

**An Archaeological Evaluation and Rapid
Building Appraisal of 254 Braunstone Lane,
Braunstone Town, Leicestershire.**

(NGR SK 554 026)

Gerwyn Richards

Planning Application: 07/0768/1/PX

For: Parkers of Leicester Ltd

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Contents

Summary	1
1. Introduction	1
2. Aims and Methodology	3
3. Results of Trial Trench Evaluation	4
4. Rapid Appraisal of Standing Buildings	6
5. Conclusion	9
6. References	10
7. Archive & Publication	10
Appendix 1 Brief for Archaeological Work	12
Appendix 2 Design Specification for Archaeological Work	25

Figures

Figure 1	Site Location	3
Figure 2	Trench 5 Showing Stratigraphy	6
Figure 3	Trench 5 In Plan	7
Figure 4	Building 2 Front Elevation	8
Figure 5	Building 3 Front Elevation.	9
Figure 6	Building 4 Front Right Elevation.	10
Figure 7	Trench Location & Building Identification Plan	12

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Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by Parkers of Leicester Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of land at 254 Braunstone Lane, Braunstone Town, where outline planning permission has been granted for the development of the area as offices. The proposed development area had been identified as being of possible archaeological significance and some of the standing buildings may also be of historical interest.

Five evaluation trenches were excavated across the proposed development area. However none of the trenches showed evidence of archaeologically significant remains. Trench 5 contained evidence of a trackway which was recorded on early maps. All the trenches contained evidence of significant levels of made ground.

The results of the rapid building appraisal suggests that some of the affected buildings may be of local historical and architectural interest. The archive for the rapid building appraisal and trial trenching will be held by Leicestershire County Council, under the accession number X.A28.2008

1. Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by Parkers of Leicester Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed partial redevelopment of their site at 254 Braunstone Lane, Leicester (SK 554 026). Outline planning permission has been granted for the demolition of some of the existing buildings and erection of three office blocks (Planning Application Number 07/0768/1/PX). A rapid building appraisal of the buildings scheduled for demolition was also carried out. No previous non-intrusive or intrusive archaeological work has been carried out within the proposed development area.

The proposed development area is within the historic settlement core of Braunstone Town (HER Ref 16241) and is located close to village earthworks, considered to be the remains of the Manor House referred to in 1299. The current Manor House forms the north-eastern boundary of the proposed development area and is described in the listing (MLE11091) as:

House. Probably early C17, but dated 16 WPM 89 on timber rail in right bay. C19 and C20 alterations, mid C19 extension to rear. Timber-frame with narrow brick nogging, much herringbone; ground floor walls and rear bay of cross-wing to left are rebuilt in brick C19 and C20; Swithland slate roof; C19 brick chimney with pair of square shafts to left side. L-plan, the right bay on smaller scale than left wing. 2 storey, attic and cellar. Left wing projects and is gabled to front. Gable end has upper storey, jettied on brackets over canted bay window with sashes and cellar opening, and 3-pane sash to first floor. Lower bay set back to right has horizontal sliding sash to first floor, and flush-panelled top-lit door below in wooden reveals and architrave frame. Right gable has horizontal sliding sashes to ground floor and attic, single casement to first floor, and stump of rebuilt chimney. C19 brick wing to rear with Welsh slate roof, set of 4 linked chimney shafts, and one bay of 3-light horizontal sashes. Interior has stop-chamfered ceiling beams and re-used staircase with C17 turned balusters.

An examination of this building along with early cartographic evidence indicates that the nineteenth century extension to the rear was originally much larger and possibly extended into the proposed development area. Early cartographic evidence also indicates the proposed development area contained a number of other buildings, possibly outbuildings associated with the Manor House. Within the south-westernmost corner, there is a considerably larger building, apparently set within its own yard, which may have been another domestic building, rather than an outbuilding.

These early maps also indicates that at least one of the still standing buildings pre-dates the first edition Ordnance Survey of 1888. A second appears on a late nineteenth century map, suggesting both buildings to be of local interest.

In view of this a programme of intrusive investigation through trial trenching along with a rapid building appraisal of the buildings scheduled for demolition was requested by Leicestershire County Council, as archaeological advisors to the planning authority, to confirm whether archaeological remains are present within the application area and, if necessary, formulate a mitigation strategy and assess the historical and architectural significance of the standing buildings (*Appendix 1*).

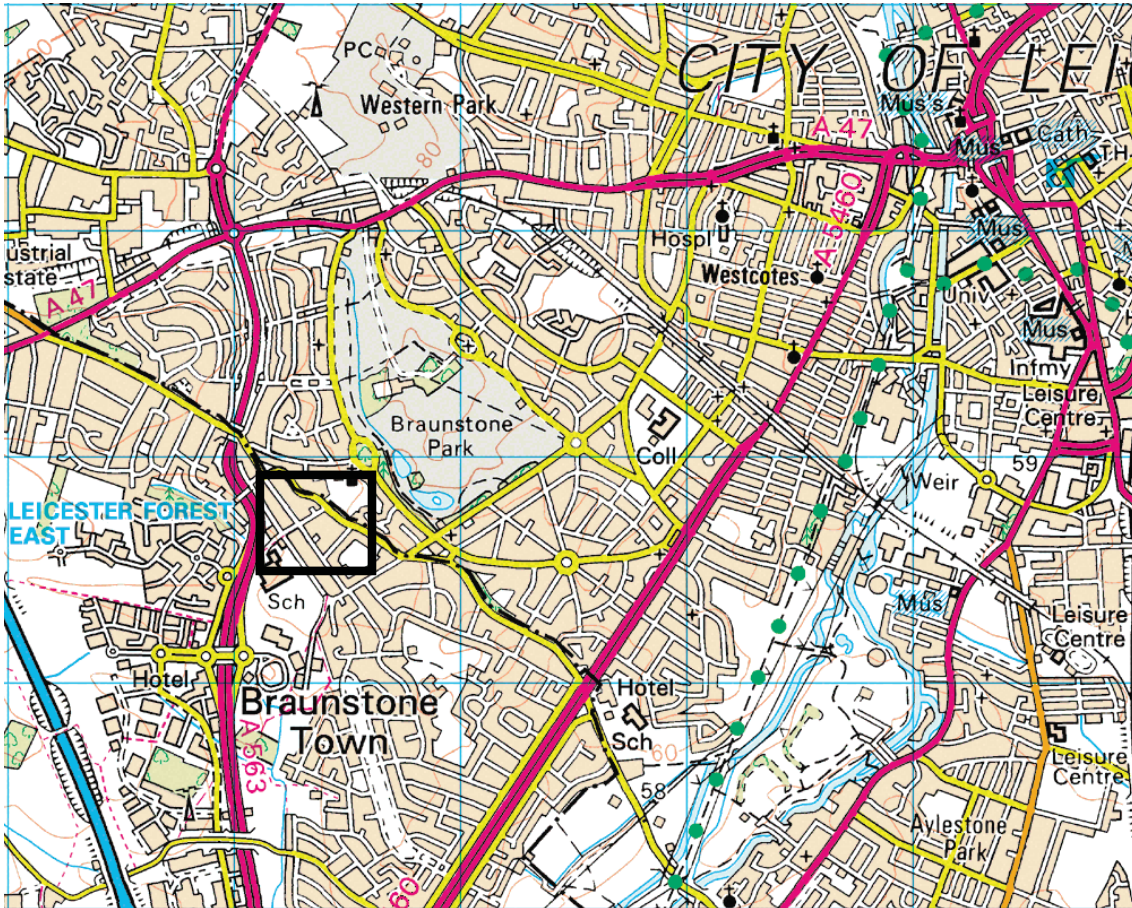


Figure 1. Site location Scale 1:50000

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2. Aims and Methodology

The aim of the archaeological work was to ascertain whether any significant archaeological remains were present within the area to be developed. If identified a sufficient sample was to be excavated and recorded to establish their extent, date, quality, character, form and potential including environmental data. Further archaeological recording would be undertaken, if required, in the light of the results of this programme.

