



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Field Evaluation at
Cedar Lawns, Church Street, Burbage,
Leicestershire
(SP 44252 92690)**

James Patrick



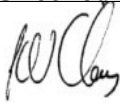
ULAS Report No 2017- 088
©2017

**An archaeological field evaluation at Cedar Lawns, Church Street,
Burbage, Leicestershire (SP 44252 92690)**

James Patrick

for

Tony Morris Builders

Filename/Version	Checked by	Date
2017-088		13/06/2017

University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH

Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614

ULAS Report No.2017-088 ©2017

Accession Number: X.A66.2017

CONTENTS

Summary.....	1
Introduction.....	1
Site Location, Details and Geology	1
Historical and Archaeological Background.....	3
Archaeological Objectives.....	3
Methodology.....	4
Results	5
Conclusion	13
Bibliography	15
Acknowledgements.....	15
Publication	15

Archive	16
Appendix: The Finds	18

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location.....	2
Figure 2: Location of application area with proposed Trench locations - taken from WSI	3
Figure 3: Actual trench locations (negative trenches blocked in)	4
Figure 4: The evaluation area prior to trenching, looking West.	5
Figure 5: Clearance of undergrowth during the evaluation.	5
Figure 6: Trench 1 looking South-west	7
Figure 7: Pit [01] in Trench 1, looking North-east	8
Figure 8: Pit [01] in Trench 1	8
Figure 9: Trench 2 looking North-west	9
Figure 10: Feature [03] looking West	10
Figure 11: Feature [03] in Trench 2	11
Figure 12: Trench 3 looking North-east.....	12
Figure 13: Trench 4, looking South-west	13
Figure 14: 1888 OS Map showing gardens at Cedar Lawns	14
Figure 15: 1903 OS Map showing absence of gardens	14

An archaeological field evaluation at Cedar Lawns, Church Street, Burbage, Leicestershire (SP 44252 92690)

James Patrick

Summary

An archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on former overgrown garden land at Cedar Lawn directly south-west of Church Street, Burbage, Leicestershire (SP 44252 92690). The work was in advance of the construction of three new dwellings and the conversion of offices into flats within a large house of architectural interest which underwent building recording prior to conversion (Hyam 2017). Four trenches were proposed across the dwellings footprints; two orientated at right angles south-east from Grove Road, with two trenches at right angles south-west from Church Street. The site lies within the former medieval settlement core of Burbage, (MLE2848) in close proximity to the church of St Catherine. The evaluation did not reveal any features connected with medieval activity. However two large features were located which are likely to be garden features possibly associated with the house. The land appears to have been heavily landscaped. The archive for this work will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums with accession number X.A66.2017.

Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by Tony Morris Builders to carry out an archaeological field evaluation on land at Cedar Lawns, Church Street, Leicestershire (SP 44252 92690). This archaeological work is in accordance with NPPF Section 12: Enhancing and Conserving the Historic Environment and addressed the *Brief for archaeological exploratory trial trenching on Land at Cedar Lawns, Burbage, Leicestershire*. As shown by the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER), the application area lies within the medieval and post-medieval settlement core of Burbage (MLE 2848). Medieval and post-medieval deposits have been located to the south on Grove Road. In view of this Leicestershire County Council as advisors to Hinckley and Bosworth borough Council requested a programme of archaeological work to assess the potential for surviving remains.

Site Location, Details and Geology

The application area is situated directly south of the junction of Grove Road and Church Street, fronting both streets. The site is currently an overgrown garden lawn. Occupying the north-east corner of the site is the house Cedar Lawn and associated linear outbuildings and a wall orientated north-east to south-west dividing the land into

separate former lawns. The house and outbuildings due their architectural interest have undergone building recording in advance of conversion to flats (Hyam 2017). This was undertaken concurrently with the field evaluation. The site is bounded on all sides by fences and hedgerows, with the house and driveway bounding the north-east side of Church Street.

The site is roughly square in shape covering an area of c.0.11 hectares within which will be constructed three new dwellings (Planning Refs: 16/00441/FUL). The site lies at a maximum height of c.115m aOD on generally flat land.

The British Geological Survey notes that the superficial geology consists of Salop Association which comprise “*slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged reddish fine loamy over clayey, fine loamy and clayey soils associated with fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging*” (711m: Soil Survey 1983; Sheet 3). The solid geology comprises reddish till.

