

**Archaeological Evaluation on Land
at Roman Way and Kings Head Place,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire, (SP 733 874)**

Greg Jones

Planning Application No. 04/01871/FUL
Planning Authority: Harborough District Council

Checked by Project Manager

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Archaeological Evaluation on Land at Roman Way and Kings Head Place, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, (SP 733 874)

Greg Jones

1. Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Roman Way and King's Head Place, Market Harborough, Leicestershire (SP 733 874) on the 24th-26th January 2006. This work was carried out on behalf of Darian Homes. The site was identified as being within the boundaries of the medieval core of Market Harborough and was considered to possess a moderate to high potential for containing archaeological remains of a medieval and post medieval date and a lower potential for remains of earlier periods.

A total of five evaluation trenches was excavated which revealed two medieval field boundary ditches, evidence of medieval furrows and a number of post-medieval pits. This site, when discussed with the previous desk-based assessment, highlights the urban expansion of the core of Market Harborough, from the medieval period through to post-medieval phases of the town. The site archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services (Accession Number: X.A13.2006)

2. Introduction

2.1 This document constitutes the second stage of archaeological assessment to have been carried out on land at Roman Way and King's Head Place, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, (SP 733 874). The archaeological assessment was being undertaken on behalf of Darian Homes by University of Leicester Archaeological Services.

2.2 Outline planning permission had been granted for the demolition of an existing workshop and associated buildings and for the erection of 23 residential apartments and associated parking, at the former Blackfriars Ltd. 5, Roman Way, Market Harborough (Planning Application No: 04/01871/FUL). Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services, as archaeological advisors to the planning authority recommended that a desk based assessment be submitted (ULAS report 2004-158) and following this advised that a programme of exploratory trial trenching be undertaken prior to the start of development in a letter dated 23.12.2004.

2.3 The desk-based assessment indicated that the proposed development area is within the medieval and post-medieval historic settlement core of the town and the report concluded that the development area has 'a moderate to high potential for containing archaeological remains of a medieval and post-medieval date'.

3. Site Background

3.1 The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 170, indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of clays. The proposed development area is on fairly flat land at a height of c.78m OD.

3.2 The development area consists of c. 0.18ha within which is proposed the erection of 23 residential apartments and associated parking. The site consists of an irregular L-shaped plot of land, which is covered with overburden and demolition material.

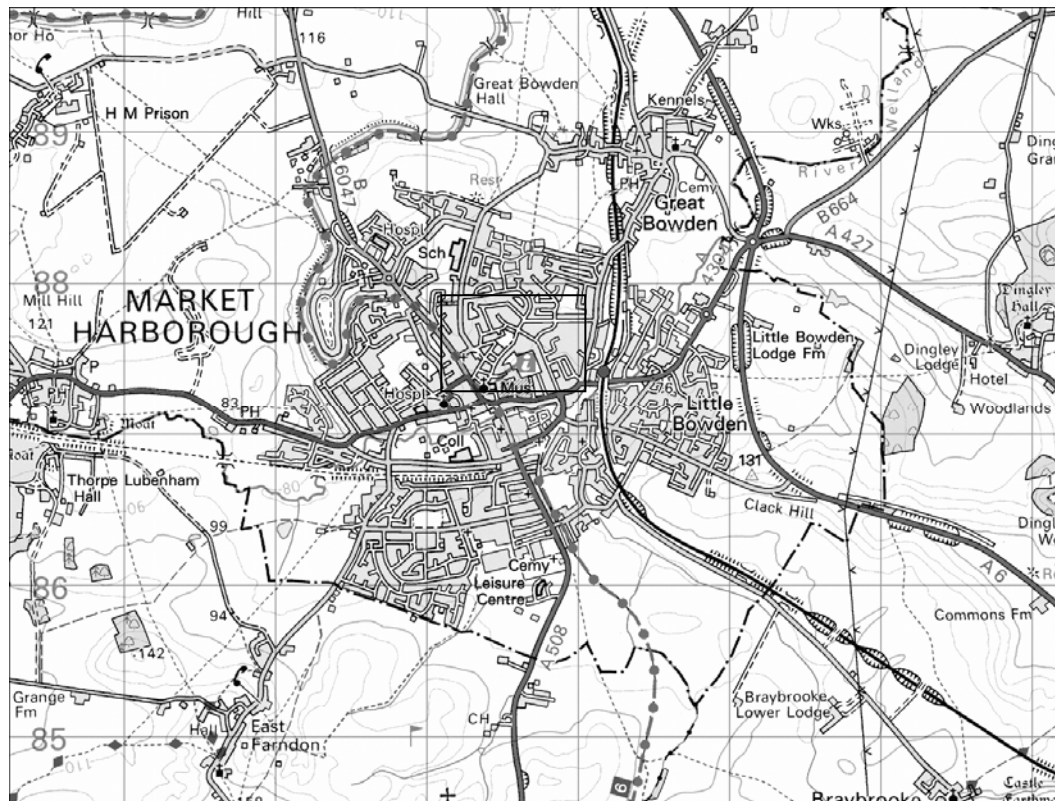


Fig. 1 Site location Scale 1:50000

Reproduced from the OS map Landranger 141 Kettering, Corby and surrounding area 1:50000 map by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright 1996. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 10002186.

4. Methodology

4.1 All work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct and adhered to their relevant *Standard and Guidance* and the *Guidelines and procedures for archaeological work in Leicester* (Leicester Museum Service).

4.2 The main objectives of the evaluation were:

1. To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
2. To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
3. To produce an archive and report of any results.

