

**An Archaeological Evaluation on land  
to the rear of 30, Main Street,  
Cottesmore, Rutland (SK 9015 1360).**

Gerwyn Richards

<p><b>Checked by Project Manager</b></p> <p><b>Signed:</b> ..... <b>Date:</b> .....</p> <p><b>Name:</b> .....</p>
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For Mr R Goodwin

**An Archaeological Evaluation on Land to The Rear of 30, Main Street,  
Cottesmore, Rutland (SK 9015 1360).**

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## **An Archaeological Evaluation on land to the rear of 30 Main Street, Cottesmore, Rutland (SK 9015 1360).**

**Gerwyn Richards**

### *Summary*

*University of Leicester Archaeological Services was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 30 Main Street, Cottesmore, Rutland. The site was within the historic settlement core of the village and was considered to be of high archaeological potential.*

*Three evaluation trenches were excavated during the course of the evaluation and nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered.*

### **1. Introduction**

University of Leicester Archaeological Services was commissioned by Mr Richard Goodwin to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 30 Main Street, Cottesmore, Rutland (SK 9015 1360). Outline planning permission had been granted for the construction of a residential dwelling (Planning Application: 02/1126/9) the Planning Archaeologist of Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council as advisor to Rutland County Council recommended an archaeological watching brief. The evaluation addresses requirements detailed in the *Brief for an archaeological watching brief at land to the rear of Main Street, Cottesmore* from Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services as archaeological advisors to the planning authority (15.4.2003). It follows the approved Design Specification (7.9.2005) which is a modification of the specification submitted on 23.2.2005 as the owner has requested prior investigation to assess the archaeological impact before development.

The application area is located within the historic settlement core of the village and is close to known archaeological sites dating from the prehistoric to later medieval periods and was considered, therefore, to have some archaeological potential (e.g Clarke and Jarvis 2000).

The relevant Ordnance Survey Geological Map of Great Britain (Sheet 157) indicates that the underlying geology consists of Northampton Sand Ironstone.

All work adhered to the Institute of Field Archaeologist's (IFA) *Code of Conduct, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* and the *Guidance for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (LMARS). The evaluation was carried out on September 14<sup>th</sup> 2005.

### **2. 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.

### **3. Methodology**

Initially the evaluation was to consist of two trenches of *c.* 15 square metres, approximately 10% of the proposed development area. However once excavation began it was decided to excavate a third trench of approximately 12 square metres, bringing the total area up to 42 square metres, 14% of the development area.

JCB with 1500mm ditching bucket was used to excavate all three trenches under continuous archaeological supervision.

### **4. Results**

#### ***Trench 1***

Trench 1 was located adjacent to the westernmost boundary of the proposed development area; the trench was approximately 10 metres long and 1.5 metres wide and aligned north to south. It soon became apparent that there was no discernable topsoil or subsoil, weathered ironstone bedrock was exposed immediately below the sparse vegetation cover. Excavation continued to approximately 500mm merely to confirm that the bedrock was undisturbed and not a re-deposited layer. Nothing of archaeological significance was observed within the trench, it was photographed and backfilled.

#### ***Trench 2***

Trench 2 was excavated approximately 6metres east of trench 1, approximately 4metres from the easternmost boundary of the proposed development area. The trench was approximately 10 metres long and 1.5 metres wide and again aligned north south. It became immediately apparent that this part of the proposed development area consisted entirely of undisturbed weathered bedrock. Excavation was discontinued at a depth of only approximately 250mm, the trench was photographed and backfilled.

