

**An Archaeological Investigation (Strip,  
Plan and Sample) at Penn Hill Farm,  
Cotes de Val, Gilmorton,  
Leicestershire  
NGR: SP 522 885 centre**

Dr. Roger Kipling



**An Archaeological Investigation  
(Strip, Plan and Sample) at Pen Hill Farm,  
Cotes de Val, Gilmorton, Leicestershire**

**[NGR SP 552 885]**

**Dr. Roger Kipling**

**For: J. Forman**

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## **An Archaeological Investigation (Strip, Plan and Sample) at Penn Hill Farm, Cotes de Val, Gilmorton, Leicestershire (NGR SP552 885)**

Dr. Roger Kipling

### **Summary**

*An Archaeological Strip, Plan and Sample was carried out on behalf of Leicestershire County Council for the construction of a new slurry lagoon at Penn Hill Farm, Cotes de Val, Gilmorton, Leicestershire. (SP552 885). The proposed development area had been identified as being of possible archaeological significance.*

*Archaeological work on the site was undertaken by University of Leicester Archaeological Services, (ULAS) on the 31st July 2009. No archaeological artefacts or features were encountered and the presence of redeposited material suggests that this area has been raised and levelled using dumped material in the past.*

*The site archive will be deposited with the Leicestershire County Council Historic and Natural Environment Team under the accession number X.A156.2009.*

### **1. Introduction**

University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by Leicestershire County Council to undertake an archaeological strip, plan and sample in advance of the construction of a new slurry lagoon at Pen Hill Farm, Cotes de Val, Gilmorton, Leicestershire (SP552 885; Figure 1).

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) indicated that the site lay within an area of archaeological potential. The proposed lagoon measures some 20 x 50 metres, and it was deemed likely that the proposed development might have a damaging effect on any archaeological deposits, if present, within the application area. A programme of archaeological work comprising strip, plan and sample excavation was therefore recommended by the Senior Planning Archaeologist of the Leicestershire County Council Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET), as archaeological advisor to the planning authority following Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG 16, Archaeology and Planning para. 30), to confirm whether archaeological remains were present within the application area and, if necessary, formulate a mitigation strategy. The requirements were outlined in the *Brief for Archaeological Investigation (Strip, Plan & Sample Excavation) At Pen Hill Farm Cotes De Val Gilmorton NGR SP 552 885* and a strategy for the archaeological evaluation was set out in the Design Specification (Appendix 1).

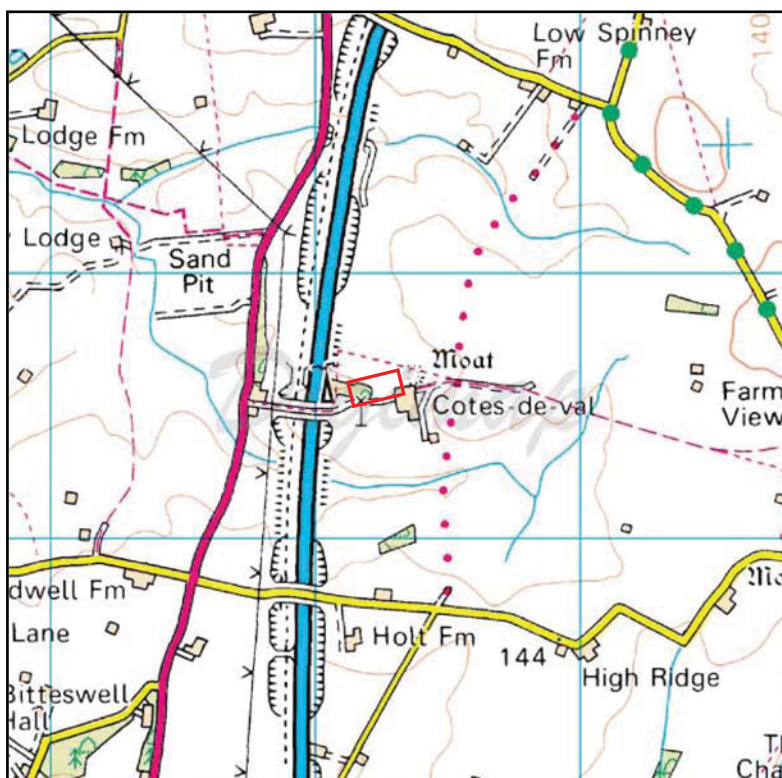


Figure 1: Site Location (Scale 1:50 000)

Reproduced from Landranger 1:50 000 by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100029495.

