

**An Archaeological Watching Brief  
At the Derby City General Hospital,  
Derby, NGR: SK 327 349**

Andrew Hyam  
April 2006

*Planning Application Ref: DER/12/99/01498/PRI  
Client: Skanska Construction UK Ltd*

**Checked by Project Manager**

**Signed:** ..... **Date:**.....

**Name:** .....

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**An Archaeological Watching Brief  
At the Derby City General Hospital,  
Derby, Derbyshire.  
NGR: SK 327 349**

**Summary**

*A watching brief was undertaken for the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between September and December 2003 during the redevelopment of the Derby City General Hospital. The phased work was scheduled to take place over a number of years although only the initial groundworks were likely to disturb any archaeological deposits. A Roman road and the nearby medieval core of Derby meant that there was potential for archaeological deposits and remains from all periods to survive within the development site.*

*Site roadways, car parks and surviving topsoil were stripped to reveal areas of undisturbed red-brown silty clay natural substrata. Redundant buildings were also demolished. Much of the site had been disturbed during earlier phases of development leaving only small areas of undisturbed natural. Because of this disturbance only a trace of an early modern field drainage system, probably following the line of earlier medieval ridge and furrow, was observed. No other archaeological features or deposits were recorded during the works.*

*The archive will be deposited with Derby Museums and Art Gallery under the Accession number DBYMU:2002-73.*

**1. Introduction**

The City General Hospital site lies 2½km south west of the modern city centre of Derby and covers an area of approximately 20.7 hectares (NGR: SK 327 349) (Fig 1.). Much of the site contains a range of hospital buildings dating from the late 1920's through to the mid 1970's (Coward 2003). The new hospital complex with associated access roads is being constructed by Skanska Construction UK Limited (Planning Application No: DER/12/99/01498/PRI) (Fig. 2). The entire redevelopment scheme involved the demolition of much of the original General Hospital buildings although some of the later buildings have been retained and incorporated into the new structure.

The southern half of the site lies on an area that was formerly a north facing hillside which was partially excavated and levelled during the construction of a building completed in 1992. It is apparent that this slope would originally have extended across the current development site towards the southern side of the earliest hospital buildings but that the 1992 landscaping and earlier works have since removed it. Overall the site rises from c.75m OD in the north to c.90m at the top of the slope in the south.

A desk-based assessment was undertaken in 2002 and identified that although much of the site has been heavily disturbed by building and groundworks there were still areas, such as beneath roadways and car parks, that still had potential for surviving undisturbed archaeological deposits (Marsden 2002) (Fig. 3). The archaeology could relate to Roman roadside occupation, possible Anglo-Saxon remains and traces of medieval settlement. In view of this the Planning Archaeologist, Derbyshire County Council acting as archaeological advisor to the planning authority recommended that there should be archaeological attendance and recording during the proposed redevelopment to ensure that any affected deposits were adequately recorded as specified in the Brief ULAS Design Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief (Appendices 1 and 2).

## **2. Background**

Although no archaeological deposits have been recorded within the site area prior to this redevelopment there are a number of features that indicate the potential for archaeological deposits. The course of the Roman road Rykniel Street bounds the development site in the south east and can be seen as a field boundary. This field line also marked the original Borough boundary of Derby before it was extended in the early 20th century.

Ordnance Survey maps of 1883 and 1914 show the site as agricultural land, confirmation of which comes from more recent aerial photographs located in the modern hospital. The photographs show the development of the hospital complex from open fields with (probable) medieval ridge and furrow to the current layout today. No trace of ridge and furrow remains in any of the open areas within the site which leads to the conclusion that parts of the site may have been landscaped during the course of the 20th century (Marsden 2002).

## **3. Archaeological Objectives**

To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.

To establish the character, extent, date range and significance of any archaeological deposits affected by the proposed ground works.

To excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by the ground works.

To produce an archive and report of any results.

## **4. Methodology**

Tarmac road and car park surfaces were removed using a mechanical stripper with the remaining hardcore and make-up being removed using a ditching bucket on a mechanical excavator. Elsewhere, topsoil and subsoil was also removed using a ditching bucket on a mechanical excavator. The work consisted of site stripping, as

discussed above, with foundation trenches and piling within the footprint of the buildings. Redundant buildings were demolished as and when necessary. Most of these buildings have foundations which have penetrated quite deeply into the natural substrata and so have already destroyed any archaeological deposits that may have been present. Elsewhere even the more shallow building appeared to have destroyed at least the top few centimetres of natural.

As the proposed development is due to take several years over a number of phases only groundworks located within the areas identified as having archaeological potential were observed

All work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*.

## **5. Results**

Mechanical stripping of roadways and car parks revealed a layer of mill waste underneath a thin layer of tarmac. Red-brown clay natural could be seen beneath much of the levelling layer of mill waste. Much of the area appeared to be rather flat possibly indicating that it had been landscaped at some stage in the recent past. A great deal of modern disturbance from services was also seen to be cutting through the natural clay.

