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Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Evaluation
at Six Acres, 17 The Ridgeway,
Rothley, Leicestershire.
NGR: SK 572 124**



Andrew Hyam

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**An Archaeological Field Evaluation
at Six Acres, 17 The Ridgeway,
Rothley, Leicestershire.**

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Summary

An archaeological field evaluation was undertaken at Six Acres, 17 The Ridgeway, Rothley by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on the 8th of January 2010. Under planning permission number P/09/2024/2 it is proposed to demolish and redevelop the existing farm and outbuildings. In view of the site's location within an area of archaeological interest the Senior Planning Archaeologist, as advisor to the planning authority, requested that trial trenching take place to identify and locate any archaeological remains that may be affected by the development.

Three 15m long by 1.6m wide trenches were excavated around the perimeter of the farm buildings. No archaeological features or deposits were observed within the trenches.

The archive will be deposited with the Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council under Accession Number X.A.1.2010

Introduction

In accordance with Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG 16, Archaeology and Planning), para 30 this document forms the report for an archaeological field evaluation at Six Acres, 17 The Ridgeway, Rothley, Leicestershire. Under planning permission P/09/2024/2 the owner, Mr Charles White, proposes to erect a replacement dwelling with ancillary guest house/workshop, swimming pool, and garden store following the demolition of the existing farmhouse and farm buildings.

Leicestershire County Council, Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCCHNET) as archaeological advisors to the planning authority have requested an evaluation by trial trenching to identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage that may be caused by the development. The LCCHNET requirements are detailed in the *Brief for Archaeological Evaluation At Six Acres, 17, The Ridgeway, Rothley, Leicestershire* (Appendix II)

The proposed development site is located approximately 1.5km to the west of Rothley, defined to the north by The Ridgeway and to the south by Westfield Lane (fig. 1). The study area itself is roughly triangular in shape and covers approximately 2.2ha. The site lies on a south facing slope, overlooking the Rothley Brook, with the land falling from north to south approximately 65 to 60 metres above OD. The site lies upon Upper Triassic mudstone of the Gunthorpe Formation (Mercia Mudstone Group, substantially overlain by superficial (drift) comprising pre-Anglian sands and gravels. The plot is centred upon a courtyard farm complex, formerly known as Westfield Farm.

Background

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application site lies in an area of archaeological interest. The details are discussed both in the LCCHNET Brief and the ULAS Design Specification (Appendix III) with the closest archaeological site being a high status Roman settlement site lying to the west of the development site. Between the Roman settlement and the farm buildings the field still has the remains of medieval ridge and furrow running down the hill from north to south giving an indication that any earlier archaeological deposits may have escaped later post-medieval and modern plough damage (fig. 2). Remains of ridge and furrow can also be seen in the field to the east of the farm. However, the immediate area around the farm buildings and a wide strip of land running from the farm up to The Ridgeway shows no sign of any ridge and furrow.

The majority of the farm buildings appear to have been constructed around a courtyard in the latter part of the 19th century (figs. 3 and 4). A dated brick in the gable end of the western north to south barn has 1881 on it. It seems likely that a smaller and earlier farm was on this site before the 19th century redevelopment as part of the enlarged farmhouse includes elements of a smaller partially timber framed farmhouse. The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1885 shows the layout of the farm essentially as it is today but without the two houses (numbers 22 and 24) fronting onto Westfield Lane and also without the small housing development in the same field to the south west. The Ridgeway only exists at this time as a field boundary and the nearby Great Central Railway is yet to be constructed. By the time of the 1956 OS map all of the houses seen today have been constructed and an open sided Dutch barn appears to the east of the farm buildings. Since the production of the 1956 map the corrugated iron barn has been extended by the addition of side and end roofs to create a larger covered area.

Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation were:

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

Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation was to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development.

Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area.

Methodology

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct in accordance with their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008).

Topsoil/modern overburden was removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the uppermost archaeological deposits by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All spoil heaps were inspected for unstratified archaeological material. All trenches were excavated to a width of 1.6m and down to the top of archaeological deposits or the natural substratum in the absence of any archaeological deposits. The trenches were backfilled and levelled by the client at the end of the evaluation.

The area of impact from the new dwellings covers *c.* 0.10 ha. A *c.* 5% sample of the area is the equivalent of three 15m x 1.6m trenches totaling *c.* 72 sq m. (fig. 5). An indicative location has been included in the 'Brief' and a slightly modified location was also shown in the ULAS Design Specification with the proviso that the exact location of the trenches may need to be modified depending on constraints, such as services, on site.

Trenches were examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located would be planned at an appropriate scale and sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence. All plans were tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Spot heights would be taken as appropriate.

Sections of any excavated archaeological features would be drawn at an appropriate scale. Each trench was recorded on a standard ULAS pro-forma trench recording sheet noting soil depths and descriptions. One longitudinal face and the base of each trench was recorded in this way. Any drawn sections of archaeological features would be levelled and tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum, or a permanent fixed bench mark.

Trench locations were recorded and tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

A photographic record of the investigations was prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. Colour digital and black and white 35mm photographs were taken throughout the evaluation. The photographic record also included 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

Results

Trench 01

Trench 01 was originally specified to run in a north-west to south-east direction in front of the 1950s Dutch barn in order to investigate any surviving archaeology in this area where a new guest house and workshop is to be located. As there is a concrete driveway in front of the barn and the barn has no floor it was decided to excavate the trench within the barn itself as this where the proposed development will take place (fig. 6). Between 0.33 and 0.52m of very dark brown slightly sandy silty clay topsoil was removed to reveal a red sandy clay natural substratum (fig. 7). The topsoil was very dry and friable due to its location beneath the cover of the barn and there was no apparent subsoil present. No pottery or other archaeological material was recovered from the spoil during excavation or from the spoil heaps. No archaeological features or deposits were observed cutting into the natural substratum.

Trench 02

Trench 02 was located to the north-west of the farm courtyard complex and measured 14.8m long by 1.6m wide (fig. 8). Care had to be taken to avoid a number of service pipes and cables running northwards from the farmhouse to the north-east of the trench. The presence of a small tree also meant that the trench had to be placed between 7 and 8m from the north-western barn wall. The topsoil was of the same description as seen in Trench 01 and had a depth of between 0.3 and 0.54m. The only difference in the topsoil from Trench 01 was that a large quantity of local slate and granite fragments was noted just below the turf line at the south western end. Again there was no obvious subsoil with the whole topsoil layer continuing down to the red sandy clay natural substratum (fig. 9). The remains of a modern fence post, still with the post present, was seen cutting through the topsoil and into the natural approximately half way along the trench otherwise no archaeological features were observed within the trench.

