

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at
Saddlers Cottage, 16 Waterfall Way,
Medbourne, Leicestershire (SP 798 929)**

Greg Farnworth-Jones

Client: Mr & Mrs Pemberton

Planning Application No: 0800219/FUL

Planning Authority: Harborough District Council

Checked by Project Manager

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Greg Farnworth-Jones

1. Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services carried out an archaeological watching brief on land at Saddlers Cottage, 16 Waterfall Way, Medbourne, Leicestershire (SP 798 929), on the 20th and 21st October 2008. This work was undertaken on behalf of Mr and Mrs Pemberton, as part of an archaeological impact assessment during the groundworks for a proposed study extension. During the watching brief an area of c.25 sq m was excavated, revealing further evidence of Roman and medieval make up layers which contained Roman finds and building material.

The site archive will be held with the County Archaeological Heritage Services, Leicestershire County Council, Community Services Department, under the accession code: [X.A89.2008].

2. Introduction

2.1 University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by Mr and Mrs Pemberton to carry out an archaeological watching brief on land at Saddlers Cottage, 16 Waterfall Way, Medbourne, Leicestershire (SP 798 929). This work was undertaken as part of an archaeological impact assessment during the construction of a proposed extension for a ground floor study.

2.2 The development site has been identified as an area of significant archaeological potential based upon assessment of the data in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER). In accordance with DOE Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (PPG 16, Archaeology and Planning, para.30) the planning archaeologist (PA) at Leicestershire County Council requested that a programme of archaeological work be carried out. The assessment was to be undertaken in two stages, first an archaeological evaluation by hand dug trial trench be undertaken to assess the location, extent, significance and character of any buried archaeological remains and to assess the likely archaeological impact of the development proposals and a second stage consisting of an archaeological watching brief. The watching brief was concerned with monitoring the groundworks during the construction of the extension.

2.3 This document constitutes the second phase of archaeological assessment to have been carried out on land at Saddlers Cottage, 16 Waterfall Way, Medbourne and presents the results of this work.

3. Site Location

3.1 The site is located in the rear garden of Saddlers Cottage, 16 Waterfall Way, Medbourne, Leicestershire (NGR: SP 798 929) located just outside the medieval village core of Medbourne close to known remains of a Roman villa.

4. Geology and Topography

4.1 The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 170, indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of mainly river terrace drift deposits overlying Upper Lias clays with slightly acid and loamy clay soils. The site lies at a height of c. 64m OD and is fairly flat.