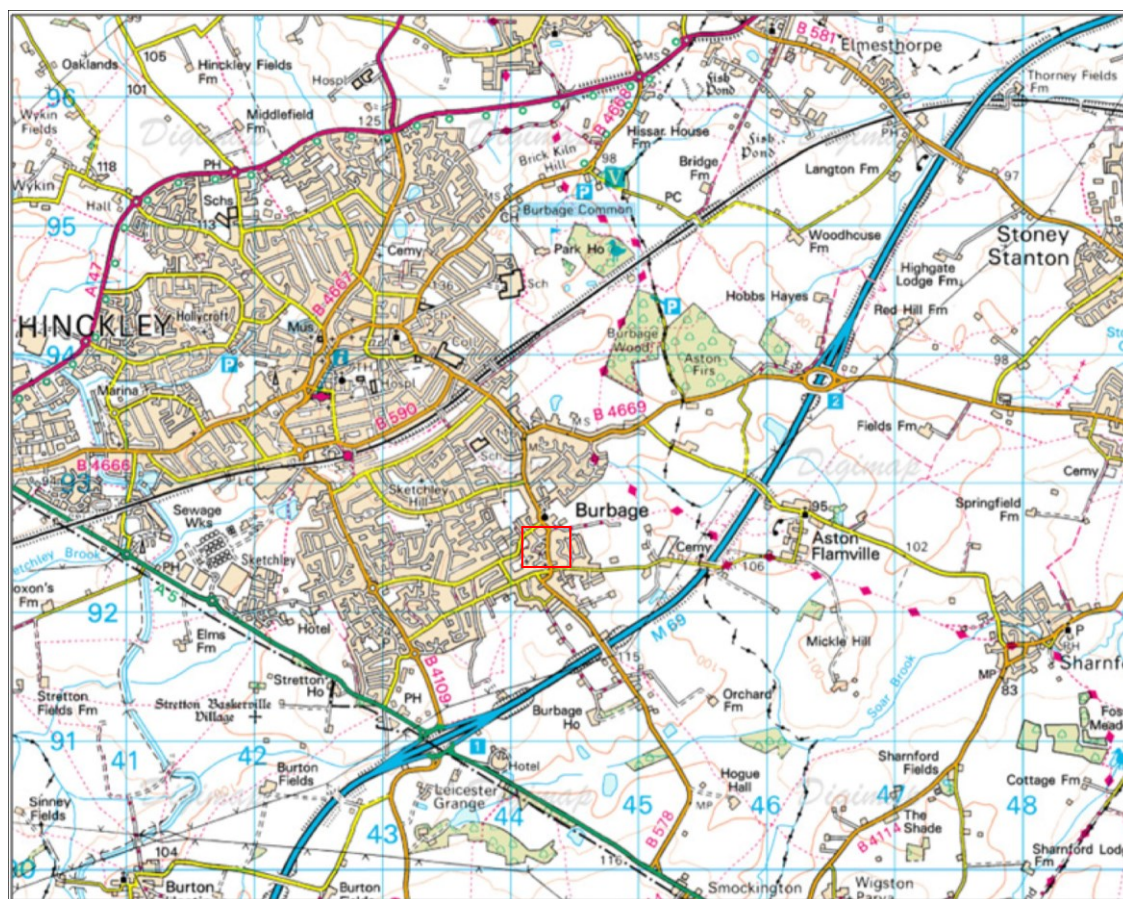


Figure 1: Site Location

Reproduced from Landranger sheet 1281:50 000by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright 2001 All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100029495.

Historical and Archaeological Background

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application area is located within the historic core of the medieval village of Burbage Magna (MLE 2848) along the former medieval street frontages of Grove Road and Church Street where medieval and post-medieval deposits have been located south of Grove Road. Burbage like many other villages has grown in size since World War 2 and continues to increase in size with new development. Various archaeological works have been undertaken within the medieval settlement core and in proximity to the present site. These included an evaluation on New Road at the Moat House, just to the north-east of the site, where archaeological remains consisted of poorly preserved undated features and more substantial post-medieval garden features connected with the 18th century rectory (Kipling 2003).

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 was 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.

