


**An Archaeological watching brief at
Ferndale, 41 Bolton Lane, Hose,
Leicestershire
(SK 735 295)**

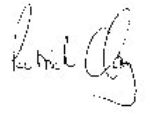
Dan Stone

For: Martin Wyatt

Checked by

Signed:  **Date:** ..05.08.2008..
Name: .. Nicholas J. Cooper...

Approved by


Signed: **Date:** ..06.08.2008..
Name: ...Patrick Clay.....

**University of Leicester
Archaeological Services**
University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH
Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614
www.le.ac.uk/ulas

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at Ferndale, 41 Bolton Lane, Hose, Leicestershire.**

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An Archaeological Watching Brief at Ferndale, 41 Bolton Lane, Hose, Leicestershire

Dan Stone

1. Summary

An Archaeological watching brief was undertaken by ULAS on behalf of Martin Wyatt for ground investigation purposes at Ferndale, 41 Bolton Lane, Hose, Leicestershire (SK 735 295). This work was undertaken during groundwork for the construction of a private residential dwelling. No significant archaeological finds or deposits were observed during this work. The archive is to be deposited with Leicestershire County Council under accession number X.A99.2008

2. Introduction

This report presents the results of a watching brief undertaken on the 30th and 31st of July 2008, for Mr Martin Wyatt of groundworks in advance of the construction of a residential dwelling at Ferndale, 41 Bolton Lane, Hose, Leicestershire (SK 735 295). The work involved archaeological attendance for inspection and recording during groundworks in order to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as detailed in the *Brief for Archaeological Attendance for Inspection and Recording (An Intensive Watching brief)* from LCC HNET (hereinafter the *Brief*). The watching brief was undertaken to address the requirements of a planning condition placed on permission to erect a residential dwelling on the above site.



Figure 1: Location of Hose, Leicestershire © Crown Copyright

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3. Site description and Geology

3.1 The site occupies the western side of 41 Bolton Lane, and was formerly the side and rear lawned gardens of the property. An associated rear paddock was formerly attached to the site. In the rear of the site were formerly contemporary minor outhouse facilities associated with number 41, with hardstanding to the front of the site. The site slopes very slightly from South East to North West and lies at *c.* 50m OD.



Figure 2: Site location plan

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4. Archaeological and historic background

4.1 Archaeological potential (taken from the Brief)

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the site lies in an area of archaeological interest, within the medieval and post-medieval core of the village of Hose, not far from the medieval parish church of St. Michael (MLE 12808). It is therefore of some potential for buried archaeological remains of the medieval and post-medieval periods.

5. Archaeological objectives

5.1 The aims as identified in the Design Specification (Appendix 1) were:

Through archaeological monitoring of groundwork:

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.

6. Methodology

6.1 All archaeological work adhered 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).

6.2 The project involved the supervision of the stripping of overburden and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the works specified above. During these groundworks, if any archaeological deposits were located, the archaeologist would record areas of archaeological interest. Spoil would also be examined for artefacts. The methodology and recording systems as detailed in the design specification (appendix 1) would be followed.

7. Results

7.1 Following preliminary stripping of the lawns and topsoil the foundation trenches were excavated to the design in figure 3 (see below). Site clearance prior to marking out, required the breaking and removal of hardcore rubble make up for hardstanding at the front of the site. Machining was carried out using a tracked 360 degree excavator with a 1m toothless ditching bucket and a toothed 0.6m bucket. It was determined to carry foundation trenches down to a depth of 1.6m along the western side of the building to compensate for the effects of adjacent trees and root systems. The other trenches were reduced to depths of 1.3 m.

7.2 Foundations of the former outhouse structures associated with 41 Bolton Lane were noted, with modern backfill lying directly below the topsoil of the lawn. This was a black humic silt with bioturbation, frequent modern small glazed ceramic, slate, concrete, mortar and brick fragments, and occasional small bone fragments. Where the original subsoil survived this was a medium grey soil, with frequent medium charcoal flecks, of approximately 150mm – maximum 400 mm depth. This sat directly over compacted clay subsoil at an average depth of 500mm from the surface. This was interpreted as the natural substratum and was apparent for the full depth of each foundation trench.

