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LEICESTER

Archaeological Services

Archaeological Attendance and recording

during groundworks at
Cross Keys Inn, 90 Bondgate,
Castle Donington, DE74 2NR
NGR: **SK 44704 27572**



Claire LaCombe

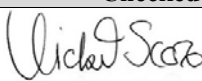
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Cross Keys Inn, 90 Bondgate, Castle Donington, DE74 2NR
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Claire LaCombe

For: Enterprise Inns

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Archaeological Attendance and recording during groundworks at Cross Keys Inn, 90 Bondgate, Castle Donington, DE74 2NR

Summary

Archaeological attendance was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) at Cross Keys Inn, 90 Bondgate, Castle Donington, DE74 2NR. The work was commissioned by Enterprise Inns, in advance of the proposed development of a new single storey cellar building and the rebuilding of an existing retaining wall.

The site lies within the village of Castle Donington and just to the west of the 12th century Castle at Castle Hill. The land currently forms an existing single story cellar and tarmacked surface.

Several foundation trenches were excavated during the course of the archaeological investigation. No archaeological remains were identified and no artefacts recovered from the trenches.

The fieldwork was carried out by Claire LaCombe and Roger Kipling. The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums Service under Accession Number X.A15.2017

Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by Enterprise Inns to carry out archaeological attendance at Cross Keys, 90 Bondgate, Castle Donington, DE74 2NR.

The work was required in accordance with NPPF Section 12: Enhancing and Conserving the Historic Environment as a condition of the planning consent, issued by North-west Leicestershire District Council, for a new single story cellar building and rebuilding of existing retaining wall.

Planning permission has been granted for the demolition of the existing single storey cellar and rebuilding of new single storey cellar, and rebuilding of existing retaining wall to the rear of the existing property (16/00874/FUL). The Leicestershire Planning Archaeologist as archaeological advisor to the planning authority requested archaeological attendance for inspection and recording (watching brief) to identify and record any structural or archaeological remains of significance.

Site Location, Geography and Topography

The site lies in the centre of Castle Donington on Bondgate within the historic core of the town. It comprises the Cross Keys Public House and car park (Figs 1-3).

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain indicates that the underlying geology is Sandstone of the Bromsgrove formation. The ground level is c.46m aOD.



Figure 1: Location of Castle Donington (from WSI)

Location Plan

1:1250

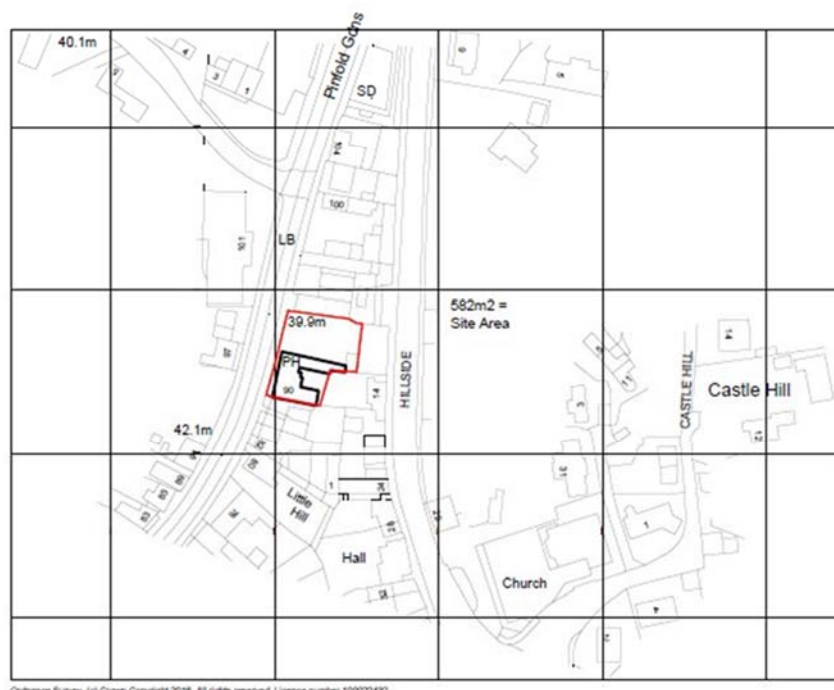


Figure 2: Site development area shown in red (Provided by client)



