

**An Archaeological Field Evaluation
For the Proposed Development at
72, Oxford Street, Leicester
(SK 5860 0390)**

Leon Hunt

For Evans Heritage Developments

Planning Application No: 2002/1269

Checked by Project Manager

Signed:**Date:**.....

Name:

University of Leicester Archaeological Services

Report No. 2004-063 © ULAS 2004

An Archaeological Field Evaluation for the Proposed Development at 72, Oxford Street, Leicester (SK 5860 0390)

Leon Hunt

Summary

An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) for Evans Heritage Developments on land at 72, Oxford Street, Leicester, in advance of the building of two blocks of residential apartments with associated car parking. Until recently the site contained the Nags Head and Star public house and it lies to the south of the Roman and medieval walled towns of Leicester, in an area adjacent to a number of sites with known archaeological remains. The evaluation revealed a number of features, including potential boundary ditches and pits containing pottery from Roman and medieval periods. The site archive will be deposited with Leicester City Museums with accession number A2.2004.

1. Introduction

1.1 This document presents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS), for Evans Heritage Developments, at 72, Oxford Street, Leicester (Planning Application No. 2002/1269), centred on National Grid Reference SK 5860 0390 (Figs 1 & 2).

1.2 A desk-based assessment has been previously undertaken for the application area (George 2004) which has indicated that the site of the proposed development may contain archaeological remains. Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity have uncovered Roman, medieval and post-medieval remains, including evidence for Roman ribbon development along the Tripontium Road, Roman cemeteries, medieval suburban development, and extensive post-medieval suburban activity. The area is therefore recognised as having significant archaeological potential.

1.3 After discussions with the Leicester City Planning Archaeologist, Leicester City Museums, it was agreed that a 'Design Specification for Archaeological Evaluation' (appendix 1) would be prepared by ULAS and agreed by the City Archaeologist in lieu of a 'Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation', following the requirement from the planning authority that an archaeological evaluation should be carried out pre-determination of a decision on the planning application for the proposed development.

2. Site Location

2.1 The area to be evaluated comprises the site of the previous Nags Head & Star public house, located at 72, Oxford Street. The site is on the east side of Oxford Street, between Carlton Street and York Street. The proposed development area is bounded by Oxford Street to the west, DeMontfort Housing Property to the south, a small area of industrial units to the north (figs 2&3). The eastern boundary adjoins

car parks and paths associated with the DeMontfort Housing building. The site consists of c.0.035ha of land.

2.2 The site has been previously cleared of buildings and has been levelled with demolition material. The front of the site where it meets Oxford Street is seriously disturbed due to a cellar associated with the Nags Head and Star pub, which has been backfilled with rubble. The northern and southern boundaries have also had deep footings associated with former adjoining buildings removed. The site slopes from east to west by approximately 1 metre.

3. Geology and Topography

3.1 The Ordnance Survey geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 156 indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of Mercia Mudstone with overlying river gravel. The site lies at a height of c. 60m.

4. Archaeological and Historical Background

4.1 A desk-based assessment was previously commissioned from ULAS for the development (George 2004) and shows a wealth of evidence for human activity in the area from the Iron Age to the post-medieval period. The results of the report were summarised as follows:

“The desk-based assessment for the proposed development at 72 Oxford Street, Leicester, has concluded that archaeological remains may exist within the application area. The proposed development site is located on the east side of Oxford Street between Carlton Street and York Street, Leicester (SK 5860 0390). Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the site have uncovered Roman, medieval and post-medieval remains, including evidence for Roman ribbon development along the Tripontium Road and Roman cemeteries, medieval suburban development, and extensive post-medieval suburban activity. Although parts of the proposed development area are likely to have been disturbed by the previous structures and their demolition and removal, there are likely to be pockets of undisturbed ground where archaeology may survive. Characterising the nature, extent and significance of such remains could only be achieved by intrusive investigations.” (George 2003)

4.2 Most significant of these is the discovery of the Roman road leading from the south gate of Leicester to the Roman town of Tripontium (**50SE VG**, Finn 1994 and Finn 2002b), along with evidence of later Roman timber buildings fronting onto the street. This evidence, along with small finds in the area has led to the conclusion that there was a ribbon development along the road, forming a suburb. Further Roman features have been discovered in the Oxford Street/ York Road area (**50SE VW (LC1220)** and **YP/YN (LC575)**).

4.3 Other excavations close to the proposed development area have also revealed the presence of an extensive Roman cemetery outside the town boundary (Cooper 1996). Roman burials commonly cluster along main roads leading to the town. It was possible, therefore, that burials would be discovered within the site.

4.4 Medieval suburban development is testified to have existed along Oxford Street (formally Southgate Street), although the extent of the development is not

known. Medieval structures such as pits and wells and a curved ditch that may have formed part of a post mill were found during excavations at 85-89 Oxford Street, opposite the proposed development site (Clarke 2003).

4.5 It was likely, therefore, for the evaluation to reveal archaeological features, particularly those from the Roman and medieval periods.

5. Aims and Methods

5.1 The aim of the evaluation was to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits and, if present, determine their extent, character, date and quality of preservation. This would allow the Planning Archaeologist to assess the potential impact of the proposed development upon any archaeological remains.

5.2 All work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*. The evaluation adhered to the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Manger's (SCAUM) Health and Safety Manual and ULAS's Health and Safety Guidelines (2001) and Health and Safety Policy (2001). The recording followed the ULAS Field Recording Manual.

5.3 The City Archaeologist required that a minimum 5% sample of the total development area needed to be evaluated by trial trench. As the site is *c.*375 square metres and so a *c.*19 square metre minimum sample would be required. It was therefore proposed to excavate one trench measuring 1.5m by 15m, which would give a *c.*22.5 square metre area, 6% sample.