Trench 03

Trench 03 was located near to the southern corner of the courtyard buildings and measured 15.5m long by 1.6m wide (fig. 10). Although similar to the other two trenches the topsoil was a rather more loamy sandy clay and had frequent fragments of locally sourced slate and granite spread just below the turf. A number of brick and pan tile fragments were also seen within this layer. There was no apparent subsoil and the natural substratum was a mix of red sandy clay with bands of greyish blue clay (fig. 11). At 9.5m from the north-western end of the trench a disturbed area was seen cutting into the natural which was found to be a brick land drain running southwards towards the road. No other features or deposits were seen within the trench.

Discussion

Despite the high potential of the locality no archaeological features or deposits were found within any of the trenches. The lack of any true subsoil and any ridge and furrow close to the farm buildings may point towards the area being partially disturbed and landscaped in the past.

The presence of the Swithland slate and granite fragments in the upper part of the topsoil in trenches 02 and 03 may be demolition material from earlier farm buildings or, possibly, from a later attempt at preventing the area around the present buildings from becoming quagmire created by farm traffic. The brick land drain appears to follow the alignment of the nearby ridge and furrow and so may pre date the present buildings and give an indication that ridge and furrow at one time covered the whole field.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to the owner, Mr White, for the organisation and supply of the excavator and driver. The fieldwork was carried out by A Hyam and L Hunt. The project was managed by Dr P Clay.

Site Archive and Results

The archive consists of:

This report,

3 pro forma trench recording sheets,

1 contact sheet of 35mm black and white photographs,
35mm black and white negatives,
2 contact sheets of colour digital photographs,
1 cd of digital photographs and this report,
2 photographic index sheets of both black and white and colour photographs.

The site archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums Service under accession code X.A.1.2010. A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the *Transactions of The Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. An OASIS record will also be produced and this report will be uploaded on to the Archaeology Data Service website.

Bibliography

IfA 2008 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*
Institute for Archaeologists.

LCCHNET, 2009 *Brief For Archaeological Evaluation At Six Acres, 17, The Ridgeway, Rothley, Leicestershire.*

ULAS, 2009 Design Specification for Archaeological Work: *Six Acres, 17 The Ridgeway, Rothley, Leicestershire.*

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Figure 2 Ridge and furrow to west of farm buildings
Looking west



Figure 3 Farm buildings
Looking east, location of Trench 02 marked in snow



Figure 4 Farm buildings and Dutch barn
Looking north-west

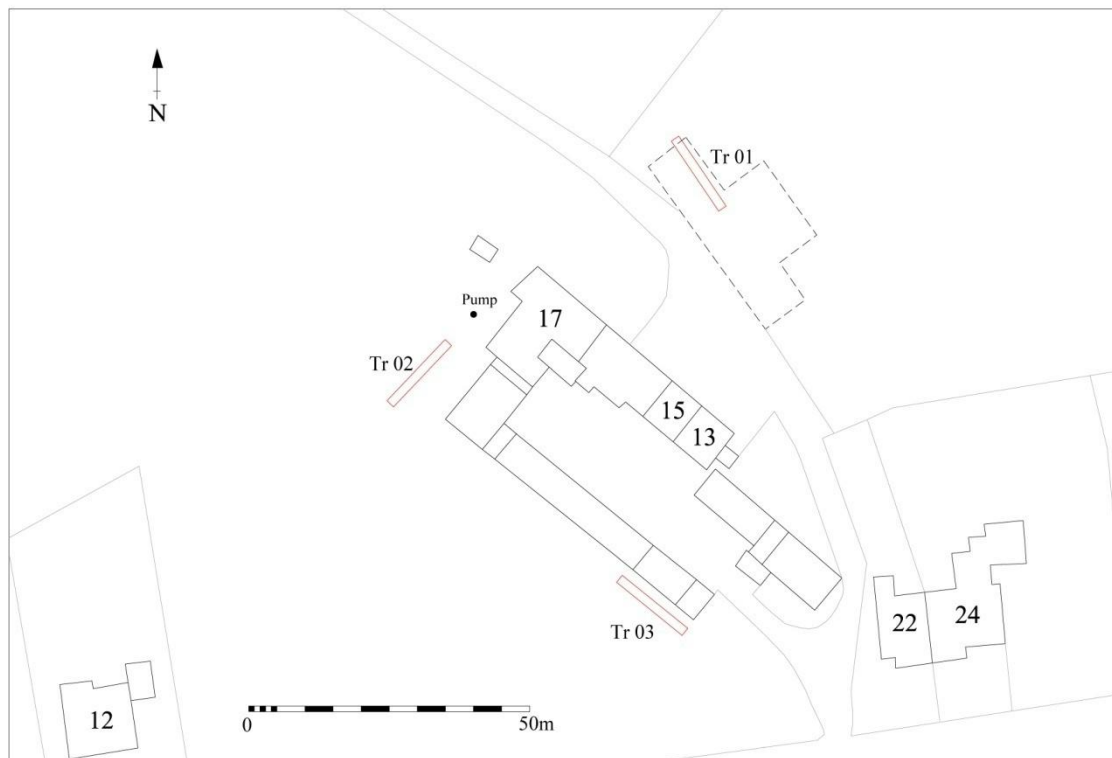


Figure 5 Trench location plan
Adapted from Leicestershire County Council trenching plan



Figure 6 Trench 01 location within barn
Looking south-east



Figure 7 Trench 01
Looking south-east. 2 x 1m scales
Note that apparent dark feature near to scale is a shadow cast by the barn posts.



Figure 8 Trench 02 location
Looking south-east



Figure 9 Trench 02
Looking south-west. 2 x 1m scales



Figure 10 Trench 03 location
Looking north



Figure 11 Trench 03
Looking north-west. 2 x 1m scales
Brick drain in foreground

Appendix II Leicestershire County Council Brief for Archaeological Evaluation

*BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION AT SIX ACRES, 17, THE
RIDGEWAY, ROTHLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE*

Planning Permission: P/09/2024/2

Erection of a replacement dwelling with ancillary guest house/workshop, swimming pool and garden store following demolition of farmhouse, farm buildings and outbuildings, etc.

**Historic and Natural Environment Team,
Environment and Heritage Services,
Leicestershire County Council**

Prepared on: 08 December 2009

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT SIX ACRES, 17, THE RIDGEWAY, ROTHLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE

1. Summary of Brief

- 1.1 The development site has been identified as an area of significant archaeological potential based upon assessment of archaeological data held by the Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) and the conclusions of a Desk-based Assessment (DBA), and separate Historic Building Survey, prepared for the developer by Trigpoint Conservation & Planning Ltd.
- 1.2 In consequence the Senior Planning Archaeologist (SPA), Historic & Natural Environment Team (HNET), Leicestershire County Council, has recommended the need for a further phase of archaeological investigation comprising a programme of evaluation trenching. The investigation is required to provide an adequate sample of the development area and assess the likely archaeological impact of the development proposals. The fieldwork will include provision for palaeoenvironmental sampling and the application of appropriate archaeological scientific techniques (e.g. radio carbon and archaeomagnetic dating, etc.).
- 1.3 Following completion of the fieldwork, the current programme of archaeological work will include provision for appropriate analysis, publication and archiving. The results of the investigation, where positive, are likely to lead to further archaeological requirements including, as appropriate, preservation of deposits in situ, targeted archaeological excavation and/or a programme of monitoring and supervision of groundworks, etc.