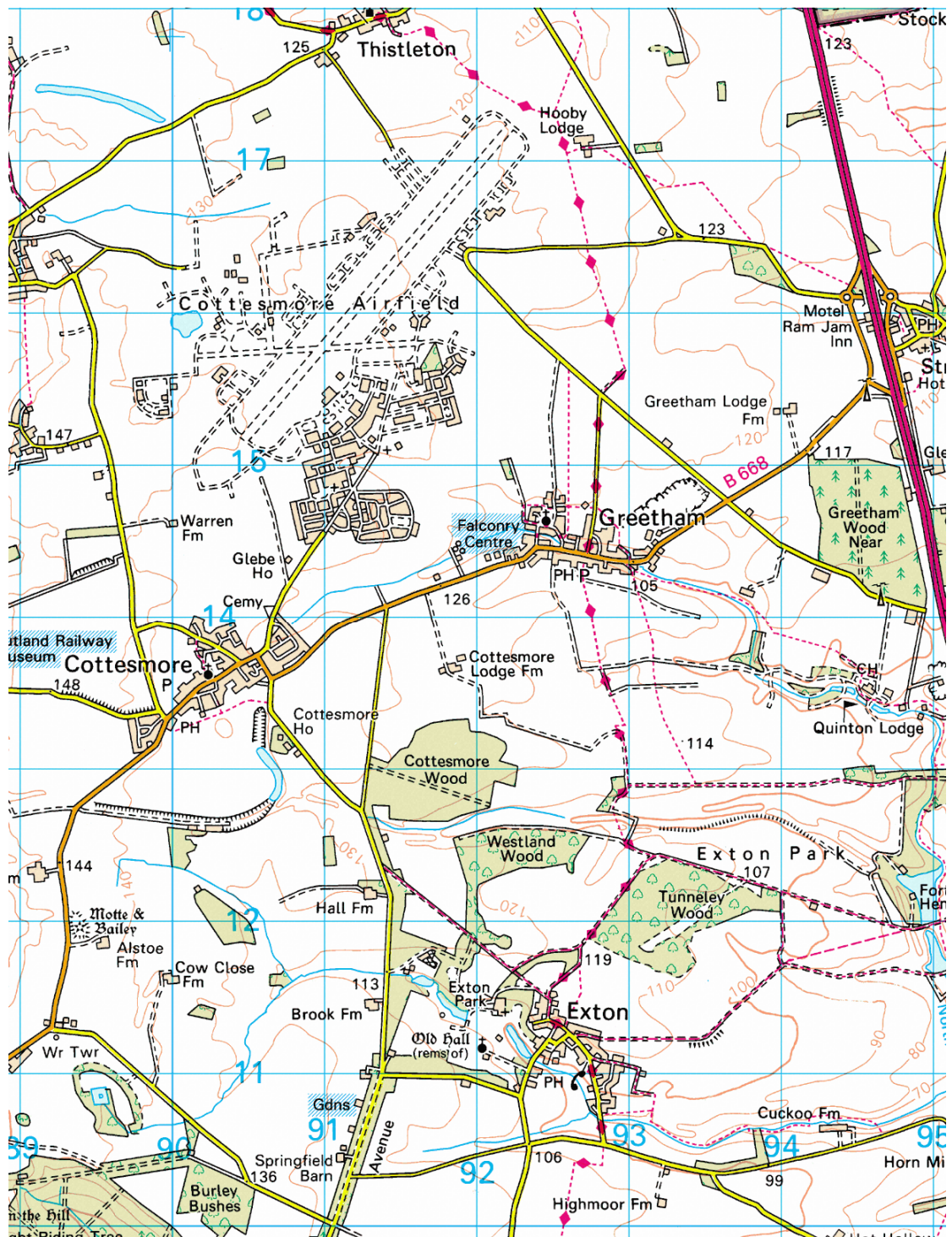


Figure 1: Location plan. Scale 1:50 000  
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### Trench 3

Due to the complete lack of topsoil or any other kind of overburden it was decided to excavate a further trench to confirm the results of trenches 1 and 2. The final trench was approximately 10 metres long and 1.5 metres wide and was excavated to the north of trenches 1 and 2. It was aligned east to west adjacent to the northernmost

boundary of the proposed development area. Once again there was no topsoil and weathered bedrock was exposed immediately below the sparse vegetation, excavation continued to approximately 400mm to confirm that the weathered bedrock was undisturbed. The trench was photographed and backfilled.

#### **4. Conclusion**

Despite its promising location nothing of archaeological significance was recorded during the course of this evaluation. It appears that the proposed development area had suffered considerable truncation during the recent past; as a result there was neither topsoil nor subsoil present. The proposed development area consisted entirely of weathered sand ironstone. There is, therefore, no archaeological potential for this proposed development.

