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Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Attendance and Recording (Watching Brief) on Land
To the Rear of 14 High Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire.
NGR: SP7324 87257**

Andrew Hyam



**ULAS Report No 2020-128
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Site Name: Land to the Rear of 14 High Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire

Grid Ref: SP7324 87257

Author: Andrew Hyam

Client: SIRA Buildings

Planning Ref: 19/01027/FUL

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OASIS RECORD

PROJECT DETAILS	Oasis No	universi1-507177		
	Project Name	An archaeological attendance and recording (watching brief) on land to the rear of 14 High Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire		
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	Project Type	Watching brief		
	Site Status	None		
	Current Land Use	Car park		
	Monument Type/Period	None		
	Significant Finds/Period	Post medieval		
	Reason for Investigation	NPPF		
	Position in the Planning Process	Ongoing		
	Planning Ref.	19/01027/FUL		
PROJECT LOCATION	County	Leicestershire		
	Site Address/Postcode	Land to the rear of 14 High Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire. LE16 7NJ		
	Study Area	790m ²		
	Site Coordinates	SP73242 87257		
	Height OD	80m aOD		
PROJECT CREATORS	Organisation	ULAS		
	Project Brief Originator	LCC		
	Project Design Originator	ULAS		
	Project Manager	John Thomas		
	Project Director/Supervisor	Andrew Hyam		
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An Archaeological Attendance and Recording (watching brief) on land to the rear of 14 High Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

NGR: SP 73242 87257

Andrew Hyam

Summary

This document is the fieldwork report for an archaeological attendance and recording (watching brief) carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) during the groundworks in advance of the construction of six houses on land to the rear of 14 High Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire (NGR: SP 73242 87257). The work was commissioned by SIRA Buildings in advance of the domestic development.

The work revealed an 11m long stone-built wall which is likely to belong to a former plot boundary wall. This dry-stone structure used a large quantity of dressed ferruginous limestone which appears to have been taken from an earlier mortar-bonded building. Close to the northern end of the boundary wall were the remains of the corner of a well-built building which may have been the source of stone for the boundary wall. It is possible that the corner belonged to a stable as there are a number of other similar structures within the back yard plots facing onto High Street. Much of the remainder of the site had been heavily disturbed in the recent past making accurate dating difficult. Finds recovered from within the boundary wall include pottery from between the 16th and 19th centuries along with clay pipe fragments from the 18th century. Other unstratified finds from the site include a number of clay pipe stems and bowls from the 18th century.

Towards the southern end of the site the disturbance lessened. Deposits in this area changed from modern disturbance to tree root disturbance and to expose remnants of surviving subsoil which may suggest that this part of the site was used for orchards or small paddocks.

The archive for the work will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums under accession number X.A38.2020.

Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by SIRA Buildings to carry out an archaeological attendance and recording (watching brief) on land to the rear of 14 High Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire (NGR: SP73242 87257). Under planning application 19/01027/FUL it is intended to construct six domestic dwellings on the site of a current car park.

The fieldwork was carried out between the 4th and 18th of August 2020 and was undertaken as part of a programme of archaeological work required by the Planning Authority following

advice from the Senior Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, MHCLG 2018).

The archaeological attendance and recording (watching brief) work was intended to provide a record of any archaeological remains in mitigation of the impact of the proposed development and followed on from an archaeological trial trench evaluation.

At the time of the watching brief, the site formed the car park belonging to Mistry's Pharmacy at 14 High Street, Market Harborough. The proposed development will consist of a continuous row of six two-storey dwellings.

Location and Geology

Market Harborough is located close to the county boundaries between Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. The market town is approximately 15 miles to the south-east of Leicester and a similar distance to the north of Northampton (Fig. 1). The development site lies to the rear of 14 High Street (Mistry's Pharmacy) and is accessed via Hind Yard. It is within the historic settlement core of Market Harborough. At the time of the watching brief the site consisted of a rectangular plot with no structures and little vegetation present. A small open trench had been left open from the earlier trial trench evaluation and is discussed below.

Although the development site lies to the west of High Street access from High Street is only via a pedestrian route through the pharmacy. Road access to the site is from Hind Yard which links a number of rear plots behind the properties fronting onto High Street (Fig. 2). The site is generally flat and is slightly higher than the two adjacent parking areas to the east and west. The parking area to the south and south-west of the site is up to 1m lower than the development plot suggesting that the site has been levelled and, possibly, raised. Within the development site most of the area is covered in tarmac although along the southern boundary a small grassed area is present which, until April contained a partially cut-down tree trunk. The ground level in the centre of the site is approximately 80m aOD. The development proposal is to construct a single building containing six dwellings with associated access and services (Fig. 3).

The British Geological Survey website identifies the bedrock geology of the area as likely to consist of Charmouth Formation Mudstone overlain with alluvium.

