

**An Archaeological Watching Brief
during ground-works at
13, Burrough End, Great Dalby,
Leicestershire
(SK 744 141)**

Leon Hunt

for

Louise Allen

Planning Application No: 07/00709/FUL

Checked by Project Manager

Signed:



Date: 13 November 2008

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An Archaeological Watching Brief during ground-works at 13, Burrough End, Great Dalby, Leicestershire (SK 744 141)

Leon Hunt

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by ULAS during ground-works for a new dwelling at 13, Burrough End, Great Dalby, Leicestershire (SK 744 141). The site lies in the medieval core of Great Dalby and close to the site of a demolished 16th-17th century building.

The watching brief consisted of the observation of the excavation of foundation trenches and spoil heaps on the site. No archaeological features or finds associated with archaeological features were discovered during the watching brief.

The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council with accession number X.A151.2008.

Introduction

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) for Louise Allen during ground-works associated with a new dwelling at 13, Burrough End, Great Dalby, Leicestershire (NGR SK 744 141).



Figure 1: Site Location 1: 25 000 ©Crown Copyright. Licence No. 100021186

The archaeological work involved archaeological attendance for inspection and recording during ground-works in order to identify any deposits of archaeological importance. The watching brief followed a system of work laid out in the *Design Specification for Archaeological Work* for the site produced by ULAS (Appendix).

The site is located in the medieval and post-medieval core of the village of Great Dalby (MLE 5943) and adjacent to the site of a demolished listed building (MLE 11694), a brick cottage with thatched roof, dated to the 16th-17th century.

Location and Geology

The site is situated on the northern side of Burrough End, which lies at the southern edge of Great Dalby village in the parish of Burton and Dalby, Melton Borough, Leicestershire (Figure 1).