Elsewhere on site most of the original north to south slope, discussed in Section 1, had been removed before this stage of development work commenced. A 0.5m step could be seen at the southern boundary where an existing roadway had been cut into the slope. To the north of this road the new development work had further cut into the slope, including the natural substrata, to a depth of more than 1m (Plate 1). However, any potentially surviving archaeological deposits, if any existed, appear to have already been disturbed by earlier construction and landscaping work. Further north of this truncated slope, a short length of early modern ceramic horseshoe shaped field drain was observed. This type of drain can often be seen laid in the furrows of medieval ridge and furrow field systems. As such it may have been one of the last visible indicators of the presence of medieval ridge and furrow on this site.

No other archaeological features or deposits were observed.

## **6. Discussion**

No archaeological deposits, features or pre-modern artefacts were encountered during the watching brief. As discussed, the only surviving evidence of the medieval field system was an early modern field drain.

## **7. Archive**

The archive consists of site notes and photographs to be held by Derby Museums and Art Gallery under the Accession number DBYMU: 2002-73 (along with earlier stages of work from this site).

## **8. Publication**

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal in due course.

## **9. References**

Coward. 2003. *Derby General Hospital: Buildings and Archive Appraisal*. ULAS Report 2003-041

Marsden. 2002. *An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment for the Redevelopment of Derby City General Hospital*. ULAS Report 2002/153

Meek. 2002. *Design Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief. Derby City General Hospital*. ULAS Report 02-313-01

## **10. Acknowledgements**

Fieldwork was undertaken by A R Hyam. The project was managed by J Meek.

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## Appendix 1

### UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

#### Design Specification for Archaeological an Watching Brief

*Derby City General Hospital*

*NGR SK 327 349*

*Planning Application Number: DER/12/99/01498/PRI*

**Client: Skanska Construction UK Limited**

#### 1. Introduction

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

In accordance with Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and Planning), para.30, and the conditions placed on the outline planning permission (condition no. 10), this specification constitutes a 'written scheme of archaeological investigation' which ULAS intends to implement on behalf of the Client in mitigation of any damage which may be caused to buried archaeological remains from the development. The specification respects the 'Brief For The Drafting Of An Archaeological Watching Brief Specification: Derby City General Hospital' prepared for the site by the Sites and Monuments Record Officer, Derbyshire County Council, in his capacity as the archaeological advisor to the planning authority (included as Appendix III).

1.2 This document provides a scheme of works for:

- A watching brief to be undertaken during the redevelopment of the Derby City General Hospital, a scheme of work that is to be carried out over a number of years.

#### 2. Archaeological Objectives

- 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 excavate and record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

#### 3. Background (from Marsden 2002)

##### 3.1 *Archaeological Background*

3.1.1 The Roman road Rykniel Street, which bounds the Derby City General Hospital site in the south-east, runs in a south-west/north-east direction towards Little Chester. The road follows the line of the present A38 to the south-west, it then follows the line of the A5250 until this diverts to the west. The line of the Roman road is not visible as an existing road from this point, but can be traced as the field boundary on the south-eastern boundary of the Derby City General Hospital site. This was the original boundary of the Borough, until it was extended in the 20th century. The core of medieval Derby corresponds to the area of the modern city centre, located northeast of the site. There are no known archaeological sites or finds within the area of the City General Hospital.

3.1.2 Although no archaeological deposits are recorded within the site area, this may be as a result of the lack of any previous investigations.

3.1.3 There is a potential for remains of all periods to survive at the site.

##### 3.2 *Historical Background*

- 3.2.1 It is estimated that the population of Derby at the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086 was around 630 (Lord 1996). It had dropped from its pre-Conquest level of around 1,100. The number of burgesses in the town fell from 243 to 140 in the same period. This had been accompanied by a drop in the number of mills from 14 to 10, suggesting a decline in trade. This may have been caused by a plague at the time. Later in the medieval period the town expanded, becoming a royal manor in 1399.
- 3.2.2 Prior to the construction of the first hospital buildings at the site, the area was agricultural land south of Uttoxeter Road with, a farm situated adjacent to the road in the north-east corner of the application area. The first hospital buildings were constructed between 1929-32.
- 3.2.3 A series of chronological aerial photographs (included as Appendix IV) shows the development of the hospital. The following description is based upon these.
- The earliest photo shows the oldest buildings, which include the main H shaped part of the hospital built between 1929-32. The surrounding land shows that the area is located in part of a medieval open field landscape, covered in ridge and furrow. The hospital was obviously built on a previous ridge and furrow field, of which no trace remains.
  - The nurse's home to the southwest was built by 1937.
  - Various smaller buildings and add-ons had been built by 1949.
  - The buildings on the western side of the site were built by 1974.
  - The Uttoxeter road widening and roundabout was completed by 1975. A small number of other buildings were also built at the hospital.
  - By 1992 the large building in the southern part of the site, which includes the Maternity and Children's Wards, had been built.

