



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

Archaeological Services

Archaeological Attendance at The Hall,
2 Main Street, Gaddesby, Leicestershire LE7 4WG

NGR SK 69072 13190



Claire LaCombe

ULAS Report No 2017-140

Accession Number X.A10.2017

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**Archaeological Attendance at The Hall,
2 Main Street, Gaddesby, Leicestershire LE7 4WG**

NGR: SK 69072 13190

Claire LaCombe

For: Mr and Mrs Jinks

Filename/Version	Checked by	Date
2017-138	Patrick Clay	15/09/2017

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ULAS Report Number 2017-140

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Summary

Archaeological attendance was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) at The Hall, 2 Main Street, Gaddesby, Leicestershire. The work was commissioned by Mr and Mrs Jinks in advance of the proposed development of a new single story residential dwelling.

The site lies within the village of Gaddesby, north east of the Hall itself, on land situated between two modern built residences and adjacent to tennis courts belonging to the hall.

One foundation trench was excavated during the course of the archaeological investigation. Further work will follow at a date to be confirmed. No archaeological remains were identified and no artefacts recovered from the trenches.

The fieldwork was carried out by Claire LaCombe. The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums Service under Accession Number X.A10.2017

Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by Mr and Mrs Jinks to carry out archaeological attendance at The Hall, 2 Main Street, Gaddesby, Leicestershire.

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

The work was required as a condition of the planning consent, issued by Melton Borough Council, for a new dwelling and garage.

The Senior 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

Gaddesby lies in the Melton Borough of Leicestershire, c.13km to the north-east of Leicester (Figure 1) The site is located on the eastern side of the village, to the east of Main Street, north-east of the church (SK 69072 13190;). The site is at an approximate height of 90m O.D. and the natural substratum is glacial drift (boulder clay).



Figure 1: Location of Gaddesby (from WSI)

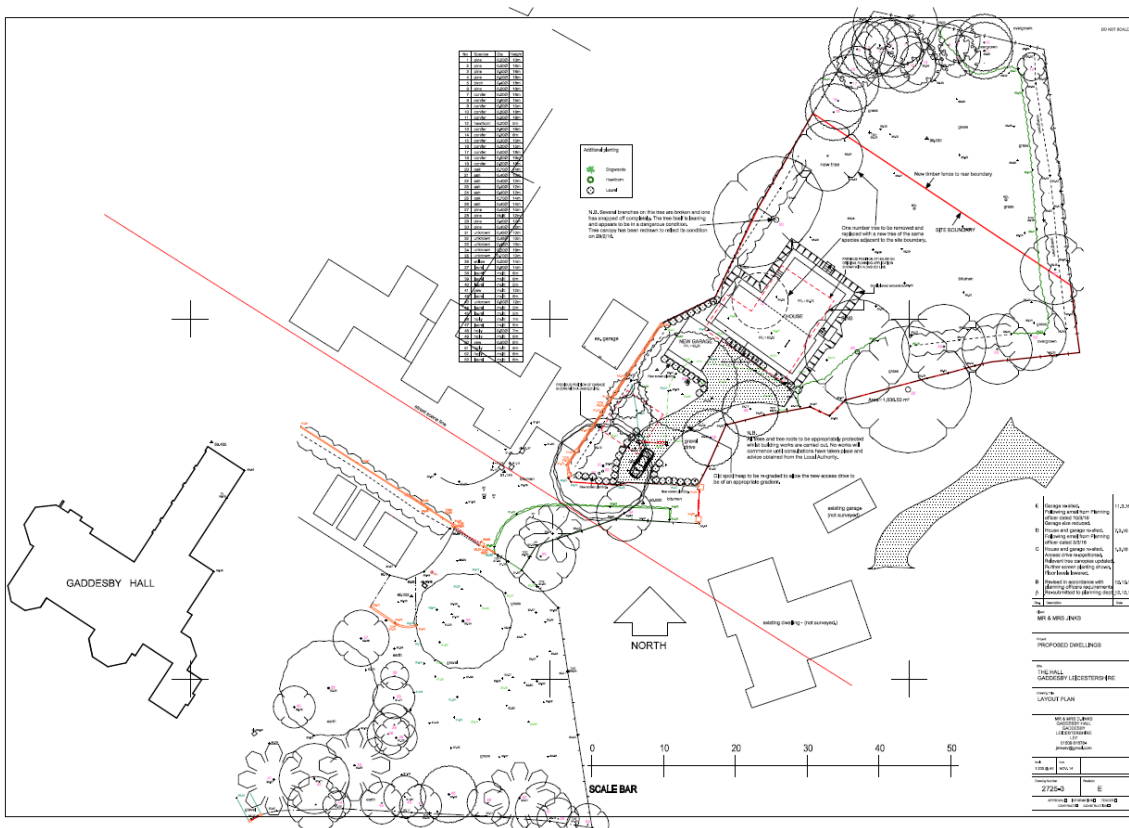


Figure 2: Proposed development (provided by client)

Archaeological Background

The villages of Leicestershire and the wider English Central Midlands, appear to have evolved alongside their open field systems, during the later 1st millennium AD. Buried archaeological evidence, constituting one or more as yet unidentified heritage asset(s) (National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12, paragraph 128 and Appendix 2), spanning the period from the earliest evolution of the village to its more recent past can be expected within the development area. Consequently, there is a likelihood that buried archaeological remains will be affected by the development.