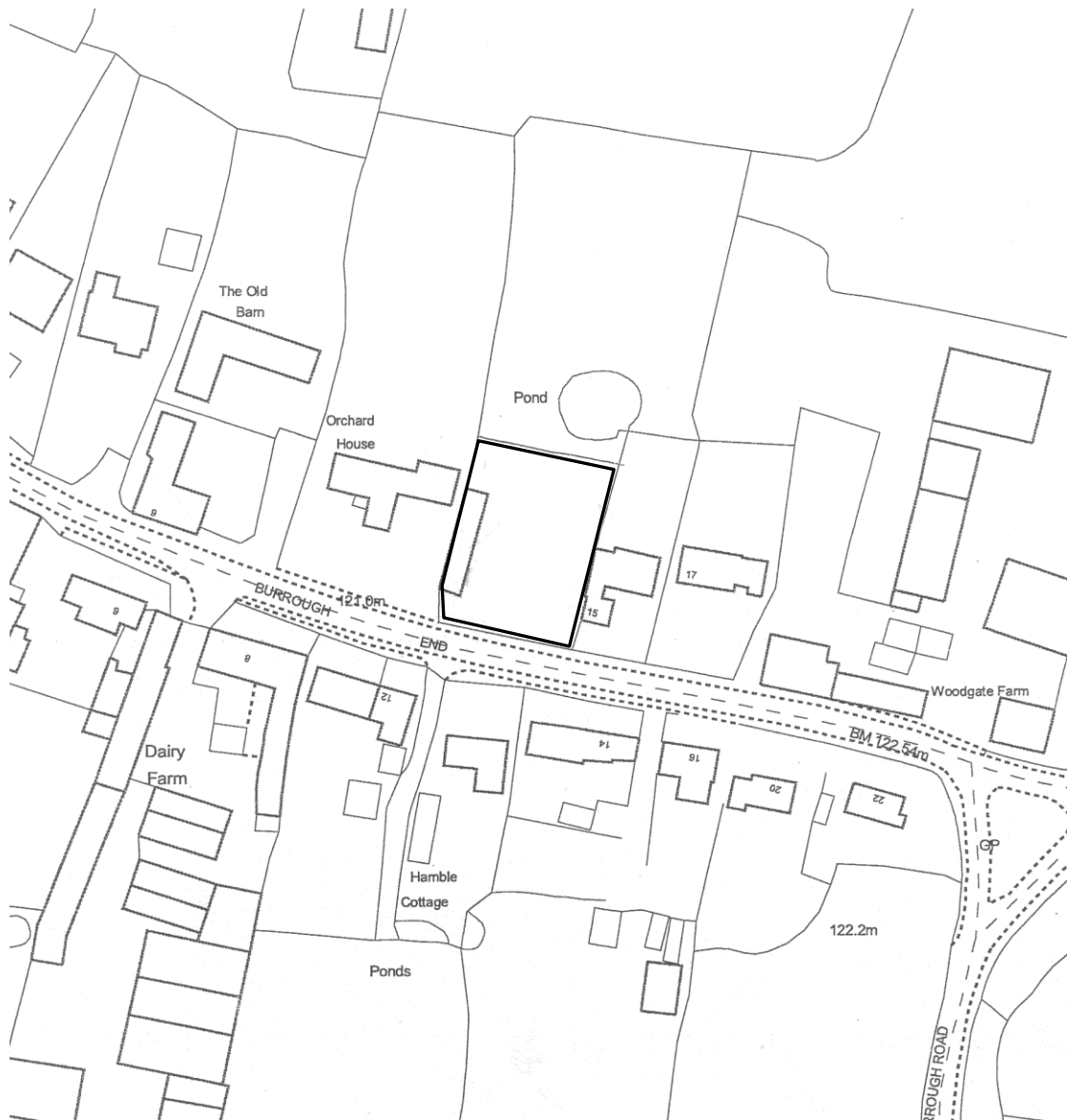


Figure 2: Plan of the site at 13, Burrough End. Scale 1: 1250

The site lies at an approximate height of 120m OD and the land falls slightly from the south to the north.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 142 (Melton Mowbray) indicates that the underlying geology is likely to be Glacial Till.

The site consists of a rectangle of land covering 875 square metres (Figure 2).

Aims and Methods

The purpose of the watching brief was to ascertain whether archaeological deposits were present. If so, the character, extent and date range of any deposits identified would be established, in order to assess their significance. Recording of these deposits would be carried out as appropriate, and an archive and this report produced. The work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs, and adhered to the University's Health and Safety policy.

The site was visited on the 3rd November 2008 and ground-works associated with the excavation of foundation trenches for the new dwelling were observed. The spoil heaps were checked for archaeological finds.

The foundation trenches were excavated by a JCB backactor under the supervision of a banksman.

Results

The site had been stripped of grass and trees prior to the visit of 03/11/08, leaving the area strewn with soil and construction debris. The site had contained a building at one time, but not in recent years. At the western edge of the site was a single-storey stable and the remnants of former buildings; the rear of the site was under pasture and a large pond lay to the north east.

The excavations were initiated at the northern end of the site and continued south. The trenches were excavated using a 0.6m wide flat edged bucket and were around 1.4m deep.

The sequence in the sections of the trenches consisted of 0.1m-0.6m of dark brown clayey topsoil with large amounts of brick and other building debris. At the eastern side of the site the topsoil was only around 0.1m deep, deepening to the west. Under the topsoil lay grey or yellowish-grey clay.

Conclusion

No archaeological features or finds associated with archaeological features were discovered during the watching brief. The underlying geology was glacial till.

The upper soils were heavily disturbed with demolition debris, likely to be left over from the previous building. No virgin ground was observed during the watching brief.

Acknowledgements

The watching brief was carried out by the author; the project manager was Richard Buckley. ULAS would like to thank Louise Allen and the machine driver John Cook.

