

**Archaeological Evaluation on Land adjacent
to Curzon Cinema, Woodgate/Mill Lane,
Loughborough, (SK 537 194)**

John Tate

**Planning Application No. 04/01871/FUL
Planning Authority: Charnwood Borough Council**

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1. Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land adjacent to Curzon Cinema, Woodgate/Mill Lane, Loughborough, Leicestershire (SK 537 194) on the 11th-17th January 2006. This work was in advance of the proposed construction of a 6 storey mixed use retail and residential building. This work was carried out on behalf of North Midland Building Ltd. by University of Leicester Archaeological Services. A total of two evaluation trenches were excavated which revealed three postholes and a rectangular pit of unknown, but possible prehistoric date, and two wells of possible late medieval date. These wells potentially contain important environmental data. The site archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services Section, or Rutland County Museum, accession number X.A3.2006.

2. Introduction

2.1 This document constitutes the second stage of archaeological assessment to have been carried out on land adjacent to Curzon Cinema, Woodgate/Mill Lane, Loughborough, Leicestershire (SK 537 194). The archaeological assessment was being undertaken on behalf of North Midland Building by University of Leicester Archaeological Services.

2.2 North Midland Building Ltd. propose to convert an area of c.0.1ha of land adjacent to Curzon Cinema Woodgate/Mill Lane, Loughborough to a six storey mixed use retail and residential building. The Senior Planning Archaeologist of the Historic and Natural Environment Team of Leicestershire County Council, in his capacity as archaeological adviser to the planning authority, requested that a preliminary archaeological assessment of the site area be carried out. The assessment was to be undertaken in two stages, the first an archaeological desk-based assessment, which was previously carried out by ULAS (Marsden, 2002), and a second stage of archaeological trial trench evaluation following the results of the desk-based assessment.

2.3 The desk-based assessment indicated that archaeological remains may be present within the proposed development area, although they are likely to have suffered some damage from previous occupation of the site. The development area is close to the centre of the medieval town, with the sites of the medieval market cross, fair and watermill nearby. However, destruction of archaeological deposits may have occurred within the area of the restaurant (not evaluated) and as a result of 19th century terraced houses. It is possible that some medieval remains may survive to a considerable depth within the area, beneath such post-medieval foundation levels (Marsden, 2002).

3. Site Background

3.1 The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 141 indicates that the underlying geology of the site is likely to consist of river terrace gravel or clay over mercia mudstone. The site lies at a height of *c.*44m O.D. The land is fairly flat.

3.2 The development area consists of *c.*0.1ha within which is proposed a six storey mixed use retail and residential building. The site consists of a vacant 'L'-shaped plot of land, which is covered in tarmac and used as a car park.

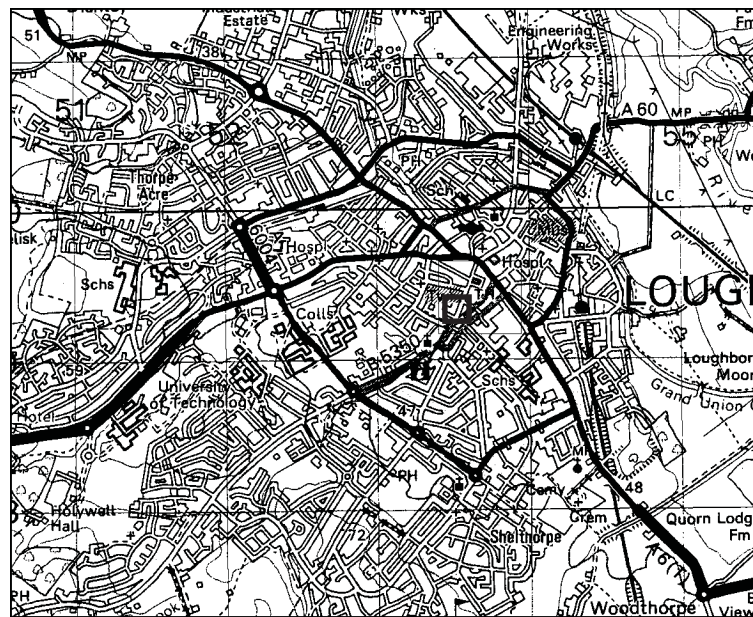


Fig.1 - Site location (scale 1:50000)

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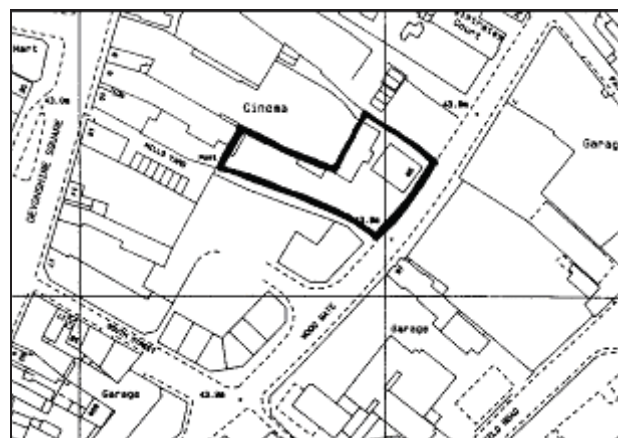


Fig.2 - Location of the development area (scale 1:2500)

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4. Methodology

4.1 All work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct and adhered to their relevant *Standard and Guidance*.

