An Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Top Yard Silverwood Farm, Thistleton, Rutland (SK 910 183)

James Harvey

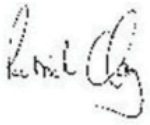
For: Mr R. Barclay

Checked by

Signed:  ..**Date**: 9/7/08.

Name: Nicholas J. Cooper....

Approved by

Signed: ...  ...**Date**: ..9/7/08...

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Summary

An archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken on land at Top Yard, Silverwood Farm, Thistleton, Rutland, by University of Leicester Archaeological Services in advance of the proposed construction of a new corn store. Various sites dating to the Romano-British period are known in the vicinity and these sites were seen to necessitate prior archaeological investigation.

Three trenches were excavated totalling 75.75m². Trench 2 and 3 identified clear archaeological deposits consisting of a number small gullies. A single sherd of late Iron Age pottery was recovered from one of the gullies. The remains are likely to represent a continuation of agricultural field systems located on the settlement periphery that are known to exist adjacent to the site and are likely to date to the Romano-British period.

The site archive will be held with Rutland County Museum under the accession number: OAKRM :2008.52.

1 Introduction

This document presents the results of an archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching carried out on land at Top Yard, Silverwood Farm, Thistleton (SK 910 183). The archaeological assessment was undertaken on behalf Mr R. Barclay by University of Leicester Archaeological Services between the 4th and 5th June 2008.

A Planning application has been put forward to construct a new corn store on the site (P/A FUL/2008/0174). The application area is located within an area of high archaeological potential, on the edge of the known Roman town at Thistleton (**MLE5765**). Leicestershire County Council, as archaeological advisors for Rutland County Council advised that planning permission should be deferred until suitable archaeological field evaluation had been undertaken. The work involved the excavation of three trial trenches totalling 75.75m² within the application area. This work followed the *Design Specification for Archaeological Work* (ULAS 2006, Appendix 1) that had been approved by the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council following his Brief for the site, in accordance with Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and planning), para.30.

2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

The application area is located 15km north-east of Oakham and 250m south-west of Thistleton village, close to the junction of Fosse Lane and Market Overton Road. It comprises a rectangular area located to the south-west of the existing farm yard, totalling *c.*1500m² (figs. 1 and 2). The site is currently undeveloped although there are spoil heaps and stored telegraph poles present. The area is reasonably flat at a height of 127.5m OD.

The underlying geology, as indicated on the Geological Survey of Great Britain, Drift Geology sheet 143 (Bourne) is diamicton drift deposits, overlying Middle Jurassic Limestone.

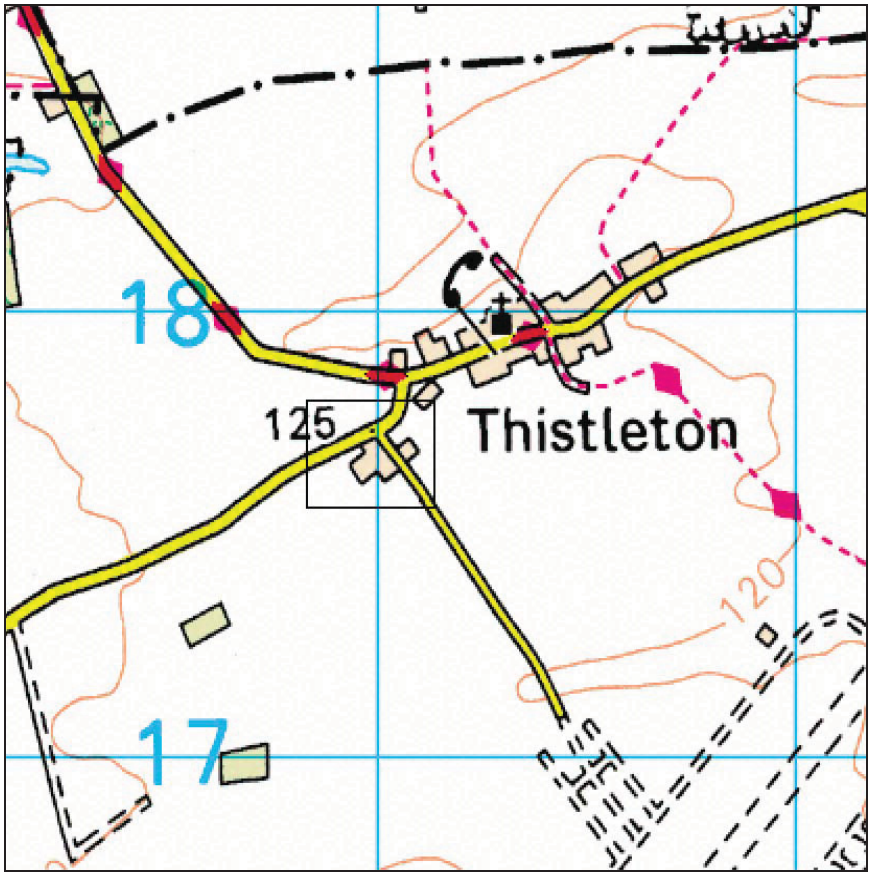

Figure 1 Site Location Plan (Scale 1:50000)

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

Historical Background

Thistleton is referred to in the Domesday Book as land owned by Countess Judith. It is recorded that 'Eric had ½ carucate of land taxable. Land for 1 plough. Hugh has from Countess Judith 1 plough and 6 villagers with 1 plough. Value before 1066, 20s; now 40s.' (Morris, 1980).