5.4 The trench was placed roughly aligned east-west across the site towards the rear of the site to avoid the disturbed cellar area. It was also positioned slightly towards the southern edge of the site to avoid the known range that extended from the back of the former pub into the yard area in the northern half of the site.

5.5 The present ground surfaces and underlying modern overburden were removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the uppermost archaeological deposits by JCB using a toothless ditching bucket. The width of the trench was 1.6-1.8m and the final length of the trench was 16.6metres. The trench was excavated to a depth of between 1m and 1.2m, the final trench area totalling *c.*30 sq m.

5.6 The features uncovered were hand cleaned by trowel and the trench was photographed, planned and the north facing section was drawn to the appropriate scale (figs. 4 and 5). The archaeological remains were then sample excavated and recorded. Relative spots heights were taken and the results were tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum.

6. The Results

6.1 The trench was excavated from west to east to a depth of 1-1.2m depending on the depth of the visible archaeology. The base level of the trench at the western end was 60.42m OD, and at the eastern end 60.67m OD. The upper layers consisted of heavily disturbed overburden of a very dark brown silty or sandy clay loam with large pieces of demolition debris including modern brick, concrete and rubble. Very large pieces of brick wall and concrete had to be removed by the machine during the

excavation. These layers were stripped to reveal a brownish red Mercia mudstone substratum, within which were cut a variety of archaeological features.

6.2 Directly under a large concrete wall at the western end of the trench lay a ditch feature [2] (figs 4 and 5), which ran north-south across the trench. Although truncated by a drain at its southern end, it was possible to determine that the remaining depth of the ditch was 0.2m deep with sloping sides and a curved base. The fill (1) consisted of a reddish grey/brown silty clay, with some medium sized pebbles. Pottery and bone were recovered from the feature.

6.3 Just to the west of the middle of the trench, and on a similar alignment to [2], was another ditch feature [4], which itself had been cut by a pit [12]. This pit had been recut and enlarged at some point [14]. The pit had virtually obliterated the ditch at its southern edge, where it met the baulk of the trench. Due to the positioning of the trench it was not possible to determine the extent of the pit, but from the exposed section it was possible to infer that it was approximately 2m wide and at least 1 metre deep.

6.4 The ditch [4] was similar in form to [2], but with a slightly flattened base. Medieval pottery was recovered from the pit, along with a piece of Roman samian ware, which may have been residual, perhaps coming from the earlier ditch. The fill of the ditch (3) was similar to (1), but the fill of the pits, (11) and (13), were darker and siltier, with a number of medium sized rounded pebbles, which, in the case of (1) determined its horizon.

6.5 Two further features were discovered towards the eastern end of the trench. One was a small undated pit, the other a narrow gully. This gully feature [8], also aligned north-south, appeared to peter out close to the northern end of the trench; although potentially this may have been due to machine truncation. A piece of Roman samian ware was recovered from this feature. The fill (7) was a reddish brown sandy clay.

6.6 All other features identified in section or in plan were modern and contained brick, mortar and other modern building materials.

7. Discussion

7.1 As the linear features [2], [4] and [8] are on a similar alignment to the street front we may infer that they potentially form the delineation of plots associated with Roman occupation along the Tripontium road. This is borne out by the evidence of similar features at Bonners Lane (Finn 2002), which run along a similar alignment.

7.2 The pit [12] and the recut [14] are undoubtedly of a medieval date, but there is no evidence for the function of this feature. Pottery recovered from the fill of the feature (11) included a sherd of twelfth century date and a second sherd of undiagnostic medieval pottery. Residual Roman pottery was also recovered from the fill of this feature (11), one sherd dating to the mid-late first century, the second of second to fourth century date. Its position within the earlier Roman ditch [4] may be potentially significant, although it may also be pure chance that the pit was dug in this position through this earlier feature. A sherd of mid-late first century Roman pottery was recovered from the fill of the ditch (3). The residual Roman pottery found within the medieval pit fill (11) may have originated from this ditch.

7.3 The base of the trench at its western end is at 60.42m OD. The top of the disturbed area where the former cellar for the Nags Head and Star was present at the front of the site is at 60.40m OD. The cellar, therefore, will have been dug well below the level of the extant archaeology in the evaluation trench, and therefore it is unlikely that any archaeological evidence survives here.

7.4 It is clear that there is a general slope in the natural ground surface from the east of Oxford Street to the west (present street level being at 61.3m OD). But the evidence from the evaluation would clearly suggest that any deposits that may have existed in the area of the former cellar, and the areas of the removed foundations along the north and south boundaries of the site, will have been destroyed.

