, Leicestershire.**

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### **Summary**

*An archaeological strip, map and sample excavation was undertaken by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) at Rose Cottage, 10 Main street, Saltby, Leicestershire. The work took place on the 9th of May 2013 during the excavation of foundation trenches and ground works for a proposed new triple garage and attached hobby room. The site lies within the medieval settlement core of the village.*

*No archaeological features or deposits were observed during the strip plan and sample excavation work.*

*The fieldwork was carried out by A.R.Hyam. The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums Service under Accession Number X.A60.2013.*

### **Introduction**

In accordance with NPPF (section 12 Enhancing and Conserving the Historic Environment) this document forms the report for a Strip, Plan and Sample excavation at Rose Cottage, 10 Main Street, Saltby, Leicestershire. Under planning application number 12/00623/FUL a new triple garage and rear hobby room is to be constructed on land to the side of Rose Cottage.

When considering the planning application the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council, as advisor to the planning authority, recommended the requirement for a programme of archaeological work to take place due to the potential for exposing archaeological features and deposits and the site's location within an area of archaeological interest. The work has been commissioned by P. Ringrose and followed that specified in the ULAS *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Work: Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation at Rose Cottage, 10 Main Street, Saltby, Leicestershire* (ULAS 05.02.2013 – hereinafter the WSI).

### **Background**

The village of Saltby lies midway between Melton Mowbray and Grantham (Figs 1 and 2). Rose Cottage lies on the eastern side of Main Street and is centred on National Grid Reference SK85010 26290. The present house forms an L-shaped building plan created from the original cottage along with a later two-storey extension which does not show on any of the more recent maps (Fig. 3). The rear garden slopes up to the east and has a row of assorted outbuildings along the northern boundary. The proposed garage is to be located to the south-east of the house and is partially set on an existing gravel driveway and partially on a lawn (Figs 4 and 5). Prior to the

development work the drive and lawn were separated by a hedge. The proposed garage will take the form of a triple garage facing west onto Main Street with a hobby room attached to the rear (Fig. 5).

The geology of the immediate locality is comprised of Limestone (Lower Lincolnshire Limestone Member) overlain to the west with Mid Pleistocene till (Diamicton) (British Geological Survey of Britain).

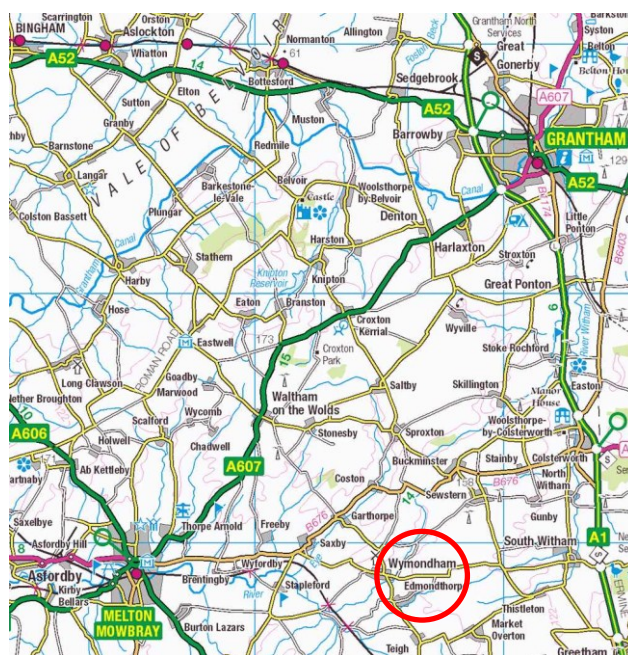


Figure 1: Saltby location

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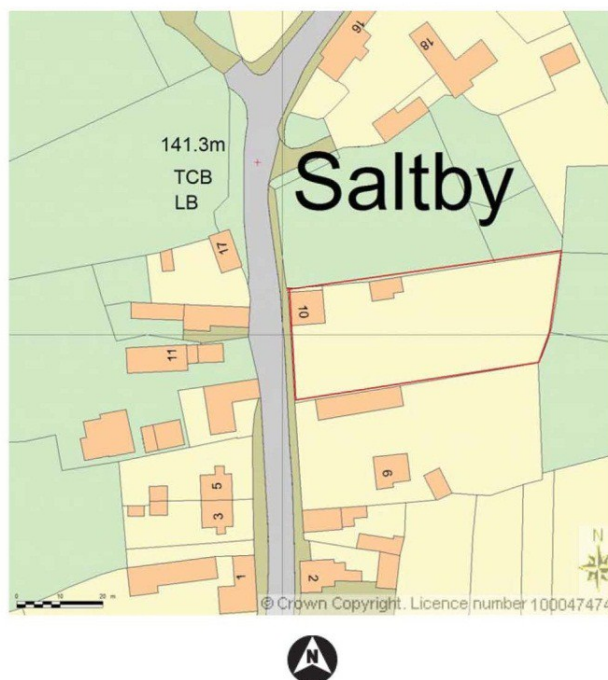


