

# **Archaeological Services**

An Archaeological Excavation At the former DMU Fletcher Building, Newarke Close, Leicester NGR: SK 5825 0388 centre

Tim Higgins



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# An Archaeological Excavation At the former DMU Fletcher Building Newarke Close, Leicester

NGR: SK 5825 0388

# **Tim Higgins**

For: De Montfort University

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# An Archaeological Excavation at former DMU Fletcher Building Leicester

(NGR: SK 5825 0388)

# **Tim Higgins**

# 1. Summary

A phase of trial trenching at the former DMU Fletcher Building, Newarke Close, Leicester (SK 5825 0388) was followed up with a small excavation by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between 5th June and 27th June, 2014 to mitigate the effects of proposed re-development of the site on buried archaeological remains. The evaluation had shown that a stretch of the western boundary wall of the Newarke – a medieval religious precinct – would be affected by the foundations of the new building. An area measuring c.450m square was excavated, revealing the foundations and lower courses of the wall. On the west side of it (outside the precinct), post-medieval soils covered thick deposits of alluvial clay, presumably derived from flooding episodes of the River Soar. Also on the west side, were two probable boundary ditches on a similar orientation. Various trample layers containing crushed Dane Hills sandstone were found on either side of the wall and are thought to be associated with its construction. One of the layers produced a small quantity of late medieval pottery.

On the east side of the wall, various stratified post medieval soils were recorded in section and some contained large quantities of crushed sandstone that might be associated with the demolition of the wall. For the most part, material built up against the eastern side of the Newarke wall was thought to be generic garden soil accumulation of a post-medieval date. The only post-medieval feature of note found within the soils was a narrow drain feature filled with horse bone located on the east side of the wall. Amongst the finds found within the garden soils was a small lead musket ball, perhaps residual evidence of Civil War activity within precinct wall.

The archive will be held by Leicester City Museums under the accession number A8.2014.

# 2. Introduction

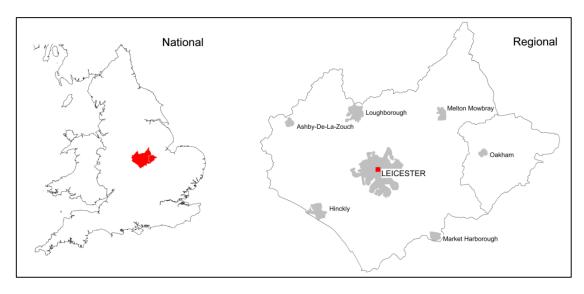
- 2.1 A phase of archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching on the site of the former DMU Fletcher Building, Newarke Close, Leicester in March 2014 (Morris 2014) revealed archaeological features which included a stretch of the western boundary wall of the Newarke, a medieval religious precinct. An assessment of proposals to construct a new six-storey academic building on the site, to provide a Faculty of Art, Design and Humanities with ancillary offices, cafes and other facilities (app. no. 20140095), indicated that there would be some impact on buried archaeological remains. For this reason, the City Archaeologist advised the planning authority that a small area of the site should be investigated to ensure that affected remains were adequately excavated and recorded before construction commenced.
- 2.2 University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) carried out the excavation between 5th June and 27th June 2014, following a methodology detailed in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Buckley 2014) approved by the City Archaeologist and in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment (DCLG 2012). The work was undertaken on behalf of De Montfort University.

This report presents the final results of the archaeological investigation.

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# 3. Site Description, topography and geology

- 3.1 The Fletcher Building lies on De Montfort University's main campus, close to the River Soar, between Newarke Close and Mill Lane, approximately 880m southwest of Leicester city centre (SK 5825 0388.). The work area comprises *c*.3576 sq m of land formerly occupied by the western half of the Fletcher Building, recently demolished.
- 3.2 The British Geological Survey of Great Britain, sheet 156 (Leicester) shows that the underlying geology is likely to consist of superficial deposits of alluvium (clay, silt, sand and gravel) overlying bedrock deposits of mudstone belonging to the Branscombe Mudstone Formation (BGS 2008). The site lies on relatively level ground at *c*.56m OD, with ground in the site's north-east corner artificially raised to *c*.57.5m OD.



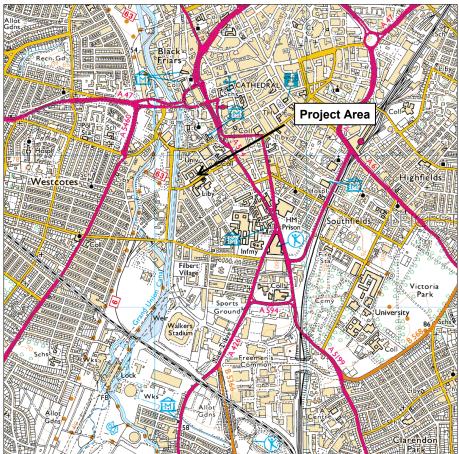


Figure 1 Location plan of the site

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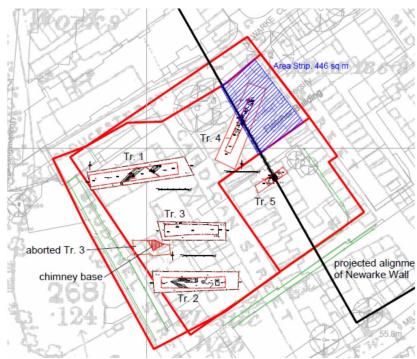


Figure 2 Location of the area excavation (shaded in blue) and previous evaluation trenches

# 4. Archaeological and Historical background

- 4.1 The site lies to the south of the Roman and medieval walled area, within the town's southern suburb; an area of known archaeological potential. Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the proposed development area at Grange Lane, Bonners Lane, Mill Lane, Oxford Street and York Road have uncovered significant remains of Roman, Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date.
- 4.2 The development area lies to the south of the Roman southern town defences, which comprised in their final phase, an earth rampart fronted with a substantial stone wall with interval towers and one or more ditches. To the east was the road to Tripontium, modern Caves Inn on the Warwickshire border. The area outside the walls was typically used for the town's cemeteries, evidence for which has been detected along Newarke Street to the east and Oxford Street to the south-east. It is unclear if a cemetery exists on the western side of the Tripontium road, although a number of individual Roman burials/human bones and cremations have been recovered from the area. Five Roman inhumations were also excavated on the Newarke Houses Garden site and it is unclear if they could be part of a large cemetery in that area. To the south-east, at 52 Grange Lane, an archaeological excavation produced well-preserved and stratified remains from the Roman and medieval periods (Thomas 2005, 2010). Four early Roman urned cremation burials and an associated small timber building were apparently part of a small cemetery dating to the 1st century AD lying adjacent to the projected line of the Roman road to Tripontium. At least three phases of 3rd-4th century AD Roman roadside occupation included cobbled surfaces, pits, ditches and structural remains as well as a corn-drier and stonelined well. In places an unexpectedly deep sequence of deposits was revealed particularly in the northern half of the site.