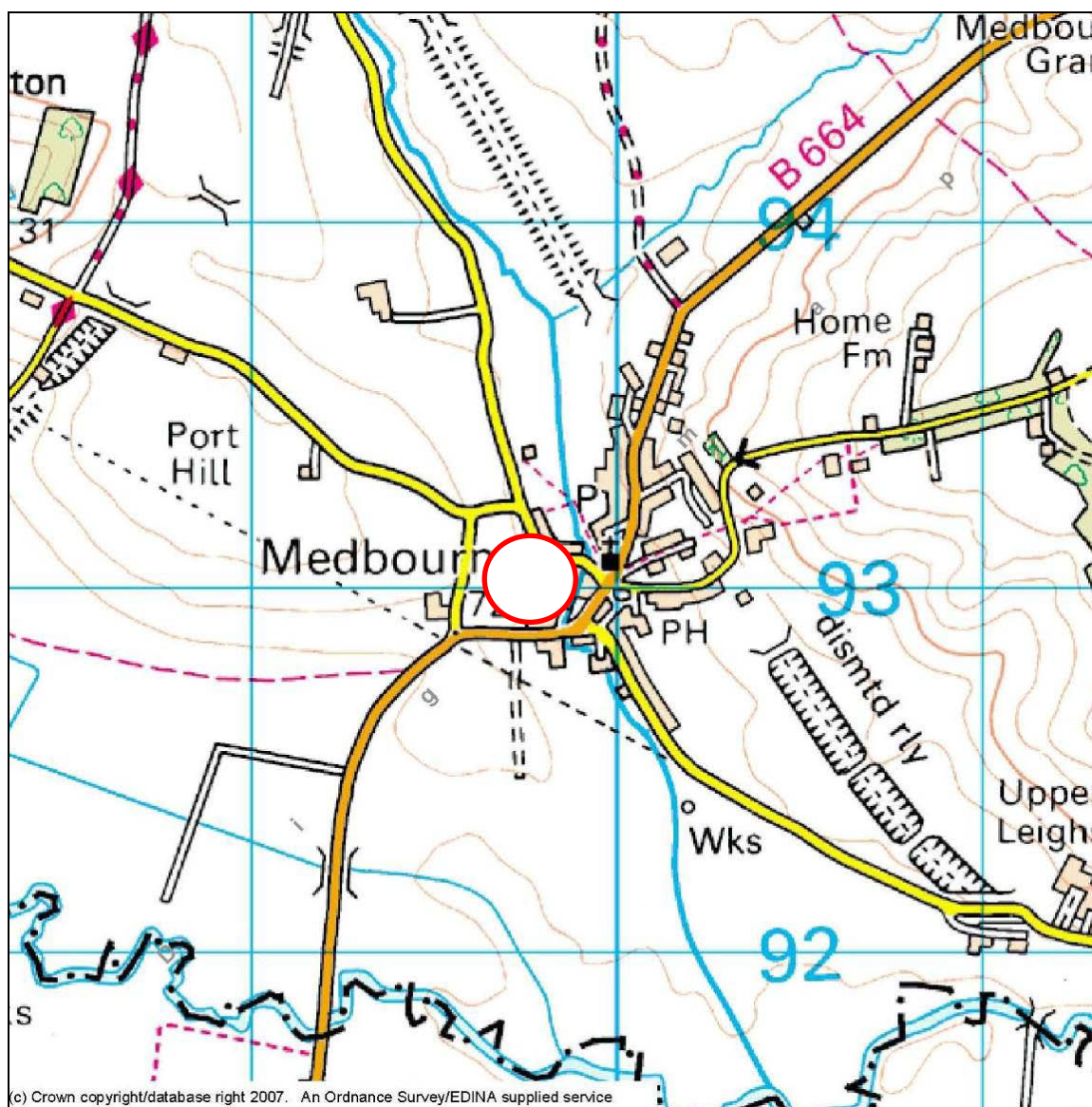


Figure 1 Site Location based on Scale 1:50000. Scale of drawing 1:25,000

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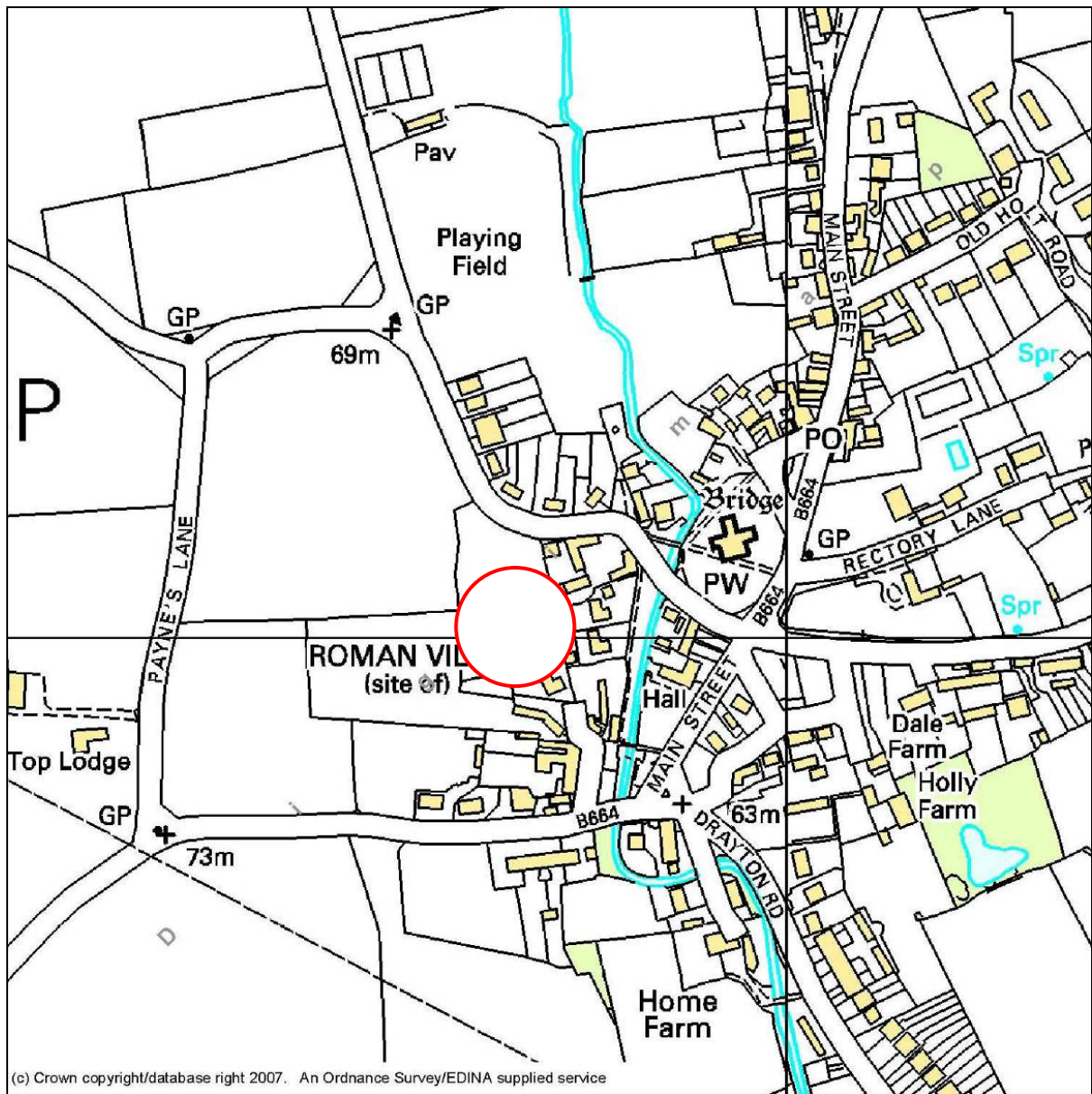