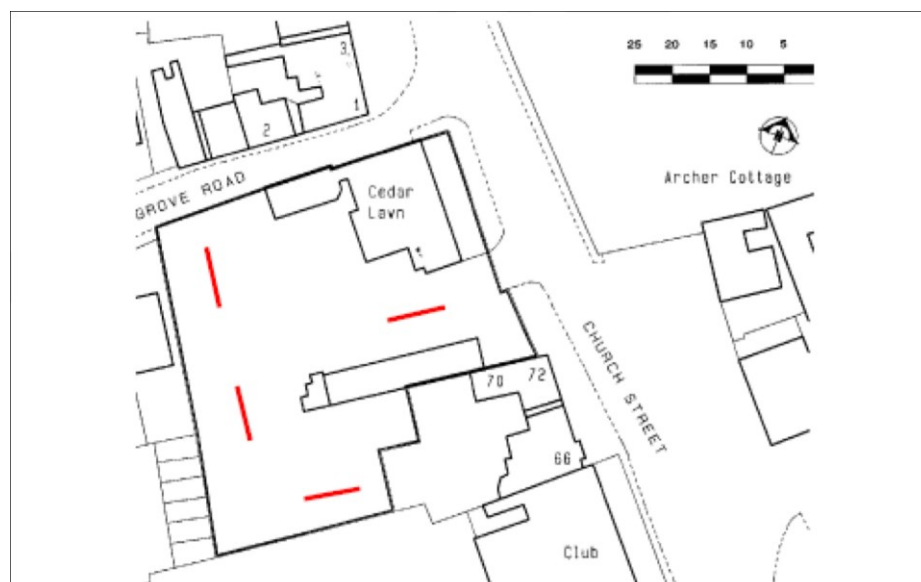


Figure 2: Location of application area with proposed Trench locations - taken from WSI