### 3.3 *Site Visits*

- 3.3.1 Site visits have been carried out a number of times, and information gleaned on the present ground conditions of the site, in respect of buildings, landscaping and services, and the effect these will have had on any underlying archaeological deposits.
- 3.3.2 It is very evident that the site has been subject to a vast amount of subsurface disturbance from the erection of the hospital buildings. Many of the buildings have lower ground floors that have involved large areas of landscaping. This is most evident to the south of the earliest buildings on the site and those constructed on the western side of the area by 1974.
- 3.3.3 The southern half of the application area was formerly a north-facing hillside. This was mostly removed during the construction of the building completed in 1992. The extent of landscaping associated with the removal of this hillside must have extended to the southern side of the earliest hospital buildings.
- 3.3.4 Landscaping works have also been undertaken on the western side of the application area. These works have involved the removal of another hillside that existed from the western boundary of the site to the edge of the Nurse's Home built by 1937. Current construction work is being undertaken in this area, associated with a different planning application.
- 3.3.5 Immediately adjacent to the former line of the Roman Ryknield Street construction works are currently being undertaken, again associated with a different planning application for a medical training centre.
- 3.3.6 Although formerly covered in the remains of medieval ridge and furrow, there is now none visible within the application area.
- 3.3.7 All areas of the site are likely to have had subsurface disturbance from service runs. A large number of manholes, drain covers and service hatches etc. are visible, especially around the buildings in the northern half of the site.

### 3.4 *Archaeological Potential*

- 3.4.1 The southern half of the site area is unlikely to contain any surviving archaeological deposits, as any that existed would have been destroyed by the vast amounts of landscaping works that have been undertaken here, including the removal of a former hillside. Levelling works on the



western side of the site area are also likely to have removed archaeological deposits that may have existed.

- 3.4.2 There is a limited potential for the survival of archaeological deposits within the areas of the existing buildings in the northern part of the site. The area has been subject to a large amount of subsurface disturbance, but there is still a potential for the survival of archaeological deposits in areas between buildings or within the footprints of uncellared buildings. There are a large amount of service runs within this area that will have caused a great deal of subsurface disturbance.
- 3.4.3 The very northern extremity and the area on the eastern side of the site are likely to have suffered the least amount of damage from construction works associated with the development of the hospital, containing mostly roads and car parking areas. This is the area with the highest potential for the survival of any archaeological deposits that may exist within the Derby City General Hospital site.

#### **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 Watching Briefs*.
- 4.1.2 Staffing, Recording systems, Health and Safety provisions and Insurance details are provided.
- 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 being met and professional standards are being maintained. Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Planning authority and the client, if required.

##### **4.2 *General Watching Brief Strategy***

- 4.2.1 It is the aim, that through archaeological observation of overburden stripping, grubbing out of foundations, removal of floor slabs and car park surfaces, and, if necessary, foundation and service trench excavation by the client's contractors, ULAS will obtain an adequate record of any archaeological deposits or finds disturbed or exposed by all areas disturbed by the works associated with the development.
- 4.2.2 The initial demolition of existing buildings at the hospital will not be subject to an archaeological watching brief. This will be required where the demolition has the potential to disturb any underlying archaeological deposits that may be present at the site, such as during the removal of floor slabs or the grubbing out of foundations. The majority of these works are to be carried out in a part of the site assessed to have limited archaeological potential, although there may well be zones where modern disturbance is less than anticipated.
- 4.2.3 The works are to involve the alteration of the layout of access roads and car parking. An archaeological watching brief will be required during the removal of existing road and car park surfaces. The majority of these works will be undertaken in the northern extremity and eastern part of the site where the archaeological potential is assessed to be the highest.
- 4.2.4 The archaeological watching brief will involve the presence on site of an experienced professional archaeologist. During this excavation, if any archaeological deposits are seen to be present, the archaeologist will record areas of archaeological interest. A second archaeologist may also be required in areas of greater archaeological potential, or if surveying is required.
- 4.2.5 The archaeologist/s will cooperate at all times with the contractors to ensure that there are no unnecessary delays to the work. However, if any archaeological deposits are seen to be present, the archaeologist will have the power to temporarily halt the works in order to define and record areas of archaeological interest.
- 4.2.6 Any archaeological deposits encountered will be recorded and excavated using standard ULAS procedures (see section 5 below).
- 4.2.7 It is anticipated that the redevelopment works at the site will be carried out over a number of years, and in different phases. It will be essential that ULAS are kept informed of the scheme

of works and notified prior to any groundworks that have the potential to expose any archaeological remains so that the watching brief can be undertaken. Contact details of the Skanska site managers and relevant project managers/staff at ULAS will be exchanged prior to the commencement of works. It will also be the responsibility of Skanska Construction UK Limited to advise any subcontracted firms of the archaeological provision for the works, and the need to keep ULAS informed of work schedules. It will be the responsibility of ULAS to keep the curatorial staff at Derbyshire County Council informed about the progress of the works and proposed schedules, so that monitoring arrangements can be made.