#### **5. Archive**

The archive consists of:-

3 Trench Recording Sheets  
11 Black & White Photographs and a Contact Sheet  
A4 Paper Photograph Record Sheet  
A2 Permatrace Overlay of Trench Location Plan

The archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services Accession Number RT07.2005.

#### **6. Acknowledgements**

The evaluation was carried out by Gerwyn Richards and Peter Burns. Patrick Clay also of ULAS, managed the project. We are also grateful to Mr R Goodwin for his help and co-operation during this evaluation.

#### **7. Bibliography**

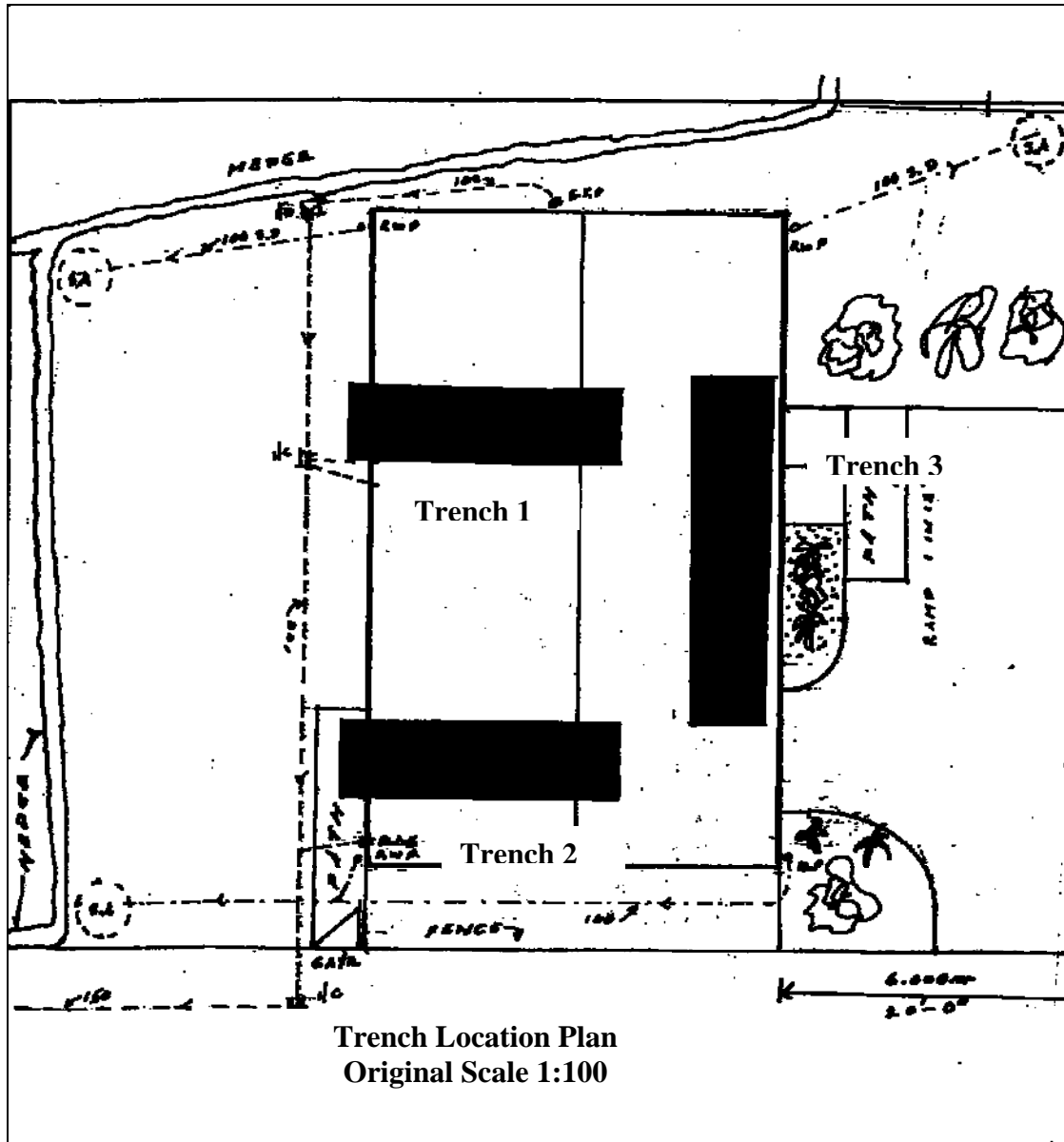
Clarke, S and Jarvis, W. 2000 *An Archaeological Watching Brief at the former Bus Depot (adj. to 27 Main Street) Cottesmore, Rutland.* ULAS Report 2000-50.