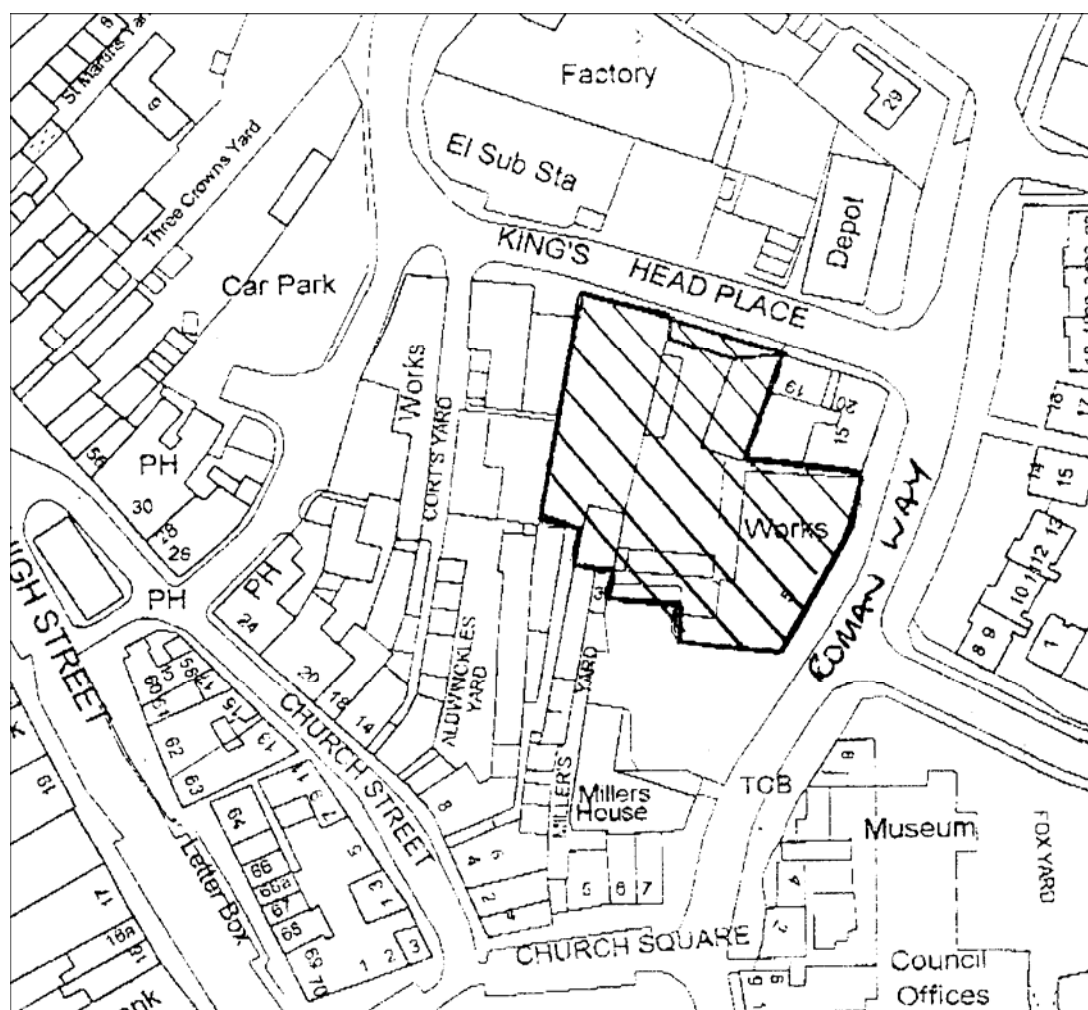


Fig. 2 Location of proposed development area, supplied by developer, scale 1:1250.

4.3 The Senior Planning Archaeologist had requested that the equivalent of five 15m x 1.5m trenches be evaluated providing a *c.*5% sample of the area (0.18ha) where new buildings are proposed. The developer requested that the location of the trenches avoid the new house footprints and current access routes. The design specification allowed for the location to be varied according to any constraints on the availability of the area for trenching.

4.4 Topsoil/modern overburden was removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the uppermost archaeological deposits by JCB 3C and mini-digger using a toothless ditching bucket. Trenches were excavated to a width of 1.6m.

4.5 Trenches were examined by appropriate hand cleaning. Any archaeological deposits or significant natural deposits were planned at an appropriate scale and sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence. All plans have been tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

4.6 Sections were drawn as appropriate, including records of at least one longitudinal face of each trench.

5. Results

5.2 Trench 1

Trench 1 Details

<i>Length of Trench</i>	15 m
<i>Area of Trench</i>	24 sq.m
<i>Surface Level (m OD)</i>	c.78.0 m OD
<i>Base of Trench (m OD)</i>	c.77.2 m OD

Trench 1 was located on the eastern side of the site running parallel with Roman Way, which was orientated north-south (fig.3). The surface was composed of a layer of overburden to a maximum depth of 0.18m. Below this layer was a mixed subsoil consisting of a green brown sandy loam, most probably buried topsoil, and an orange brown sandy gravel loam, both of which contained occasional angular flint pebble.

Located 4.6m from the north end of the trench cutting through the subsoil down to the natural substratum, was a modern pit, 2m long north-west and 1.2m wide, containing oyster and various other mollusc shells. Two other modern features were located to the north and to the south of the pit, both of which appeared to be modern wall footings relating to the demolished warehouse.

At 7.3m from the north end of the trench, a posthole or small pit [6] was located. It measured 0.52m east-west and 0.42m north-south with a depth of 0.17m. The fill was a friable mid-green-grey brown clayey sand with occasional angular flint pebble <0.02m and no finds (7). The composition of this fill was consistent with post-medieval pitting found elsewhere on site, suggesting a post-medieval date.

To the south of this at 10.6m from the north end of the trench, a post-medieval pit was located [1]. It measured 2.5m north-south, 1.1m east-west with a maximum depth of 0.5m. It contained four fill layers, (2), (3), (4) and (5). Fill (5), 0.1m deep, was a waterlogged deposit at the base of the pit, possibly as a result of being open for a time, as fills (4) and (3) are the result of natural slippage. Overlying these deposits was the main fill measuring 0.4m deep and contained animal bone, charcoal and one sherd of medieval sandy ware pottery, suggesting fill (5) was a rubbish pit of a very late medieval, or post-medieval date.