The Planning Archaeologist of Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council as advisor to Blaby District Council following Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG 16, Archaeology and Planning para. 30) has requested a *c.* 5% sample, the equivalent of four 20metre by 1.5metre trenches. Due to site constraints only three trenches were excavated to the full 20metre length, a further two trenches measuring 10metres by 1.5metres were excavated, one of which was further extended to 3metres wide and “L” shaped in plan (*Figure 4*). The evaluation and building appraisal (carried out by the author) took place between February 13th & 18th 2008. The evaluation followed the *Design Specification for archaeological evaluation* (08/565

Appendix 2) which addressed the requirements of the *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation of land at 254 Braunstone Lane, Braunstone Town, Leicestershire* (LCC HNET 05.12.2007; Appendix 1).

3. Results of Trial Trench Evaluation

3.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was excavated in the southernmost corner of the proposed development area (*Figure 5*), approximately 17metres from the southern-most corner on an area of grassed ground. The trench was aligned east to west and 20 metres long and 1.6 metres wide.

Approximately 680mm to 780mm of overburden was removed revealing an horizon of weathered clay substratum. The overburden consisted of topsoil and large amounts of demolition material, including brick, concrete and metalwork; the material was very unstable and appeared to be dumped material. A rapid examination of this material confirmed a likely twentieth century date, which along with the clear change in levels between the boundary fence and the current ground level confirms the area to consist of made ground, probably imported onto site or the remains of the earlier buildings demolished before the construction of the existing Parkers office during the later part of the twentieth century.

There were no remains of archaeological significance within the trench and it was recorded and released for backfilling.

3.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was excavated in the westernmost corner of the proposed development area (*Figure 5*), approximately 30metres north of trench 1 on an area of gravelled surface. The trench was aligned north-west to south-east and 20 metres long and 1.6 metres wide.

Approximately 200mm to 520m of topsoil was removed revealing an horizon of weathered clay substratum. Again, there was a considerable amount of modern rubble in the topsoil, as although slightly less than that in trench 1.

There were no remains of archaeological significance within the trench and it was recorded and released for backfilling.

3.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located parallel to the south-eastern boundary of the proposed development area (*Figure 5*), approximately 20metres north-east of trench 1 on an area of densely overgrown vegetation to the rear of the large sheds. The trench was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 20 metres long by 1.6metres wide.

Approximately 450mm to 650mm of overburden was removed revealing an horizon of weathered clay substratum. The overburden consisted of topsoil and large amounts of demolition rubble, with no discernable buried topsoil. In all likelihood, the overburden represents the levelling of this part of the site during the construction of the adjacent sheds.

There were no remains of archaeological significance within the trench and it was recorded and released for backfilling.

3.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located within the eastern-most part of the proposed development area (*Figure 5*), approximately 10 metres north of trench 3, again an area of densely overgrown vegetation immediately to the rear of the smaller, north-easternmost building within the proposed development area. The trench was aligned east to west and measured 10 metres long by 1.6 metres wide. On early edition maps the existing building appears to be twice its current width; it was hoped, therefore, that this trench would uncover evidence of this earlier building.

Approximately 200mm to 300mm of topsoil was removed revealing an horizon of weathered clay substratum. Immediately below the topsoil there was a very compact layer of weak gypsum, possibly an internal floor surface; machining continued and no further evidence of the possible building was observed.

There were no remains of archaeological significance within the trench and it was recorded and released for backfilling.

3.5 Trench 5

The final trench within the proposed development area was located approximately 8 metres north-east of trench 4, parallel with the north-easternmost boundary (*Figure 5*); the vegetation was not as dense as that in trenches 3 and 4. The trench was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 10 metres long and initially 1.6metres wide. Again, early maps indicated the Manor House had a longer rear wing than the current standing wing and, although not directly in line it was possible that trench 5 would uncover traces of this building, if it continued into the proposed development area.

Approximately 130mm to 140mm of topsoil was removed and revealed a layer of very compact rubble (at 83.07mOD), which the machine was unable to breach with the ditching bucket, apparently a laid surface of some kind. It was decided to extend the trench to the south-west to attempt to define the extent of this rubble, which continued within the 1.6metre extension with no discernable edge. A further extension, perpendicular to the easternmost end of the initial excavation of approximately 7metres also failed to define the edge of this rubble and a lack of space prevented further excavation. As there was no evidence of this rubble within trench 4, it therefore would have terminated in the small area of unexcavated ground between the southern extension and trench 4.

The rubble layer (005) was then excavated by hand, below which was another laid surface, this time in brick and granite setts (bricks at the eastern end of trench and setts to the west) at 82.90mOD at the western end dropping to 82.85mOD at the eastern end. The majority of (005) consisted of large angular blocks of granite, Daneshill Sandstone and occasional fragments of Swithland Slate, with traces of cinder and tarmacadam suggesting a driveway or yard. A selection of nineteenth century ceramic pieces was recovered, including transfer printed porcelain and sanitary ware along with glass fragments (these were photographed on site but not retained and identified by D.Sawday). (005) appears to be a late nineteenth/early twentieth century dump layer imported onto site, possible from an excavation within the City of Leicester.

The earlier surface below (005) consisted of laid brick (004) and granite setts (001) with a deposit of what appeared to be iron slag between the two. Because of the depth at which this level was encountered, 82.90mOD and that this part of the proposed development area is intended to be used as car parking and, therefore, unlikely to require significant ground reduction which would disturb this lower level, (001) and (004) were sample recorded and left *in-situ*. A rapid examination of (004) suggests that the bricks themselves are handmade 9 ½ inch by 3 inch red bricks with few small inclusions, suggesting a mid to late nineteenth century date. The rounded edges indicate that the bricks had been used as a surface, in all likelihood a driveway or yard.

Trench 5, therefore, contained two phases of activity, both apparently either a driveway or a yard. Originally brick and granite setts were used as the surface this was then replaced by rubble blocks and tarmacadam, probably in the early decades of the twentieth century. The second and third revisions of the OS County Series 1:2500 map appear to support this; the second revision shows a narrow driveway within the area of trench 5, by the time of the third revision this narrow driveway had been replaced by a wider driveway and yard.

No evidence of the rear wing of the Manor House was observed, which was not unexpected as the trench was further to the south-east of where the buildings were likely to be.