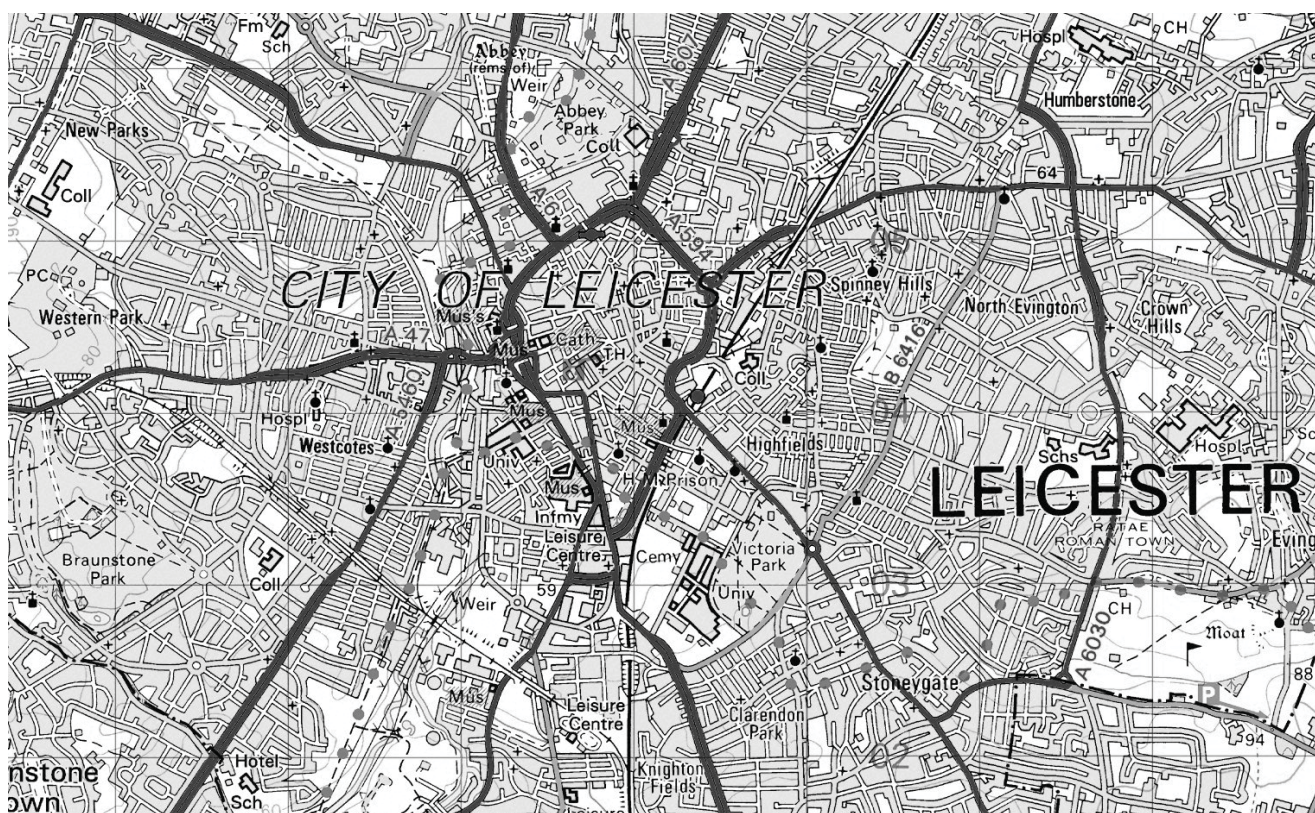


Fig. 1 Site location (OS map 233 Leicester & Hinckley area 2000)

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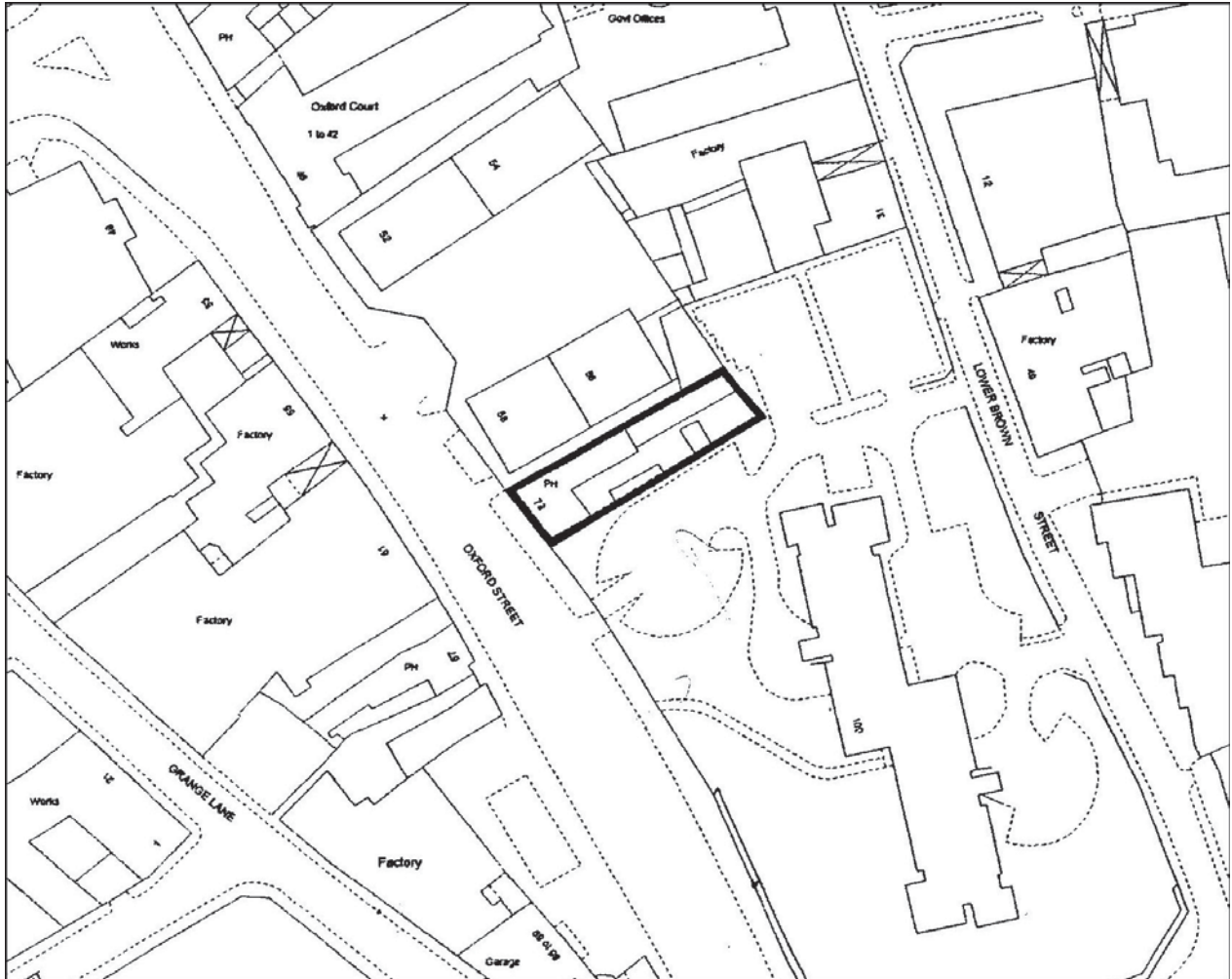