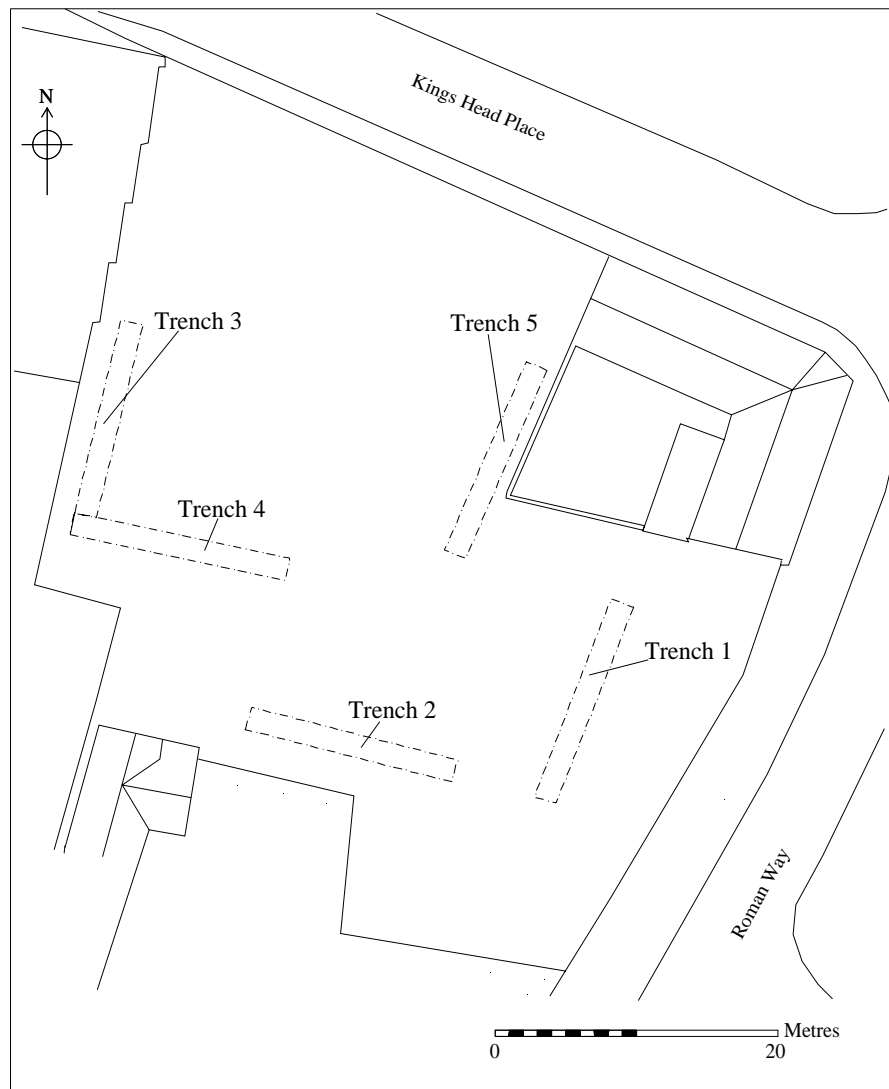


Fig. 3 Trench Location Plan

5.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 Details

<i>Length of Trench</i>	15 m
<i>Area of Trench</i>	24 sq.m
<i>Surface Level (m OD)</i>	c.78.0 m O.D
<i>Base of Trench (m OD)</i>	c.77.0 m O.D

Trench two was located to the west of trench one, at the southern end of the site running east-west (fig.3). Initial machining revealed a mid-dark brown friable clay loam c.0.10m deep, below which was revealed a mixed sub layer of mid-green brown friable sandy loam (20), which appeared to be buried topsoil, and a mid-orange friable gravely sandy loam (21), at a maximum depth of 0.75m.

Cut through these layers down to the natural substratum were pockets of modern truncation, the most notable of which, located at 11m from the east end of the trench, running east to the section, was a large feature identified as a geotechnical test pit.

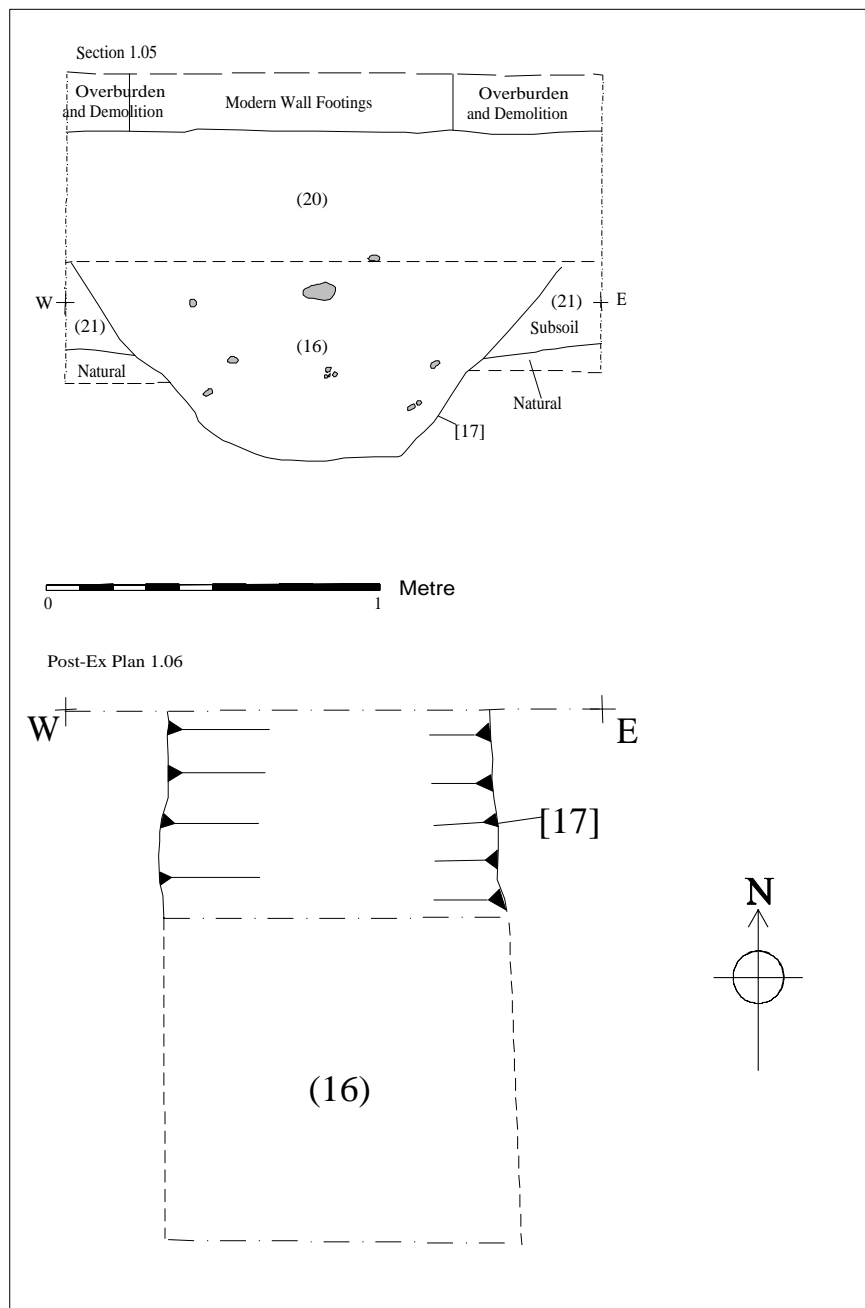


Figure 4. Medieval Boundary Ditch in Trench 2

Located in the centre of the trench at 5.7m from the east end, machining removed modern wall footings. Directly below the footings a linear feature [17] running north-south and measuring 1m east-west and 0.59m deep was revealed (fig.4). Excavation revealed that [17] cut through the subsoil (21) (fig.4). The fill consisted of a mid orange/green brown, friable sandy clay and contained Stanion Lyveden ware pottery sherds with a date range from c.1200/1225 – 1400. The fill appeared to have been formed through natural accumulation, indicating that the linear feature may well have served as a medieval boundary ditch. Interestingly the modern wall footings seen were directly above [17], were also orientated north-south, but separated by sub layer (20). It is possible that the modern wall continued to follow earlier property boundaries, dating back as far as the medieval period.