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.

4.3 The Senior Planning Archaeologist had requested that a c. 5 % sample of the area (0.1ha) where new buildings are proposed (Clay, 2005). This comprised one 22m x 1.6m and one 9m x 1.6m trenches. The location was defined by constraints 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 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. Spot heights were taken as appropriate.

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

4.7 Trench locations were recorded using an electronic distance measurer and tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

5. Results

5.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 Details

<i>Length of Trench</i>	22m
<i>Area of Trench</i>	35.2sq.m
<i>Surface Level (m OD)</i>	c.43.8
<i>Base of Trench (m OD)</i>	c.42.9

Trench one was located in the northwest of the site orientated northwest to southeast (Fig.3). Once through the tarmac and modern overburden of c.0.2m, a dark brown firm silty clay was observed. Underlying this layer was an orangey yellow sandy gravel. This deposit appeared to be a re-deposited natural. Both layers were seen to a depth of c.0.6m.

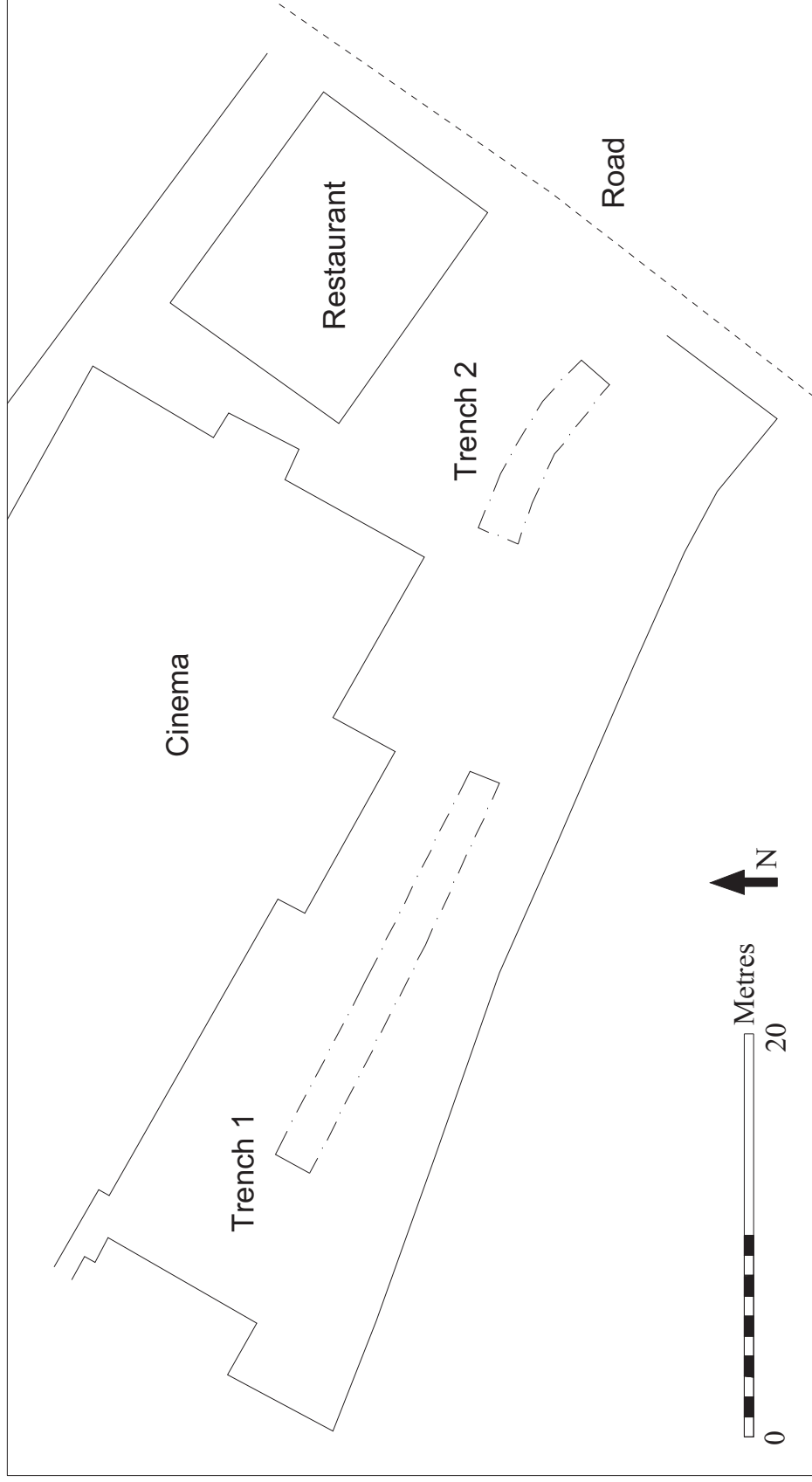


Fig. 3 – Trench Location plan.

The northwest end of the trench revealed some modern features and some remaining re-deposited natural. Once these features were investigated and considered to be modern in date, further machining revealed a clean natural substratum below. The middle of the trench displayed no archaeological activity, but a rise in the mercia mudstone was noted, rising through the river gravels otherwise seen here.

