



University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

An Archaeological Evaluation Land at
Lower Lee Street,
Leicester SK 58973 04878

Tim Higgins



ULAS Report No 2014-000.
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An Archaeological Evaluation

Land at Lower Lee Street

Leicester SK 58973 04878

Tim Higgins

For: West London Properties Ltd

Checked by

Signed:



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An Archaeological Evaluation Land at Lower Lee Street, Leicester (SK 588973 04878)

Tim Higgins

Summary

An archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken at Lower Lee Street, Leicester by University of Leicester Archaeological Services in response to development proposals for a seven-storey mixed-use residential and commercial building in March 2014. Three were excavated within the development site an area defined as having archaeological potential as it was located eastern outskirts of the Roman and medieval town of Leicester and is close to the Fosse Way Roman Road. The evaluation revealed truncated Roman post holes and pit located under a deep medieval/post-medieval horticultural soil. The Roman deposits, are thought to be associated with potential extra-mural properties that fronted on to Fosse Way. The site archive will be held with Leicester Museum Service, under the accession code: A13.2014.

1. Introduction

An archaeological field evaluation (AFE) was undertaken as part of the requirements identified by the City Archaeologist at Leicester City Council as archaeological advisor to planning authority in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment. The AFE was undertaken to assess whether any archaeological remains of significance were present within the proposed development site and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage by the development.

The archaeological potential of the plot was to be assessed by a phased programme of work, commencing with archaeological desk-based assessment (Hyam 2014). This report presents the results of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching carried out in March 2014 by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS).

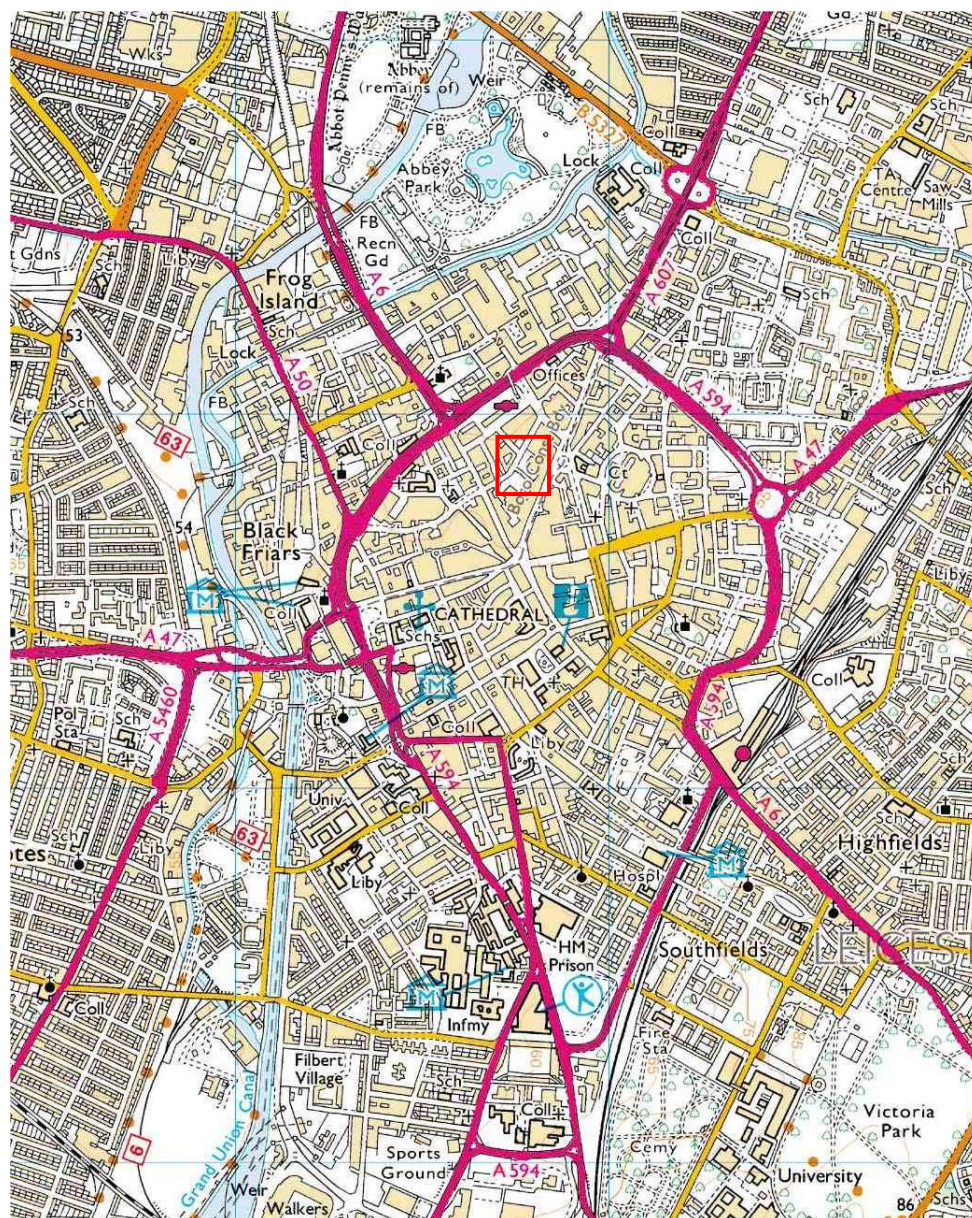


Figure 1 Site location

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2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

The British Geological Survey of England and Wales, shows the underlying geology to consist of river gravels with the bedrock consisting of Branscombe Mudstone Formation (BGS Geology Viewer <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>). The site lies at a height of c.53m OD

The proposed development plot is on the northern side of Lower Lee Street, which is now a dead end, although the plot itself extends down to Lee Circle. At present the site is used as a small car park used as an alternative to the large multi storey car park which occupies the central space of Lee Circle. The site is roughly rectangular in shape set on a north west to south east alignment with an area of approximately 850m².