2. Appendices for reference as part of this Brief

To be supplied by the developer:

- I. General location plan.
- II. The site location.

3. Site location and description

- 3.1 The site is located approximately 1.5km to the west of Rothley, defined to the north by The Ridgeway and to the south by Westfield Lane. The study area itself is roughly triangular in shape and covers approximately 2.2ha.. The site lies on a south facing slope, overlooking the Rothley Brook, with the land falling from 65 to 60 metres. The plot is centred upon a courtyard farm complex, formerly known as Westfield Farm.

4. Geology and soils

- 4.1 The site lies upon Upper Triassic mudstone of the Gunthorpe Formation (Mercia Mudstone Group, substantially overlain by superficial (drift) comprising pre-Anglian sands and gravels associated with the Bytham River (Geological Survey of England & Wales, Leicester, Sheet 156). The Soil

survey of England and Wales suggests the presence of slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged clayey soils to the east (Ragdale Association) and reddish loamy over clayey soils to the west (dunnington Heath Association).

5. Site Constraints

- 5.1 The appraisal conducted by the Historic & Natural Environment Team has not established the presence of any constraint to the completion of the evaluation. However, following completion of a site visit (1 December 2009), it is clear that, particularly in and around the farmstead, the area has been significantly affected by services. Similarly, evaluation to the east of the development site will be constrained by an existing steel frame Dutch barn, and access to the occupied buildings.

6. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 6.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application site lies in an area of archaeological interest; in close proximity to the scheduled remains of the Rothley villa, a high status Roman settlement site (SM ref. LE159; HER ref. MLE891) discovered in the 18th century and partly excavated in 1901. Whilst the development site lies outside the designated (scheduled) area, the extent of the site and its archaeological remains has yet to be established. In addition to evidence of extensive and significant archaeological remains of Roman date, an Anglo Saxon inhumation cemetery has also been located in the immediate vicinity, apparently focused to the west of the application site (MLE880). Again the extent of the area of archaeological interest, as well as its character cannot, at this stage be adequately defined. To the east of the development area, two burials were located during the early 20th century, including an undated inhumation (MLE882) and a cremation urn thought to be of Bronze Age date (MLE881).
- 6.2 The farmstead itself is of significant archaeological interest. Six Acres, formerly West Field Farm lies within an area of early enclosure. The DBA, quoting research undertaken into the history of medieval Rothley, indicates that at least elements of the West Field, one of a series of extensive open fields that surrounded the village, were enclosed prior to the Parliamentary Enclosure of the parish in the late 18th century. This process may have its origin in the late medieval period, or perhaps more probably in the early post-medieval. It is notable that the farmhouse contains elements of timber framing the character and extent of which remains uncertain. It is very probable that the farm complex has its origin in the early piecemeal enclosure of the former medieval open field, and may be the site of an early farmstead.
- 6.3 The farmstead shows the classic form of the Midland's courtyard farmstead, barn adjacent to or in close proximity to the farmhouse, associated ranges of farm buildings arranged in courtyard form. The integrated character of the farm house, again suggests an early origin, and a more organic character to the development of the complex. Traditional farm complexes are a vanishing resource, and an important and characteristic element of the Leicestershire landscape. The proposed demolition of this largely intact and historically rich farmstead, including the loss of surviving historic fabric, represent a detrimental impact upon the local and regional historic environment. It is

strongly recommended that a more sympathetic approach be considered for the property, including retention and integration of the most historically significant elements of the farmstead within any future conversion.

7. Previous work and archaeological survey

7.1 No records exist to indicate that previous archaeological work has been conducted within the development area. However, the desk-based assessment notes that geophysical survey of the area has been undertaken by the Rothley Historical Society, which may assist in clarifying the extent and character of the site.

7.2 As noted above, however, an extended sequence of antiquarian and archaeological investigations have been undertaken from the later 18th to 20th centuries. This work has led to the identification of the recorded late Roman villa site and Anglo-Saxon cemetery. Assessment of the former notes:

‘The Roman finds attest to there being a 4th century villa covering a fairly extensive site, of which only the bath house (?) and probably another tessellated pavement have ever been found.’ (M Palmer, Unpublished archive report, L&RHER SMR ref.: 51SE AR).

8. Planning Background and Requirement for Work

8.1 In response to the applicant’s submission to Charnwood Borough Council of a planning application P/09/2024/2 for the erection of a replacement dwelling with ancillary guest house/workshop, swimming pool and garden store following demolition of farmhouse, farm buildings and outbuildings, etc., the SPA advised that planning permission should be deferred until suitable archaeological field evaluation has been undertaken to assess the location, extent, significance and character of any buried archaeological remains.

8.2 The requirement for archaeological work is in accordance with PPG16 (Archaeology & Planning). The purpose of the work is to gather sufficient evidence to establish, supplement, improve and make available information about the archaeological deposits in relation to development proposals. A review of the results will be undertaken and an appropriate mitigation strategy, supported by a subsequent brief, agreed where necessary.

8.3 Post-excavation assessment and publication of the results of this and any future fieldwork is required, together with the deposition of project archive.

9. Methodology

An accession number must be drawn prior to the commencement of this project. The accession number covers all components of the project, as defined by this brief.

9.1 An appropriate sample of the site (Fig. 1) should be evaluated in accordance with advice given for ‘rural’ excavation in “Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological work Leicestershire and Rutland” (Leicestershire County Council, 1997).

- 9.2 Some flexibility in the actual size, number, orientation and location of some evaluation trenches may be required if made necessary by the location of service pipes, cables and earlier foundations.
- 9.3 Following the removal of any hard standing, etc., the trenches should be excavated by a machine using a toothless grading bucket and under the constant supervision of a professional archaeologist. Machine access to the site may be restricted and access should be discussed with the prospective developer.
- 9.4 The trenches should be excavated to the top of the natural or to the top of archaeological deposits, whichever is encountered first. Wherever archaeological deposits are encountered the trenches should be cleared by hand and the deposits planned and recorded to an acceptable standard (see 'Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland', copies available on request). Excavation of archaeological deposits should be limited to resolving questions relating to their date, nature, extent and condition. If burials are encountered during the fieldwork these should not be excavated and recording should be limited to obvious detail such as position of the grave cut, alignment, burial position and stratigraphic relationships.