The southeast end of the trench, however, contained archaeological deposits (Fig.4). A rectangular pit [15] was observed containing a mixed mid-grey brown and pinky grey brown soft silty sand (14). This feature was 1.1m northwest to southeast and 0.6m northeast to southwest, with a depth of 0.6m. One flint flake (L. Cooper pers. comm.) was recovered from the fill. In the northeast corner base of the pit, were the remains of a posthole [17] 0.35m in diameter and 0.1m deep filled with a mid-grey brown compact silty sandy gravel containing frequent medium sized gravel stones (16). The base of this feature was slightly concaved.

Two further possible postholes were observed towards the very southeastern end of the trench on the southeast of pit [15] (Fig.4). Together, these were orientated northeast to southwest. Posthole [18] was c.0.17m in diameter and 0.24m deep (potentially not bottomed due to its' proximity to the southeastern baulk). The cut has vertical sides with sharp breaks of slope. The fill was a mid-grey orange brown friable clayey sand with occasional gravel and charcoal (19). Posthole [21] to the south west of [18] was 0.37m x 0.29m in size and 0.1m deep. The base was uneven and sides irregular, with a 90 degree slope on the southeast and 45 degrees on the southwest. The fill was a pink orange brown friable clayey silt with occasional gravel (20).

5.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 Details

<i>Length of Trench</i>	9m
<i>Area of Trench</i>	14.4sq.m
<i>Surface Level (m OD)</i>	c.43.9
<i>Base of Trench (m OD)</i>	c.42.58

Trench two was located to the southeast of trench one and also orientated roughly northwest to southeast (Fig.3, Fig.5). Services below ground and iron girders above ground limited the size, shape and positioning of this trench.

Once through the tarmac and modern overburden of varying depth (0.3-1.08m), a dark-mid brown friable silty sand with occasional medium gravel (11) was observed for 0.8m northwest to southeast, 3.6m from the southeast end. This appeared to be the remnants of a topsoil, and was only 0.3m from the surface. For 2.3m from the southeast end a backfilled Victorian cellar was observed. This cellar truncated a dry-stone well [1] and was observed for a further 1.3m and to both sides of the trench (Fig.5, Fig.6). The cut was vertical sided and consisted of a dry-stone structure of granite and slate that would have formed a circle (3). The granite varied from 0.1m x 0.1m x 0.04m to 0.5m x 0.2m x 0.13m and the slate varied from 0.05m x 0.05m x 0.01m to 0.2m x 0.14m x 0.02m. The smaller pieces were used to level off the construction in rough courses that appeared to be c.0.3m deep. The construction backfill consisted of a pinkish brown compact sandy gravel (4) observed throughout the cut and within part of the dry-stone structure of the stone circle of the well.