## 2. Geological and historical background

The site is known to be located within an area of archaeological interest, as indicated by the information held in the Leicestershire and Rutland HER. Cotes De Val is known as Toniscote in the Domesday Survey and was referred to as Cotes Deyville in 1279. The earthworks of the former medieval village survive and have been surveyed, although the date of desertion of the village is unknown. The Moated Site is a Scheduled Monument (HER Ref. MLE 1544).

The proposed lagoon is situated in an area that appears to have once contained earthworks, suggesting the presence of a hollow way. Although parts of the site have suffered disturbance in the past, other areas may have remained intact. In addition to the medieval remains, Roman pottery has been recovered to the north-east of the proposed lagoon site (MLE 7835) and Bronze Age activity has also been identified in the area (ELE 4571).

No known previous archaeological work has been carried out with the application area. An archaeological watching brief in 2003 on drainage pipes did not record any features, although three sherds of Chilvers Coton ware pottery (ELE 5756) were recovered, and archaeological work during the construction of a new agricultural building in 2000 confirmed it overlay a previous building and had been disturbed (ELE 5757).

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of drift comprising Diamicton Till overlying Mudstone of the Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation (British Geological Survey of Great Britain, Market Harborough, Sheet 170). The land lies at a height of *c.* 117 OD.

### 3. Aims and Methods

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to ascertain whether any archaeological deposits were present within the area of development, initially via the undertaking of trial trenching, following the *Design Specification for Archaeological Investigation at Penn Hill Farm, Cotes de Val, Gilmorton, Leicestershire*. All work was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' (IFA) *Code of Conduct* (2008) and adhered to their *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008).

A JCB 3C excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket was employed to excavate four trial trenches, two measuring 20m by 2m (Trenches 1 & 2) and a further two measuring 10m by 2m (Trenches 3 & 4), in order to identify the presence of any archaeological features within the footprint of the proposed slurry lagoon and rerouted stormwater drain. Full archaeological supervision was undertaken throughout this work in order to monitor the work for evidence of archaeological deposits or remains.



Figure 2: General view south-east across development area



**Trench 1** (Figs 3 and 4) was the first of two trenches positioned in order to target the area of the proposed lagoon. It was located at the north-east corner of the present lagoon and measured 20m x 2m, with an overall depth of between 0.50m and 0.70m. A shallow clay loam topsoil with common gravel inclusions (0.10m-0.15m in depth) overlay an accumulation 0.35m-0.60m of slightly sandy mid orange-brown silty clay subsoil. The mixed character of the material suggests that it had been redeposited, possibly in order to level and/or stabilise uneven ground. The underlying natural consisted of variable sands and gravels, characterised at the north end of the trench by orange-brown clay silt with 40-50% rounded gravel inclusions, and to the south by predominately (80-90%) gravel. The southern end of the trench was traversed by a modern ceramic land drain. No archaeological artefacts or deposits were encountered.



Figure 4: Trench 1: view north from the present slurry lagoon

**Trench 2** (Figs 3 and 5) was located parallel to the lagoon and at right angles to Trench 1 on an east-west alignment. The topsoil here was thicker (0.40m-0.60m) and overlay an accumulation of mixed subsoil (0.60m-0.90m deep) comparable to that encountered in Trench 1. The underlying natural consisted of a coarse gravel in a pale orange brown silt matrix. The overall depth of the trench varied between 1.10m and 1.30m. No archaeological artefacts or deposits were encountered.

**Trench 3** (Figs 3 and 6) was the first of two parallel north-south aligned 10m x 2m trenches excavated with the purpose of tracing the proposed route of the storm water pipe diversion between the farm to the east and woodland to the west. A depth of between 0.80m-0.90m redeposited subsoil was encountered beneath 0.20m of topsoil. Bright orange-brown natural gravels were revealed at the trench base, the maximum depth of which measured 1.10m. Again, no archaeological artefacts or deposits were observed.