Figure 2 Site Location based on scale 1:10000

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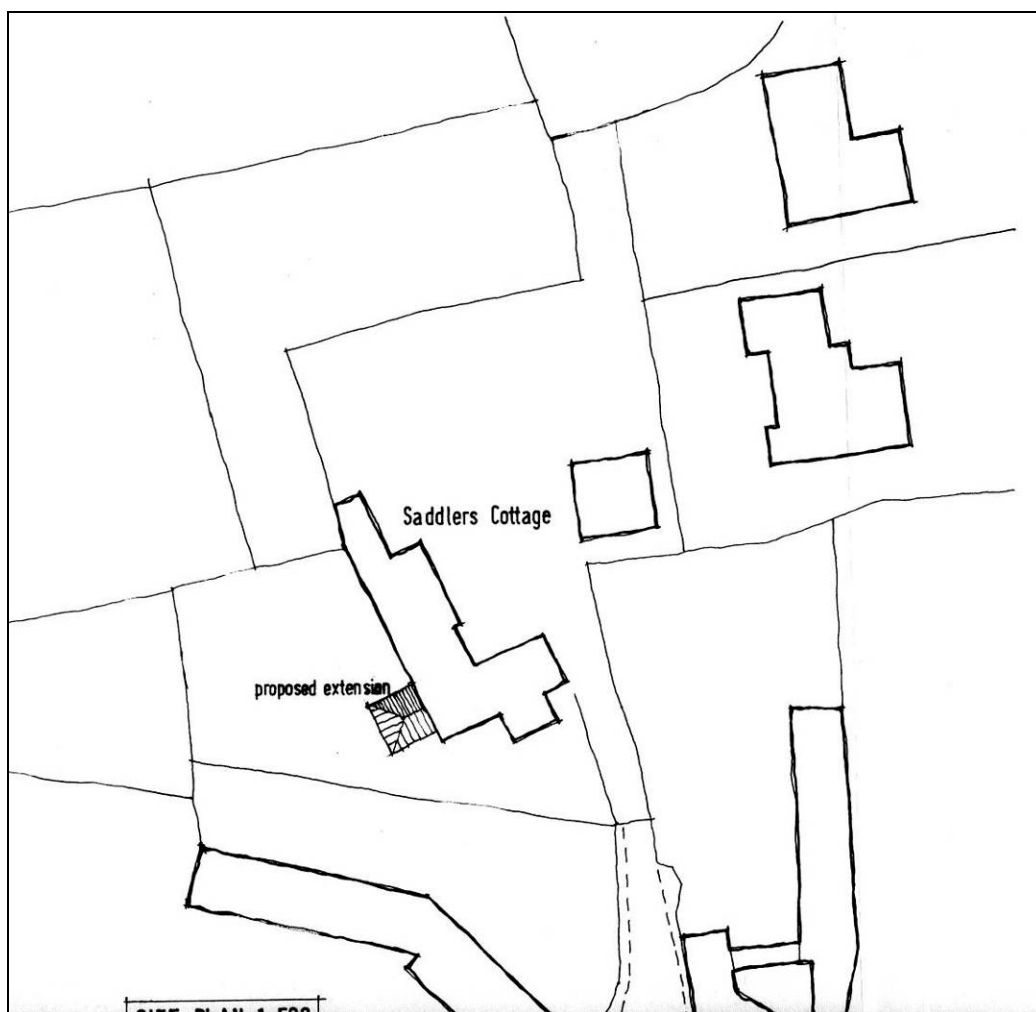


Figure 3 Site Location (Plan supplied by the developer)

5. Archaeological Background

5.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record shows that the application site lies in an area of significant archaeological interest, within the grounds of a Roman villa (MLE 2001) close to the Roman small town of Medbourne (MLE 2005). Previous archaeological excavations have revealed a villa complex and bath house, with courtyards and corridors (Pollard, 1989; see below and figs. 4 & 5). In the late 19th century, the Medbourne mosaic pavement was recovered from the site. The remains of the villa lie immediately to the west and north-west of the proposed extension and comprise several rooms in a good state of preservation about 0.6m below present (fig 4 & 5).

5.2 Excavations 1988-1994 Summary of Finds (From Pollard, 1994)

The Roman period is dominated by the stone structures of the 'villa'. Late 1st-early 2nd century diagnostic pottery is uncommon, and the earliest date likely for construction is the mid-late 2nd, when traded wares become more frequent. The mosaic itself is attributed to the

'Durobrivan School' of c. AD 340-380. The pottery sequence runs into the late 4th century....Six rooms have been identified, Room 1 being that containing the lost mosaic, and 2-6 lying west of Saddlers Cottage in the patio area and Areas 1 and 2 of the garden.