Fig. 2 2003 Title plan map, supplied by developer, with development area outlined

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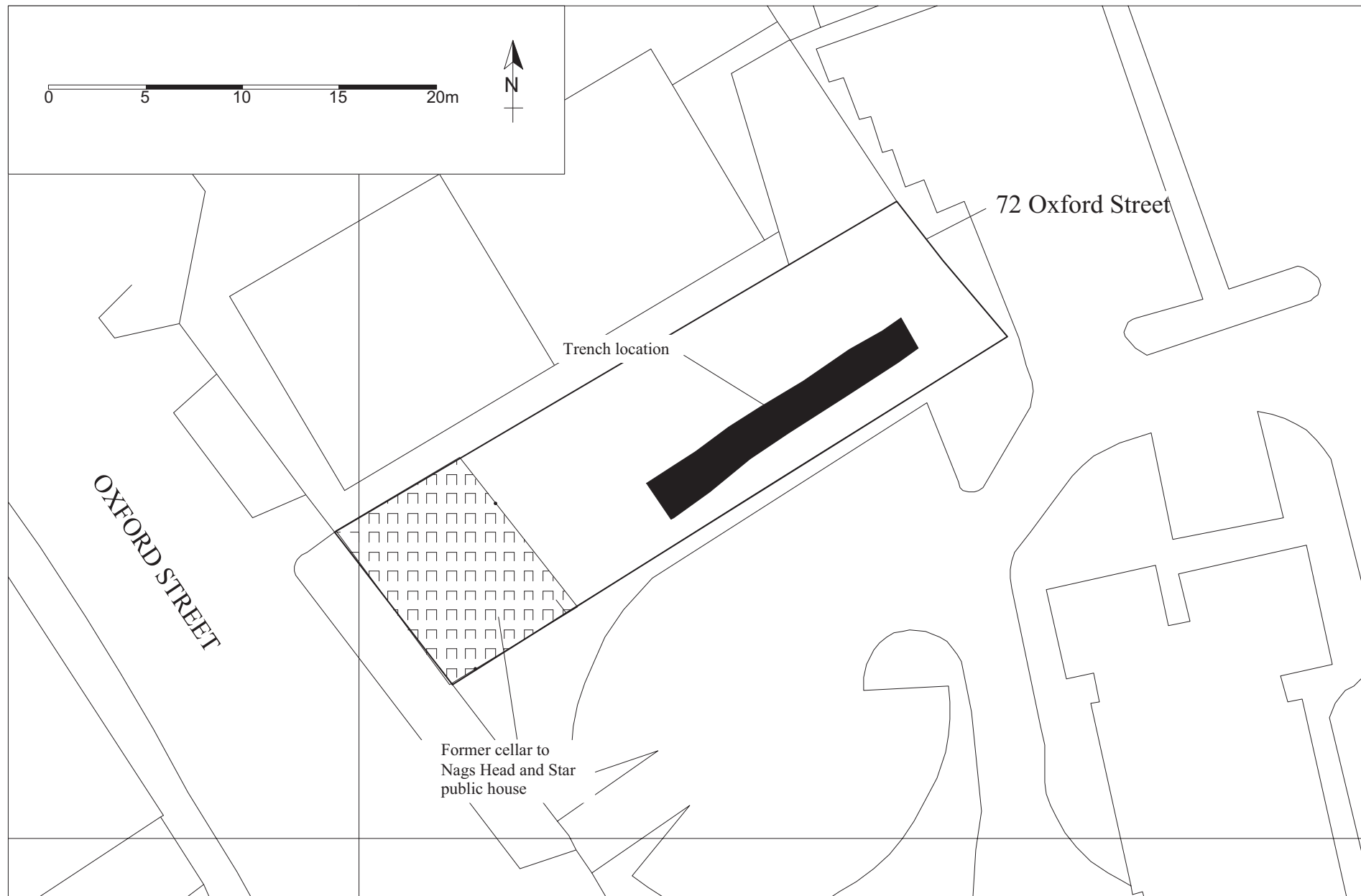