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16.9.2005



## UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

### Design Specification for archaeological evaluation

*30, Main Street, Cottesmore, Rutland (SK 9015 1360)*

*Planning Application: 02/1126/9*

*For: Mr R. Goodwin*

#### 1. Definition and scope of the specification

1.1 In accordance with Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and planning), para.30, this specification provides a written scheme for archaeological exploratory work, as required by the Planning Authority, of any ground works on the site which may disturb areas of archaeological potential in connection with a planning application for the construction of a residential dwelling at 30, Main Street, Cottesmore, Rutland (SK 9015 1360). It addresses requirements detailed in the *Brief for an archaeological watching brief at land to the rear of Main Street, Cottesmore* from Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services as archaeological advisors to the planning authority (15.4.2003). It is a modification of the specification submitted on 23.2.2005 as the owner has requested prior investigation to assess the archaeological impact before development.

1.2 All archaeological work will adhere to the Institute of Field Archaeologist's (IFA) *Code of Conduct, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations* and the *Guidelines for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (LMARS).

#### 2 Background

##### 2.1 Requirement for archaeological work

2.1.1 The archaeological exploratory work is required to cover any ground disturbance to identify any deposits of archaeological importance. This forms part of a scheme of work to fulfil the planning conditions required by Rutland County Council following recommendations from Leicestershire County Council, as advisors to the planning authority.

##### 2.2 Archaeological potential

2.2.1 The site lies within an area of archaeological importance within the medieval settlement core of Cottesmore, close to where finds of Roman, Saxon and Medieval date have been found ('Brief' 6.1).

#### 3. Archaeological Objectives

3.1 The main objectives of the evaluation will be:

- 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.

3.2 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.

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

#### 4. Methodology

##### 4.1 General Methodology and Standards

4.1.1 All work will follow the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (1999) and the guidelines for *Archaeological work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (Leicestershire County Council 1997).



4.1.2 Staffing, recording systems, health and safety provisions and insurance details are included below.

4.1.3 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site by the project manager. These will ensure that project targets are met and professional standards are maintained. Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Planning Archaeologist, the Planning authority and the Client.

#### **4.2 Trial Trenching Methodology**

4.2.1 Topsoil/modern overburden will be removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the uppermost archaeological deposits by JCB 3C or equivalent using a toothless ditching bucket. Trenches will be excavated to a width of 1.5m and down to the top of archaeological deposits.

4.2.2 The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.

4.2.3 The trial trenching will involve a *c.* 10% sample of the area, the equivalent of *c.* 30 sq metres or 2 10m x 1.5 m trenches, targeting the proposed building. The locations may be varied in the light of constraints on the ground.

4.2.4 Trenches will be examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located will be planned at an appropriate scale and sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence. All plans will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

4.4.5 Sections of any excavated archaeological features will be drawn at an appropriate scale. At least one longitudinal face of each trench will be recorded. All sections will be levelled and tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum, or a permanent fixed bench mark.

4.4.6 Trench locations will be recorded using an electronic distance measurer. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

4.4.7 Any human remains will initially be left *in situ* and will only be removed if necessary for their protection, under a Home Office Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations.

#### **4.3 Recording Systems**

4.3.1 The ULAS recording manual will be used as a guide for all recording.

4.3.2 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto pro-forma recording sheets.

4.3.3 A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a trench plan at appropriate scale, which will show the location of the areas investigated in relationship to the investigation area and OS grid.

