An Archaeological Strip, Plan and Sample
at Rose Cottage, Gaulby Road, Frisby, Leicestershire.
(SK 704 014) (PP 08/00305/FUL)

Martin Shore

For:

Mr Pardeep Sudera

Checked by

Signed:  **Date**: 02-03-2009

Name: V. Score

Approved by

Signed:  **Date**: 02-03-2009

Name: P. Clay

University of Leicester
Archaeological Services
University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH
Tel; (01160 2522848 fax: 0116) 2522614

ULAS Report No 2009-012. ©2009
Accession no XA26 2009

CONTENTS

FIGURES

An Archaeological Strip, Plan and Sample at
Rose Cottage, Gaulby Road, Frisby, Leicestershire.
(SK 704 014) (PP 08/00305/FUL)

Martin Shore

1. Summary.

An Archaeological Strip, Plan and Sample was carried out at Rose Cottage, Gaulby Road, Frisby, Leicestershire. (SK 704 014) (PP 08/00305/FUL), for Mr Pardeep Sudera. 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 21st July 2008 to strip the area of four test-pits and 29th January 2009 and 24th February 2009 to supervise and observe topsoil stripping and excavation of foundation trenches after demolition of the existing building.

Two of the test-pits recorded a cobbled surface and associated drainage gully probably of Victorian date. No further archaeological deposits were encountered,

The archive for the archaeological work will be held by Leicestershire County Council, under the accession number XA26.2009.

2. Introduction.

University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by Mr Pardeep Sudera to undertake an archaeological strip, plan and sample in advance of the proposed development at Rose Cottage, Frisby, Leicestershire (SK704014; Figure 1).

The proposed development was for the construction of a dwelling, located at Gaulby Road, Frisby, Leicestershire, LE7 9BD (PP 08/00305/FUL). The site lies close to the Scheduled remains of the medieval village of Frisby (MLE 1511) and was therefore identified as an area of significant potential. A programme of archaeological work comprising strip plan and sample excavation was therefore recommended by the Senior Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council to confirm whether archaeological remains are present within the application area and, if necessary, formulate a mitigation strategy in the event of further work being required.

2. Geological and historical background

The development site is a roughly rectangular area on the western side of a track that runs south-east from Gaulby Road. It is located upon mudstone of the blue lias and charmouth mudstone formations (British Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 156, Leicester).

The site lies within the abandoned medieval settlement of Frisby, 300m east of Frisby House Farm. The Scheduled Monument (HER ref: MLE 1511) extends eastwards from the track that Rose Cottage is accessed via. The settlement remains comprise a series of earthworks and buried features located in relation to a hollow way and medieval house platforms, fish ponds and ditches are also evident. The hamlet of Frisby was recorded in the Domesday survey as Frisebi, being part of the manor of Gaulby. No known previous archaeological work has been carried out within the application area.

3. Aims & methodology.

The aim of the archaeological work was through 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.

The initial work comprised the excavation of four test-pits prior to the demolition of the existing building undertaken on 21st July 2008. After the building had been demolished the site was visited to supervise the topsoil stripping of the area and observe the excavated foundation and service trenches (29th January 2009 and 24th February 2009). The archaeological work followed the *Design Specification for Archaeological Work* (Appendix 1) which addressed the requirements of the *Brief for Archaeological Investigation (Strip, Plan and Sample) at Rose Cottage, Frisby* (LCC 09.06.2008).

The work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2006) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2001), and adhered to the University's Health and Safety policy.

Figure 1: Site Location.