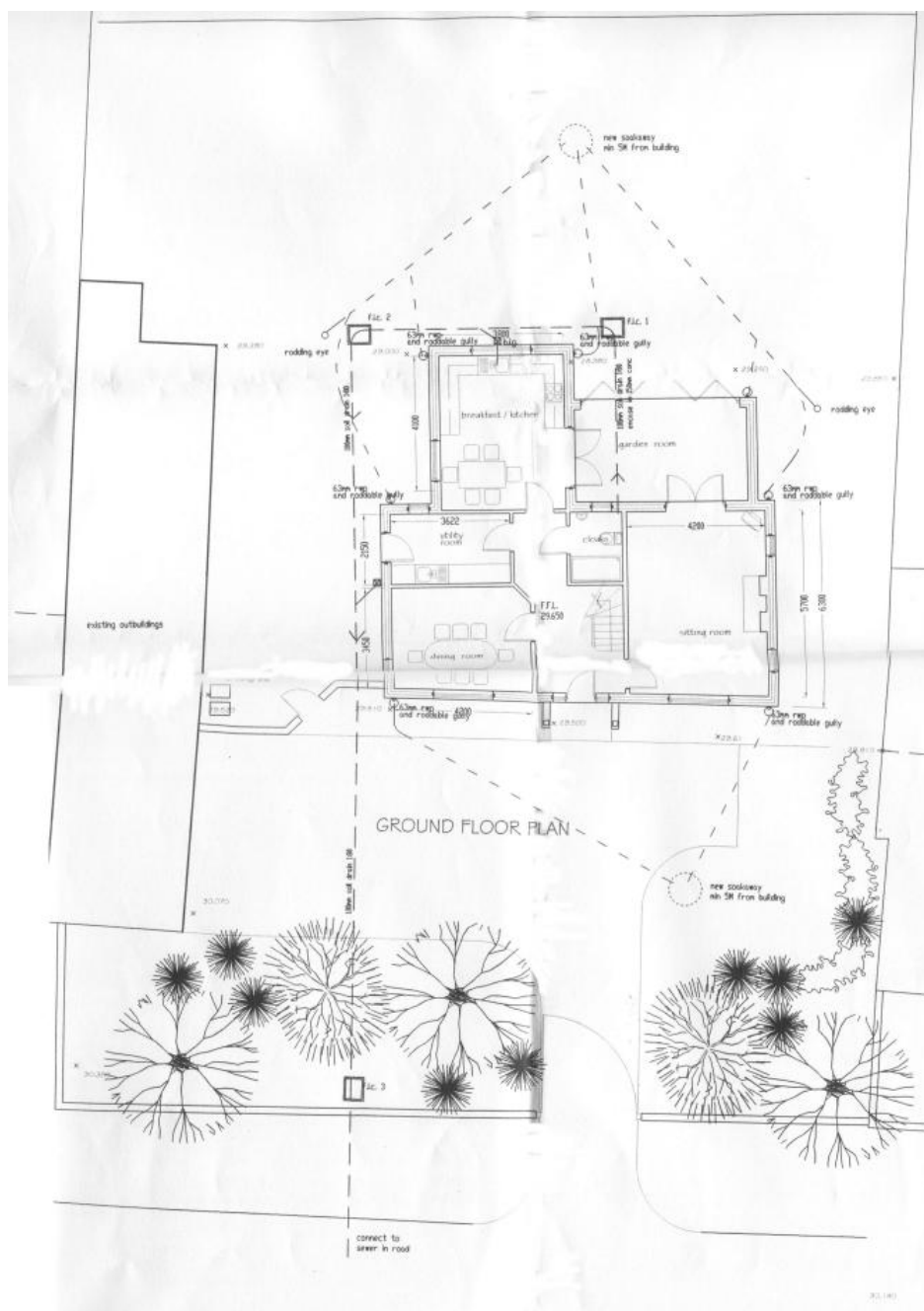


Figure 3: Plan of proposed development. Plan provided by developer. Scale 1: 2500

Archive

The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council with accession number X.A151.2008 and consists of the following:

- 1 copy of this report
- 1 watching brief recording sheet
- 1 photographic record sheet
- 1 CD of digital photographs

1 contact sheet of digital photographs

1 Architect's Plan

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Plate 1: General shot of site from north, looking south



Plate 2: Work in progress, looking north



Plate 3: North facing section, looking south



Plate 4: West facing section, looking east

APPENDIX:

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

13 Burrough End, Great Dalby (Burton and Dalby) Leicestershire

Planning Application: 07/00709/FUL

Planning Authority: Melton Borough Council

For: Louise Allen

1 Definition and scope of the specification

1.1 In accordance with Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and planning), para.30, this specification provides a written scheme for archaeological attendance for inspection and recording, during any groundworks on the site which may disturb areas of archaeological potential. The work is to be undertaken to satisfy a planning condition placed on permission to erect a residential dwelling on the above site.

1.2 All archaeological work will adhere to the Institute of Field Archaeologist's (IFA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and the *Guidelines for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (LMARS).

2 Background

2.1 Requirement for archaeological work

2.1.1 The archaeological work involves archaeological attendance for inspection and recording during groundworks in order to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as detailed in the *Brief for Archaeological Attendance for Inspection and Recording (An Intensive Watching brief)* from LCC HNET (hereinafter the *Brief*).

2.2 Archaeological potential

2.1 The site is located in the medieval and post-medieval core of the village of Great Dalby (MLE 5943) and adjacent to the site of a demolished listed building (MLE 11694), a brick cottage with thatched roof, dated to the 16th-17th century.