10. Site Access: Health and Safety

- 10.1 The archaeological Contractor will be responsible for ensuring that all works are conducted in accordance with a defined Health and Safety Policy. Contractors must observe all current safe working practices, whether required by their own policy or those of the principal development contractor (see *SCAUM Manual, Health & Safety in Field Archaeology, 1997*).
- 10.2 Before commencing work the Contractor **must** carry out a Risk Assessment and liaise with the site owner, archaeological Consultants and the Senior Planning Archaeologist in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised. A copy of this must be given to the Senior Planning Archaeologist **before** commencement of Site works.
- 10.3 The prospective developer must provide all information reasonably obtainable on contamination and the location of live services before commencement of Site works.
- 10.4 No personnel are to work in deep unsupported excavations. Trench sides will be constantly assessed for stability and will have to be stepped, battered back or shored when there is risk of collapse.
- 10.5 All archaeological trenches will be backfilled upon completion of the archaeological project, subject to any appropriate monitoring requirements (see 18.0 below). This is to be the responsibility of the archaeological Contractor, unless the prospective developer has given written instruction to the contrary.

11. Preservation in Situ

- 11.1 All excavation by machine and hand must be undertaken with a view to avoid damaging archaeological deposits or features which appear worthy of

preservation in situ or more detailed investigation than for the purposes of evaluation.

- 11.2 The discovery of substantial structural remains requiring preservation in situ will entail detailed discussion between all relevant parties. The costs associated with excavation, conservation, and curation of other unforeseen objects or structures of national importance will be subject to additional contingency provision, as deemed appropriate following discussions with the planning authority.
- 11.3 Where structures, features or finds appear to merit preservation in situ, they must be adequately protected from deterioration.

12. Archaeological Sciences and Environmental Sampling

- 12.1 The minimum requirement for Archaeological Science and Environmental sampling during evaluation is that the archaeological contractor should commission programmes of investigation which are adequate to provide a sound basis for developing the Specification/Project Design for any subsequent excavation, or for other forms of mitigation strategy, in particular *in situ* preservation. The results of these investigations will be presented in the Evaluation Report.
- 12.2 General recommendation for minimum standards for archaeological science work have been produced by English Heritage. The document "Archaeological Science at PPG16 interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists" is available through the English Heritage website (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.001002003009003>). Subject specific guidelines produced by English Heritage are also available, and these provide recommendations for best practice for a range of archaeological science topics, including Archaeometallurgy (2001), Environmental Archaeology (2002), Dendrochronology (2004), Geoarchaeology (2004), Human Remains (2005), and X-radiography of archaeological metalwork (2006). All of these can be downloaded from the EH Guidance section of the HELM website, (www.helm.org.uk).
- 12.3 Advice on archaeological science can also be acquired from the English Heritage Regional Archaeological Science Advisor, Jim Williams, contact details provided at end of document.
- 12.4 All such investigations during evaluation should be undertaken in a manner broadly consistent with the English Heritage document **The Management of Archaeological Projects** (English Heritage 1991).
- 12.5 All specialists (both those employed in-house by the contracting field unit or those sub-contracted) should be named in project documents. Agreement of specialists must always be obtained before their names are listed. Their competence to undertake proposed investigations, and the availability of adequate laboratory facilities and reference collections should be demonstrated. There should be agreement in writing on time-tables and deadlines for all stages of work.

13. Treatment of Finds

- 13.1 All finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (or subsequent editions) and the recipient museum's guidelines.
- 13.2 Suspected human remains shall be investigated so as to achieve the objectives of the archaeological evaluation, i.e. to establish presence, character, state of preservation and significance. The lifting of human skeletal remains should, however, be avoided except where this is required to avoid potential loss to the archaeological resource. Where remains are lifted this should be undertaken in accordance with the appropriate legislation, and specifically in line with current guidance issued by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO), and English Heritage. At sites known in advance to be cemeteries, provision should be made for site inspection by a recognised specialist. Excavators must be aware of, and comply with, the relevant legislation and any MoJ and local environmental health concerns. Further guidance is provided in *Church Archaeology: its care and management* (Council for the Care of Churches 1999) and in English Heritage (2002 and 2002a), *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (The Church of England & English Heritage, 2005). Recommendations for reporting the results of skeletal remains are covered in the following English Heritage document, *Human Bones from Archaeological Sites- Guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports*.
- 13.3 Where there is evidence for industrial activity, macroscopic technological residues (or a sample of them) should be collected by hand, in accordance with the appropriate specialist advice. Separate samples (c. 10ml) should be collected for micro-slugs (hammer-scale and spherical droplets). Reference should be made to the English Heritage guidelines on *Archaeometallurgy* (English Heritage 2001).
- 13.4 Subject to time constraints, samples should be taken for scientific dating (principally radiocarbon dating at the evaluation stage) in specific circumstances. This could apply where dating by artefacts is insecure or absent, **and** where dating is necessary for development of the Project Design/Specification for subsequent mitigation strategies.
- 13.5 Consideration should be given to the appropriateness of geoarchaeological assessment of buried soils and sediment sequences exposed during the evaluation. They should be inspected and recorded on site by a recognised geoarchaeologist, since field inspection may provide sufficient data for understanding site formation processes. Procedures and techniques presented in the English Heritage document *Geoarchaeology. Using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record* should be applied (English Heritage 2004, *Geoarchaeology. Using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record*). Samples for laboratory assessment should be collected where appropriate, following discussion with the Local Authority.

- 13.6 Deposits should be sampled for retrieval and assessment of the preservation conditions and potential for analysis of biological remains (English Heritage 2002, *Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*). The sampling strategy should include a reasoned justification for selection of deposits for sampling, and should be developed in collaboration with a recognised bioarchaeologist. Flotation samples and samples taken for coarse-mesh sieving from dry deposits should be processed at the time of the fieldwork wherever possible, partly to permit variation of sampling strategies if necessary, but also because processing a backlog of samples at a later stage causes delays. Sampling strategies for wooden structures should follow the methodologies presented in English Heritage's *Waterlogged Wood* (Brunning 1996, *Waterlogged wood. Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood*).
- 13.7 All finds which may constitute 'treasure' under the Treasure Act, 1996 must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner. Where removal can not take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 13.8 Unless otherwise agreed with the local authorities archaeological advisor, all identified finds and artefacts will be retained, although certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording if an appropriate sample is recommended by the recipient museum's archive curator.

14. Post-excavation Work

- 14.1 According to standard procedure, excavation will be followed by a period of post-excavation processing. This should involve the cataloguing and analysis of any finds and samples, utilising the appropriate specialist advice, and the preparation of the archive for the site report and deposition.
- 14.2 Artefacts, biological samples and soils should be assessed for evidence of site and deposit formation processes and taphonomy, and especially for evidence of recent changes that may have been caused by alterations in the site environment. Assessment should include x-radiography of all iron objects, (after initial screening to exclude obviously recent debris), and most non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins). Further advice and minimum requirements for x-radiography are given in recent guidance from English Heritage (English Heritage 2006 *Guidelines on the x-radiography of archaeological metalwork*). . Where necessary, active stabilisation or consolidation will be carried out, to ensure long-term survival of the material, but with due consideration to possible future investigations. Once assessed, all material should be packed and stored in optimum conditions, as described in **First Aid for Finds**. Waterlogged organic materials should be dealt with following the guidelines.
- 14.3 Assessment of any technological residues should be undertaken.
- 14.4 Samples for dating should be submitted to promptly, and prior agreement should be made with the laboratory on turn-around time and report

production, so as to ensure that results are available to aid development of specifications for subsequent mitigation strategies.