The town was noted by Camden in 1586 and visited by Stukeley in 1733, who wrote of ' a place called the Holmes where they find vast quantities of Roman coins….No doubt but this was a Roman town…..there is an old well that is never scoured and a foundation of a wall that enclosed a kind of court. It is near Thistleton.'(Le Marchant, 1895. vol. III; 34).

Archaeological Background

The Roman town of Thistleton (**MLE5765**) is located immediately to the east of the application area. Excavations of the site during the 1950s/60s outlined an area of approximately 30ha as the limits of the Roman town. The excavations suggested occupation of the site from the Iron Age through to the 4th century, with structural remains of timber and stone buildings uncovered, including the site of a temple (**MLE5766**; **MLE5767**). Structural remains and a scatter of coins indicated the location of a market (**MLE5772**). Local industrial practices were attested to by the presence of a pottery kiln (**MLE5771**) and of 62 shaft furnaces (**MLE5773**), indicating metal-working activity. A cemetery was located, containing 19 inhumation burials (**MLE5770**). No grave goods were found in association with the burials. The skeletons of six infants were discovered amongst the foundations of excavated buildings.

Two road systems were found to have serviced Roman Thistleton during the 3rd century, one to the east of the main settlement aligned north-south, on the line of the present Greetham-Thistleton road (**MLE5345**) and the second on an east-west alignment, connecting Thistleton and Market Overton (**MLE5508**), both in the vicinity of the application area.

Quarrying during the 1950s uncovered the site of a Roman villa (**MLE5776**) and bath-house to the north of the application area. Excavations indicated occupation during the Iron Age (**MLE5775**), continuing throughout the Roman period until demolition during the late fourth century (Greenfield, Vol.51;175).

The University of Leicester School of Archaeology and Ancient History and University of Leicester Archaeological Services have conducted a large gradiometer survey in the fields directly to the south and south-west of the application area. To the south-west, the previously known temple complex is represented by a series of rectangular enclosures. West and north of this, a probable roadway is present, with building plots coming off it. Heading north is a series of enclosures. Also a very regular enclosure was located to the east in the field corner, with possible buildings on its eastern side. A linear boundary curves up from the south-east to this enclosure, and turns north-east towards the modern road. Near the modern road west of Thistleton further enclosures bears comparison with the anomalies further south-east in

alignment and morphology, and probably represents a continuation of the Roman features. An area to the north includes what appears to be an alignment of discrete pit-type anomalies, as well as a strong curvilinear anomaly probably representing a ditch (Coward and Browning. 2004). Subsequent evaluation within parts of this area (on land proposed for an access road for a quarry) has revealed an extensive area of Roman occupation. The Roman settlement was confined to the western part of the access road and dates between the 1st and 4th centuries and characterised by a metalled road and surfaces, stone structures, (walls and oven/kilns) ditches and gullies, pits and post holes, and a single grave. The finds suggest the occupation is on the periphery of a more substantial settlement (Morris 2006a).

A further evaluation has been conducted in fields 400m to the west of the application area. Here dispersed areas of Iron Age and Roman occupation were revealed by geophysical/fieldwalking surveys and trial trench excavation on land proposed for a quarry development. The few finds suggest the occupation is on the periphery of the settlement, with the linear features representing part of a field system. There was a widespread pattern of furrows across most of the site, relating to medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. Although fragmented and dispersed across the site, a general south-east to north-west and south-west to north-east pattern of enclosures could be identified (Morris 2006b).

The application area lies 0.3km to the south-west of the medieval core of Thistleton village. The church of St. Nicholas has a tower dating from the 14th century (**MLE5782**). A series of earthwork features believed to represent medieval Thistleton include three fishponds (**MLE5777**) located to the north of the village, 0.5km from the proposed quarry. More earthworks located within the village core (**MLE5779**; **MLE5780**) are believed to represent the shrunken village of the later medieval period.

4. Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation were:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- The archaeological evaluation, once the above information has been gathered, will help determine a decision being made on planning permission regarding archaeological issues. Potentially further stages of archaeological investigation will be required as a condition of planning permission.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

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.

5. Methodology

The *Specification* (Appendix 1) proposed that three 16m x 1.6m trenches were to be excavated in order to satisfy the 5% sample requested in the *Brief*. The trenches were excavated using a tracked machine using a 1.5m ditching bucket so their lengths were increased in order to compensate for this.