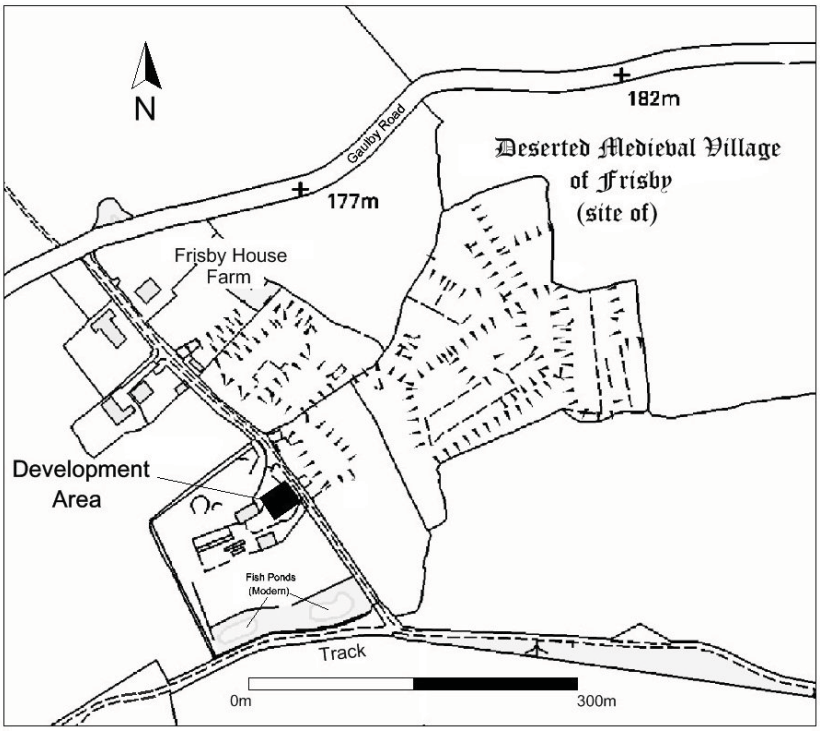

Figure 2: Detailed site location (Map provided by the client).

Figure 3: Developers plan showing proposed development.

4. Results.

On the 21st of July 2008, four test pits were excavated at the north-west end of the Victorian dwelling prior to its demolition (Figure 4). Test pit 1 (approximately 2.00m x 1.10m), was excavated to a depth of 0.80m to the natural sub soils. Test pit 3 (approximately 1.50m x 1.15m, was again excavated to a depth of 0.80m showing the natural sub soils. Both of these pits proved to be negative of any archaeological deposits. Test pit 2 (approximately 1.50m x 1.00m) was excavated to 0.87m to the natural sub soils. Approximately 0.20m of top soil was visible in section. Beneath this lay 0.21m of made-up ground overlying a layer (*c.* 0.22m thick) of darker soils containing Victorian pottery, animal bone and charcoal. Beneath this layer was a cobbled surface (Figure 5). The same cobble surface was also uncovered in test-pit 4. Test pit 4 was very similar to pit 2, but also revealed a gully running NW/SE along the pit, approximately 1.30m in length, 0.38m wide and with a depth of 0.16m (Figure 5). Sample excavation of the feature failed to produce any artefacts; however, the gully does appear to be related to the cobbled surface and is likely to be a drainage channel of a similar date. Given the artefacts recovered from the layer above it seems most likely that the cobbled surface and its associated drainage gully represent a yard relating to the Victorian building.

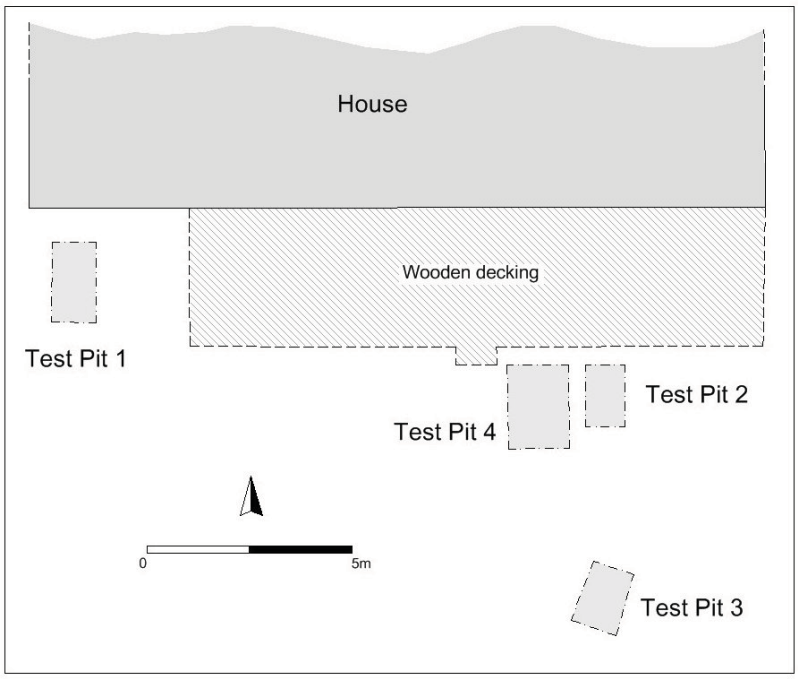

Figure 4: Plan showing test pits 1-4.