- 14.5 Processing of all soil samples collected for biological assessment, or sub-samples of them, should be completed. The preservation state, density and significance of material retrieved should be assessed by recognised specialists. Special consideration should be given to any evidence for recent changes in preservation conditions that may have been caused by alterations in the site environment. Unprocessed sub-samples should be stored in conditions specified by the appropriate specialists.
- 14.6 Samples collected for geoarchaeological assessment should be processed as deemed necessary by a recognised specialist, particularly where storage of unprocessed samples is thought likely to result in deterioration. Appropriate assessment is to be undertaken. Where preservation *in situ* is a viable option, consideration should be given to the possible effects of compression on the physical integrity of the site and to any hydrological impacts of development.
- 14.7 Animal bone assemblages, or sub-samples of them, should be assessed by a recognised specialist.
- 14.8 Assessment of human remains will have been based partly on *in situ* observation, but where skeletal remains have been lifted assessment should be undertaken by a recognised specialist.

15. Reports

- 15.1 A full written report combining all stages of the evaluation should be prepared. At least two copies shall be sent to the Historic & Natural Environment Team, Community Services, Leicestershire County Council, and one or more copies to the relevant local authority Planning Officer and/or Conservation Officer. If this report is to form part of a planning application, it is in the developer's interest to ensure this report is prepared to an adequate standard (see 'Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland') in order that a judgement of the archaeological value of the site can be made as quickly as possible.
- 15.2 The report/s ought to:
 - i) Include
 - a) All trench location plans tied into the Ordnance Survey data
 - b) Drawing and plans
 - c) A summary of artefacts by trench together with their interpretation
 - d) Any specialist reports
 - e) A concise non-technical summary of the project results
 - f) A full, quantified, site archive inventory to include both the documentary and finds archives.
 - ii) Assess
 - a) The archaeological significance of the development site and any archaeological deposits encountered during evaluation

- b) The evidence in its setting, regional context and also aim to highlight any research priorities where applicable
- c) The results from any archaeological science investigations

15.3 Wherever appropriate, outline the options for achieving the preferred option of preservation in situ of significant archaeological deposits.

15.4 Reports should include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis. They should include tabulations of data in relation to site phasing and contexts, and include non-technical summaries. The objective presentation of data should be clearly separated from interpretation. Recommendations for further investigations, (both on samples already collected, and at future excavations) should be identified and separated from the results and interpretation.

15.5 Understanding the current state of preservation of an archaeological site is necessary in any attempt to ensure its future preservation *in situ* or adequate recording during excavation. It is advised that those involved in evaluations and excavations should take all necessary steps to ensure that sufficient information is collected to provide a firm basis for informed decisions. Techniques for assessing the state of preservation will vary, depending on the type of site and its perceived importance. A cost-effective method of assessing the preservation of buried archaeological remains is to make use of information that should be included within specialist assessment reports. For example:

- are pollen grains well preserved, or is there a high proportion of indeterminate grains and those of durable taxa?;
- are plant macrofossils preserved by waterlogging, mineral-replacement or only in a charred form? If present, do waterlogged macrofossils shows signs of degradation?

The artefact conservation assessment should identify the degree of preservation of each material class recovered, and identify whether there is evidence contained in, for example, the nature of corrosion products on metalwork to suggest that the burial environment is changing, or has changed recently. A clear and concise synthesis of such data in the Evaluation Report, combined with assessment of site hydrology, will help to inform future site-specific management, particularly with respect to vulnerable materials that might be at risk from proposed re-development schemes.

15.6 The final report/s will be deposited with the Leicestershire and Rutland HER no later than six months after completion of the project. This will be a paper copy of the report including its relevant accompanying plans.

15.7 Results of the project, even if negative, will be submitted for publication in the appropriate academic journals. Contractors are to provide a summary of findings to the 'Transactions of the Leicestershire Historical and Archaeological Society' (c/o Richard Buckley, School of Archaeological Studies, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH).

- 15.8 A copy of the final report/s will be deposited in the National Monuments Record, English Heritage, Swindon. Where archaeological scientific investigation has formed an element of the project a copy of the report should be sent to: Dr J Williams, East Midlands English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.

16. Archive

- 16.1 The archive consists of all written records and materials recovered, drawn and photographic records. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It should also contain Site matrix, site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.

- 16.2 An accession number must be drawn prior to the commencement of archaeological works.

- 16.3 Archive will be prepared in line with UKIC Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (1990) and "The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service" (LMARS 2001).

16.4 Archive Deposition

- 16.4.1 The integrity of the site archive should be maintained. All find and records should be properly curated by a single organisation, and be available for public consultation.

- 16.4.2 Arrangements for deposition of the full site archive will be made with Leicestershire County Council Museums Service. The archive will be presented to the Assistant Keeper (Archives) within 6 months of completion of the fieldwork, unless alternative arrangements have been agreed in writing with the Senior Planning Archaeologist and archive curator.

16.5 Copyright

- 16.5.1 It is required that the Leicestershire & Rutland HER and Leicestershire Museums Service be granted full rights to utilise the Documentary Archive under copyright. The first owner of copyright is the project archaeologist who created the archive, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (SMA 1995, Appendix 2; IFA 1994a, c, Appendix 6; 1994b, 1996, Appendix 5; 1999). LCCEHS prefers to obtain an assignment of copyright in the archive from the copyright owner, but is prepared to acquire a licence allowing it to use the archive (MGC 1992, 2.11; SMA 1995). The project archaeologist should decide whether assignment or licence is to be granted, and in the latter case agree the details of such a licence with LCCEHS at the time of notification of intention to deposit the archive, if not earlier, so that the correct forms are available at the time of deposition.

17. Requirements (including responsibilities of prospective developer and Archaeological Contractor)

17.1 Appointment of Archaeological Contractors

17.1.1 The professional archaeological Contractors invited to tender for the work must be able to demonstrate within their Project Design that they can provide staffing and expertise with the appropriate experience in dealing with technology of the type and nature required in this Brief.

17.1.2 Contractors will operate in line with professional guidelines and standards as stated in the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA):

- Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (1994, revised 1999),
- IFA Code of Conduct (1985, as revised 1997) and,
- IFA By-Law Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology (IFA, 1990 as revised, 1998).

17.2 *Pre-tender site visit*

The Contractor must visit the site before completing any Project Design, as there may be implications for accurately costing the project. This visit must be noted, along with any other relevant site details, within the Project Design.

