

**An Archaeological Evaluation
at 3 Friar Gate, Derby
(SK 3495 3636)**

Gerwyn Richards

For Red 4 Limited and BWB Partnership (Derby) Limited

Checked by Project Manager

Signed:Date:.....

Name: James Meek

**University of Leicester
Archaeological Services**

University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH
Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614
ULAS Report Number 2004-069 ©2004

An Archaeological Evaluation at 3 Friar Gate, Derby (SK 3495 3636)

Contents

Summary

1. Introduction	1
2. Methodology	2
3. Results	2
4. Conclusion	3

References

Figures

Figure 1	Site Location
Figure 2	Trench Location
Figure 3	Representative section of Trench 1

Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by Red 4 Limited, on behalf of BWB Partnership (Derby) Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to the existing BWB offices at 3 Friar Gate, Derby prior to the construction of a two storey extension. A previous desk-based assessment also commissioned by Red 4/BWB suggested potentially significant archaeological remains were likely to be preserved on site.

The site lies on the western side of the historic core of Derby and the adjacent Church of Saint Werburgh, although much altered is believed to be Saxon in origin. To the south of the development area lies Derby's Dominican Friary. Friar Gate itself was a major medieval thoroughfare.

Two trenches were machine excavated within the footprint of the proposed extension, limited space and health and safety regulations limited the trenches to 1.2m in depth, with small sondages into lower deposits. The proposed ground disturbances from the proposed extension are likely to cause only limited and localised impact beneath 1.2m depth.

Both trenches failed to uncover any archaeologically significant remains; the area appeared to consist entirely of late nineteenth, early twentieth century demolition material. No buried soils were observed suggesting major earthmoving had taken place prior to the deposition of this demolition material.

1. Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by Red 4 Limited on behalf of BWB Partnership (Derby) Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at 3 Friar Gate Derby (SK 3495 3636) prior to a proposed extension to the existing BWB offices. The proposed development site is located on the western side of the urban centre of Derby (Fig 1) and is currently used as ornamental gardens; to the north of the site are the existing BWB offices built during the twentieth century. The area was formerly owned by the Derby Gas Light and Coke Company. The southern boundary fronts onto Friar Gate, a major medieval thoroughfare; to the south of this road is the probable location of the Dominican Friary, founded between 1224 and 1238.

The eastern boundary of the proposed development is occupied by number 5 Friar Gate, a four storey brick building originally built in 1889, again by the Derby Gas Light and Coke Company as offices. To the west of the proposed development is the Church of Saint Werburgh, the original church was Saxon in origin and dedicated to St Werburgh, the first Christian Mercian princess, sister of King Ethelred and Abbess of Trentham in Staffordshire, who was canonised after her death in AD699. Almost nothing of the medieval church remains, the current structure is a Victorian rebuild, dating from 1892-94. However it is likely that the original church would have been the focus of early to middle Saxon settlement in Derby and therefore, there is the possibility of preserved archaeological remains on site, both Saxon and Medieval in origin.

Being an urban area, the soils have not been mapped, however the proximity of the now culverted Markeaton Brook to the north would indicate likely alluvial deposits. The local geology is described as reddish brown soils of silty or clayey loam based upon Keuper Marl or Sandstone (Soil Survey 1965).

2. Methodology

The desk based assessment indicated a good potential for both medieval and Saxon remains and it was decided in conjunction with the Development Control Archaeologist for Derby City that intrusive investigation in the form of trial trenching would be the most effective means to evaluate the site area. The proposed extension would measure 19 metres long and 7 metres wide, abutting the southern gable of BWB existing offices and only require external wall footings and concrete floor slab, therefore, the area immediately fronting onto Friar Gate will be unaffected.

Two trenches were to be machine excavated immediately within the footprint of the proposed building; access restraints required the use of a 3.5-ton mini digger with toothless ditching bucket. Limited space and health and safety constraints meant that trenches could not be stepped and thus could not exceed 1200mm in depth. Small sondages were excavated below the safe access limit of the trench to indicate the nature of lower deposits. The development proposals are unlikely to cause anything but small localised areas of disturbance to below 1.2m depth.