The topsoil/modern overburden was removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision until either the top of archaeological deposits or undisturbed natural ground was reached.

The bases of the trenches were examined for archaeological remains and any possible features were hand-cleaned. Where confirmed archaeological deposits were planned to scale and recorded. Limited excavation of archaeological features was carried out to determine the character and date on any remains. Archaeological features were recorded with reference to the ULAS recording manual.

The trenches were located using Topcon Hiper Pro GPS equipment linked to a handheld logger. The data was processed using Topcon Tools and N4ce survey software. Final plans were completed with the aid of TurboCAD version 11 design software.

All work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* and *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological work Leicestershire and Rutland.*

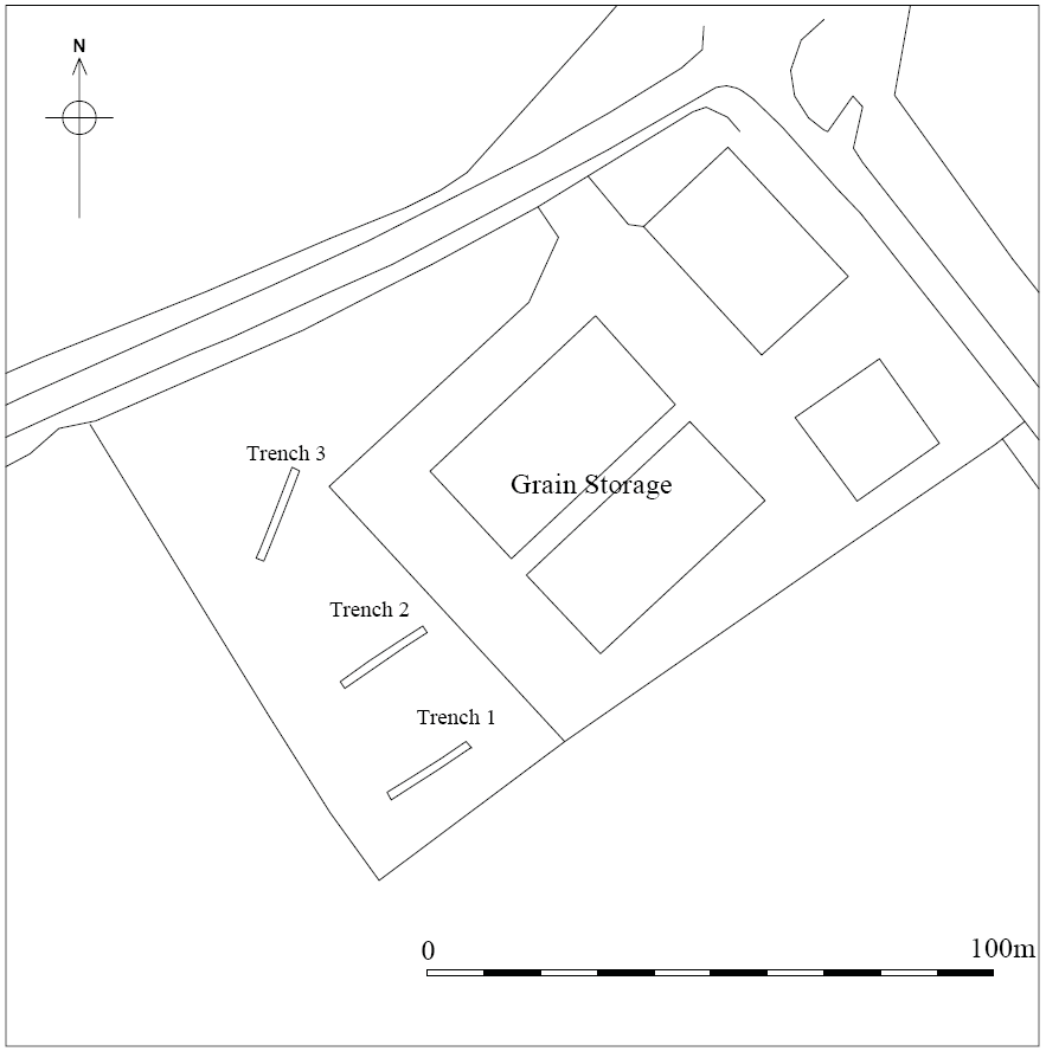

Figure 2 Trench Location Plan

6. Results

Trench 1

Interval (m) from the NE end	0	2.5	5	7.5	10	12.5	15	16
Ground (OD)	127.42-127.57m							
Topsoil depth (mm)	70	130	80	110	140	50	90	70
Subsoil depth (mm)	200	110	190	130	100	170	100	110
Top of Natural (mm)	270	240	270	240	240	220	180	180
Base of trench (mm)	310	310	320	310	280	340	320	340

Trench 1 was located parallel with the southern field boundary (*c.*9m to the south, fig.2). It measured 16m x 1.5m and was orientated north-east to south-west. The topsoil consisted of dark greyish brown clayey loam with occasional pebble inclusions. It varied in depth between 70-130mm and overlaid a mid-yellowish brown clay subsoil that also contained occasional pebble inclusions. The subsoil varied in depth between 100-200mm and directly overlaid the natural substratum that consisted of mid brown clay with chalk, ironstone and limestone fragments (glacial till material).