Figure 4: Plan of trench

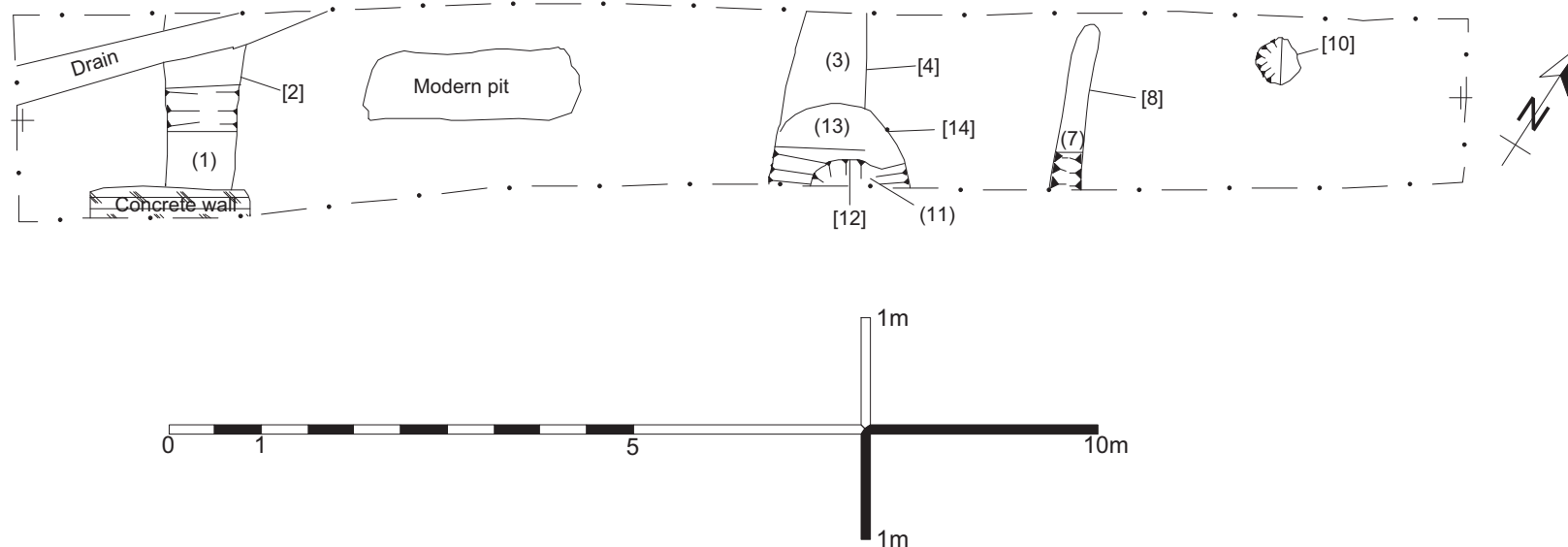
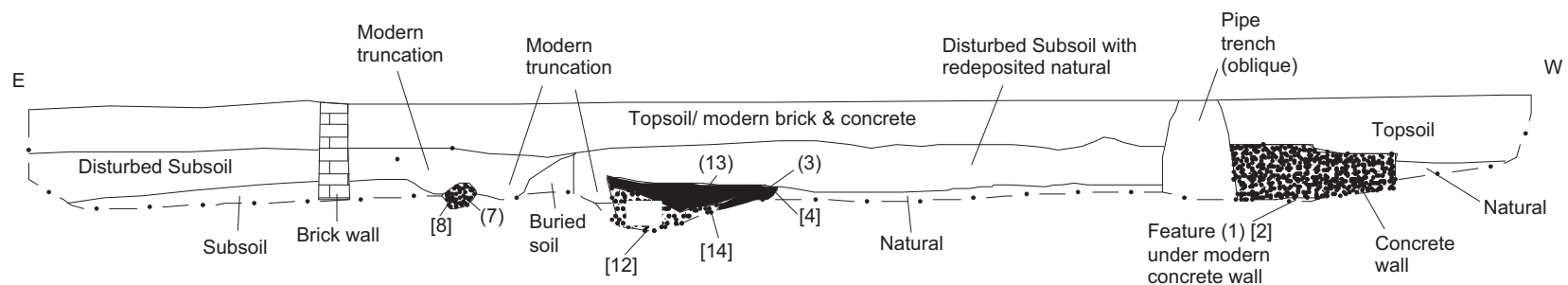


Figure 5: North facing section of trench



Finds from 72, Oxford St, Leicester A2.2004

Nicholas J. Cooper and Deborah Sawday

Roman Pottery

Five sherds of Roman pottery weighing 8g were retrieved and are catalogued below

Context	Cut	Fabric	No.Sherds	Weight	Date/ Comment
7	8	South Gaulish Samian	3	6	Mid-late C1st Joining chips from base of Dr27 cup
11	12	South Gaulish Samian	1	1	Mid-late C1st chip from Dr15/17 or 18
11	12	GW3 fine greyware	1	1	C2nd-4 th residual in medieval context
Total			5	8	

Medieval Pottery

Four sherds of medieval pottery weighing 28g were retrieved and catalogued below

Context	Cut	Fabric	No.Sherds	Weight	Date/Comment
3		ST2 fine Stamford ware	2	16	C12th, glazed, joining
11	12	PM Potters Marston	1	10	Small cooking pot base C12th
11	12	OS Oxidised sandy ware	1	2	medieval
Total			4	28	

Roman Tile

Context	Cut	Form	No.Frags	Weight
1	2	Imbrex	5	38
11	12	misc	1	6
Total			6	44

Medieval Ridge Tile

Context	Cut	Fabric	No.Frags	Weight	Date/ Comment
3		PM Potters Marston	1	16	C13th

Discussion

Context 7 appears to be Roman in date on basis of pottery, and possibly first century. Context 11 appears to be at least 12th century in date and contains residual Roman pottery of first century date.

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Project Design Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

Proposed Residential Accommodation at 72 Oxford Street, Castle, Leicester
NGR SK 586 039

Client: *Evans Heritage Developments*

Planning Authority: *Leicester City Council*

Planning Application Number: *2002/1269*

- **Summary**

Outline planning permission with conditions has been granted for the proposed residential development on land at 72 Oxford Street, Castle, Leicester, comprising two blocks of residential apartments with associated car parking etc. The site lies to the south of the Roman and medieval walled towns of Leicester, in an area adjacent to a number of sites with known archaeological remains. The site is therefore seen as having the potential to contain archaeological deposits that would be threatened by the proposed development, and thus the City Archaeologist of Leicester City Museums has requested that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken prior to the commencement of construction.

1. Introduction

1.1 Definition and scope of the specification

In accordance with Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and Planning, paragraph 30), and the condition placed on planning permission, this specification constitutes a 'written scheme of archaeological investigation' which ULAS intends to implement on behalf of the Client in mitigation of any damage which may be caused to buried or standing archaeological remains from the development.

1.2 The document provides details of the work proposed by ULAS on behalf of the client, and should normally be submitted to the Planning Authority for approval before a costed scheme of archaeological investigation by ULAS is implemented.

1.1.3 The document provides details of the work proposed by ULAS on behalf of the client for:

- The archaeological evaluation by trial trench of the area of a proposed residential development at 72 Oxford Street, Castle Ward, Leicester.