5.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 Details

<i>Length of Trench</i>	14 m
<i>Area of Trench</i>	22.4 sq.m
<i>Surface Level (m OD)</i>	c.78.0 m O.D
<i>Base of Trench (m OD)</i>	c.76.8 m O.D

Trench three was located to the north and west of trench two, orientated north-south on the western edge of the site (fig3.). Originally the trench was to be positioned further north towards the frontage of Kings Head Place. However, due to on site restraints of concrete demolition stockpiling, trench three was repositioned further south to negotiate access problems.

Initial machining revealed a greyish black brown silt clay overburden c.0.40m deep. This revealed a mid-green brown friable clay loam with occasional flint and gravel, c. 0.60m deep.

Below these layers, modern features were seen to cut the natural substratum, including [14] which was the construction cut for the modern warehouse building. Located at 1.8m and 5m from the south end of trench three were two linear features [9] and [11] which appeared to be medieval furrows from a ridge and furrow strip field system. Measuring 1.84m wide north-south and 0.36m deep, furrow [9] was orientated east-west (fig. 5). Furrow [11] ran parallel to [9] and was 1.4m wide and 0.36m deep (fig. 5). Both the plough furrow fills (8) and (10), consisted of mid-green brown friable sandy clay, with occasional angular gravel. No finds were found in either of the fills, but a medieval date appears feasible, considering the similarity to the fill of ditch (18) in trench two. If [9] and [11] are indeed plough furrows then a medieval date for these features is highly likely.

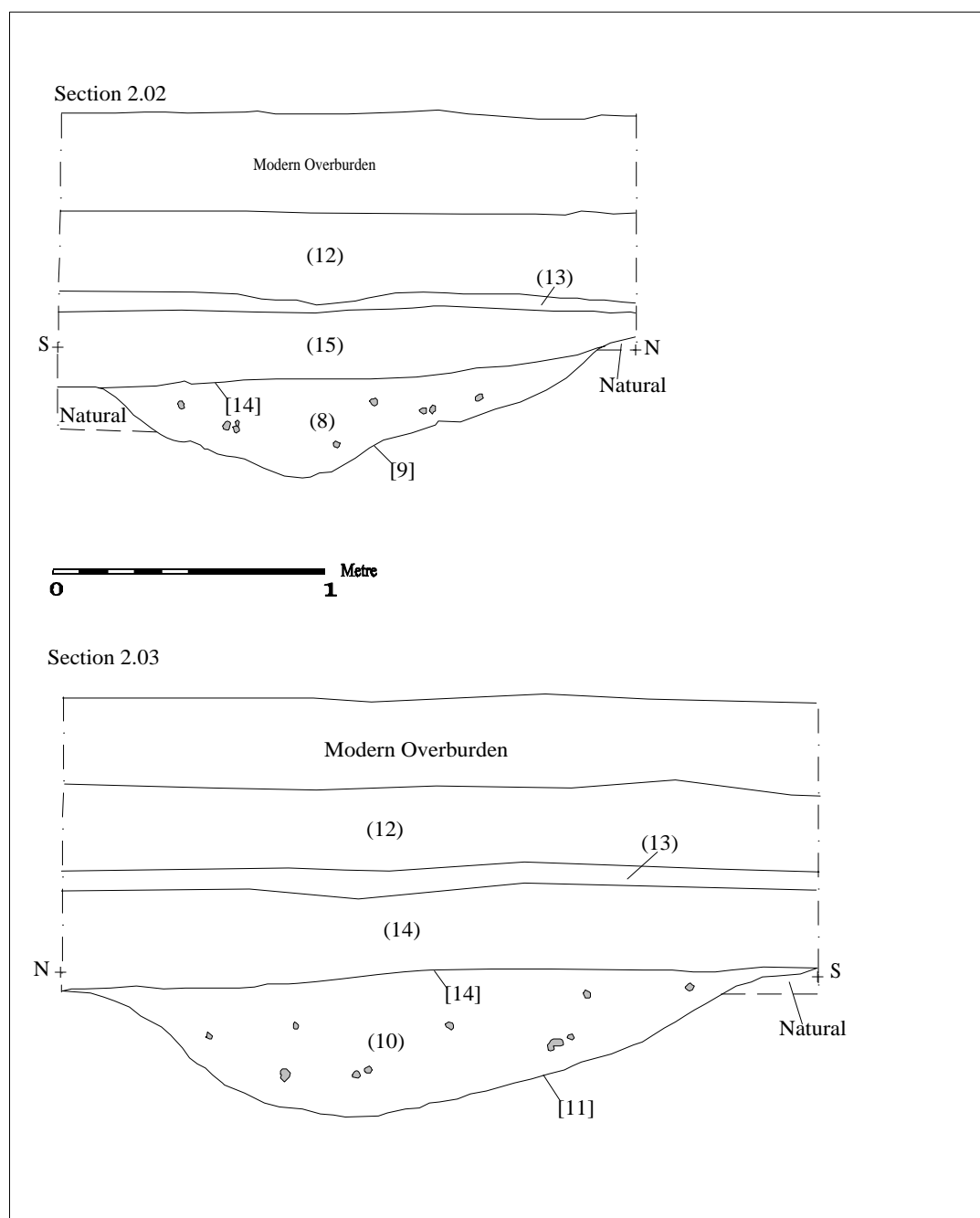


Figure 5. Medieval Furrows in Trench 3

5.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 Details

<i>Length of Trench</i>	14.5m
<i>Area of Trench</i>	23.2sq.m
<i>Surface Level (m OD)</i>	c. 78
<i>Base of Trench (m OD)</i>	c. 76.64

Trench four was located to the southeast of trench three, orientated east-west and connected to trench three forming an L-shape (fig.3). This was due to on site restraints with concrete stockpiling, which limited access for machine trenching. Machining revealed sub layers identical to those seen in trench three.

Trench four contained four modern pits, which included a geotechnical test pit located 2.3m from the west end of the trench. At the west end of the trench was located some bioturbation disturbance, which was most likely to have been the remains of a tree bowl.