3. Results

3.1 Trench 1

Interval	0m	2m	4m	6m	8m
Ground OD	46.83	46.83	46.85	46.84	46.90
Topsoil Depth	46.65	46.57	46.53	46.55	46.56
Base of Trench	46.17	47.75	45.61	45.56	45.76
Context	001, 002				

Trench 1 was located approximately two metres from the eastern most boundary of the site and two metres south of the iron railings dividing the BWB offices from the open gardens on an approximate north-northwest/south-southeast alignment (Fig 2). Approximately 200mm of silty clay topsoil (001) was stripped by ditching bucket, revealing a horizon of extremely well mixed demolition rubble including Victorian bricks, tarmac and occasional nineteenth and twentieth century ceramics (002). Excavation continued through this material until a depth of 1200mm was reached across the length of the trench, with the same (002) visible throughout the base.

A twentieth century ceramic drain was encountered at approximately 1100mm below the ground surface in one area. A close examination of the section failed to reveal a cut for this feature, indicating that the drain had been laid prior to the deposition of demolition material above, suggesting a twentieth century date for the material.

At the southern end of the trench it was decided to machine excavate the full extent of this demolition material in order to establish its depth. Natural gravels were encountered at 45.24m OD. An examination of the exposed section from the edge of

the trench indicated that the layer 002 lay directly above the natural gravels, there did not appear to be any form of buried soil, this suggests that all pre Victorian deposits had been removed from the site.

The trench was recorded at this depth and backfilled.

3.2 Trench 2

Interval	0m	2m	4m	6m	8m
Ground OD	46.70	46.68	46.70	46.71	46.76
Topsoil Depth	46.56	46.53	46.47	46.35	46.45
Base of Trench	45.35	45.45	45.53	46.35	46.45
Context	001, 002				

Trench 2 was located approximately two metres south west of trench 1 this time on an approximate north south alignment, parallel with the existing footpath (Fig 2). Once again approximately 200mm of topsoil was stripped onto the same demolition material as was observed in trench 1, excavation continued until 1200mm was reached again with the same results as seen in trench 1.

A rough floor of Victorian brick was uncovered at the southern end of the trench at a 46.35m OD, directly below the topsoil, with layer 002 below. Towards the centre of the trench the remains of a brick built wall was also uncovered, crossing the trench approximately east to west, an examination of the section indicated that the foundation trench for the wall had been cut into the demolition material (002), indicating a probable twentieth century construction date for this wall and the adjacent floor.

Once again it was decided to excavate a small sondage through 002 until natural gravels were reached. This was carried out at the northern end of the trench, with natural gravels being encountered at 45.13m OD. As with trench 1 there did not appear to be any buried soils immediately below 002. The trench was recorded and backfilled.

4. Conclusion

Despite its location and the high potential for archaeological remains on the site, both trenches, unfortunately, failed to uncover any archaeological remains. The results from the trenches would suggest that the area has been comprehensively disturbed, having been stripped and levelled during either the later part of the nineteenth century or the early twentieth century. There was no evidence for earlier buried soils, which normally occur within urban build up, again indicating that the site had significantly disturbed during in modern times.

Cartographic evidence does not indicate major alterations to the site itself, however there was considerable re-development within the vicinity most notably the construction of the Derby Gas Light and Coke Company to the north during the mid nineteenth century and the rebuilding of Saint Werburgh Church in the 1890s. There is documentary evidence that the now culverted Markeaton brook to the north was prone to flooding; indeed the Church suffered a collapse on two separate occasions, probably as a result of ground saturation. It is possible; therefore, that the entire area has been raised in an attempt to alleviate this potential flooding and evidence. The

evidence from the trial trenches could be interpreted to demonstrate that the site area had been initially stripped down to the natural gravels, probably in an attempt to establish firm foundations before new material was brought in to raise the land.

References

Glen, C. 2003 *Desk Based Assessment of the Archaeological Implications of Proposed Development on Land at 3 Friar Gate Derby.*

Harvey, J. 2004 *An Archaeological Evaluation at Cathedral Road Derby, Derbyshire (SK3491 3656).* ULAS Report Number 2004-054.



Fig. 1: Site location

Reproduced from Landranger® 1:50 000 scale by permission of Ordnance Survey®
on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.
© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100021187.