7.3 From sections in the north foundation trench (figure 8) and the rear eastern foundation trench, two potential field drains were observed, suggesting a possible episode of activity to improve land drainage. It is possible the rear of the property constituted arable land at some earlier date, extending into the former paddock north of the current site.



Figure 3: Site within plot of 41 Bolton Lane

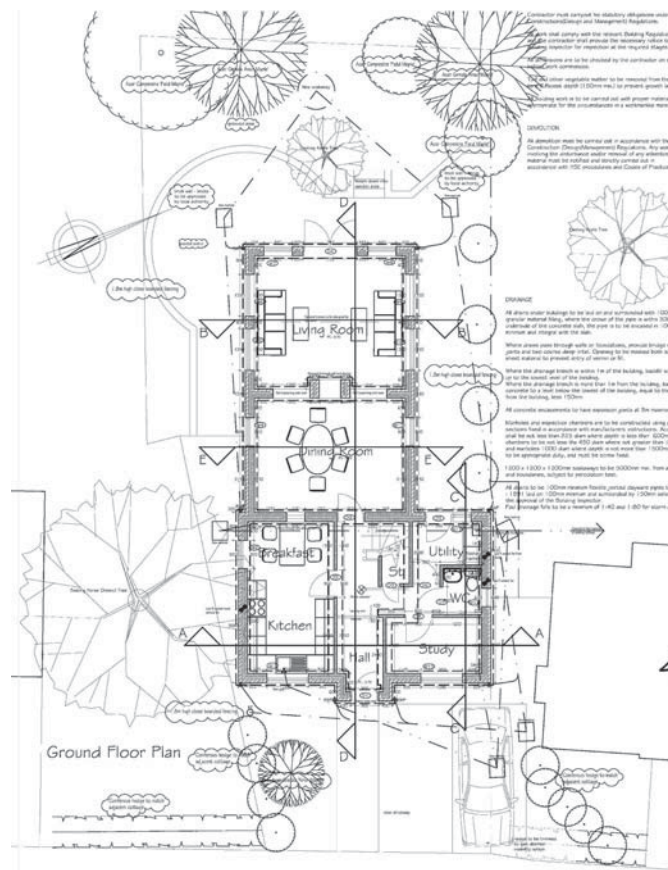


Figure 4: Ground floor plan (not to scale; reproduced from plans supplied by Mr M. Wyatt)

8. Conclusion

8.1 Observation and supervision of the excavation of the foundation trenches revealed an absence of significant archaeological deposits. The natural geological substratum comprised a homogeneous sterile clay, present at a uniform depth within all foundation trenches. Previous reduction of the ground levels had reduced the topsoil and subsoil within the area of the footprint of the building, prior to the reuse of the area for contemporary gardens. This repeated truncation may have removed any surviving archaeological deposits.

8.2 No significant archaeological deposits, features or pre-modern artefacts were encountered during the watching brief. Archaeological observation of foundation trenches and other ground works has confirmed the absence of significant surviving archaeological deposits within the area observed.

9. Archive

9.1 A full copy of the archive as defined in The Guidelines For the Preparation Of Excavation Archives For Long Term Storage (UKIC 1990), and the Standards In The Museum: Care Of Archaeological Collections (MGC 1992) and Guidelines for the Preparation of Site Archives and Assessments for all finds will usually be presented to within six months of the completion of fieldwork. This archive will include all records directly relating to the investigation undertaken.

9.2 The archive consists of 1 copy of this report, 3 watching brief recording forms, 1 cd of 26 digital photos, 1 contact sheet of 26 digital photos.

It will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council, under accession number X.A99.2008

10. Acknowledgements and publication

10.1 I would like to thank the client Mr Martin Wyatt for his help and cooperation on site the project was managed by Patrick Clay and the fieldwork was carried out by the author, Dan Stone, both of ULAS.

10.2 A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the local archaeological journal *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. The report has been added to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) Online Access to the index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database held by the University of York.