No archaeological finds or features were located in this trench.

Trench 2 *Contexts [4], (5) and (6)* *Fig. 3*

Interval (m) from the SW end	0	2.5	5	7.5	10	12.5	15	17.5
Ground (OD)	127.33-127.51m							
Minimum depth to archaeology (m)	0.16m							
Topsoil depth (mm)	90	90	50	70	90	50	70	180
Subsoil depth (mm)	90	Furrow	180	110	Furrow	110	50	Furrow
Top of Natural (mm)	180	280	230	180	230	160	120	390
Base of trench (mm)	210	250	250	180	230	160	120	390

Trench 2 was located 20m north of Trench 1. It measured 17.5m x 1.5m and was orientated north-east to south-west (fig.2). The topsoil consisted of dark greyish brown clayey loam with occasional pebble inclusions and modern rubble. It varied in depth between 50-180mm and overlaid a mid-yellowish brown clay subsoil that contained occasional pebble inclusions and chalk flecks. The subsoil varied in depth between 90-180mm and directly overlaid the natural substratum that consisted of mid-brown clay with chalk, ironstone and limestone fragments.

A linear feature [04] was recorded and sample excavated 3m from the south-western end of the trench. The feature was aligned north-east to south-west, changing to north-west to south-east, forming either a 'T' or 'L'' shaped junction within the trench. It measured a maximum of 700mm in width and was 250mm deep. Its sides were straight and smooth with an incline of *c*. 50° and it had a flat base. It was filled by two clearly discernable deposits. The primary fill consisted of mid-greyish brown silty clay deposit (05) that contained occasional chalk inclusions. It was 120mm thick and

was directly overlaid by a secondary mid greyish brown clayey silt deposit (06) that contained occasional inclusions of small subangular stones. This deposit measured 180mm thick and was truncated on its south-western side by an agricultural furrow (fig.3).

Three agricultural furrows were observed within the trench. They were aligned north-north-east to south-south-west at *c*.5m intervals from each other. The central furrow contained a fragment of medieval jug rim, probably a Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire ware, dated 1200-1400 (identified by N. Cooper).