The medieval period saw the robbing of the, presumably derelict, stone building(s). Stamford Ware has been recovered from a robber trench east and west of Saddlers Cottage, suggesting stone construction in the village by the 13th century. St. Giles church in its present form is given a late 13th century foundation (Pevsner 1984, 313), and Medbourne Manor also has late 13th or early 14th century elements. A pit in the patio area of Saddlers Cottage held Saxon to 15th/16th century pottery.

5.3 Evaluation June 2008 Summary of finds (From Farnworth-Jones, 2008)

The results of the archaeological evaluation revealed a stratigraphic sequence of archaeological make up layers containing Roman and medieval pottery sherds and Roman building material.

The site is located within the area of the remains of a Roman villa (Pollard 1994). The discovery of make-up layers containing Roman pottery sherds and Roman tile fragments adds to the evidence for the Roman building. The make-up layers were located in the south-eastern area of the buildings discovered in earlier excavations (fig.4) and may form part of a new room or courtyard area attached to the Roman villa. The chimney fragment uncovered within the fill (02) is of particular interest as such Roman tile is relatively rare (Johnson, 2008).

6. Aims and Objectives

6.1 The principle aims of the archaeological watching brief was:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- To establish the character, extent and date range of any archaeological deposits located.
- To define the quality and state of preservation of these deposits.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

7. Methodology

7.1 All archaeological work adhered to the Institute of Archaeologist's (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and *archaeological excavations the Guidelines for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (LMARS). The work followed the approved design specification (Appendix).

7.2 The archaeological watching brief involved the inspection and recording of groundworks to identify any deposits of archaeological importance.

7.4 Any archaeological deposits located were hand cleaned and planned as appropriate. Samples of any archaeological deposits located were hand excavated and measured drawings of all archaeological features prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan of 1:100.

7.5 Archaeological deposits were 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 was paid to the potential for buried palaeosoils and waterlogged deposits in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer.

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

8. Results

8.1 Following the archaeological evaluation by trial trenching, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) to observe the excavation of foundation trenches and floor reduction for the construction of a new extension to Saddlers Cottage.

8.2 This work took place on the 20th October and on the 21st October 2008.

8.3 Initial machining revealed loose dark black grey silt garden soil (05) with occasional small rounded stones, down to a depth of c.0.30m (fig 5). Further machining revealed, to a further depth of c.0.40m, loose mid-darkish grey brown clay silt subsoil (01) with charcoal flecks, occasional rounded stones and frequent root systems. Contained within this fill were ten sherds of pottery, ranging in date from the 4th century Roman to modern (appendices 2 and 3). Machining in the area c.1.3m from the south-western wall of Saddlers Cottage revealed modern overburden relating to the modern patio and a modern drainage pipe down to a depth of c.0.4m (figs.5, 6 and 7). Below these layers machining revealed an earlier make up layer (02) (fig.5), c.0.4m deep which consisted of sandstone rubble, crushed sandstone, building material fragments, mortar flecks and occasional charcoal flecks. Contained within the fill were five sherds of medieval pottery from the 12th -13th century which included Stamford and Stanion Lyveden wares. Also contained within this layer were 18 sherds of Roman pottery dating from the late 1st-4th century and 11 fragments of Roman ceramic building material (Appendix 2). The building material included a variety of tile types which suggested the presence of a Roman building with a tiled roof and a possible hypocaust (Appendix 2).

8.4 Below layer (02) was observed and excavated layer (06) (fig. 5), which was c.0.2m deep, mid grey brown clayey silt with frequent charcoal flecks and very occasional sandstone fragments <1% (fig.5). This layer (06) was identified as a Roman make up layer. No finds were uncovered from this layer during the watching brief, although three sherds of Roman pottery, dating from the 2nd-3rd century and a single tessera fragment were uncovered from this layer during the evaluation (Farnworth-Jones 2008).

8.5 Further machining revealed mid yellowish brown layer (03) which was *c.*0.3m excavated depth and consisted of silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and very occasional sandstone fragments <1%. This layer (06) was also identified as a Roman make up layer.

8.6 The same sequence of archaeological stratigraphy was observed in all of the foundation trenches and the natural substratum was not reached during the ground work excavations.