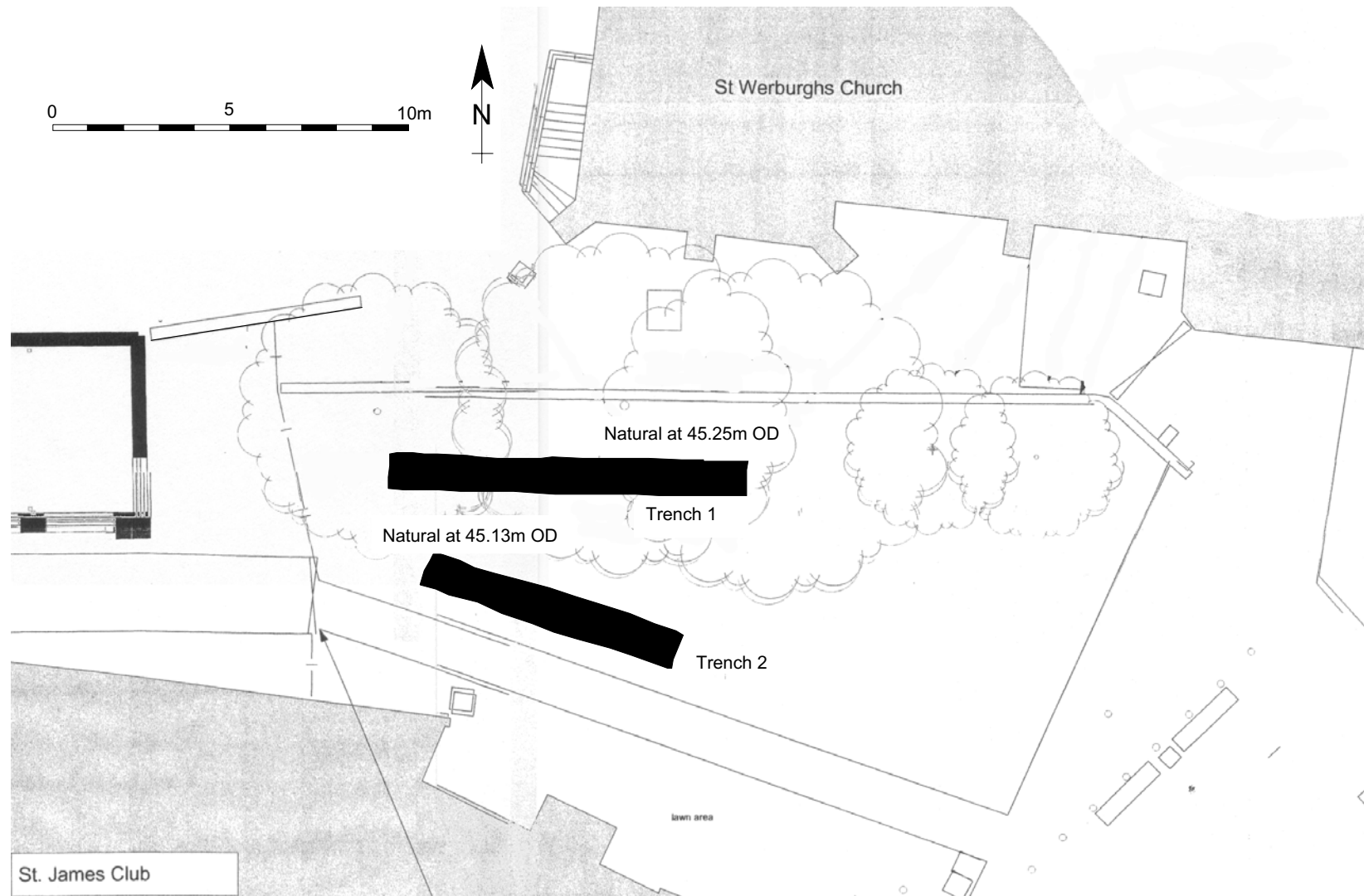


Figure 2 Trench Location

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Project Design Specification for Archaeological Evaluation At 3 Friargate, Derby

NGR: SK 3495 3636

Client: for RED4 Ltd. on behalf of the BWB Partnership (Derby) Limited
Planning Authority: Leicester City Council

Planning Application Number: DER/05/03/00881/PRI

Summary

A programme of archaeological trial trenching has been requested by the Development Control Archaeologist for Derby City Council, in partial satisfaction of planning conditions placed on the development of land at 3 Friargate, Derby. The work is required to characterise the nature, extent, date and significance of any archaeology, which may be present on the site, and to determine whether or not it may be impacted upon by the development proposals. This specification provides details of the aims and methodologies to be adopted in the course of the work.

1. Introduction

1.1 Definition and scope of the specification

This document is a design specification for an initial phase of non-intrusive archaeological field evaluation (AFE) at the above site, in accordance with DOE Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and Planning, para.30). The fieldwork specified below is intended to provide preliminary indications of character and extent of any buried archaeological remains in order that the potential impact of the development on such remains may be assessed by the Planning Authority.

