



University of **Leicester**

Archaeological Services

An archaeological field
evaluation on land at
Forest Road, Hugglescote,
Coalville
Leicestershire
(SK 42713 13169)

James Patrick



**An archaeological field evaluation on land at
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Leicestershire
(SK 42713 13169)**

James Patrick

**for
Cadeby Homes**

Approved by:

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CONTENTS

Summary	1
Introduction	1
Location and Geology	3
Historical and Archaeological Background	3
Archaeological Objectives	3
Results	5
Trench 01.....	6
Trench 02.....	7
Trench 03.....	8
Trench 04.....	9
Trench 05.....	10
Trench 06.....	11
Trench 07.....	12
Trench 08.....	13
Conclusion.....	14
Acknowledgements	14
Publication.....	14
Archive	14
Bibliography.....	14

FIGURES

Figure 1 Site Location.....	2
Figure 2 Site Location.....	2
Figure 3 Topographical survey	5
Figure 4 Trench Locations	5
Figure 5 Trench 1	6
Figure 6 Trench 2	7
Figure 7 Trench 3	8
Figure 8 Trench 4.....	9
Figure 9 Trench 5	10
Figure 10 Trench 6.....	11
Figure 11 Trench 7	12
Figure 12 Trench 8.....	13
Figure 13 Proposed residential development.....	16

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Summary

An archaeological field evaluation was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on land at Forest Road, Hugglescote, Coalville Leicestershire (NGR: SK 42713 13169). The work was commissioned by Cadeby Homes in advance of the proposed development (Planning Application 15/00032/FUL) of the site for new housing.

The site consists of a north- south oriented broadly triangular shaped field currently pasture and formerly used for the grazing of horses. The area covers approximately 0.85 hectares. The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) indicates that the application area is located south-east of the historic core of the medieval village of Hugglescote while prehistoric flint (MLE9458;MLE16538;MLE16541) and medieval to post-medieval pottery scatters (MLE16542) have been recovered south-east of Grange Road.

In total of eight 30m by 1.6m trenches were excavated across the field. No archaeological features were found in any of the trenches although north-south orientated medieval ridge and furrow was present with earthworks discerned faintly on the surface. The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums with accession number X.A118.2015.

Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by Cadeby Homes to carry out an archaeological field evaluation on land at Forest Road, Hugglescote, Leicestershire (SK 42713 13169). The archaeological work was undertaken from the 3rd to the 5th of November 2015 in advance of development of the site for 30 houses.

This archaeological work is in accordance with NPPF Section 12: Enhancing and Conserving the Historic Environment.



Figure 1 Site Location
Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Original Scale 1: 250, 000



Figure 2 Site Location
Map provided by Cadeby Homes

Location and Geology

Hugglescote lies around 2.5 km south-west of Coalville and is now part of Coalville parish. The application area consists of a broadly triangular pasture field to the south-east of Forest Road and covers an area of *c.* 0.85 ha. The land slopes down from *c.* 155m in the north-west to *c.* 148m OD to the south-east. The medieval village core of Hugglescote lies north-west of the application area.

The single field was un-grazed grass at the time of the evaluation. It was accessed via a narrow drive past a electricity sub-station south-east of Forest Road. The only constraints were a hard standing area between two rows of garages within close proximity to the sub-station. This posed a possible safety and access issue therefore one of the eight trenches was moved to the south - east

The field is bordered by Forest Road to the west with agricultural land elsewhere east and south. The underlying geology of the site is shown on the British Geological Survey website as consisting glacial drift comprising of Oadby Member-Diamicton.

Historical and Archaeological Background

Hugglescote is mentioned as *Hukelescot* in the 1227 Charter rolls and the name is derived from an Old English personal name *Hucel* combined with *cot* meaning cottage – the cottage(s) associated with Hucel (Bourne 2003).

The Historic Environment Record (HER) for Leicestershire and Rutland indicates that the application is south-east of the Medieval Village core of Hugglescote therefore a possibility of evidence for former medieval structures being present. Prehistoric flint (MLE9458;MLE16538;MLE16541) and medieval to post-medieval pottery scatters (MLE16542) have been recovered south-east of the application area

Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation 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 development.

Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area.