Figure 2: Site location (provided by client)





Figure 3: General view of site from Main Street  
Looking north-east



Figure 4: Proposed site of garage  
Looking east

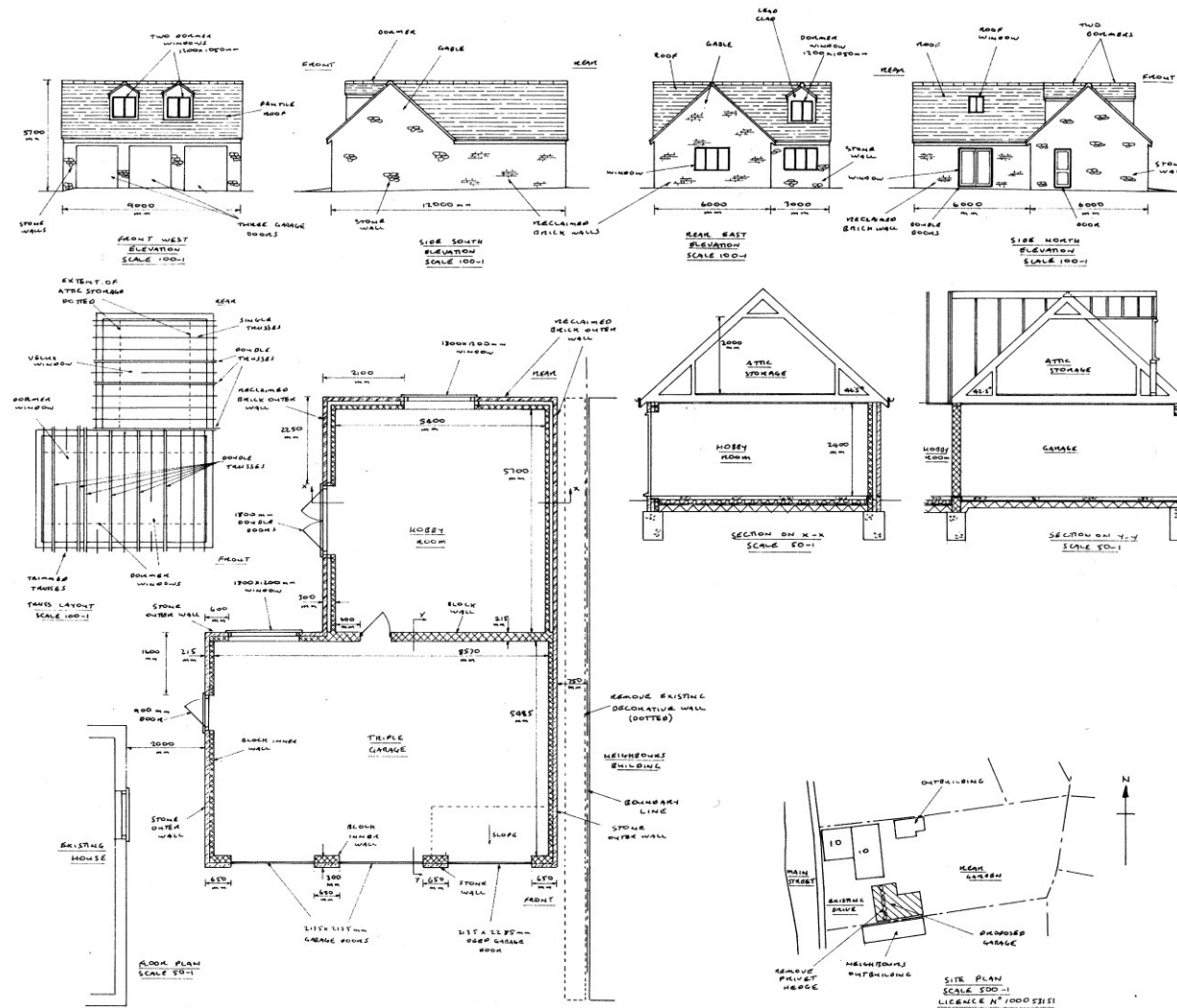


Figure 5: Plans and elevations of proposed garage  
Supplied by client

## Objectives

In addition to the research aims specified in the ULAS WSI the general objectives were as follows:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits or earlier building remains.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits/ structural evidence to be affected by the proposed works.
- To record any archaeological deposits/ structural evidence to be affected by the works.
- To advance understanding of the heritage assets.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

## Methodology

A tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was used to reduce the ground down to building formation level within the footprint of the proposed garage. This work was carried out under continuous archaeological supervision. The foundation trenches were then excavated down to the required building depth. All spoil was scanned for finds and other artefacts.

The foundation trenches were examined by hand cleaning and any deposits located would be planned at an appropriate scale and sample-excavated by hand. All plans were tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

The recording methodology followed that specified in the ULAS WSI. All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2006) and adhered to their *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological watching briefs* (2008).

## Results

As a first phase, the entire footprint of the garage was reduced down to formation level. Because of the slight slope up to the east approximately 0.3m of turf, topsoil and subsoil was removed in the grassed area. The topsoil consisted of a dark brown silty sand with occasional limestone fragments. The subsoil was a mid-grey brown silty sand with a high proportion of limestone fragments. In order to achieve the same level on the driveway area, only the gravel and a thin skim of modern overburden measuring approximately 0.2m in total depth was removed (Fig. 6). The footprint strip revealed large areas of dirty natural substratum consisting of fragmented limestone brash. The lack of subsoil and the very flat driveway suggests that this area had been landscaped before the start of this development. This may have taken place during the construction of the extension to the house. The spoil and exposed ground were scanned by the client with his own metal detector. Only a George III farthing, a late post-medieval buckle and the base of a shotgun cartridge were found in the spoil. These items were retained by the owner.