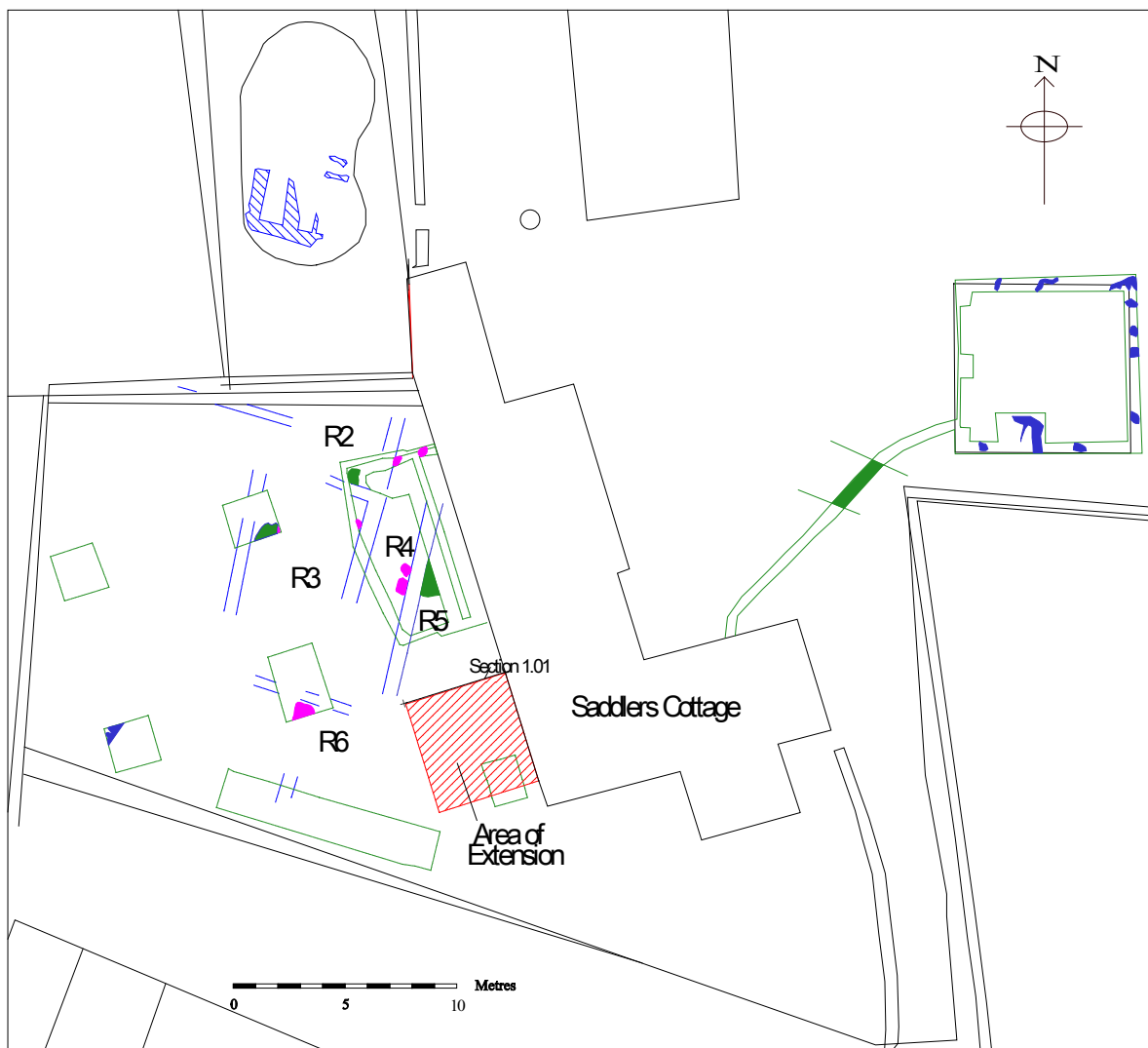


Figure 4 Showing area of extension (marked red) in relation to earlier work

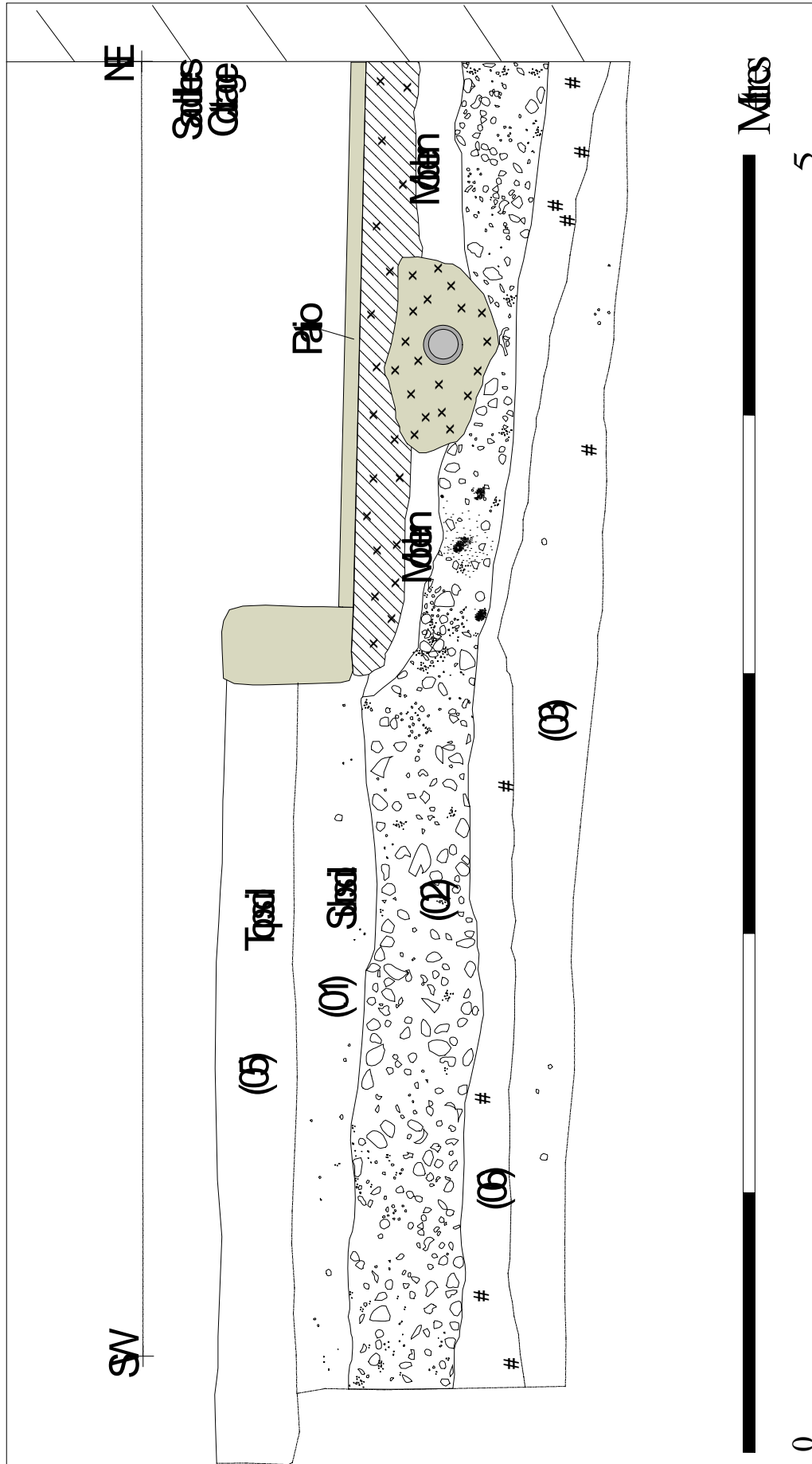


Figure 6 Southeast Facing Section 101



Figure 6 section of trench north facing



Figure 7 General view north-west facing



Figure 8 General view south-east facing

9. Conclusion

9.1 The results of the watching brief carried out on land at Saddlers Cottage, 16 Waterfall Way, Medbourne, Leicestershire (NGR: SP 798 929) revealed a stratigraphic sequence of archaeological make up layers containing Roman and medieval pottery sherds and Roman building material.

9.2 The site is located within the area of the remains of a Roman villa (Pollard, 1994). The discovery of make-up layers containing Roman pottery sherds and Roman tile fragments adds to the evidence for the Roman building as this indicates that the Roman building was robbed out whilst the remaining building material was used for make-up layers for subsequent buildings. The make-up layers were located to the south-eastern area of the buildings discovered in earlier excavations (fig.5) and may form part of a new room or courtyard area attached to the Roman villa. The presence of a chimney tile fragment and a combed flue tile fragment (02), both located during the evaluation (ULAS Ref: 2008-104) and the roof tile fragments found during both phases of work indicate that the building possessed a tiled roof and may also have had a hypocaust.

10. Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the clients Mr. and Mrs Pemberton for their assistance and co-operation. I would also like to thank Dr. Richard Pollard for his permission to reproduce information

from his previous archaeological excavations. Richard Buckley managed the project and the fieldwork was carried out by the author, both of ULAS.

11. Archive

The site archive for the archaeological evaluation and watching brief [X.A89.2008], consisting of finds, paper records, and digital colour photographs will be housed with the County Archaeological Heritage Services, Leicestershire County Council Community Services Department.