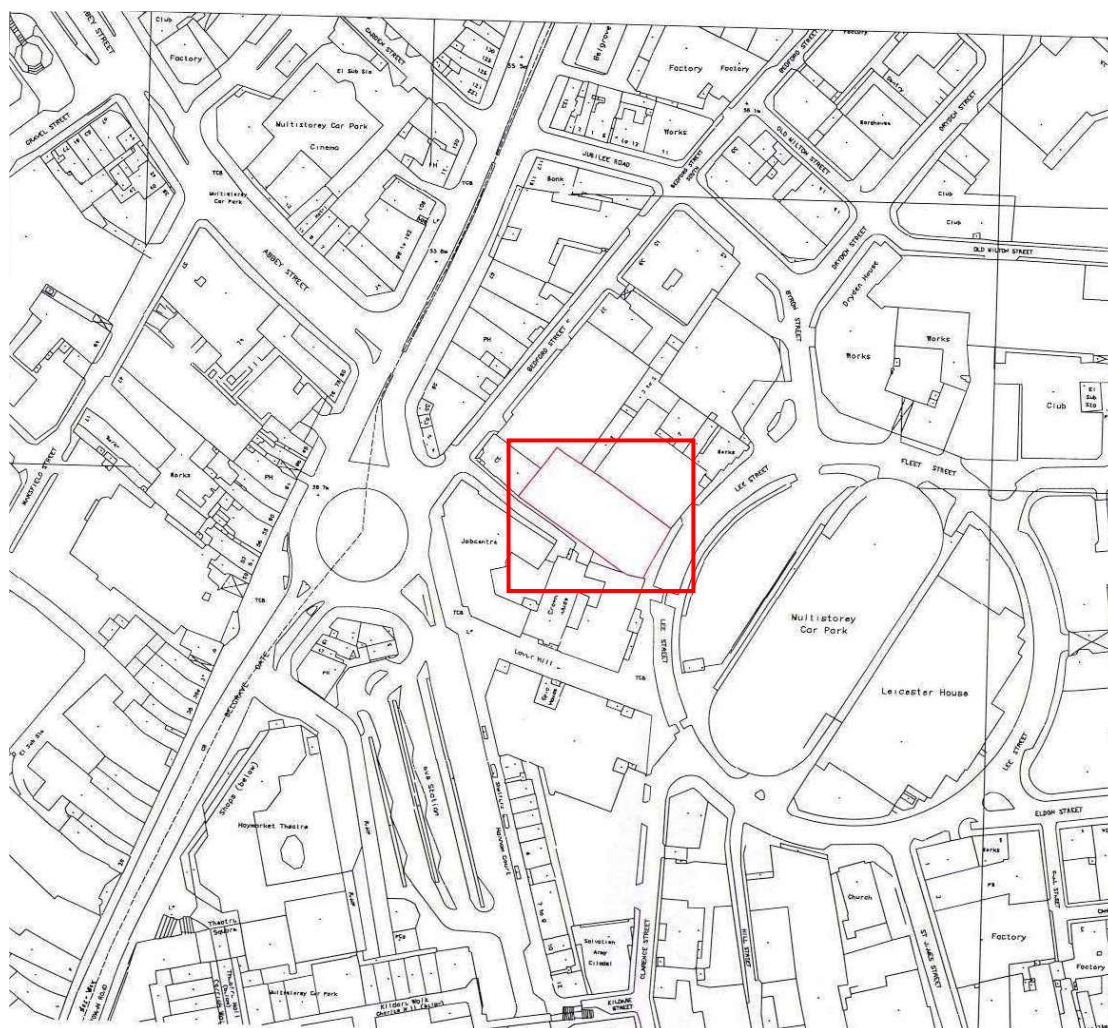


Figure 2 Proposed building location
Source: rg+p Architects. Site highlighted in red

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

Roman: Inhumations that form part of the Roman extra-mural cemetery have been found within the locality (**MLC1279**). This evidence was found during an excavation on Clarence Street by Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust (Gardner 2002). In addition, evidence of early Roman domestic and industrial activity and medieval cultivation soil was found. Ninety-one graves were excavated dating from the early 3rd century in an east-west orientation with no grave goods, often in nailed timber coffins. Further evidence for the extra-mural cemetery has been found nearby. Evidence includes a Roman cinerary urn and human skull fragment (**MLC60**), human jaw, skull and long bones (**MLC559**), a cinerary urn (**MLC1028**), sherds of mortaria (**MLC1273**, **MLC1281**), a lead coffin with complete skeleton and cinerary urn (**MLC1277**) At the Haymarket Towers site to the south west of the development site, archaeological work by ULAS revealed Roman features including a group of thirteen Romano-British inhumations, probably dating to the 4th century (Cooper 1998). The graves exhibited a variation in orientation and grave offerings. In addition, a Roman ditch and gullies, medieval ditches and pits and 19th century burial vaults and grave pits from the Congregational Chapel were observed. The alignment of the Fosse Way Roman road

(MLC607), as it runs north from Leicester, follows the line of Belgrave Gate and passes to the north west of Lower Lee Street. Evidence for the Fosse Way has been recorded in section at 6 and 8 Haymarket. As well as extra mural cemeteries there is also the potential for ribbon development along the Fosse Way.

Various Roman artefacts have been found around the Lower Lee Street area. These include an ampulla (**MLC1026**), bronze coins with associated pottery vessels (**MLC1051**), sherds of a samian bowl (**MLC1274**), a beaker (**MLC1276**), a coin and samian sherd (**MLC1282**), various pottery (**MLC1284**) and a small jar/beaker (**MLC1292**).

The later Roman period in this part of Leicester is not well understood. Little archaeological evidence for the Roman town in the 4th century has been found around the locality, this is likely to be as a result of later activity during the medieval period and later cellaring. However, remains dating to this period are a possibility within the development area. A possible decline in urban occupation and public order has been indicated, with street metalling having been dug into at Redcross Street to the south west of the Lower Hill Street site (Clay and Pollard 1994, 48), as well as evidence for the illegal extraction of silver from coinage within the ruins of the macellum (Wacher 1974, 353)

Medieval: After the end of Roman occupation of Leicester, a small settlement was probably established in the 5th-6th centuries AD adjacent to the Roman road leading to Tripointium on the south side of the town. Evidence for sunken-featured buildings has been uncovered on recent excavations in this area, associated with early Anglo-Saxon pottery and bone artefacts indicative of textile working. Within the north east quarter of the walled town, pottery and other artefacts of this period suggest occupation here also, whilst there is also a suggestion of activity outside the East Gate. Such activity could theoretically extend north east along the Fosse way, close to the development site. Within the town walls, finds of 'Dark Earth' – a substantial silty organic deposit – have been taken as evidence of the abandonment of the town in the 6th-8th centuries. By the late Saxon period, the town would appear to be a thriving settlement once again, perhaps with occupation focussing on what was to become the High Street of the later medieval town, now known as Highcross Street.

In the late Saxon and medieval period, the town's intra-mural street plan developed to a slightly different pattern from its Roman precursor, but was almost certainly heavily influenced by surviving Roman features and boundaries such as the Roman town defences. The remains of a number of substantial buildings, such as the forum and basilica would also have remained significant components of the landscape. Outside the town walls, the major Roman roads entering the town persisted as routes into the medieval period and further lanes were established as suburbs developed on the north, south and eastern sides. Lower Lee Street lies very close to Leicester's eastern suburb which was perhaps established as early as the 11th century, with 12 borders or smallholders recorded in Domesday on the 'Bishop's Fee', either east of St Margaret's church or along Belgrave Gate (Courtney 1998, 122). From the 13th century onwards, this suburb contained both cottages and more substantial properties and by the early modern period was one of the wealthier parts of the borough (ibid 122).

The character and limits of the east suburb have yet to be established through archaeological fieldwork. Very little medieval archaeological evidence has been previously identified within the area around the development site. A medieval jug was found c.2.44m deep when digging cellarage for the former Coffee & Cocoa House at 106-8 Belgrave Gate in 1879 (MLC732).

4. Aims and Objectives

As specified in the *Project Design Specification for Land at Lower Lee Street, Leicester* (2014). The specific aims and objectives of the project 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 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 redevelopment.

Test-pitting is intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of the earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area

5. Methodology

The Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix 3) agreed with the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicester City Council proposed the investigation of three 30m by 1.6m wide trial trenches (140 sq. m) trial trenches to achieve a 12-15% sample of the total site area of c.850 sq. m. The plan (Fig. 3) shows the proposed locations of the trenches. The trenches were located to provide a good spread across the proposed building footprint

The initial location of all three trenches was subject to a services plan survey and a CAT scan to locate any live services. The position and length of the trenches within the car park subsequently had to be revised due to the presence of an east-west fence that sub-divided the plot and also due to the initial results from trench 1. Here, overburden was found to be over 2.00m deep down to top of the archaeological levels and the natural substratum. This meant that all trenches would need to be stepped to allow safe access and that the number of trenches would be reduced to three of varying size and orientation. Trench 1 would now measure 15.00m long x 4.00m wide and was located within the northern corner of the car-park yard running north-west to south-east. A second trench was located in the eastern half of the car-park and was orientated west to east direction. The trench measured 17.5m long and 4.00m wide. Trench three was located on the western side of the car-park running north-west to south-east. The trench measured 7.00m long and 4.00m wide.

Topsoil and overburden was removed carefully in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket. Trenches were excavated down to the top of archaeological deposits or natural undisturbed ground, whichever was reached first.