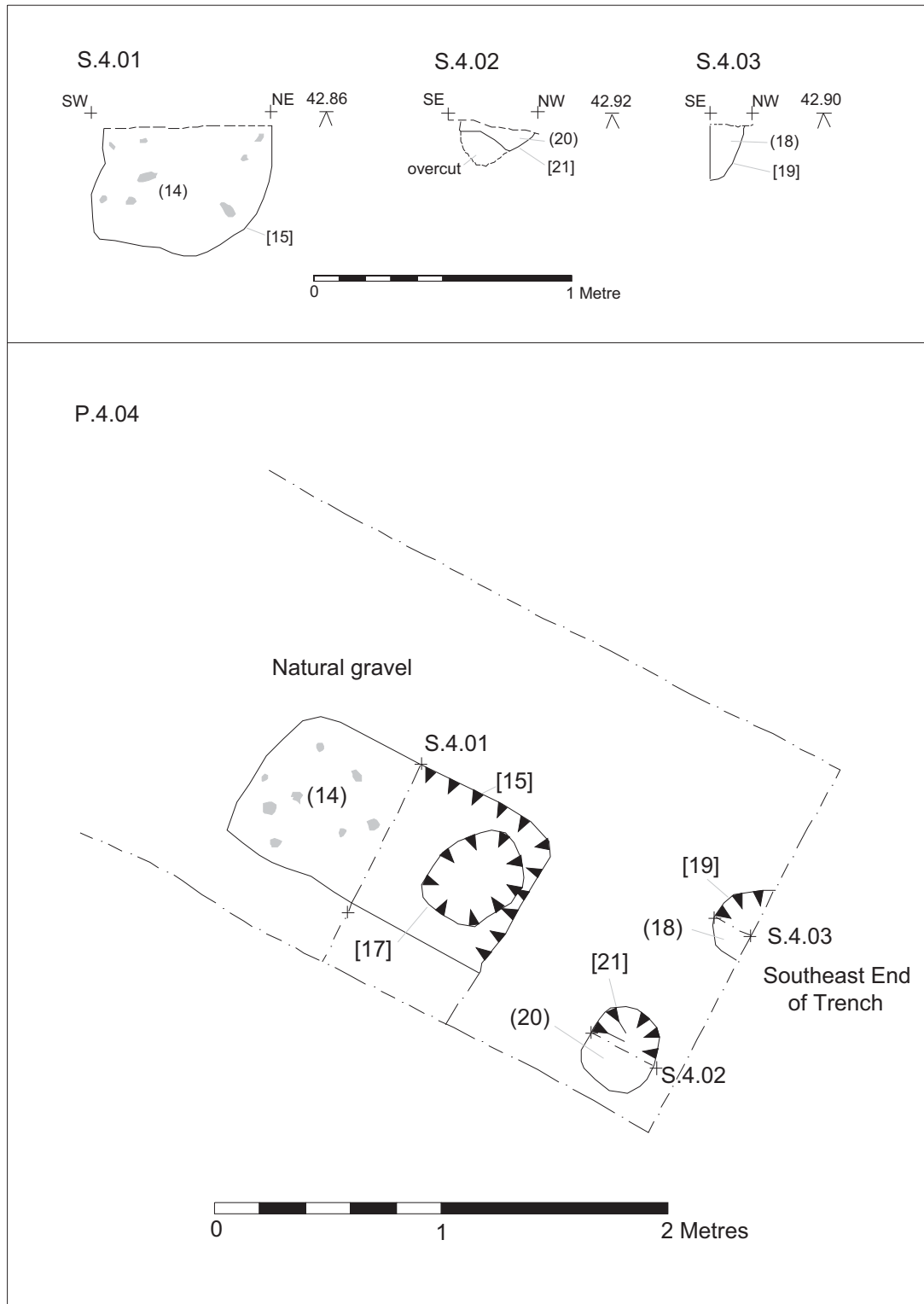


Fig.4 – Trench one plan (partial) and sections through features (north to top on plan).

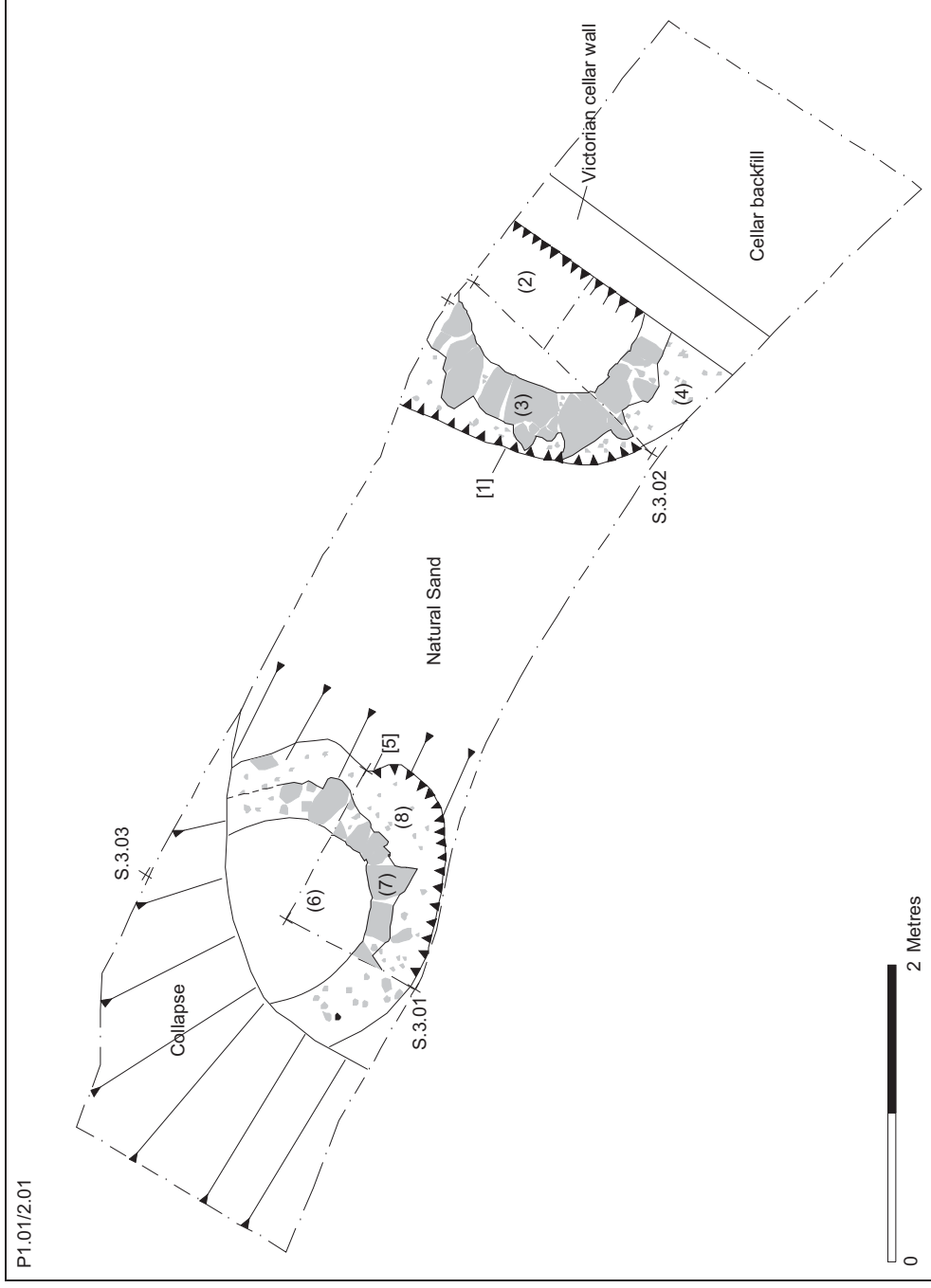


Fig.5 – Trench two plan (north to top).