Archive accession code [X.A89.2008] contents:

Evaluation Finds:	Evaluation Permatrace Sheets:	Evaluation Trench Recording Sheets:	Evaluation Digital Colour Photographs:	Evaluation Context Sheets:
8 sherd RB pot 8 post RB pot 8 Roman Tile 1 Tessera 1 Clay pipe 1 Animal Bone	1	1	27	4
Watching Brief Finds:	Watching Brief Permatrace Sheets:	Watching Brief Recording Sheets:	Watching Brief Digital Colour Photographs:	Watching Brief Context Sheets:
17 sherd RB.pot 13 post RB pot 11 b.m. frags. 1 animal bone 1 clay pipe	1	3	83	5

12. Publication

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course.

13. Bibliography

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LCC Unpublished

Pollard, R. J., 1995 Medbourne, Saddlers Cottage. *Transactions of Leicestershire
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24.11.2008

APPENDIX 1: OASIS Report

INFORMATION REQUIRED	EXAMPLE
Project Name	Saddlers Cottage, Medbourne, Leics. (SP 798 929)
Project Type	Watching Brief
Project Manager	Richard Buckley
Project Supervisor	Greg Farnworth-Jones
Previous/Future work	Pollard, R. 1989; 1994. Farnworth-Jones G. 2008
Current Land Use	Garden / Patio
Development Type	Extension
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	Groundworks
Site Co ordinates	(NGR: SP 798 929)

Start/end dates of field work	20/10/08 – 21/10/08
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire County Council
Study Area	30 sq m

APPENDIX 2: Romano-British Pottery and Ceramic Building Material

Elizabeth Johnson

Assemblage Size and Condition

A stratified assemblage of 17 sherds of Roman period pottery weighing 176g was retrieved during an archaeological watching brief. In addition, 11 fragments of ceramic building material (2.913kg) were also recovered. The average pottery sherd weight of 10.4g suggests a reasonable level of preservation, although the quantity is small from only two contexts.