#### 4.3 ***Contingencies and unforeseen circumstances***

- 4.3.1 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the development, ULAS shall have the power to halt any ground works and shall inform the site agent/project manager, 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 on behalf of the client a contingency scheme for emergency excavation of affected archaeological features.

#### 4.4 ***Building Appraisal***

- 4.4.1 It is the intention that a building appraisal will be undertaken within the near future, prior to any demolition works being undertaken at the site. A rapid assessment of the original hospital buildings will be undertaken using English Heritage guidelines (Clark 2001). This will be a written document, supported by appropriate illustrations and photographs, providing an overview of the development of the buildings using plans of the buildings, as well as cartographic and photographic records.

#### 5 ***Recording Systems***

- 5.1. The ULAS recording manual will be used as a guide for all recording.
- 5.2. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets. If the complexity of the archaeology warrants it, records will be computerised onto a database.
- 5.3. 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 plans at 1:200 (or 1:100), which will show the location of the areas investigated in relationship to the investigation area and OS grid.
- 5.4. Some record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made on drawing film, related to the OS grid and be at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Sections including the half-sections of individual layers of features will be drawn as appropriate. The relative height of principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans.
- 5.5. 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.
- 5.6. This record will be compiled and checked during the course of the excavations.

#### 6. ***Environmental Sampling***

- 6.1 If significant archaeological features are subject to excavation, the sampling strategy will include the following if appropriate:
- 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.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.2.1 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.
- 6.2.2 Flots will be scanned and plant remains from selected contexts will be identified and further sampling, sieving and sorting targeted towards higher potential deposits.

## **7. Finds and Samples**

- 7.1 The IFA Guidelines for Finds Work will be adhered to.
- 7.2 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 Derby Museum and Art Gallery for storage in perpetuity.
- 7.3 Before commencing work on the site, a site code will be issued to all records and finds from the site, to be agreed with the Derby Museum and Art Gallery.
- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 All identified finds and artefacts, including faunal remains, are to be retained, although certain classes of building material will, in some circumstances, be discarded after recording with the approval of the Planning Archaeologists. The IFA Guidelines for Finds Work will be adhered to.
- 7.6 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 metal objects will be x-rayed and then selected for conservation. All materials will be fully labelled, catalogued and stored in appropriate containers.

## **8. Health and Safety**

- 8.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Statement of Safety Policy and uses the Standing Committee of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM) manual, as revised in 1997, as its 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.

8.2 Health and Safety procedures will be agreed between ULAS and the site tenants prior to the commencement of work, and will be subject to review by both parties for the duration of the works.

8.3 The University of Leicester Archaeological Services Health and Safety Policy and manual have also recently been issued and will be adhered to during the course of the archaeological works.

## **9. Insurance**

9.1 All employees, consultants and volunteers are covered by the University of Leicester public liability insurance with Gerling Insurance Service Co. Ltd. (policy number 62/99094H/D expires: 01/08/2003), Employers Liability Insurance is with Zurich Insurance (policy number J0198732 expires: 01/08/2003) and Professional Indemnity Insurance is with Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance London (policy number PI45000A expires: 01/08/2003).

## **10. Monitoring arrangements**

10.1 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. It will be the responsibility of ULAS to keep the curatorial staff at Derbyshire County Council informed about the progress of the works and proposed schedules, so that monitoring arrangements can be made.

10.2 All monitoring shall be carried out in accordance with the IFA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations/Watching Briefs*

10.3 Internal monitoring will be carried out by the ULAS project manager.

## **11 Timescale and Staffing**

11.1 There is no scheduled start date for the works at the Derby City General Hospital.

11.2 A broad phasing to the works has been outlined, which will involve demolition and construction of new buildings on the eastern part of the site. When the new building has been completed the remaining area on the western side of the site will be subject to demolition and then construction of new buildings. The scheme of works for the construction of the new access roads and car parking areas is unclear.

11.3 It is envisaged that a single professional archaeologist will be required on-site for the majority of the watching brief works. A second professional archaeologist may be necessary during groundworks in areas with greater archaeological potential, or if a number of archaeological deposits are revealed. A contingency for emergency excavation will also be required (see 4.3 above).

11.4 Although the project manager and specialists at ULAS can be named for the project (see appendix 1), it is not possible to name the site staff until the start date of the project is known.

## **12 Report and Archive**

12.1 A report on the building appraisal will be submitted separately to the watching brief report and prior to any demolition works being undertaken at the site.