2. Background

2.1 Context of the Project

2.1.1 Outline planning permission with conditions has been granted by Leicester City Council for the above development at 72 Oxford Street, Castle Ward, Leicester, planning application number 2002/1269.

2.1.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development area was previously commissioned from University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) by Evans Heritage Developments. The desk-based assessment confirmed the archaeological potential of the site (George 2003).

2.1.3 After discussions with Richard Clark, Leicester City Planning Archaeologist, Leicester City Museums it was agreed that a design specification could be prepared by ULAS and agreed by the City Archaeologist in lieu of a 'Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation'.

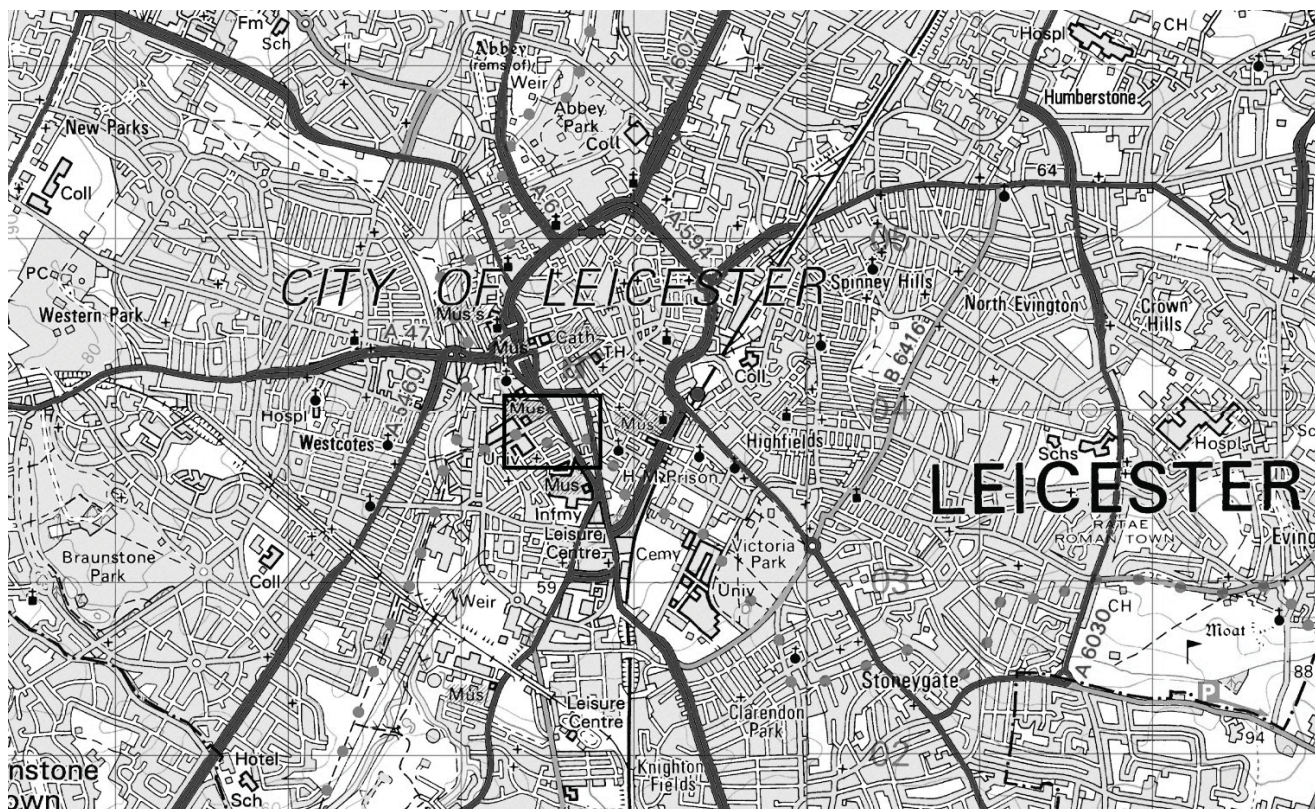


Fig. 1: Site location

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2.2 *Archaeological and Historical Background*

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

'The desk-based assessment for the proposed development at 72 Oxford Street, Leicester, has concluded that archaeological remains may exist within the application area. The proposed development site is located on the east side of Oxford Street between Carlton Street and York Street, Leicester (SK 5860 0390). Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the site have uncovered Roman, medieval and post-medieval remains, including evidence for Roman ribbon development along the Tripontium Road and Roman cemeteries, medieval suburban development, and extensive post-medieval suburban activity. Although parts of the proposed development area are likely to have been disturbed by the previous structures and their demolition and removal, there are likely to be pockets of undisturbed ground where archaeology may survive. Characterising the nature, extent and significance of such remains could only be achieved by intrusive investigations..' (George 2003)

2.2.2 Archaeological investigations have been undertaken on three sites to the west of the proposed development area, on Oxford Street and Grange Lane. A site on the north corner of Deacon Street and Grange Lane revealed a number of Roman features that suggest that evidence for Roman suburban occupation and activity is still present within the area and thus may be seen as quite likely to be present on this site. No evidence for burials was found.

2.2.3 Archaeological evaluation of a second site on Grange Lane revealed evidence for post-medieval and modern quarrying. These quarries would appear to have disturbed earlier archaeological deposits, suggested by the quantities of residual medieval and Roman pottery within the features.

2.2.4 A third site was evaluated between Oxford Street and Grange Lane, directly to the west of the proposed development area. Evidence for Roman and medieval activity was revealed. The earth fast remains of a post-mill (windmill) is also thought to have been revealed on this site.

2.3 *Present State of the Area*

2.3.1 A site visit was taken to the development area on 9th March 2004.

2.3.2 The site has been cleared of buildings and has now been mostly leveled with the resulting demolition material. Vegetation exists at the eastern extent of the site, and is said to be mostly undisturbed ground.