At 13m from the west end of the trench was located pit [19], visible as measuring a minimum of 1.6m east-west, 1.6m north-south and 0.75m deep. Fill (18) consisted of firm mid-green brown sandy clay, with angular gravel inclusions. Animal bone was discovered within the fill (18), but no pottery was found. This feature was either a pit, or may have possibly been a ditch, but the eastern edge of the feature was not seen, as the extent lay beyond the limit of excavation. Feature [19] was 0.4m east of a modern brick wall seen in the upper layers. If feature [19] was a boundary ditch then it could have been possible that the modern wall followed the earlier boundary. However, without any further investigation such a relationship cannot be ascertained.

5.5 Trench 5

Details of Trench 5

<i>Length of Trench</i>	14.5m
<i>Area of Trench</i>	23.2sq.m
<i>Surface level (m OD)</i>	c.78.00 m O.D
<i>Base of Trench (m OD)</i>	c.76.70 m O.D

Trench five was located to the northwest of trench four, running approximately north-south, at the northern end of the site (fig.3). It was immediately apparent that the topsoil overburden and sub layers were the same as in those in trench three and trench four. Modern wall footings were also seen during machining.

At 6.3m from the north of the trench, a post-medieval pit [27] was located. It measured 1.5m north-south (seen), 0.5m east-west (seen) and was 0.3m deep. The fill (26) consisted of mid-greyish green brown clayey sand, which contained burnt bone and charcoal.

At 7.6m, a large post-medieval pit [25] was located. It was 3.2m long north-south and a minimum of 1.6m long east-west with an excavated depth of 1.2m. The fill (24) was composed of mixed mid-grey brown sandy silt, with tip lines of cess, ash and charcoal deposits. This deposit contained oyster shells; animal bone and pottery sherds of a Stanion Lyveden type ware 1 c.1200/1225-1400 and of Stanion Lyveden type ware 4 c.1100-1400 (below p.15). Also found were ceramic roof tile fragments of late medieval Midland Purple ware and also post-medieval Earthenware c.16th – 17th centuries.

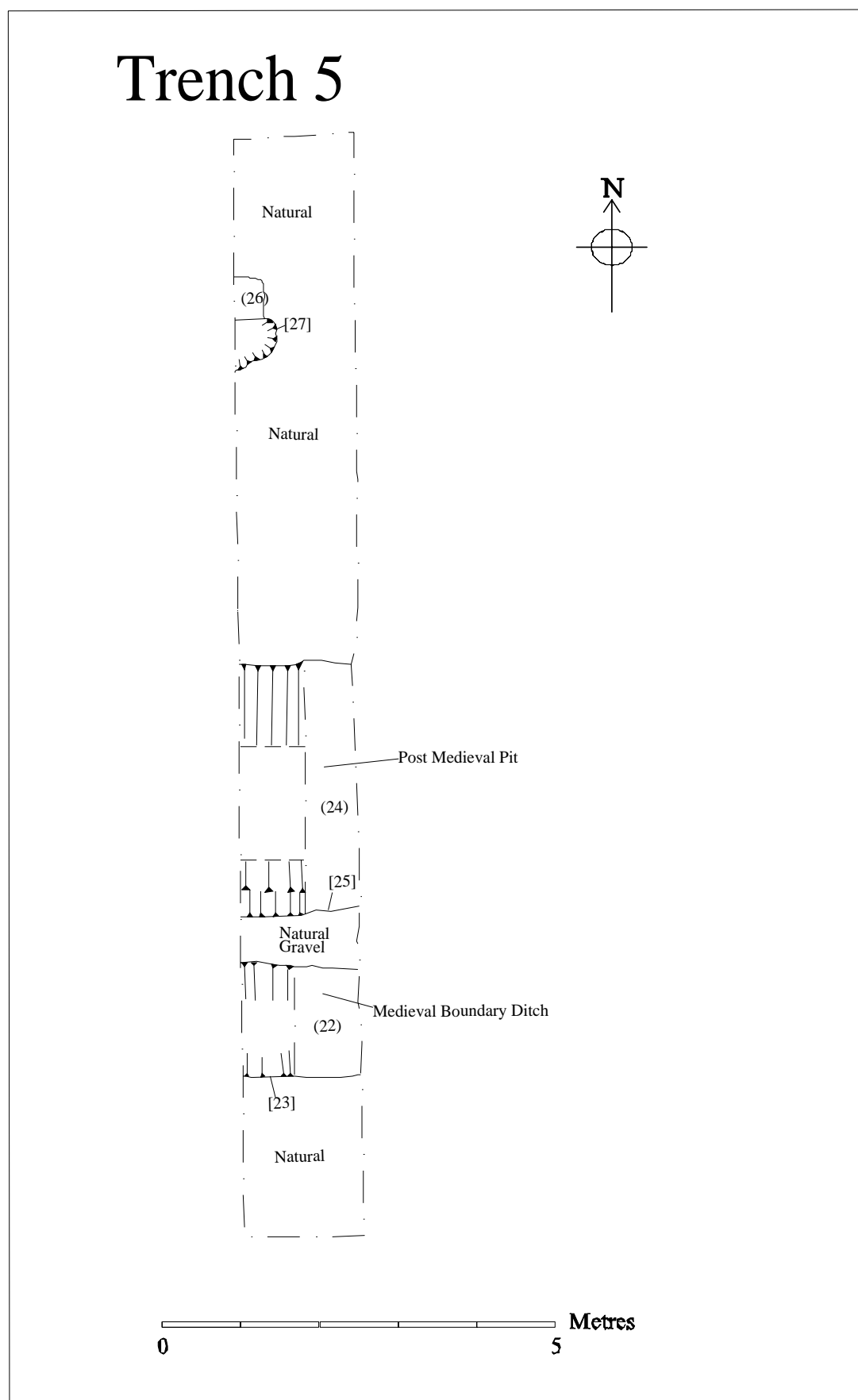


Figure 6 – Plan of Trench 5

At 11.5m from the north end of the trench, a linear feature [23] measuring 1.88m wide north-south and 1.6m long was located and excavated to a depth of 0.66m into the natural substratum. The fill (22) consisted of firm mid-green brown sandy clay with rounded gravel inclusions and occasional angular flint. This deposit contained Stanion Lyveden ware pottery sherds of both S. L. type ware 1 c.1200/1225-1400 and S.L. type ware 4 c.1100-1400. Viewed in section (fig.6) [23] showed a classic boundary ditch profile, steep on one side and shallower on the other. It is possible that the ditch could intersect ditch [17] in trench two, which would form a right angle. Interestingly, [22] was positioned directly below a later modern wall footing, which was also orientated east-west but divided from [23] by the subsoil. This may indicate a re-use of land boundaries over many centuries, similar to ditch [17] in trench 2.