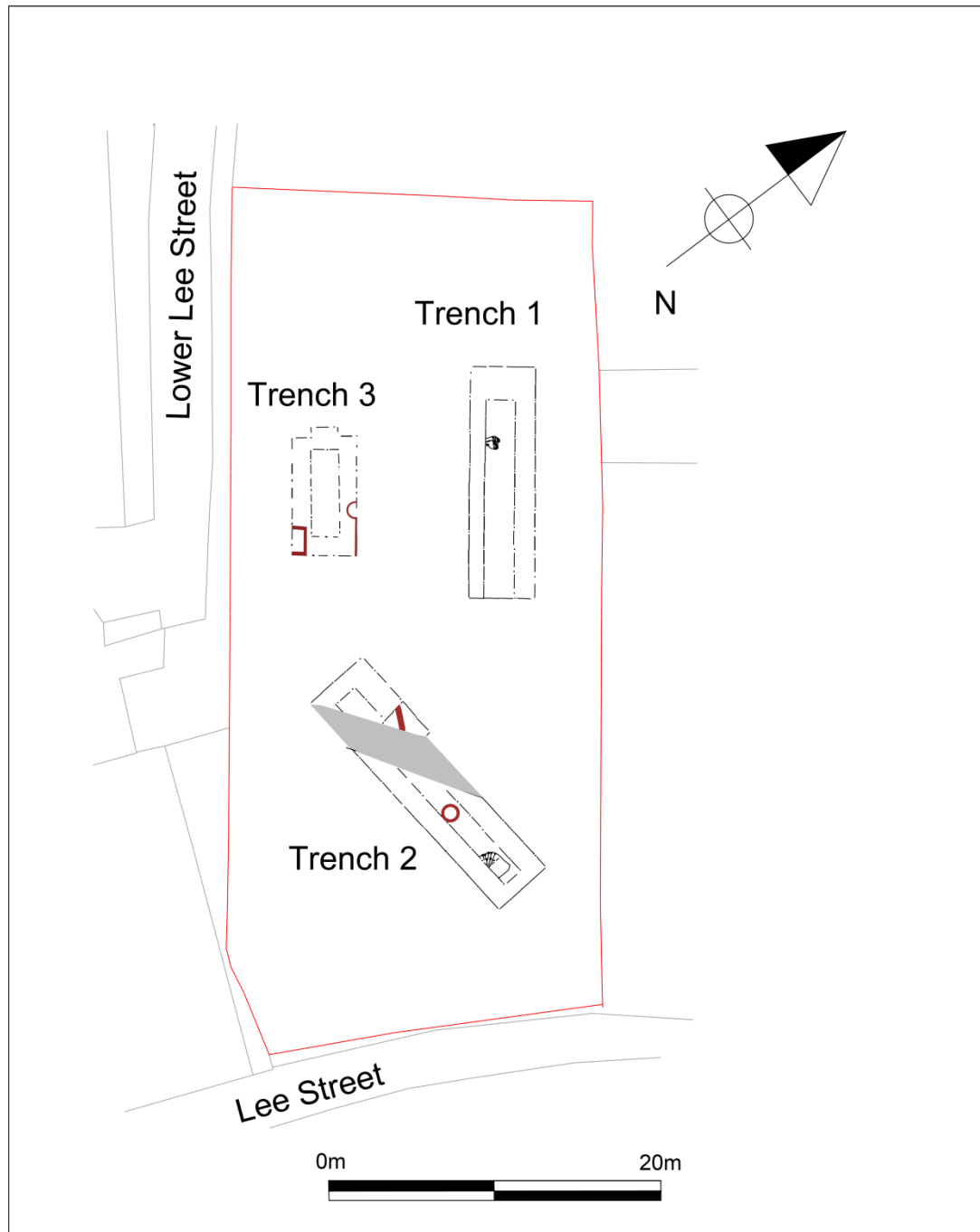


Figure 3 Location of development area and evaluation trenches

The bases of the trenches were hand-cleaned in areas where potential archaeological deposits were observed and these were then planned to scale, recorded and sample excavated as appropriate to determine the character and date of any remains.

All sections were recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, levelled and tied into Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights were taken as appropriate.

The trenches were located using a Leica EDM and the final plans completed with the aid of TurboCad v.11 design software. Context fills are recorded in round brackets e.g. (8) while cuts are in square brackets e.g. [16].

All the work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*, and the *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicester* (Leicester City Council).

6. Results

The three trial trenches covered a total area of 150 square metres, or 17% of the development footprint. A scatter of archaeological features was partially excavated for dating evidence and to determine the depth and quality of archaeology. The excavated depths of the trenches varied from of 1.55m minimum to 2.24m maximum.

Trench 1

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Length 1st step | 15.00m |
| Width 1st Step | 4.00m |
| Length lower trench | 13.00m |
| Width Lower trench | 1.70m |
| Depth | Min 1.80m Max 2.10m |
| Current ground floor level | 57.37m – 57.97m OD |
| Top of Archaeology | 55.67m OD |
| Natural Substratum | 55.50m -57.67m OD Approximate |

This trench was located towards the eastern side of the development area and measured 15.00m long by 4.00m wide (Figures 3 and 4). The trench had a maximum excavated depth of 2.10m (55.50m OD) below current ground floor surface. The natural substratum was reached within this trench at minimum depth of 1.80m (55.67m OD) and comprised dark orange and yellow sandy clays. The top of the archaeological features were found at 1.80m below the current ground floor level of 55.67m OD.

These archaeological features were located at the northern end of the trench (Figure 4) and comprised three truncated inter cutting Roman pits or post holes (Figure 5). The pits were only partially exposed but appeared to be either oval or linear in plan. When excavated, all three features appeared to have been truncated vertically. The primary feature or cut [05] appeared to be irregular in plan with steep shallow sides that broke into an uneven base. The feature measured a visible 0.95m in length, 0.33m wide and had a depth of 0.12m. The pit contained light yellow-brown sandy clay fill (06). On the east side, pit [05] appear to be cut by another circular pit [09] (Figure 6). The truncated feature had fairly steep truncated sides and a broad rounded base. The feature had a measured diameter of 0.60m and a depth of 0.14m. The fill (10) consisted of a clean dark-brown-grey sandy clay. A single Roman grey ware pottery sherd dated to the late 1st – 2nd century and a single iron nail were found within this fill (Appendix 1). To the west, the primary feature [05] was cut by what appeared to

be an irregular linear feature [07] running south-westwards into the baulk (Figures 5 and 6). The feature had truncated shallow steep sloping sides that broke into a rounded base. This feature measured 0.80m long (where exposed), 0.48m wide and 0.15m deep and contained mid grey-brown sandy clay fill (08). The fill contained 2 sherds of Roman grey ware pottery dated to the late 1st – 2nd century (Appendix 1). Animal bone was also recovered from this feature (Appendix 2). The features are thought to be the remnants of truncated post holes [05] and [09] and perhaps the linear [07] was the very base of a timber beam slot.