12.2 A brief report in letter form, summarising the main results of the watching brief will be released, if required, after the completion of interim phases of fieldwork.

12.3 The full, bound report in A4 format will usually follow within eight weeks of the completion of all fieldwork, and copies will be dispatched to: Derbyshire County Council Planning Archaeologist/Sites and Monuments Record (2), Derby City Council (1), Derby Museum and Art Gallery (1), the Client (2). The report will include consideration of:-

i) Non-technical Summary

ii) Introductory Statement

iii) The aims and purpose of the watching brief

iv) The methodology adopted in the course of the watching brief

- v) The nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of any structural, artefactual and environmental material uncovered
- vi) Conclusion, including a confidence statement
- vii) Appropriate illustrative material including maps, plans, sections, drawings and photographs.
- viii) Supporting data – including as a minimum basic quantification of all artefacts, ecofacts and structural data
- ix) The location and size of the archive
- x) References

12.4 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 the Derby Museum and Art Gallery normally within six months of the completion of fieldwork (arrangements for this are in progress). This archive will include all original written, drawn, photographic records, notes relating directly to the investigations undertaken, as well as final copies of the desk-based assessment, watching brief report and buildings appraisal, along with any finds and an index to the archive.

### **13 Publication**

13.1 A summary of the evaluation will be submitted for inclusion in the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal. If warranted, a more detailed report will be submitted. Details of any publication will be sent to the Derbyshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

### **14. Copyright**

14.1 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.

### **15. Acknowledgement and publicity**

15.1 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.

15.2 The Client has made it known that no contact with the media regarding the site shall be undertaken by any member of ULAS on site. All enquiries from the media or members of the public made to ULAS shall be directed to the Client for comment.

### **16. Bibliography**

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

Marsden, P., 2002, An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment for the Redevelopment of Derby City General Hospital, Derby, (SK 327 349), ULAS Report no. 2002/153

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)

**James Meek**

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## **APPENDIX 2**

### **BRIEF FOR THE DRAFTING OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF SPECIFICATION: DERBY CITY GENERAL HOSPITAL**

#### **PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER: DER/12/99/01498/PRI**

**ISSUED BY: A. M. MYERS (DCC SMR OFFICER)**

**ISSUED TO: JAMES MEEK (ULAS) DATE: 2/10/2002**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

This document is a brief for an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken in connection with the redevelopment of Derby City General Hospital (DER/12/99/01498/PRI). From this brief a written scheme of work for the watching brief will be produced. The scheme of work will be prepared by ULAS and submitted for final approval to the Local Planning Authority.

#### **1.1 Background**

Planning application DER/12/99/01498/PRI involves the redevelopment of Derby City General Hospital (SK327 349). An Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed development contained a condition requiring that:

“No development shall be commenced until the applicant has secured the implementation of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority.” (EIA condition 10)

An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) was commissioned and has now been produced by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) (Marsden 2002) for Skanska Construction UK Ltd who are the preferred bidders for the redevelopment.

#### **1.2 The Desk-Based Assessment**

Archaeological interests identified in the DBA directly associated with this large (20.7 ha) site are;

- 1) Ryknield Street Roman Road that runs adjacent to the southern boundary of the site (SMR 18929).
- 2) The documented presence of wide interval ridge and furrow, presumably of medieval age, across the whole site prior to the commencement of the development of the site as a hospital in the 1920s.

The DBA also identifies issues concerning the architectural merit of some of the early upstanding hospital buildings to be demolished as part of the redevelopment. This brief does not directly concern itself with the issues surrounding the recording of these buildings, beyond noting that the DBA anticipates a basic building assessment and photographic record being made by ULAS staff prior to demolition following discussions with Derby City Conservation Section.

In assessing the archaeological potential of the site the DBA has recognised the scale and extent of levelling, building basement excavation, landscaping, and service excavation that has been associated with the hospital's historical development.

Figure 8 of the DBA maps those areas of greatest archaeological potential, of limited archaeological potential and of no archaeological potential. In broad terms the hospital site divides into a large area of no potential, lying in the south, and areas of limited and greatest archaeological potential to the north, east and west. Topographically the site occupies a hillside, rising from relatively level ground in the north at c.75m OD to quite steeply sloped ground at 90m OD along the southern edge.

The southern portion of the site, assessed as having no archaeological potential, lies closest to the line of Ryknield Street. The DBA concludes that the potential for Roman roadside settlement and activity would have been greatest along the southern boundary, but that this area has witnessed the greatest

disturbance. It is worth noting that this was originally an area of sloping hillside. Whilst possible, it is perhaps less likely that such an area would have attracted settlement, ritual, burial or other roadside activity. The more attractive area for such activity may have been lower down the slope where the land levels-out. The potential for archaeological remains in this part of the site has been assessed by the DBA as either 'limited' or 'greatest'. These lower lying areas may also have greater depths of redeposited soils (hillwash, downslope movement through ploughing) providing protection to sub-surface remains.

