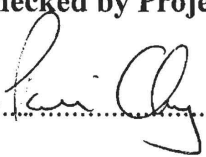


**An Archaeological Evaluation  
at School Road, Kibworth Beauchamp,  
Leicestershire (NGR SP 681 937)**

**David Parker**

For Jelson Ltd

<b>Checked by Project Manager</b>	
Signed: 	Date: 22.01.2007
Name: Patrick Curre	

University of Leicester Archaeological Services  
Report No. 2007-011

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**An Archaeological Evaluation at School Road, Kibworth, Leicestershire  
(SP 681 937)**

**Contents**

<b>1</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Historical and Archaeological Background</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Archaeological Objectives</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Methodology</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Trial Trenching Methodology</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Archive</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Acknowledgments</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Appendix</b>	<b>Design Specification for Archaeological Work</b>	<b>8</b>

**Figures**

Figure 1. Site Location Plan 1: 50000	1
Figure 2. Site Location Plan 1:1250	3
Figure 3. Trench Location Plan	4
Figure 4. Section of Trench Three	6

## **An archaeological evaluation at School Road, Kibworth, Leicestershire (SP 681 937)**

**David Parker**

### **1. Summary**

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at School Road, Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicestershire (SP 681 937) in January 2007. Three trenches were opened under archaeological supervision until stratified deposits or the natural substratum was reached. Trench one revealed two modern postholes, trench two was negative and trench three revealed a large modern feature/disturbance.*

### **2. Introduction**

The site is located at 6, School Road, Kibworth, Leicestershire (SP 681 937). The site comprises a house (now demolished) and garden area. Planning permission has been granted subject to conditions for the construction of 24 dwellings and access road. Leicestershire County Council, Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCCHNET) as archaeological advisors to the planning authority have requested a field evaluation by trial trenching to identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage by the development. This requirement is detailed in their letter of 15.12.2004 to Harborough District Council.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 170 (Market Harborough) indicates that the underlying drift geology consists of boulder clay. The site lies at a height of c.115m O.D.

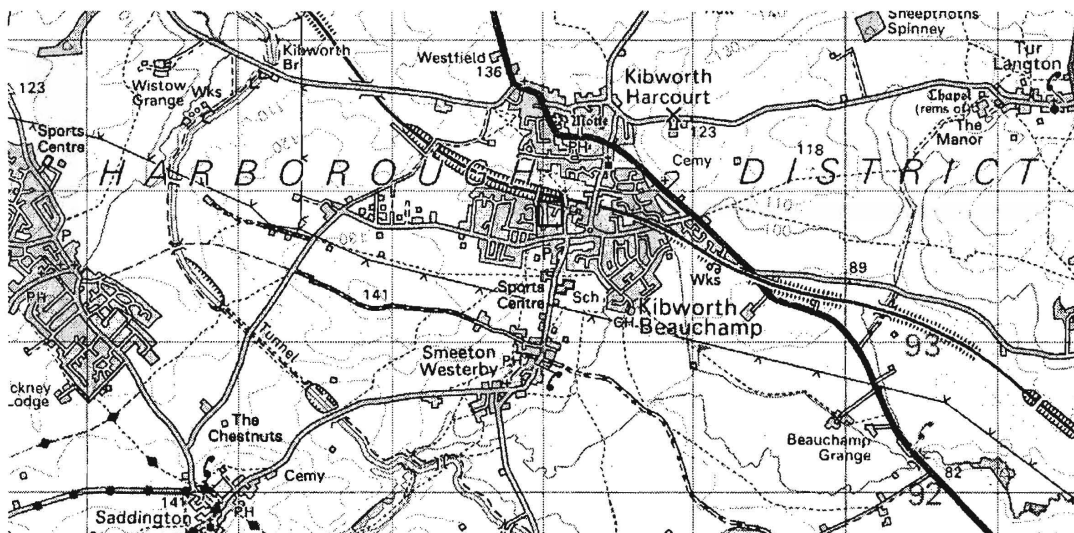


Figure 1: Location map. Scale 1:50000.

