



UNIVERSITY OF
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Archaeological Services

Archaeological Attendance and
Recording during groundworks at
Cedar lawns, Church Road, Burbage,
Leicestershire LE10 2DE
NGR SP 44252 92690



Claire LaCombe

Report No 2017-198

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**Archaeological Attendance and Recording during groundworks at
Cedar lawns, Church Road, Burbage, Leicestershire LE10 2DE
NGR SP 44252 92690**

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Archaeological Attendance and Recording during groundworks at Cedar lawns, Church Road, Burbage, Leicestershire LE10 2DE. NGR SP 44252 92690

Summary

Archaeological attendance was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) at Cedar lawns, Church Road, Burbage, Leicestershire LE10 2DE. The work was commissioned by Tony Morris Builders, in advance of the proposed development of three new dwellings.

The site lies within the village of Burbage, and is located within the historic settlement core of the village

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. The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums Service under Accession Number X.A66.2017

Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by Tony Morris Builders to carry out archaeological attendance at Archaeological Attendance and Recording during groundworks at Cedar lawns, Church Road, Burbage, Leicestershire LE10 2DE. The work was required as a condition of the planning application for the conversion of offices (B1a) to 5 flats (C3) including demolition of single storey rear extension, conversion of outbuilding to one dwelling and erection of three new dwellings. Planning Application 16/00441/FUL. This archaeological work is in accordance with NPPF Section 12: Enhancing and Conserving the Historic Environment.

Site Location, Geology and Topography

Burbage is located in south-west Leicestershire approximately 19km from Leicester city centre and 3km south east of Hinkley. Cedar Lawns sits opposite Saint Catherine's Church on Church Road. The site lies at a height of c.115m O.D. on fairly 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. .