Figure 3: Proposed development (provided by client)

Archaeological Background

The site lies within the medieval and post-medieval historic settlement core of Castle Donington (MLE5956) and just to the west of the 12th century Castle at Castle Hill (MLE4435), close to the street frontage of Bondgate, which is an important historic road. There are a number of Listed Buildings along the Bondgate street frontage although the Cross Keys itself is not listed. In addition, the late 19th century 1st edition OS mapping shows structures of unknown date within the application area. Consequently, there was potential for buried archaeological remains to be affected by the development during groundworks

Archaeological Objectives

The main objective of the archaeological fieldwork was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of any significant archaeology on the site in its cultural and environmental setting.

The aims of the archaeological attendance were as follows:

- 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 record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground-works.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

Methodology

All work followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2014a) and adhered to their *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2014b).

A *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Work* (WSI) was produced by ULAS and approved by the Planning Archaeologist prior to the archaeological work being undertaken.

The archaeological work focused on the excavation of the foundation trenches of the proposed cellar building, the excavation of the foundation trenches for the gabions, and trenches for drainage pipes.

The archaeological attendance involved the monitoring of groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist. A rubber tracked U50-30L Kubota digger with a 600mm toothed bucket was used to excavate the foundation trenches for the cellar.

Results

The Cellar

Prior to arrival the foundation trenches had been marked out and the tarmac had been cut (Fig 4). No removal of the ground surface had taken place. The tarmac was lifted by a rubber tracked Kubota digger with a toothed 600mm bucket. Immediately beneath this was a layer of hard-core and sand.

The foundation trenches were excavated along internal and external wall lines of the proposed new cellar (Figs 4-12). The trenches were 0.6m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.85m - 0.9m. There was no topsoil or subsoil across the area, but the stratigraphic evidence showed truncation attributed to construction of the carpark and brick floor surface. The natural substratum comprised of soft, sticky red clay and was reached at a depth of between 0.35m and 0.55m in depth. The eastern footing trench had to be hand dug as it was positioned over an existing modern concrete platform with a modern hard core footing. The natural red clay substratum was not reached in this area.

No archaeological deposits, features or finds were encountered during the investigation.

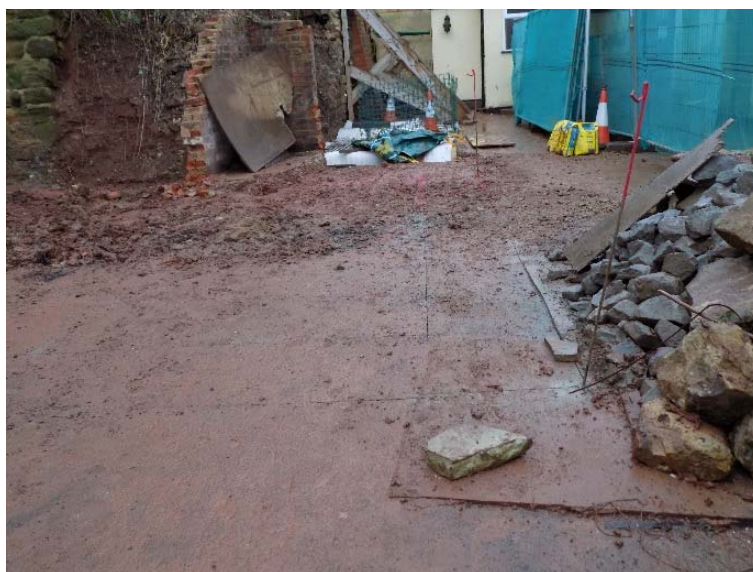


Figure 4: Photograph looking south showing the area for the construction of the cellar. The tarmac has been cut in advance of the trenches being dug.



Figure 5: Photograph looking south west at the area for the construction of the cellar. Retaining walls for the bank are visible in the background.