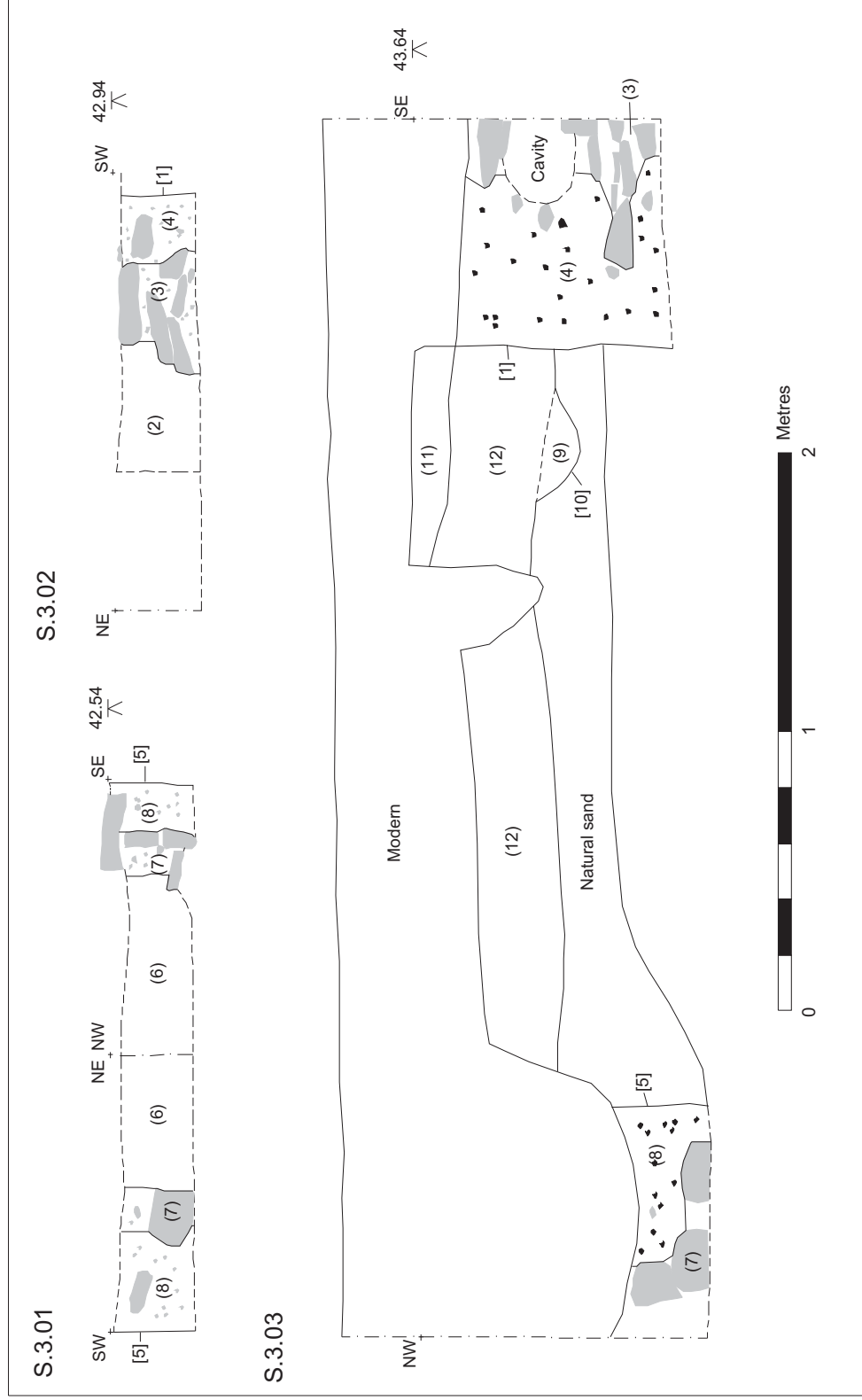


Fig.6 – Trench two, sections through features.

The post-use backfill of the well still contained modern building materials at the level to which it was excavated (2) and was observed for 1m north to south and 0.65m east to west.

The well [1] cut through a deposit considered to be a subsoil. This subsoil was a mid pinkish orange brown soft slightly silty sand with occasional gravel (12). This deposit was observed for 2.6m southeast to northwest and 0.3m deep. Below this, cutting the natural substratum was a possible linear feature [10]. The fill was a mid pinkish brown soft slightly silty sand with occasional gravel. It was 0.38m southeast to northwest and 0.14m deep. Its similarity to the subsoil (12) resulted in its removal by machine, and was only noticed in section.

Another well was observed from 5.8m from the southeastern end [5] (Fig.5, Fig.6). It was identical to well [1] in relative size, construction materials and form. However, due to truncation here by a service, the depth of its survival was lower. The dry-stone construction (7) was surrounded by a construction backfill (8), also a pinkish brown compact sandy gravel, and contained a post-use backfill in the middle (6). The well was observed for 1.8m southeast to northwest and to both sides of the trench. Dating evidence from pottery for the post-use backfill ranges from the mid 15th century through to modern.