17.3 *Project Design*

17.3.1 The Project Design will cater for full post-excavation analysis, reporting and deposition of the Site findings.

17.3.2 The Project Design must:

- a) be supported by a research design, which sets out the site-specific objectives of the archaeological works,
- b) detail the proposed works as precisely as is reasonably possible, and where appropriate, indicate clearly on plan their location and extent,
- c) include details, including name, qualifications and experience of the Site director and all other key project personnel, including any specialist staff and sub-contractors, will be included in the Project Design. The ratio of on-site voluntary assistance must not exceed a ratio of more than 1:2 employed experienced staff,
- d) detail archive deposition, publication and presentation,
- e) provide a timetable for proposed works,

17.4 *Checking of Project Designs*

17.4.1 It is particularly important that all Project Designs, or those which the prospective developer wishes to consider, are forwarded to the Senior Planning Archaeologist for approval prior to the appointment of a Contractor.

17.4.2 Any changes the Senior Planning Archaeologist recommends to a preferred Project Design/s might have financial implications for the costing of the archaeological Contractor, changes to the Project Design will be discussed and agreed in writing by the Senior Planning Archaeologist and the archaeological Contractor.

17.5 *Agreement*

There must be a written archaeological agreement that satisfactorily implements the approved format and provides sufficient financial support for all aspects of the work including fieldwork, finds processing, conservation, specialist analysis, archiving, cataloguing, report work and long-term storage curation. The archaeological Consultant/Contractor must confirm in writing the Senior Planning Archaeologist that the prospective developer has signed such an agreement before the commencement of Site works.

18. **Monitoring**

18.1 The work undertaken by the archaeological Contractor, will be monitored under the auspices of the Leicestershire Senior Planning Archaeologist, or his representative, who is responsible for monitoring all archaeological work in Leicestershire and Rutland on behalf of the Local Planning Authority. Monitoring includes reviewing site work, the progress of excavation reports, archive preparation and final deposition.

18.2 Before the commencement of the project the Contractor must inform the Senior Planning Archaeologist, in writing, of the timetable of proposed works and ensure that the Senior Planning Archaeologist must be kept regularly informed about developments during Site and subsequent post-excavation work.

18.3 The Senior Planning Archaeologist will be given at least one weeks written notice of commencement of archaeological work.

19. **Alterations to this Brief**

19.1 This Brief is valid for three months (from the date below). If not tendered within this period the prospective developer will seek confirmation from the Senior Planning Archaeologist of its continued validity to the existing Site conditions. In addition the following apply:

19.2 Prior to the formal appointment of an archaeological Contractor, the Senior Planning Archaeologist reserves the right to alter this Brief if additional information comes to light that may have a bearing on the scope and methods of work currently required. (e.g. Site construction constraints, foundation details etc).

19.3 After formal appointment, any alterations recommended by the Senior Planning Archaeologist which may affect the archaeological Contractor's agreed Project Design (whether this be before commencement, or during the project), will be made in consultation with the archaeological Contractor and submitted to the Local Planning Authority. (This does not relate to the formal recommendations for further investigation (e.g. open area excavation) as a result of the findings of the project, for which the Senior Planning Archaeologist is responsible for advising staff on behalf of the Local Planning Authority).

20. **Key Definitions**

Senior Planning Archaeologist

Responsible for providing an archaeological curatorial planning service to Leicestershire districts. Advises on the nature of the work required and monitors projects from implementation to completion.

Archive Curator:

Responsible for the long-term curation of the archive in the recipient Museum.

Prospective Developer:

Person/group/developer commissioning the archaeological work.

Contractor:

Archaeological Contractor tendering to carry out the archaeological work and as appointed by the prospective developer.

Project Design:

Written document detailing the proposed work and as provided by a Contractor in line with the Written Brief provided by the Senior Planning Archaeologist.

The Senior Planning Archaeologist can be contacted at:

Historic & Natural Environment Team
Leicestershire County Council
Room 500, County Hall,
Leicester Road, Glenfield
Leicestershire
LE3 8TE

Telephone Number: 0116 3058322. Fax: 0116 3057965

Email: richard.clark@leics.gov.uk

The EH Regional Archaeological Science Advisor for the East Midlands:

Dr Jim Williams
English Heritage
44, Derngate
Northampton
Northamptonshire
NN1 1UH
Tel: (07801) 213300
Email: Jim.Williams@english-heritage.org.uk