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### ***3. Archaeological and Historical background (from Browning 2005)***

An archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared for this site (Browning 2005). This indicated that the development site lies within the medieval settlement core of Kibworth Beauchamp and close to 'the Bank', which is believed to have been the medieval market place. A post-medieval School building (dated 1725 and Grade II listed) is located just north of the site and there is a post-medieval manor house at 30 High Street. In addition to standing buildings, a bone skate dating from the medieval period was found at the old school and a medieval lead biconical spindle whorl was found in a garden on Dover Street. An archaeological watching brief that took place close to 'the Bank' revealed a large ditch, but unfortunately the date of this feature remains unknown.

The landscape map for the area (provided by the Leicestershire Historic Environment record, produced from aerial photographs and earthwork survey) provides further indications that the site is within the medieval settlement core. North-south aligned ridge and furrow, the remains of medieval ploughing, is recorded to the north of the area, within the grounds of the school.

In the wider archaeological landscape, finds of Roman pottery have been made both to the southeast and northeast of the site (off land on New Road and at Rectory gardens,). The only evidence of pre-Roman activity in the area is a tanged flint arrowhead, dating to the Early Bronze Age, which was also found to the southeast of the development site. The adjacent settlements of Kibworth Harcourt, to the north and Smeeton Westerby, to the south, also have origins in the late Saxon period and contain a number of locations listed on the HER. The Saxo-Norman motte at Kibworth Harcourt is particularly notable.

The parish of Kibworth Beauchamp was originally formed from three settlements, Kibworth Beauchamp, which contained the mother church, Kibworth Harcourt and Smeeton Westerby. Kibworth was recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086, as being held by Robert the Bursar. Edwin Alfrith held lands 'freely and with full jurisdiction'. Kibworth Beauchamp was referred to as 'Chiburde' in the Domesday Book, while Kibworth Harcourt was called Cliborne (Morgan 1979). They were later known as Upper Kibworth (Kibworth Harcourt) and Lower Kibworth, the 'Beauchamp' part being the name of one of the early owners. Henry III granted a licence for a weekly market to Walter de Beauchamp in 1221 (Nichols 1798, 635).

The parish was enclosed in 1779. Land was increasingly laid down to pasture, particularly after Enclosure and this resulted in a decline in agricultural employment. This may have led to the growth of the hosiery industry and the number of framework knitters increased throughout the 19th century. By the 20th century there were two powered hosiery factories in Kibworth (Lee and MacKinley 1964). Many of the buildings in Kibworth Beauchamp date from the late 19th/early 20th century. They were largely built after the construction of the railway and when the importance of the hosiery industry had grown.