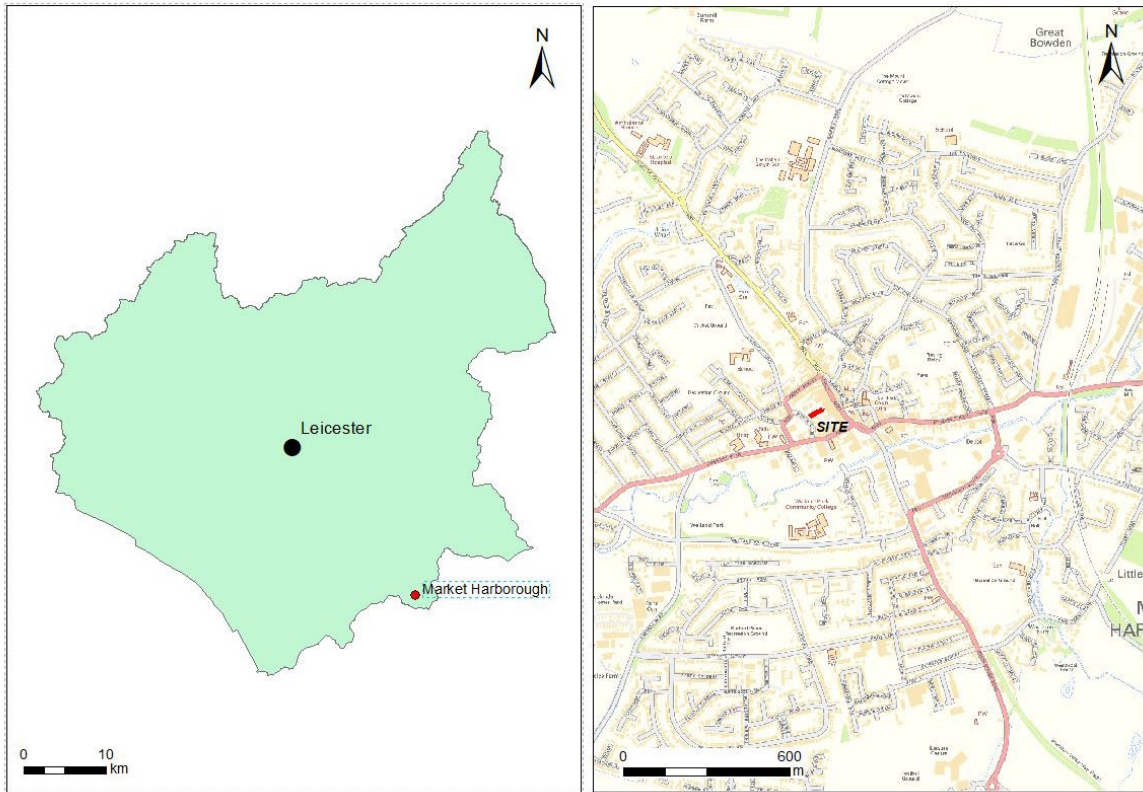


Figure 1 Site Location.

Site highlighted

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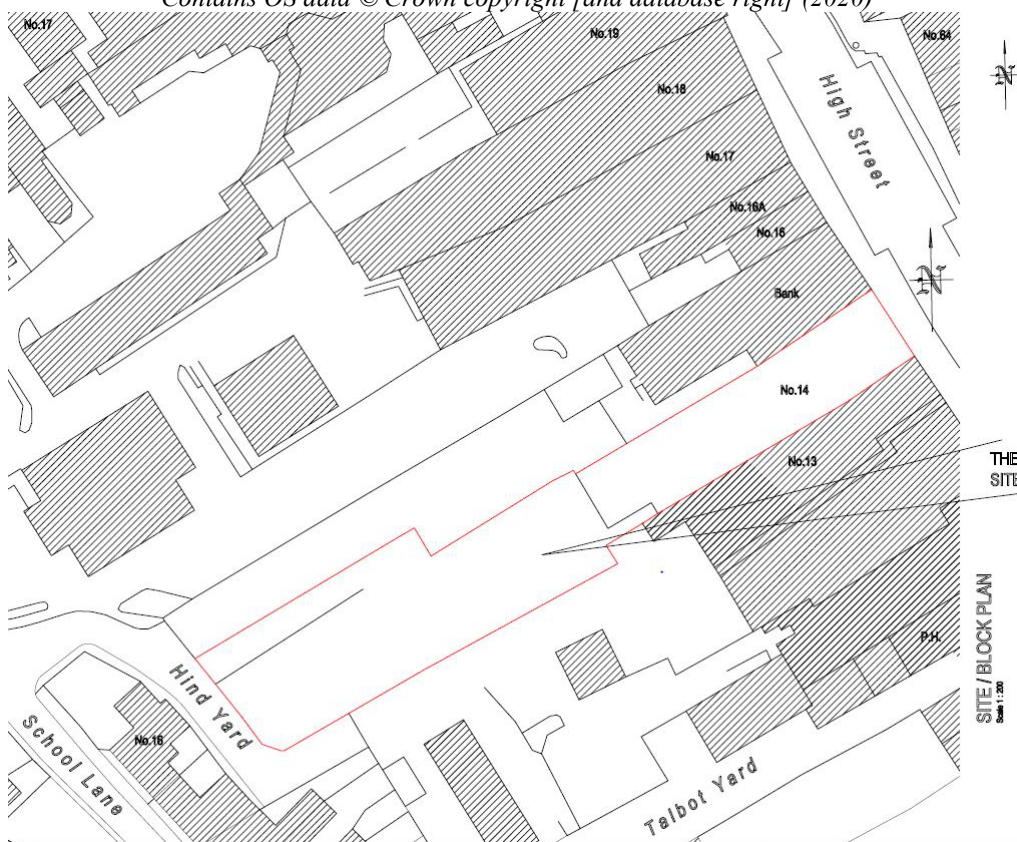


Figure 2 Plan of proposed development area

Site highlighted with red line. Plan provided by client



Figure 3 Proposed development
Plan provided by Client

Historical and Archaeological Background

An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment was prepared for the site in 2019 by Albion Archaeology and updated in early 2020 by ULAS both of which identify the site as being located within an area of potential archaeological interest. Prior to the evaluation in April 2020 no archaeological work had taken place within the boundaries of the development site although nearby a small evaluation on land to the rear of 13 High Street by ULAS in 2016 found that that the ground in this part of Hind Yard had been heavily disturbed.

A three-trench evaluation was undertaken on the site in April 2020 (Hyam, 2020) which identified a possible plot boundary wall running across the site (Figs 4 and 5). To the west of the wall remnants of a possible cobbled surface were noted. The site had been heavily disturbed towards the north-eastern end of the area but a possible robbed wall with modern brick infill was identified. Very few securely located finds were recovered during this initial work although a tentative post medieval date was suggested.

The High Street passing through the town was a main route to and from London and the town was a popular stopping off point for coaches which were served by numerous coaching inns. The nearest of these to the proposed development site is the Talbot Hotel (MLE14799) which is now a restaurant. The earliest visible phase of the building is the C18th façade on the High

Street, although it may contain fragments of an earlier building. Nearby are other buildings associated with the Talbot Hotel on Bindleys Yard (**MLE19837**; Hunt & Coward 2008, 2011, Richards 2009) comprising an early 19th century structure that had a carriage arch on its north side opening into Talbot Yard to the north-west of the site. A large two-storey coach house was constructed to the north-west in the mid-late 19th century. Another 18th century building in Talbot Yard (**MLE16928**) probably formed part of the stable block (Hyam 2008). Overall the general nature of the locality behind High Street appeared to be characterised by the presence of stable blocks and coach houses located to the rear of buildings forming the street frontage onto this important part of Market Harborough.