Methodology

All work followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2014) in accordance with their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014). The archaeological work followed the *Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological work* (WSI) prepared by ULAS (2015).

The trenches were excavated using a JCB wheeled excavator fitted with a 1.60m toothless ditching bucket. All trenches were backfilled after recording.

Results

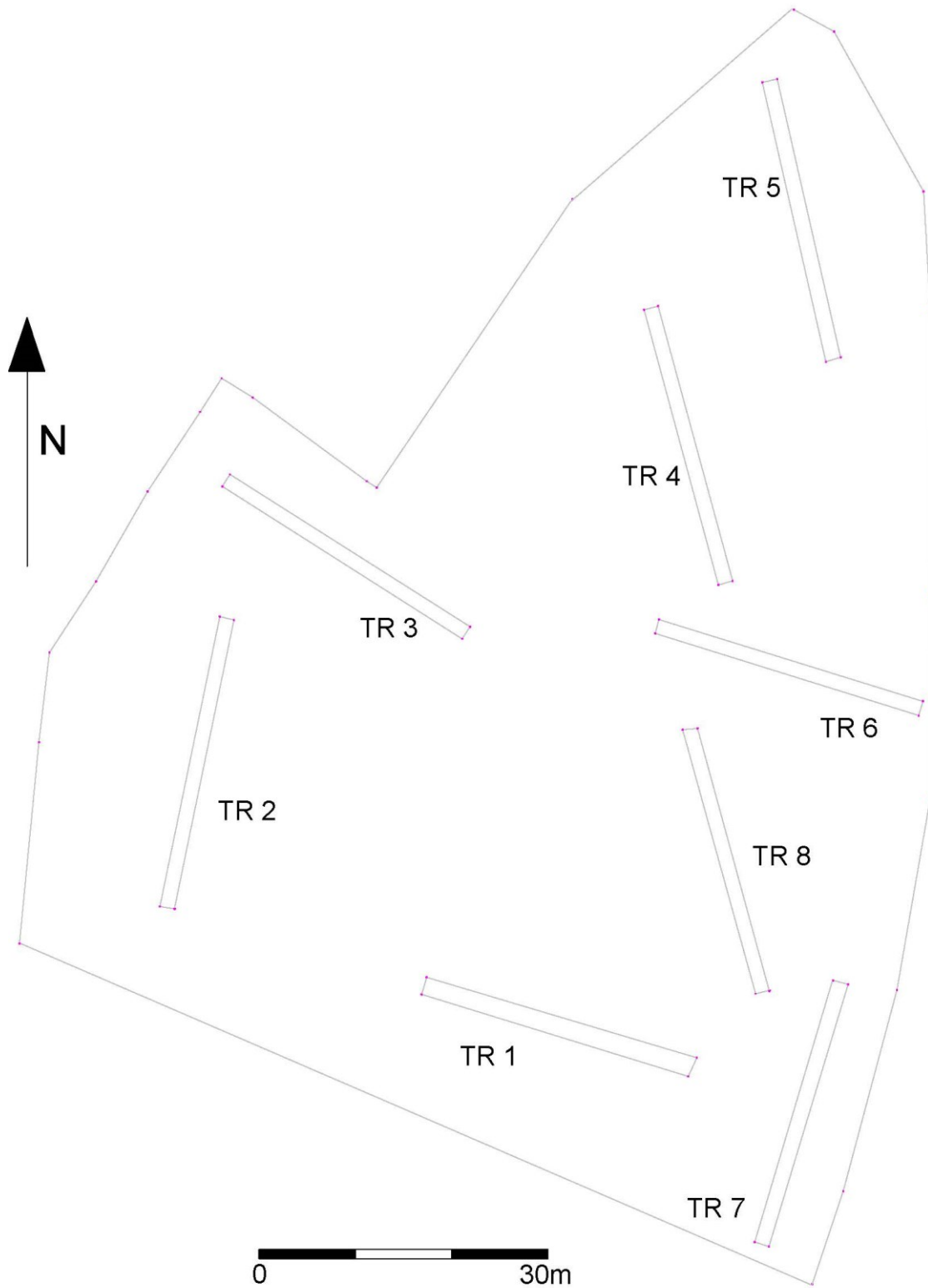


Figure 4 Trench locations



Figure 5 Trench 1

Trench 01

Orientation: E-W

Length: 30m

Width: 1.6m

Topsoil: Dark grey loam with frequent coal flecks and occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Mid yellow silty-clay and brown clayey-silt with frequent coal flecks and rare sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Light orange brown clay