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application site lies in an area of archaeological interest. It is located within the medieval and post-medieval settlement core of the village (MLE3783), and close to the medieval parish church of St. Luke (MLE11674). Good evidence has been recorded for two Roman sites, from fieldwalking and metal-detector survey, just to the north and to the north-west of the application area (MLE6023 and MLE16330). Consequently, there is potential for the presence of below-ground archaeological remains within the application area, which are likely to be affected by the groundworks associated with the proposed development.

Groundworks associated with the proposed development are likely to disturb any archaeological remains that may be present, consequently there is a likelihood that buried archaeological remains will be affected by the development.

Archaeological Objectives

The main objective of the archaeological excavation 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 was produced by ULAS prior to the archaeological work being undertaken.

The proposed new development will involve the construction of a single story stable block linking two existing stable blocks. The archaeological work focused on the excavation of the foundation trenches of the proposed dwelling (Fig. 3).

The archaeological attendance involved the control and supervision of overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist. A rubber tracked 360° digger with a 400mm bucket was used to excavate the foundation trenches under continuous archaeological supervision.

Results

At the first visit on 30th January 2017 prior to excavation, it was noted that there was an electricity power cable running beneath the ground within the proposed area for development. This was located using a CAT scanner by Peter Featherstone. It was not within the area that was to be excavated that day. However there was a possibility of an out of use water pipe crossing the footings to be dug. It was planned that only one footing of approximately 1.0m would be dug so that the buildings inspector could examine it and decide if it was adequate.

One foundation trench was dug running north west – south east which would form the central dividing wall of the proposed dwelling. The topsoil was thin measuring 0.25m at its deepest point and appeared dark orange brown in colour, consisting of sandy loam with very few inclusions present other than leafy mulch. There was no subsoil. The natural substratum comprised of soft brownly orange clay with <10% chalky inclusions, and was reached at 0.25m in depth. At the southern most end of this trench a modern limestone cobbled layer was discovered approximately 0.10m below the surface (Figure X). This was photographed, but removed during the excavation of the foundation trench. The disused water pipe was found and removed during the excavation.

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



Figure 3: Entrance to the development area (looking north)



Figure 4: View looking north-west towards the development area from the tennis courts.



Figure 5: View looking west towards the development area from the tennis courts.



Figure 6: Cobbled lime stone surface at the southern most end of the foundation trench.



Figure 7: Cobbled lime stone surface at the southernmost end of the foundation trench



Figure 8: Post excavation of the footing trench looking east.



Figure 9: North-east section of the foundation trench where limestone cobbled layer was situated.

Discussion

Despite the potential for archaeological features or deposits none were observed during the course of this attendance. The stratigraphy comprised of dark orangey brown topsoil of varying depths overlaying brown-orange silty-sand subsoil. A natural soft sand substratum was identified at between 0.35– 0.55m in depth. The development area showed evidence of modern truncation attributed to the construction of the two current stable blocks erected 14 years ago.

Further work is to follow at a date to be arranged.

Archive

The archive consists of the following:

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

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums Service under Accession Number X.A10.2017

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: universi1-303628. 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 Mr and Mrs Jinks and was carried out by Claire LaCombe. Patrick Clay managed the project. We would like to thank Peter Featherstone for operating the plant machinery.

OASIS data entry

PROJECT DETAILS	Oasis No	universi1-303628		
	Project Name	The Hall, Gaddesby		
	Start/end dates of field work	30.01.2017		
	Previous/Future Work	Yes / Not known		
	Project Type	Watching Brief		
	Site Status	None		
	Current Land Use	Waste land		
	Monument Type/Period	None		
	Significant Finds/Period	None		
	Development Type	Residential		
	Reason for Investigation	NPPF		
	Position in the Planning Process	Planning condition		
	Planning Ref.	15/00826/FUL		
PROJECT LOCATION	Site Address/Postcode	2 Main Street, Gaddesby, Leicestershire LE7 4WG		
	Study Area	1.2ha		
	Site Coordinates	SK 69072 13190		
	Height OD	90m OD		
PROJECT CREATORS	Organisation	ULAS		
	Project Brief Originator	Local Planning Authority (LCC)		
	Project Design Originator	ULAS		
	Project Manager	Dr Patrick Clay		
	Project Director/Supervisor	Claire LaCombe		
	Sponsor/Funding Body	Developer / Mr and Mrs Jinks		
PROJECT ARCHIVE		Physical	Digital	Paper
	Recipient	NA	LCC MusService	LCC MusService
	ID (Acc. No.)		X.A10.2017	X.A10.2017
	Contents		Photos Survey data	Watching brief records Field Notes
PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY	Type	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
	Title	Archaeological Attendance at The Hall, 2 Main Street, Gaddesby, Leicestershire LE7 4WG		
	Author	LaCombe, C.		
	Other bibliographic details	ULAS Report No 2017-140		
	Date	2017		
	Publisher/Place	University of Leicester Archaeological Services / University of Leicester		
	Description	Developer Report A4 pdf		

Bibliography

CIfA 2014a *Code of Conduct* Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA 2014b *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

ULAS. 2016 *Written Scheme of investigation for Archaeological Attendance at The Hall, 2 Main Street, Gaddesby, Leicestershire, LE7 5HF*, ULAS 16/080

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30/01/2017

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