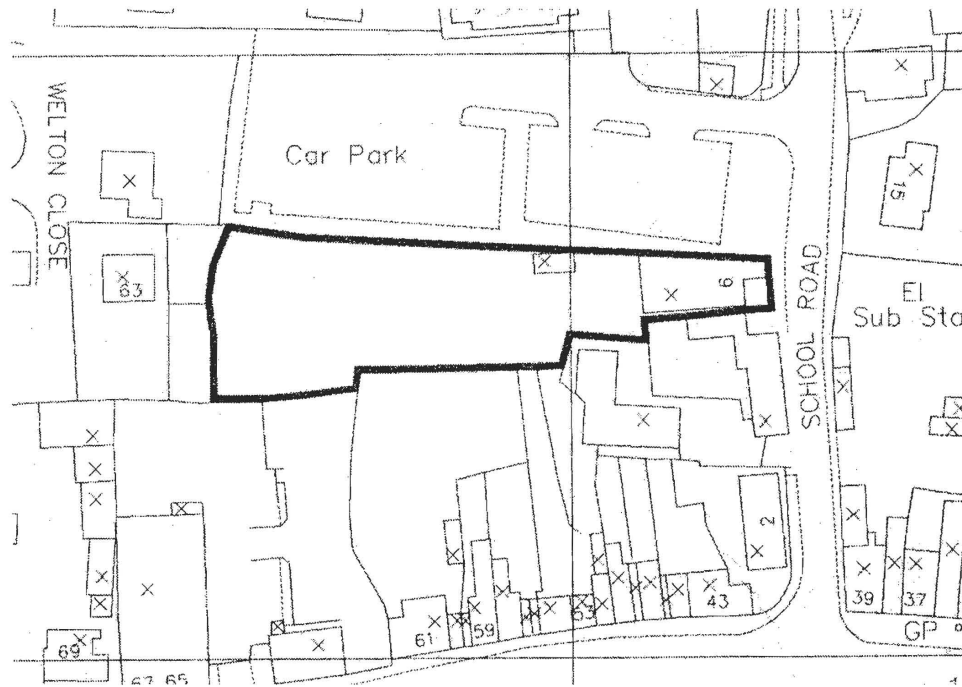


Figure 2: Plan showing site (from Anthony Ricketts Partnership) Scale 1:1250

#### 4. Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation were:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- 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 was 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.

#### 5. Methodology

All work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (1999).

#### 6. Trial Trenching Methodology

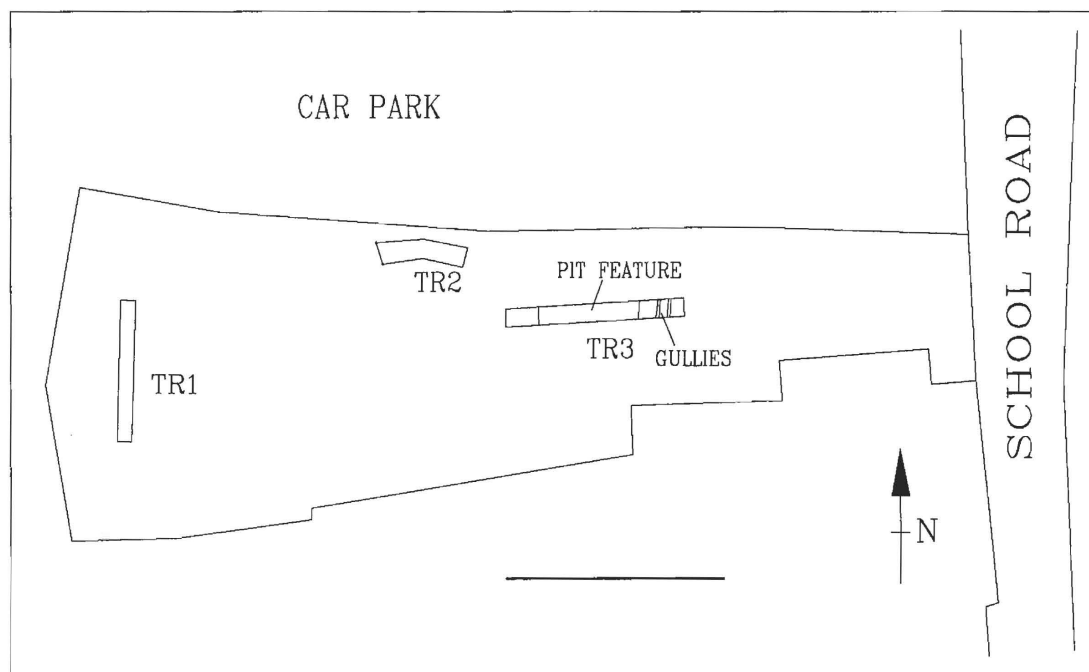
Prior to any machining of trial trenches general photographs of the site areas were taken. Topsoil and modern overburden was removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the topsoil base by JCB 3C using a toothless ditching bucket. Three trenches were opened, two 10m long by 1.5m wide aligned north-south and east-west and one 20 m long by 1.5m wide also aligned east-west. The trenches were backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.

