

**An Archaeological Watching Brief
on land at 13, Pump Lane,
Asfordby, Leicestershire
(SK 706 188)**

Leon Hunt

for

Mr. A. Lennon
Planning Application: 04/0358/6

Checked by Project Manager

Signed:

Date:

Name: Patrick Clay

University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH

Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614

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Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by ULAS at a site at 13, Pump Lane, Asfordby, Leicestershire (SK 706 188) for Mr. A Lennon during groundworks associated with a new dwelling.

The site is situated within an area of potential archaeological significance, within the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of the village of Asfordby.

Topsoil stripping and a single foundation trench were watched, but no archaeological features or finds associated with archaeological features were discovered.

The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council with accession number X.A76.2008.

Introduction

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) during ground-works at 13, Pump Lane, Asfordby, Leicestershire, (NGR SK 706 188). The work was commissioned from ULAS by Mr. Antony Lennon during of the reduction of levels and the excavation of foundation trenches for a new dwelling on the site (Planning Application No. 04/0358/6).

The watching brief was carried out in accordance with Planning Policy Guideline 16 (PPG16, Archaeology & Planning), paragraph 30 and involved archaeological attendance for inspection and recording within the development area to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as detailed in *A Brief For Archaeological Attendance For Inspection & Recording (An Intermittent Watching Brief). Rear Of 13, Pump Lane & Mill Lane, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray* from Leicestershire County Council (21.04.2008) (Appendix I).

The site is situated within an area of potential archaeological significance, representing the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of the village of Asfordby.

Location and Geology

The site lies in Asfordby in Melton Borough, approximately three miles west of Melton Mowbray. The site consists of a parcel of land, which lies to the rear of 13, Pump Lane and a further piece of land that lies to the rear of 17, Pump Lane. The site is broadly square and measures *c.*782 square metres. The site was originally two gardens divided by a small hedge and fencing: this had been removed prior to the archaeological attendance.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 142 (Melton Mowbray) shows that the underlying geology is likely to be River Gravel. The site lies at a height of c.65m O.D.



Figure 1: Site Location 1: 25 000

The archaeological work followed the *Design Specification for Archaeological Work* prepared by ULAS (Appendix II).

The site was visited on 15th May 2008 when groundworks associated with the reduction of the land down to the appropriate level were observed. The excavation of one large foundation trench was also observed and the spoil heaps were also investigated in order to locate any archaeological finds.

The ground was reduced using a JCB back-actor moving largely from north to south. The soils were removed in level spits and the visibility was very good.

Results

The stripped area was approximately 17m by 13m, with a small square area to the southern end left high (Figure 2)

The topsoil consisted of loose dark brown sandy silt, which in places was around 0.45m-0.5m deep, over a thin layer (0.1m) of silty subsoil. The soil was removed to a depth of around 0.5m, except at the southern end where a slight fall in the land required less of a reduction in level. Therefore, for most of the stripped area the natural sand and gravel was clearly visible (Plate 1).



Figure 2: Location Plan of 13, Pump Lane. Scale 1: 1250
Plan Provided by Developer

The soil contained pieces of brick and many roots, particularly where the boundary between the two gardens had once existed.

The foundation trench was excavated around 0.2m from the western edge of the stripped area. The trench was 0.6m wide and around 15m long. It was 1m deep, below the reduced level area. The sequence consisted of 0.25m of topsoil at the southern end down to sand and gravel below (Plate 2).

Neither the stripped area nor the trench showed any evidence of archaeological deposits.

Conclusion

The watching brief at Pump Lane uncovered no evidence for archaeological features. Presumably the garden at the site has always been on agricultural land or has always been open ground or a garden. There is no evidence that the urbanised core of the village extended onto this area.

Acknowledgements

ULAS would like to thank Antony Lennon for his help, co-operation and hospitality during this watching brief. The watching brief was carried out by the author and the project manager was Patrick Clay.