- 4.3 In the medieval period, the development area partially covers the site of the Newarke, a religious precinct containing a college of canons, with a church, hospital and many other buildings. After the Dissolution it became an autonomous enclave of Leicester for the wealthy. The remains of religious and ancillary buildings associated with the Collegiate Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary are very likely to exist inside the enclosure, including the former burial ground of the church itself. Medieval structures and back-yard activity are also likely to be found in the area outside the Newarke.
- 4.4 The Newarke was the main focus of attack during the two sieges of Leicester during the English Civil War in 1645. In addition, post-Civil War late 17th century and 18th century buildings associated with post-Dissolution occupation of the Newarke and the re-building of the south suburbs after the Civil War are likely to be present. Evidence for Leicester's Civil War defences was revealed during excavations at Bonners Lane and Mill Lane, to the south-east of the development area (Finn 1994, 2002 & 2004). Here also, evidence of prehistoric, Roman and medieval occupation outside of the town wall were discovered.
- 4.5 Nearby, to the north of the development site, seven trial trenches excavated in the former William Baker premises revealed a number of archaeological features and deposits including the stone west and north walls of the Newarke enclosure and a stone lined conduit which seems to form part of the documented Newarke medieval conduits (Maull 2001).

#### 2014 Evaluation

An archaeological field evaluation (trial trenching) was carried out at the former DMU Fletcher Building, Newarke Close, Leicester (SK 5825 0388) by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between 18th March and 28th March, 2014. Five machine-excavated trenches, sampling 9% of the site, identified thick deposits of made ground, believed to be imported in the 19th century to raise the ground level above the flood plain of the River Soar before construction of factories and terraced housing across the site. Soils beneath contained 17th and 18th century material. On the eastern side of the site, these covered the remains of a substantial stone wall running north to south. On the basis of evidence from maps and nearby archaeological investigations, this was identified as the remains of the 15th century western precinct wall surrounding the Newarke, a religious close immediately south of the medieval town. The wall's foundation and lower courses remained in-situ. On the western side of the site, post-medieval soils covered thick deposits of alluvial clay, presumably derived from flooding episodes of the River Soar. Two linear features, possibly ditches or wall footings, were recorded broadly running at right-angles between the Newarke wall and the river. One produced a small quantity of late medieval pottery, the other remained undated. These were thought to may be field boundaries.

# 5. Aims and Objectives

5.1 Based on the results on the archaeological field evaluation (Morris 2014), it was considered that the project had the potential to address the following East Midlands Research Agenda Topics (Knight *et al* 2012):

# High Medieval

- Urbanism (7.1): 7.1.1 How did the major towns and smaller market towns of the region develop after the Norman Conquest, both within the urban core and in suburban and extra mural areas?
- Religion (7.5) 7.5.2 Can we discern significant differences in the planning, economy and landscape impact of the different monastic orders?
  - 7.5.3 Can we elucidate further the development of hospitals and colleges?
  - 7.5.5 How can we refine our understanding of local and regional architectural styles including sculptured stonework, decorations and monuments?

These research aims were identified based on the current state of knowledge within the area of the scheme, but would be re-assessed and updated during the course of the fieldwork.

The principle aims of the archaeological excavation were:

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

# 6. Methodology

- 6.1 All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct (2010) and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008). The LCC *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (1997) were adhered to.
- 6.2 The site investigation comprised one open area excavation of approximately 446 sq.m (Blue area Figure 2 and area out lined in red Figure 3) and located in the north-east corner of the development area. Demolition rubble and overburden were removed in level spits by mechanical excavator, equipped with a flat-bladed ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision until archaeological levels were reached. The excavation area was stepped with sections sloped to allow safe access to the archaeological deposits. Once such deposits were revealed, these were hand cleaned and planned in full extent, followed by excavation and recording, using additional personnel. Some limited additional excavation of sections through substantial homogeneous deposits was undertaken with a mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision to help find the extent of significant archaeological remains identified during the period of hand excavation.

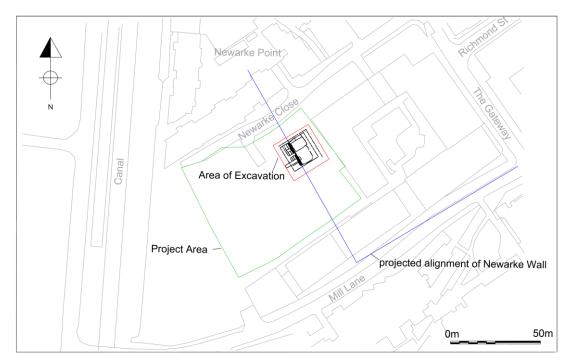


Figure 3 Location plan

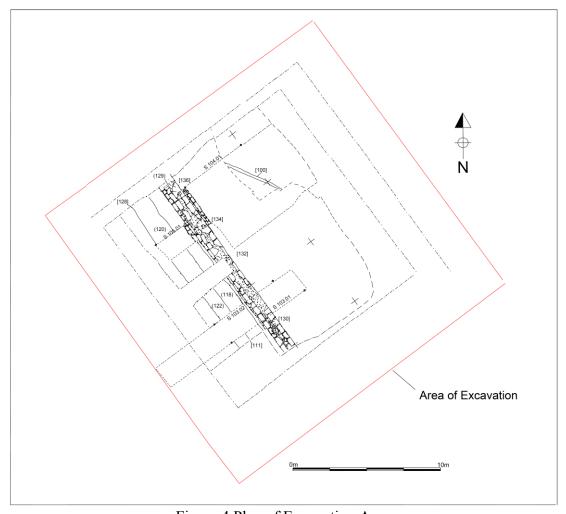


Figure 4 Plan of Excavation Area

### 7. Results

# • Phase 1 Pre Late Medieval

Alluvial Clays (Figures 6, 7 and 8) Contexts (105), (106), (107), (108), (109), (110), (119), (138) and (139)

The combination of machine and hand excavation exposed the underlying natural substratum (at a height of 54.55m aOD), which consisted of pale yellowish-grey sands mixed with grey alluvial clays and small to medium pebbles Contexts (105), (106), (107), (108), (109), (110), (119), (138) and (139). Although the natural substratum comprised sands and gravel and did drain freely when first exposed, observations of lenses and horizons of iron panning suggested that the clay had been subjected to fluctuations from a rising water table.



Plate 1 Section 104.01 alluvial deposits on the east side of the precinct wall

# • Phase 2 Late Medieval

Boundary Ditches (Figures 6 and 8) Contexts cut [114], Fill (113) and cut [117], Fill (116)

Alluvial clay (Figure 6 and 8) Context Layer (115)

Wall Foundation (Figures 5, 6 and 8) (Plates 2 and 3) Contexts cut [128], Foundation (129) and Fills (112), (120) and (121) Construction trample deposits (102), (103), (104), (122) and (127)

On the western side of the excavation area, the underlying alluvial clays appeared to have been cut by two parallel ditch features at a height of 54.47m aOD, cuts [114] and [117]. Both were revealed in a machine-cut trench and were thought to have had a north to south orientation.

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The first ditch [114] was approximately 1.15m wide and 0.27m deep and had gradual sloping sides and rounded base. It contained a single fill (113) containing dark greyish-brown silty clay mixed with occasional charcoal flecks. The second trench [117] was located approximately 0.30m to the west of the first ditch and measured 0.50m wide and 0.45 m deep. It had steep sloping sides and a narrow rounded base with a single fill (116), comprising pale orange grey silty clay mixed with the occasional charcoal fleck.

These ditches appeared to be sealed by a layer of alluvial clay (115) – a pale grey silty clay measuring 0.30m thick and mixed with occasional charcoal flecks. Both ditch fills and the overlying layer had lenses and horizons of iron panning suggesting that the clay had been subjected to fluctuations from a rising water table. No datable finds were found associated with the ditches and the overlying layer, but they were all clearly earlier than the foundation cut of the precinct wall [128]. These ditches could either indicate an early boundary division which predates the wall or perhaps ditches associated with medieval field systems.