Although ridge and furrow once existed across the entire site all surface evidence has now been lost. The ridges however may have served in protecting sub-surface remains. This may also influence the survival of sub-surface remains in areas where levelling and earthmoving associated with the hospital has been limited.

The DBA concludes that there is a possibility for archaeological remains to survive dating up to the Anglo-Saxon period. It further states that because we know the site was covered in the remains of medieval open-field agriculture, it is unlikely that there will be any remains relating to medieval occupation. Firstly, we cannot be sure about the precise age of the ridge and furrow. It certainly appears to be medieval, but this only narrows it down to several centuries. Secondly, medieval settlements experienced expansion, contraction and sometimes relocation. Consequently, there is scope for medieval ridge and furrow to cover occupation evidence also relating to the medieval period.

In summary, there is potential localised within the development site for the survival of medieval or pre-medieval sub-surface archaeological remains.

## **2.0 Watching Brief: Approach**

The recommendation of the DBA is for a staged watching brief to be undertaken during the demolition of existing buildings and the construction of the new buildings where there is a potential for any surviving deposits. This approach should also specifically include having qualified archaeological staff on-site during the removal of existing car park and road surfaces, and during earthmoving associated with the construction of new roads and car parks and service trenches. Where potential archaeological deposits are recognised provision should be made for the relevant construction works to cease, and adequate time made available for investigation and recording.

As the development is extremely large, complex and anticipated to require several years it is essential that Skanska Construction UK Ltd. and any sub-contracted construction firms working on the development keep ULAS informed on the progress of the development. In particular, a system of advanced warning of works should be established to allow ULAS to have staff on-site when there is an opportunity to identify potential archaeological deposits.

All excavation, whether by machine or by hand, and all recording of archaeological features and deposits, should be carried out to acceptable archaeological standards. The contractor will be expected to abide by the Code of Practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

## **2.1 Monitoring**

During the course of the watching brief it is anticipated the curatorial staff at Derbyshire County Council – either the County Archaeologist or the Planning Archaeologist – will undertake monitoring visits. ULAS will need to keep the curatorial staff informed about dates when ULAS staff will be on-site. In particular, should significant archaeological deposits be encountered ULAS should contact the curatorial staff and arrange a convenient date and time for a site visit.

## **2.2 Finds**

Artefact collection policy should be concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work. Discarded artefactual materials should be described and quantified through assignment to broad categories in the field. Analysis of finds will be undertaken, as necessary, by suitably qualified specialists. Retained finds should be cleaned, marked, catalogued and packed in materials, as appropriate, for long term storage.

## **2.3 Human Remains**

In the event of human remains being encountered site works will cease and the Coroner's office notified. Such remains will remain *in situ* until authorised to continue by the Coroner. Analysis of any human remains will be undertaken, as necessary, by suitably qualified specialists.

### 3.0 Watching Brief: Report

The preparation of the watching brief report should follow the guidelines published by the Institute of Field Archaeology.

Upon completion of the watching brief a full report will be produced and copies submitted to the Local Planning Authority, the DCC curatorial staff and the SMR.

The report should include as a minimum,

- Non-technical summary
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purpose of the watching brief
- Methodology
- An objective summary statement of results
- Conclusion, including a confidence statement
- Supporting illustrations at appropriate scales
- Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices, including as a minimum a basic quantification of all artefacts, ecofacts and structural data.
- Index to archive and details of archive location
- References

A summary of the project, with selected drawings, illustrations and photographs, should be submitted within 2 years of the completion of the project to Derbyshire Archaeological Journal for publication.