2.3.3 Serious disturbance to the ground surface has occurred at the Oxford Street frontage of the site, where a former cellar exists associated with the former Nags Head and Star pub. This is for the most part backfilled with building rubble, although its extents are visible. Any archaeological remains have most likely been previously destroyed in this area by the construction of the deep cellar.

2.3.4 Much of the northern and southern boundaries of the site previously had deep footings running along them that have since been removed. These are said to have been approximately 2m in depth.

2.3.5 It is thought very unlikely that any archaeological deposits will remain undisturbed within the areas of the known truncation, from evidence gleaned from sites within the vicinity. This will be confirmed during the evaluation.

3. **Archaeological Objectives**

- 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 excavate and record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

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

3.2 The following objectives are also suggested for the site:

- establishment of the form, function and chronology of any preserved archaeological remains, utilising all appropriate scientific and analytical techniques
- the recognition and investigation of activity and occupation areas
- recovery of paleo-environmental remains, including waterlogged deposits
- examination of evidence for settlement development within the hinterland around Leicester
- recovery of artefactual remains to assist in the development of local and regional type series

4. **Methodology**

4.1 *General Methodology and Standards*

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

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

- 4.1.3 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site by the project manager. These will ensure that project targets are met and professional standards are maintained. Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Planning authority and the Client, if required.
- 4.2 ***Trial Trenching Methodology***
- 4.2.1 A single trench is proposed to be excavated to evaluate the site area (see fig. 2). The location of the trench avoids the known areas of significant disturbance.
- 4.2.2 The City Archaeologist requires that a minimum 5% sample of the total development area needs to be evaluated by trial trench. The site area is *c.*375 sq m and thus a *c.*19 sq m minimum sample of the area is required. It is proposed to open up a trench measuring 1.5m in width and 15m in length, which will give a 22.5 sq m area (6% sample).
- 4.2.3 The trench will be excavated roughly aligned east-west across the rear part of the proposed development area. The trench is located to avoid the cellar on the Oxford Street frontage, and the areas of the deeper foundation along the northern and southern site edges. It is also suggested that the trench is placed on the southern side of the development area to avoid the known range that extended from the back of the former pub into the yard area in the northern half.
- 4.2.4 The exact locations of the trench may alter due to unforeseen constraints, underlying ground conditions and locations of services.
- 4.2.5 The present ground surfaces and underlying modern overburden will be removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the uppermost archaeological deposits by JCB 3C or equivalent using a toothless ditching bucket. The trench will be excavated to a width of 1.6m and down to the top of archaeological deposits.
- 4.2.6 The trench will be examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located will be planned at an appropriate scale and sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence. All plans will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Relative spot heights will be taken as appropriate.
- 4.2.7 Sections of any excavated archaeological features will be drawn at an appropriate scale. At least one longitudinal face of the trench will be recorded. All sections will be levelled and tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum, or a permanent fixed benchmark.
- 4.2.8 The location of the trench will be recorded using an electronic distance measurer. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 4.2.9 Any human remains will initially be left *in situ* and will only be removed if necessary for their protection, under a Home Office Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations.