On the western side of the excavation area the Newarke Wall, cut [128], crossed the trench on a north-north-west to south-south-east orientation. A section across the wall revealed the foundation cut [128], showing it to be a very wide partial freestanding footing. During construction, the foundation cut would probably have had sufficient space for a man to stand on the west side. Here, the foundation had a gradual stepped cut, whilst on the east side was a very steep near vertical cut. Both sides broke sharply into a wide, flat, base at 53.87m aOD and the foundation cut measured 2.10m wide and 0.70m deep. The stone foundation was built up abutting the vertical east side of the foundation and measured approximately 1.50m wide and 1.50m deep. It was constructed with large roughly hewn Dane Hills sandstone blocks (up to 750x300x250mm) with an inner rubble core, all bonded with yellow-grey mortar. Segments of superstructure had survived as one course of roughly squared sandstone blocks, c.1m wide (at a height of 55.29m aOD). These had been built on a c.1.5m wide plinth of squared sandstone blocks which rested on the foundation of roughly squared sandstone.

The west side of the foundation cut was backfilled with a deposit that comprised crushed Dane Hills sandstone mixed with light grey-brown silty clay, contexts (112), (120) and (121). On the west side of the wall, the foundation back fill was sealed by a 0.10m-thick trample deposit (122), which comprised mid brown silty clay mixed with occasional charcoal flecks. This deposit contained medieval pottery sherds, which included Potters Marston and Chilvers Coton ware and both have a terminal date from c.1300 into the 14th century.

On the east side of the wall a similar deposit was seen, contexts (102), (103), (104), (122) and (127). This extensive layer measured 0.30m deep and comprised greyish-brown silty clay mixed with frequent fragments of crushed Dane Hills sandstone and charcoal flecks. This deposit is also thought to be construction horizon for the building of the Newarke wall and appears to have accumulated against the east side of the wall.

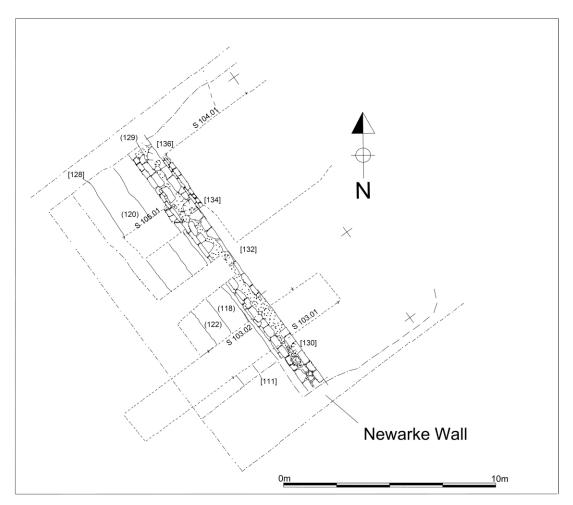


Figure 5 Plan of Newarke Wall



Plate 2 Precinct wall plinth and foundations looking south



Plate 3 Precinct wall plinth and foundations looking north



Plate 4 Precinct Wall foundation section 103.01 looking south

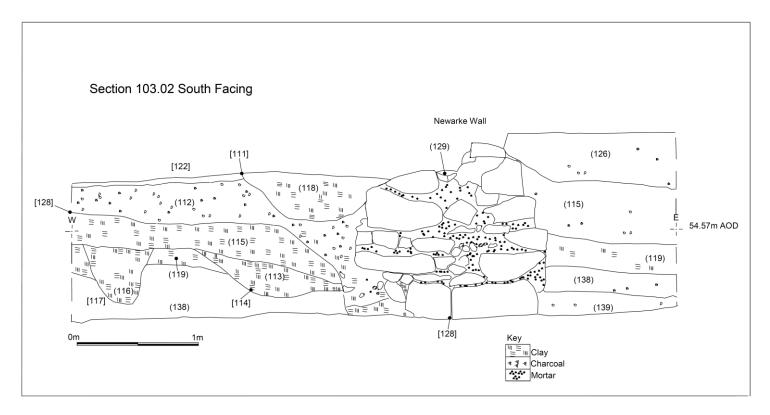


Figure 6 Section 103.02 South Facing

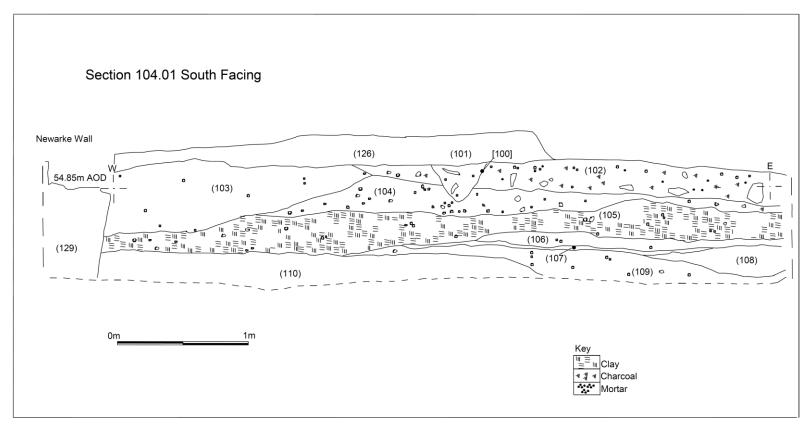


Figure 7 Section 104.01 South Facing

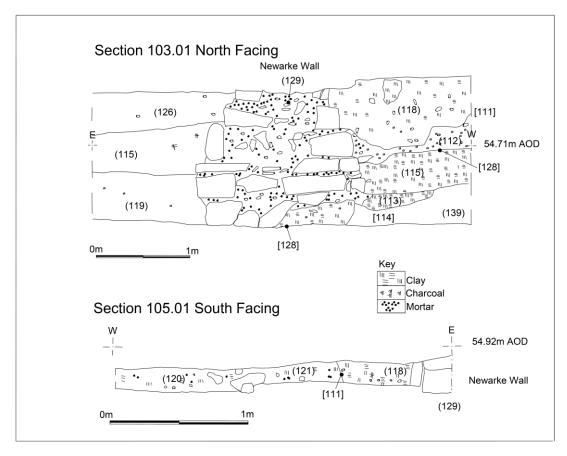


Figure 8 Section 103.01 North Facing and Section 105.01 South Facing

### Phase 3 Post medieval to Modern

Garden soil (Figure 6 and 7) Contexts layers (123) and (126)

Land Drain (Figure 4) and Plate 4 Contexts cut [100] fill (101)

Demolition of wall intrusive feature (Figures 5, 6 and 8) Contexts cut [111], fill (118)

Boundary Fence (Figure 5)
Post hole cut [130], fill (131); cut [132], fill (133); cut [134], fill (135) and cut [136], fill (137).

The construction horizons associated with the Newarke wall were sealed by a layer of dark greyish-brown silty clay mixed with flecks of orange-brown sand, spreads of clay (127), charcoal flecks, ash and orange brown sand approximately 0.50m deep contexts (123) (126). The pottery sherds and tile found within this area suggest a post-medieval date of the 17th-19th century (Sawday below).