Figure 2 Trench 5 Showing Stratigraphy.



Figure 3 Trench 5 In Pan.

4. Rapid Appraisal of Standing Buildings

Along with the evaluation trenches, the Planning Archaeologist of Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council requested that a building appraisal, (rapid assessment) was also carried out on the buildings scheduled for demolition as part of the proposed redevelopment. In all there were four buildings of historical or architectural interest within the proposed development area; three of which are scheduled for demolition; the fourth, Building 1 is to be retained as part of the redevelopment.

Each building has been allocated a number for identification purposes, in the following notes the terms 'left', 'right', 'rear' and 'back' are used in relation to the front elevation of each building.

4.1 Building 2



Figure 4 Building 2 Front Elevation.

Building 2 is located within the north-easternmost corner of the proposed development area, (the first building on the left of the existing access driveway). It consists of a single storey red brick building with concrete roof tiles, with 9 ¼ inch by 2 ¾ inch apparently wire cut bricks in a Flemish Garden Wall bond, and no obvious external damp proof course. There are two doors and three windows on the front wall, all apparently original with flat cambered arches and angled blue brick sills below the windows. Although partially obscured by a steel container a blocked door and blocked pitching hole could be seen on the right hand gable; their proximity to each other may suggest one or the other is a later insertion. There is a drain to the right of the front wall (the lowest point); this along with the arrangement of the doors suggests the building may originally have been a cow shed or milking parlour.

Building 2 is identifiable on the 1st Edition County Series 1:2500 (1854-1901). It is not clear whether it belongs to the Manor House to the north-east or the now lost range of buildings to the west. The fact that the doors face towards these lost buildings may suggest that building 2 relates to them, rather than the Manor House, which if so may indicate that building 2 is an early surviving element of this former farm complex.

4.2 Building 3



Figure 5 Building 3 Front Elevation.

Building 3 is located approximately 4 metres to the right of building 2, and facing the same direction. The building is considerably larger and clearly later in date; the building itself is built of Fletton Bricks in the same Flemish Garden Wall bond as building 2 with a newly refurbished roof of box profile plastic laminated sheets. There is a central double door on the front of the building over which there is a flat cambered arch, possibly copying the earlier nearby buildings. There are four blocked windows at eaves level on the left wall, which are likely to be mirrored on the obscured right hand wall. There is also a blocked central double door on the rear wall.

Building 3 is clearly mid twentieth century in date; it first appears on the 3rd Revision County Series 1:2500 (1924-1949), but most likely dates from the late 1940s. As such it may be viewed as of being of limited architectural and historical significance, however, it does represent the very early stages of the industrialisation of farming and the move towards mass produced non-vernacular farm buildings.

4.3 Building 4



Figure 6 Building 4 Front Right Elevation.

Building 4 is the largest of the buildings within the proposed development area and also the latest; it consists of a twin bay steel framed shed abutting the right hand wall of building 3, clad in corrugated tinned steel sheets and a corrugated asbestos cement roof.

Given its late twentieth century date and style, the building is of little architectural or historical interest, but is an element of a former farm complex and should, therefore, be considered as of interest as part of the group, if not individually.

5. Conclusion

Despite its promising location on the fringe of the historic village core, little of archaeological significance was uncovered during the archaeological evaluation. All of the trenches showed evidence of extensive recent disturbance; mostly showing imported material had been used to raise the level of the site. Only trench 5, immediately to the rear of the Manor House contained any occupational evidence, the remains of a late nineteenth/early twentieth century driveway and yard were uncovered, both of which are clearly identifiable on the early Ordnance Survey maps and are of limited archaeological significance.

The buildings within the proposed development area include some of local historic interest. The earliest building (2) dates from the mid nineteenth century, while the others reflect later development of the former Manor Farm.

6. References

Brunskill. R.W. 1990. *Brick Building In Britain*. Victor Gollancz.

English Heritage, 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice*. London: English Heritage

HNET, Leicestershire County Council. 2008. *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation of Land at 254 Braunstone Lane, Braunstone Town, Leicestershire*.

M^cKay. W.B. 1945. *Building Craft Series, Brickwork*. Longmans, Green & Co.

7. Archive & Publication

The site archive consists of

3 A2 permatrace sheet containing building plans & trial pit locations

78 Black & White negatives and contact prints (44 photographic survey & 34 trial trench evaluation photos)

2 CD containing 76 digital images (42 photographic survey & 34 trial trench evaluation)

3 A4 contact sheet

2 A4 Photo Index Sheet

4 A4 Trench recording sheets

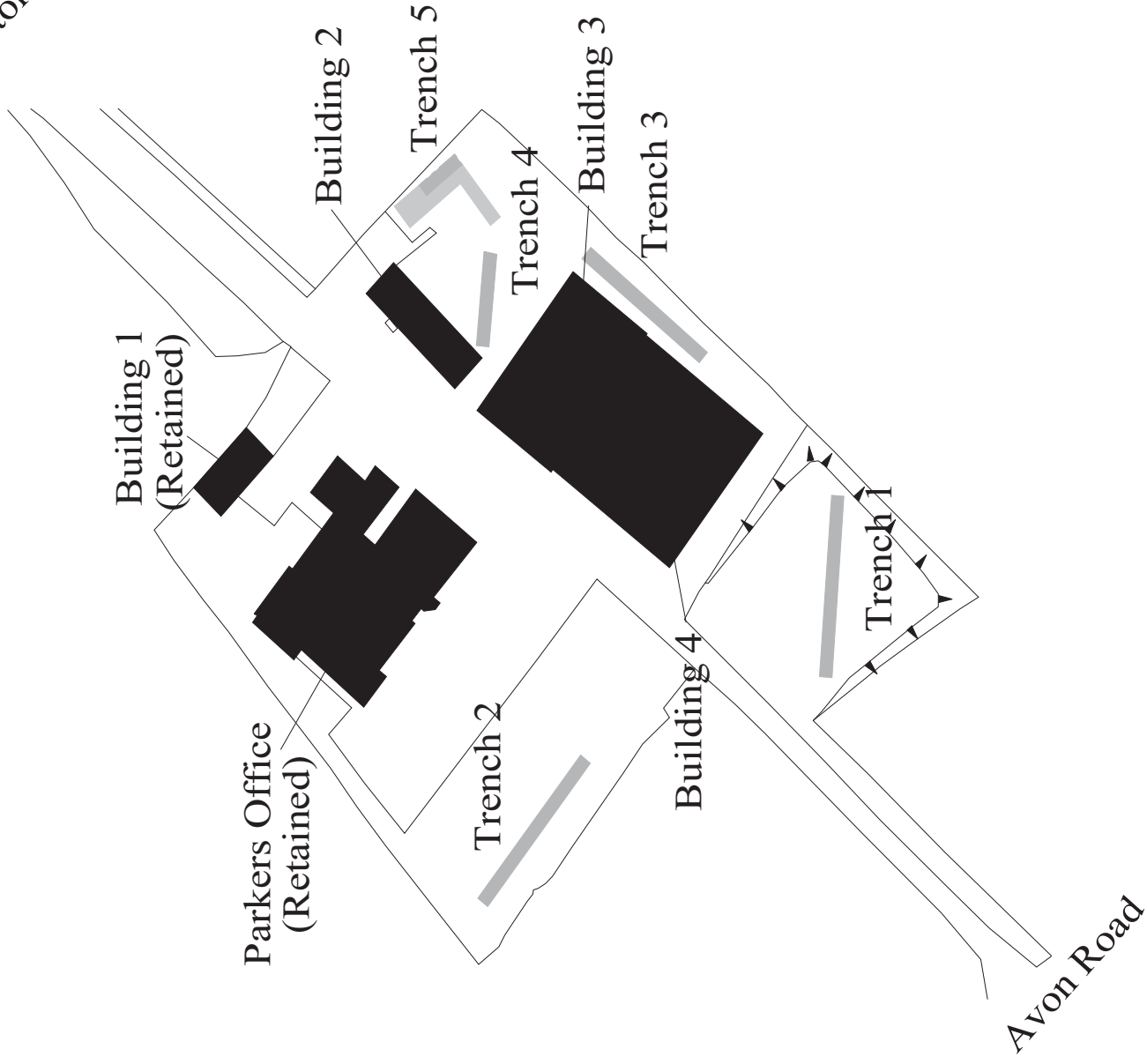
Unbound Copy of This Report (ULAS Report Number 2009-005)