The trenches were examined by hand cleaning to locate any archaeological deposits, which were planned and sample-excavated. The trench locations were recorded and all plans were tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

## 7. Results

### *Trench 1*

Interval (m)	0	2	4	6	8	10
Topsoil Depth	0.10m	0.20m	0.20m	0.16m	0.14m	0.15m
Subsoil depth	0.10m	0.15m	0.10m	0.10m	0.12m	0.13m
Top of Natural	0.22m	0.35m	0.30m	0.26m	0.26m	0.28m
Base of Trench	0.24m	0.36m	0.38m	0.32m	0.34m	0.40m



**Fig 2.** Trench Location plan. Scale bar 20m

Trench 1 was aligned north to south and was located at the western end of the site, (fig. 2.) where it was located to target the footprint of the proposed building. It measured 11.6m by 1.5m. The topsoil varied in depth from 0.10m to 0.20m and overlay subsoil *c.* 0.15m in depth. The natural boulder clay substratum was located at depths varying between 0.22m and 0.35m below the ground surface. The trench

revealed two small modern pits cutting into the underlying substratum. There were no other archaeological features in this trench.

### *Trench 2*

Interval (m)	0	2	4	6	8	9
Topsoil Depth*						
Subsoil depth*						
Top of Natural	0.50m	0.37m	0.36m	0.45m	0.50m	0.54m
Base of Trench	0.60m	0.66m	0.60m	0.56m	0.50m	0.62m

\* Measurements unobtainable due to previous disturbance.

Trench 2 was aligned west to east and was located to the east of trench 1 (fig 2). It measured 9m by 1.5m. Trench 2 was situated in an area which had been highly disturbed by the demolition of the house which previously stood on the site. This overburden was removed to reveal the natural substratum at a depth varying between 0.36m and 0.54m. No archaeological deposits were revealed within this trench.

### *Trench 3*

Interval	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
Topsoil Depth*										
Subsoil depth*										
Top of Natural*									0.6m	0.6m
Base of Trench	1.2m	1.52m	1.6m	1.48m	1.44m	1.24m	1.36m	1.08m	0.6m	0.6m

\* measurements unobtainable due to disturbance, natural substratum not reached.