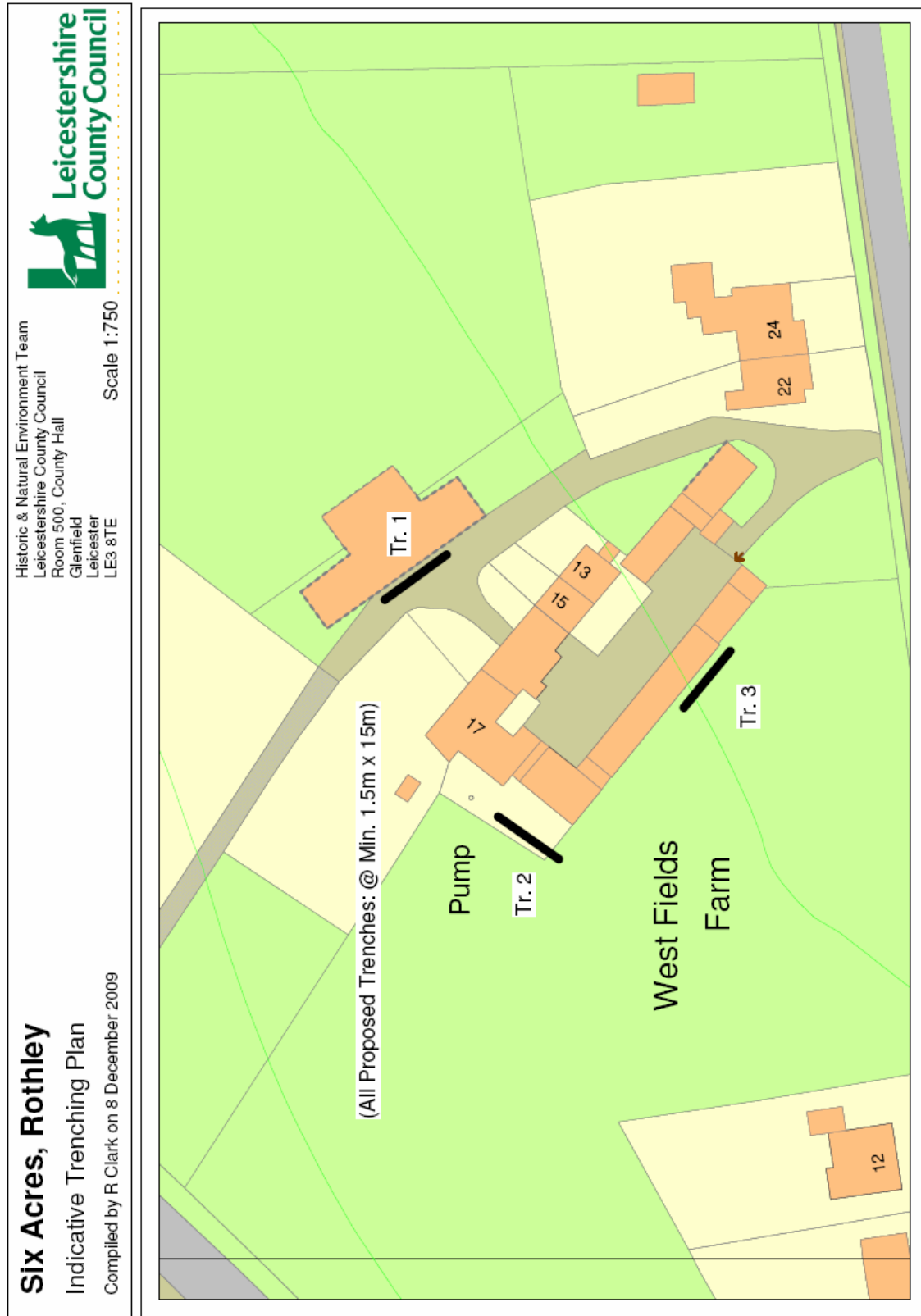


Fig. 1: Indicative Trench Locations.

Appendix III ULAS Design Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

Job title: Six Acres, 17, The Ridgeway, Rothley, Leicestershire (SK 578 124)

Client: Mr Charles White

Planning Authority: Charnwood Borough Council

P. A 09/2024/2

1 Introduction

1.1 *Definition and scope of the specification*

This document is a design specification for an initial phase of archaeological field evaluation (AFE) at the above site, in accordance with DOE Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and Planning, para.30). The fieldwork specified below is intended to provide preliminary indications of character and extent of any buried archaeological remains in order that the potential impact of the development on such remains may be assessed by the Planning Authority.

- 1.2 The definition of archaeological field evaluation, taken from the Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IfA S&G: AFE) is a limited programme of non-intrusive and/ or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

2. Background

2.1 *Context of the Project*

- 2.1.1 The site is located approximately 1.5km to the west of Rothley, defined to the north by The Ridgeway and to the south by Westfield Lane. The study area itself is roughly triangular in shape and covers approximately 2.2ha. The site lies on a south facing slope, overlooking the Rothley Brook, with the land falling from 65 to 60 metres. The plot is centred upon a courtyard farm complex, formerly known as Westfield Farm.

- 2.1.2 Leicestershire County Council, Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCCHNET) as archaeological advisors to the planning authority have requested an evaluation by trial trenching to identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage by the development. The requirements are detailed in the *Brief For Archaeological Evaluation At Six Acres, 17, The Ridgeway, Rothley, Leicestershire* (LCCHNET hereinafter the 'brief')

2.2 *Archaeological and Historical Background*

- 2.2.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application site lies in an area of archaeological interest; in close proximity to the scheduled remains of the Rothley villa, a high status Roman settlement site (SM ref. LE159; HER ref. MLE891) discovered in the 18th century and partly excavated in 1901. Whilst the development site lies outside the designated (scheduled) area, the extent of the site and its archaeological remains has yet to be established. In addition to evidence of extensive and significant archaeological remains of Roman date, an Anglo Saxon inhumation cemetery has

also been located in the immediate vicinity, apparently focused to the west of the application site (MLE880). Again the extent of the area of archaeological interest, as well as its character cannot, at this stage be adequately defined. To the east of the development area, two burials were located during the early 20th century, including an undated inhumation (MLE882) and a cremation urn thought to be of Bronze Age date (MLE881).

- 2.2.2 The farmstead itself is of significant archaeological interest. Six Acres, formerly West Field Farm lies within an area of early enclosure. The DBA, quoting research undertaken into the history of medieval Rothley, indicates that at least elements of the West Field, one of a series of extensive open fields that surrounded the village, were enclosed prior to the Parliamentary Enclosure of the parish in the late 18th century. This process may have its origin in the late medieval period, or perhaps more probably in the early post-medieval. It is notable that the farmhouse contains elements of timber framing the character and extent of which remains uncertain. It is very probable that the farm complex has its origin in the early piecemeal enclosure of the former medieval open field, and may be the site of an early farmstead.
- 2.3 The farmstead shows the classic form of the Midland's courtyard farmstead, barn adjacent to or in close proximity to the farmhouse, associated ranges of farm buildings arranged in courtyard form. The integrated character of the farm house, again suggests an early origin, and a more organic character to the development of the complex. Traditional farm complexes are a vanishing resource, and an important and characteristic element of the Leicestershire landscape.

3. Archaeological Objectives

- 3.1 The main objectives of the evaluation will be:
- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
 - To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
 - To produce an archive and report of any results.
- 3.2 Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation is to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development.
- 3.3 Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area.

4. Methodology

4.1 *General Methodology and Standards*

- 4.1.1 All work will follow the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008).
- 4.1.2 Staffing, recording systems, health and safety provisions and insurance details are included below.
- 4.1.3 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site by the project manager. These will ensure that project targets are met and professional standards are maintained. Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Senior Planning Archaeologist the Planning authority and the Client.

4.2 *Trial Trenching Methodology*

- 4.2.1 Topsoil/modern overburden will be removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the uppermost archaeological deposits by JCB 3C or equivalent using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 4.2.2 Trenches will be excavated to a width of 1.6m and down to the top of archaeological deposits. The area of the trenches will be protected by barrier fencing.

- 4.2.3 The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.
- 4.2.4 The area of impact from the new dwellings covers *c.* 0.10 ha. A *c.* 5% sample of the area is the equivalent of three 15m x 1.6m trenches totaling *c.* 72 sq m. (Fig. 2). An indicative location has been included in the 'Brief' and a slightly modified location is shown below (Fig 3; Trench locations in red). The exact location of the trenches may need to be modified depending on constraints on site.
- 4.2.5 Trenches will be examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located will be planned at an appropriate scale and sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence. All plans will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.
- 4.2.6 Sections of any excavated archaeological features will be drawn at an appropriate scale. At least one longitudinal face of each trench will be recorded. All sections will be levelled and tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum, or a permanent fixed bench mark.
- 4.2.7 Trench locations will be recorded using an electronic distance measurer. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 4.2.8 Any human remains will initially be left *in situ* and will only be removed if necessary for their protection, under Ministry of Justice guidelines and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations.

4.3 Recording Systems

- 4.3.1 The ULAS recording manual will be used as a guide for all recording.
- 4.3.2 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto pro-forma recording sheets.
- 4.3.3 A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a trench plan at appropriate scale, which will show the location of the areas investigated in relationship to the investigation area and OS grid.
- 4.3.4 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made. Sections including the half-sections of individual layers of features will be drawn as necessary, typically at a scale of 1:10. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be recorded.
- 4.3.5 A photographic record of the investigations will be prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.
- 4.3.6 This record will be compiled and checked during the course of the excavations.