3 Aims

3.1 Through archaeological monitoring of groundworks:

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

4 Methods

4.1 The project will involve the supervision of the stripping of overburden and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the works specified above. During these ground works, if any archaeological deposits are seen to be present, the archaeologist will record areas of archaeological interest.

4.2 The archaeologist will co-operate at all times with the contractors on site to ensure the minimum interruption to the work.

4.3 Any archaeological deposits located will be hand cleaned and planned as appropriate. Samples of any archaeological deposits located will be hand excavated. Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan of 1:100. All plans will be tied into the National Grid using an Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM) where appropriate.

4.4 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of deposits, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence. Particular attention will be paid to the potential for buried palaeosols and waterlogged deposits in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer.

4.5 All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, levelled and tied into the Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

4.5 Any human remains encountered will be initially left *in situ* and only be removed under a Home Office Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. The developer, Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services and the coroner will be informed immediately on their discovery.

4.6 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site from the project manager. These will ensure that professional standards are being maintained. Provision will be made for monitoring visits with representatives of the owners, Leicestershire County Council and Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

4.7 In the event of significant archaeological remains being located during the watching brief there may be the need for contingency time and finance to be provided to ensure adequate recording is undertaken. On the discovery of potentially significant remains the archaeologist will inform the developer, the Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council and the planning authority. If the archaeological remains are identified to be of significance additional contingent archaeological works will be required.

5 Recording Systems

5.1 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets.

5.2 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 plan at 1:200 (or 1:100), which will show the location of the areas investigated.

5.3 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made on drawing film, related to the OS grid and at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Elevations and sections of individual layers of features should be drawn where possible. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans.

5.4 An adequate photographic record of the investigations will be prepared in monochrome and colour, 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.

5.5 This record will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the watching brief.

5.6 All site records and finds will be kept securely.

6 Report and Archive

6.1 An accession number will be drawn prior to the commencement of the project (Brief 8.1). Following the fieldwork the on-line OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project> /oasis will be completed. A report on the investigation will be provided following the groundworks.

6.2 Copies will be provided for the client, Sites and Monuments Record and planning Authority. 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.

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 be presented to Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services normally within six months of the completion of analysis. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

7 Publication

7.1 A summary report will be submitted to a suitable regional or national archaeological journal within one year of completion of fieldwork. A full report will be submitted if the results are of significance.

8 Timetable and Staffing

8.1 The investigation is scheduled to commence at the start of the contractors groundworks. An experienced archaeologist will be present during this work.

9 Health and Safety

9.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Statement of Safety Policy and uses the ULAS Health and Safety Manual (revised 2007) with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is in the Appendix. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate.

10 Insurance

10.1 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.

11. Bibliography

MAP 2, *The management of archaeological projects* 2nd edition English Heritage 1991

MGC 1992, *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission)

RFG/FRG 1993, *Guidelines for the preparation of site archives* (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700)

SMA 1993, *Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* (Society of Museum Archaeologists)