6. Discussion

6.1 Medieval.

The boundary ditches located in trench two, [17], and trench five, [23], both contained sedimentary fills (18), (22), with medieval pottery dating from c.1200 – 1400.

The plough furrows found in trench three, [9], and [11] contained similar fills to the boundary ditches and also appear to date to the medieval period. Ridge and furrow earthworks were formed by repeated ploughing, using a coulter, share and mouldboard. Although the mouldboard had been in use since prehistoric times, this type of ploughing equipment was common from the 11th century. It required a team of oxen or horses to provide traction. The coulter and share were pulled through the earth and the mouldboard turned the sod to one side. When the team had turned, the process was repeated from the opposite direction, turning the sod so that abutted the first, forming a ridge. The ridge was thought to aid drainage and also to define the limits of a person's land (Astill, 1988, 70). From the 16th century onwards fields were turned over to permanent pasture, which has led to the effect of 'fossilising' ridge and furrow in the landscape (Astill, 1988, 71). Similar earthworks have also been made by more modern processes, such as 19th – early 20th century steam ploughing; however, these tend to be very straight and exactly parallel with hedge boundaries.

The archaeological evidence uncovered indicates that the site was under cultivation during the late medieval period, despite being within the medieval town core.

6.2 Post-Medieval

The pits [25] and [27] in trench five are post-medieval in date and pit [1] and post-hole [6] in trench one are also likely to be from this period. It is unclear whether or not pit/ditch [19] in trench four is from the late medieval or early post-medieval period, however a post-medieval date is most likely.

7. Conclusion

The archaeology at Roman Way and King's Head Place, Market Harborough, shows evidence of land use activity from both the medieval and post-medieval periods.

From the medieval period the two potential furrows located in trench four suggest evidence of agricultural land-use. The two boundary ditches located in trench two and trench five, also seem to indicate evidence of land division in the late medieval period, despite the area being inside the medieval town core. Map evidence from the 18th century (Turner's 1776 map) shows that the site was occupied during this period, but was located directly next to cultivated fields, which also fell within the medieval core. Therefore it is feasible that the site itself may have been cultivated during the medieval period and become swallowed up later through the expansion of the town.

The archaeological evidence from the early post-medieval period consists of rubbish pits, which may also indicate the spreading occupation of Market Harborough. As mentioned above, Turner's 1776 map illustrates that the site was not only occupied, but that the land boundaries appear to be fairly consistent with the boundary ditches located in trench two and trench five.

8. Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the clients, Darian Homes for their assistance and co-operation on site. Patrick Clay, was manager of the project, and the fieldwork was carried out by the author with the assistance of John Tate, all of ULAS.

9. Archive

The site archive (X.A13.2006), consisting of paper records, black and white slides and colour photographs will be housed with the County Archaeological Heritage Services, Leicestershire County Council Community Services Department.

10 Publication

A version of the summary (see above) will appear in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course.

11. Bibliography

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20.02.2006

12-Appendices

12-1 Appendix 1 - The finds

The medieval and later pottery and miscellaneous finds from an evaluation at Roman Way, Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

D. Sawday

The pottery, nine sherds, weighing 165 grams, was examined under a binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Davies and Sawday 1999). The results are shown below (table 1). Also present were two fragments of roof tile, one a late medieval ridge tile in Midland Purple ware, and the other possibly a late medieval or early post medieval flat roof tile, probably a nib tile. An iron object and animal bone were also recovered from stratified contexts.

Fabric/Ware	Sherd Nos.	Weight Grams	Av. Sherd Weight
Medieval			
LY1 – Stanion Lyveden type ware 1	5	68	
LY4 – Stanion Lyveden type ware 4	1	7	
Sub Total	6	75	12.5
Late Med/Early			
MS3 – Medieval Sandy ware 3	1	38	
MP2 – Midland Purple ware 2	1	32	
CW2 – Cistercian ware 2	1	20	
Sub Total	3	90	30.0
Totals	9	165	18.3

Table 1: The medieval pottery totals by fabric sherd numbers and weight (grams)

The dating evidence must be treated with some caution as only a few sherds were recovered from each boundary ditch context and no pottery at all from the medieval plough furrows. However, the earliest pottery, five sherds weighing thirty-three grams, in the Stanion Lyveden type ware fabrics LY1 and LY4 and dating from the 12th and/or 13th centuries to the 14th century, were recovered from contexts 16 [17] and 22 [23]. Contexts 2 [1], and 24 [25] between them produced four sherds, weighing one hundred and thirty two grams, in the late medieval fabrics MS3, MP2, and CW2, probably dating from the later fourteenth to the 15th or early to mid 16th century.

Fragments of roof tile from the latter contexts were late medieval and possibly early post medieval in date, suggesting a degree of residuality in that context. Nevertheless, the relatively large average sherd weight of 18.3 grams suggests that the archaeological levels may survive relatively undisturbed in the vicinity, whilst the pottery assemblage, though small, offers some insight into the development of this planned town, and of the medieval trade patterns associated with its market.

Bibliography

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Davies, S., and Sawday, D., 1999. 'The Post Roman Pottery and Tile' in A. Connor and R. Buckley, 1999, 165-21.

Site/Parish: Roman Way, (off Adam & Eve St), Market Harborough, Leics. Accession No/ Doc Ref: XA13 2006/market harbough2.doc Material: pottery	Submitter: G. Jones Identifier: D. Sawday Date of Id: 13.02.06 Method of Recovery: evaluation Site Type: town core
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Context	Fabric/ware	Sherd	Grams	Comments
POTTERY				
2 [1]	MS3 – Medieval Sandy ware 3	1	38	A highly fired late medieval example of this fabric – but not quite midland purple.
2 [1]	CW2 – Cistercian ware 2	1	20	A cylindrical vessel, possibly a cup, c.1450/75-1550
16 [17]	LY1 – Stanion Lyveden type ware 1	4	26	Joining externally sooted base fragments, c.1200/1225-1400
22 [23]	LY4 – Stanion Lyveden type ware 4	1	7	c.1100-1400
24 [25]	LY1 – Stanion Lyveden type ware 1	1	42	Glazed – probably from a jug, c.1200/1225-1400
24 [25]	MP2 – Midland Purple ware 2	1	32	Glazed brown internally, under fired, c. 1375 –1550.
ROOF TILE				
24 [25]	MP – Midland Purple ware	1	150	Roughly made and finished, brown glaze spots on upper surface, late medieval ridge tile
24 [25]	EA - Earthenware	1	238	Hard fired sandy ware. ? Flat roof tile – possibly nib tile - ? 16 th – 17 th C.
MISC.		Frgs		
2 [1]	Iron Object	1		
2 [1]	Animal Bone	11		Including animal horns & burnt fragments
16 [17]	Animal Bone	2		
24 [25]	Animal Bone	8		Including? horse long bones
24 [25]	Oyster Shell	1		