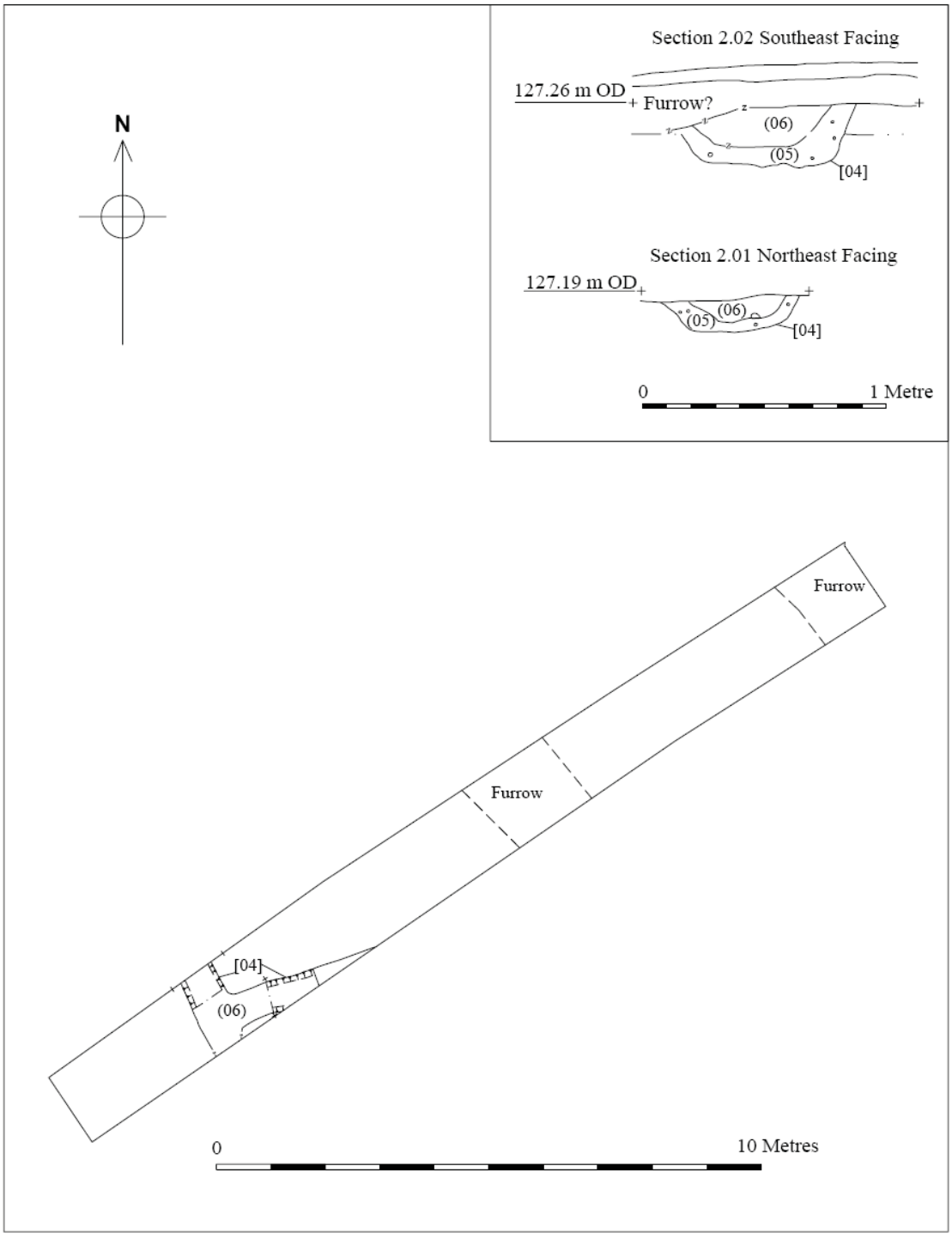

Figure 3 Plan of Trench 2

Figure 4 South-east facing section of gully [04] in Trench 2

Figure 5 East facing section of gully [07] in Trench 3

Trench 3 *Contexts [01], (02), [03], [07], (08), (09), [10], and (11) Fig. 4*

Interval (m) from the NNE end	0	2.5	5	7.5	10	12.5	15	17
Ground (OD)	127.31-127.49m							
Minimum depth to archaeology (m)	0.29m							
Topsoil depth (mm)	240	190	170	rubble	210	140	90	170
Subsoil depth (mm)	Feature	N/A	Feature	120	80	90	50	Feature
Top of Natural (mm)	400	380	380	290	290	230	160	170
Base of trench (mm)	400	380	380	290	330	270	220	200

Trench 3 was located 30m north-west of Trench 2. It measured 17m x 1.5m and was orientated north-north-east to south-south-west (fig. 2). The topsoil consisted of dark greyish brown clayey loam with occasional pebble inclusions and large quantities (*c*.30%) of modern rubble. It varied in depth between 90-240mm and overlay a mid-yellowish brown clay subsoil that contained rare pebble inclusions and chalk flecks. The subsoil varied in depth between 0-290mm and directly overlay the natural substratum that consisted of mid brown clay with chalk, ironstone and limestone fragments.

Initial machining revealed a small linear feature [1] towards the centre of the trench. Beyond this a second possible cut was observed that seemed to cover the whole of the north-west half of the trench. A 0.7m wide section was excavated through this against the south-east side of the trench and a sondage excavated by the machine at the north-west end. This proved that the majority of the area was covered by a deeper subsoil or a layer (indistinguishable from the subsoil) that sealed three additional linear features, [03], [07] and [10] (fig.4). Feature [01] was aligned north-west to south-east and spanned the width of the trench, also forming a stratigraphic relationship with feature [03] against the side of the trench. It measured 750mm in width and was 350mm deep. Its sides were straight and smooth with an incline of *c*. 45° and it had a slightly concave base. The feature was filled by a yellowish brown sandy clay deposit (02) that contained occasional angular stones and chalk flecks. It is possible that this feature represents the continuation of [04] seen in Trench 2. Feature [03] spanned the width of the trench was orientated at *c.*70° from feature [01] on a north-east to south-west alignment. It measured 950mm wide and was *c*.400mm deep. Its sides and base were concave and it was filled by a light greyish brown sandy clay deposit (09) that contained rare chalk fleck inclusions. A second linear feature [10] was revealed 1.1m north-west of [03] within the excavated slot. It measured 500mm wide and 300mm deep. Its sides and base were concave and it was filled by a light greyish brown sandy clay deposit with yellowish brown mottles. It contained occasional inclusions of small rounded stones and chalk flecks. The final linear feature [07] was exposed within the sondage at the north-west end of the trench (clearly below the subsoil/layer). It spanned the width of the trench and was aligned north-east to south-west. It measured 500mm wide and was 400mm deep. Its sides were steep and straight with an incline of *c*. 50° and its base was reasonably flat. It was filled by a light greyish brown sandy clay deposit (08) that contained occasional angular stone inclusions. A small sherd of shell tempered pottery, dated to the late Iron Age (identified by N. Cooper) was recovered from this deposit. This feature is similar to [01] and may represent a

continuation of the same phase of field system. A single agricultural furrow was also observed in this trench, 3m from the south-east end and was aligned north-west to south-east