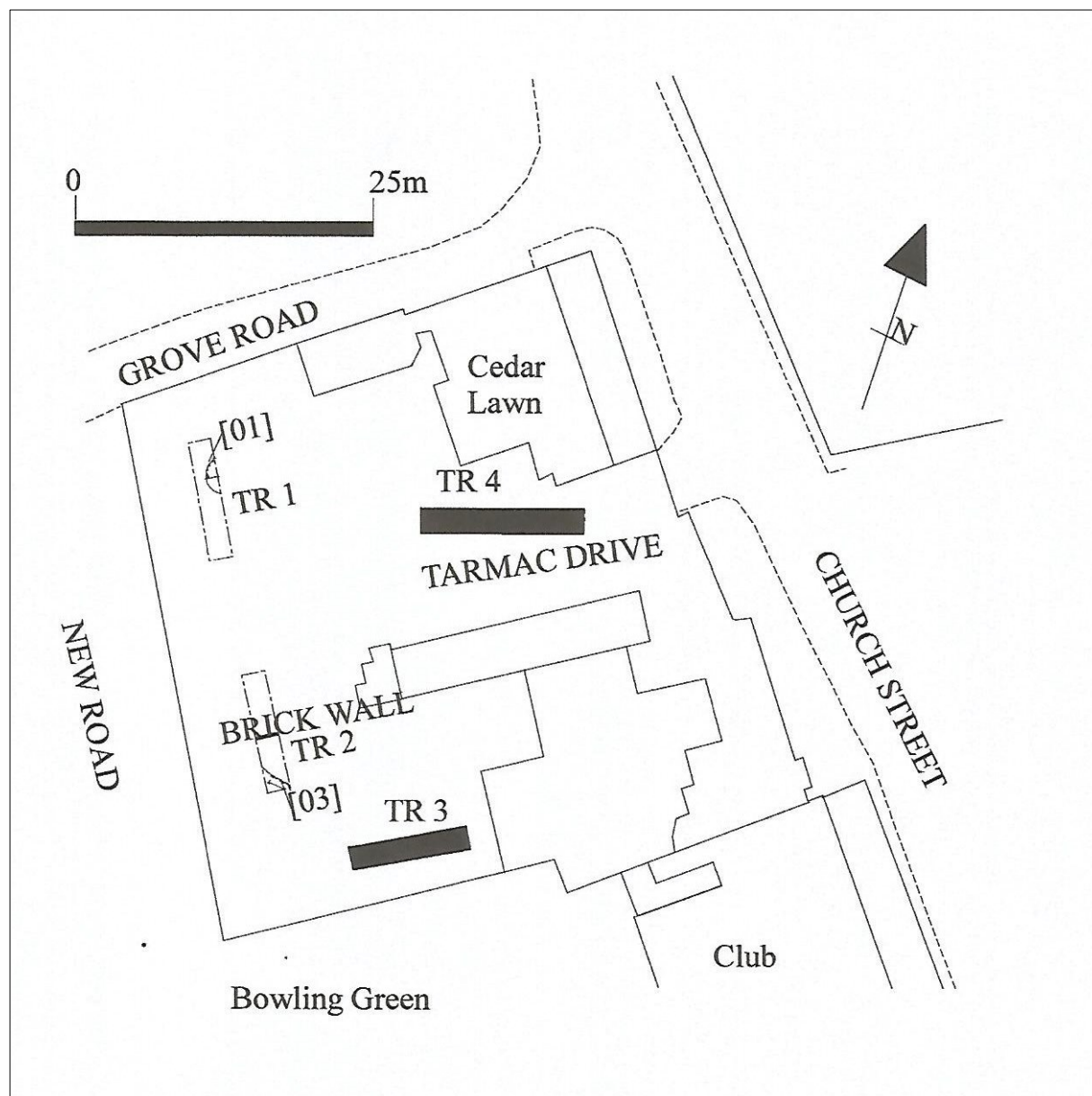


Figure 3: Actual trench locations (negative trenches blocked in)

Methodology

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2010) in accordance with their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2010). The archaeological work followed the *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological work* (WSI) prepared by ULAS.

The WSI outlined a plan for four 10m x 1.6m trenches providing a *c.*5.5% sample of the development area. Trench 4 had to be relocated and extended to 14m in length to avoid the tarmac drive and services connected to the house.

Results



Figure 4: The evaluation area prior to trenching, looking West.

The trenches were excavated by a 13 tonne tracked 360 excavator with a 2.0m ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. After excavation and recording, the trenches were backfilled.

During the evaluation, vegetation was cleared from the area of the trenches (Figure 4). Part of a brick wall which dissected the site was also removed to provide access to excavate the remaining two trenches. The trench locations largely followed those proposed in the WSI, the exception being Trench 4 which was re-positioned to avoid services connected with the present house and the tarmac drive.



Figure 5: Clearance of undergrowth during the evaluation.

The evaluation produced mixed results. Trenches 1 and 2 contained archaeological features in the form of a substantial circular feature (Trench 1) and a large, poorly defined pit or linear feature (Trench 2). Both features contained limited artefactual evidence in the form of pottery sherds indicating a medieval/post medieval date for their infilling. The fill of both features consisted of very clean light yellow friable loam deposits with few stones, similar to the deep overlying sub-soils which averaged in depth to more than 0.50m.

Trenches 3 and 4 which were orientated at right angles to Church Street proved negative for archaeological remains. The area of the re-located Trench 4 was heavily disturbed.

The top-soil across the area consisted of very dark blackish grey soft clayey silt which was heavily rooted and contained sherds of modern pottery and brick fragments with occasional small pebbles. This was also deep averaging 0.40 - 0.50m. The natural geology was consistent across the site comprising a very light loose silty sand with frequent small rounded stones.

Trench 1 (Figure 6)

Orientation: NW-SE

Length: 10 m

Width: 2 m

Topsoil: Dark blackish grey, soft clayey silt with occasional brick fragments and sparse small rounded pebbles with modern pottery fragments. Heavy root disturbance.

Subsoil: Light yellowish brown, loose loam garden-soil, with occasional small rounded pebbles.

Natural Substratum: Very light orange-brown loose silty sand with frequent small rounded pebbles.

Interval	NW 0m	2m	4m	6m	8m	10m
Topsoil Depth	0.36	0.45	0.40	0.35	0.30	0.40
Subsoil Depth	0.40	0.70	0.30	0.45	0.40	0.40
Top of natural	0.76	1.15	-	0.80	0.70	0.80
Base of Trench	0.76	1.15	0.70	0.90	0.90	0.90



Figure 6: Trench 1 looking South-west

Contexts: [01] (02)

A large, well-defined circular pit [01] was identified north-east of the trench centre (Figures 7 & 8). It measured 3m wide x at least 1m, although its full extent was not revealed. It had near vertical sides except for the south-western side which had a more moderate gradient with a depth of c.0.50m and a flat base. The pit contained a single fill (02) which consisted of a very clean, light yellowish loose loam garden-soil like deposit with occasional small rounded pebbles. Patches of light yellow clay were revealed on the sides of the pit although this was not consistent around its sides. Two sherds of medieval pottery (one of Chilvers Coton ware dating between the 13th-14th centuries and another of Medieval Sandy ware dating slightly later, to the 15th or 16th centuries) were recovered.