Figure 6: Photograph showing part of the western most foundation trench for the new cellar building. Note the pre-disturbed, truncated modern stratigraphy.



Figure 7: Southernmost Foundation trench for the new cellar building during excavation.



Figure 8: Northernmost foundation trench for the proposed new cellar building, post excavation. Photograph clearly showing how the disturbed top layer overlays the natural red clay substratum.



Figure 9: Northernmost foundation trench for the proposed new cellar building, post excavation looking south showing the disturbed top layer overlying natural red clay.



Figure 10: South western corner of the foundation trench for the proposed cellar building. Brick path / surface visible at the bottom left corner of the photograph, placed directly onto the red natural clay.



Figure 11: South western corner of the foundation trench for the proposed cellar building. Brick path / surface visible at the right side of the photograph, placed directly onto the red natural clay.

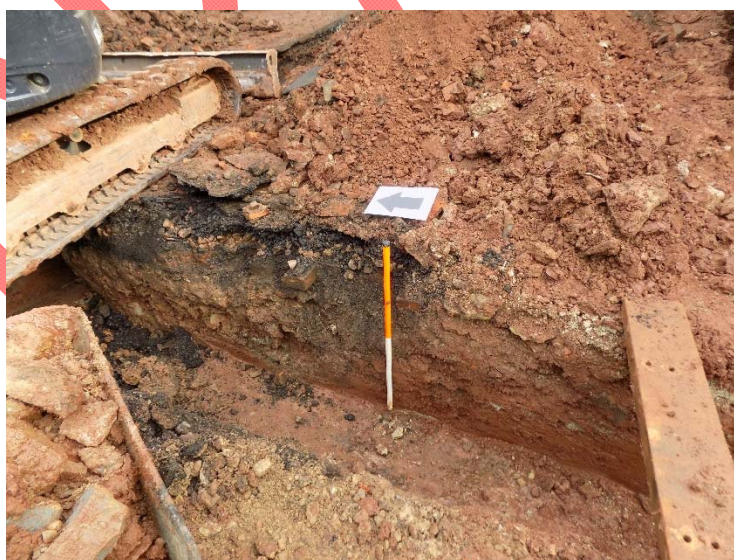


Figure 12: northern end of the westernmost foundation trench for the proposed new cellar building. Photograph shows the truncation and that the tarmac has been placed on top of the brick floor surface.



Figure 13: New cellar block under construction.

Drainage trenches

Several trenches were dug to allow pipes to be placed as part of the drainage system. The trenches were shallow but varying in depth from 0.2m – 0.4m. The service trench to the north of the new cellar building extended around the western side of the building (Fig. 14), but did not disturb the natural red clay substratum. Only removal of the tarmac surface and partial removal of the underlying hard-core was necessary in order to bury the pipe.

Around the western side of the new cellar building, a slightly deeper trench to allow for the larger refrigeration piping was also excavated (Figs 15-16). This penetrated the top tarmac surface, and then the brick floor surface which lied beneath. Some removal of the natural red clay was necessary to accommodate the pipework. The total depth of this trench was approximately 0.3m from the surface at its deepest point.

A trench was dug to the northern side of the public house building in order to connect the new drainage system to the existing pipework (Fig. 17-18). This trench exposed the existing drainage pipework and service cables. The trenches did not disturb any of the red clay natural substratum.

No archaeological deposits, features or finds were encountered during the investigation.



Figure 14: Excavated ground for drainage next to the new cellar building at the northernmost point looking east.



Figure 15: Excavated ground for refrigeration and drainage pipes on the western side of the new cellar building.



Figure 16: Excavated ground to the western side of the new cellar building.



Figure 17: Trench excavated to the northern side of the existing public house for drainage.



Figure 18: Trench showing the truncated top layer of ground excavated for drainage to the north of the existing public house.