Oasis record

INFORMATION REQUIRED	
Project Name	Watching brief at Ferndale , 41 Bolton Lane , Hose, Leicestershire
Project Type	Watching Brief
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Dan Stone
Previous/Future work	unknown
Current Land Use	Allotment, car park, Gardens
Development Type	Residential dwelling
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	SK 735 295
Start/end dates of field work	30th - 31st July 2008
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire County Council
Study Area *	Approx 80m2

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)

Dan Stone
ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel:0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614
Email: jds17@le.ac.uk

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Figure 3: Site looking north-west



Figure 4: Pre-excavation view looking north-west



Figure 5: View looking south-west showing westernmost foundation trench



Figure 6: North-west facing section of north trench.

12. Appendix 1 : Design Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

Ferndale, 41 Bolton Lane, Hose, Leicestershire

Planning Authority: *Melton Borough Council*

For: *Mr Martin Wyatt*

1 Definition and scope of the specification

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

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

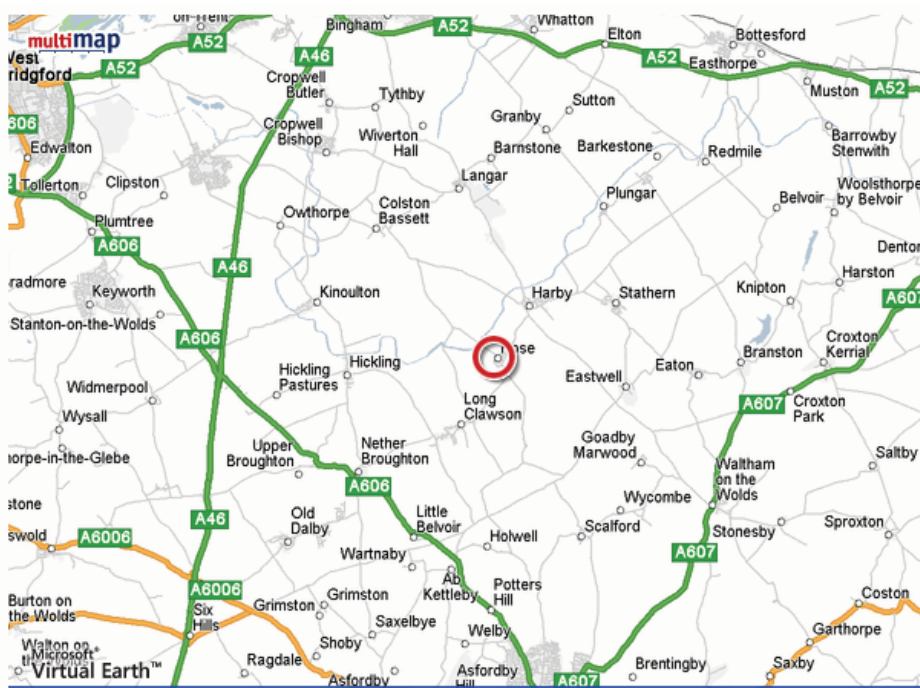


Fig. 1 Site Location

2 Background

2.1 Requirement for archaeological work

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

2.2 Archaeological potential (taken from the Brief)

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the site lies in an area of archaeological interest, within the medieval and post-medieval core of the village of Hose, not far from the medieval parish church of St. Michael (MLE 12808). It is therefore of some potential for buried archaeological remains of the medieval and post-medieval periods.