Historic mapping evidence indicates that the site has remained relatively undeveloped since at least the 18th century. The earliest available map of the site is the Samuel Turner/ Rowland Rouse map of the town published in 1776 (Fig. 6). The street frontage is shown as being built-up but there is no other useful detail as it simply shows the development as a ribbon of buildings. The current car park area belonging to Number 14 is shown as part of a plot to the rear of this development. There are two small rectangular features shown which possibly represent outbuildings. It is difficult to state what these may have been but may well have been associated with horse stables and, hence, the coaching business. A line, possibly indicating a hedge or other physical boundary runs around the site. The present development boundary lies slightly to the south of the boundary shown on this map making it possible that the length of wall found during the evaluation sits on this line.

The next available map was published by John Wood in 1839 and shows an outbuilding in the north-west of the site running across the site which seems to be larger than that shown on the 1776 map and may be a new structure (Fig. 7). As with Figure 5 the current development southern site boundary lies to the south of the boundary plot shown on this map. The Tithe map of the area published in 1853 also shows this larger outbuilding.

Subsequent maps, including the First Edition Ordnance Survey map published in 1886, all show an empty site showing that the earlier outbuildings had all been cleared away by this date (Fig. 8). Some maps suggest that this plot and other nearby plots were in use as orchards. A curious curving line is shown on the map which runs across the site but it is not clear what this actually is. The maps do not make it clear when the south-eastern site boundary was extended to create a slightly larger plot. Little changes can be seen on any of the later Ordnance Survey maps.



Figure 4 Evaluation Trench 2
 Looking north-east. Trench 2 in foreground with wall arrowed
 Note lower ground level of land to the right. Trench 1 beyond Trench 2

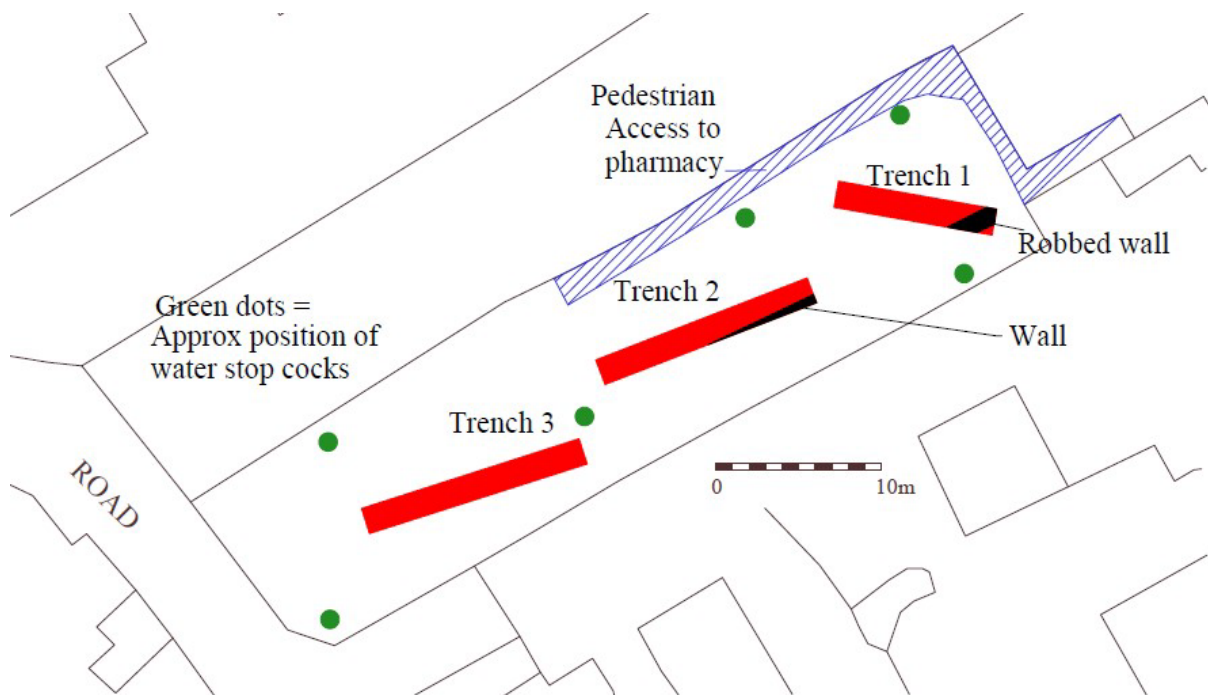


Figure 5 Results of April 2020 evaluation
 From ULAS Report 2020-066
 Subsequent investigation by the client identified that what were thought to be inter-connected
 mains water stop cocks were in fact ground water monitoring points.