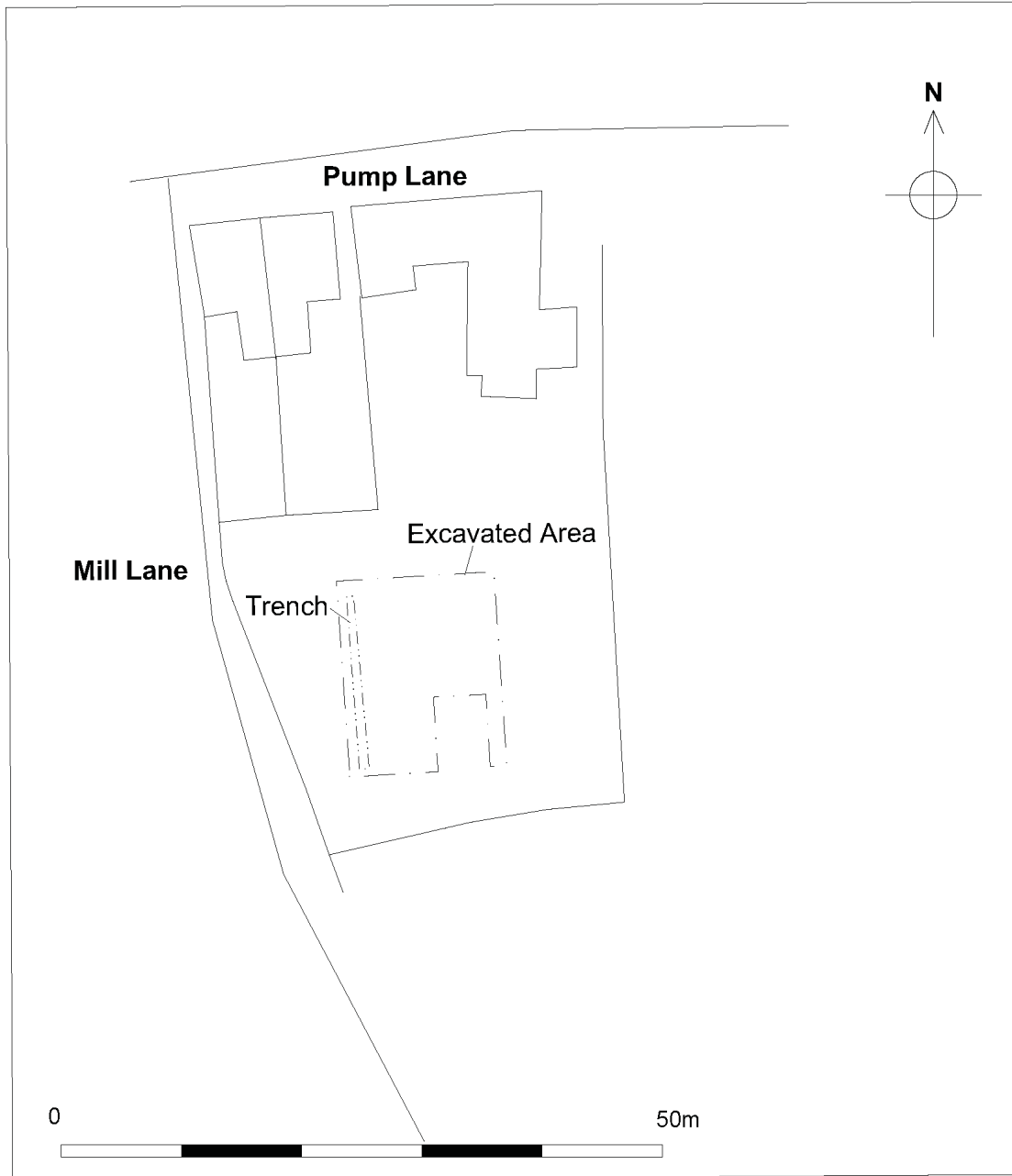


Figure 3: Plan showing area observed during watching brief

Archive

The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire Historic and Natural Environment Team with accession number X.A76.2008 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

Leon Hunt

ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel: 0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614

lh90@le.ac.uk

02/07/08



Plate 1: Work in progress, stripping area. Looking south-west.