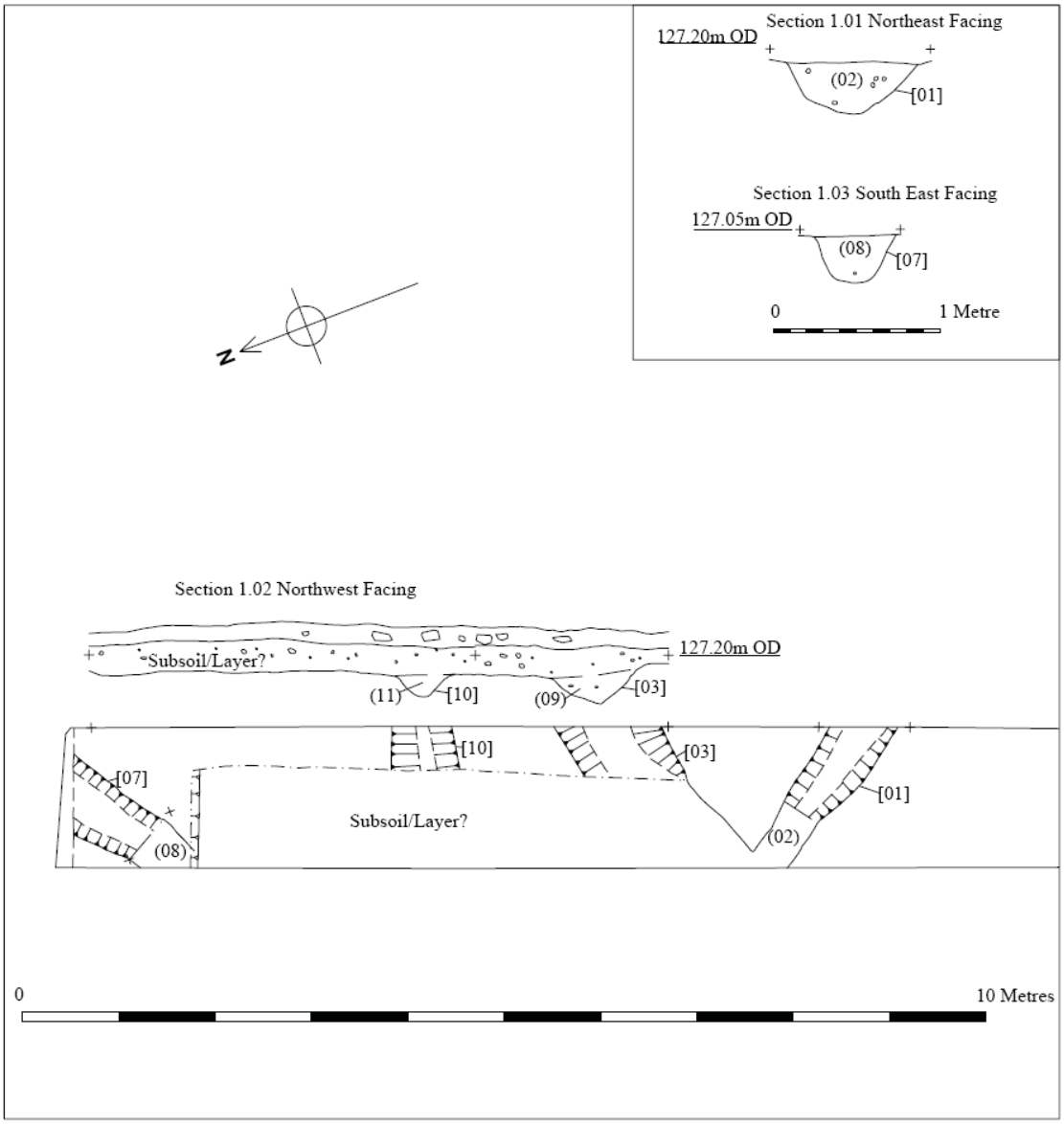

Figure 6 Plan of Trench 3

7. Discussion

The trial trench evaluation at Top Yard, Silverwood Farm has showed that a moderate density of archaeological deposits are present within the application area; although their depths suggest they have been subject some degree of plough damage. The archaeological remains consist of a number of small, shallow gully type features. Some of the features excavated ([01], [04] and [07]) could possibly be different aspects of the same feature. Only feature [07] provided dating material, a single sherd of shell tempered pottery that probably dates to the late Iron Age. The lack of finds and the absence of pit/posthole type features suggest that the remains are not indicative of settlement activity. They may represent evidence of more than one phase

of agricultural field system, located on the settlement periphery. Despite the lack of dating evidence, it is likely the features are a continuation of activity observed to the south and west of the site, probably dating to the Romano-British period although an earlier date cannot be ruled out.