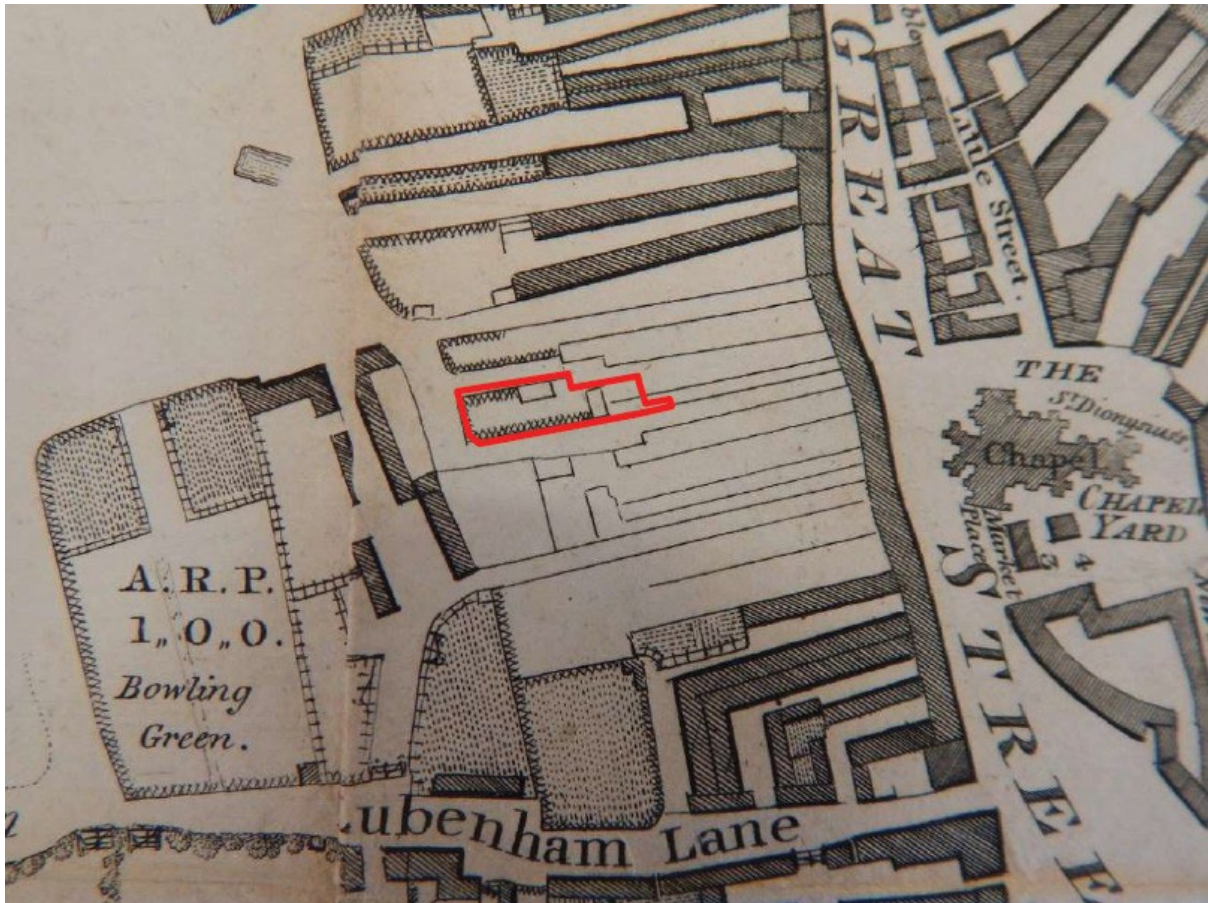


Figure 6 Detail from the 1776 Turner/Rouse map
Approximate location of development site highlighted

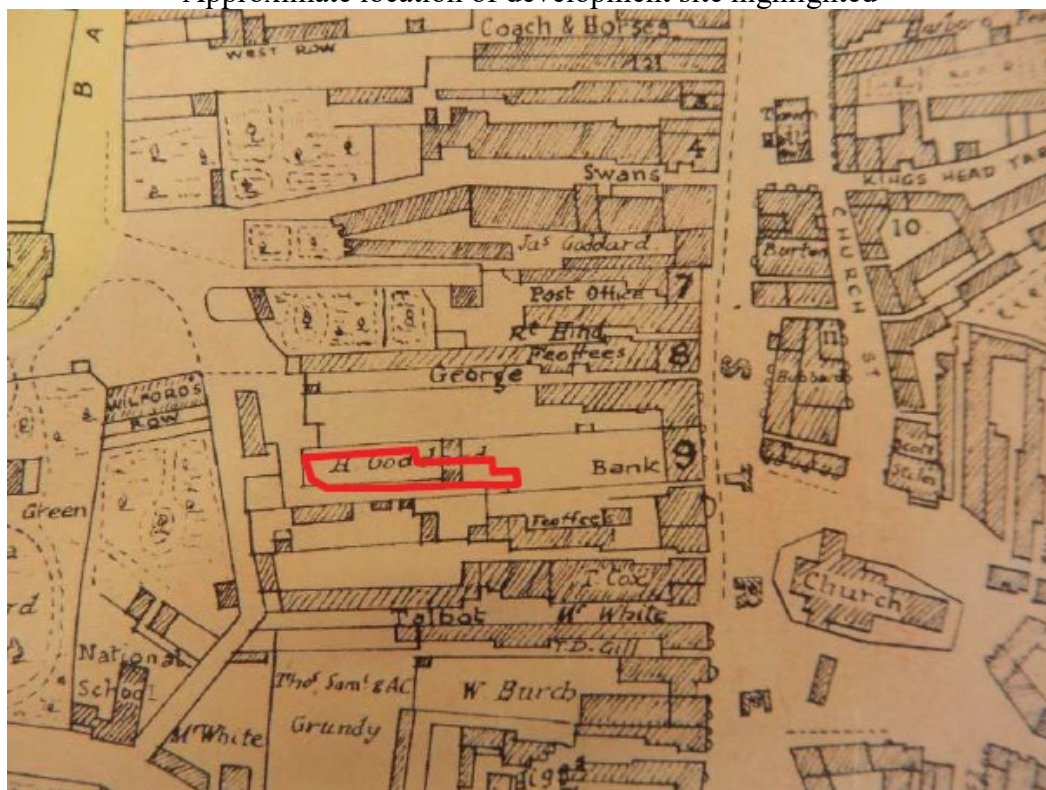


Figure 7 Detail from John Wood's 1839 map
Approximate site location highlighted. Note boundary along southern edge of site



Figure 8 Detail from the First Edition Ordnance Survey map Sheet L.8. Original scale 25 inches to 1 mile. Site boundary highlighted

Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation were as laid out in the ULAS *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Attendance and Recording During Groundworks: Land to the Rear of 14 High Street, Market Harborough, Leicestershire* (the WSI) and can be summarised as:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- To establish the character, extent and date range and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits.
- To record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological deposits and features encountered.
- To record any archaeological deposits and produce an archive and report of any results.

Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the recording was to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, and significance of the heritage assets within their local and regional context.