- 1.2 The definition of archaeological field evaluation, taken from the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IFA S&G: AFE) is a limited programme of non-intrusive and/ or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.
- 1.3 The document provides details of the work proposed by ULAS on behalf of the client for the archaeological evaluation by trial trench of the area of proposed ground and first floor office extensions at 3 Friargate, Derby.

2. Background

2.1 Context of the Project

- 2.1.1 Planning application DER/05/03/00881/PRI has been submitted to Derby City Council for the proposed ground and first floor extensions at 3 Friargate, Derby (NGR SK 3495 3634). The site area is in the region of 400sq m.
- 2.1.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development area was previously commissioned Charles Glenn by RED4 on behalf of BWB Partnership (Derby) Limited. The desk-based assessment confirmed the archaeological potential of the site (Glenn 2003).
- 2.1.3 A Brief for Archaeological Evaluation has subsequently been prepared by the Development Control Archaeologist for Derby City Council, the evaluation to be an initial phase of intrusive archaeological investigation, to be undertaken, completed and a report produced for consideration prior to the determination of the planning application.

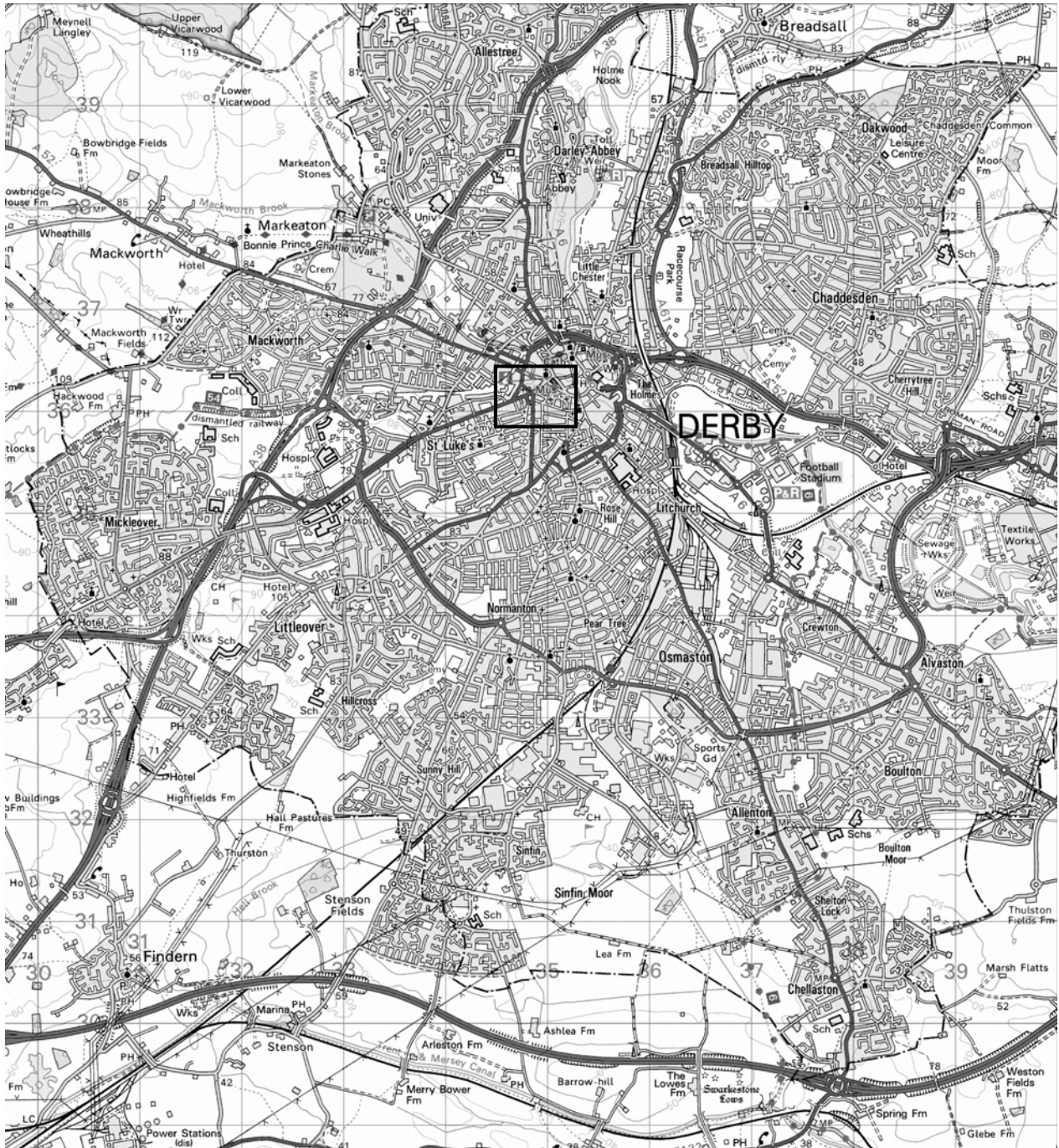


Fig. 1: Site location

Reproduced from Landranger® 1:50 000 scale by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100021187.

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.2.1 The archaeological desk-based assessment for the proposed development area summarised the archaeological potential of the area as:

'The site lies next to St. Werburgh's Church, which is thought to be of pre-Norman foundation and possibly the focus of settlement in the early Saxon periods.'

In the medieval period (AD1066-1500), Friar Gate was a major western thoroughfare for the town. Indications are that there were buildings on the development site from at least 1610 and certainly from 1767. Those buildings appear to have survived until

their demolition sometime in the 1930's. The current building on the site was erected date after 1914. It continues in use, albeit much altered, to the present day (Glenn 2003).

2.2.2 It is anticipated that the proposed development area has good potential for containing archaeological remains of Saxon, medieval and later date. The development proposals are likely to have a damaging effect on any underlying archaeological deposits that may be present.

2.2.3 Discussions with Simon Jackson of BWB regarding the proposed construction methods for the new building will involve the excavation of footings around the perimeter of the structure (of at least 1m depth); a stripped area for the concrete floor inside the building; services as required. The footings and services will affect any underlying deposits to some depth. The concrete floor of the building could have a far less damaging effect, as it would require only a shallow site strip, and potentially afford protection to any underlying deposits.

2.3 ***Present State of the Area***

2.3.1 A site visit was taken to the development area on 24th March 2004.

2.3.2 The area of the proposed extension is currently laid to grass with flower beds along the southern and eastern sides. A pathway runs along the western side, with security fence and railings to the north.

2.3.3 The southern frontage of the site area lies directly on Friargate.

2.3.4 Services are said to run beneath the pathway on the western side. No other services were visible within the site area.

3. **Archaeological Objectives**

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- To establish the period, rarity, group value, condition, fragility, diversity, documentation and potential (PPG16 Annex 4) of any deposits revealed.
- To evaluate their importance (local, regional, national) using the criteria in PPG16 Annex 4
- To evaluate the likely impact of the development upon their survival.

3.1 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 redevelopment.

3.2 The evaluation results will be used to enable an informed recommendation to be made by the Development Control Archaeologist concerning the determination of the planning application.

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).

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 authority and the Client, if required.