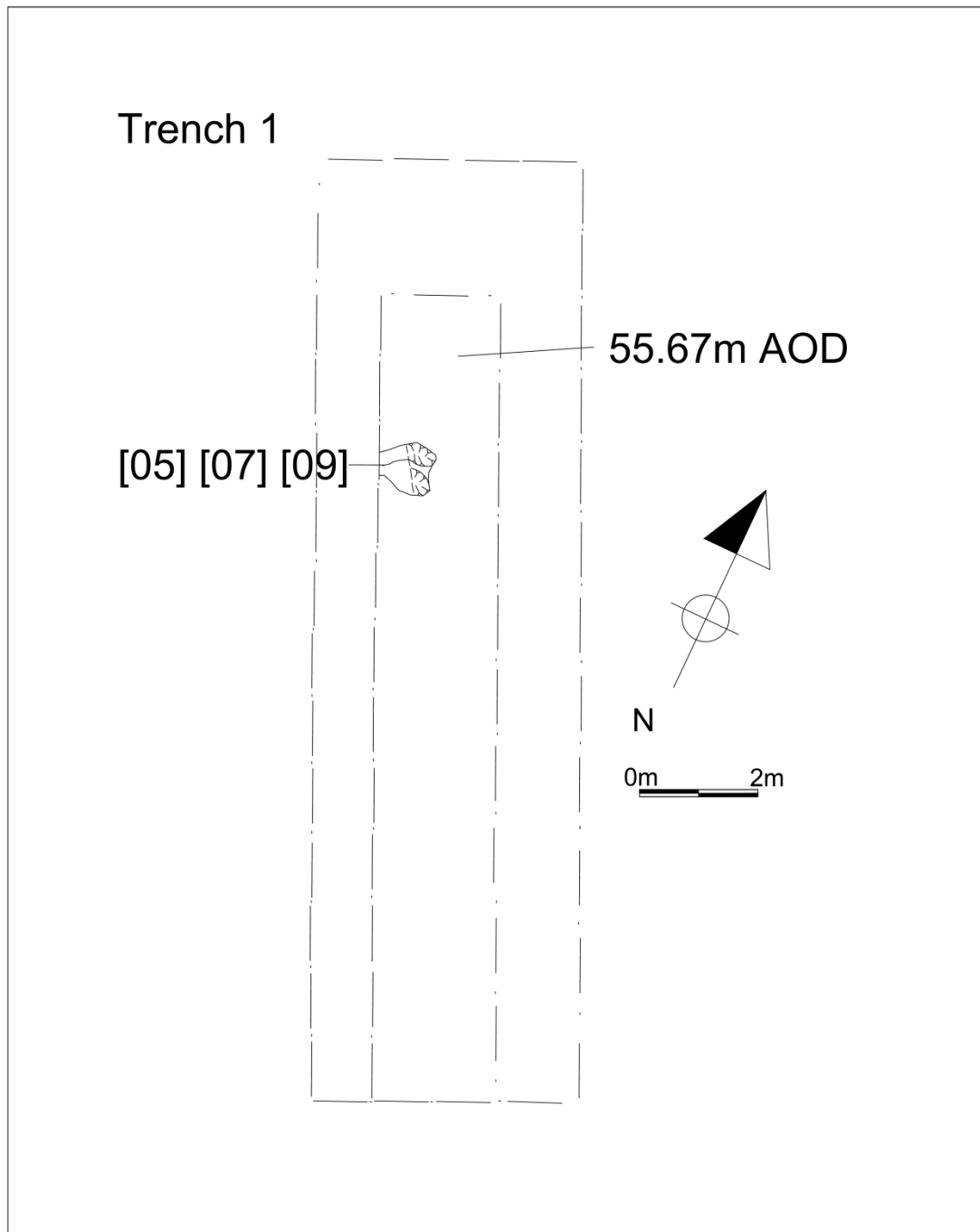


Figure 4 Plan of Trench 1

Directly overlying the natural and truncated Roman features was a thick layer of post-medieval horticultural soil measuring 1.4m deep and comprising dark grey loamy sand mixed with rounded pebbles. Towards the southern end of the trench, a modern cobbled yard surface 0.10m thick was observed overlying the horticultural soil and located at depth 0.40m below the current ground surface. The cobble surfaces were sealed by a layer of modern overburden between 0.40m and 0.60m deep and comprised crushed concrete tarmac rubble.



Plate 1 Trench 1 looking south-west



Plate 2 Post-hole/Pits [07] and [09] Trench 1

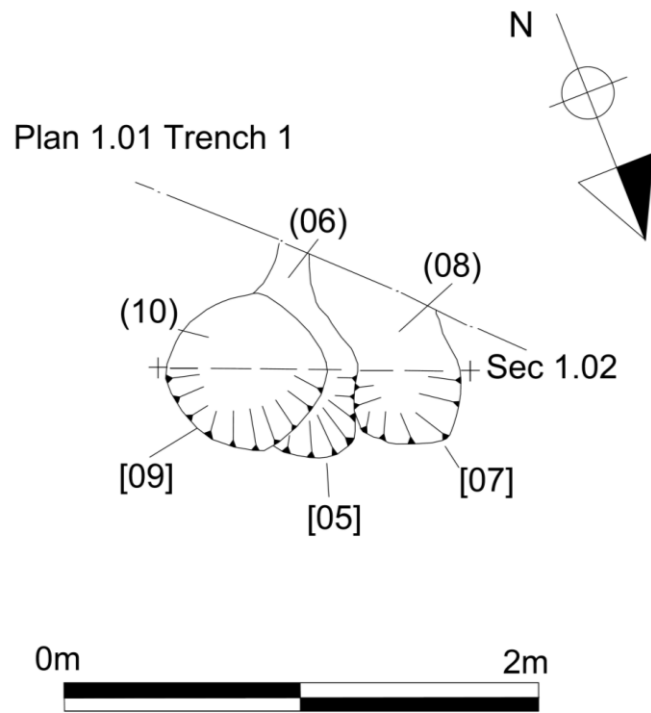


Figure 5 Plan 1.01 Trench 1

Section 1.02 Trench 1

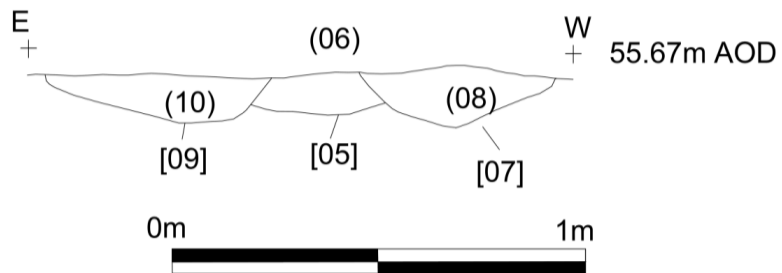


Figure 6 Section 1.02

Trench 2

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Length 1st step | 19.00m |
| Width 1st Step | 4.00m |
| Length lower trench | 17.00m |
| Width Lower trench | 1.60m |
| Depth | Min 2.20m Max 2.24m |
| Current ground floor level | 57.94m – 58.05m OD |
| Top of Archaeology | 56.07m OD |
| Natural Substratum | 55.84m -56.07m OD Approximate |

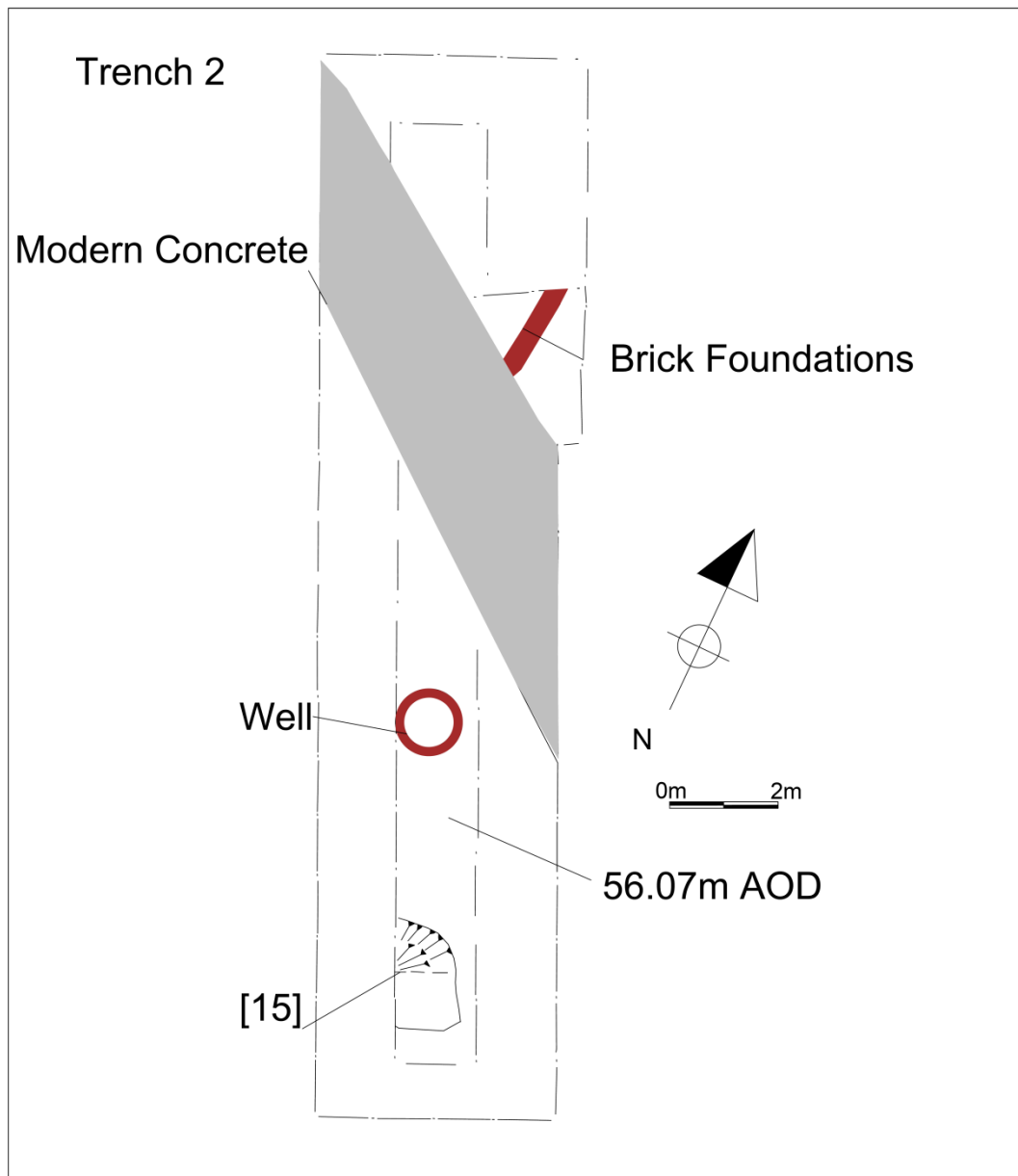


Figure 7 Plan of Trench 2



Plate 3 Trench 2 looking north-west

Trench 2 was located towards the southern end of the development area and measured 19.00m long 4.00m wide and was orientated north-west to south-east. Trench 2 had an overall excavated depth of 2.24m (55.84m OD) below current ground floor level. The natural substratum was reached and comprised dark yellow and orange sandy clay found at depth of 2.20m (56.07m OD). The top of the archaeological horizon was reached at 2.20m (56.07m OD) below the current ground level.