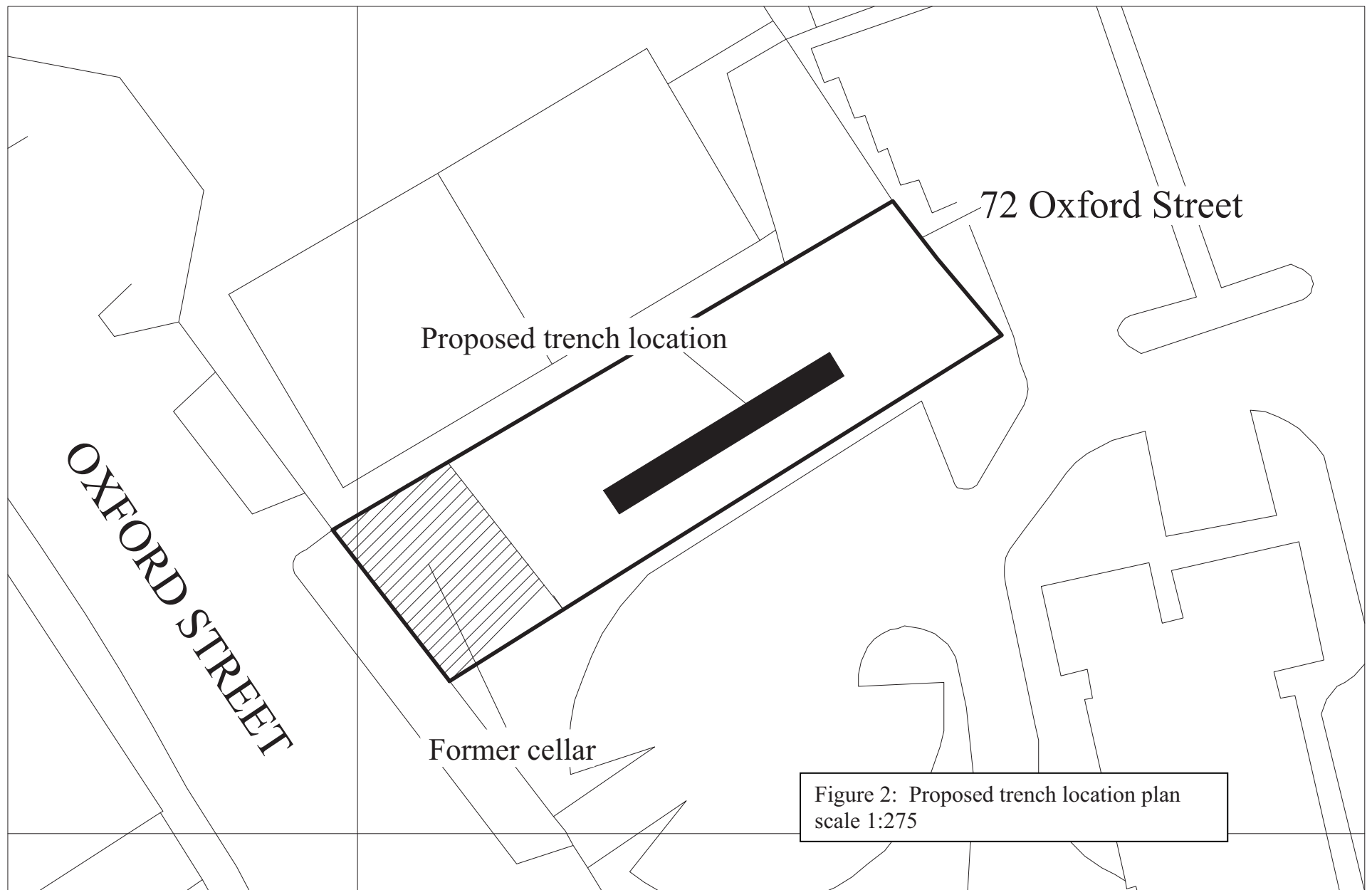


Figure 2: Proposed trench location plan
scale 1:275

4.3 **Recording Systems**

- 4.3.1 The ULAS recording manual will be used as a guide for all recording.
- 4.3.2 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto pro-forma recording sheets.
- 4.3.3 A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a trench plan at appropriate scale, which will show the location of the areas investigated in relationship to the investigation area and OS grid.
- 4.3.4 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made. Sections including the half-sections of individual layers of features will be drawn as necessary. The relative height of all principal strata and features will be recorded.
- 4.3.5 A photographic record of the investigations will be prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.
- 4.3.6 This record will be compiled and checked during the course of the excavations.

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 Leicester City Museums for storage in perpetuity.
- 5.3 Before commencing work on the site, an accession number to identify all finds and records from the site will be obtained from the City Archaeologist.
- 5.4 During the fieldwork, different sampling strategies may be employed according to the perceived importance of the strata under investigation. Close attention will always be given to sampling for date, structure and environment.
- 5.5 All identified finds and artefacts are to be retained, although certain classes of building material will, in some circumstances, be discarded after recording with the approval of the Planning Archaeologist. The IFA Guidelines for Finds Work will be adhered to.
- 5.6 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner. Where appropriate they will be cleaned, marked and receive remedial conservation in accordance with recognised best practice. This will include the site code number, finds number and context number. Bulk finds will be bagged in clear self sealing plastic bags, again marked with site code, finds and context numbers and boxed by material in standard storage boxes (340mm x 270mm x 195mm). All metal objects will be x-rayed and then selected for conservation. All materials will be fully labeled, catalogued and stored in appropriate containers.

6. **Report and Archive**

- 6.1 The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight to twelve weeks and copies will be dispatched to the Client (2 copies), Leicester City Museums (2 copies) and the planning authority (1 copy).
- 6.2 The report will include 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).
- 6.4 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 The field evaluation report will be submitted to Leicester City Museum for inclusion in the Sites and Monuments Record. A summary of the work will be submitted to 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 It is expected that the archaeological works would involve a total of 3 working days on site, not including the backfilling of the trenches. The work will involve the presence of two archaeologists on site for the duration of the works (excluding backfilling of the trenches).
- 10.2 No definite start date has been confirmed for the works, although it is anticipated to start during mid- March.
- 10.3 The evaluation report will be completed at the end of the evaluation. The on-site director/supervisor will carry out the post-excavation work, with time allocated within the costing of the project for specialist reports.

11. Health and Safety

- 11.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Archaeological Services Health and Safety Policy and Health and Safety manual with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is attached as Appendix 1. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate. The HSE has determined that archaeological investigations are exempt from CDM regulations.
- 11.2 A Risks assessment form will be completed prior to work commencing on-site, and updated as necessary during the site works.
- 11.3 The location of any services within the area is unknown at present. Information on the known location of any services will need to be supplied by the Client prior to the commencement of works on the site.
- 11.4 The site is currently well fenced and has lockable gates leading off Oxford Street.

12 Insurance

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

13. Monitoring arrangements

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

14. Contingencies and unforeseen circumstances

- 14.1 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the archaeological evaluation, ULAS shall inform the site agent/project manager, the City Archaeologist and Planning Authority and prepare a short written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the City Archaeologist, the Archaeological Contractor shall, if required, implement on behalf of the client a contingency scheme for emergency excavation of affected archaeological features.

15. Bibliography

- George, 2003 *An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment for the Proposed Development 72 Oxford Street, Leicester (SK 58600390)*, ULAS Report No. 2003-202
- MAP 2, The management of archaeological projects 2nd edition English Heritage 1991
- MGC 1992, Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections 1992 (Museums and Galleries Commission)
- RFG/FRG 1993, Guidelines for the preparation of site archives (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993)
- SMA 1993, Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 1993 (Society of Museum Archaeologists)

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APPENDIX 1

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement: 72 Oxford Street, Leicester

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

1. Nature of the work

- 1.1 The work will involve machine excavation by mechanical excavator during daylight hours to reveal underlying archaeological deposits. Overall depth is likely to be c.1 m with possible features excavated to a depth of another 1m. Trenches will not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m. Spoil will be stockpiled no less than 1.5 m from the edge of the excavation, the topsoil and subsoil being kept separate. Remaining works will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. Two members of staff will be used on the evaluation.

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 *Working on an excavation site.*

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

2.2 *Working with plant.*

Precautions. Archaeologists experienced in working with machines will supervise topsoil stripping at all times. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. Machine driver to be suitably qualified and insured. If services or wells are encountered machining will be halted until extent has been established by hand excavation or areas where it is safe to machine have been established.

2.3 *Working within areas prone to waterlogging.*

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

2.4 *Working with chemicals.*

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

2.5 *Services*

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

2.6 *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.