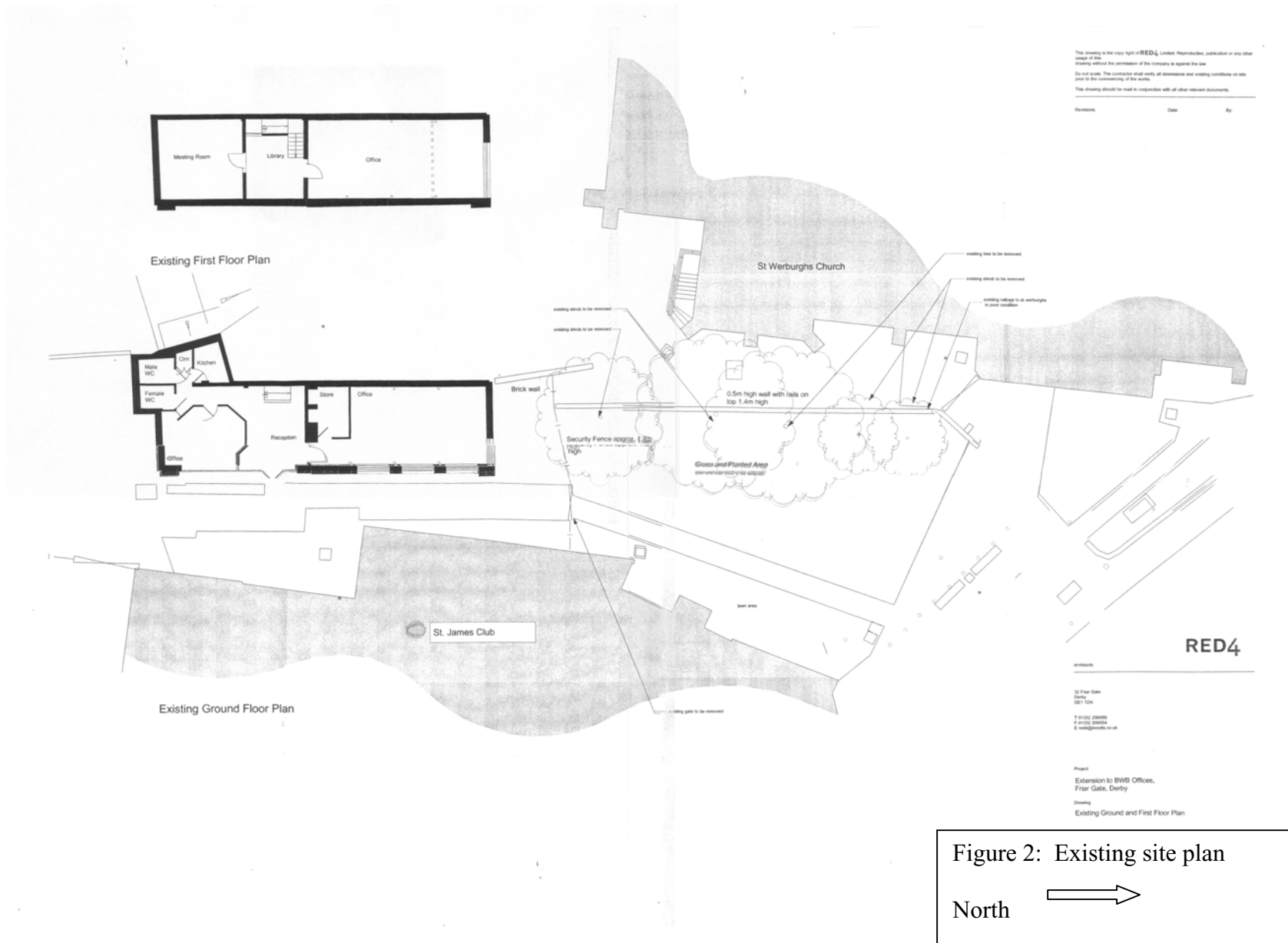