This layer of garden soil was cut by a land drain orientated west to east. The drain measured 0.35m wide and 0.30m deep. It had vertical sides and a flat base and was filled with horse bone. The garden soils was sealed under a modern layer of dark greyish-brown clays 1.00m deep, which was truncated by various Victorian and modern brick and concrete foundations.

Dug down against the western face of the Newarke wall, truncating garden soils (123) and (126), was a linear feature [111] filled with dark brown-grey clayey silt (118) and red-brown clay. The cut (118) had moderate sloping sides with an uneven stepped base and measured 0.30m deep and 1.30m wide. This feature appeared to be either a ditch or is a trench associated with the demolition or modifications to the wall. This feature contained large quantities of post-medieval and modern pottery and porcelain.

After the demolition of the masonry wall, the excavations along this section of wall revealed that four post holes had been excavated into the top of the remaining plinth masonry, cuts [130], [132], [134] and [136]. The oval cuts had moderately sloping sides and rounded bases. They contained dark greyish-brown silty clay fills, contexts (131), (133), (135) and (137). The post holes generally measured approximately 0.50m long, 0.3m deep and 0.20m deep and were spaced 1.30m apart. The post holes are perhaps remnants of fence erected after the demolition of the masonry wall and had maintained a property boundary along the same alignment as the wall.

Traces of brickwork were found on the western face of the wall, suggesting refacing, perhaps when coinciding with the construction of a brick wall above it on the same alignment.

Above these various layers and wall foundations were modern soils and features. Remains of various brick floor and yard surface were uncovered at c.55.75m aOD and c.55.84m aOD respectively. These were laid on thick deposits of ash and cinder, in

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turn covering c.0.5m of dark soil and redeposited alluvial clay. Dug through these soils were a number of pipe trenches and brick walls which could be related to buildings present on the 1888 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. The brickwork and yard surfaces coincide with the backs of a terraced house that once fronted onto the former Cardigan Street and Gray Street. The new brick wall constructed directly over the over the line of the Newarke wall coincided with a boundary wall marking the backs of terraced housing on Cardigan Street and Gray Street. Other modern disturbances lie in yard/garden areas associated with this housing.



Plate 5 Land Drain cut [100] filled with horse bone

# 8. Discussion.

Overall, the results of the archaeological investigation were positive, with archaeological evidence that is consistent with activity of late medieval or post-medieval date occurring in and around the Newarke precinct in Leicester's historic southern suburb.

The substantial masonry wall found in the previous evaluation (Morris 2014), and re exposed during these excavations, is on the line of the 15th-century precinct wall surrounding the Newarke. Sections of the wall were recorded in two trenches (4 and 5), c.20m apart, and their projected alignment matches that of another section of the same wall found by Northampton Archaeology during an evaluation of a site immediately north of the project area (Maull 2001).

Excavation of sections through the wall showed that it had a very wide partially freestanding foundation cut, probably with sufficient space for a mason to stand on the western side during construction. The stone foundation measured approximately 1.50m wide and 1.50m deep, and was constructed with large roughly hewn Dane Hills sandstone blocks and had inner rubble core, which were all mortared bonded

By overlaying historic Ordnance Survey maps with the results of the evaluation and excavation it has been possible to show that the wall's alignment remained long after it had been demolished, as a boundary dividing properties built on Gray Street to the east and Cardigan Street to the west. Archaeologically, this was evident in both the evaluation (Morris 2014) and excavation, where phases of fences and brickwork of apparent 18th- and 19th-century construction were built on top of the foundation of the medieval wall. The alignment remained until the site was cleared in the 1960s for construction of the Fletcher Building.

Dating the wall is problematic. Historically, it is believed that it was constructed sometime between c.1400-1422 AD as part of a major redevelopment of the religious precinct following the ascent to the throne as King Henry IV in 1399 of Henry Bolingbroke, Duke of Lancaster and earl of Leicester. Archaeologically, evidence is more elusive. Excavation of the wall on the eastern side of the precinct found that it was unlikely to have been built before the 14th century and that it was definitely present during the 15th century but could not be more precise (Morris 2010). On this site, a 'construction' horizon of crushed building waste was found trampled into alluvial clay on both sides of the wall. Pottery sherds found associated with these trample deposits included Potters Marston and Chilvers Coton ware and both have a terminal date from c.1300 into the 14th century.

Overlying soil layers post-dating the wall's demolition contained late 17th-18th century material.

Unfortunately this excavation revealed no additional structural remains to the east of the wall, within the precinct. Here, various stratified soils were recorded in section and some contained large quantities of crushed sandstone that might be associated with the demolition of the wall. For the most part, material built up against the eastern side of the Newarke wall was generic soil accumulation. The only post-medieval feature of note was a narrow drain feature filled with horse bone found on the east side of the wall. Amongst the finds found within the garden soils was a small lead musket ball, which was thought to be residual evidence of Civil War activity within precinct wall.

On the west side of the wall, two undated ditch features were seen in section cutting alluvial clays and appeared to be pre-date the wall and were believed to be running in a north to south direction on the same alignment as the Newarke wall. The ditches are thought to be perhaps a precursor boundary ditch. However they could also be associated with field boundaries as evaluation trenches outside the precinct to the west, did reveal two ditches. These ditches were recorded broadly running at right-angles between the Newarke wall and the river (Morris 2014). One produced a small quantity of late medieval pottery, the other remained undated. These were thought to be field boundaries, perhaps dividing the area into a series of closes or meadows.

# 9. Conclusion

This excavation has added considerably to our knowledge of the boundary wall of the Newarke precinct, giving the opportunity for a detailed examination of the structure both in plan and section. Unfortunately this excavation revealed no additional structural remains on the east side of the wall, within the precinct. Here various stratified soils were recorded in section and some contained large quantities of crushed sandstone that might be associated with the demolition of the wall. For the most part, material built up against the eastern side of the Newarke wall was generic soil accumulation. The only post-medieval feature of note was a narrow drain feature filled with horse bone found on the east side of the wall. Amongst the finds found within the garden soils was a small lead musket ball, which was thought to be residual evidence of civil war activity within precinct wall.

# 10. Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by De Montfort University.

Thanks are due to Umesh Desai and Richard Smith of Estates & Commercial Services for their co-operation and assistance throughout the project and to Chris Wardle (Planning Archaeologist), who monitored the work on behalf of Leicester City Council.

Work on site was directed by Tim Higgins with the assistance of Luis Huscroft, Scot Lomax, Tony Gnanaratman, and Rebecca Hearne.

Thanks to the specialists Debbie Sawday and Nick Cooper both of ULAS. The project was managed by Dr Richard Buckley.

# 11. Archive

The full site archive includes all artefactual and/ or ecofactual remains recovered from the site. The documentary archive comprises:

- 39 Context records
- 6 Site plan and section drawing sheets
- 2 Context indices sheets A4 pages
- 3 Photo index sheets A4 pages
- 2 Drawing index sheet A4 page
- 1 level indices sheets A4 pages
- monochrome films
- digital photographs (jpegs)
- N4Ce survey files
- TurboCad Drawings

The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990) and Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (Museum and Art Galleries Commission, 1992). Finds and the paper archive will be deposited with Leicester City Museums.