6 Discussion

6.1 Archaeological deposits were located within both trial trenches. The depth and nature of these deposits varies between the two.

6.2 Towards the western end of the site, four features of unknown date were observed. The only find of a flint flake within the rectangular pit [15] would suggest a prehistoric date, particularly in association with the three possible contemporary postholes. However, it cannot be ruled out that the flint flake was residual and that the features could range from prehistoric to post-medieval in date. The colour of the fills of these features are all very similar, being light in colour and presumably natural accumulation by silting. The evidence of postholes would suggest a structure of some form, however, the depth of [17] within pit [15] would suggest a different function or date to either [19] or [21]. Postholes [19] and [21] may form a fence structure or delineate some form of boundary running southwest to northeast. The fact that this alignment is also a part of the Victorian landscape cannot be ruled out, particularly when the backyards of Victorian properties are known in this immediate area (Marsden, 2002). However, the Victorian alignment is likely to follow an earlier medieval alignment. The evidence is rather inconclusive.

6.3 Towards the eastern end of the site, two wells of unknown date but of identical form and structure were observed. The earliest pottery located within the post-use backfill of the well is from the Mid-15th - 16th century. Other unstratified pottery from the trench dates from this period but is better represented by pottery from the 17th century. It was noted by the writer the similarity in construction style, form and size to wells located within the City of Leicester of late medieval construction date (16th century) (Jarvis, forthcoming). The occurrence of wells are not a surprise in a late medieval settlement, where water was in constant use for both domestic and industrial use.

6.4 The potential for these wells to contain environmental data is very high. Not only are they likely to contain late medieval and post-medieval rubbish and charcoal near the top, but also medieval and late medieval waterlogged data from near the base of the well. Through environmental sampling, any cereal grains, chaff, seeds, fish bones, fish scales, small animal bones and insects can be found. These remains can provide evidence of past diet, agriculture, economy and environment (A. Monckton, pers. comm.). Of particular interest are imports from the 'New World' that begin to be introduced from the late medieval period onwards. It has also been noted that other than Leicester and Melton Mowbray, no environmental data exists for other towns in the County for these periods (A. Monckton pers. comm.). Although later post-use backfill was contaminated with modern material, deeper deposits would be worth sampling, if impacted on.

6.4 Predating the wells, of possible 16th century date, in trench two below a possible buried subsoil, is a probable linear feature. If the feature is linear in nature, then it could be either a small boundary or drainage ditch, or the remnant of a furrow from ridge and furrow agriculture. 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, onwards. 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 it abutted the first, forming a ridge. The ridge was thought to aid drainage and also to define the limits of a persons land (Astill, 1988, 70). From the 16th century onwards fields were turned over to permanent pasture, which has lead 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. Alternatively, a smaller feature such as a posthole may be represented here. The fact that the feature was not observed during machining or in the opposite section may support this.

7 Conclusion

7.1 The trial trenching has revealed that archaeological deposits survive within the site, and that these deposits are observed at a minimum depth of 0.46m at the eastern end of the site, and 0.88m towards the middle and western end of the site. Truncation by later activity and modern make-up ranged in depth from 0.46m to 1.08m, and probably greater than 2m where the Victorian cellar was observed, towards the eastern end of the site, and a general truncation of 0.88m across much of the central and western end of the site.

7.2 The archaeology observed is varied in function and date and the nature of the features at the south-eastern end of trench one are difficult to interpret or date within the isolation of a trial trench. The potentially late medieval wells however are likely to contain important environmental data. Dependant on the depths of piles and ground

beams for the proposed 6 storey structure, these structural elements may have an impact on these deposits.

8 Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the clients, North Midland Building Ltd., for their assistance and co-operation on site. Patrick Clay, who managed the project, and the fieldwork was carried out by the author with the assistance of Greg Jones and Simon Cleggett, all of ULAS.

9 Bibliography

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Marsden, P., 2002 *An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment for land adjacent to Curzon Cinema, Woodgate/Mill Lane, Loughborough, Leicestershire (SK 537 194)* ULAS Ref. 2002-142

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13.2.2006

10 Appendices

10.1 Appendix 1 – The finds

The medieval and later pottery and miscellaneous finds from an evaluation at Woodgate, Loughborough.

D. Sawday

The pottery, twenty-one sherds, weighing six hundred and eighty five grams, was examined under a binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Davies and Sawday 1999), (Davies and Sawday 2004). The results are shown below (Table 1).

All of the pottery was unstratified in trench 1, save for the material from the backfill of a well. This deposit, context 8, contained pottery dating from the mid fifteenth or sixteenth and the seventeenth centuries as well as a possibly intrusive modern sherd of white earthenware or china. Interestingly, the construction back fill of a well of similar construction in Sanvey Gate, Leicester, also produced pottery with a late medieval or early post medieval date range (J. Tate, *pers. comm.*).

The remaining finds comprised fragments of unstratified clay and drain pipe and a flint flake in context 14.