Unbound Copy of An Archaeological Evaluation and Rapid Building Appraisal of 254 Braunstone Lane, Braunstone Town, Leicestershire (NGR SK 554 026). (ULAS Report Number 2008-031)

The archive will be held at Leicestershire County Council under the Accession Number X.A28.2008

A version of the summary (above) will be published in *Transactions of Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course.

Winstone Lane



100m

0

Figure 7 Trench Location Plan & Building Identification.

Appendix 1

***BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION OF LAND AT 254
BRAUNSTONE LANE, BRAUNSTONE
TOWN, LEICESTERSHIRE.***

Planning Permission: 07/0768/1/PX

Demolition of existing buildings/structures and erection of
3 office blocks (Class B1) etc.

Historic and Natural Environment Team,
Environment and Heritage Services,
Leicestershire County Council

Prepared on: 30 March 2009

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND AT 254 BRAUNSTONE LANE, BRAUNSTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

Summary of Brief

The development site has been identified as an area of significant archaeological potential based upon assessment of archaeological data held by the Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER). This record shows that the application site is within the historic settlement core of Braunstone Town, close to known archaeological remains.

In consequence, the Senior Planning Archaeologist (SPA), Historic & Natural Environment Team (HNET), Leicestershire County Council, has recommended the need for a staged programme of archaeological mitigation commencing with initial exploratory investigation by trial trenching. The investigation is required to clarify the archaeological potential of the development area, and where significant remains are identified, provide an appropriate sample of those remains in the context of the forthcoming development proposals (1.3 below). The fieldwork will include provision for palaeoenvironmental sampling and the application of appropriate archaeological scientific techniques (e.g. radio carbon and archaeomagnetic dating, etc.).

Following completion of the fieldwork, the current programme of archaeological work will include provision for appropriate analysis, publication and archiving. The results of the investigation, where positive, are likely to lead to further archaeological requirements including, as appropriate, preservation of deposits in situ, targeted archaeological excavation and/or a programme of monitoring and supervision of groundworks, etc.

Appendices for reference as part of this Brief

To be supplied by the developer:

- I. General location plan.
- II. The site location.
- III. Proposed layout plan.

Site location and description

The site comprises a plot of land on the western side of Braunstone Lane, at NGR SK 554 026. It is presently occupied by a number of commercial buildings and a single storey office building, with hard standing covering the remaining area. The commercial buildings along the south eastern boundary of the site are to be demolished and the office building is to be retained. The area is roughly rectangular and totals some 0.53 ha in the historic settlement core of Braunstone Town (HER Ref: MLE 16241). The site is bounded by the gardens of the adjacent properties.

Geology

Appraisal of the relevant geological maps indicates that the underlying drift geology is Diamicton Till from the quaternary system, overlying Mercia Mudstone (Geological Survey of England & Wales, Leicester, Sheet 156).

Site Constraints

The appraisal conducted by the Historic & Natural Environment Team, has not established the presence of any constraint to the completion of the evaluation.

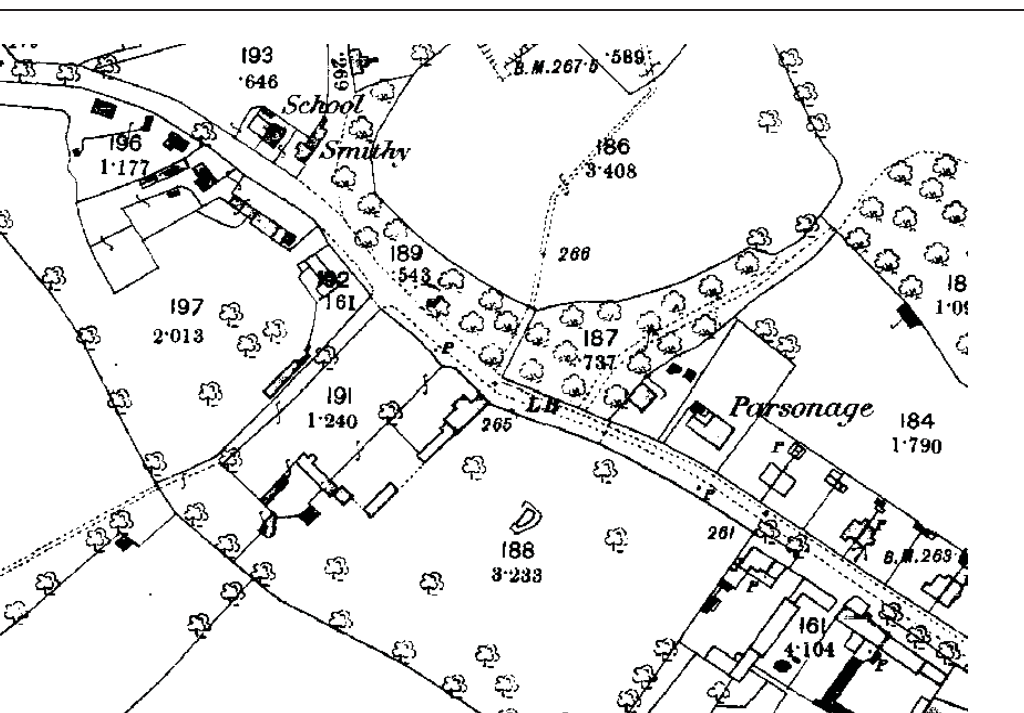
Historical and Archaeological Background

The development site at 254 Braunstone Lane is within the historic settlement core of Braunstone Town (HER Ref: MLE 16241), an area with the potential to contain remains dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods. The village earthworks to the south and west of Braunstone Church have been considered to be the remains of the Manor House referred to in 1299. A second manor house was constructed towards the present Herle Avenue c. 1600.