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12.09.2014

# **Appendix 1 Oasis Summary**

| INFORMATION<br>REQUIRED          |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Project Name                     | An Archaeological Excavation at former DMU Fletcher Building, |
| 1 Toject Name                    | Leicester   |
|                                  |   |
| Project Type                     | Excavation  |
| Project Manager                  | Dr Richard Buckley  |
| Project Supervisor               | Tim Higgins   |
| Previous/Future work             | Previous work: Desk based assessment, Evaluation              |
| Current Land Use                 | Vacant Plot   |
| Development Type                 | New Campus development  |
| Reason for Investigation         | NPPF  |
| Position in the Planning Process | Post determination  |
| Site Co ordinates                | NGR: SK 5825 0388 centre                                      |
| Start/end dates of field work    | 5th June to 27th June 2014                                    |
| Archive Recipient                | Leicester City Museums  |
| Study Area                       | c. 446sq m  |

# **Appendix 2 Context List**

# **Context List**

Phase 1: Medieval Phase 2: Post Medieval Phase 3: Modern

| Area 1   |         |        |       |   |       |         |
|----------|---------|--------|-------|---|-------|---------|
| Cont No. | Cut No. | Area 1 | Type  | Description   | Below | Phase   |
| 100      | 10      | Area 1 | cut   | Cut post medieval. Narrow linear cut with steep sides and flat base. Measured 0.35m wide and 0.30m deep. A linear feature or drain running north-west to south-east   |       | Phase 3 |
| 101      | 100     | Area 1 | Fill  | Fill post medieval feature. Fill dark greyish brown silty clay mixed with abundant horse bone   | 100   | Phase 3 |
| 102      |         | Area 1 | layer | Late medieval Layer. Greyish brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks and crushed Dane Hills sandstone. Probable trample layer associated with the construction of the precinct wall. 0.25m thick  |       | Phase 2 |
| 103      | 102     | Area 1 | layer | Late medieval Layer. Dark yellowish brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks. Probable trample layer associated with the construction of the precinct wall. 0.55m thick  |       | Phase 2 |
| 104      |         | Area 1 | layer | Late medieval Layer. Dark yellowish brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks. Probable trample layer associated with the construction of the precinct wall. 0.25m thick  | 102   | Phase 2 |
| 105      |         | Area 1 | layer | Dark yellowish brown clay layer silty clay. Buried alluvial clay layer.   | 104   | Phase 1 |
| 106      |         | Area 1 | layer | Dark orange brown clay layer silty clay. Buried alluvial clay layer. 0.10m thick  | 105   | Phase 1 |
| 107      |         | Area 1 | layer | Greyish brown clay layer silty clay. Buried alluvial clay layer. 0.10m thick  | 106   | Phase 1 |
| 108      |         | Area 1 | layer | Dark grey clay layer silty clay. Buried alluvial clay layer. 0.25m thick  | 107   | Phase 1 |
| 109      |         | Area 1 | Layer | Dark yellowish brown clay layer silty clay. Buried alluvial clay layer. 0.40m thick   | 108   | Phase 1 |
| 110      |         | Area 1 | layer | Pale yellowish brown clay layer silty clay. Buried alluvial clay layer. 110 0.45m thick   |       | Phase 1 |
| 111      | 111     | Area 1 | cut   | Post medieval – modern. Linear ditch or trench cut along the west side of the precinct wall. Gradual stepped sloping sides and uneven base. 1.30m wide 0.30m deep   |       | Phase 3 |
| 112      | 128     | Area 1 | fill  | Late medieval fill. Light greyish brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks and crushed Dane Hills sandstone. Probable trample layer associated with the construction of the precinct wall. 0.27m thick and with foundation cut [128]         |       | Phase 2 |
| 113      | 128     | Area 1 |       | Medieval fill. Dark greyish brown clay mixed with occasional charcoal fleck. Fill of ditch 1.15m wide and 0.27m deep  |       | Phase 1 |
| 114      | 114     | Area 1 | cut   | Medieval. Linear ditch cut with gradual sloping sides and rounded base. Measured 0.27m deep and 1.15m wide  | 129   | Phase 1 |
| 115      |         | Area 1 | layer | Layer. Pale greyish brown organic clay mixed occasional charcoal fleck. Alluvial deposit. 0.30m thick.  | 128   | Phase 1 |
| 116      | 117     | Area 1 | fill  | Fill of ditch feature. Pale orange grey silty clay mixed with occasion charcoal fleck. 0.45m thick and 0.50m wide   | 115   | Phase 1 |
| 117      | 117     | Area 1 | cut   | Linear cut. A ditch feature with steep sides and rounded base. 0.45n deep and 0.50m wide.   | 116   | Phase 1 |
| 118      | 111     | Area 1 | fill  | Post Modern – modern. Fill of a trench. Greyish brown silty clay mixed reddish brown clay. Dirty mixed with charcoal flecks   |       | Phase 3 |
| 119      |         | Area 1 | layer | Greyish brown clay layer silty clay. Buried alluvial clay layer. 0.23m thick  | 117   | Phase 1 |
| 120      |         | Area 1 | layer | Late medieval fill. Pale greyish brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks and crushed Dane Hills sandstone. Probable trample layer associated with the construction of the precinct wall. 0.20m minimum depth and below foundation cut [128] | 128   | Phase 1 |
| 121      |         | Area 1 | layer | Late medieval fill. Dark orange brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks and crushed Dane Hills sandstone. Probable trample layer associated with the construction of the precinct wall. 0.20m minimum depth and below foundation cut [128]  | 128   | Phase 1 |
| 122      |         | Area 1 | Layer | Mid brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks and fragments Dane<br>Hills sandstone. Trample deposit 0.05m to 0.10m thick   | 123   | Phase 2 |

| 123 |     | Area 1 | Layer  | Garden soil. Dark greyish brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks. 0.50m +  | 111 | Phase 3 |
|-----|-----|--------|--------|---|-----|---------|
| 124 |     | Area 1 | Layer  | Greyish brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks, rounded pebbles and fragments Dane Hills sandstone. Trample deposit 0.05m to 0.25m thick           | 123 | Phase 3 |
| 125 |     | Area 1 | Layer  | Greyish brown silty clay mixed with charcoal flecks, rounded pebbles and fragments Dane Hills sandstone. Trample deposit 0.05m to 0.25m thick           |     | Phase 3 |
| 126 |     | Area 1 | layer  | Greyish brown silty clay very dirty mixed with charcoal flecks, ash, fragments of Dane Hills sandstone. Depth 0.50m                                     |     | Phase 3 |
| 127 |     | Area 1 | spread | Reddish brown clay. Mixed with orange brown flint found within this deposit. 0.20m thick  |     | Phase 3 |
| 128 |     | Area 1 | cut    | Very large linear wall foundation cut with steep vertical east side. Gradual sloping sides. Wide cut with flat base suggesting partial freestanding cut | 129 | Phase 1 |
| 129 | 128 | Area 1 | Fill   | Wall foundation Dane Hills sandstone blocks and rubble core all bonded with mortar. The foundation measured 1.45m deep and 1.55m thick                  | 112 | Phase 2 |
| 130 | 130 | Area 1 | cut    | Half circular cut with gradual sloping sides and rounded base. Measuring 0.25m long, 0.20m wide and 0.20m deep  | 131 | Phase 3 |
| 131 | 130 | Area 1 | fill   | Dark greyish brown silty clay mixed with small pebbles and charcoal flecks  |     | Phase 3 |
| 132 | 132 | Area 1 | cut    | Irregular circular shape with gradual sloping sides and a rounded base. Measuring 0.25m long, 0.25m wide and 0.15m deep                                 | 133 | Phase 3 |
| 133 | 132 | Area 1 | fill   | Dark greyish brown silty clay mixed with small pebbles and charcoal flecks  |     | Phase 3 |
| 134 | 134 | Area 1 | cut    | Irregular circular shape with gradual sloping sides and a rounded base. Measuring 0.50m long, 0.30m wide and 0.15m deep                                 | 135 | Phase 3 |
| 135 | 134 | Area 1 | fill   | Dark greyish brown silty clay mixed with small pebbles and charcoal flecks  |     | Phase 3 |
| 136 | 136 | Area 1 | cut    | Irregular circular shape with gradual sloping sides and a rounded base. Measuring 0.55m long, 0.30m wide and 0.15m deep                                 | 137 | Phase 3 |
| 137 | 136 | Area 1 | fill   | Dark greyish brown silty clay mixed with small pebbles and charcoal flecks  |     | Phase 3 |
| 138 |     | Area 1 | layer  | Light orange brown clay layer silty clay. Buried alluvial clay layer  |     | Phase 1 |
| 139 |     | Area 1 | laver  | Orange brown clay layer silty clay. Buried alluvial clay layer  |     | Phase 1 |