Fabric/Ware	Sherd Nos.	Weight Grams
Late Medieval/Early Post Medieval		
CW/MB – Cistercian/Midland Blackware	1	3
EA1 – Earthenware 1	1	32
EA6 - Blackware	4	83
Sub Total	7	118
Post Medieval/Modern		
EA2 – Earthenware 2	7	432
EA3 – Mottled ware	1	45
SW3 – Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	22
SW4 – White Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	13
SW5 – Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware;	1	10
EA10 – White Earthenware	3	23
Sub Total	15	567
Totals	21	685

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

Bibliography

Davies, S., and Sawday, D., 1999. 'The Post Roman Pottery and Tile' in A. Connor and R. Buckley, *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeology Mon. **5**, 165-213.

Davies, S., and Sawday, D., 2004. 'Medieval and Later Pottery and Tile' in N. Finn 2004, 86-99

Finn, N., 2004. *The Origins of a Leicester Suburb*. British Archaeological Reports (British Series) **372**.

Site/Parish: Woodgate (rear of The Curzon Cinema) Loughborough Accession No/ Doc Ref: XA3 2006/loughborough3.doc Material: Pottery & misc. finds Site Type: town centre	Submitter: J. Tate Identifier: D. Sawday Date of Id: 30.01.06 Method of Recovery: evaluation
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Context	Fabric/ware	Sherd nos.	Weight grams	Comments
POTTERY				
8	CW/MB – Cistercian/Midland Blackware	1	3	Mid 15 th – 16 th C. +
8	EA6 - Blackware	3	77	Joining sherds, hollow ware vessel, possibly a jug, glaze runs exterior, probably 17 th C.
8	EA10 – White Earthenware	1	3	Modern – 19th C+
T1 U/S	EA1 – Earthenware 1	1	32	Oxidised – brown glaze interior & exterior, 16 th /17 th C.
T1 U/S	EA2 – Earthenware 2	2	432	Pancheon base 17 th /18 th C+
	EA2	5	22	
	EA3 – Mottled ware	1	45	Dish rim & body fragment, 18 th C.
	EA6	1	6	
	SW3 – Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	22	With iron wash, probably Staffordshire, early 18 th C.
	SW4 – White Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	13	Moulded vessel, c.1740+
	SW5 – Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware;	1	10	Modern
	EA10	2	20	
MISC				
14	Flint	1		Flake (L. Cooper pers. comm.)
U/S	EA - Earthenware	1	38	Post medieval or modern drain pipe
U/S	China clay	2		Clay pipe stems – post med/modern

Appendix 2 – Design Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trench

Job title: Woodgate/Mill Lane, Loughborough, Leicestershire

NGR: SK 537 194

Client: North Midlands Building Ltd

Planning Authority: Charnwood Borough 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 Woodgate/Mill Lane, Market Harborough (SK 537 194; figs.1 and 2). It consists of an area of c.0.1 ha..
- 2.1.2 Planning permission has been granted for student accommodation development.
- 2.1.3 An advice letter by Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services as archaeological advisors to the planning authority details the level of initial archaeological work required (8.10.2002).

2.2 Geological and Topographical Background

- 2.2.1 The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 141 indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of river terrace gravel or clay over Mercia Mudstone. The site lies at a height of c.44 m O.D, on fairly flat land.

2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.3.1 The site is within the medieval historic core of Loughborough close to the centre of the medieval town. The site of a dam belonging to the medieval watermill, Fishpool Mill (LE610) is said to be located c.50m west north-west of the proposed development area at the west end of the market place. The market place was apparently used as a cattle market by the 1880s. The site of the medieval watermill itself (LE609) is located to the c.170m west north-

west of the site. In addition, the site of the Medieval market cross and fair are situated to the c.150m north-west of the proposed development area (LE595 and LE596).

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.

3.2.1 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 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.

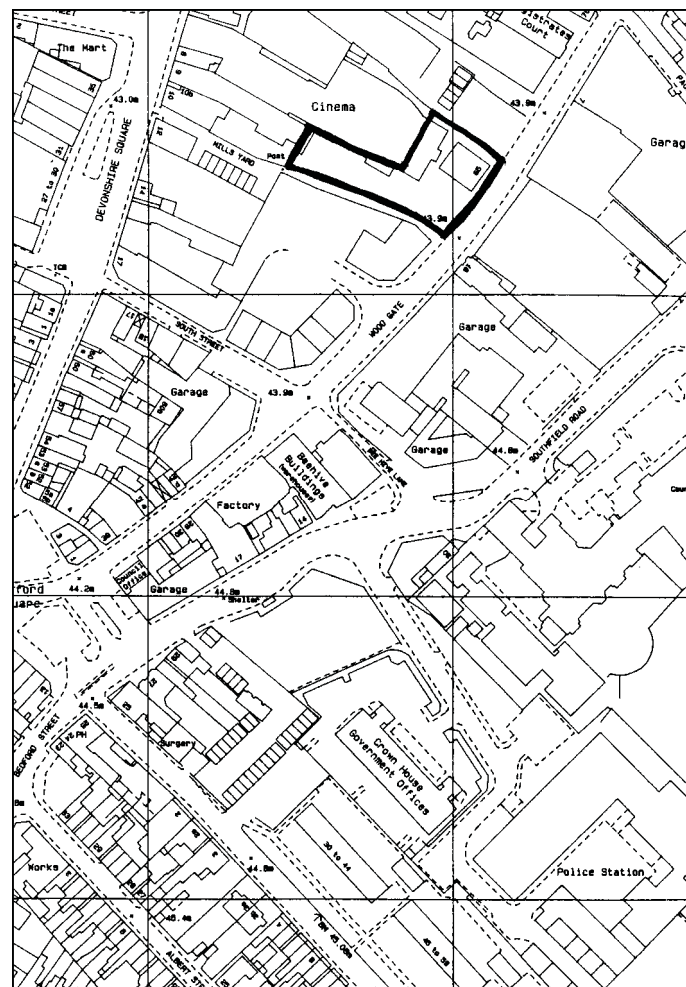


Fig. 1 Location of the development area. North to the top. Original scale 1:2500.