## Appendix 3.

### Site visits during 2003

Date	Duration
19.9.2003	Full day
1.12.2003	Half day



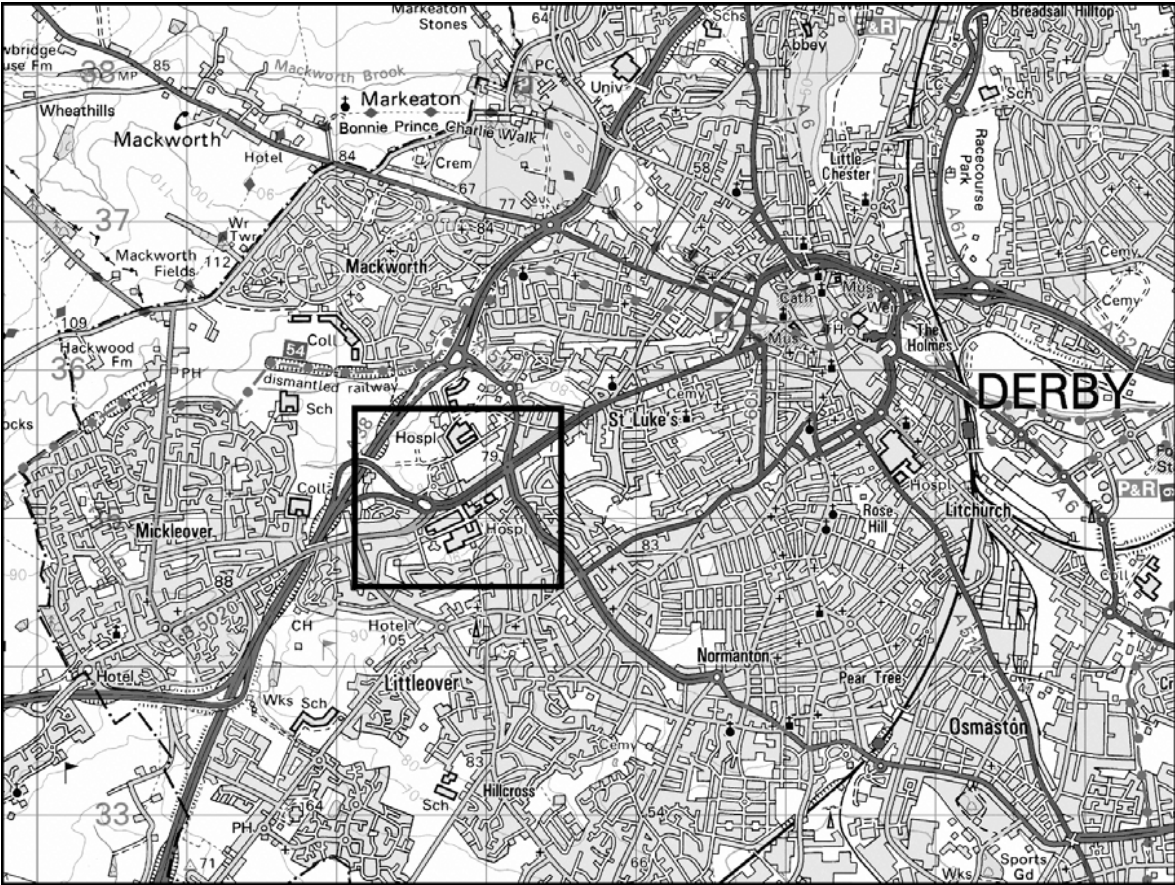


Figure 1. City General Hospital site location map.