# **Appendix 3 Finds**

# The Post Roman Pottery and Miscellaneous Finds

Deborah Sawday

#### Introduction

The finds were listed by context, number and weight (grams). The results are shown below (table 1).

# The Pottery and Miscellaneous Material

The pottery, thirteen fragments, weighing 3.558kg was catalogued with reference to the guidelines set out by the Medieval Pottery Research Group, (MPRG 1998), (MPRG, 2001) and the ULAS fabric series (Sawday 2009).

The earliest material was found in context 122, which produced single sherds in Potters Marston, which dates generally from c.1100 and Chilvers Coton A ware, fabric CC1, dated from c.1250. Both have a terminal date from c.1300 into the 14th century.

Part of a teapot in Mottled ware, fabric EA3, dating from *c*.1730 to 1775 (Celoria, and Kelly 1973) and a fragment of post-medieval or modern clay tobacco pipe were found in context 118. Context 123 produced part of a mug, transfer printed purple under glaze, and a shallow bowl transfer printed blue under glaze. Both these vessels were in Fine White Earthenware/China, fabric EA10, and dated to the 19th century.

The unstratified material included five shallow cylindrical bowl-like vessels in coarse Earthenware. Two are virtually complete, and have an internal diameter of c.110 mm and a height of approximately 70mm; one has slag residue underneath. Two of the vessels have been luted together.

## **Conclusions**

The relatively early date range for the pottery in context 122; a construction deposit for the wall of the Newarke, ties in with the documentary evidence which records the development of the southern suburb by c.1200 (Courtney 1998, 124) and the archaeological evidence from elsewhere suggests that that development was under way in the suburb by at least c.1100 (Finn 2004, 63), whilst the establishment of the Newarke precinct is dated from c.1330 (Pevsner 1984, 27).

The unstratified Earthenware vessels may have been for industrial use. The highly decorated bobbin from a Victorian well was probably used for lace-making.

Celoria, F.S.C., and Kelly J.H., 1973 A post-medieval pottery site with a kiln base found off Albion Square, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England 1973, *City of Stoke-on-Trent Museum Archaeological Society*, **4.** 

Courtney, P., 1998 'Saxon and Medieval Leicester, the Making of an Urban Landscape' in *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*, **72**, 110-145

Finn, N., 2004 The *Origins of a Leicester Suburb*. British Archaeological Reports (British Series) **372.** 

MPRG, 1998 A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms. Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 1, London.

MPRG, 2001. Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Saxon and Medieval Ceramics

Pevsner, N., 1984 (revised by E. Williamson) *The Buildings of England: Leicestershire and Rutland* 

Sawday, D., 2009, 'The medieval and post medieval pottery and tile' in J. Coward and G. Speed, *Urban Life in Leicester: An Archaeological Excavation at Freeschool Lane*. Vol 2 *Specialist Reports* ULAS Report No.2009-140, v2, 36-182

Table 1: The post Roman pottery by fabric, sherd/fragment numbers and weight (grams) & miscellaneous finds by context.

| Fabric/ware                         | no  | gr   | Comments  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|
|                                     |   | -  |   |
| EA3 – Mottled ware                  | 5   | 150  | Part of teapot, including spout, with press moulded decoration. Similar vessels at Stoke on Trent dated from c.1730-1775, (Celoria and Kelly, 1973, nos. 188 and 193).  |
| PM – Potters Marston                | 1   | 12   | Body fragment, c. 1100-1300+  |
| CC1 – Chilvers Coton A ware         | 1   | 11   | Incised horizontal lines under green lead glaze, c.1250-1300+.  |
| EA10 - Fine White Earthenware/China | 1   | 121  | Profile mug, transfer printed purple under glaze, c.1820 +  |
| EA10 - Fine White Earthenware/China | 1   | 61   | Shallow handled bowl, transfer printed blue under glaze, mid-later 19 <sup>th</sup> C.  |
| Earthenware                         | 4   | 3203   | Five shallow cylindrical bowl-like vessels two virtually complete, one with slag residue underneath, two are conjoined. Internal diameter.110 mm height approximately 70mm – possibly for industrial use. Postmedieval/modern   |
| ANEOUS                              |   |  |   |
| China Clay                          | 1   |  | Tobacco pipe stem, post<br>medieval/modern  |
|                                     | PM – Potters Marston CC1 – Chilvers Coton A ware  EA10 - Fine White Earthenware/China  EA10 - Fine White Earthenware/China  Earthenware | EA3 – Mottled ware 5  PM – Potters Marston 1  CC1 – Chilvers Coton A ware 1  EA10 - Fine White Earthenware/China 1  EA10 - Fine White Earthenware/China 1  Earthenware 4 | EA3 – Mottled ware       5       150         PM – Potters Marston       1       12         CC1 – Chilvers Coton A ware       1       11         EA10 - Fine White Earthenware/China       1       121         EA10 - Fine White Earthenware/China       1       61         Earthenware       4       3203 |

| Site/ Parish: Newarke Close, Fetcher | Submitter: T. Higgins            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Building, DMU Leicester              | Identifier: D. Sawday            |
| Accession No.: A8 2014               | Date of Identification: 8.7.2014 |
| Document Ref: DMU3.docx              | Method of Recovery: excavation   |
| Site Type: extra mural/construction  | Job Number: 14-085               |
| deposit Newarke wall.                | Material: pottery/clay pipe/bone |

# Small Finds from De Montfort University (Fletcher Building) A8.2014

Nicholas J. Cooper

Three objects of intrinsic interest were recovered unstratified during the excavations and are catalogued below.

# **Item of Dress**

Sf 101 U/S Victorian Backfill. Circular, bone button with copper alloy shank in situ. Plano-convex in section; the flat surface having a recess around the circumference, suggesting that it may have been composite, with a separate, perhaps leather cover, now missing. Diameter 14mm, thickness 3mm. Post-medieval or modern in date.