It was noted that the footings for this demolished building were made up of sandstone, similar to many other dwellings in the area of Frisby.

Visits to the site were made on the 29th of January and 24th February 2009 after the Victorian building which stood on the development area had been demolished and the ground was levelled to the required depth for the foundation trenches of the new

dwelling. The ground had been truncated at the north-east end of the development area to around 1.00m in depth exposing the natural blue grey clay and mudstone to a depth of 0.40m. It appears that the site had been terraced during the construction of the Victorian dwelling. No archaeological evidence was seen during these later visits.

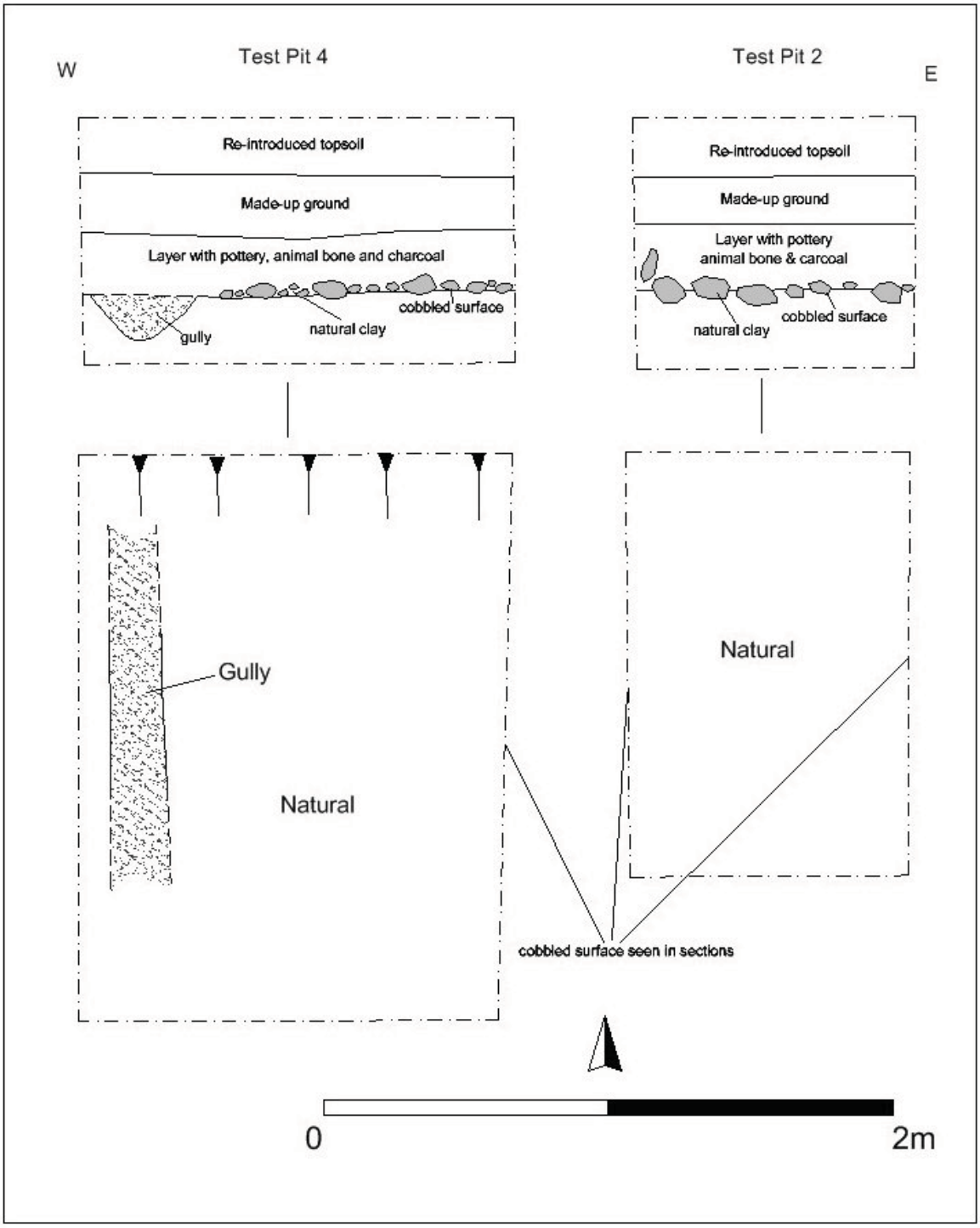

Figure 5: Plan & sections showing test pits 2 & 4.

5. Conclusions.

Only Victorian features relating to the demolished building were noted. No further archaeological deposits were seen in any of the stripped areas. It appeared that the site had been terraced into the natural clays to provide a level site for the building which had previously occupied the development area.

6. Bibliography.

IfA, 2001	*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*
IfA, 2006	*Code of Conduct.*
LCC, 2008,	*Brief for Archaeological Investigation (Strip, Plan and Sample) at Rose Cottage, Frisby* (LCC 09.06.2008).

7. Archive.

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Historic and Natural Environment team with accession number XA26 2009 and consist of the following:
Watching brief recording sheets and notes, drawings and digital photographs.

8. Acknowledgments.

ULAS would like to thank the developer for their help and co-operation.

.

Figure 6: Development area looking S/E.

Figure 7: Development area looking N/W.

Figure 8: Development area looking N/W, showing natural clay.

Figure 9: N/W facing section of development area.

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

Rose cottage, Frisby, LE7 9BD, Leicestershire

Planning Application: 08/00305/FUL

For: Pardeep Sudera

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 erection of new building at Rose cottage, Frisby, LE7 9BD, Leicestershire

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

2 Background

Requirement for archaeological work

2.1 The archaeological work involves a strip plan and sample excavation within the development area to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as recommended in the brief from Leicestershire County Council.

Archaeological potential

2.2The site is located within the deserted medieval village of Frisby (HER MLE 1511). The Scheduled Monument eats from the other side of the track that Rose Corttage is accessed via. Consequently there is a likelihood that buried archaeological remains will be affected by the proposed development.

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

4.1 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.

4.2 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.

4.3 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.

4.4 If no archaeological deposits are identified within the trench, or the depth of overburden is greater than 0.15m, there will be no requirement for the site to be stripped to a level below proposed formation and subsequent groundworks will be subject to an intermittent watching brief.