Methodology

The material was classified using the Leicestershire Fabric Series (Pollard 1994) and quantified by sherd count and weight as shown in the catalogue below. Vessel forms were also assigned where diagnostic sherds allowed using published typologies (Howe *et al* 1980; Pollard 1994; Webster 1996).

Pottery Catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	Sherds	Weight (g)	Dating
1	Nene Valley colour-coat	Beaker	1	9	3rdC
2	Nene Valley colour-coat	Beaker	1	5	3rdC
2	Oxfordshire mortarium	Mortarium	1	25	4thC
2	Samian	Dish	3	39	mid-late2ndC
2	Black Burnished ware	Jar	2	37	Mid-late2ndC
2	Grog/mixed-gritted	Jar	3	19	2ndC?
2	Grey ware	Jar	1	3	mid2ndC+
2	Sandy ware	Jar	1	8	later1stC
2	Grey ware	Dish	1	7	mid2ndC+
2	Grey ware	Jar	3	24	2ndC+

One sherd from a Nene Valley colour-coated ware beaker was recovered from context (1). The vessel is a folded form, but without the metallic sheen of later vessels suggesting a date

within the 3rd century (Howe et al 1980, 18-19). Post-Roman material was also recovered from this context.

The remaining 16 sherds were all recovered from context (2), including a joining sherd from the Nene Valley colour-coated ware beaker found in context (1). The other notable sherd is the Oxfordshire red-brown colour-coated ware mortarium, dating to the 4th century (Young 1977: 133; 173). The remaining material is potentially much earlier, with a sandy ware jar dating to the later 1st century and Black Burnished ware jar and Samian ware dish both dating to the second half of the 2nd century. A small jar similar to Northamptonshire grog-tempered white ware, but with grey surfaces and not much visible grog, is present. This is possibly also from Northamptonshire. A grey ware jar very similar to Black Burnished ware would date from the middle of the 2nd century onwards, as does the plain rimmed dish. The other grey ware vessels are undiagnostic, preventing a date closer than sometime from the middle of the 2nd century onwards being given for the grey wares as a whole. One sherd of post-Roman pottery was also recovered from this context.

Ceramic Building Material

Context	Form	Frag	Weight (g)
2	Flue?	1	19
2	Tegula	3	1775
2	Imbrex	2	133
2	Pedalis	5	986

Eleven fragments of Roman ceramic building material were recovered from context (2). The fragment of possible flue tile is in a shelly fabric. The remaining fragments are in a more usual oxidised fabric, though it is quite mixed with grog-like and calcareous inclusions in a micaceous clay. This is in keeping with the tile recovered from the earlier evaluations at this site (Johnson 2008). Although only a few fragments were recovered, the variety of tile types represented suggests the presence of a Roman building with at least a tiled roof and possibly hypocaust. Unfortunately, no traces of possible chimney pieces or combed flue tile found at the earlier excavations were found here (Ibid).

In themselves, the fragments of building material cannot be accurately dated and, although they were found in association with pottery dating from the 4th century, one sherd of post-Roman material was also recovered from this context.

Summary

The site is known to be the location of a Roman villa (Pollard 1989, 107-8). Walls, box flue tile and painted wall plaster have previously been found (Pollard 1999, 106) and the tile found during this watching brief adds to that body of evidence. The latest datable Roman pottery from the evaluation phase was 2nd to 3rd century (Johnson 2008), whereas here we

have evidence of activity well into the 4th century with the presence of the Oxfordshire mortarium.

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Howe, M. D., Perrin, J. R. and Mackreth, D. F., 1980. *Roman Pottery from the Nene Valley: A Guide* Peterborough City Museum Occasional Paper No. 2. Peterborough: Peterborough City Museum.

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Appendix 3 The Post-Roman Pottery

Deborah Sawday

The pottery, 13 sherds, weighing 232 grams, was catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabrics Series (Sawday 1989; Davies and Sawday 1999). The results are shown below.

The 2 sherds of medieval pottery from context 1 are dated from circa 1100/1200 to circa 1400. The 3 sherds of medieval pottery from context 2 lay within a date range from the 12th to the late 13th century. The fabrics, Stamford, the Stanion Lyveden wares 1 and 4 and the Coarse Shelly ware, are typical of those found in the region. Both Stamford and Stanion Lyveden were major pottery production centres during the medieval period, and it is likely that the Coarse Shelly ware also originates from the Stanion Lyveden kilns.