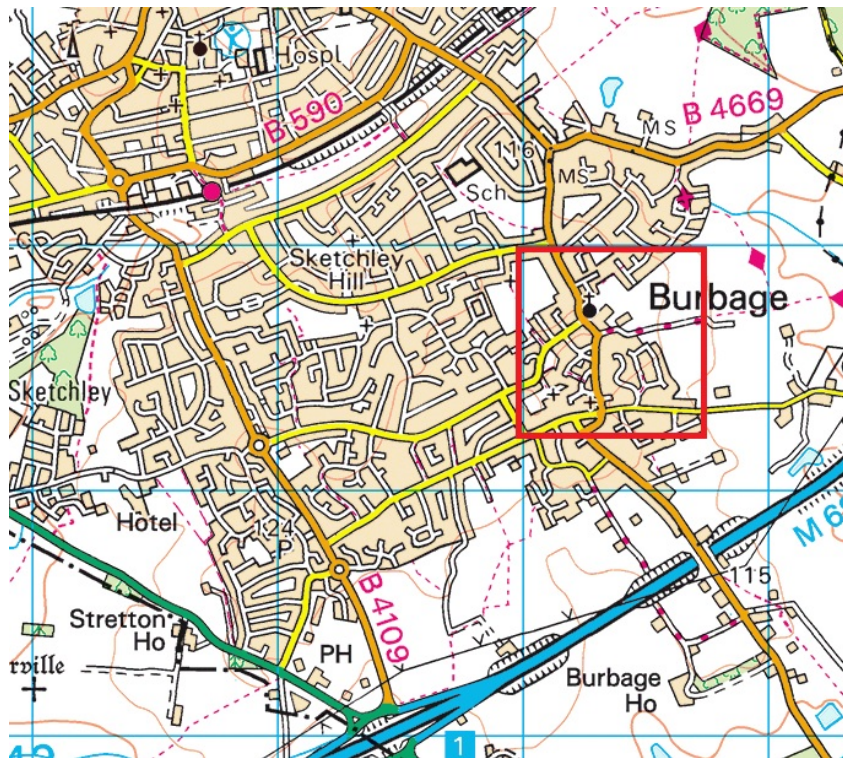


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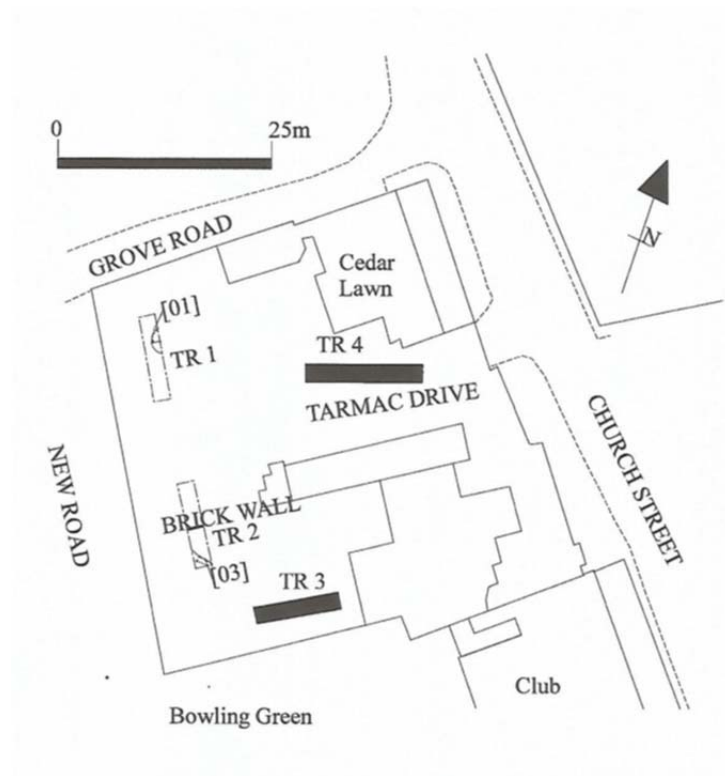


Figure 2: Plan of the evaluation trenches showing the location of archaeological features in Trenches 1 and 2.

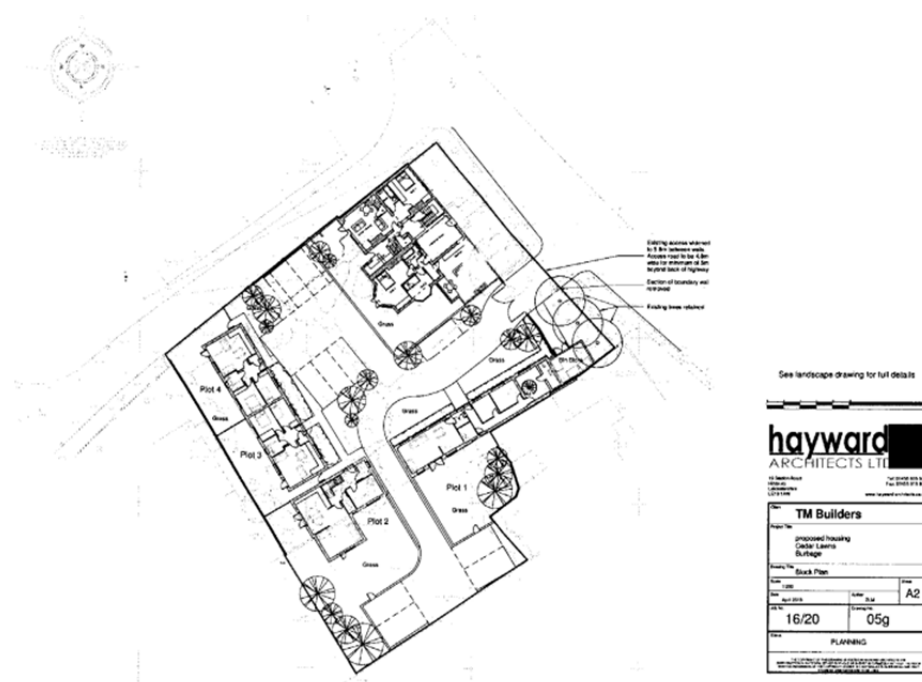


Figure 3. Proposed development

Archaeological Background

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the area is located within the historic settlement core of the village (MLE2848). Medieval/post-medieval deposits have been located to the south on Grove Road. A trial trench evaluation has located some post-medieval features which may relate to the garden associated with the 19th century house, Cedar Lawns (Patrick 2017; Hyam 2017).

In accordance with the NPPF (Section 12, paragraph 141), the Local Planning Authority requires a developer to record and advance the understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance

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 establish the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscape and to advance understanding of the heritage assets.
- To recover artefacts and ecofacts to compare with other assemblages and results
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

Within the stated project aims, the principal objective of the recording is to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, and significance of the heritage assets within their local and regional context

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.

Tony Morris Builders propose to undertake groundworks in the form of excavation for foundation trenches.

On 14th September 2017, and 13th October 2017, an archaeologist was in attendance to monitor groundworks. The excavation of foundation trenches were monitored in preparation for a residential development.

Visit one.

On Arrival it was noted that the area planned for vehicular access had already been excavated and was being filled with hard-core rubble. The area stretched from the south eastern boundary where there are planned car-parking spaces (Fig. 5), to the centre of the site (Fig. 6) turning towards the front entrance (Fig. 4). As a result, I was unable to monitor the excavation of this area of the site.