Figure 7: Pit [01] in Trench 1, looking North-east

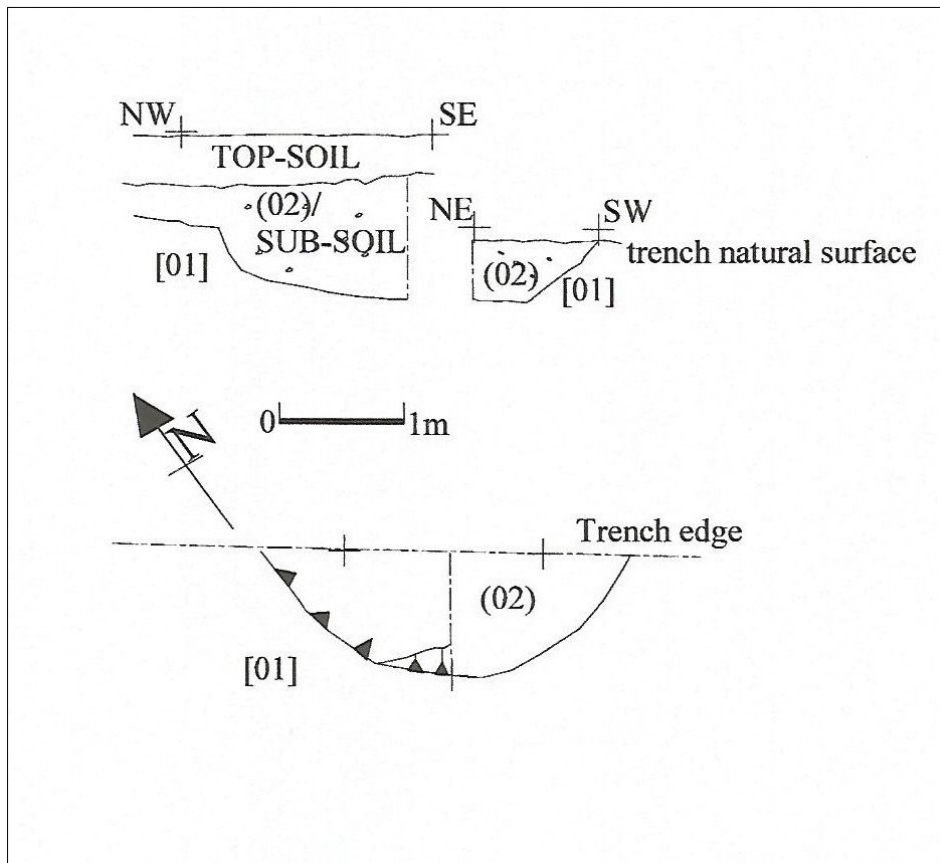


Figure 8: Pit [01] in Trench 1

Trench 2 (Figure 9)

Orientation: NW-SE

Length: 10m

Width: 2m

Topsoil: Dark blackish grey, with soft clayey silt containing sparse small rounded pebbles, brick fragments, modern pot sherds. Heavy root disturbance.

Subsoil: Light yellowish brown, loose loam with sparse small rounded pebbles.

Natural Substratum: Very light orange-brown loose silty sand with frequent small rounded pebbles.

Interval	NW 0m	2m	4m	6m	8m	10m
Topsoil Depth	0.60	0.50	WALL	0.40	0.50	0.60
Subsoil Depth	0.60	0.60	-	0.40	0.40	0.40
Top of natural	- FS	1.10	-	0.80	0.90	1.0
Base of Trench	1.20	1.10	1.10	0.80	1.0	1.0



Figure 9: Trench 2 looking North-west

Contexts: [03] (04)

A well-defined archaeological feature [03], probably a large pit or ditch, was located at the southern end of the trench (Figures 10 & 11). The feature was revealed over a distance of *c.*3m and lay on an E-W orientation. Sample excavation revealed a vertical edge on the northern side and a flat base, reached at a depth of *c.*0.60m from the top of the feature. The feature was filled with a single deposit (04), which was very similar to the fill of Pit [01] in Trench 1. A sherd of medieval Coventry A ware pottery, dating to the 12th-14th centuries and a small piece of Staffordshire slip ware dating to the 17th-18th century were recovered from the feature. A brick wall crossed the trench which was recently partly demolished to enable access for the excavator.