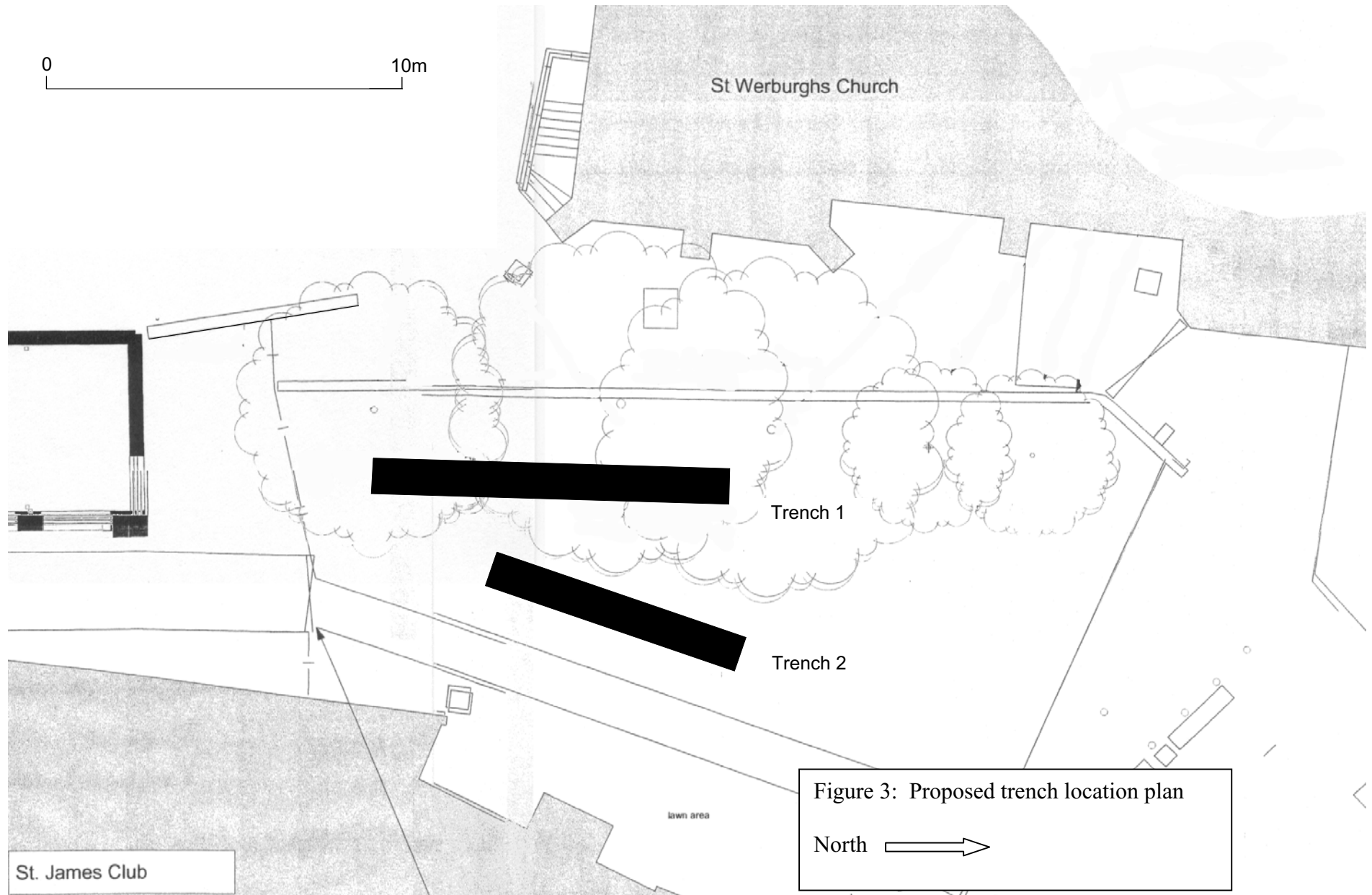