The development site occupies the plot to the rear of The Manor House (254 Braunstone Lane) (MLE 11091), which is described in the listing as follows:

House. Probably early C17, but dated 16 WPM 89 on timber rail on right bay. C19 and C20 alterations, mid C19 extension to rear. Timber-frame with narrow brick nogging, much herringbone; ground floor walls and rear bay of cross-wing to left are rebuilt in brick C29 and C20; Swithland slate roof; C19 brick chimney with pair of square shafts to left side. L-plan, the right bay on smaller scale than left wing. 2 storeys, attic and cellar. Left wing projects and is gabled to front. Gable end has upper storey, jettied on brackets over canted bay window with sashes and cellar opening, and 3-pane sash to first floor. Lower bay set back to right has horizontal sliding sash to first floor, and flush-panelled top-lit door below in wooden reveals and architrave frame. Right gable has horizontal sliding sashes to ground floor and attick, single casement to first floor, and stump of rebuilt chimney. C19 brick wing to rear with Welsh slate roof, set of 4 linked chimneys shafts, and one bay of 3-light horizontal sashes. Interior has stop-chamfered ceiling beams and re-used staircase with C17 turned balusters.

The 1888 Ordnance Survey map shows outbuildings associated with the listed building occupying part of the development site.



Extract of 1888 Ordnance Survey Map showing application site roughly centred around 191.

Previous work and archaeological survey

No previous non-intrusive or intrusive archaeological investigation has been conducted within the development area.

Planning Background and Requirement for Work

In response to the applicant's submission to Blaby District Council of a planning application 07/0768/1/PX for 'Demolition of existing buildings/structures and erection of 3 office blocks (Class B1), etc.', the SPA advised that planning permission should be granted with conditions for suitable archaeological field evaluation to be undertaken to prior to the commencement of development works. This is to assess the location, extent, significance and character of any buried archaeological remains.

The requirement for archaeological work is in accordance with PPG16 (Archaeology & Planning). The purpose of the work is to gather sufficient evidence to establish, supplement, improve and make available information about the archaeological deposits in relation to development proposals. A review of the results will be undertaken and an appropriate mitigation strategy, supported by a subsequent brief, agreed where necessary.

Post-excavation assessment and publication of the results of this and any future

Methodology

An accession number must be drawn prior to the commencement of this project. The accession number covers all components of the project, as defined by this brief.

An appropriate sample of the site (c. 5% by area; c. 268 m²) should be evaluated in accordance with advice given in "Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological work Leicestershire and Rutland" (Leicestershire County Council, 1997). This should commence with trenches to target the areas of development impact where accessible. Approximately 1.5% (c. 80m²) of the proposed trenching should be retained as a reserve to respond to the results of the initial phase of investigation.

Some flexibility in the actual size, number, orientation and location of some evaluation trenches may be required if made necessary by the location of service pipes, cables and standing buildings on the site.

Following the removal of any hard standing, etc., the trenches should be excavated by a machine using a toothless grading bucket and under the constant supervision of a professional archaeologist. Machine access to the site may be restricted and access should be discussed with the prospective developer.

The trenches should be excavated to the top of the natural or to the top of archaeological deposits, whichever is encountered first. Wherever archaeological deposits are encountered the trenches should be cleared by hand and the deposits planned and recorded to an acceptable standard (see 'Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland', copies available on request). Excavation of archaeological deposits should be limited to resolving questions relating to their date, nature, extent and condition. If burials are encountered during the fieldwork these should not be excavated and recording should be limited to obvious detail such as position of the grave cut, alignment, burial position and stratigraphic relationships.

Site Access: Health and Safety

The archaeological Contractor will be responsible for ensuring that all works are conducted in accordance with a defined Health and Safety Policy. Contractors must observe all current safe working practices, whether required by their own policy or those of the principal development contractor (see *SCAUM Manual, Health & Safety in Field Archaeology, 1997*).

Before commencing work the Contractor **must** carry out a Risk Assessment and liaise with the site owner, archaeological Consultants and the Senior Planning Archaeologist in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised. A copy of this must be given to the Senior Planning Archaeologist **before** commencement of Site works.

The prospective developer must provide all information reasonably obtainable on contamination and the location of live services before commencement of Site works.

No personnel are to work in deep unsupported excavations. Trench sides will be constantly assessed for stability and will have to be stepped, battered back or shored when there is risk of collapse.

All excavation by machine and hand must be undertaken with a view to avoid damaging archaeological deposits or features which appear worthy of preservation in situ or more detailed investigation than for the purposes of evaluation.

The discovery of substantial structural remains requiring preservation in situ will entail detailed discussion between all relevant parties. The costs associated with excavating, conserving, and curation of other unforeseen objects or structures of national importance lie outside the scope of this evaluation.

Where structures, features or finds appear to merit preservation in situ, they must be adequately protected from deterioration.

Archaeological Sciences and Environmental Sampling

The minimum requirement for Archaeological Science and Environmental sampling during evaluation is that the archaeological contractor should commission programmes of investigation which are adequate to provide a sound basis for developing the Specification/Project Design for any subsequent excavation, or for other forms of mitigation strategy, in particular *in situ* preservation. The results of these investigations will be presented in the Evaluation Report.

General recommendation for minimum standards for archaeological science work have been produced by English Heritage. The document "Archaeological Science at PPG16 interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists" is available through the English Heritage website (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.001002003009003>). Subject specific guidelines produced by English Heritage are also available, and these provide recommendations for best practice for a range of archaeological science topics, including Archaeometallurgy (2001), Environmental Archaeology (2002), Dendrochronology (2004), Geoarchaeology (2004), Human Remains (2005), and X-radiography of archaeological metalwork (2006). All of these can be downloaded from the EH Guidance section of the HELM website, (www.helm.org.uk).

Advice on archaeological science can also be acquired from the English Heritage Regional Archaeological Science Advisor, Jim Williams, contact details provided at end of document.

All such investigations during evaluation should be undertaken in a manner broadly consistent with the English Heritage document **The Management of Archaeological Projects** (English Heritage 1991).

All specialists (both those employed in-house by the contracting field unit or those sub-contracted) should be named in project documents. Agreement of specialists must always be obtained before their names are listed. Their competence to undertake proposed investigations, and the availability of adequate laboratory facilities and reference collections should be demonstrated. There should be agreement in writing on time-tables and deadlines for all stages of work.

Treatment of Finds

All finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in

environmental health concerns. Further guidance is provided in *Church Archaeology: its care and management* (Council for the Care of Churches 1999) and in English Heritage (2002 and 2002a), *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (The Church of England & English Heritage, 2005). Recommendations for reporting the results of skeletal remains are covered in the following English Heritage document, *Human Bones from Archaeological Sites- Guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports*.

Where there is evidence for industrial activity, macroscopic technological residues (or a sample of them) should be collected by hand. Separate samples (c. 10ml) should be collected for micro-slugs (hammer-scale and spherical droplets). Reference should be made to the English Heritage guidelines on *Archaeometallurgy* (English Heritage 2001).

Subject to time constraints, samples should be taken for scientific dating (principally radiocarbon dating at the evaluation stage) in specific circumstances. This could apply where dating by artefacts is insecure or absent, **and** where dating is necessary for development of the Project Design/Specification for subsequent mitigation strategies.