Plate 2: West facing section of trench, looking east

APPENDIX I:

**A BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ATTENDANCE FOR INSPECTION &
RECORDING (AN INTERMITTENT
WATCHING BRIEF)**

**REAR OF 13, PUMP LANE & MILL LANE,
ASFORDBY, MELTON MOWBRAY**

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

Prepared on: 04 July 2008

BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ATTENDANCE FOR INSPECTION & RECORDING (A WATCHING BRIEF)

Summary of Brief

The site has been identified as an area of archaeological potential from information held in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER).

In consequence, the Senior Planning Archaeologist (SPA) has recommended the need for an archaeological Watching Brief to be undertaken during soil stripping and groundworks (services, landscaping, foundations, etc.) in accordance with appropriate professional standards, e.g. the Institute of Field Archaeologists' (IFA) Standards & Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief 1999.

Appendices for reference as part of this Brief (to be supplied by the developer to the archaeological contractor)

- I. General location plan.
- II. The site layout plan.
- III. Detailed development plans to show areas of ground impact.

Site location and Reason for the Archaeological Intervention

The site is situated within an area of apparent archaeological significance, representing the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of the village of Asfordby. It is expected that the proposals will impact upon buried remains and therefore the 'developer' should provide for the necessary archaeological investigation and recording. Please refer to the planning advice letter for additional details.

Site constraints

The SPA has not determined the location of any on site underground services. No site geotechnical information was available to inform the writing of this brief.

Planning background and requirement for work

Where the proposals form part of an approved planning application, the SPA advised that the applicant should make provision for an archaeological Watching Brief, this should be undertaken during all groundworks likely to disturb archaeological remains.

The archaeological Watching Brief forms the "programme of archaeological work" specified in the relevant planning condition. The requirement for archaeological work is in accordance with local plan policy and national planning

guidance (PPG 16 “Archaeology and Planning”). The purpose of the work is to identify and record archaeological deposits during development.

Methodology

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

In accordance with the planning advice letter the applicant shall provide for an ‘intermittent’ watching brief as defined in the IFA Standards and Guidance. Intermittent attendance will require the presence of one or more appropriately qualified archaeologists *following* the machine excavation of all groundworks (e.g. foundations, services and landscaping).

The developer **must** employ a professional archaeologist/s or archaeological organisation to undertake the necessary investigation. Provision **must** be made for the archaeologist/s to record and excavate, where necessary, any archaeological features that are revealed.

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 it is **recommended** that the archaeological; contractor carry out a Risk Assessment for the project, incorporating a site visit. The assessment should include liaison with the site owner, developer and the Planning Archaeologist to ensuring that all potential risks are minimised and an appropriate archaeological response is prepared.

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

Preservation in situ and Contingency Provisions

The discovery of significant archaeological deposits or substantial structural remains requiring preservation in situ will entail detailed discussion between all relevant parties. Where structures, features or finds appear to merit preservation in situ, they must be adequately protected from deterioration.

Where design modification is not practically possible the developer **must** allow sufficient time and financial resources for the full excavation, conservation, and curation of the archaeological resource before development continues.

Environmental sampling

Contractors are to adhere to the recommendations in the English Heritage Environmental Guidelines (2002) *Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation.*

If appropriate, environmental samples will be taken from features to enable their date, nature, extent and condition to be described and analysed. Samples should be taken from the fills of features where organic materials may be preserved, such as pits, ditches and other deposits, especially if waterlogged.

Treatment of finds

All finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition) .

Any finds of human remains will be left in situ, covered and protected and the appropriate authorities informed. If removal is essential it can only take place under appropriate Home Office and environmental health regulations, and if appropriate, in compliance with the 'Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act, 1981.

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.

All identified finds and artefacts will be retained, although certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording if an appropriate sample is recommended by the recipient museum's archive curator.