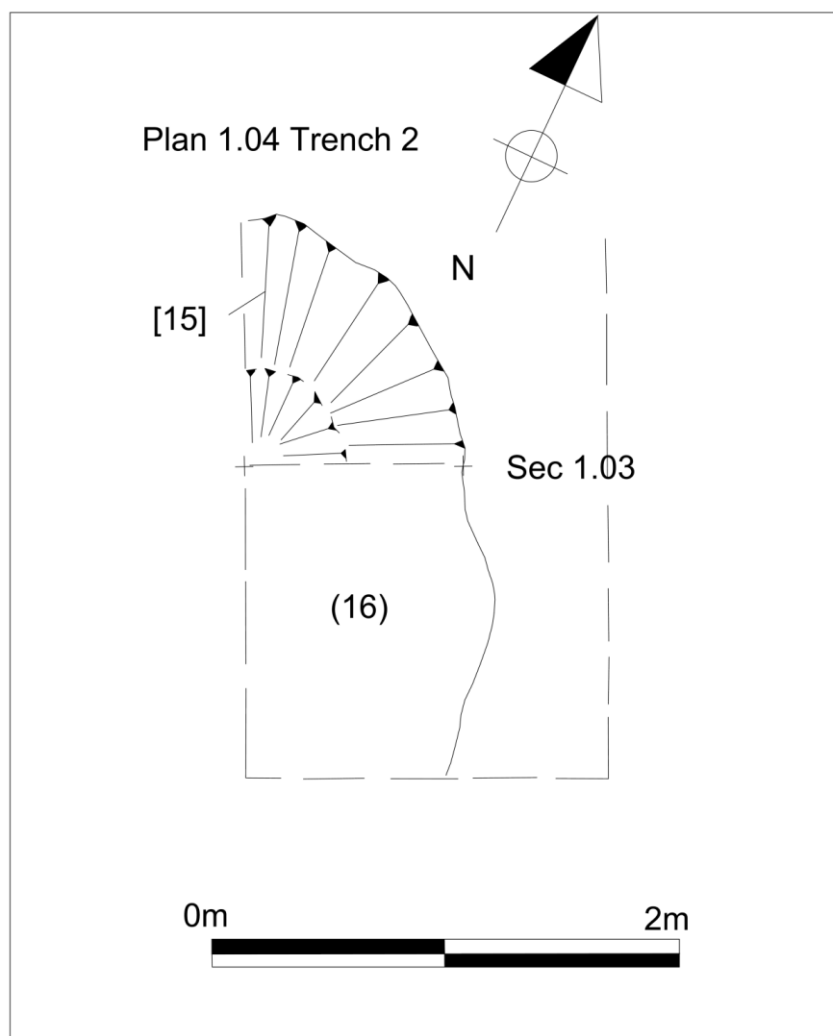


Figure 8 Plan 1.04 Trench 2

Towards the southern end of the trench, pit [15] was found cutting the natural substratum (Figure 7 and 8). The pit was not fully visible but appeared to be oval in shape with steep sloping sides, but the base was not fully determined. The pit measured 2.45m long, 0.96m wide and 0.70m deep (Figure 9).

The pit contained four fills (16), (17), (18) and (19), consisting of tip layers which all appeared to be generally sloping down towards the west side of the pit. These various tip layers comprised either mid or dark-grey silty clay, sandy-silts. All were mixed with occasional charcoal flecks and contained various Roman pottery sherds, which suggested that the deposits date to the mid to late 2nd century (Appendix 1). The most unusual vessel is a necked jar in a fine grey ware with three handles and a frilled rim, which is almost certainly the upper part of a face pot (Appendix 1). The pit also contained various metal finds which included an early 2nd century clasp plate fitting from a wooden box (Appendix 1 sf 2). The fills from the pit contained 12 fragments of Roman tile comprising at least one *tegula* roof tile and a wall tile. Animal bone was also recovered from this pit (Appendix 2)

Directly overlying the natural and the truncated Roman pit was a thick layer of medieval/post-medieval horticultural soil measuring 1.34m deep and comprising dark grey loamy sand mixed with rounded pebbles. Towards the northern end of the trench, a 0.20m-wide modern brick wall foundation ran north to south, overlay the horticultural soil and was located at a depth of 0.80m below the current ground surface (Figure 7). Towards the centre of the trench a modern brick-lined well was also observed to be cutting the horticultural soil. At centre of the trench, a very large modern concrete-lined service trench or foundation was observed running across the trench (Figure 7). The trench was orientated north-west to south-east and measured 2.20m wide and had minimum excavated depth of 1.30m. The trench contained a deposit of mixed crushed concrete rubble.

The modern foundations were sealed by a layer of modern overburden between 0.40m and 0.90m deep and comprised crushed concrete tarmac rubble.



Plate 4 Pit [15] Trench 2

Section 1.03 Trench 2

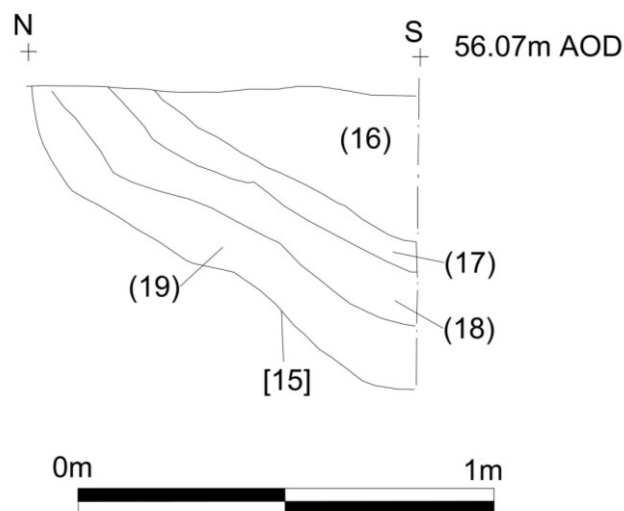


Figure 9 Section 1.03 Trench 2

Trench 3

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Length 1st step | 7.00m |
| Width 1st Step | 4.00m |
| Length lower trench | 5.50m |
| Width Lower trench | 1.80m |
| Depth | Min 1.55m Max 1.98m |
| Current ground floor level | 57.43m – 57.75m OD |
| Top of Archaeology | None |
| Natural Substratum | 55.77m -55.88m OD Approximate |