Consideration should be given to the appropriateness of geoarchaeological assessment of buried soils and sediment sequences exposed during the evaluation. They should be inspected and recorded on site by a recognised geoarchaeologist, since field inspection may provide sufficient data for understanding site formation processes. Procedures and techniques presented in the English Heritage document *Geoarchaeology should be applied* (English Heritage 2004, *Geoarchaeology. Using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record*). Samples for laboratory assessment should be collected where appropriate, following discussion with the Local Authority.

Deposits should be sampled for retrieval and assessment of the preservation conditions and potential for analysis of biological remains (English Heritage 2002, *Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*). The sampling strategy should include a reasoned justification for selection of deposits for sampling, and should be developed in collaboration with a recognised bioarchaeologist. Flotation samples and samples taken for coarse-mesh sieving from dry deposits should be processed at the time of the fieldwork wherever possible, partly to permit variation of sampling strategies if necessary, but also because processing a backlog of samples at a later stage causes delays. Sampling strategies for wooden structures should follow the methodologies presented in English Heritage's *Waterlogged Wood* (Brunning 1996, *Waterlogged wood. Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood*).

All finds which may constitute 'treasure' under the Treasure Act, 1997 must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner. Where removal can not take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

According to standard procedure, excavation will be followed by a period of post-excavation processing. This should involve the cataloguing and analysis of any finds, samples and the preparation of the archive for the site report and deposition.

Artefacts, biological samples and soils should be assessed for evidence of site and deposit formation processes and taphonomy, and especially for evidence of recent changes that may have been caused by alterations in the site environment. Assessment should include x-radiography of all iron objects, (after initial screening to exclude obviously recent debris), and most non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins). Further advice and minimum requirements for x-radiography are given in recent guidance from English Heritage (English Heritage 2006 *Guidelines on the x-radiography of archaeological metalwork*). . Where necessary, active stabilisation or consolidation will be carried out, to ensure long-term survival of the material, but with due consideration to possible future investigations. Once assessed, all material should be packed and stored in optimum conditions, as described in **First Aid for Finds**. Waterlogged organic materials should be dealt with following the guidelines.

Assessment of any technological residues should be undertaken.

Samples for dating should be submitted promptly, and prior agreement should be made with the laboratory on turn-around time and report production, so as to ensure that results are available to aid development of specifications for subsequent mitigation strategies.

Processing of all soil samples collected for biological assessment, or sub-samples of them, should be completed. The preservation state, density and significance of material retrieved should be assessed by recognised specialists. Special consideration should be given to any evidence for recent changes in preservation conditions that may have been caused by alterations in the site environment. Unprocessed sub-samples should be stored in conditions specified by the appropriate specialists.

Samples collected for geoarchaeological assessment should be processed as deemed necessary by a recognised specialist, particularly where storage of unprocessed samples is thought likely to result in deterioration. Appropriate assessment is to be undertaken. Where preservation *in situ* is a viable option, consideration should be given to the possible effects of compression on the physical integrity of the site and to any hydrological impacts of development.

Animal bone assemblages, or sub-samples of them, should be assessed by a recognised specialist.

Assessment of human remains will have been based partly on *in situ* observation, but where skeletal remains have been lifted assessment should be undertaken by a recognised specialist.

Reports

A full written report combining all stages of the evaluation should be prepared. At least two copies shall be sent to the Historic & Natural Environment Team

The report/s ought to:

Include

All trench location plans tied into the Ordnance Survey data

Drawing and plans

A summary of artefacts by trench together with their interpretation

Any specialist reports

A concise non-technical summary of the project results

Assess

The archaeological significance of the development site and any archaeological deposits encountered during evaluation

The evidence in its setting, regional context and also aim to highlight any research priorities where applicable

The results from any archaeological science investigations

Wherever appropriate, outline the options for achieving the preferred option of preservation *in situ* of significant archaeological deposits.

Reports should include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis.

They should include tabulations of data in relation to site phasing and contexts, and include non-technical summaries. The objective presentation of data should be clearly separated from interpretation. Recommendations for further investigations, (both on samples already collected, and at future excavations) should be identified and separated from the results and interpretation.

Understanding the current state of preservation of an archaeological site is necessary in any attempt to ensure its future preservation *in situ* or adequate recording during excavation. It is advised that those involved in evaluations and excavations should take all necessary steps to ensure that sufficient information is collected to provide a firm basis for informed decisions. Techniques for assessing the state of preservation will vary, depending on the type of site and its perceived importance. A cost-effective method of assessing the preservation of buried archaeological remains is to make use of information that should be included within specialist assessment reports. For example:

- are pollen grains well preserved, or is there a high proportion of indeterminate grains and those of durable taxa?;
- are plant macrofossils preserved by waterlogging, mineral-replacement or only in a charred form? If present, do waterlogged macrofossils show signs of degradation?

The artefact conservation assessment should identify the degree of preservation of each material class recovered, and identify whether there is evidence contained in, for example, the nature of corrosion products on metalwork to suggest that the burial environment is changing, or has changed recently. A clear and concise synthesis of such data in the Evaluation Report, combined with assessment of site hydrology, will help to inform future site-specific management, particularly with respect to vulnerable materials that might be at risk from proposed re-development schemes.

The final report/s will be deposited with the Leicestershire and Rutland HER no later than six months after completion of the project. This will be a paper copy of the report including its relevant accompanying plans.

Results of the project, even if negative, will be submitted for publication in the appropriate academic journals. Contractors are to provide a summary of findings to the 'Transactions of the Leicestershire Historical and Archaeological Society' (c/o Richard Buckley, School of Archaeological Studies, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH).

A copy of the final report/s will be deposited in the National Monuments Record, English Heritage, Swindon. Where archaeological scientific investigation has formed an element of the project a copy of the report should be sent to: Dr J Williams, East Midlands English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.

Archive

The archive consists of all written records and materials recovered, drawn and photographic records. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It should also contain Site matrix, site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.

An accession number must be drawn prior to the commencement of archaeological works.

Archive will be prepared in line with UKIC Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (1990) and "The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service" (LMARS 2001).

Archive Deposition

The integrity of the site archive should be maintained. All finds and records should be properly curated by a single organisation, and be available for public consultation.

Arrangements for deposition of the full site archive will be made with Leicestershire

first owner of copyright is the project archaeologist who created the archive, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (SMA 1995, Appendix 2; IFA 1994a, c, Appendix 6; 1994b, 1996, Appendix 5; 1999). LCCEHS prefers to obtain an assignment of copyright in the archive from the copyright owner, but is prepared to acquire a licence allowing it to use the archive (MGC 1992, 2.11; SMA 1995). The project archaeologist should decide whether assignment or licence is to be granted, and in the latter case agree the details of such a licence with LCCEHS at the time of notification of intention to deposit the archive, if not earlier, so that the correct forms are available at the time of deposition.

Requirements (including responsibilities of prospective developer and logical Contractor)

Appointment of Archaeological Contractors

The professional archaeological Contractors invited to tender for the work must be able to demonstrate within their Project Design that they can provide staffing and expertise with the appropriate experience in dealing with technology of the type and nature required in this Brief.