Post-excavation work

According to standard procedure, the archaeological Watching Brief will be followed by a period of post-excavation processing. This should involve the cataloguing and analysis of any finds and samples to an appropriate standard. Where artefacts are recovered from an identified features they shall be quantified by date, class and type (e.g. 5 sherds, Late Roman greyware pottery); in other circumstances, as a minimum, they should be quantified by period and class (e.g. 5 sherds, Roman pottery). Analysis will include preparation of the project archive for the site report and deposition.

Reports

A full report combining all stages of the Watching Brief shall be prepared, and sent to Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council. If this report is to form part of the planning process, it is in the developer's

interest to ensure the report is to an adequate standard (see 'Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland') in order that a judgement of the archaeological value of the site can be made as quickly as possible and the Planning Archaeologist can make the appropriate recommendation(s).

The report will include as applicable:

- a) All location plans tied into the Ordnance Survey data
- b) Drawing and plans
- c) A summary of artefacts together with their interpretation
- d) Any specialist reports
- e) A concise non-technical summary of the project results

The report will assess:

- a) The archaeological significance of the development site and any archaeological deposits encountered during the Watching Brief
- b) The evidence in its setting, regional context and also aim to highlight any research priorities where applicable

A second report, incorporating any necessary amendments, shall be deposited with the Leicestershire and Rutland SMR no later than six months after completion of the project. A further copy will be provided to the planning authority for their information. In all cases the reports will be full colour paper copies including its relevant accompanying plans, photographs, etc..

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 The Guildhall, Guildhall Lane, Leicester LE1 5FQ).

If significant results are obtained a copy of the final report/s will be deposited in the National Monuments Record, English Heritage, Swindon.

OASIS Reporting

The Leicestershire & Rutland SMR supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. Upon completion of the fieldwork, the online OASIS form <http://ads.ac.uk/projects/oasis> will be completed. Once any reports have become public documents following their incorporation into the SMR, they will be uploaded to the Archaeological Data Service web site where they may be freely consulted.

Archive

The archive consists of all written records and materials recovered, drawn and photographic records, including a single copy of the final report. 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) in addition to the recipient museum's current guidelines (e.g. The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service).

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.

The archive will be presented to the Archive Curator within 6 months of completion of the fieldwork, unless alternative arrangements have been agreed in writing with the Planning Archaeologist and Archive Curator.

It should be noted that the Planning Archaeologist will not recommend the discharge of any planning conditions until he has approved the report, has received confirmation that the archive meets current standards by the Archive Curator and has received written confirmation that a summary of the archaeological work has been forwarded to the above mentioned journals.

Requirements (including responsibilities of prospective developer and Archaeological 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 Watching Briefs (1994, revised 1999)
- IFA Code of Conduct (1985, as revised 1997)
- 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 staff,
- d) detail archive deposition, publication and presentation,
- e) provide a timetable for proposed works.

Checking of Project Designs

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

Any changes the 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 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 to the 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 Planning Archaeologists, 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 Planning Archaeologist, in writing, of the timetable of proposed works and ensure that the Planning Archaeologist must be kept regularly informed about developments during site and subsequent post-excavation work.

The 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 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 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 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.

Key definitions

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 and Natural Environment Team,
Environment and Heritage Services,
Leicestershire County Council,
Room 500, County Hall,
Leicester Road,
Glenfield,
Leicestershire,
LE3 8TE

Telephone number: (0116) 305 8322

Date: 04 July 2008

APPENDIX II:
UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

13, Pump Lane, Asfordby, Leicestershire (SK 706 188)

Planning Application: 04/0358/6

Planning Authority: Melton Borough Council

For: Mr A Lennon

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 (a watching brief), as required by the Planning Authority, of any groundworks on the site which may disturb areas of archaeological potential in connection with a planning application for the erection of two dwellings at 13, Pump Lane, Asfordby, Leicestershire (SK 706 188) Planning Application: 04/0358/6 for Mr A Lennon.

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 within the development area to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as detailed in *A Brief For Archaeological Attendance For Inspection & Recording (An Intermittent Watching Brief). Rear Of 13, Pump Lane & Mill Lane, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray* from Leicestershire County Council (21.04.2008).