4.3.4 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made. Sections including the half-sections of individual layers of features will be drawn as necessary, typically at a scale of 1:10. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be recorded.

4.3.5 A photographic record of the investigations will be prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

4.3.6 This record will be compiled and checked during the course of the excavations.

### **5. Finds and Samples**

5.1 The IFA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.

5.2 Before commencing work on the site, a Site code/Accession number will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist that will be used to identify all records and finds from the site.

5.3 During the fieldwork, different sampling strategies may be employed according to the perceived importance of the strata under investigation. Close attention will always be given to

sampling for date, structure and environment. If significant archaeological features are sample excavated, the environmental sampling strategy is likely to include the following:

- i. A range of features to represent all feature types, areas and phases will be selected on a judgmental basis. The criteria for selection will be that deposits are datable, well sealed and with little intrusive or residual material.
- ii. Any buried soils or well sealed deposits with concentrations of carbonised material present will be intensively sampled taking a known proportion of the deposit.
- iii. Spot samples will be taken where concentrations of environmental remains are located.
- iv. Waterlogged remains, if present, will be sampled for pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and radiocarbon dating provided that they are uncontaminated and datable. Consultation with the specialist will be undertaken.

5.4 All identified finds and artefacts are to be retained, although certain classes of building material will, in some circumstances, be discarded after recording with the approval of the Senior Planning Archaeologist. The IFA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.

5.5 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner. Where appropriate they will be cleaned, marked and receive remedial conservation in accordance with recognised best-practice. This will include the site code number, finds number and context number. Bulk finds will be bagged in clear self sealing plastic bags, again marked with site code, finds and context numbers and boxed by material in standard storage boxes (340mm x 270mm x 195mm). All materials will be fully labelled, catalogued and stored in appropriate containers.

## **6. Report and Archive**

6.1 The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork and copies will be dispatched to the Client, Senior Planning Archaeologist; SMR and Local Planning Authority.

6.2 The report will include consideration of:-

- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the evaluation.
- The nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of any structural, artefactual and environmental material uncovered.
- The anticipated degree of survival of archaeological deposits.
- The anticipated archaeological impact of the current proposals.
- Appropriate illustrative material including maps, plans, sections, drawings and photographs.
- Summary.
- The location and size of the archive.
- A quantitative and qualitative assessment of the potential of the archive for further analysis leading to full publication, following guidelines laid down in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage).

6.3 A full copy of the archive as defined in *The Guidelines For The Preparation Of Excavation Archives For Long-Term Storage* (UKIC 1990), and *Standards In The Museum: Care Of Archaeological Collections* (MGC 1992) and *Guidelines for the Preparation of Site Archives and Assessments for all Finds* (other than fired clay objects) (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993) will usually be presented to within six months of the completion of fieldwork. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

## **7 Publication and Dissemination of Results**

7.1 A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* ('Brief' 15.7). A larger report will be submitted for inclusion if the results of the evaluation warrant it.

## **8. Acknowledgement and Publicity**

8.1 ULAS shall acknowledge the contribution of the Client in any displays, broadcasts or publications relating to the site or in which the report may be included.

- 8.2 ULAS and the Client shall each ensure that a senior employee shall be responsible for dealing with any enquiries received from press, television and any other broadcasting media and members of the public. All enquiries made to ULAS shall be directed to the Client for comment.

## **9. Copyright**

- 9.1 The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

## **10. Timetable**

- 10.1 The trial trenching is scheduled to start during w.c 12.9.2005.  
10.2 The report will be ready within three weeks of the completion of fieldwork. The on-site director/supervisor will carry out the post-excavation work, with time allocated within the costing of the project for analysis of any artefacts found on the site by the relevant in-house specialists at ULAS.

## **11. Health and Safety**

- 11.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Archaeological Services Health and Safety Policy and Health and Safety manual with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is attached as Appendix 1. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate. The HSE has determined that archaeological investigations are exempt from CDM regulations.  
11.2 A Risks assessment will be completed prior to work commencing on-site, and updated as necessary during the site works.