Contractors will operate in line with professional guidelines and standards as stated in the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA):

- Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (1994, revised 1999),
- IFA Code of Conduct (1985, as revised 1997) and,
- IFA By-Law Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology (IFA, 1990 as revised, 1998).

Pre-tender site visit

The Contractor must visit the site before completing any Project Design, as there may be implications for accurately costing the project. This visit must be noted, along with any other relevant site details, within the Project Design.

Project Design

The Project Design will cater for full post-excavation analysis, reporting and deposition of the Site findings.

The Project Design must:

- a) be supported by a research design, which sets out the site-specific objectives of the archaeological works,
- b) detail the proposed works as precisely as is reasonably possible, and where appropriate, indicate clearly on plan their location and extent,
- c) include details, including name, qualifications and experience of the Site director and all other key project personnel, including any specialist staff and sub-contractors, will be included in the Project Design. The ratio of on-site voluntary assistance must not exceed a ratio of more than 1:2 employed experienced

It is particularly important that all Project Designs, or those which the prospective developer wishes to consider, are forwarded to the Senior Planning Archaeologist for approval prior to the appointment of a Contractor.

Any changes the Senior Planning Archaeologist recommends to a preferred Project Design/s might have financial implications for the costing of the archaeological Contractor, changes to the Project Design will be discussed and agreed in writing by the Senior Planning Archaeologist and the archaeological Contractor.

Agreement

There must be a written archaeological agreement that satisfactorily implements the approved format and provides sufficient financial support for all aspects of the work including fieldwork, finds processing, conservation, specialist analysis, archiving, cataloguing, report work and long-term storage curation. The archaeological Consultant/Contractor must confirm in writing the Senior Planning Archaeologist that the prospective developer has signed such an agreement before the commencement of Site works.

Monitoring

The work undertaken by the archaeological Contractor, will be monitored under the auspices of the Leicestershire Senior Planning Archaeologist, or his representative, who is responsible for monitoring all archaeological work in Leicestershire and Rutland on behalf of the Local Planning Authority. Monitoring includes reviewing site work, the progress of excavation reports, archive preparation and final deposition.

Before the commencement of the project the Contractor must inform the Senior Planning Archaeologist, in writing, of the timetable of proposed works and ensure that the Senior Planning Archaeologist must be kept regularly informed about developments during Site and subsequent post-excavation work.

The Senior Planning Archaeologist will be given at least one weeks written notice of commencement of archaeological work.

Alterations to this Brief

This Brief is valid for three months (from the date below). If not tendered within this period the prospective developer will seek confirmation from the Senior Planning Archaeologist of its continued validity to the existing Site conditions. In addition the following apply:

Prior to the formal appointment of an archaeological Contractor, the Senior Planning Archaeologist reserves the right to alter this Brief if additional information comes to light that may have a bearing on the scope and methods of work currently required. (e.g. Site construction constraints, foundation details etc).

After formal appointment, any alterations recommended by the Senior Planning Archaeologist which may affect the archaeological Contractor's agreed Project Design (whether this be before commencement, or during the project), will be made in consultation with the archaeological Contractor and submitted to the Local Planning Authority. (This does not relate to the formal recommendations for further

Key Definitions

Senior Planning Archaeologist

Responsible for providing an archaeological curatorial planning service to Leicestershire districts. Advises on the nature of the work required and monitors projects from implementation to completion.

Archive Curator:

Responsible for the long-term curation of the archive in the recipient Museum.

Prospective Developer:

Person/group/developer commissioning the archaeological work.

Contractor:

Archaeological Contractor tendering to carry out the archaeological work and as appointed by the prospective developer.

Project Design:

Written document detailing the proposed work and as provided by a Contractor in line with the Written Brief provided by the Senior Planning Archaeologist.

The Senior Planning Archaeologist can be contacted at:

Historic & Natural Environment Team
Leicestershire County Council
Room 500, County Hall,
Leicester Road, Glenfield
Leicestershire
LE3 8TE

Telephone Number: 0116 3058322. Fax: 0116 3057965
Email: riclark@leics.gov.uk

The EH Regional Archaeological Science Advisor can be contacted at:

44 Derngate
Northampton
NN1 1UH
Tel: 01604 735451 / Fax: 01604 735401
Mobile: 07801 213300
email: jim.williams@english-heritage.org.uk

dix 2

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching

Job title: 254, Braunstone Lane, Braunstone Town, Leicestershire

NGR: SK 560 025

Client: Parkers of Leicester Ltd

Planning Authority: Blaby District Council

Planning application Nos. 07/0768/1

Introduction

Definition and scope of the specification

This document is a design specification for a second phase of archaeological field evaluation (AFE) at the above site, in accordance with DOE Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and Planning, para.30). The fieldwork specified below is intended to provide preliminary indications of character and extent of any buried archaeological remains in order that the potential impact of the development on such remains may be assessed by the Planning Authority.

The definition of archaeological field evaluation, taken from the *Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IFA S&G: AFE) is a limited programme of non-intrusive and/ or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

Background

Context of the Project

The site is located to the south of Braunstone Lane, Braunstone Town, Leicestershire at c. SK 560 025. The proposal is for the erection of three office blocks. The area is currently an operating factory.

Leicestershire County Council, as archaeological advisors to the planning authority details the level of archaeological work required (their 'brief' of 23.01.2008).

Geological and Topographical Background

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 156 indicates that the geology is likely to consist of Diamicton Till overlying Mercia Mudstone (Brief 4.1). The site is at a height of c.90m O.D.

Archaeological and Historical Background

The application area is within the historic settlement core of Braunstone Town (HER Ref:

To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.

To produce an archive and report of any results.

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

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

The Planning Archaeologist has also asked for a buildings appraisal of the standing buildings

Methodology

General Methodology and Standards

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).

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

Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site by the project team. These will ensure that project targets are met and professional standards are maintained.

Arrangements will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Senior Planning Archaeologist, the local planning authority and the Client.

Trial Trenching Methodology

Prior to any machining of trial trenches general photographs of the site areas will be taken.

Topsoil/modern overburden will be removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the uppermost archaeological deposits by JCB 3C or equivalent using a toothless ditching bucket. Trenches will be excavated to a width of 1.6m and down to the top of archaeological deposits.

The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.

The Senior Planning Archaeologist has requested a 5% sample to be evaluated in areas available, the equivalent of four 20m x 1.6m trenches (Fig. 1). The location of these may vary depending on constraints on site.

Trenches will be examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located will be planned at an appropriate scale and sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence. All plans will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

Sections of any excavated archaeological features will be drawn at an appropriate scale. At least one longitudinal face of each trench will be recorded. All sections will be levelled and tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum, or a permanent fixed bench mark.

Trench locations will be recorded using an electronic distance measurer. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

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

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.

A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made. Sections including the half-sections of individual layers of features will be drawn as necessary, typically at a scale of 1:10. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be recorded.

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.

This record will be compiled and checked during the course of the excavations.

Finds and Samples

The IFA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.

All antiquities, valuables, objects or remains of archaeological interest, other than articles declared by Coroner's Inquest to be subject to the Treasure Act, discovered in or under the Site during the carrying out of the project by ULAS or during works carried out on the Site by the Client shall be deemed to be the property of ULAS provided that ULAS after due examination of the said Archaeological Discoveries shall transfer ownership of all Archaeological Discoveries unconditionally to the relevant Museum for storage in perpetuity.