Figure 10: Feature [03] looking West

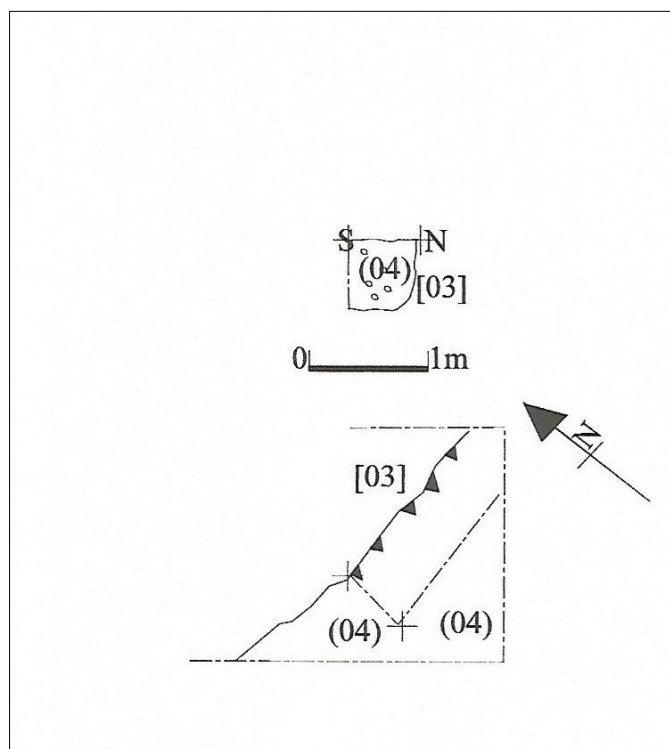


Figure 11: Feature [03] in Trench 2

Trench 3 (Figure 12)

Orientation: SW-NE

Length: 10m

Width: 2m

Topsoil: Same as Trenches 1 & 2

Subsoil: Same as Trenches 1 & 2

Natural Substratum: Same as Trenches 1 & 2

Interval	NW 0m	2m	4m	6m	8m	10m
Topsoil Depth	0.30	0.40	0.40	0.30	0.30	0.30
Subsoil Depth	0.60	0.40	0.50	0.50	0.40	0.40
Top of natural	0.90	0.80	0.90	0.80	0.70	0.70
Base of Trench	1.0	0.90	1.0	0.90	0.70	0.70



Figure 12: Trench 3 looking North-east

No Archaeological remains were identified in this trench.

Trench 4 (Figure 13)

Orientation: SW-NE

Length: 14m

Width: 2m

Topsoil: Same as Trenches 1, 2, & 3 but with modern materials – gravel, rubble

Subsoil: No subsoil present.

Natural Substratum: Same as Trenches 1, 2, & 3

Interval	SW 0m	3m	6m	9m	12m	14m
Topsoil Depth	0.25	0.25	0.20	0.20	0.25	0.20
Subsoil Depth	-	-	-	-	-	-
Top of natural	0.25	0.20	0.30	0.50	0.40	0.40
Base of Trench	0.25	0.30	0.40	0.70	0.40	0.40



Figure 13: Trench 4, looking South-west

No archaeological remains were identified in the trench. The north-east end of the trench was disturbed from activity relating to the house construction and its services.

Conclusion

Archaeological remains were revealed in two of the four trenches. The features in Trenches 1 and 2 contained limited dating evidence but are probably of Later Medieval or early Post –Medieval in date. Their purpose is unclear but it is possible that they relate to formal gardens that existed on the property into the 19th century (Figure 14). These features appear to have gone by 1903 (Figure 15).

Surprisingly, considering the location of the site, there was no direct evidence relating to the earlier medieval settlement core of Burbage. An earlier evaluation undertaken by ULAS in an adjacent property had revealed medieval settlement evidence as well as features interpreted as relating to 18th century formal gardens (Kipling, 2003).

It is possible, given the close proximity to the previous evaluation, that the post-medieval features represent continuity of a range of similar remains associated with a wider formal garden area. The lack of other medieval features may be a result of previous heavy landscaping at Cedar Lawns, perhaps indicated by the generally deep nature of the garden soils and the complete absence of sub-soil from Trench 4.