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

4.6 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.

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

4.8 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.

4.9 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.

4.10 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.

4.11 In the event of significant archaeological remains being located during the watching brief there may be the need for contingency time and finance to be provided to ensure adequate recording is undertaken. On the discovery of potentially significant remains the archaeologist will inform the developer, the Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council, 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 Report and Archive

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

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

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

7 Publication

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

8 Timetable and Staffing

8.1 The investigation is scheduled to commence at the start of the contractors groundworks on Friday 7th November. An experienced archaeologist will be present during this work.

9 Health and Safety

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

10 Insurance

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

11. Bibliography

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

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

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

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

Vicki Score

Project Manager
ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

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

28-01-2009

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

Rose cottage, Frisby, LE7 9BD, Leicestershire

Planning Application: 08/00305/FUL

1.Nature of the work

1.1 This statement is for archaeological watching brief (strip plan and sample excavate). It will be revised following the commencement of operations when the extent of risks can be assessed in full.

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

HSE Construction Information Sheet CS8 Safety in excavations.
HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)143 (L): Getting to grips with manual handling.
HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)145 (L): Watch Your back.
CIRIA R97 Trenching practice.
CIRIA TN95 Proprietary Trench Support Systems.
HSE Guidance Note HS(G) 47 Avoiding danger to underground services. HSE Guidance Note GS7 Accidents to children on construction sites

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

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 Working within an excavation.

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

2.2 Working with plant.

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

2.3 Working within areas prone to waterlogging.

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

2.4 Working with chemicals.

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

2.5 Other risks

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

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

05/11/2008