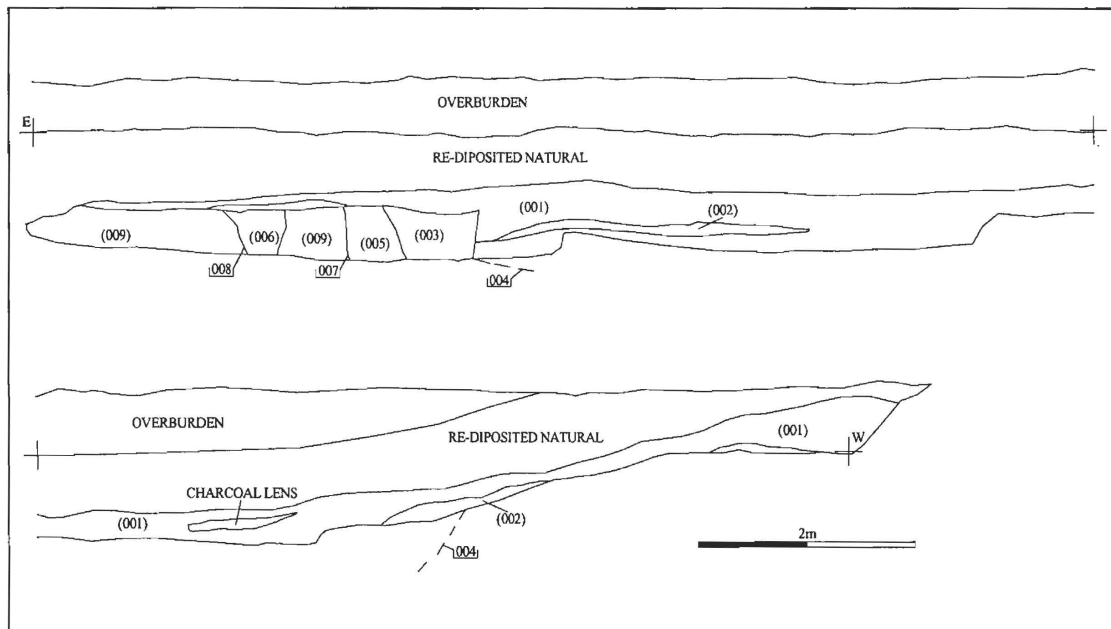


Fig 4 South facing section of Trench 3.

Trench 3 was aligned west to east and was located to the southwest of Trench 2 (fig. 4). It measured 18.6m by 1.5m. Once again this trench was situated in an area disturbed by the demolition of the house. The overburden was removed to reveal a layer of re-deposited natural. Beneath this at the western end of the trench the natural boulder clay was exposed. This sloped down to the east where it appears to have been cut away by a large pit. The pit measured approximately 10m east-west and was of an unknown depth, consisting of a dark brown/grey silty/clayey fill. Upon investigation the pit fill contained a small amount of post-medieval and modern pottery (not collected). At the eastern end of trench 1, two small gullies were observed (fig. 4) containing a similar fill to the pit and was also modern in date.

No other archaeological features were observed in this trench.

## 8. Conclusion

Judging from the trial trenching the area investigated by trenches 1 and 2 the area appears to be relatively undisturbed but lacking in any archaeological remains. Trench 3 in contrast shows evidence of a much disturbed and re-deposited natural layer capping what appears to be a large pit of modern date.

The area therefore is likely to be of low archaeological potential.

## 9. Archive

The site archive (X.A5.2007) will be held by Leicestershire County Council, Historic & Natural Environment Team. It consists of trench record sheets, site records, plans, and photographs. A brief summary of this report will be published in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course.

## 10. Acknowledgements

The evaluation was carried out by David Parker and Peter Burns. Patrick Clay also of ULAS, managed the project.

## 11. Bibliography

- Browning, J, 2005 *An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment for Development at School Road, Kibworth, Leicestershire*. ULAS Report 2005-010
- Lee, J.M. & 1964 *The Victoria History of the County of Leicester*. Oxford University Press.  
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16.1.2007

## APPENDIX 1

### UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

#### Design Specification for archaeological work

*Job title: 6, School Road, Kibworth, Leicestershire*

*NGR: SP 681 937*

*Client: Jelson Ltd*

*Planning Authority: Harborough District Council*

*Planning application No. 04/01750/3*

#### **1 Introduction**

##### **1.1 Definition and scope of the specification**

This document is a design specification for an initial 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.

- 1.2 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.

#### **2. Background**

##### **2.1 Context of the Project**

- 2.1.1 The site is located at 6, School Road, Kibworth, Leicestershire (SP 681 937). The site comprises a house (now demolished) and garden area.
- 2.1.2 Planning permission has been granted subject to conditions for the construction of 24 dwellings and access road.
- 2.1.3 Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services (LCCHS) as archaeological advisors to the planning authority have requested a field evaluation by trial trenching to identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage by the development. This requirement is detailed in their letter of 20.1.2006 and 15.4.2006 to HDC.

##### **2.2 Geological and Topographical Background**

- 2.2.1 The underlying geology is likely to consist of boulder clay with over and underlying sands and gravels.

##### **2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 2.3.1 A desk-based assessment has been prepared for the area (ULAS Report 2005-010). The site is located within the medieval historic core of Kibworth and therefore may have archaeological remains surviving.

### **3. Archaeological Objectives**

- 3.1 The main objectives of the evaluation will be:
- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
  - 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.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area.