Figure 2: Existing site plan
North →

4.2 ***Trial Trenching Methodology***

- 4.2.1 The Brief for archaeological evaluation prepared by the Development Control Archaeologist for Derby City Council requires the excavation of no more than two 10m length trenches within the proposed development area.
- 4.2.2 The site visit has demonstrated that a number of constraints exist on the site that will influence the locations and scale of the evaluation. The northern extent of the evaluation is marked by a brick and iron railed security fence. The eastern extent is somewhat restricted by the presence of large bushes, the roots of which may cause problems to machining of the trenches. The western extent is defined by an extant path (with services underneath) that has been requested not to be disturbed during the course of the evaluation.
- 4.2.3 A trench plan is proposed (see fig. 2). It is envisaged that two trenches will be excavated, trench 1 of 10m length, and trench 2 of 7.5m length. This should allow enough room on the site for the safe deposition of spoil within the constraints of the site area. The trenches will be of 1m width, excavated by mini-excavator, as access to the site will need to be via the George Street car park and through the existing gate preventing the use of a JCB. Access from Friargate is restricted by bollards and a wooden post, and also newly laid stone paving slabs across which access is prohibited.
- 4.2.4 The exact locations of the trench may alter due to unforeseen constraints, underlying ground conditions and locations of services.
- 4.2.5 The present ground surfaces and underlying modern overburden will be removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the uppermost archaeological deposits by mini excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The trench will be excavated to a width of *c.* 1m and down to the top of archaeological deposits.
- 4.2.6 The trench 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. Relative spot heights will be taken as appropriate.
- 4.2.7 Sections of any excavated archaeological features will be drawn at an appropriate scale. At least one longitudinal face of the trench will be recorded. All sections will be levelled and tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum, or a permanent fixed benchmark.
- 4.2.8 The location of the trench will be recorded using an electronic distance measurer and tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 4.2.9 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. RED4, BWB Partnership and the Coroner of Derbyshire County Council will be informed immediately on their discovery.



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. The relative 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.

4.4 Mitigation Strategy

- 4.7.1 Depending on the results of the trial trenching and following consultation with the development Control Archaeologist for Derby City Council and the Client, a mitigation strategy may need to be formulated.