12.2 Appendix 2- The Animal Bone from an Evaluation at Market Harborough

Jennifer Browning

A small assemblage of animal bone, comprising 20 fragments, was recovered during trial trenching in Market Harborough. Excavations at the site revealed the remains of medieval furrows and field boundaries. The bone represented a mixture of the main domesticates, cattle, sheep and pig. The size of the sample makes its significance difficult to assess, however its preservation bodes well for the recovery of more bone should further excavations take place. Deposit 24 contained the remains of the left hind leg of an adult cow. Part of a forelimb belonging to the same species was also recovered. It is not possible to be certain that these belonged to the same individual, however this seems a likely possibility. Deposits 2 and 16 contained a more general mix, including burnt, butchered and gnawed bones, representing domestic and possibly craft waste.

Context	Frgs	Species	Bone	Part	r/l	P	D	Bu	Ch	Gn	Notes
16	2	cattle-size	rib	shaft					y		both frags show cut marks made by sharp blade, transverse to shaft.
2	1	sheep	horncore	complete					y		chopped from skull
2	1	s/g	metatarsal	shaft		f				y	gnawing damage at distal end
2	1	cattle-size	thoracic vertebra	body				y			calcined, unfused
2	1	bird	ulna								
2	1	pig	scapula	blade shaft							2 frags
2	3	sh-size	shaft fragments								
2	1	small	rib	shaft							
2	1	sh-size	shaft fragments					y			calcined
24	1	cattle	femur	almost complete	l	f	f				
24	1	cattle	tibia	complete	l	f	f				pronounced mustle ridges-old??
24	1	cattle	metatarsal	complete	l	f	f				
24	1	cattle	radius	prox shaft	r						
24	1	cattle	ulna	articulating part	r						joins with above
24	1	unidentified	longbone								
24	2	cattle-size	rib	shaft							

Key to table:

s/g = indeterminate sheep/goat

r/l = right/left

D = distal epiphysis

Ch = chopped/butchered

Gn = gnawed

sh-size = sheep size

P = proximal epiphysis

f = fused

Bu = burnt

12.3 Appendix 3- Design Specification

Design Specification for Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trench

Job title: Roman Way, Market Harborough, Leicestershire

NGR: SP 733 874

Client: Darian Homes

Planning Authority: Harborough District Council

Planning application Nos. 04/01871/FUL

1 Introduction

1.1 Definition and scope of the specification

This document is a design specification for an initial phase of 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.

2. Background

2.1 Context of the Project

- 2.1.1 The proposed development site is located on land at Roman Way/Kings Head Place, Market Harborough (SP733 874;figs.1 and 2). It consists of an area of c.0.18 ha..

- 2.1.2 Planning permission has been granted for residential development.

- 2.1.3 An advice letter by Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services as archaeological advisors to the planning authority details the level of archaeological work required (23.12.2004; Appendix 3).

2.2 Geological and Topographical Background

- 2.2.1 The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 170 indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of clays. The site lies at a height of c.78 m O.D.

2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.3.1 A desk-based assessment has been produced for the site (ULAS report 2004-158). The Leicestershire Sites and Monuments Record indicates that the site for development lies within the historic medieval core of Market Harborough (SMR Ref: **LE1959**). In addition, various medieval (**LE1954, LE1961, LE1962, LE1963, LE1966, LE1967, LE1973, LE1979, LE1984, LE1989, LE1990, LE1994, LE8236, LE1997, LE6749, LE6750, LE6754** and **LE8161**) and post-medieval sites have been located within 500m of the development area (**LE1957, LE1965, LE1969, LE1970, LE1980, LE1988** and **LE10102**). Archaeological sites

from various other periods have also been found in the region surrounding the development area. These include various prehistoric (LE1951, LE1976, LE1985 and LE7503), Roman (LE1977, LE1981, LE1986, LE8235, LE1995, LE7876, LE7877, LE7879, LE7880 and LE7875), Anglo-Saxon (LE1978 and LE10104) and undated sites (LE1983).

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.