Figure 5: Trench 2: view looking east with the location of the lagoon situated to the right



Figure 6: Trench 3, view north

The final trench, **Trench 4** (Figs 3 and 7), was located in the north-west part of the development area in proximity to a small copse on the western site periphery. Removal of a shallow topsoil (c. 0.20m-0.30m deep) revealed a substantial depth of mixed orange-brown redeposited clay material, up to 1.80m deep. The clay sealed 0.20m-0.30m of blackish, organic water-laid silt material over pale grey river silts and gravels, the latter observed at a depth of c.3.0m. The organic material is likely to represent a pond or similar, and the clay most likely represents dumped material for levelling and consolidation. The central section of the trench was not excavated due to the presence of an active land drain. No archaeological artefacts or deposits were observed.



Figure 7: Trench 4; view north

## **5. Conclusions**

The archaeological evaluation at Penn Hill Farm, Cotes de Val, Gilmorton, produced no evidence of archaeological finds or deposits. All of the area investigated revealed redeposited material and it appears that this area has been raised and levelled in the past.

## **6. Archive**

The site archive (*X.A156.2009.*), consisting of paper and photographic records, will be housed with the County Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council.

The archive consists of:

- Four trench record sheets
- 19 digital photographs
- 19 monochrome (film) photographs
- A risk assessment form

## **7. Publication**

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

## **8. Acknowledgements**

Dr. Roger Kipling of ULAS undertook the archaeological evaluation on behalf of Leicestershire County Council. The project was managed by Dr. Patrick Clay.

## 9. Bibliography

- IfA, 2008 *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Watching Briefs.*  
 IfA, 2008 *Code of Conduct*  
 LCC (26-02-09) *Brief for Archaeological Investigation (Strip, Plan & Sample Excavation) At Pen Hill Farm Cotes De Val Gilmorton NGR SP 552 885*  
 ULAS 2009 *Design Specification for Archaeological Investigation Work at Pen Hill Farm, Cotes de Val, Gilmorton, Leicestershire (SP552 885) 09/349*

## 10. Oasis information.

Project Name	An Archaeological investigation ( strip, plan and record) of land at Penn Hill Farm, Cotes de Val, Gilmorton, Leicestershire, NGR SP 552 885.
Project Type	Evaluation by trial trenching ( Strip, plan and record)
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Roger Kipling
Previous/Future work	Unknown
Current Land Use	Pasture
Development Type	Slurry lagoon extension
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	Assessment for planning consent.
Site Co ordinates	NGR SP 552 885
Start/end dates of field work	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2009
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire County Council
Study Area	0.03ha

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## Appendix 1: Design Specification

**UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**  
**Design Specification for archaeological investigation (Strip, Plan and Sample)**  
*Pen Hill Farm, Cotes De Val, Gilmorton*

*NGR: SP552 885*

*Planning Application: 2009-/LO38/03*

*For: J. Forman*

### ***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 strip, plan and record, 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 excavation and construction of a new slurry lagoon at Pen Hill Farm, Cotes de Val, Gilmorton.

1.2 All archaeological work will adhere to the Institute for Archaeologist's (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2006) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2001) and the *Guidelines for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (LMARS 2005). Unless otherwise detailed within this Design Specification, the archaeological investigation will be undertaken in accordance with, and fulfil the requirements of, the Leicestershire County Council Brief (08 June 2009).

### ***2. Background***

#### *Context of the Project*

2.1 This document deals with a new development the excavation and construction of a new slurry lagoon at Pen Hill Farm, Cotes de Val, Gilmorton (NGR SP552 885).

2.2 The archaeological work involves a strip plan and sample excavation within the development area to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as recommended by Leicestershire County Council in their Brief for Archaeological Investigation (Strip, Plan and Sample). University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) has been commissioned to undertake the work. Depending on the results of this stage further work may be required

#### *Geological and Topographical Background*

2.3 The site lies on the western edge of Pen Hill Farm, Cotes De Val, Gilmorton. The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain (Sheet 170, Market Harborough) indicates the site lies on Mudstone of the Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation overlain by Diamicton Till drift deposits.