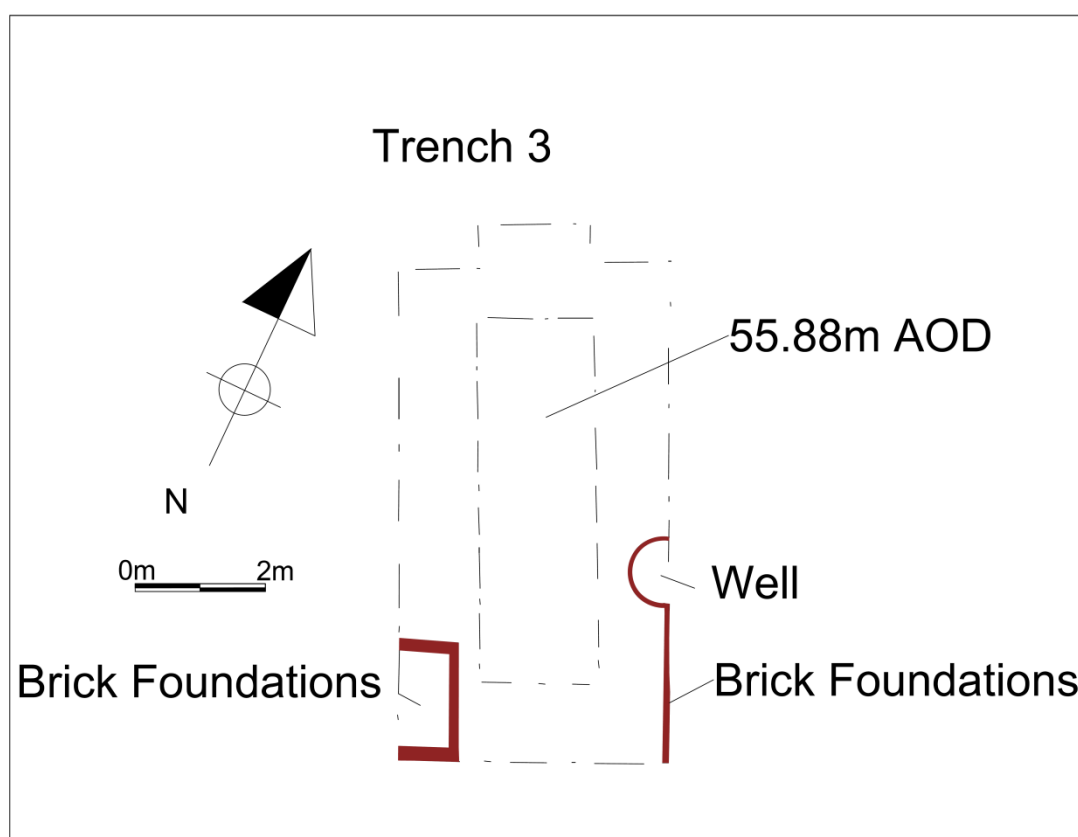


Figure 10 Plan of Trench 3

Trench 3 was located towards the west side of the development area and measured 7.00m long by 4.00m wide, was orientated north-west to south-east and had an overall excavated depth of 1.98m (55.77m OD) below current ground floor level. The natural substratum was reached and comprised dark yellow and orange sandy clay found at a depth of 1.55m (55.88m OD). No archaeological horizon was observed within this trench.

Directly overlying the natural was a thick layer of medieval/post-medieval horticultural soil measuring 1.58m deep and consisting of dark grey loamy sand mixed with rounded pebbles. Towards the south-east corner of the trench a modern brick wall foundation was observed running east to west, and measured 1.70m long and 0.80m wide. The foundation was overlying the horticultural soil and located at depth 0.40m below the current ground surface (Figure 10). Towards the centre of the

trench on the east side a modern brick-lined well was also observed to be cutting the horticultural soil. At south-west corner of the trench another modern brick foundation was observed running east to west (Figure 10). The foundation measured 0.20m wide and had minimum excavated depth of 0.20m.

The modern foundations were sealed by a layer of modern overburden between 0.40m deep and comprised crushed concrete tarmac rubble.



Plate 5 Trench 3 looking south east

7. Discussion

Natural Substratum

A possible natural substratum was reached at minimum depth of 55.88m OD in Trench 3 at a depth of 1.55m below the modern ground floor level.

Archaeological Levels

The very top of archaeological levels was found at a level of 56.07m OD at 2.20m in Trench 2 cutting directly into the natural substratum.

Roman

Evidence of Roman activity was found in Trenches 1 and 2 and the top of the deposits was generally found at levels of between 55.67m and 56.07m OD. The Roman levels had all been truncated by post-Roman activity, which was principally caused by the medieval/post medieval horticultural activity.

Due to limitations of test trench evaluation, the available evidence is not sufficient to fully characterise the remains, but the surviving excavated Roman archaeology

consisted broadly of a large quarry or refuse pit and a timber post hole and beam slot. The pottery found associated within these deposits and features suggest a late 1st- to late 2nd-century date. The Roman deposits, are thought to be associated with potential extra-mural properties that once fronted on to Fosse Way.

Medieval

The horticultural soil found in all of the trenches has probably truncated the medieval levels. The horticultural soil was thought to have accumulated during the medieval and post medieval periods.

Post-Medieval to Modern

The brick foundations and two brick lined wells were observed within trenches 2 and 3. These foundations and wells are thought to be associated with the poor quality housing that once occupied Bedford Street on Lower Lee Street (Hyam 2014). These buildings stood until they were demolished during clearance and redevelopment in the mid-20th-century.

8. Archive

A full copy of the archive as defined in Brown (2008) will normally be presented within six months of the completion of the fieldwork. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating to the investigations undertaken.

The archive consists of:

A copy of the report,

Indices

14 context sheets

1 plan and section drawing sheets

Digital with contact prints, photographic index

Finds (Appendix 1 and 2)

The site archive will be held by Leicester City Museum Services under the accession number A13.2014

A summary of the work will be published in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course.

9. Acknowledgements

I would like to thank West London Properties Ltd for their help and co-operation on site. The project was managed by Richard Buckley and the fieldwork was carried out by the author, Tim Higgins and Andy McLeish and post-excavation analysis was undertaken by Nicholas Cooper (Roman pottery) all of ULAS.

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08.05.2014

11. Oasis record

| INFORMATION REQUIRED | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Project Name | An Archaeological Evaluation at Lower Lee Street |
| Project Type | Evaluation |
| Project Manager | Richard Buckley |
| Project Supervisor | Tim Higgins |
| Previous/Future work | Previous work: Desk base assessment |
| Current Land Use | Car Park |
| Development Type | Seven-storey mixed-use residential and commercial building |
| Reason for Investigation | National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12 |
| Position in the Planning Process | Requirements planning permission |
| Site Co ordinates | NGR: SK 58973 04878 |
| Start/end dates of field work | 1 st to 4 th March 2014 |
| Archive Recipient | Leicester Museum Service |
| Study Area | c.850 sq metres |

Appendix: 1 Roman Pottery, Tile and Metal Finds

Nicholas J. Cooper

Introduction

A total of 59 sherds of Roman pottery weighing 941g were recovered primarily from pit fill (19) in Trench 2, with four sherds from (8), (10) and (18). The reasonable average sherd weight of 16g is coupled with occasional joining sherds and relatively low levels of abrasion, indicating a relatively undisturbed group, and typical of an urban group.

The material was classified using the Leicestershire Roman pottery form and fabric series (Pollard 1994, 110-114) and quantified by sherd count and weight. The full record is presented below (Table 1).

Results

Table 1: Quantified record of Roman pottery from the Evaluation

| Roman Pottery from Lower Lee St Street Evaluation A13.2014 | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Trench | Context | Fabric | Form | Type | Sherds | Weight | Dating/Comment |
| | 8 | GW3 | jar | body | 2 | 8 | L1st-2nd |
| | 10 | GW3 | jar | body | 1 | 5 | L1st-2nd |
| 2 | 18 | CGSamian | Bowl | Form 30 | 1 | 35 | E-M2nd Sf4 |
| 2 | 19 | CGSamian | Bowl | Form 37 | 2 | 10 | 2nd |
| 2 | 19 | CGSamian | Dish | Form 18/31 | 5 | 100 | E-M2nd ill.stamp |
| 2 | 19 | CGSamian | Dish | Form 18/31 | 3 | 14 | E-M2nd |
| 2 | 19 | WW2 | flagon | handle | 6 | 44 | L1st-2nd |
| 2 | 19 | OW2 | jar | base | 1 | 90 | L1st-2nd |
| 2 | 19 | OW2 | beaker | cornice rim | 2 | 5 | M-L2nd cent |
| 2 | 19 | GW3 | jar | facepot | 8 | 170 | L1st-2nd frilled rim |
| 2 | 19 | GW5 | jar | neckedbead | 1 | 26 | L1st-2nd |
| 2 | 19 | GW3 | jar | everted rim | 1 | 5 | 2nd |
| 2 | 19 | GW5 | jar | misc | 15 | 270 | L1st-2nd |
| 2 | 19 | GW6 | jar | base | 2 | 44 | L1st-2nd |
| 2 | 19 | CG1A | jar | misc | 3 | 44 | M1st-E2nd |
| 2 | 19 | BB1 | jar | HB12 | 3 | 35 | M-L2nd cent |
| 2 | 19 | BB1 | Dish | HB59 | 1 | 10 | M-L2nd cent |
| 2 | 19 | BB1 | Bowl | HB40 | 2 | 26 | M-L2nd cent |
| Total | | | | | 59 | 941 | Av.Sh.Wt 16g |