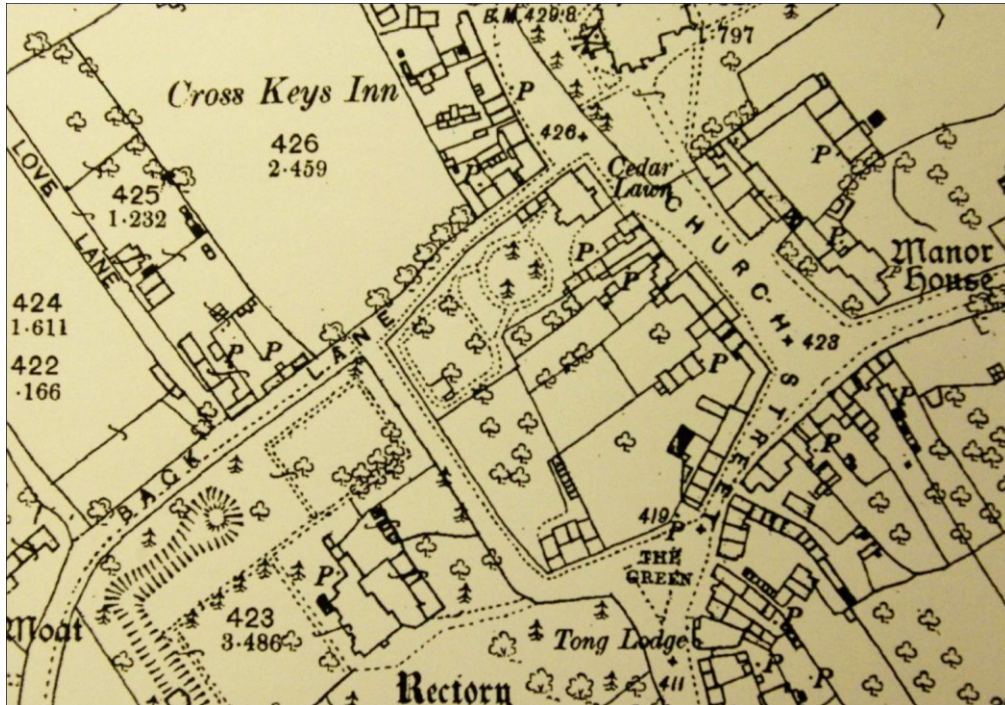


Figure 14: 1888 OS Map showing gardens at Cedar Lawns



Figure 15: 1903 OS Map showing absence of gardens

Bibliography

Clay, P., 2017. *Written Scheme of Investigation for Evaluation at Cedar Lawns, Church Street, Burbage, Leicestershire*. ULAS.

Hyam, A.,. *A Level 3 Historic Building Survey at Cedar Lawns, Church Street, Burbage, Leicestershire*. Unpublished ULAS Report 2017-117.

Kipling, R., 2003. *An Archaeological evaluation undertaken on land at Moat House, New Road, Burbage, Leicestershire*. Unpublished ULAS Report No.2003

Acknowledgements

ULAS would like to thank Tony Morris Builders for their co-operation with this project. The fieldwork was carried out by James Patrick and the project was managed by Patrick Clay.

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 DETAILS	Oasis No	universi1- 287099
	Project Name	An archaeological field evaluation at Cedar Lawns, Church Street, Burbage, Leicestershire (SP 44252 92690)
	Start/end dates of field work	06-06-2017 to 06- 06-2017
	Previous/Future Work	Unknown
	Project Type	Evaluation
	Site Status	None
	Current Land Use	Former garden lawn

	Monument Type/Period	None/none		
	Significant Finds/Period	None		
	Development Type	Housing		
	Reason for Investigation	NPPF		
	Position in the Planning Process	Planning Condition		
	Planning Ref.	16/00441/FUL		
PROJECT LOCATION	Site Address/Postcode	Cedar Lawns, Church Street, Burbage, Leicestershire		
	Study Area	0.11 ha		
	Site Coordinates	SK 44252 92690		
	Height OD	c 115m OD		
PROJECT CREATORS	Organisation	ULAS		
	Project Brief Originator	Local Planning Authority		
	Project Design Originator	ULAS		
	Project Manager	Patrick Clay		
	Project Director/Supervisor	James Patrick		
	Sponsor/Funding Body	Developer : Tony Morris Builders		
PROJECT ARCHIVE		Physical	Digital	Paper
	Recipient	NA	LCC	LCC
	ID (Acc. No.)		X.A66.2017 -	X.A66.2017 -
	Contents		Photos Survey data	Fieldwork records Field Notes
PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY	Type	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
	Title	An archaeological field evaluation at Cedar Lawns, Church Street, Burbage, Leicestershire (SP 44252 92690)		
	Author	James Patrick		
	Other bibliographic details	ULAS Report No 2017-		
	Date	2017		