#### *Archaeological potential (from the brief)*

2.4 The site lies within an area of archaeological interest as indicated by the information held in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER). Cotes De Val is mentioned as Toniscote in the Domesday Survey and was referred to as Cotes Deyville in 1279. The earthworks of the former medieval village still survive and have been surveyed although it is not known when the village was deserted. The Moated Site is a Scheduled Monument (MLE 1544). The proposed lagoon lies in an area that looks to have contained earthworks suggesting a hollow way. Although parts of the site have been disturbed in the past other areas are likely to have remained intact.

2.5 As well as medieval remains Roman pottery has been recovered to the north-east of the proposed lagoon site (MLE 7835) and Bronze Age activity has also been identified in the area (ELE 4571).

2.6 No known previous archaeological work has been carried out with the application area. An archaeological watching brief in 2003 on drainage pipes did not record any features although it did recover 3 sherds of Chilvers Coton ware (ELE 5756) and archaeological work during the construction of a new agricultural building in 2000 confirmed it overlay a previous building and had been disturbed.

#### *Requirement for archaeological work*

2.7 The archaeological adviser to the planning authority has recommended strip, plan and sample to be undertaken using a machine equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, followed by archaeological excavation of any archaeological deposits.

### ***3 Aims***

3.1 Through archaeological controlled stripping and investigation:

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

#### **4 Methods**

##### *General Methodology and Standards*

4.1 An accession number will be drawn prior to the commencement of the project and arrangements made for the deposition of the project archive.

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

4.3 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 Planning authority and the Client, if required.

##### *Strip, Plan and Sample*

4.4 The project will involve the supervision of overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the works specified above. Initially it is proposed to open a trial trench to assess the depth of topsoil/overburden and determine the presence/absence of any archaeological remains.

4.5 Should significant archaeological remains be identified in an initial trial trench, and found to be 0.15m or less below proposed formation, the site is to be stripped down to the top of the archaeology, followed by a programme of excavation and recording, using additional personnel as necessary.

4.6 In the event that archaeological remains of uncertain significance are located in the initial trench/test pit (e.g. undated post-hole/pit), further trenching may be necessary, at the discretion of the site supervisor, to clarify their nature and significance and determine the need for a full topsoil strip.

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

4.8 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.

4.9 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establish 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.

4.10 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.

4.11 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.

4.12 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.

4.13 In the event of significant archaeological remains being located 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, Heritage Services 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. Finds**

6.1 The IfA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.

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

6.3 An Accession number will be obtained from the relevant museum prior to work commencing. This will be used to identify all records and finds from the site.

6.4 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 Planning Archaeologist.

6.5 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.

## **7. Environmental Sampling**

7.1. If features are appropriate for environmental sampling a strategy and methodology will be developed on site following advice from ULAS's Environmental Specialist. Preparation, taking, processing and assessment of environmental samples will be in accordance with current best practice. The sampling strategy is likely to include the following:

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.

Any buried soils or well-sealed deposits with concentrations of carbonised material present will be intensively sampled taking a known proportion of the deposit.  Spot samples will be taken where concentrations of environmental remains are located.  Waterlogged remains, if present, will be sampled for pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and radiocarbon dating provided that they are uncontaminated.

7.2 All collected samples will be labelled with context and sequential sample numbers.

7.3 Appropriate contexts will be bulk sampled (15 litre or the whole context depending on size) for the recovery of carbonised plant remains and insects.

7.4 Recovery of small animal bones, bird bone and large molluscs will normally be achieved through processing other bulk samples or 30 litre samples may be taken specifically to sample particularly rich deposits.

7.5 Wet sieving with flotation will be carried out using a York Archaeological Trust sieving tank with a 0.5mm mesh and a 0.3mm flotation sieve. The small size mesh will be used initially as flotation of plant remains may be incomplete and some may remain in the residue. The residue > 0.5mm from the tank will be separated into coarse fractions of over 4mm and fine fractions of > 0.5-4mm. The coarse fractions will be sorted for finds. The fine fractions and flots will be evaluated and prioritised; only those with remains apparent will be sorted. The prioritised flots will not be sorted until the analysis stage when phasing information is available. Flots will be scanned and plant remains from selected

contexts will be identified and further sampling, sieving and sorting targeted towards higher potential deposits.