Discussion

The assemblage as a whole spans the later 1st and 2nd with none of the material necessarily extending into the 3rd century. Contexts (8) and (10) are no more closely datable than this. Context (18) may date to the period AD100-120 based on the figure

design on the unworn Central Gaulish samian Form 30 bowl which is used by the potter IOENALIS (Stanfield and Simpson 1958, 35 and pl.35.421 from Alchester). Context (19) contains sherds from three Central Gaulish samian vessels including an illegibly stamped Form 18/31 bowl dating AD90-150 in very good condition. The presence of three south-east Dorset black burnished ware (BB1) vessels (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991 Types 12, 40 and 59) would probably place the group in the middle decades of the 2nd century. The most unusual vessel is a necked jar in a fine grey ware with three handles and a frilled rim, which is almost certainly the upper part of a face pot, but unfortunately little of the body is preserved to show the facial features in the shoulder and girth which date from the late 1st to early 3rd centuries (Braithwaite 2009, 28, Group A fig 1.2 and 7). The preservation of the group indicates that further work would be likely to produce material which would aid the chronological, social and economic understanding of the site within the urban context of Leicester.

Roman Tile

Context (19) also contained 12 fragments of Roman tile weighing 855g comprising at least one *tegula* roof tile and a wall tile.

Metal Finds

Small find 2 from the early 2nd century context (18) is of particular significance as it is a clasp plate fitting from a wooden box which is not closely paralleled by any other find known to the author either from Leicester or across Britain and would benefit from further research if further work was undertaken on the site. The other finds comprised iron nails from (10) and (17) sf.5, and two undiagnostic lead objects from Tr.1 (3) sf.1 and Tr.2 (19) sf.3. Additionally a cast copper alloy handle was recovered unstratified (sf.6) from Trench 2 and is probably of post-medieval or modern date.

References

Braithwaite, G. 2009 'Grey face jars in East Anglia: a possible connection with veteran settlement in Britain in the 2nd and early 3rd centuries AD' *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* **14**, 27-50

Holbrook, N. and Bidwell, P. T., 1991, *Finds from Roman Exeter*. Exeter Archaeological Reports 4

Pollard, R., 1994 The Iron Age and Roman Pottery in P. Clay and R. Pollard *Iron Age and Roman Occupation in the West Bridge Area, Leicester; Excavations 1962-71*, 51-114. Leicester: Leicestershire County Council, Museums, Arts and Records Service.

Stanfield, J.A. and Simpson, G., 1958 *Central Gaulish Potters*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Appendix: 2 The Animal Bone

Jennifer Browning

Introduction and Dating

Animal bones hand-recovered during an evaluation at Lower Lee Street, Leicester were rapidly assessed to evaluate preservation and variety and therefore provide an indication of the faunal potential, should the site progress to excavation. The evaluation revealed truncated Roman post holes and a pit located under a deep medieval/post-medieval horticultural soil. The Roman deposits are thought to be associated with potential extra-mural properties that fronted on to Fosse Way. The bones were recovered from three deposits: Context (8) and (10) (18) dating to the 2nd century.

The Assemblage: Preservation and Composition

The current sample consists of 89 fragments from three different contexts. Surface condition was briefly assessed by context, following Harland et al (2003) and was considered to be good. Cattle, sheep/goat, pig, domestic fowl and goose were observed in the assemblage. Context (18) produced the greatest quantity of bones; n=86. The deposit contained a variety both of taxa and of anatomical parts. Butchery marks were noted, mainly knife marks on both mammal and bird bones. There were also a high number of rib fragments; taken together these factors suggest that the deposit includes table waste and domestic debris from occupation. Bones from an infant lamb were also observed. However, a fragment of a human fibula was noted, which may indicate that there is some degree of mixing within the deposit.

| Context | No bones | Preservation | Description |
|---------|----------|--------------|---|
| 10 | 2 | good | Medium mammal shaft fragment; sheep/goat mandible fragment |
| 8 | 1 | fair | Medium mammal metapodial fragment |
| 18 | 86 | good | 3 x goose bones; 5 x domestic fowl bones; 5 x cattle bones; 9 x sheep/goat bones; 2 x pig bones; 1 x human bone; 29 x medium mammal bones; 15 x large mammal bones and 12 x indeterminate shaft fragments |

Table 1: Summary of the animal bones recovered from the site

Archaeological Context and Potential

Previous zooarchaeological work carried out in the vicinity of the site has included both large and small assemblages, dating from the early Roman through to the post-medieval and modern periods. The information provided by the faunal remains is contributing to knowledge of diet, environment, husbandry, the location of crafts and industries, as well as waste disposal in the town. The faunal remains recovered from

Lee Street so far suggest that preservation is good, with potential to provide information on modifications such as butchery, burning, gnawing and pathologies. Although smaller species of birds, fish and microfauna were not present among the excavated bones, preservation is sufficiently good for them to be recovered during further work, providing an appropriate sampling strategy is adopted.

Reference

Harland, J. F., Barrett, J. H., Carrott, J., Dobney, K. and Jaques, D. 2003 *The York System: an integrated zooarchaeological database for research and teaching*. *Internet Archaeology* 13: (http://intarch.ac.uk/journal/issue13/harland_toc.html).

Appendix: 3 Design Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Written scheme of investigation for archaeological work

Job title: Land at Lower Lee Street Car Park, Leicester

NGR: SK 58973 04878

Client: West London Properties Ltd.

Planning Authority: Leicester City Council

1 Introduction

Definition and scope of the specification

1.1 This document is a design specification for archaeological field evaluation (AFE) at the above site, in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment. The fieldwork specified below is intended to provide 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. It addresses the requirements of the LPA as detailed in the *Brief for an Archaeological Field Evaluation*.

1.2 The definition of archaeological field evaluation, taken from the Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2010) 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

2.1 *Context of the Project*

- 2.1.1 The site lies on Lower Lee Street, located on the northern edge of Leicester City Centre, on land currently used as a car park.
- 2.1.2 West London Properties Ltd. has applied for planning permission to construct a seven-storey mixed-use residential and commercial building.

2.2 *Geology and topography*

- 2.2.1 The British Geological Survey of England and Wales, shows the underlying geology to consist of river gravels with the bedrock consisting of Branscombe Mudstone Formation (BGS Geology Viewer <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>). The site lies at a height of c.53m OD.

2.3 *Archaeological and Historical Background*

- 2.3.1 The site lies on the eastern outskirts of the Roman and medieval town of Leicester and is close to the Fosse Way Roman Road. It is close to a number of Roman find spots and an extra-mural cemetery. There are no buildings of note which may be affected by the development.
- 2.3.2 *Prehistoric:* very little prehistoric activity has been identified archaeologically in the area around the proposed development site. A Mesolithic mace head/hammer was found at Wharf Street 12ft below the

surface in 1886 (**MLC650**). Although little is known about the nature of prehistoric archaeology in this area of Leicester, this is more likely to reflect the lack of systematic archaeological investigation undertaken rather than a lack of activity. The first occupation of Leicester is dated to the late 1st century BC, consisting of Iron Age occupation on the east bank of the River Soar.