	Publisher/Place	University of Leicester Archaeological
		Services / University of Leicester
	Description	Developer Report A4 pdf

Archive

The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums with accession number X.A 49.2016

The archive consists of the following:

- 4 Trench recording sheets
- 4 Context record sheets
- 3 Indices record sheets
- 1 Unbound copy of this report
- 1 CD digital report
- 1 Contact sheet of digital photographs
- 1 CD digital photographs

James Patrick
ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH
Tel: 0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614
Email: jrp28@le.ac.uk
08-06-2017

APPENDIX: THE POTTERY FROM AN EVALUATION AT CEDAR LAWNS, CHURCH ST, BURBAGE, LEICS

Deborah Sawday

The Finds

The pottery assemblage was made up of four sherds, weighing 81g, representing a maximum count of four vessels and a vessel rim equivalent of 0.077 (calculated by adding together the circumference of the surviving rim sherds, where one vessel equals 1.00).

Methodology

The material was examined under an x20 binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to current guidelines (MPRG 1998, MPRG 2016) and the ULAS fabric series (Sawday 2009).

Results/Conclusion

The results are shown below (Table 1). The medieval pottery which dated from between the 12th and the 15th or 16th centuries, had an average sherd weight of just over 25 grams, and although the sherd of Coventry A ware was apparently residual in the ditch [3] in trench 2, where slipware dating from the later 17th or 18th centuries was also found, the earlier finds may suggest the survival of stratified medieval archaeology in the vicinity.

The medieval wares are local in origin and appear to be domestic in nature.

Bibliography

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

MPRG et al, 2016 *Standards for Working with Pottery from Archaeological Projects*.

Mayes, P., and Scott, K., 1984 *Pottery kilns at Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton*. Soc. Medieval Archaeol. Mon. Ser. 10.

Redknap, M., 1985 'Twelfth And Thirteenth century Coventry Wares, With Special Reference To A Waster group From The Cannon Park Estate (Lychgate Road) Coventry'. *Medieval Ceramics* 9, 65-77.

Sawday, D., 2009 'The Medieval and Later Pottery and Tile' in J. Coward and G. Speed, *Urban Life in Leicester: An Archaeological Excavation at Freeschool Lane*. Vol 2 *Specialist Reports* University of Leicester Archaeological Services Report No.2009-140,v2, 36-182.

Table 1: The pottery by fabric, sherd numbers and weight (grams) and EVEs by context.

Context	Fabric/Ware	No.	Gr	Comments
POTTER 7				

T1[1] 2 pit	CC5 – Chilvers Coton B	1	40	Rounded bowl, with upright hammer-headed rim, estimated diameter c.320mm, EVEs 0.077, abraded, c.1250-1300 (Mayes and Scott 1984).
T1 [1] 2	MS – Medieval Sandy	1	17	Hollow ware body/base, orange fabric, glazed brown internally, iron rich slip externally. Possibly a variant of the Chilvers Coton fabric CC2, fabric C at Chilvers Coton (<i>ibid.</i> 1984), dating from the 15 th C or 16 th centuries.
T2 [3] 4 ditch	CO2 – Coventry A ware	1	19	Fine wheel thrown and flat base, traces of wear on basal angle, dating from the 12 th to the 14 th C. (Redknap 1985).
T2 [3] 4	EA7 - Slipware	1	5	White bodied, iron rich slip with trailed white slip decoration. Probably Staffs, later 17 th - 18 th C.

Site/ Parish: Cedar Lawns, Church St, , Burbage, Leics Accession No.: XA66 2017 Document Ref: burbage3.docx Material: pot Site Type: historic village core	Submitter: J. Oliver/J. Thomas Identifier: D. Sawday Date of Identification: 16.06.2017 Method of Recovery: evaluation Job Number: 17-621-625
---	---



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

Archaeological Services

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

W: www.le.ac.uk/ulas



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



THE Awards Winner
2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012