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 (0.1 ha), the equivalent of two 15m x 1.5m trenches (Fig. 2). 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 early January 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 ULAS work is covered by the University of Leicester's Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance. The Public Liability Insurance is with St Pauls Travellers Policy No. UCPOP3651237 while the Professional Indemnity Insurance is with Lloyds Underwriters (50%) and Brit Insurances (50%) Policy No. FUNK3605.

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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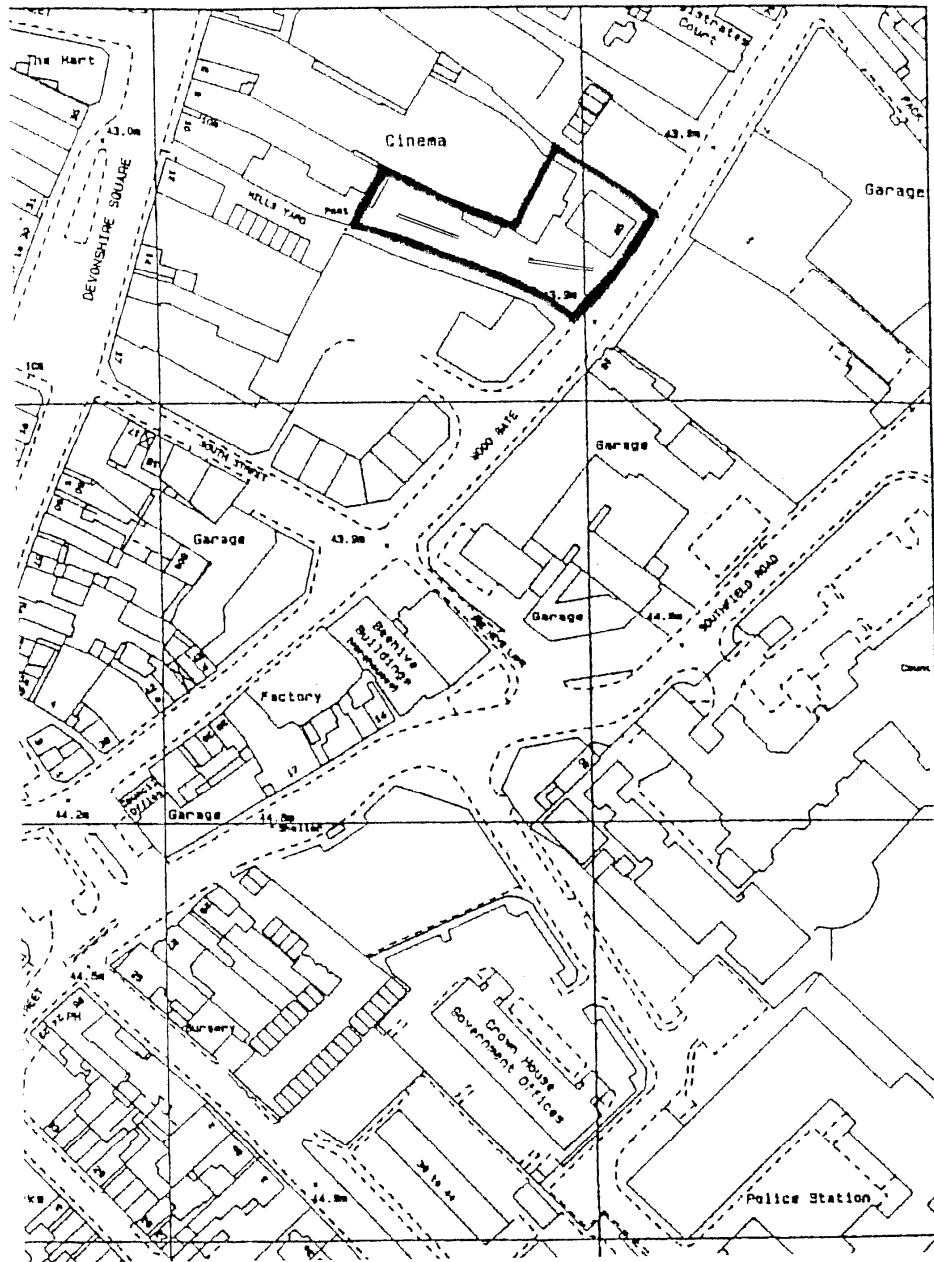


Figure 2 Proposed location of trenches in relation to development plan. Original Scale 1:1250

APPENDIX 1

Job title: Woodgate/Mill lane, Loughborough, Leicestershire

NGR: SK 537 194

Client: North Midlands Building Ltd

Planning Authority: Charnwood Borough Council

Planning application Nos. 04/01871/FUL

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

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.