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Site/ Parish: Saddlers Cottage, Waterfall Way, Medbourne, Leics	Submitter: G. Farnworth-Jones
Accession No.: XA89 2008	Identifier: D. Sawday
Document Ref: 2008-158	Date of Identification: 8.7.08/20.11.08
Material: pottery	Method of recovery: evaluation/wb
Site Type: outskirts of later med village	Job Number: 08/193

Context	Fabric/Ware	Nos.	Weight	Comments
POT				
1	CS – Coarse Shelly ware	1	18	c.1100-c.1400
1	LY`1 – Lyveden Stanion type 1	1	24	c.1200/1225- 1400
1	EA2 – Earthenware 2	1	23	Simple upright jar rim, externally thickened, slipped & glazed internally, abraded internally. Post med/modern
1	EA2	2	21	Body sherds. Post medieval
1	EA4 - Mottled ware	1	7	Post medieval
1	EA10 – White Earthenware	1	7	Modern, dish transfer printed under glaze
1	SW5 – Brown Salt Glazed	2	21	Modern

	Stoneware			
2	ST2 – Fine Stamford ware	1	55	Body, thin blue/grey lead glaze on exterior wall – this, glaze 2 at Stamford, is most common during the second half of the 12 th C, (Kilmurry 1980, 134).
2	LY4 – Lyveden Stanion A ware	2	37	Everted, externally thickened jar rim, thumbbed along rim top, similar Northampton c.1100-1400 (McCarthy 1979, fig.102.661).
2	SW4 – Brown Salt Glazed stoneware	1	19	Machine turned decoration ext, modern
MISC.				
1	China Clay	1		Clay pipe stem
2	Bone	1		Animal bone

APPENDIX 4:

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

Job title: Saddlers Cottage, Medbourne, Leicestershire

NGR: SP 798 929

Client: Mr & Mrs Pemberton

Planning Authority: Harborough District

Planning application Nos. 0800219/FUL

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 an archaeological watching brief, during ground works for a proposed agricultural building and detached garage as required by the Planning Authority, in connection with a planning application for, Saddlers Cottage, 16 Waterfall Way, Medbourne, Leicestershire (SP 798 929) and a planning application has been submitted for the construction of a single-storey extension to create a study (Planning application Nos. 0800219/FUL).
- 1.2 It addresses the requirements detailed in the *Brief For archaeological attendance for inspection and recording (a watching brief)* (LCCHNET 02.10.2008).
- 1.3 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 Planning Background

2.1 Context of the Project

- 2.1.1 The site is located at 16 Waterfall Way, Medbourne, Leicestershire and a planning application has been submitted for the construction of a single-storey extension to create a study. The area affected measures approximately 10m by 9m.
- 2.1.2 Leicestershire County Council, as archaeological advisors to the planning authority have detailed the level of archaeological work required (their brief of 02.09.2008).

2.2 Archaeological Background

- 2.2.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record shows that the application site lies in an area of significant archaeological interest, within the grounds of a Roman villa (MLE 2001) close to the Roman small town of Medbourne (MLE 2005). Previous archaeological excavations have revealed a villa complex and bath house, with courtyards and corridors. In the late 19th century, the Medbourne mosaic pavement was recovered from the site. The remains of the villa lie immediately to the west of the proposed extension and comprise several rooms in a good state of preservation about 0.6m below present. An

evaluation by test pitting confirmed the presence of some archaeological deposits in the area of the proposed extension (ULAS report 2008-104)

3 Aims

3.1 *Archaeological watching brief.* Through archaeological inspection and recording of groundworks by the client's contractors:

1. To identify the presence/absence of 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 examination of groundworks by an experienced archaeologist as detailed in the 'brief'. If any archaeological deposits are seen to be present, the archaeologist will record areas of archaeological interest.
- 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 palaeosoils 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, Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services and the coroner 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, Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services and Harborough District Council.

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 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 watching brief is scheduled to commence at the inception 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 2005) with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is in the Appendix. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate.

10 Insurance

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

11. Bibliography

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

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

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

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

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11.10.2008

Appendix

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

Job title: Saddlers Cottage, Medbourne, Leicestershire

NGR: SP 798 929

Client: Mr & Mrs Pemberton

Planning Authority: Harborough District

Planning application Nos. 0800219/FUL

1 Nature of the work

1.1 This statement is for an historic buildings appraisal and archaeological watching brief.

1.2 The work will involve inspection of buildings and observation of groundworks during daylight hours and recording of any underlying archaeological deposits revealed. Overall depth is likely to be c. 0.2-0.5m. This will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. All work will adhere to the University of Leicester Health and Safety Policy and follow the guidance in the ULAS Health and Safety Manual (2001) together with the following relevant Health and Safety guidelines.

1.3 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

1.4 The Health and Safety policy on site will be reassessed during the evaluation .

1.5 All work will adhere to the contractors' health and safety policy.

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 Working within a building site

Precautions. No work will be undertaken beneath section faces. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. Hard hats 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. Liaison will be maintained with the contractors to ensure programme of machine movement is understood.

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 Vialls 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.

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

Patrick Clay

11.10.2008