## **12. Insurance**

- 12.1 All employees, consultants and volunteers are covered by the University of Leicester public liability insurance with Gerling Insurance Service Co. Ltd. and others (leading policy no. 62/99094/D). Professional indemnity insurance is with Sun Alliance, £10m cover, policy no. 03A/SA 001 05978. Employer's Liability Insurance is with Eagle Star, cover £10m. Copies of the certificates of insurance are provided.

## **13. Monitoring arrangements**

- 13.1 Unlimited access to monitor the project will be available to both the Client and his representatives and Planning Archaeologist subject to the health and safety requirements of the site. At least one weeks notice will be given to the LCCHS Planning Archaeologist before the commencement of the archaeological evaluation in order that monitoring arrangements can be made.  
13.2 All monitoring shall be carried out in accordance with the IFA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.  
13.3 Internal monitoring will be carried out by the ULAS project manager.

## **14. Contingencies and unforeseen circumstances**

- 14.1 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the project, ULAS shall inform the site agent/project manager, Client and the Planning Archaeologist and Planning Authority and prepare a short written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the Planning Archaeologist, ULAS shall, if required, implement an amended scheme of investigation on behalf of the client as appropriate.

## **15. Bibliography**

- MAP 2 The management of archaeological projects 2nd edition English Heritage 1991  
MGC 1992 Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections 1992 (Museums and Galleries Commission)  
RFG/FRG 1993 Guidelines for the preparation of site archives (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993)  
SMA 1993 Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use

in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 1993 (Society of Museum Archaeologists)

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## APPENDIX 1

### Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

#### Design Specification for archaeological evaluation

*30, Main Street, Cottesmore, Rutland (SK 9015 1360)*

*Planning Application: 02/1126/9*

*For: Mr R. Goodwin*

A risks assessment will be produced by on-site staff, which will be updated and amended during the course of the evaluation.

#### **1. Nature of the work**

##### 1.1 Brief description of the work involved e.g.

The work will involve machine excavation by JCB 3C or equivalent during daylight hours to reveal underlying archaeological deposits. Overall depth is likely to be c. 0.5 m with possible features excavated to a depth of another 1m. Trenches will not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m. Spoil will be stockpiled no less than 1.5 m from the edge of the excavation, the topsoil and subsoil being kept separate. Remaining works will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. Deeper features will be fenced with lamp irons and hazard tape. Three staff will be used on the evaluation.

#### **2 Risks Assessment**

##### 2.1 *Working on an excavation site.*

Precautions. Trenches to not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m. Spoil will be kept 1.5m away from the edge of the excavated area to prevent falls of loose debris. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. Hard hats will be worn when working in deeper sections or with plant. First aid kit to be kept in site accommodation/vehicle. Vehicle and mobile phone to be kept on site in case of emergency.

##### 2.2 *Working with plant.*

Precautions. Archaeologists experienced in working with machines will supervise topsoil stripping at all times. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all

times. Machine driver to be suitably qualified and insured. If services or wells are encountered machining will be halted until extent has been established by hand excavation or areas where it is safe to machine have been established. Overhead power lines are present to the south of the areas to be evaluated. The machine will maintain a distance of at least 10 m to the north of the powerlines.

2.3 ***Working within areas prone to waterlogging.***

If waterlogging occurs on site preventing work continuing it is proposed to excavate a sump, suitably fenced and clearly marked to enable the water to drain away. If this is insufficient a pump will be used. The sump will be covered when not in use and backfilled if no longer required. Protective clothing will be worn at all times and precautions taken to prevent contact with stagnant water which may carry Vialls disease or similar.

2.4 ***Working with chemicals.***

If chemicals are used to conserve or help lift archaeological material these will only be used by qualified personnel with protective clothing (i.e. a trained conservator) and will be removed from site immediately after use.