Following on from the trial trench evaluation it was hoped to:

- To expose the limits of the wall found in the evaluation along with its form and function
- To identify the extent of the robbed wall indicated in the evaluation
- To establish the limits of a possible cobbled surface found close to the boundary wall
- To establish a date of the features found

Research Objectives

Although some of extent and quality of archaeological remains within the areas of investigation for the project were known, it was possible to determine some initial objectives derived from East Midlands Heritage research agenda (Cooper 2006, Knight et al. 2012). The site's location just inside the historic town suggested that there was a high potential for archaeological deposits from the medieval period onwards.

The evaluation had the potential to contribute to Research Agenda topics 7.1.2, 7.1.4, 7.2.1-7.2.4, 7.3.1-7.3.5, 7.5.4, 7.6.1-2, 7.7.1-7.7.5 and Research Objectives:

7A - Undertake syntheses of urban and suburban excavation, survey and documentary data

7C - Investigate provisioning of the medieval town

7E - Investigate the morphology of rural settlements

7J - Research the regional communications infrastructure

These research aims were identified based on the current state of knowledge within the area of the scheme. The research aims were continually reassessed and updated during the course of the fieldwork.

Methodology

All work followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (rev. 2014a) in accordance with their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (rev. 2014b). The archaeological work followed the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by ULAS and agreed with the Leicestershire County Council Planning Archaeologist. The work was monitored by the Leicestershire County Council Planning Archaeologist although due to the movement restrictions caused by the current Coronavirus contact with the Planning Archaeologist was by telephone, email and site photographs.

The archaeological watching brief entailed the controlled strip, map and planning of the area around the wall exposed during the April evaluation. Overburden was carefully removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological observation and control. Once the limits of the wall, and other features, had been exposed and fully recorded site constraints meant that it had to be backfilled before the foundation trenches could be excavated.

Foundation trenches measuring between 0.7 and 0.8m wide and up to 1.7m in depth were then excavated and examined prior to concreting. Significant space constraints were such that Plot

6 and 5, at the northern end of the site, were excavated and concreted first. This was followed by Plot 4 and 3, then Plot 2 and finally Plot 1.

The open excavation and the excavation of the foundation trenches was carried out using a mechanical excavator supplied by the client. All of the excavated spoil was inspected for archaeological artefacts.

An accession number (X.A38.2020) was obtained prior to commencement of the project and used to identify all records.

Results

As noted above, the evaluation in April 2020 revealed a stone-built wall (context (5)) running away from the High Street frontage towards the rear of the property plot. The tentative conclusion of this work indicated that this wall appeared to form a boundary wall similar to a number of similar boundaries found within this part of Market Harborough. Pottery recovered from the possible surface at the side of the wall suggested a probable post-medieval date. Towards the northern end of the site a significant level of modern disturbance was encountered although the possible line of a robbed wall, backfilled with loose brick rubble, was noted on a similar alignment to wall (5). Most of the three trenches had been backfilled but the area around wall (5) had been left open since April.



Figure 9 Site prior to excavation

Looking south-west. A small length of Trench 2 was left open (to right of excavator) from the evaluation phase

The Open Area Excavation

For this stage of archaeological work a larger open area around wall (5) was excavated in order to determine the extent and form of wall (5). Before any excavation took place all of the surface tarmac was stripped off and removed from site (Fig. 9). This exposed a layer of approximately 0.4m of car park bedding stone across the site.

Under constant archaeological supervision the deposits in the area around wall (5) were excavated in level spits. Once the modern tarmac bedding layer had been removed a mid-yellow brown disturbed sandy silty clay layer (7), which contained numerous bricks, pieces of concrete, stones, ash and other materials, was exposed. This layer was also seen in the evaluation trenches and, as observed during that work, many of the bricks were of 20th century manufacture date. Concentrated areas of building rubble, burnt rubbish and other modern materials were seen throughout layer (7). Removal of this layer exposed the entire surviving 11.2m length of wall (5) (Fig. 10 and Figs 11 to 15). At its southern end the wall stones gradually diminished before finishing completely. This gave the impression of either collapse or the deliberate robbing of stone rather than being a constructed end of the structure. Around this point in the wall the surrounding modern disturbance (7) decreased in depth leaving approximately 0.3m of undisturbed subsoil (3) giving the impression, as discussed in the evaluation, of a change from backyard activity to a paddock or orchard area. The base of the wall appeared to have been cut [6] into the subsoil but did not extend down as far as the natural substratum which may suggest that it was not built as a wall requiring strong footings. At the northern end of wall (5), despite some collapse and robbing, the wall had a clear and definite ending and had parts of a small stone trough used to create a squared end. The trough fragments support the idea that the wall (5) was constructed using second-hand stone from another demolished structure.

As already observed during the evaluation a large number of dressed facing stones on the west facing side of wall (5) were still in place. It was suggested during the evaluation that the wall may have been built using re-used stone. Such good quality stone also suggests that the building they had been re-used from must have been reasonably well built with some care taken in the use and selection of stone (Fig. 16). Traces of mortar could still be seen on some of the stones which must have come from the earlier building as wall (5) had been constructed as a dry-stone structure. On the east facing side much of wall (5) the face had been severely affected by tree root activity resulting in the loss of most facing stones. An area of very modern activity also cut across the wall which contained, among other things, a number of Co-Op milk bottles and part of a toilet.

On the north-eastern side of wall (5) the modern mixed deposit layer (7) extended down onto the undisturbed natural substratum. The only exception being where the very modern activity and disturbance cut through (7) and into the natural. To the south of the modern activity layer (7) sat above a disturbed area of tree root activity which still contained a number of thick roots. As already noted, the southern end of the wall a thin layer of subsoil (3) was observed beneath disturbed layer (7) which suggests that modern activity has cut through much of the overlying layers and has also truncated the subsoil layer.

The possible stoned surface (4) on the western side of wall (5) was re-exposed during this phase and the area around it opened further. Unfortunately the surface ended almost exactly where the edge of evaluation Trench 2 was and the surface did not extend any further. Removal of the surface (4) exposed more subsoil (3) beneath which was the undisturbed natural substratum.