The remainder of the site had not been touched. I advised that in advance of my next visit that the topsoil may be removed. General photographs were taken of the site.



Figure 3. Visit 1, Looking from the north western corner of the site in a south easterly direction. Photograph shows some of the garden area has remained untouched.



Figure 4: Visit 1. Looking east towards the front entrance. The area which had been excavated and filled with hard-core rubble is visible.



Figure 5: Visit 1. Looking along the North-western boundary from the southernmost point. The area of excavated land filled with hard-core rubble is visible to the right of the picture.



Figure 6: Visit 1. Looking south from the centre of the site at the excavated and filled area.

Visit two.

Prior to arrival, the land had been stripped of topsoil as I had advised on the previous visit. The area where the foundation trenches were to be excavated had been marked with paint. In addition, a further area had been excavated and filled with hard-core rubble extending in a northerly direction towards the North West boundary wall. This is an area for vehicular access and parking spaces. As a result, I was unable to monitor the excavation of this area.

Excavation began along the south western wall line of plot 2 (Fig. 7) and continued in a northerly direction along plots 3 and 4 (Fig. 8). The ground was excavated initially with a Kubota digger with a 500mm toothed bucket and then as the day progressed and the ground got harder to the north, it was changed to a 360 JCB with a 500mm / 1m toothed bucket. Excavation continued across the northern extent of the plan, and then to the south. The area for plot 2 (Fig. 10) was excavated towards the end of the day at the south end of the site. No archaeology was discovered in any of the foundation trenches that were excavated, and there were no finds.



Figure 7: Visit 2. Work began excavating the trenches for the foundations on the marked out areas. The ground proved to be very hard in places.



Figure 8: Visit 2. Excavation of the foundation trenches began at plot 2.



Figure 9: Visit 2. Depth of the trench at the north western corner of plot 4, the deepest part of the site.



Figure 10: Visit 2. Excavation completed at the northern side of the site (Plot 3/4).



Figure 11: Visit 2. Excavation complete at the southern part of the site (plot 2).

Discussion

It was observed during the attendance at this site, that although there was fairly high potential for archaeology at this site based on the initial evaluation, no archaeological features or finds were discovered on the site. The stratigraphy comprised of a mixed orange-brown sandy subsoil showing signs of truncation from tree roots and some modern fragments of building material which were discarded. This overlaid the natural substratum which was a hard compacted layer of orange-brown sandy soil with small pebble inclusions < 10%.

Archive

The archive consists of the following:

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

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums Service under Accession Number X.A66.2017

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was undertaken on behalf of Tony Morris Builders and was carried out by Claire LaCombe. Patrick Clay managed the project. We would like to thank Rick Morris and his team of workers for their co-operation during the work.

Publication - OASIS entry summary

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.

PROJECT DETAILS	Oasis No	universi1- 303641
	Project Name	Cedar Lawns, Burbage.
	Start/end dates of field work	14.09.2017 and 13.10.2017
	Previous/Future Work	Not known
	Project Type	Watching Brief
	Site Status	None
	Current Land Use	Gardens
	Monument Type/Period	n/a
	Significant Finds/Period	None
	Development Type	Residential Development
	Reason for	NPPF

	Investigation			
	Position in the Planning Process	Unknown		
	Planning Ref.	16/00441/FUL		
PROJECT LOCATION	Site Address/Postcode	Cedar lawns, Church Road, Burbage, Leicestershire LE10 2DE		
	Study Area	0.185ha		
	Site Coordinates	SP 44252 92690		
	Height OD	115m OD		
PROJECT CREATORS	Organisation	ULAS		
	Project Brief Originator	Local Planning Authority - North-west Leicestershire District Council		
	Project Design Originator	ULAS		
	Project Manager	Patrick Clay		
	Project Director/Supervisor	Claire LaCombe		
	Sponsor/Funding Body	Tony Morris Builders		
PROJECT ARCHIVE		Physical	Digital	Paper
	Recipient	NA	LCC Mus Service	LCC Mus Service
	ID (Acc. No.)		X.A66.2017	X.A66.2017
	Contents		Photos Survey data	Watching brief records Field Notes
PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY	Type	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
	Title	Archaeological Attendance and Recording during groundworks at Cedar lawns, Church Road, Burbage, Leicestershire LE10 2DE NGR SP 44252 92690		
	Author	LaCombe, C.		
	Other bibliographic details	ULAS Report No 2017-198		
	Date	2017		
	Publisher/Place	University of Leicester Archaeological Services / University of Leicester		
	Description	Developer Report A4 pdf		

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