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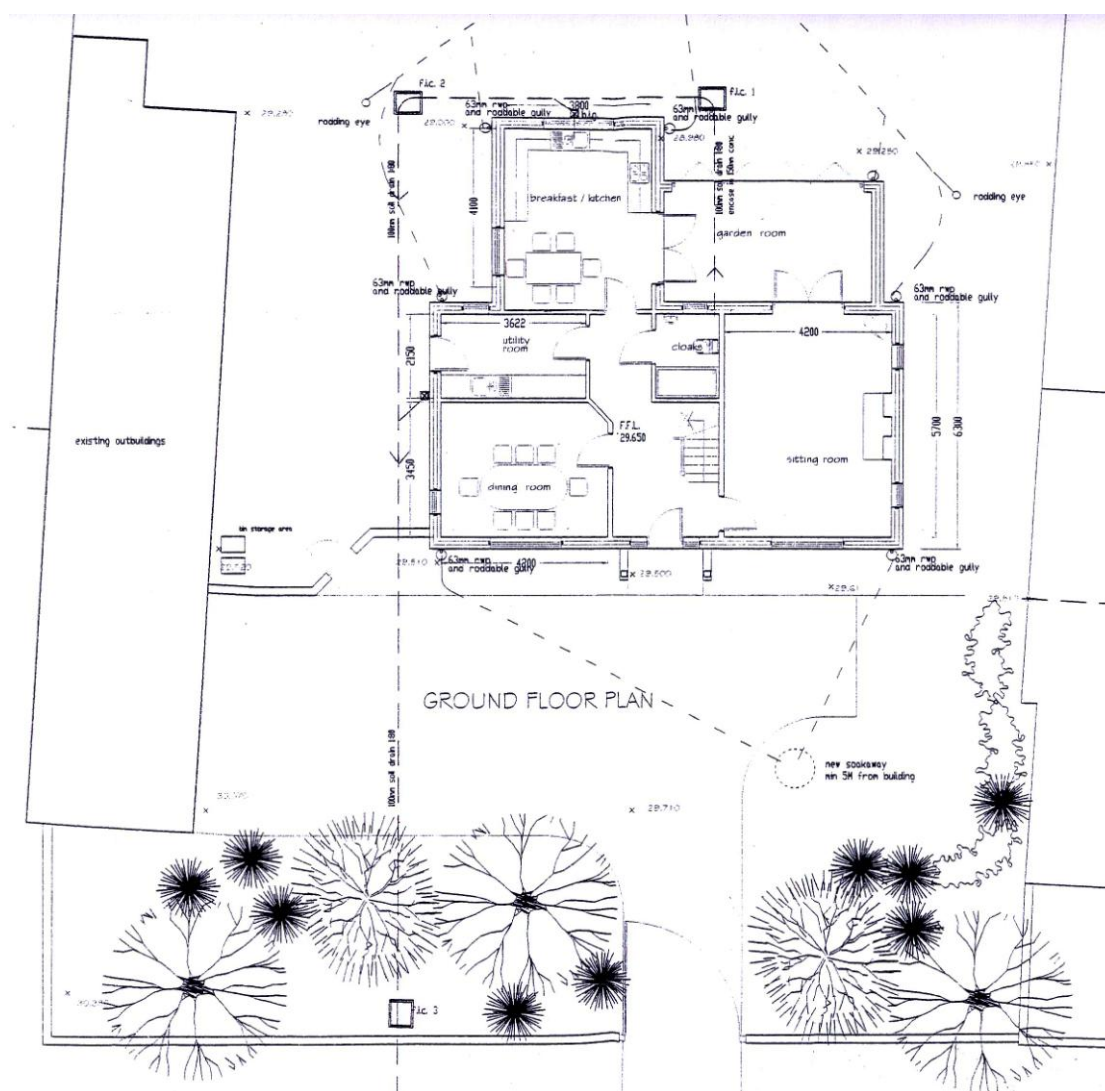
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30.06.2008

Fig 1 Location of Development



Fig. 2 Plan of proposed development



Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

13 Burrough End, Great Dalby (Burton and Dalby) Leicestershire

Planning Application: 07/00709/FUL

Planning Authority: Melton Borough Council

For: Louise Allen

1. Nature of the work

1.1 This statement is for archaeological observation of contractors groundworks. It will be revised following the commencement of operations when the extent of risks can be assessed in full.

1.2 The work will involve overburden stripping by JCB 3C or similar during daylight hours and recording of any underlying archaeological deposits revealed. Overall depth is likely to be c. 1.0 –1.2m. Following stripping the exposed deposits will be examined with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and archaeological features will be excavated. All work will adhere to the University of Leicester Health and Safety Policy and follow the guidance in the ULAS Health and safety and the Standing Committee of Archaeological Unit Managers manuals, together with the following relevant Health and Safety guidelines, including the following.

HSE Construction Information Sheet CS8 Safety in excavations.

HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)143 (L): Getting to grips with manual handling.

HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)145 (L): Watch Your back.

CIRIA R97 Trenching practice.

CIRIA TN95 Proprietary Trench Support Systems.

HSE Guidance Note HS(G) 47 Avoiding danger to underground services. HSE Guidance Note GS7 Accidents to children on construction sites

1.3 The Health and Safety policy on site will be reassessed during the evaluation .All work will adhere to the company's health and safety policy.

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 Working within an excavation.

Precautions. No work will be undertaken beneath section faces deeper than 1.2m. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. A member of staff qualified in First Aid will be present at all times. First aid kit, vehicle and mobile phone to be kept on site in case of emergency.

2.2 Working with plant.

Precautions. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. No examination of the area of stripping will take place until machines have vacated area. Observation of machines will be maintained during hand excavation.

2.3 Working within areas prone to waterlogging.

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.

2.6 No other constraints are recognised over the nature of the soil, water, type of excavation, proximity of structures, sources of vibration and contamination.

7/7/2008