### **4. Methodology**

#### **4.1 *General Methodology and Standards***

- 4.1.1 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).
- 4.1.2 Staffing, recording systems, health and safety provisions and insurance details are included below.
- 4.1.3 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site by the project manager. These will ensure that project targets are met and professional standards are maintained. Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Senior Planning Archaeologist the Planning authority and the Client.

#### **4.2 *Trial Trenching Methodology***

- 4.2.1 Prior to any machining of trial trenches general photographs of the site areas will be taken. A Cat scanner will be employed to attempt to locate underlying services.
- 4.2.2 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 1.5m and down to the top of archaeological deposits.
- 4.2.3 The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.
- 4.2.4 The application area covers c. 1500 sq metres. A c. 5% sample of the area of impact is proposed, the equivalent of two 10m x 1.5m trenches and one 20m x 1.6m trench totaling c. 76 sq m. (Fig 1). The exact location of the trenches may need to be modified depending on constraints on site.
- 4.2.5 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 establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence. All plans will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.
- 4.2.6 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.
- 4.2.7 Trench locations will be recorded using an electronic distance measurer. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 4.2.8 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 health regulations.

#### **4.3 *Recording Systems***

- 4.3.1 The ULAS recording manual will be used as a guide for all recording.

- 4.3.2 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto pro-forma recording sheets.
- 4.3.3 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.
- 4.3.4 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.
- 4.3.5 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.
- 4.3.6 This record will be compiled and checked during the course of the excavations.

## **5. Finds and Samples**

- 5.1 The IFA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 During the fieldwork, different sampling strategies may be employed according to the perceived importance of the strata under investigation. Close attention will always be given to sampling for date, structure and environment. If significant archaeological features are sample excavated, 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.
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 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 materials will be fully labelled, catalogued and stored in appropriate containers.

## **6. Report and Archive**

- 6.1 The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork and copies will be dispatched to the Client, Senior Planning Archaeologist; SMR and Local Planning Authority.
- 6.2 The report will include consideration of:-
  - 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).
- 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 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.

## **7 Publication and Dissemination of Results**

- 7.1 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.

## **8. Acknowledgement and Publicity**

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 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.

## **9. Copyright**

- 9.1 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.

## **10. Timetable**

- 10.1 The evaluation is scheduled to start during w.c 15.01.2007 with two staff. Further staff will be added if archaeological remains are discovered.
- 10.2 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.

## **11. Health and Safety**

- 11.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Archaeological Services Health and Safety Policy and Health and Safety manual with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is attached as Appendix 1. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate. The HSE has determined that archaeological investigations are exempt from CDM regulations.
- 11.2 A Risks assessment will be completed prior to work commencing on-site, and updated as necessary during the site works.

## **12. 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.

**13. Monitoring arrangements**

- 13.1 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 the LCCHS Senior Planning Archaeologist before the commencement of the archaeological evaluation in order that monitoring arrangements can be made.
- 13.2 All monitoring shall be carried out in accordance with the IFA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.
- 13.3 Internal monitoring will be carried out by the ULAS project manager.

**14. Contingencies and unforeseen circumstances**

- 14.1 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.

**15. Bibliography**

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

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## APPENDIX 1

### *Draft 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.

#### **1. Nature of the work**

##### **1.1** Brief description of the work involved e.g.

The work will involve machine excavation by JCB 3C or equivalent during daylight hours to reveal underlying archaeological deposits. Overall depth is likely to be c. 0.5 m with possible features excavated to a depth of another 1m. Trenches will not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m. Spoil will be stockpiled no less than 1.5 m from the edge of the excavation, the topsoil and subsoil being kept separate. Remaining works will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. Deeper features will be fenced with lamp irons and hazard tape. Three staff will be used on the evaluation.

#### **2 Risks Assessment**

##### **2.1** *Working on an excavation site.*

Precautions. Trenches to not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m. 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.

##### **2.2** *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.

##### **2.3** *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 Wile's 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.