The 0.6m wide and 0.75m deep foundation trenches were then excavated down to the required building depth. A trench around the perimeter of the garage and a central



north to south trench was excavated (Figs 7 and 8). The southernmost foundation trench was badly disturbed by the construction of a single storey house and garage on the adjacent property. None of the other trenches revealed any archaeological features or deposits. All of the service connections will be made within the former gravelled driveway area where the subsoil has already been removed by the earlier landscaping work. This indicates that no other features will be revealed during this work.



Figure 6 Proposed garage area during site reduction  
Looking south-east





Figure 7 Northern foundation trench  
Looking east



Figure 8 Completed foundation trenches  
Looking south-west

## Discussion

Despite the potential for locating archaeological deposits during this work none were identified. At least half of the area has been previously landscaped to create a level driveway which has effectively removed any areas where archaeological features may have survived.

## Archive

The archive consists of:

This report,

1 pro forma recording form,

1 masonry recording sheet,

1 record sheet combined for both digital and 35mm black and white photographs,

1 contact sheet of 18 digital photographs,

1 contact sheet for 7 35mm black and white photographs plus negatives,

1 cd of digital photographs.

## Publication

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. A record of the project will also be submitted to the OASIS project. OASIS is an online index to archaeological grey literature.

## Bibliography

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

ULAS, 05.02.2013 Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological work: *Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation, at Rose Cottage, 10 Main Street, Saltby, Leicestershire*.

IfA, 2008, *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*.

## Appendix 1 OASIS Information

Project Name	Rose Cottage, 10 Main Street, Saltby, Leicestershire
Project Type	Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation
Project Manager	V Score
Project Supervisor	A Hyam
Previous/Future work	None
Current Land Use	Domestic garden
Development Type	Garage and hobby room
Reason for Investigation	As a condition
Position in the Planning Process	Ongoing
Site Co ordinates	SK 85010 26290
Start/end dates of field work	09.05.2013
Archive Recipient	LCC
Study Area	110m <sup>2</sup>



## Appendix 2 Digital photographs



IMGP4482.JPG



IMGP4483.JPG



IMGP4484.JPG



IMGP4485.JPG



IMGP4486.JPG



IMGP4487.JPG



IMGP4488.JPG



IMGP4489.JPG



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