Approximately 0.6m to the north-east of the end of wall (5) was the well-built base of the corner of a stone-built building (10) (Figs 10 and 16). This corner was constructed from similar ferruginous limestone as in wall (5) but in this case the stones were bonded with lime mortar (Figs 17 and 18). Only the lower two or three courses of stone survived with the upper truncated surface being very smooth and level. This may be a result of careful demolition or, perhaps, partial demolition with a view to re-use the base of the wall. The eastern end of this corner extended towards the site boundary into the baulk and beyond the limit of disturbance which will be caused by the proposed development. At the north-western arm of the corner wall the stonework stopped in a very rough end indicating that the stone had been robbed away beyond this point. The deposits around wall (10) were very disturbed and continued down onto the natural substratum which was at the level of the base of (10) and no construction cut could be seen. These mixed deposits were of probable 20th century origin as there was a large amount of 20th century brick present. The open area around wall (10) was extended northwards until the area of loose brick rubble seen in evaluation Trench 1 was encountered. Projecting the line of wall (10) put it in line with the robbed wall seen in Trench 1. However, as no physical wall remains were found in Trench 1, the evaluation robbed wall may be of different date and origin to wall (10). The gap between walls (5) and (10) appeared to be a deliberate gap as both walls were complete at this point with no evidence of a joint or junction between the two. The gap would be large enough for a narrow gate to be fitted at this point.

A small gully [12](13) running from the wall into the loose brick disturbance was seen within the corner of wall (10). It had a width of 0.36m and a similar depth from which a number of clay pipe stems and a mid-18th century clay pipe bowl were recovered. Unfortunately a length of modern electrical wire was also found within the fill (13) and at the base of the gully. The finds however do possibly give an indication of the date of activity around this part of the site.

Once the open area had been recovered space constraints meant that it had to be backfilled in order for the new foundation trenches to be excavated.

The Foundation Trenches

Inter-connecting foundation trenches measuring between 0.7 and 0.8m wide and up to 1.7m in depth were excavated for each of the proposed six houses (the house plot numbers are shown in Figure 19). The plot foundations were excavated from north to south in pairs except for Plots 2 and 1 which were dug individually, again due to space constraints. After each pair of foundations had been dug they were then concreted so that no more than two plots were open at any one time. The ground across the whole of the site was very loose even in the areas which had already been disturbed by the evaluation trenches and the open area strip. The loose nature of the area may suggest that the ground had been disturbed relatively recently.

The north-eastern corner of Plot 6 encountered the loose area of brick and robbed wall which had been seen in Evaluation Trench 1 (Fig. 20). A glazed ceramic drain pipe was seen running from the pharmacy buildings into the loose area of brick rubble suggesting that the bricks may have been dumped there to act as a rainwater soakaway in the relatively recent past. The eastern side of Plots 6 and 5 were roughly on the same alignment that wall (10) should have taken but no trace was seen which indicates that it had probably been thoroughly robbed out. The foundation trench for the southern side of Plot 5 did not contain any stonework which showed

that wall (10) did not extend northwards across the site. Modern disturbed deposits were seen throughout these two plots extending down to the natural substratum at around 1.4m below current ground level. No other features were seen in any of these two plots.

The foundation trenches for Plots 4 and 3 cut across the line of wall (5). The excavation of these trenches was carefully monitored in order to see if the possible surface (4) extended beyond the open area strip. Nothing more of the surface was seen and the modern disturbance extended down to the natural substratum at around 1.5m below current ground level. The only exception to this was seen at the trench between Plots 4 and 3 where a thin layer of subsoil was seen beneath the modern disturbance and the undisturbed natural substratum. At its thickest only a layer of approximately 0.2m of subsoil was observed suggesting that a significant level of truncation had taken place. The depth of subsoil increased slightly from north-east to south-west across the two plots.

The depth of subsoil increased even more in Plot 2 and Plot 1 foundation trenches up to a maximum thickness of around 0.3m (Fig. 21). Modern disturbed deposits were still seen above the subsoil and no trace of wall (5) was seen beyond the point already recorded. The subsoil appeared to be quite clean and no stones, which may have come from wall (5), were seen.

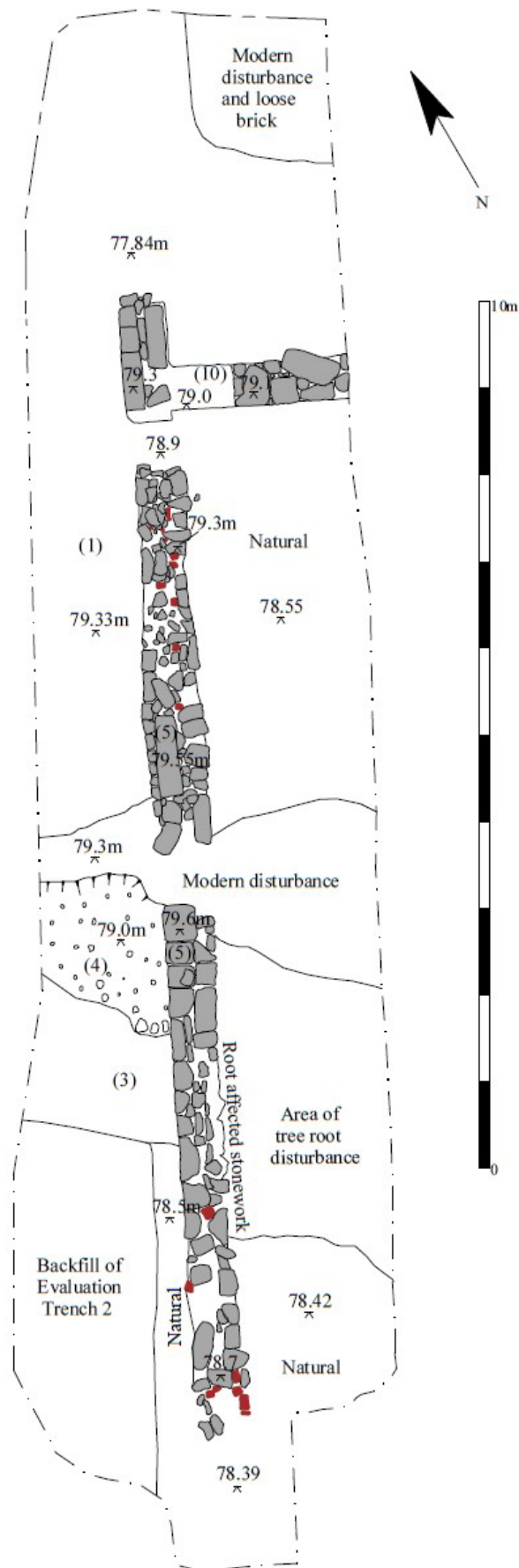


Figure 10 Plan of excavated area around wall (5)