### **8. Report and Archive**

8.1 The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. Copies will be provided for the client, the Local Planning Authority and the Historic Environment Record. 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.

8.2 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.

### **9. Publication**

9.1 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.

9.2 University of Leicester Archaeological Services supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ac.uk/project/oasis> will be completed detailing the results of the project. ULAS will contact the HER prior to completion of the form. Once a report has become a public document following its incorporation into the HER it may be placed on the web-site.

### **10. Acknowledgement and Publicity**

10.1 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.

10.2 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.

### **11. Timetable and Staffing**

11.1 The investigation is scheduled to commence at the start of the contractors groundworks on in mid June, although no start date has yet been confirmed. An experienced archaeologist will be present during this work.

### **12 Health and Safety**

12.1 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.

12.2 It is noted that a stormwater drain runs through the centre of the site. This will be identified and marked prior to excavation starting.

### **13. Insurance**

13.1 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.

### **14. Bibliography**

IfA, 2006, *Code of Conduct*

IfA, 2001, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*



LCC, 2009, *Brief for Archaeological Investigation (Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation) at Land to the Rear of Taylor & Baines, 26-28, Northagte, Oakham, Rutland.*

LMARS, 2005, *Guidelines for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland.*

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

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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001-06-2009



Figure 1: Location of the site

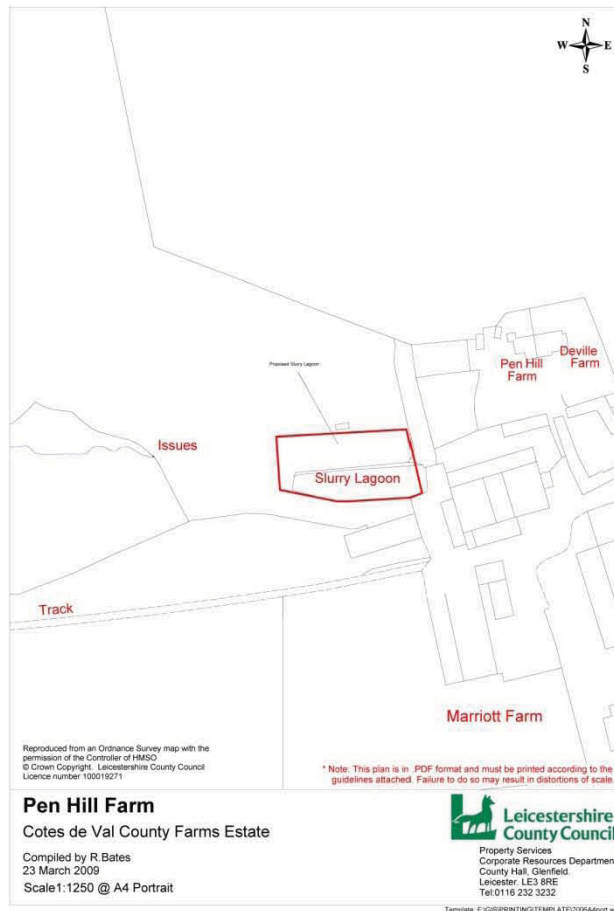


Figure 2: Plan of the site and the location of the slurry lagoon.

**Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement Pen Hill Farm, Cotes De Val, Gilmorton  
Planning Application: 2009-/LO38/03**

**1. Nature of the work**

1.1 This statement is for archaeological investigation (strip plan and sample). 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 a mechanical excavator or similar during daylight hours and recording of any underlying archaeological deposits revealed. Overall depth is likely to be c. 0.3 - 0.5m. 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 Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (previously SCAUM) 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. A first aid kit 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 during machining. 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 Services**

Precautions. The location of services will be discussed with the site contractor and any known services marked out accordingly. It is noted that a stormwater drain runs through the centre of the site. This will be identified and marked prior to excavation starting.

**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.

## Contact Details

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