5. Finds and Samples

- 5.1 The IFA Guidelines for Finds Work will be adhered to.
- 5.2 All antiquities, valuables, objects or remains of archaeological interest, other than articles declared by Coroner's Inquest to be subject to the Treasure Act, discovered in or under the Site during the carrying out of the project by ULAS or during works carried out on the Site by the Client shall be deemed to be the property of ULAS provided that ULAS after due examination of the said Archaeological Discoveries shall transfer ownership of all Archaeological Discoveries unconditionally to Derby City Museum for storage in perpetuity.
- 5.3 A site code will be used to identify all finds and records from the site.
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 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 Planning Archaeologist. The IFA Guidelines for Finds Work will be adhered to.
- 5.6 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 metal objects will be x-rayed and then selected for conservation. All materials will be fully labeled, catalogued and stored in appropriate containers.

6. Report and Archive

- 6.1 The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight to twelve weeks and copies will be dispatched to the Client (2 copies), Leicester City Museums (2 copies) and the planning authority (1 copy).
- 6.2 The report will include:-

- Non-technical summary
 - Introductory statement
 - Aims and purpose of the project
 - Methodology
 - An objective summary statement of the results
 - Conclusion, including a confidence statement.
 - Supporting illustrations at appropriate scales
 - Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices including as a minimum a basic quantification of all artefacts, ecofacts and structural data.
 - Index to archive and detail of archive location
 - References
- 6.3 Arrangements should be made from the outset of the project for 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) (RFG/FRG 1993) to be deposited in the Derby City Museum. This archive will include all written, disk-based, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

7 Publication and Dissemination of Results

- 7.1 The field evaluation report will be submitted for inclusion in the Derby/Derbyshire Sites and Monuments Record. A summary of the work will be submitted to the *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal*. 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 It is expected that the archaeological works would involve a total of 5 working days on site, not including the backfilling of the trenches. The work will involve the presence of two archaeologists on site for the duration of the works (excluding backfilling of the trenches).
- 10.2 A start date of 19th April 2004 is anticipated.
- 10.3 The evaluation report will be completed at the end of the evaluation. The on-site director/supervisor will carry out the post-excavation work, with time allocated within the costing of the project for specialist reports.

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 form will be completed prior to work commencing on-site, and updated as necessary during the site works.
- 11.3 No services are recorded as being located within the evaluation area, although a Cable Avoidance Tool scan may be undertaken first.
- 11.4 The site is currently fenced to the north and east. A building exists to the west. The land is open onto Friargate. It is suggested that the southern end of the site is fenced between the building to the west and the fence around St. Werburgh's Church to the east preventing public access from Friargate. The security fence to the north of the site will be closed to prevent unauthorized access.

12 Insurance

- 12.1 All employees, consultants and volunteers are covered by the University of Leicester public liability insurance, £20m cover with Gerling Insurance Service Co. Ltd. and others (leading policy no. 62/99094H/D). Professional indemnity insurance is with Royal and Sun Alliance, £10m cover (policy no. PI45000A). Employer's Liability Insurance is with Zurich Insurance, cover £10m (policy no. J0198732).

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 week's notice will be given to the Development Control 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 archaeological evaluation, ULAS shall inform the site agent/project manager, the City Archaeologist and Planning Authority and prepare a short written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the City Archaeologist, the Archaeological Contractor shall, if required, implement on behalf of the client a contingency scheme for emergency excavation of affected archaeological features.

15. Bibliography

Glenn, C., 2003 *Desk Based Assessment of the Archaeological Implications of Proposed Development on land at 3 Friargate, Derby, Derbyshire* – Charles Glenn Unpublished Report

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)

James Meek

© ULAS 02/11/2004

APPENDIX 1

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement: 3 Friargate, Derby

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 The work will involve machine excavation by mechanical excavator during daylight hours to reveal underlying archaeological deposits. Overall depth is likely to be c.1 m with possible features excavated to a depth of another 1m. Trenches will not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m as there is no room on site for stepped trenches. 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. Two members of 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.

2.3 *Working within areas prone to waterlogging.*

In the event that the site is prone to waterlogging a sump may be excavated, suitably fenced and clearly marked to enable the water to drain away from the trenches to facilitate recording. Protective clothing will be worn at all times and precautions taken to prevent contact with stagnant water if it occurs 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 *Services*

ULAS have been informed that no live services exist on the site (Simon Jackson pers. comm.). The areas of the proposed trenches will be scanned using a Cable Avoidance Tool prior to excavation as an added precaution.

2.6 *Fencing*

The site is currently secured by fencing on all sides, except to the south on the Friargate frontage. It is suggested that the southern edge of the site is secured using Heras fence, running from the building to the west, to St. Werburgh's Church to the east.

2.7 *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.