2.5 ***Other risks***

*Precautions. If there is any suspicion of unforeseen hazards being encountered e.g. chemical contaminants, unexploded bombs, hazardous gases, work will cease immediately. The client and relevant public authorities will be informed immediately.*



**Corporate Division**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

P.O. Box 35  
9 South Parade  
Leeds LS1 1JW  
Tel: (0113) 2915010  
Fax: (0113) 2830251  
E-Mail: sam.naphey@ars.aon.co.uk

9 October 2007

Our Ref: EU/SN/Ext 5010

Dear Sirs

**University of Leicester – Liability Insurances**

We act as Insurance Brokers for the above and can confirm that we have arranged on their behalf the following liability insurances:-

**Employers Liability**

Insurer : Zurich Insurance  
Policy Number : J0198732  
Expiry Date : 31 July 2006  
Indemnity Limit: : £10,000,000 any one occurrence  
Extension : Indemnity to Principal

**Public Liability**

Insurer : Gerling Insurance Service Company Ltd  
Policy Number : 62/99094H/D  
Expiry Date : 31 July 2006  
Indemnity Limit: : £10,000,000 any one occurrence  
£10,000,000 any one period for Products Liability  
Extension : Indemnity to Principal  
Liability assumed under Contract or Agreement

We trust that the above information is sufficient for your needs if not, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

Miss Sam Naphey  
Account Handler  
Education Unit



**Corporate Division**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

P.O. Box 35  
9 South Parade  
Leeds LS1 1JW  
Tel: (0113) 2915010  
Fax: (0113) 2830251  
E-Mail: sam.naphey@ars.aon.co.uk

9 October 2007

Our Ref: EU/SN/Ext 5010

Dear Sirs

**University of Leicester – Professional Indemnity Insurance**

We act as Insurance Brokers for the above and can confirm that we have arranged on their behalf the following insurance:-

**Insurer** : Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance London

**Policy Number** : PI45000A

**Expiry Date** : 31 July 2006

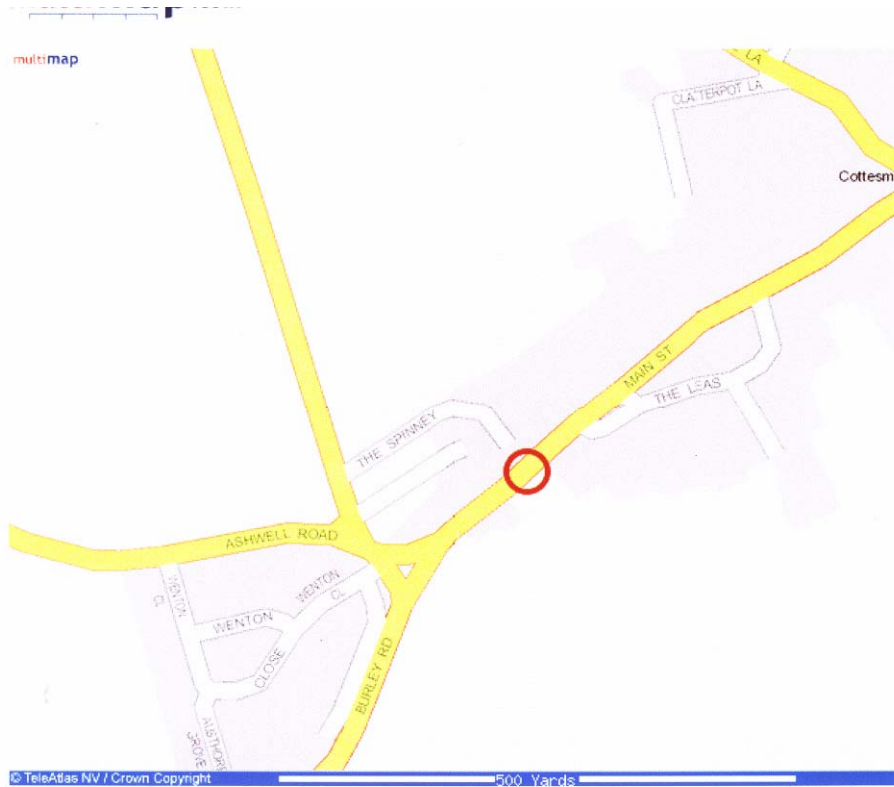
**Indemnity Limit:** : £10,000,000 any one claim and in all

We trust that the above information is sufficient for your needs if not, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Naphey', is written over a horizontal line.