A number of furrows were also recorded within Trench 2 and 3. These were on a north-west to south-east alignment and represent a continuation of the same medieval open field system observed in the geophysical survey further south.

8. Archive

The site archive will be held with Rutland County Museum under the accession number: OAKRM :2008.52.

The content of the archive consists:

1 Unbound A4 copy of this report

3 A4 Trench recording sheets

1 A4 Photo record sheet

2 Black and white contact prints (29 photos) and negatives

1 digital photo contact print (27 photos)

1 CD of digital photos

2 sherds of pottery: one of medieval date and one of Late Iron Age date (identified by N. Cooper Appendix 1).

A record of this project will also be submitted to the OASIS project under the code universi1-44274.

9. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by the author with the assistance of Roy Pouter. Dr. Patrick Clay managed the project. I would like to thank the client, Mr. Barclay, his agent Mr Andrew Thompson and the staff at Silverwood Farm for their cooperation during the evaluation.

10 Bibliography

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Appendix 1 The Pottery

Nicholas J. Cooper

Iron Age

Ditch fill (08): single small, abraded sherd (5g) of shell tempered pottery. On the basis of the poor sorting of the inclusions, this is probably of late Iron Age date (Fabric S1) (Marsden 2000) rather than early Roman shell-tempered ware (CG1) (Pollard 1994).

Medieval

T2 Furrow: single sherd from the rim of a jug (25g). Probably Chilvers Coton / Warwickshire fabric CC1, dated 1200-1400 (Davies and Sawday 1999, 166).

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Appendix 2 Design Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching

Job title: Land at Top Yard, Silverwood Farm, Thistleton, Rutland

NGR: SK 910 183

Client: Harry Barclay Homes

Planning Authority: Rutland County Council

Planning application Nos. 07/01539/9

1 Introduction

1.1 ***Definition and scope of the specification***

This document is a design specification for a second 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 site is located to the south of Market Overton Road, Thistleton, Rutland at *c*. SK 910 183. Situated at the western end of Top Yard it comprises a sub-rectangular area *c.* 0.14 ha. currently used as a storage area.

2.1.2 Planning permission has been applied for a new corn store.

2.1.3 Leicestershire County Council, as archaeological advisors to the planning authority details the level of archaeological work required (their *Brief For Archaeological Evaluation at Top Yard, Silverwood Farm, Market Overton Road, Thistleton, Leicestershire*, 30.04.2008 hereinafter the 'Brief').

2.2 *Geological and Topographical Background*

2.2.1 The geology of the site is likely to consist of diamicton till deposits over Lower Lincolnshire Limestone (Geological Survey of England & Wales, Leicester, Sheet 143; Brief 4.1). The site lies at a height of *c*.125 m O.D.

2.3 *Archaeological and Historical Background*

2.3.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland HER shows that the application area is within the area of the Roman town of Thistleton (MLE5765). Fosse Lane to the north is believed to be the route of a Roman road.

3. Archaeological Objectives

3.1 The main objectives of the evaluation will be:

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

3.2 Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation is to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development.

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

4. Methodology

4.1 *General Methodology and Standards*

4.1.1 All work will follow the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (1999).

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 5% sample to be evaluated in areas available, the equivalent of three 16m x 1.6m trenches (Fig. 1). The location of these may vary depending on constraints on site. The area available is restricted by the presence of stored material.

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. Any items of interest should first be offered to the owner.

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 labeled, 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 April 2008 with two staff. Further staff will be added as appropriate.