# **Tool or Fitting**

Sf103 U/S. Hollow, bell-shaped copper alloy fitting, open at both ends; probably the collar from a wooden-handled tool. The side has a single perforation, probably for a nail to secure it to a wooden handle of circular section. Narrow open end has a moulded collar to surround a projecting blade or other metal utensil. Length 46mm, diameter at open end 33mm, diameter at narrow open end 20mm. Post-medieval or modern in date though no parallels traced.

# Military equipment

Sf 104 Unstratified. Pb musket ball. Diameter of ball 14mm. Probably belongs to the larger class of shot, of twelve to the pound, judging by the diameter of over 10mm. Casting sprues would originally have joined each shot to a 'header', the waste evidence for which has been discovered at Beeston Castle (Courtney 1988, 3 and fig.5). Similar examples have come from other sites on the Civil War defences of the Newarke Enclosure or nearby, for example at Grange Lane.

# Objects associated with the manufacture of textiles

Sf 100 Unstratified. Bone bobbin. 19th-century turned and highly decorated bobbin – possibly for lace-making. (MacGregor 1985)

# References

Courtney, P. 1988 *Small Arms Accessories of the Mid-Seventeenth Century*. Finds Research Group 700-1700 Datasheet 11. Oxford: University of Oxford.

MacGregor, A., 1985, Bone Antler Ivory and Horn. London: Croom Helm p.183-4

# **Appendix 4 Design Specification**

# UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

# Written scheme of investigation for archaeological work

Job title: Former DMU Fletcher Building, Newarke Close, Leicester

NGR: SK 5825 0388

Client: De Montfort University

Planning Authority: Leicester City Council

P.A. 20140095

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document is a design specification for an archaeological excavation at the above site, in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12 Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment (DCLG 2012). The fieldwork specified below is required in advance of groundworks on the site which may disturb areas of archaeological potential in connection with a planning application for proposed development.
- 1.2 The document provides details of the work proposed by ULAS on behalf of the client following consultation with Leicester City Council on behalf of the planning authority. It will be submitted to the City Archaeologist for approval before archaeological investigation by ULAS is implemented. The document provides details of the work proposed by ULAS on behalf of the client for Archaeological excavation.

# 2. Background

# 2.1 Site location

The site lies between Newarke Close and Mill Lane, in the southern part of Leicester City Centre, on land currently occupied by the De Montfort University Fletcher Building.

### 2.2 Development proposal

De Montfort University has applied for planning permission (20140095) to refurbish low-rise buildings and tower of the Fletcher Building and to construct a new six-storey academic building to provide a Faculty of Art, Design and Humanities with ancillary offices, café and other facilities

# 2.3 Geology and topography

The British Geological Survey of England and Wales, shows the underlying geology to consist of alluvium - clay, silt, sand and gravel over Branscombe Formation Mudstone (BGS Geology Viewer <a href="http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html">http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html</a>). The site lies at about 57m OD.

# 2.4 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.4.1 The site lies to the south of the Roman and medieval walled area within the town's southern suburb; an area of known archaeological potential. Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the proposed development area at Grange Lane, Bonners Lane, Mill Lane, Oxford Street and York Road have uncovered significant remains of Roman, Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date.
- 2.4.2 *Roman*: the development area lies to the south of the Roman southern town defences which comprised, in their final phase, an earth rampart fronted by with a substantial stone wall with

interval towers, and one or more ditches. To the east was the road to Tripontium, modern Caves Inn on the Warwickshire border. The area outside the walls was typically used for the town's cemeteries, evidence for which has been detected along Newarke Street to the east and Oxford Street to the south-east. It is unclear if a cemetery exists here, on the western side of the Tripontium road, although a number of individual Roman burials/human bones and cremations have been recovered from the area. Five Roman inhumations were also excavated on the Newarke Houses Garden site and it is unclear if these lie to the south of the line of the defences, or if they could be part of a larger cemetery in that area. To the south-east, at 52 Grange Lane, an archaeological excavation produced well-preserved and stratified remains from the Roman and medieval periods (Thomas 2005, 2010). Four early Roman urned cremation burials and an associated small timber building were apparently part of a small cemetery dating to the 1st century AD lying adjacent to the projected line of the Roman road to Tripontium. At least three phases of 3rd-4th century AD Roman roadside occupation included cobbled surfaces, pits, ditches and structural remains as well as a corn-drier and stone-lined well. In places an unexpectedly deep sequence of deposits was revealed particularly in the northern half of the site.

- 2.4.3 In the medieval period, the development area partially covers the site of the Newarke, a religious precinct containing a college of canons, with a church, hospital and many other buildings. After the Dissolution it became an autonomous enclave of Leicester for the wealthy. The remains of religious and ancillary buildings associated with the Collegiate Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary are very likely to exist inside of the enclosure, including the former burial ground of the church itself. Medieval structures and back-yard activity are also likely to be found in the area outside of the Newarke. The Newarke was the main focus of attack during the two sieges of Leicester during the English Civil War in 1645. In addition, post-Civil War late 17th and 18th century buildings associated with post-Dissolution occupation of the Newarke and the re-building of the south suburbs after the Civil War are likely to be present. The proposed development area, therefore, is recognised as having very significant archaeological potential as it straddles the western boundary of the Newarke enclosure.
- 2.4.4 To the north of this site, seven trial trenches excavated in the former William Baker premises revealed a number of archaeological features and deposits including the stone west and north walls of the Newarke enclosure and a stone lined conduit which seems to form part of the documented Newarke medieval conduits. All trenches contained substantial modern overburden of varying thickness, but deeply stratified medieval layers were observed only in two trenches (Maull 2001).
- 2.4.5 In connection with this development, an archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching was carried out by ULAS in March 2014 to establish the nature, extent, date and significance of any archaeological deposits which may be present, in order to assess the potential impact upon them from the development proposals. Five machine-excavated trenches, sampling 9% of the site, identified thick deposits of made ground, believed to be imported to raise ground level above the flood plain of the River Soar in the 19th century before construction of factories and terraced housing across the site; soils beneath contained 17th- and 18th-century material. On the eastern side of the site, these covered the remains of a substantial masonry wall running north to south. This is believed to be the remains of the 15th-century precinct wall surrounding the Newarke, a religious close immediately south of the medieval town. The wall's foundation and lower courses remained in-situ. On the western side of the site, post-medieval soils covered thick deposits of alluvial clay, presumably derived from flooding episodes of the River Soar. Two linear features, possibly ditches or wall footings, were recorded broadly running at right-angles between the Newarke wall and the river. One produced a small quantity of late medieval pottery, the other remained undated. Accession number A8.2014.
- 2.4.6 To the east, an archaeological evaluation at 85-89 Oxford Street revealed evidence of a Roman cobbled surface overlying a probable ditch near to the Oxford Street frontage (Clarke 2003). A partially revealed ditch also contained hand-made pottery of either Iron Age or Anglo-Saxon origin. To the west a curving medieval ditch may have been associated with a windmill.
- 2.4.7 Excavations at Bonners Lane (Finn 1994, 2002) and at De Montfort University (Morris 2010), to the south-east of the development area, produced evidence of the main Roman road leading

from the south gate of Leicester to the Roman town of Tripontium (Caves Inn). The projected line of the Tripontium road would pass through the current development area. Evidence for Roman timber buildings fronting on to this street, as well as pitting were also excavated. An Anglo-Saxon timber building was also found at Bonners Lane, representing the first structure from this period to be found in the city, and is considered to be of regional importance. Timber structural remains of the medieval period relating to properties fronting onto Oxford Street (medieval Southgates) were also revealed as well as ditches and pits from associated backyards. Evidence for post-medieval craft activities indicated hide processing on the site while several large ditches represented the remains of Leicester's Civil War defences.