Retaining Gabion wall

The footings were dug in stages starting from the southernmost end, progressing to the northernmost end as the gabions were built 2.10m x 2.10m at a time (Fig. 20). A shallow footing trench of approximately 200mm was dug adjacent to the bank which was to be filled with concrete. There was no topsoil or subsoil. The tarmac and shallow bed of hard-core was removed to reveal the red smooth natural clay which dominated the site (Figs 19-21). At the northernmost end, part of the bank had to be removed revealing the natural red clay of the bank itself (Fig 23), and also a section of a wall originally part of stables at the site (Fig 24). This had been enveloped by the bank over time. The brick floor surface was probably connected to the stable as well and of similar date.

No archaeological deposits, features or finds were encountered during the investigation.



Figure 19: Area for excavation for the positioning of retaining gabions



Figure 20: Excavated footing ready for the concrete base for the retaining gabions. Photograph shows that the footings are dug directly onto the natural substratum of sticky red clay.



Figure 21: Area excavated ready for the concrete footing for the retaining gabion. Photograph also shows brick wall to be removed and replaced by retaining gabion.



Figure 22: Area of bank and wall to be removed prior to excavation.



Figure 23: Photograph showing removal of bank and existing retaining brick wall in advance of the construction of retaining gabions.



Figure 24: Photograph showing the area of the bank which has been removed, and also the remains of existing buttresses and stable block which had become enveloped by the bank.



Figure 25: Photograph showing the newly constructed retaining wall of gabions to hold back the bank.

Discussion

Despite the potential for archaeological features or deposits none were observed during the course of this attendance. The stratigraphy comprised of a mixed top layer of made ground, showing evidence of modern truncation attributed to the construction of a cellar and tarmacked areas for parking, overlaying red clay natural substratum.

Archive

The archive consists of the following:

- 1 unbound copy of this report
- 6 watching brief recording sheet
- 1 set of digital photographs

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums Service under Accession Number X.A15.2017

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, under ID: universi1-XXXX. Available at: <http://oasis.ac.uk/>

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.

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was undertaken on behalf of Enterprise and was carried out by Claire LaCombe and Roger Kipling. Vicki Score managed the project. We would like to thank Tom Haywood of Stenball, Rob and his team of workers for their co-operation during the work.

OASIS entry summary

PROJECT DETAILS	Oasis No	universi1-xxxx		
	Project Name	Cross Keys Inn, Castle Donington		
	Start/end dates of field work	30.01.2017		
	Previous/Future Work	Not known		
	Project Type	Watching Brief		
	Site Status	None		
	Current Land Use	Car Park		
	Monument Type/Period	None		
	Significant Finds/Period	None		
	Development Type	Single story construction of a cellar and redevelopment or surrounding garden		
	Reason for Investigation	NPPF		
	Position in the Planning Process	Planning condition		
	Planning Ref.	16/00874/FUL		
PROJECT LOCATION	Site Address/Postcode	Cross Keys Inn, 90 Bondgate, Castle Donington, DE74 2NR		
	Study Area	582m2		
	Site Coordinates	SK 44704 27572		
	Height OD	46m OD		
PROJECT CREATORS	Organisation	ULAS		
	Project Brief Originator	Local Planning Authority - North-west Leicestershire District Council		
	Project Design Originator	ULAS		
	Project Manager	Vicki Score		
	Project Director/Supervisor	Claire LaCombe		
	Sponsor/Funding Body	Enterprise		
PROJECT ARCHIVE		Physical	Digital	Paper
	Recipient	NA	LCC Mus Service	LCC Mus Service
	ID (Acc. No.)		X.A15.2017	X.A15.2017
	Contents		Photos Survey data	Watching brief records Field Notes
PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY	Type	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
	Title	Archaeological Attendance and recording during groundworks at Cross Keys Inn, 90 Bondgate, Castle Donington, Derby DE74 2NR		
	Author	LaCombe, C.		
	Other bibliographic details	ULAS Report No 2017-062		
	Date	2017		
	Publisher/Place	University of Leicester Archaeological Services / University of Leicester		
	Description	Developer Report A4 pdf		

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ULAS. 2017 *Written Scheme of investigation for Archaeological Attendance and recording during groundworks* ULAS 17-349

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15/05/2017

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