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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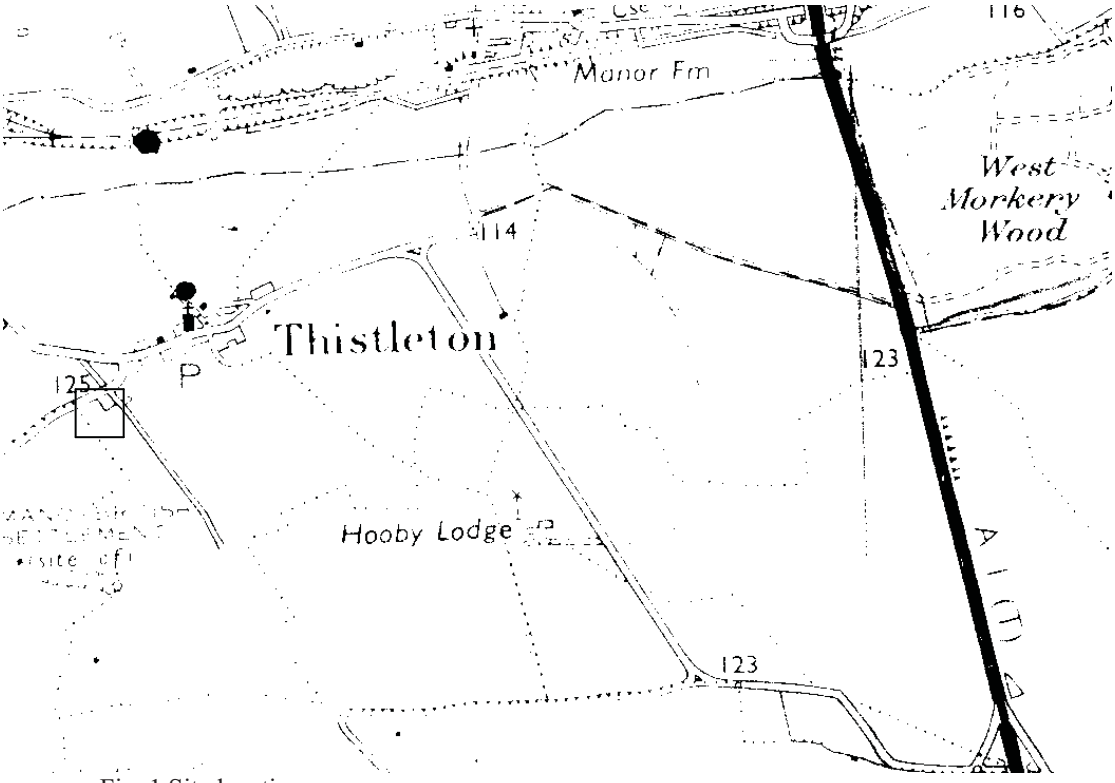

Fig. 1 Site location

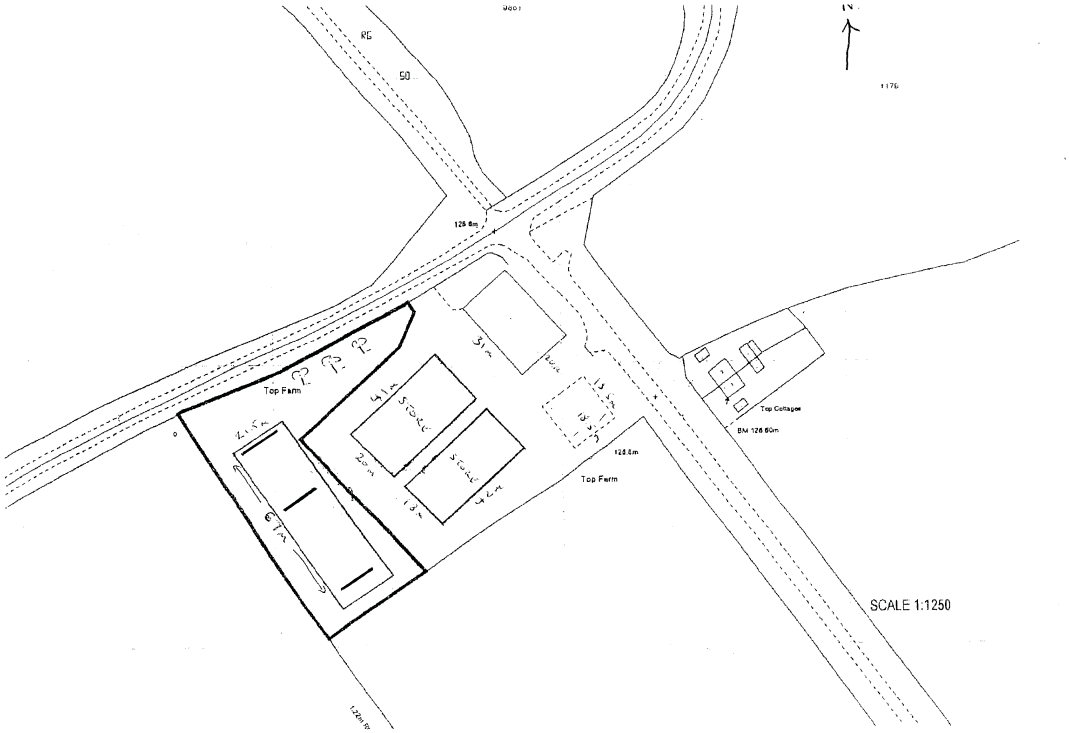

Fig 2 Proposed trench locations

APPENDIX 1

Job title: Land at Top Year, Silverwood Farm, Thistleton, Rutland

NGR: SK 910 183

Client: Mr R. Barclay

Planning Authority: Rutland County Council

Planning application Nos. 07/01539/9

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.

Appendix 3: OASIS Report Form

Project Name	Top Yard, Silverwood Farm, Thistleton
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	James Harvey
Previous/Future work	
Current Land Use	Farm Yard
Development Type	Agricultural building
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	Planning application submitted
Site Co ordinates	(SK 910 183)
Start/end dates of field work	4-5 June 2008
Archive Recipient	Oakham and Rutland Museum accession number: OAKRM :2008.52
Study Area	three trial trenches totalling 75.75m²