Miss Sam Naphey  
Account Handler  
Education Unit



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Map of development area. Scale 1: 5000



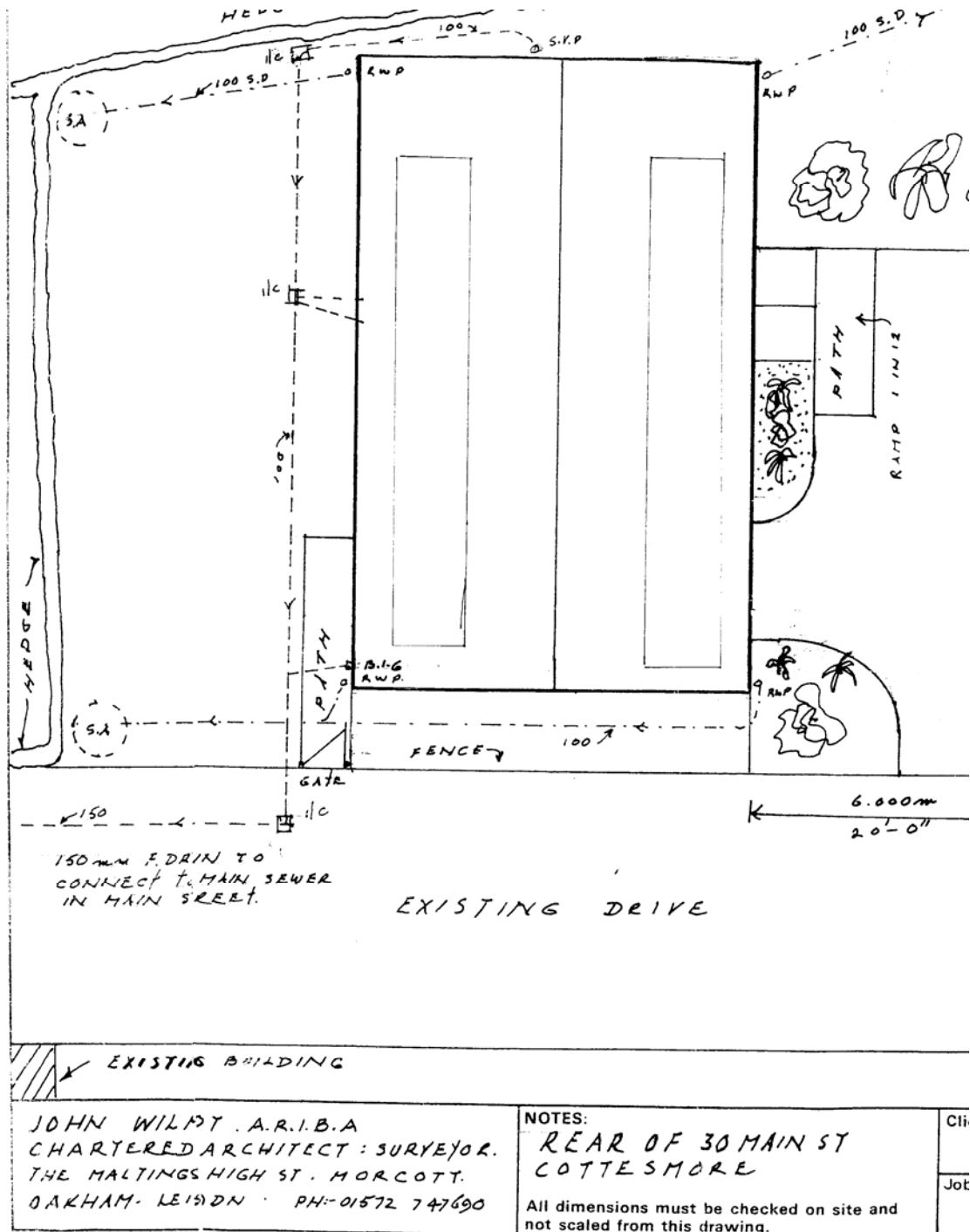


Fig 2 Suggested trench location in relation to the proposed building. Scale 1:100