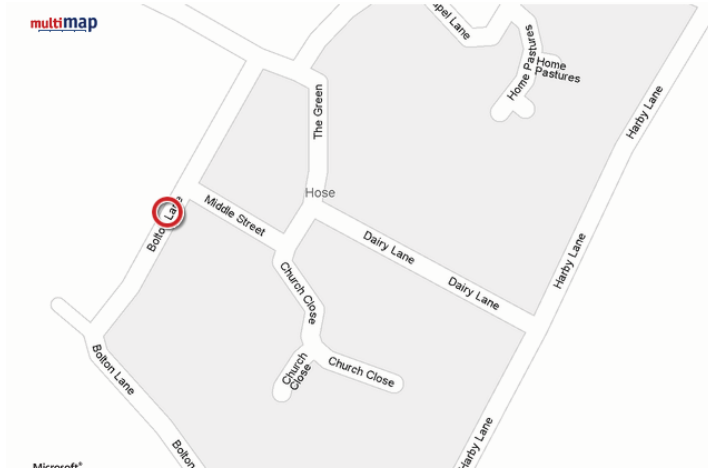


Fig. 2 Site location in Hose

3 Aims

3.1 Through archaeological monitoring of groundworks:

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

4 Methods

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

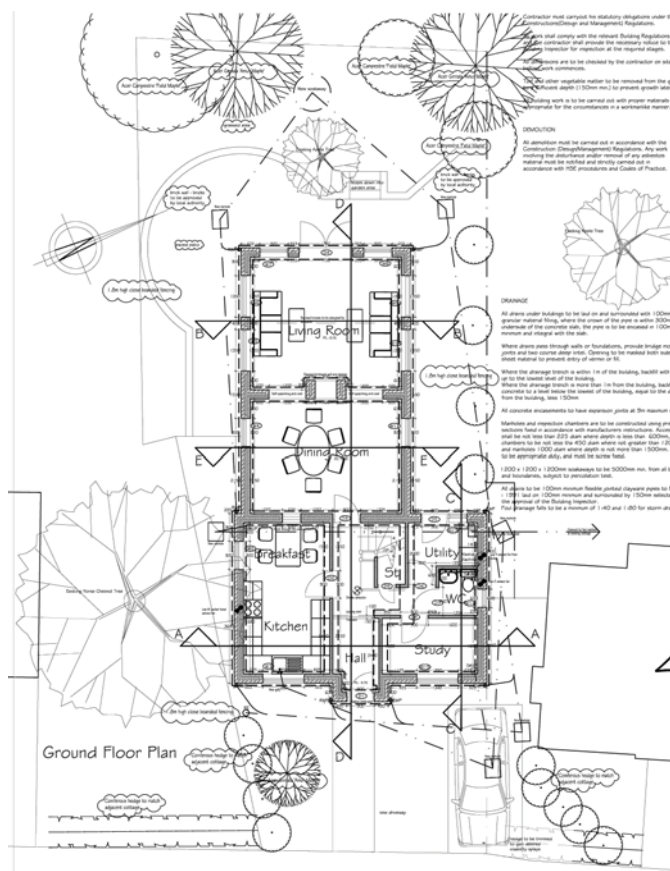


Fig 3 Ground floor plan (not to scale)

5 Recording Systems

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

5.2 A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map, (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a plan at 1:200 (or 1:100), which will show the location of the areas investigated.

5.3 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made on drawing film, related to the OS grid and at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Elevations and sections of

individual layers of features should be drawn where possible. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans.

5.4 An adequate photographic record of the investigations will be prepared in monochrome and colour, illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

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

5.6 All site records and finds will be kept securely.

6 Report and Archive

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

6.2 Copies will be provided for the client, Sites and Monuments Record and planning Authority. The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

6.3 A full copy of the archive as defined in the 'Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage' (UKIC 1990), and Standards in the Museum care of archaeological collections (MGC 1992) and 'Guidelines for the preparation of site archives and assessments for all finds (other than fired clay objects) (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993) will be presented to Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services normally within six months of the completion of analysis. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

7 Publication

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

8 Timetable and Staffing

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

9 Health and Safety

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

10 Insurance

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

11. Bibliography

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

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

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

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

Richard Buckley
Director
ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel:0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614
Email: rjb16@le.ac.uk

16.07.2008

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

Ferndale, 41 Bolton Lane, Hose, Leicestershire

Planning Authority: *Melton Borough Council*

For: *Martin Wyatt*

1. Nature of the work

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

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

HSE Construction Information Sheet CS8 Safety in excavations.

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

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

CIRIA R97 Trenching practice.

CIRIA TN95 Proprietary Trench Support Systems.

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

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

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 Working within an excavation.

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

2.2 Working with plant.

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

2.3 Working within areas prone to waterlogging.

Protective clothing will be worn at all times and precautions taken to prevent contact with stagnant water which may carry Weils disease or similar.

2.4 Working with chemicals.

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

2.5 Other risks

Precautions. If there is any suspicion of unforeseen hazards being encountered e.g. chemical contaminants, unexploded bombs, hazardous gases work will cease immediately. The client and relevant public authorities will be informed immediately.

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

16/7/2008