INTERVAL	(W) 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m (E)
TOPSOIL DEPTH	0.33m	0.25m	0.30m	0.40m	0.30m	0.30m	0.25m
SUBSOIL DEPTH	0.10m	0.15m	0.14m	0.24m	0.17m	-	0.15m
TOP OF NATURAL SUBSTRATUM	0.43m	0.40m	0.44m	0.54m	0.57m	0.30m	0.40m
BASE OF TRENCH	0.43m	0.40m	0.50m	0.54m	0.57m	0.30m	0.40m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench except medieval furrows aligned north-south.



Figure 6 Trench 2

Trench 02

Orientation: N-S

Length: 30m

Width: 1.6m

Topsoil: Dark yellowish grey loam with moderate coal flecks and rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Mid yellow grey silty-clay with occasional coal flecks and pebbles

Natural Substratum: As trench 1 but with stoney light yellow silty-clay

INTERVAL	(S) 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m (N)
TOPSOIL DEPTH	0.30m	0.25m	0.28m	0.22m	0.36m	0.20m	0.27m
SUBSOIL DEPTH	-	-	-	0.12m	0.12m	0.12m	0.17m
TOP OF NATURAL SUBSTRATUM	0.30m	0.25m	0.28m	0.34m	0.42m	0.32m	0.44m
BASE OF TRENCH	0.30m	0.25m	0.28m	0.34m	0.42m	0.32m	0.44m

No archaeological features were identified in this much shallower trench with absence of ridge and furrow.



Figure 7 Trench 3

Trench 03

Orientation: SE-NW

Length: 30m

Width: 1.6m

Topsoil: Dark grey loam with frequent coal flecks and rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Light yellow brown silty-clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: As trench 1 etc

INTERVAL	(NW) 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m (SE)
TOPSOIL DEPTH	0.30m	0.26m	0.26m	0.26m	0.25m	0.30m	0.50m
SUBSOIL DEPTH	-	0.14m	0.14m	0.14m	0.16m	-	-
TOP OF NATURAL SUBSTRATUM	0.30m	0.40m	0.40m	0.40m	0.41m	0.30m	0.50m
BASE OF TRENCH	0.30m	0.40m	0.40m	0.40m	0.41m	0.40m	0.50m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench except medieval furrows aligned north-south and a modern ditch with white glazed pottery and glass.



Figure 8 Trench 4

Trench 04

Orientation: NNW-SSE

Length: 30m

Width: 1.6m

Topsoil: As trench 3

Subsoil: Mid brown silty-clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: As trench 1

INTERVAL	(SSW) 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m (NNE)
TOPSOIL DEPTH	0.36m	0.30m	0.25m	0.20m	0.30m	0.30m	0.40m
SUBSOIL DEPTH	0.17m	0.22m	-	0.14m	-	0.06m	0.10m
TOP OF NATURAL SUBSTRATUM	0.43m	0.52m	0.25m	0.34m	0.36m	0.36m	0.30m
BASE OF TRENCH	0.43m	0.52m	0.39m	0.34m	0.36m	0.36m	0.50m

No archaeological features except medieval furrows aligned north-south.



Figure 9 Trench 5

Trench 05

Orientation: N-S

Length: 29m

Width: 1.6m

Topsoil: Dark brownish grey silty-clay with frequent coal flecks and occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Mid yellow brown silty clay with rare coal flecks

Natural Substratum: As trench 1

INTERVAL	(N) 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m (S)
TOPSOIL DEPTH	0.36m	0.30m	0.30m	0.25m	0.35m	0.37m	0.30m
SUBSOIL DEPTH	0.22m	0.20m	0.14m	0.20m	0.20m	0.14m	0.15m
TOP OF NATURAL SUBSTRATUM	0.58m	0.50m	0.49m	0.45m	0.55m	0.56m	0.45m
BASE OF TRENCH	0.58m	0.50m	0.44m	0.45m	0.55m	0.51m	0.45m

No archaeological features except medieval furrows aligned north-south.