- 2.3.3 *Roman*: Inhumations that form part of the Roman extra-mural cemetery have been found within the locality (**MLC1279**). This evidence was found during an excavation on Clarence Street by Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust (Gardner 2002). In addition, evidence of early Roman domestic and industrial activity and medieval cultivation soil was found. Ninety-one graves were excavated dating from the early 3rd century in an east-west orientation with no grave goods, often in nailed timber coffins. Further evidence for the extra-mural cemetery has been found nearby. Evidence includes a Roman cinerary urn and human skull fragment (**MLC60**), human jaw, skull and long bones (**MLC559**), a cinerary urn (**MLC1028**), sherds of mortaria (**MLC1273**, **MLC1281**), a lead coffin with complete skeleton and cinerary urn (**MLC1277**) At the Haymarket Towers site to the south west of the development site, archaeological work by ULAS revealed Roman features including a group of thirteen Romano-British inhumations, probably dating to the 4th century (Cooper 1998). The graves exhibited a variation in orientation and grave offerings. In addition, a Roman ditch and gullies, medieval ditches and pits and 19th century burial vaults and grave pits from the Congregational Chapel were observed. The alignment of the Fosse Way Roman road (**MLC607**), as it runs north from Leicester, follows the line of Belgrave Gate and passes to the north west of Lower Lee Street. Evidence for the Fosse Way has been recorded in section at 6 and 8 Haymarket. As well as extra mural cemeteries there is also the potential for ribbon development along the Fosse Way.

Various Roman artefacts have been found around the Lower Lee Street area. These include an ampulla (**MLC1026**), bronze coins with associated pottery vessels (**MLC1051**), sherds of a samian bowl (**MLC1274**), a beaker (**MLC1276**), a coin and samian sherd (**MLC1282**), various pottery (**MLC1284**) and a small jar/beaker (**MLC1292**).

The later Roman period in this part of Leicester is not well understood. Little archaeological evidence for the Roman town in the 4th century has been found around the locality, this is likely to be as a result of later activity during the medieval period and later cellaring. However, remains dating to this period are a possibility within the development area. A possible decline in urban occupation and public order has been indicated, with street metalling having been dug into at Redcross Street to the south west of the Lower Hill Street site (Clay and Pollard 1994, 48), as well as evidence for the illegal extraction of silver from coinage within the ruins of the macellum (Wacher 1974, 353).

- 2.3.4 *Medieval*: After the end of Roman occupation of Leicester, a small settlement was probably established in the 5th-6th centuries AD adjacent to the Roman road leading to Tripontium on the south side of the town. Evidence for sunken-featured buildings has been uncovered on recent excavations in this area, associated with early Anglo-Saxon pottery and bone artefacts indicative of textile working. Within the north east quarter of the walled town, pottery and other artefacts of this period suggest occupation here also, whilst there is also a suggestion of activity outside the East Gate. Such activity could theoretically extend north east along the Fosse way, close to the development site. Within the town walls, finds of 'Dark Earth' – a substantial silty organic deposit – have been taken as evidence of the abandonment of the town in the 6th-8th centuries. By the late Saxon period, the town would appear to be a thriving settlement once again, perhaps with occupation focussing on what was to become the High Street of the later medieval town, now known as Highcross Street.

In the late Saxon and medieval period, the town's intra-mural street plan developed to a slightly different pattern from its Roman precursor, but was almost certainly heavily influenced by surviving Roman features and boundaries such as the Roman town defences. The remains of a number of substantial buildings, such as the forum and basilica would also have remained significant components of the landscape. Outside the town walls, the major Roman roads entering the town persisted as routes into the medieval period and further lanes were established as suburbs developed on the north, south and eastern sides. Lower Lee Street lies very close to Leicester's eastern suburb which was perhaps established as early as the 11th century, with 12 borders or smallholders recorded in Domesday on the 'Bishop's Fee', either east of St Margaret's church or along Belgrave Gate (Courtney 1998, 122). From the 13th century onwards, this suburb contained both cottages and more substantial properties and by the early modern period was one of the wealthier parts of the borough (ibid 122).

The character and limits of the east suburb have yet to be established through archaeological fieldwork. Very little medieval archaeological evidence has been previously identified within the area around the development site. A medieval jug was found *c.*2.44m deep when digging cellarage for the former Coffee & Cocoa House at 106-8 Belgrave Gate in 1879 (MLC732).

3. Archaeological Research Objectives

3.1 The project has the potential to address the following East Midlands Research Agenda Topics (Knight *et al* 2012):

3.1.1 *Roman*

Ritual and Religion 5.8: Specifically, 5.8.4. Why have so few early Roman burials been found, and may practices have varied regionally and between different communities? 5.5.8. What may studies of later Roman inhumation cemeteries teach us about changing burial practices and demography?

3.2 Specific objectives of the trial trench excavation 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.

3.3 Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the archaeological work 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.

3.4 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

4.1.1 All work will follow the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct (2010) and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations and excavations* (2010).

4.1.2 Staffing, recording systems, health and safety provisions and insurance details are included below.

4.1.3 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

4.2.1 During any machining of trial trenches general photographs of the site areas, including access areas, will be taken. All machine movements will be controlled by a banksman.

4.2.2 We would propose the investigation of three 30m by 1.6m wide trial trenches (140 sq m) trial trenches to achieve a 12-15% sample of the total site area of *c.*115.8 sq m. The plan (Fig. 2) shows the proposed locations of the trenches.

4.2.3 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.

4.2.4 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 palaeosoils and waterlogged deposits in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer.

- 4.2.5 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.
- 4.2.6 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.
- 4.2.7 Trench locations will be recorded by an appropriate method. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 4.2.8 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.
- 4.2.9 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 Planning Authority. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the Planning Authority, ULAS shall, if required, implement an amended scheme of investigation on behalf of the client as appropriate.
- 4.2.10 Any material recovered which would be regarded as treasure following the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to the coroner.
- 4.2.11 The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.

4.3 Recording Systems

- 4.3.1 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.
- 4.3.2. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets.
- 4.3.3 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.
- 4.3.4 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.
- 4.3.5 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, an Accession number will be agreed with the Leicester City Museum Service 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 (e.g. 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 Leicester City 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.

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.

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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 the City 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 in March 2014, to be confirmed. The work is likely to take up to two weeks on site to complete and a minimum of two experienced archaeologists will 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. Employers Liability Insurance and Public/Products Liability Insurance Allianz Insurance plc Policy No. SZ/21696148 Professional Indemnity Insurance – Newline Underwriting Management Ltd Policy No. WD1100541

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)

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Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement
Peacock lane/Applegate/Carey's Close, Leicester

SK583044

For: Askam Construction Ltd

1. Nature of the work

1.1 This statement is for trial trenching. It will be revised following the commencement of operations when the extent of risks can be assessed in full.

1.2 The work will involve hand dug trial trenching within the basements of standing buildings and recording of any underlying archaeological deposits revealed. Overall depth is likely to be c. 0.2-0.5m. This will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. All work will adhere to the University of Leicester Health and Safety Policy and follow the guidance in the Standing Committee of Archaeological Unit Managers manual, as revised in 1997, together with the following relevant Health and Safety guidelines, including the following.

HSE Construction Information Sheet CS8 Safety in excavations.
HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)143 (L): Getting to grips with manual handling.
HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)145 (L): Watch Your back.
CIRIA R97 Trenching practice.
CIRIA TN95 Proprietary Trench Support Systems.
HSE Guidance Note HS(G) 47 Avoiding danger to underground services. HSE Guidance Note GS7 Accidents to children on construction sites

1.3 The Health and Safety policy on site will be reassessed during the evaluation .All work will adhere to the company's health and safety policy.

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 Working within an excavation.

Precautions. No work will be undertaken beneath section faces deeper than 0.75m. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. A member of staff qualified in First Aid will be present at all times. First aid kit, vehicle and mobile phone to be kept on site in case of emergency.

2.2 Working inside a disused building

Precautions.

Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times.

Lighting will be provided by Askam Construction, but each member of staff will carry a torch at all times as a precaution against power failure.

Trenches will be clearly marked and a 'Deep Excavation' sign will be displayed at the entrance to the basement.

The location of emergency exits will be clearly marked and staff will familiarise themselves with safe routes out of the building in the event of fire or other emergency.

There will be no smoking inside the building.

As the work is within a basement with no windows, Staff will take regular breaks.

2.5 Working with chemicals.

If chemicals are used to conserve or help lift archaeological material these will only be used by qualified personnel with protective clothing (i.e. a trained conservator) and will be removed from site immediately after use.

2.6 Other risks

Precautions. If there is any suspicion of unforeseen hazards being encountered e.g. chemical contaminants, unexploded bombs, hazardous gases work will cease immediately. The client and relevant public authorities will be informed immediately.

2.6 No other constraints are recognised over the nature of the soil, water, type of excavation, proximity of structures, sources of vibration and contamination.

6 May 2010

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