- 2.4.8 Excavations on the eastern side of Oxford Street, on the corner with York Road, revealed a similar level of archaeological survival (Gossip 1999a, b Figure 2). The Roman period was represented by a complex of boundary ditches and a spread of burials associated with an extensive cemetery outside the town wall. Another Saxon timber building was found on the site and evidence for medieval suburban development, including structural remains, pitting and wells, was also recovered.
- 2.4.9 Further evidence for Leicester's Civil War defences was revealed during excavations at Mill Lane, on the corner with Grange Lane to the south of the present site (Finn 2002). Here also, evidence of prehistoric, Roman and medieval occupation outside of the town wall were discovered.
- 2.4.10 An archaeological excavation was undertaken by ULAS at 61 Oxford Street, in November and December 2009. This revealed a Roman road and evidence of post holes, pits and spreads suggesting roadside settlement. Post-dating the Roman deposits were medieval and post medieval layers and features probably associated with the back yards of properties which fronted on to either Oxford Street or Grange Lane (Higgins 2010).

### 3. Archaeological Research Objectives

3.1 Based on the results on the archaeological field evaluation (Morris 2014) the project has the potential to address the following East Midlands Research Agenda Topics (Knight *et al* 2012):

# 3.1.1 High Medieval

*Urbanism* (7.1): 7.1.1 How did the major towns and smaller market towns of the region develop after the Norman Conquest, both within the urban core and in suburban and extra mural areas?

*Religion (7.5)* 7.5.2 Can we discern significant differences in the planning, economy and landscape impact of the different monastic orders?

7.5.3 Can we elucidate further the development of hospitals and

colleges?

7.5.5 How can we refine our understanding of local and regional architectural styles including sculptured stonework, decorations and monuments?

- 3.1.2 These research aims have been identified based on the current state of knowledge within the area of the scheme. The research aims will be re-assessed and updated during the course of the fieldwork.
- 3.2 The main objectives of the archaeological work will be:
  - To identify the presence/absence of archaeological deposits.
  - To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
  - To record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
  - To produce an archive and report of any results.

# 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 Excavations* (2010).
- 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 LCC Archaeological Advisor, the Planning authority and the Client.
- 4.4 The site will be fenced off to prevent unauthorised access.
- 4.5 The east of the application area is proposed for archaeological area excavation as it is known to contain archaeological features identified by trial trenching and they will be affected to an extent by proposed groundworks (Fig. 2).

#### **Excavation**

- 4.6 The excavation of the area shown hatched in blue on fig.2 will involve the supervision of overburden removal by a 360 degree mechanical excavated or similar with ditching buckets by experienced professional archaeologists to determine the presence/absence of any archaeological remains. The overburden will be removed to the top of archaeological deposits, No machinery will track over exposed areas. The archaeological deposits will be hand cleaned using trowel or draw hoe to clarify their character and extent.
- 4.7 Once the extent of significant archaeological remains have been identified this will be followed by a programme of excavation and recording, using additional personnel as necessary.
  - 50% of discrete archaeological features will be excavated. Where these form part of a recognisable structure or contain deposits of particular value or significant artefacts or ecofacts they will be fully excavated.
  - 25% of the exposed lengths of linear features associated with settlement or activity areas will normally be excavated (this includes pit alignments and slotted ditches). Sufficient samples of other linear features will be excavation (c 10%). All excavation slots will be at least 1m wide and sections will be placed to provide adequate coverage of the features and will include excavation of intersections and terminals. A flexible approach will be adopted to the location of excavation samples such that areas of exposed ditch fill with higher artefact or ecofact content may be targeted. Further sections may be investigated if significant patterns of deposition occur (for example indications of unexpected stratigraphy or specialised activity).
  - 25% of ring gullies will normally be excavated to include excavation of the terminals and sections at each side and to the rear of the gully. Special regard will be given to significant stratigraphic relationships and concentrations of artefactual material.
  - In the event that stone structures or other buildings are encountered, these will be excavated in sufficient detail to establish their construction sequence and sequence of repairs or extensions. All stratigraphic associations will be recorded.
  - All industrial features including potential ovens and hearths will be fully excavated and sampled for analysis
  - Sufficient samples of other linear features not associated with settlement will be excavated. All excavation slots will be at least1m wide. The spacing and interval of excavation slots will depend on the exposed length and nature of the feature.
  - A minimum 5% of field boundaries will be excavated (including pit alignments and slotted ditches). Excavation slots will be at least 1m wide and will include openings/gateways, relationships with other features, intersections and some located away from intersections with other features or deposits to obtain unmixed samples of material.
  - A sample of tree throw holes/possible natural or geological features will be excavated sufficient to establish the nature of the features and to provide dating evidence.

- Furnaces or kilns are not anticipated but should these be encountered they will be left in situ until a strategy for their excavation has been developed.
- Any increase or decrease in sample ratio will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist.
- 4.8 Any archaeological deposits located will be hand cleaned and planned as appropriate. Samples of any archaeological deposits located will be hand excavated. Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan of 1:100. All plans will be tied into the National Grid using an Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM) where appropriate.
- 4.9 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of deposits, 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.
- 4.10 All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, levelled and tied into the Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

# Archaeological on-site recording

- 4.13 The archaeological features exposed by the machine stripping will be planned and sample excavated to provide an adequate sample to address the objectives (3.1/3.2).
- 4.14 Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan of 1:100. All plans will be tied into the National Grid using a Total Station Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM). All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, levelled and tied into the Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate. The location of the excavation will be surveyed and planned onto the appropriate OS map.
- 4.15 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of deposits, 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.
- 4.16 Any human remains encountered will be initially left in situ, where appropriate the police and coroner shall be informed. Human remains will only be removed following appropriate liaison with the Ministry of Justice and in compliance with their requirements and in accordance with appropriate professional standards and guidance, as well as other relevant environmental health regulations. In all circumstances the developer and the City Archaeologist, Leicester City Council, will be informed immediately upon the discovery of significant human remains.
- 4.17 Any material recovered which would be regarded as treasure following the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to the coroner.
- 4.18 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site from the project manager. These will ensure that professional standards are being maintained. Provision will be made for monitoring visits with representatives of the developer, the City Archaeologist, Leicester City Council and the planning authority.

# **Recording Systems**

- 4.19 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.
- 4.20. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets.
- 4.21 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.
- 4.22 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.
- 4.23 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 Leicester City Museum service and used thereafter 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 City Archaeologist, Leicester City Council.
- 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.
- 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 six months of completion of site works. The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight months. 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 Museum 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 Leicester City Museum Service* (LCMS).
- 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 <a href="http://www.oasis.ac.uk">http://www.oasis.ac.uk</a> 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 Outreach and Publicity

9.1 Subject to Health and Safety considerations opportunities for visits by local archaeology groups and schools will be provided.

- 9.2 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.
- 9.3 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

- 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.
- 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 of 5th June 2014 for the stripping is proposed. The work is likely to take 2-3 to complete and 2-6 experienced archaeologists will 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. Public Liability Insurance and Employers Liability Insurance Allianz Insurance plc Policy No. SZ/21696148. Professional Indemnity Insurance – Novae Underwriting Ltd. Policy No. 702610MMA120.

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