Figure 10 Trench 6

Trench 06

Orientation: W-E

Length: 30m

Width: 1.6m

Topsoil: Same as trench 1

Subsoil: Same as trench 1

Natural Substratum: Light red clay

INTERVAL	(W) 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m (E)
TOPSOIL DEPTH	0.34m	0.30m	0.30m	0.42m	0.44m	0.30m	0.32m
SUBSOIL DEPTH	-	0.13m	0.24m	-	0.12m	0.20m	0.20m
TOP OF NATURAL SUBSTRATUM	0.34m	0.43m	0.54m	0.42m	-F	0.50m	0.52m
BASE OF TRENCH	0.36m	0.46m	0.54m	0.54m	0.56m	0.50m	0.56m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench with exception of the continuing medieval furrows running north to south.



Figure 3 Trench 7

Trench 07

Orientation: N-S

Length: 30m

Width: 1.6m

Topsoil: As trench 1

Subsoil: As Trench 1

Natural Substratum: Clean Red Brown Clay

INTERVAL	(N) 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m (S)
TOPSOIL DEPTH	0.32m	0.30m	0.22m	0.34m	0.13m	0.50m	0.55m
SUBSOIL DEPTH	-	-	0.08m	-	0.27m	-	-
TOP OF NATURAL SUBSTRATUM	0.32m	0.30m	0.30m	0.34m	F	F	F
BASE OF TRENCH	0.32m	0.30m	0.30m	0.34m	0.40m	0.50m	0.55m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench with the exception of medieval furrows running north to south.



Figure 4 Trench 8

Trench 08

Orientation: NW-SE

Length: 28m

Width: 1.6m

Topsoil: As trench 1

Subsoil: As Trench 1

Natural Substratum: As Trench 1

INTERVAL	(NW) 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	28m (SE)
TOPSOIL DEPTH	0.36m	0.27m	0.32m	0.40m	0.34m	0.36m	0.32m
SUBSOIL DEPTH	-	0.09m	-	-	0.08m	-	-
TOP OF NATURAL SUBSTRATUM	0.36m	0.36m	0.32m	F	0.42m	0.36m	0.32m
BASE OF TRENCH	0.36m	0.40m	0.32m	0.40m	0.48m	0.36m	0.37m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench with exception to a furrow running diagonally across the trench

Conclusion

The land at Forest Road, Hugglescote had some potential for medieval remains due to its near location to the medieval village core of Hugglescote. There was also a possibility that pre-historic remains could be found due the flint scatters south-east of Grange Road. With the exception to medieval ridge and furrow recorded running north-west to south-east, no archaeological features were located. Faint earthwork remains of the ridge and furrow could be discerned in parts of the field. Any early features which may have existed may have been destroyed by medieval and later ploughing. There was no artefactual evidence recovered.

Acknowledgements

ULAS would like to thank Cadeby Homes for their help and co-operation with this project. The project was managed by Patrick Clay and the work carried out by James Patrick.

The machines were supplied by Planters Ltd

Publication

Since 2004 ULAS has reported the results of all archaeological work through the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) database held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York.

A summary of the work will also be submitted for publication in a suitable regional archaeological journal in due course.

OASIS data entry

Project Name	Forest Road, Hugglescote
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Jamie Patrick
Previous/Future work	None
Current Land Use	Pasture
Development Type	New Housing
Reason for Investigation	NPPF
Position in the Planning Process	Pre-planning enquiry
Site Co ordinates	SK 42173 13169
Start/end dates of field work	03-11-2015 to 05-11-2015
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire Museums
Study Area	0.85 ha

Archive

The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums with accession number X.A118.2015

The archive consists of the following:

- 1 Unbound copy of this report
- 8 Trench recording sheets
- 1 Contact sheet of digital photographs
- 1 CD digital photographs

Bibliography

Bourne, J., 2003 *Understanding Leicestershire and Rutland Place-Names*. Wymeswold: Heart of Albion Press

CIfA, 2014 *Codes of Conduct and Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*

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13-11-2015



Figure 13 Proposed residential development layout. 50m grid

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