2.2 Archaeological potential

2.1 The site is situated within an area of apparent archaeological significance, representing the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of the village of Asfordby.

3 Aims

3.1 Through archaeological controlled stripping and investigation:

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 overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the works specified above.

4.2 Should significant archaeological remains be identified a programme of excavation and recording may be necessary, using additional personnel as necessary.

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

4.4 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.

4.5 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.

4.6 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.

4.7 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 and Leicestershire County Council will be informed immediately on their discovery.

4.8 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 and Leicestershire County Council.

4.9 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. This will include black and white prints and colour transparencies 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, Historic Environment 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 currently scheduled for 15.05.2008. 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)

Patrick Clay
Director
ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel:0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614
Email: pnc3@le.ac.uk

08.05.2008



Fig 1 Location of Development

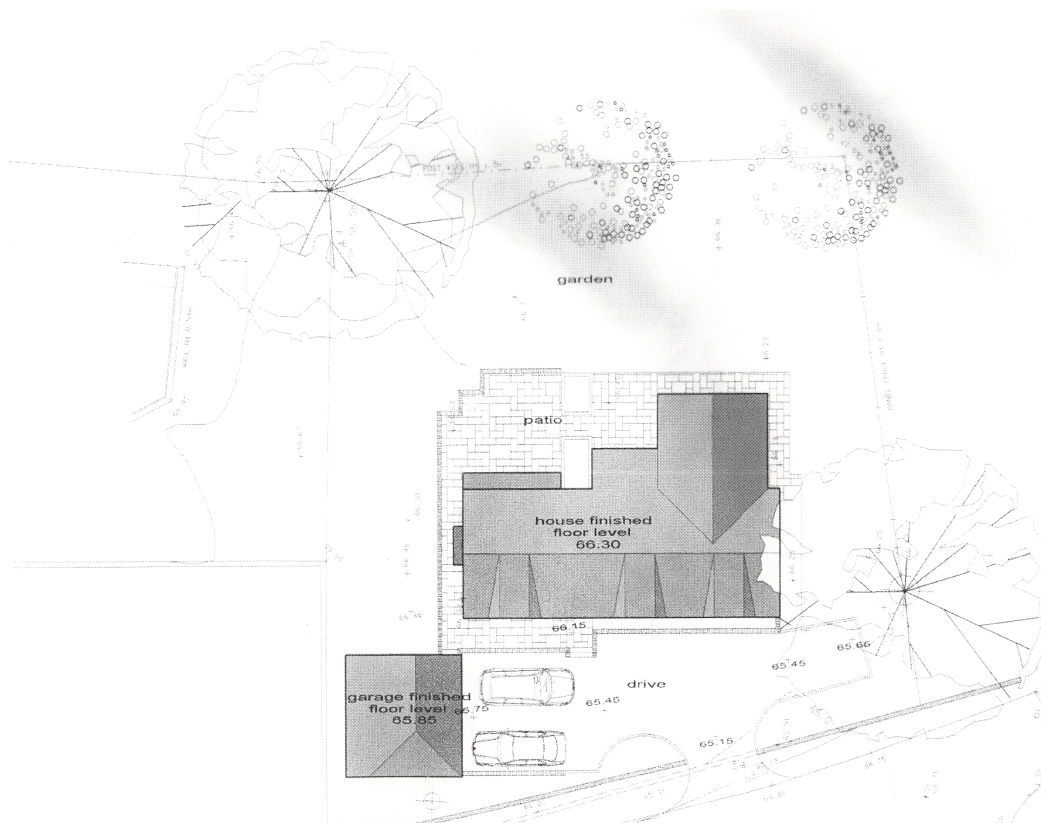


Fig. 2 Plan of proposed development area

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

13, Pump Lane, Asfordby, Leicestershire (SK 706 188)

Planning Application: 04/0358/6

Planning Authority: Melton Borough Council

For: Mr A Lennon

1. Nature of the work

1.1 This statement is for archaeological watching brief. 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.

08.05.2008