Before commencing work on the site, a Site code/Accession number will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist that will be used to identify all records and finds from the **site**.

During the fieldwork, different sampling strategies may be employed according to the importance of the strata under investigation. Close attention will always be given to dating for date, structure and environment. If significant archaeological features are sampled, the environmental sampling strategy is likely to include the following:

- i. A range of features to represent all feature types, areas and phases will be selected on a judgmental basis. The criteria for selection will be that deposits are datable, well sealed and with little intrusive or residual material.
- ii. Any buried soils or well sealed deposits with concentrations of carbonised material present will be intensively sampled taking a known proportion of the deposit.
- iii. Spot samples will be taken where concentrations of environmental remains are located.
- iv. Waterlogged remains, if present, will be sampled for pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and radiocarbon dating provided that they are uncontaminated and datable. Consultation with the specialist will be undertaken.

All identified finds and artefacts are to be retained, although certain classes of building material will, in some circumstances, be discarded after recording with the approval of the Senior Planning Archaeologist. The IFA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.

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

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).

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.

Publication and Dissemination of Results

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*. A larger report will be submitted for inclusion if the results of the evaluation warrant it.

Acknowledgement and Publicity

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.

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.

Copyright

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.

Timetable

The evaluation is scheduled to start on 12.02.2008 with two staff. Further staff will be added as appropriate.

The report will be ready within three weeks of the completion of fieldwork. The on-site director/supervisor will carry out the post-excavation work, with time allocated within the costing of the project for analysis of any artefacts found on the site by the relevant in-house specialists at ULAS.

A Risks assessment form will be completed prior to work commencing on-site, and updated as necessary during the site works.

Insurance

12.1 All ULAS work is covered by the University of Leicester's Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance. The Public Liability Insurance is with St Pauls Travellers Policy No. UCPOP3651237 while the Professional Indemnity Insurance is with Lloyds Underwriters (50%) and Brit Insurances (50%) Policy No. FUNK3605.

Monitoring arrangements

Unlimited access to monitor the project will be available to both the Client and his representatives and Planning Archaeologist subject to the health and safety requirements of the site. At least one weeks notice will be given to LCC Planning Archaeologist before the commencement of the archaeological evaluation in order that monitoring arrangements can be made.

All monitoring shall be carried out in accordance with the IFA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.

Internal monitoring will be carried out by the ULAS project manager.

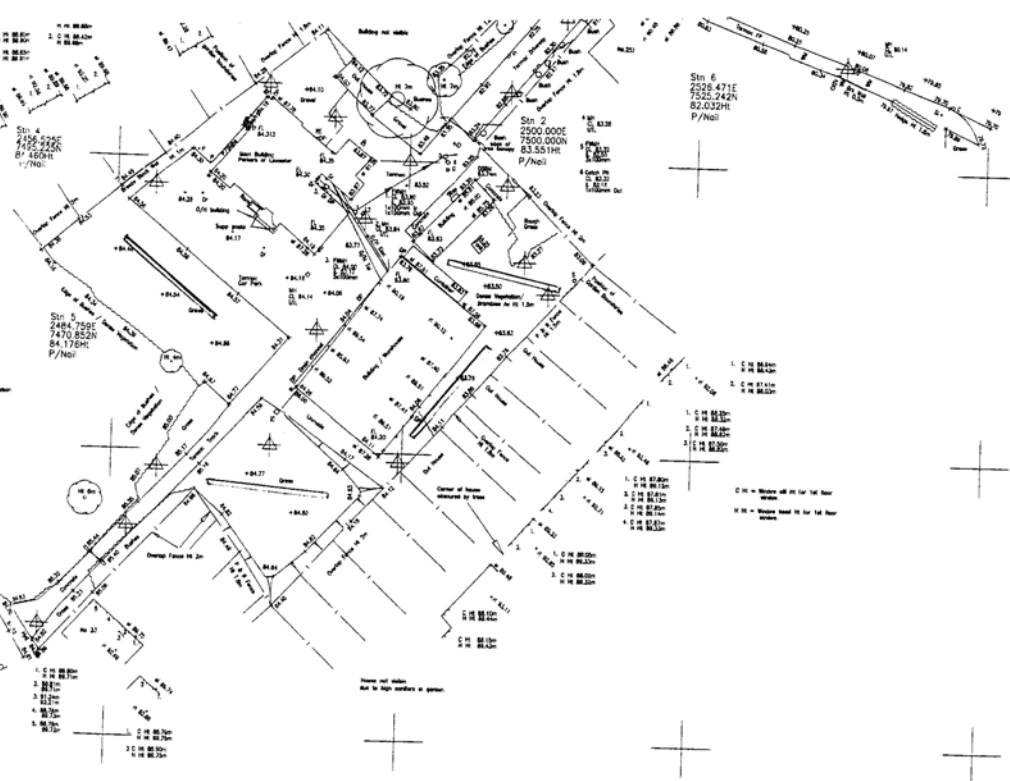
Contingencies and unforeseen circumstances

In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the project, ULAS shall inform the site agent/project manager, Client and the Planning Archaeologist and Planning Authority and prepare a short written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the Planning Archaeologist, ULAS shall, if required, implement an amended scheme of investigation on behalf of the client as appropriate.

Bibliography

- The management of archaeological projects 2nd edition English Heritage 1991
- 1992 Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections 1992 (Museums and Galleries Commission)
- 1993 Guidelines for the preparation of site archives (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993)
- 1993 Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 1993 (Society of Museum Archaeologists)

Clay



Proposed trench locations in relation to existing buildings

DIX 1

Job title: 254, Braunstone Lane, Braunstone Town, Leicestershire

NGR: SK 560 025

Client: Parkers of Leicester Ltd

Planning Authority: Blaby District Council

Planning application Nos. 07/0768/1

Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

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

Nature of the work

The work will involve machine excavation by ICB 3C or equivalent during daylight hours to

Risks Assessment***Working on an excavation site.***

Precautions. Trenches to not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.3m. Spoil will be kept 1.5m away from the edge of the excavated area to prevent falls of loose debris. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. Hard hats will be worn when working in deeper sections or with plant. First aid kit to be kept in site accommodation/vehicle. Vehicle and mobile phone to be kept on site in case of emergency.

Working with plant.

Precautions. Archaeologists experienced in working with machines will supervise topsoil stripping at all times. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. Machine driver to be suitably qualified and insured. If services or wells are encountered machining will be halted until extent has been established by hand excavation or areas where it is safe to machine have been established. Overhead power lines are present to the south of the areas to be evaluated. The machine will maintain a distance of at least 10 m to the north of the powerlines.

Working within areas prone to waterlogging.

If waterlogging occurs on site preventing work continuing it is proposed to excavate a sump, suitably fenced and clearly marked, to enable the water to drain away. If this is insufficient a pump will be used. The sump will be covered when not in use and backfilled if no longer required. Protective clothing will be worn at all times and precautions taken to prevent contact with stagnant water which may carry Weils disease or similar.

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.

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.