Figure 11 Entire length of wall (5) from southern end



Figure 12 West facing side of wall (5) from southern end



Figure 13 East facing side of wall (5) from southern end



Figure 14 East facing side of wall (5) from northern end



Figure 15 West facing side of wall (5) from northern end
Surface (4) on right side of wall has yet to be removed

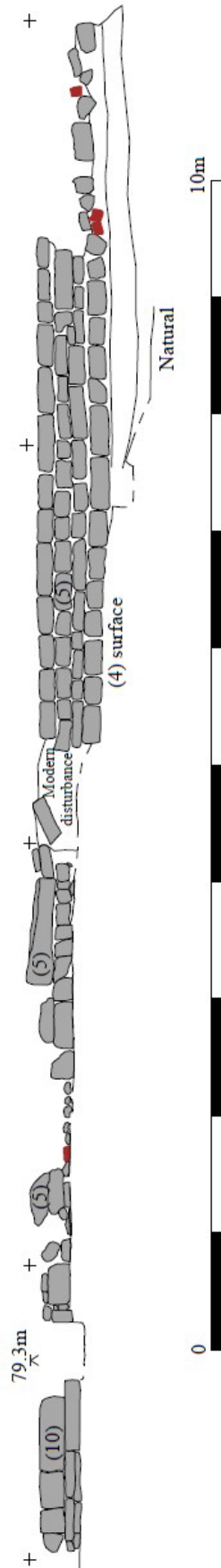


Figure 16 West facing elevation of wall (5)



Figure 17 Wall (10)
Looking north-east. Wall (5) lower left of picture. The gully [12] was modern



Figure 18 Wall (10)
Looking west. Wall (5) top left

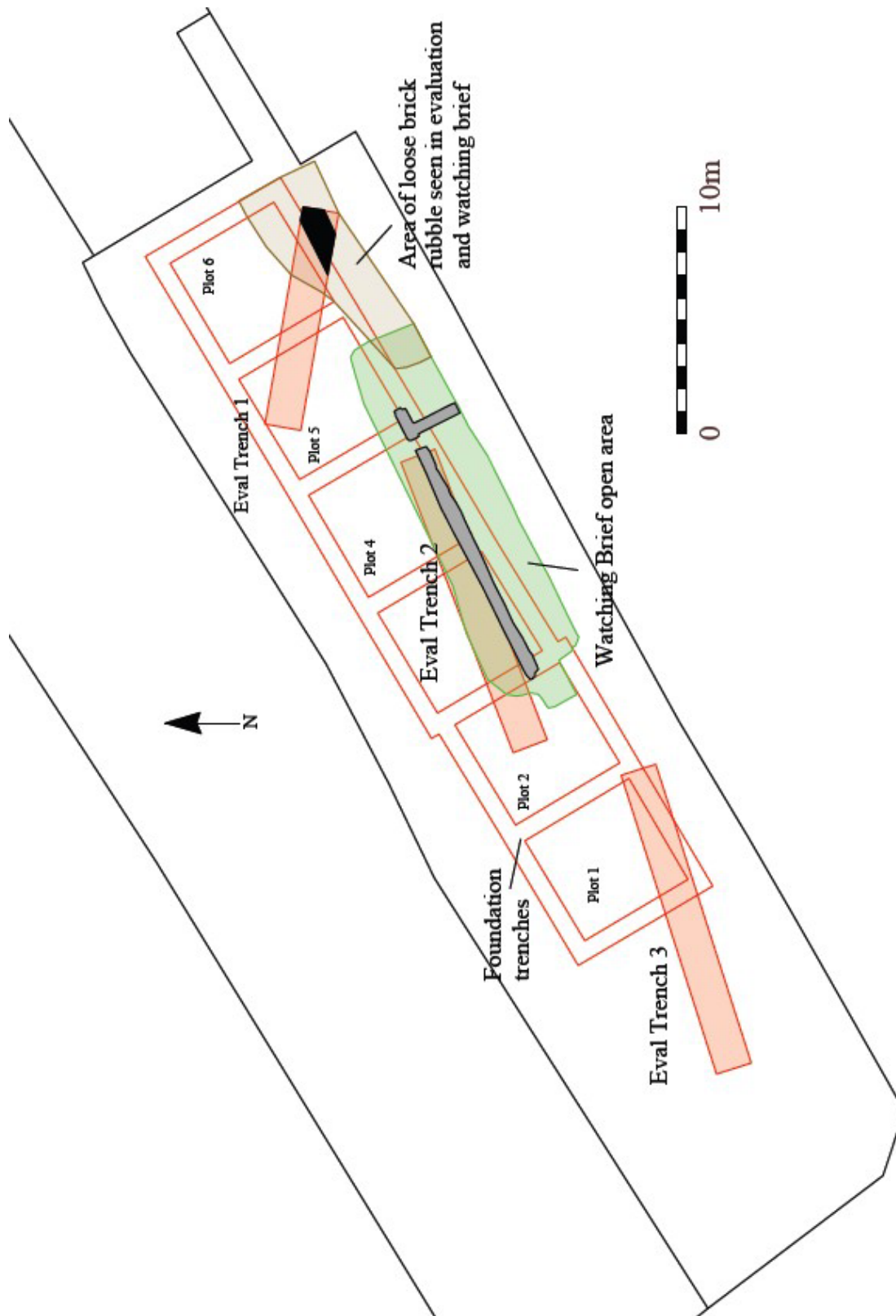


Figure 19 Site plan with open area and foundation trenches
 Evaluation trenches shown in shaded red. Open area around walls in green and building plot
 foundation trenches shown in red