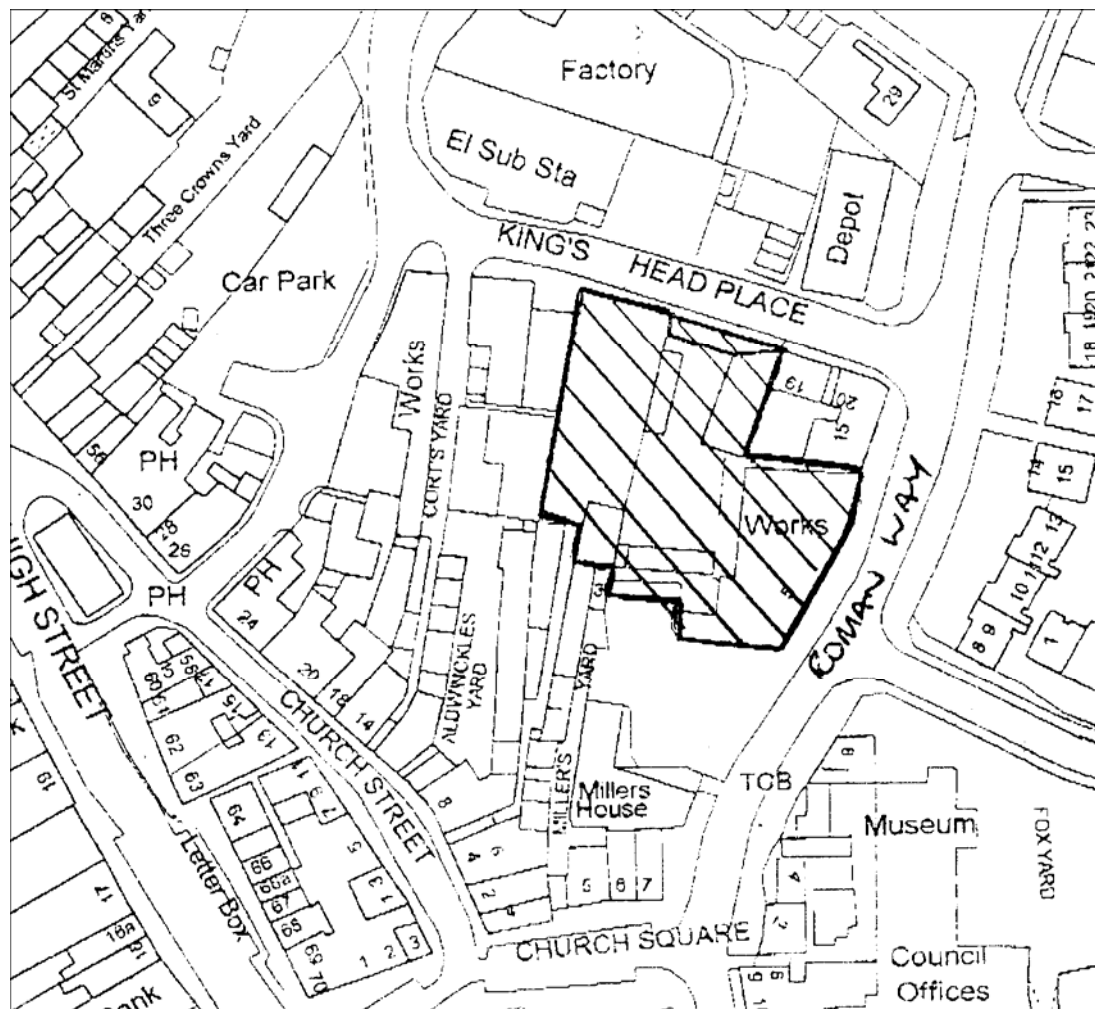


Fig. 1 Location of the development area. North to the top. NTS.

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 Senior Planning Archaeologist, the Planning authority and the Client.

4.2 ***Trial Trenching Methodology***

- 4.2.1 Prior to any machining of trial trenches general photographs of the site areas will be taken.
- 4.2.2 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 1.6m and down to the top of archaeological deposits.
- 4.2.3 The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.
- 4.2.4 The Senior Planning Archaeologist has requested a c. 5% sample of the area (0.18 ha), the equivalent of five 15m x 1.5m trenches (Fig. 2). The developer has requested that the location of the trenches avoids new house footprints and current access routes. The location of these may vary depending on constraints on site.
- 4.2.5 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.
- 4.2.6 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.
- 4.2.7 Trench locations will be recorded using an electronic distance measurer. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 4.2.8 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 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 the relevant Museum for storage in perpetuity.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 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. 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.
- 5.5 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 Senior 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 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*. 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 evaluation is scheduled to start during mid July with two staff. Further staff will be added if archaeological remains are discovered.
- 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 form 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 LCC 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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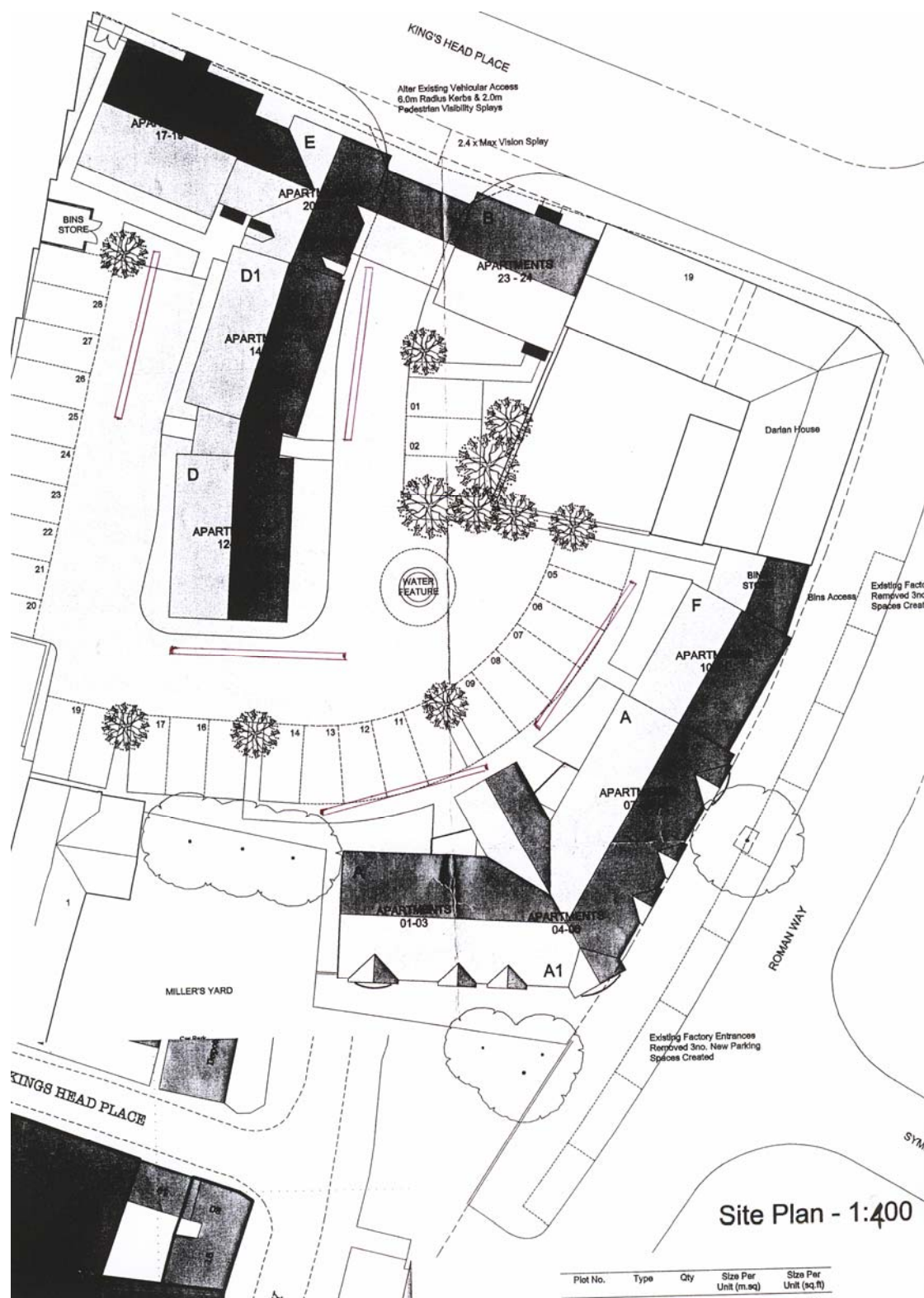


Figure 2 Proposed location of trenches in relation to development plan. Original Scale 1:400.

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

Job title: Roman Way, Market Harborough, Leicestershire

NGR: SP 733 874

Client: Darian Homes

Planning Authority: Harborough District Council

Planning application No.. 04/01871/FUL

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 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 1.3m. 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 1.3m. 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 Weils 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.