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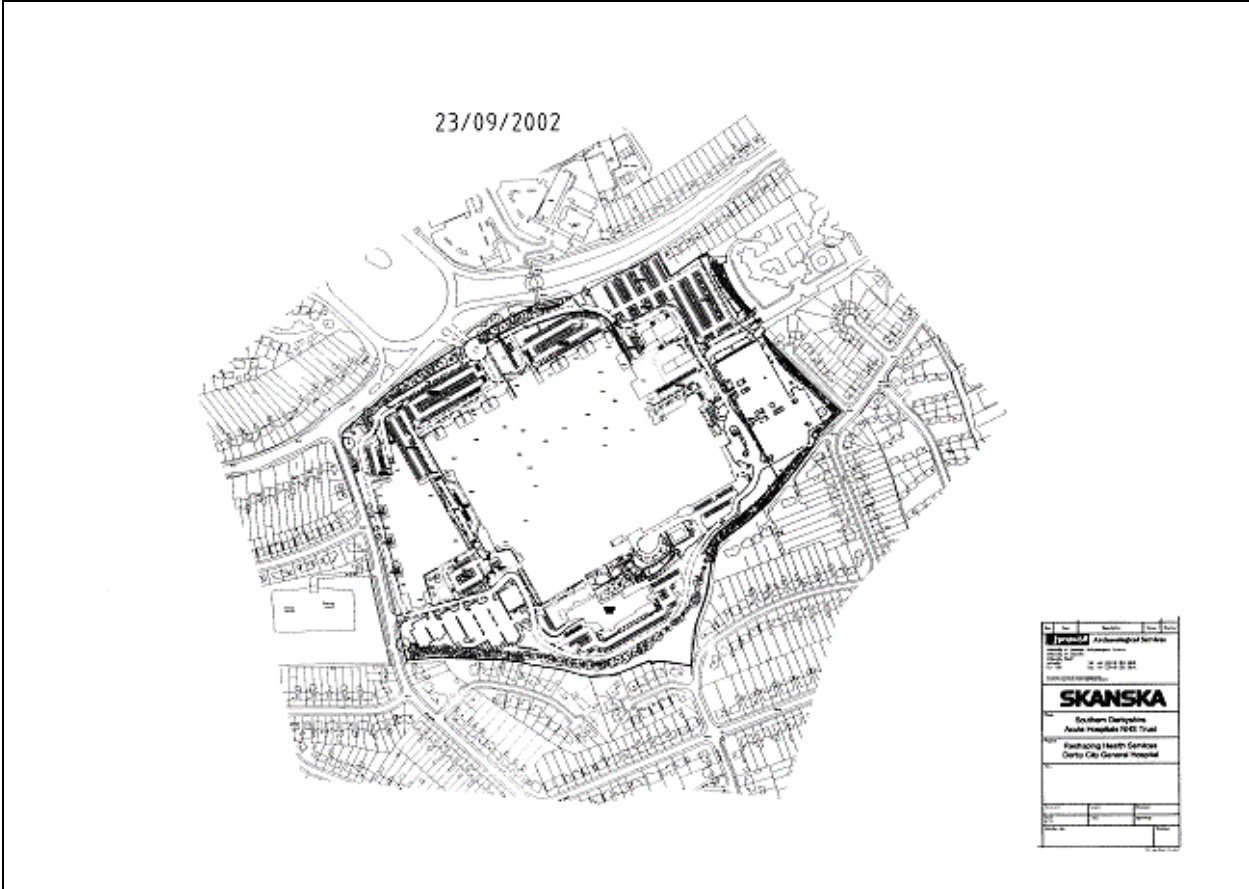
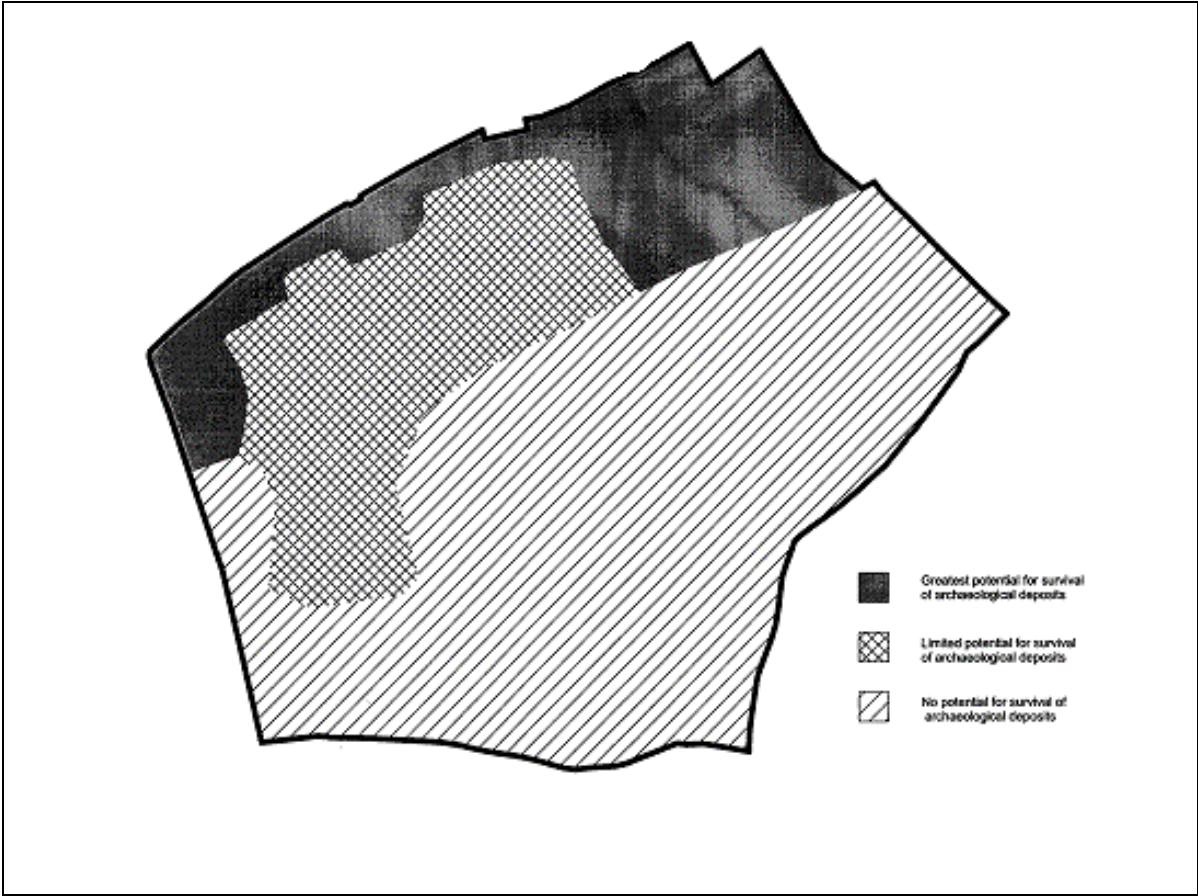


Figure 2. Proposed development (Skanska 23.9.02)



*Figure 3. Likely areas of archaeological potential identified in desk based assessment (Marsden 2002).*



*Plate 1 Excavated slope of site looking south west*





*Plate 2. Remnant of field drain (middle foreground)*