Figure 20 Plot 6 foundation trench, NE corner
Looking north-east. Note drain pipe running along right hand side of trench



Figure 21 Foundation wall between Plots 4 and 5
Looking north-west. The base of wall (10) is just beyond the lip of the trench in the foreground



Figure 22 Plot 2 foundation trench
Looking east. Note the presence of subsoil in this trench. Plot 1 is yet to be excavated on the right of the picture



Figure 23 Concreted foundation trenches
Looking south-west

Post-medieval pottery and clay tobacco pipe

Nicholas J. Cooper

Introduction

Two sherds of post-medieval pottery and two clay pipe bowls and 11 stem fragments were recovered from two contexts during the watching brief. The pottery was analysed by form and fabric in accordance with national guidelines (Barclay *et al.* 2016), using the Leicestershire County Museums post-Roman pottery fabric series Davies and Sawday 1999, 166) and quantified by sherd count and weight (g). The clay pipes were identified in accordance with Oswald (1975).

Analysis

The cleaning of material from boundary wall [5] yielded two sherds of post-medieval earthenware (Fabric EA1), including the rim of a pancheon, dating between the 16th and 19th century. From the same context came a pipe bowl and five pipe stem fragments (Fig. 24). The small size of the pipe bowl, its shape, and the simple rouletted decoration below the rim, suggest a later 17th century date (*c.* 1660-1680) (Oswald 1975, fig.3, G, no.6).



Figure 24 Pottery and tobacco pipes from cleaning wall (5)

The Gully [12] (13) contained another pipe bowl and six stem fragments (Fig. 25). The shape of the bowl suggests a date in the 18th century *c.*1730-80 (Oswald 1975, fig 3, G, no.12). Note that this feature also contained very modern materials so that these finds are effectively unstratified.



Figure 25 Tobacco pipes from gully [12]

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Conclusion

The results of the open area strip and foundation trench excavation tend to confirm the results from the earlier evaluation. The long wall (5) appears to be a dry-stone construction made from re-used faced blocks taken from an earlier building. It has a definite end at its northern end closest to the High Street buildings but has collapsed, or been robbed, at its southern end. The remnants of the foundation cut for the wall were still within the subsoil which again suggests that it was a fairly lightweight construction and consistent with a plot boundary wall. Although stone structures are extremely hard to date the material from within the fill of the wall indicate that it was covered over with deposits containing finds from the 16th to 19th centuries which in turn suggests that it may have been in use until the 19th century. The tree roots damage on the eastern side of the wall is quite extensive and must have taken place after it was buried. Such damage would have taken quite some time and may be further evidence of burial in the 19th century with orchard activity taking place soon after. The fragments of a stone trough incorporated into the end of wall (5) again show that re-used materials were used to build this structure. The trough, which is too shallow to be a coffin, might indicate that animals, perhaps

horses, were watered and that the trough may have come from a nearby stable of which there are many in this area.

The possible surface (4) seen in the evaluation only survived in a small patch against wall (5) with no evidence of it surviving anywhere else. The limited results from the evaluation gave this surface a probable post medieval date. It is possible that this may be of the same, or similar, date to when wall (5) was built.

The corner wall (10) is of a much higher quality than wall (5) and has footings which sit on the firm natural substratum. The use of mortar also indicates that the building was of a higher status. Once again there is no direct dating evidence for this building. As only three courses survive it is not known if the building had stone foundations or was brick on top of stone. Most of the surrounding stable buildings are brick-built which could suggest that this building used similar materials. Alternatively, it is possible that the building was stone-built and was demolished with the stone being re-used to build boundary wall (5). The two structures do appear to respect each other as shown by the gap between the two. This building may be one of those shown on the early maps of the area.

Modern disturbance, most of which appears to be of 20th century origin, appears to have caused significant truncation and disturbance across most of the site. The greatest disturbance has occurred closest to the rear of the High Street buildings with this activity decreasing towards the south-eastern end of the site. The remnant of subsoil and tree root activity seen during this work and during the evaluation also suggests that this area may have been an area of rather more rural or agricultural activity such as an orchard or paddock.

Archive and publication

The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums with accession number X.A38.2020 and consists of the following:

- 1 Unbound copy of the watching brief report (ULAS Report No. 2020-066)
- 1 Unbound copy of this report (ULAS Report 2020-128)
- 3 Trench recording sheets from the evaluation
- 13 context sheets
- Context register
- 7 Watching brief record sheets
- 3 Drawing sheets
- 3 Photo Record sheet (1 from the evaluation, 2 from the watching brief)
- 5 Contact sheet of digital photographs (1 from evaluation, 5 from the watching brief)
- 1 DVD digital photographs

Since 2004 ULAS has reported the results of all archaeological work through the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) database held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York.

A summary of the work will also be submitted for publication in a suitable regional archaeological journal in due course.

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ULAS would like to thank Mr Sandeep Sira for assistance during the excavation work and the rest of the watching brief. Andrew Hyam carried out the fieldwork for ULAS and the project was managed by John Thomas. The excavator was provided by the client.

Site Visits

04.08.2020	Full day on site
05.08.2020	Full day on site
06.08.2020	Full day on site
11.08.2020	½ day
12.08.2020	½ day
14.08.2020	½ day
18.08.2020	½ day

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Appendix 1 Context Index

Context	Cut	Below	Area	Description
(1)		Tarmac	Trench 2	Mixed overburden
(2)		(7)	Trench 2	Topsoilish material
(3)		(2)	Trench 2	Subsoil
(4)		(7)	Trench 2	Stoney surface
(5)	[6]	(7)	Trench 2	NE-SW stone wall
[6]		(5)	Trench 2	Cut for (5)
(7)		(1)	Trench 1	Mixed deposit across site
(8)		(1)	Trench 1	Brick rubble
[9]		(1)	Trench 1	Cut for possible robbed wall
(10)	[11]	(7)	Open area	“corner” wall
[11]		(10)	Open area	Cut for wall (10) – not seen
[12]		(13)	Open area	Gulley cut - modern
(13)	[12]	(7)	Open area	Gully fill - modern



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