



# University of Leicester

---

## Archaeological Services

**Archaeological Attendance, Inspection and Recording during  
groundworks at Leicestershire Constabulary,  
St. Johns, Enderby, Leicestershire**

Mireya González Rodríguez



ULAS Report No 2015-129  
©2015

**Archaeological Attendance, Inspection and Recording  
during groundworks at Leicestershire Constabulary,  
St Johns, Enderby, Leicestershire**

**NGR SP 5535 9958**

*Mireya González Rodríguez*

**For: Leicestershire Constabulary**

Approved by:

**Signed:**



**Date:** 11.08.2015

**Name:** Patrick Clay

**University of Leicester  
Archaeological Services**  
University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH  
Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614  
[www.le.ac.uk/ulas](http://www.le.ac.uk/ulas)

**ULAS Report Number 2015-129  
©2015**

## CONTENTS

1. Introduction .....	1
2. Site Description, Topography and Geology .....	1
3. Historical and Archaeological Background.....	1
4. Aims and Objectives.....	3
5. Methodology .....	4
6. Results .....	4
7. Conclusion.....	5
8. Archive .....	5
9. Publication.....	5
10. Bibliography .....	6
11. Acknowledgements .....	6

## FIGURES

Figure 1. Site Location (Scale 1: 25000).....	2
Figure 2. Location of proposed development and land use .....	2
Figure 3. Proposed site (provided by client).....	3
Figure 4. Modern drain trench.....	4
Figure 5. Concentration of charcoal .....	4

## **Archaeological Attendance, Inspection and Recording during groundworks at Leicestershire Constabulary, St. Johns, Enderby, Leicestershire. NGR SP 5535 9958**

*Mireya González Rodríguez*

### **Summary**

*Archaeological Attendance, Inspection and Recording was undertaken on behalf of Leicestershire Constabulary during groundworks for the provision of a Vehicle Training Area and Helicopter Landing Pad at St. Johns, Enderby, by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) in August 2015. The work involving the excavation and levelling in preparation for the vehicle training area and helicopter landing pad was monitored by an archaeologist. No archaeological deposits were revealed during the groundworks. The archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council under the Accession Number XA107.2014.*

### **1. Introduction**

This report presents the results of Archaeological Attendance, Inspection and Recording carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services during groundworks associated with the establishment of a Vehicle Training Area and Helicopter Landing Pad at St. Johns, Enderby. The archaeological work was required as a condition of planning permission by Blaby District Council on the advice of the Leicestershire County Council, Senior Planning Archaeologist (P.A.15/0255/1/FUL).

### **2. Site Description, Topography and Geology**

The archaeological work took place on the land at Leicestershire Constabulary, St. Johns, Enderby, Leicestershire. The site lies north of Ratby Meadow Lane with Harborough Road south to the west, and fields to the east and south.

The soils of the site are of the Salop Association which comprise ‘slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged associated with reddish fine loamy clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils’ (711m: Soil Survey 1983, Sheet 3). Solid geology below this is of Lias formation.

The site lies on flat ground at *c.* 72m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

### **3. Historical and Archaeological Background**

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application site lies within an area of archaeological interest.





Figure 1. Site Location (Scale 1: 25000)

Reproduced from the Explorer 233 Leicester & Hinckley area 1:25 000 map by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright 2005. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100029495



Figure 2. Location of proposed development and land use

An Iron Age site was recorded during work in 1993-1994 approximately 60m to the east of the proposed development (HER Ref. **MLE96**). Extensive archaeological activity has also





- To produce an archive and report of any results.

## 5. Methodology

The programme of work comprised the stripping of topsoil in an area measuring 50.5mx52m with a JCB 100C mechanical excavator.

The machine stripping of the areas was visually inspected and the removed soil was described and checked for signs of archaeological activity or potential. Field notes were recorded on pro-forma ULAS recording forms.

The work adhered to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2014) and their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2014).

## 6. Results

The archaeological work, comprising the observation of the ground reduction by mechanical excavator, revealed topsoil overlying made ground, to a maximum depth c.0.30m and a 0.25m minimum depth. No archaeological deposits were observed.



Figure 4. Modern drainage trench



Figure 5. Concentration of charcoal

The topsoil and made ground was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.30m. The made ground, comprising a layer of grey brown slightly sandy clay with frequent sub-rounded

cobbles, was excavated. Inclusions included concrete, brick, glass and patches of macadam. A modern drain trench has been exposed running diagonally on the northwest corner of the site (Figure 4). Modern disturbance was also observed across the centre of site. A high concentration of charcoal was uncovered in the area to the northeast (Figure 5), possibly related to the building compound from the 1980s when the Training Centre building was erected. The topsoil was sealing the disturbed natural substrata consisting of orangey brown loamy clay and gravels.

## 7. Conclusion

Archaeological Attendance, Inspection and Recording undertaken on the land at St. Johns, Enderby during the stripping of topsoil in preparation for the Vehicle Training and Helicopter Landing Pad revealed modern made up ground and disturbed natural substrata at a relatively shallow depth. No deposits of archaeological origin were identified during the work.

## 8. Archive

The site archive will be held by Leicester City Council, under the Accession No: XA107.2014.

The archive contains site notes (watching brief pro forma recording sheets), digital photographs and photograph index.

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

## 9. Publication

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the local archaeological journal *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* and *Rutland Record* in due course. The report will be added to the Archaeology Data Service's (ADS) Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database held by the University of York.

### OASIS Information

<i>Project Name</i>	Leicestershire Constabulary, St. Johns, Enderby
<i>Project Type</i>	Archaeological Watching Brief
<i>Project Manager</i>	Patrick Clay
<i>Project Supervisor</i>	M González Rodríguez
<i>Previous/Future work</i>	Previous



<i>Current Land Use</i>	Garden
<i>Development Type</i>	Helicopter landing pad
<i>Reason for Investigation</i>	NPPF
<i>Position in the Planning Process</i>	Condition
<i>Site Co ordinates</i>	NGR SP 5535 9958
<i>Start/end dates of field work</i>	August 2015
<i>Archive Recipient</i>	Leicestershire County Council
<i>Study Area</i>	Enderby

## 10. Bibliography

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

Clay, P. 2015. *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Work: Vehicle Training Area and Helicopter Landing Pad: Leicestershire Constabulary, St. Johns, Enderby*. University of Leicester Archaeological Services.

Harvey, J. 2011. 'An Iron Age Boundary System and Roman Burials at Leicester Lane/St Johns, Enderby'. *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* **85**, 51-72.

Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) 2014. *Code of Conduct*.

Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) 2014. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*.

## 11. Acknowledgements

Thanks are extended to the client and contractors for their co-operation on site.

Dr. Mireya González Rodríguez  
University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS)  
University Road  
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel: 0116 2522848  
Fax: 0116 252 2614  
e-mail: [ulas@le.ac.uk](mailto:ulas@le.ac.uk)

ULAS Report No: 2015-129

10.08.2015

## Contact Details

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

**T:** +44 (0)116 252 2848

**F:** +44 (0)116 252 2614

**E:** [ulas@le.ac.uk](mailto:ulas@le.ac.uk)

**W:** [www.le.ac.uk/ulas](http://www.le.ac.uk/ulas)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



2013  
**THE AWARDS**  
AWARD WINNER  
RESEARCH PROJECT OF THE YEAR