5. Finds and Samples

- 5.1 The IfA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.
- 5.2 Before commencing work on the site, a Site code/Accession number will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist that will be used to identify all records and finds from the site.
- 5.3 During the fieldwork, different sampling strategies may be employed according to the perceived importance of the strata under investigation. Close attention will always be given to sampling for date, structure and environment. If significant archaeological features are sample excavated, the environmental sampling strategy is likely to include the following:
 - i. A range of features to represent all feature types, areas and phases will be selected on a judgmental basis. The criteria for selection will be that deposits are datable, well sealed and with little intrusive or residual material.

- ii. Any buried soils or well sealed deposits with concentrations of carbonised material present will be intensively sampled taking a known proportion of the deposit.
 - iii. Spot samples will be taken where concentrations of environmental remains are located.
 - iv. Waterlogged remains, if present, will be sampled for pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and radiocarbon dating provided that they are uncontaminated and datable. Consultation with the specialist will be undertaken.
- 5.4 All identified finds and artefacts are to be retained, although certain classes of building material will, in some circumstances, be discarded after recording with the approval of the Senior Planning Archaeologist. The IfA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.
- 5.5 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner. Where appropriate they will be cleaned, marked and receive remedial conservation in accordance with recognised best-practice. This will include the site code number, finds number and context number. Bulk finds will be bagged in clear self sealing plastic bags, again marked with site code, finds and context numbers and boxed by material in standard storage boxes (340mm x 270mm x 195mm). All materials will be fully labelled, catalogued and stored in appropriate containers.

6. Report and Archive

- 6.1 The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork and copies will be dispatched to the Client, Senior Planning Archaeologist; HER and Local Planning Authority.
- 6.2 The report will include consideration of:-
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the evaluation.
 - The nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of any structural, artefactual and environmental material uncovered.
 - The anticipated degree of survival of archaeological deposits.
 - The anticipated archaeological impact of the current proposals.
 - Appropriate illustrative material including maps, plans, sections, drawings and photographs.
 - Summary.
 - The location and size of the archive.
 - A quantitative and qualitative assessment of the potential of the archive for further analysis leading to full publication, following guidelines laid down in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage).
- 6.3 A full copy of the archive as defined in the *IfA Standard and Guidance for archaeological archives* (Brown 2008) will normally be presented to Leicestershire County Council within six months of the completion of fieldwork. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

7 Publication and Dissemination of Results

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

8 Acknowledgement and Publicity

- 8.1 ULAS shall acknowledge the contribution of the Client in any displays, broadcasts or publications relating to the site or in which the report may be included.
- 8.2 ULAS and the Client shall each ensure that a senior employee shall be responsible for dealing with any enquiries received from press, television and any other broadcasting media and members of the public. All enquiries made to ULAS shall be directed to the Client for comment.

9 Copyright

- 9.1 The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

10 Timetable

- 10.1 The evaluation start is proposed for 8 January 2010 with two staff. Further staff will be added if archaeological remains are discovered.
- 10.2 The on-site director/supervisor will carry out the post-excavation work, with time allocated within the costing of the project for analysis of any artefacts found on the site by the relevant in-house specialists at ULAS.

11 Health and Safety

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

12 Insurance

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

13 Monitoring arrangements

- 13.1 Unlimited access to monitor the project will be available to both the Client and his representatives and Planning Archaeologist subject to the health and safety requirements of the site. At least one weeks notice will be given to the LCCHS Senior Planning Archaeologist before the commencement of the archaeological evaluation in order that monitoring arrangements can be made.
- 13.2 All monitoring shall be carried out in accordance with the IfA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.
- 13.3 Internal monitoring will be carried out by the ULAS project manager.

14 Contingencies and unforeseen circumstances

- 14.1 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the project, ULAS shall inform the site agent/project manager, Client and the Planning Archaeologist and Planning Authority and prepare a short written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the Planning Archaeologist, ULAS shall, if required, implement an amended scheme of investigation on behalf of the client as appropriate.

15 Bibliography

- Brown, D., 2008 *Standard and guidance for the preparation of Archaeological Archives* (Institute for Archaeologists)

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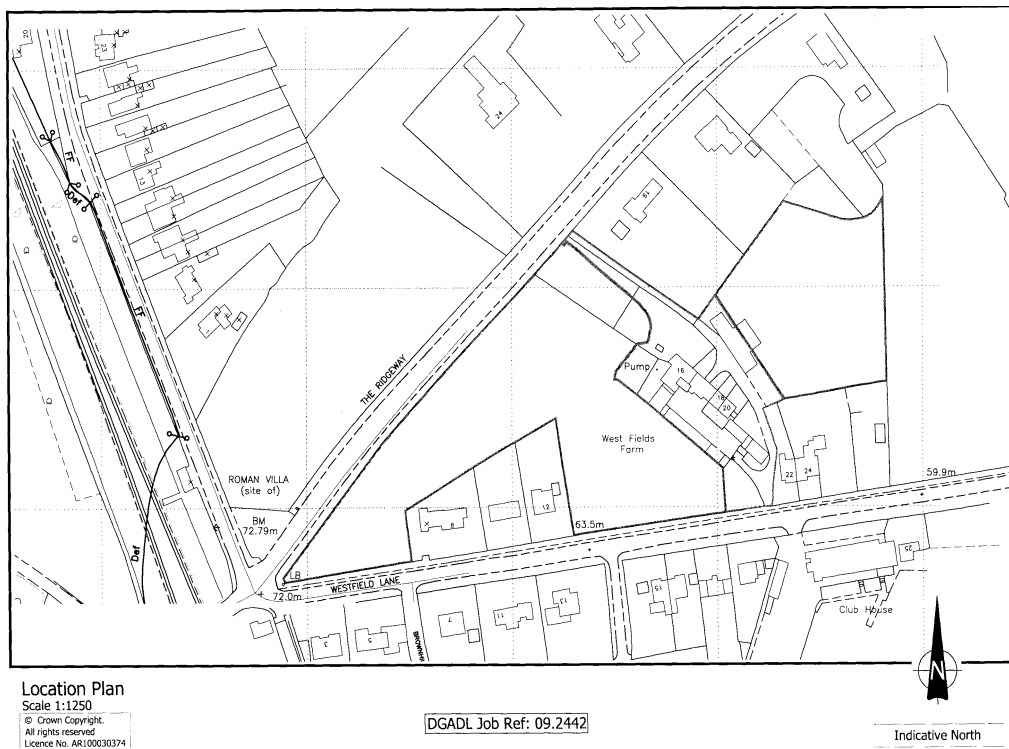


Figure 1 Location of Six Acres, 17, The Ridgeway, Rothley.

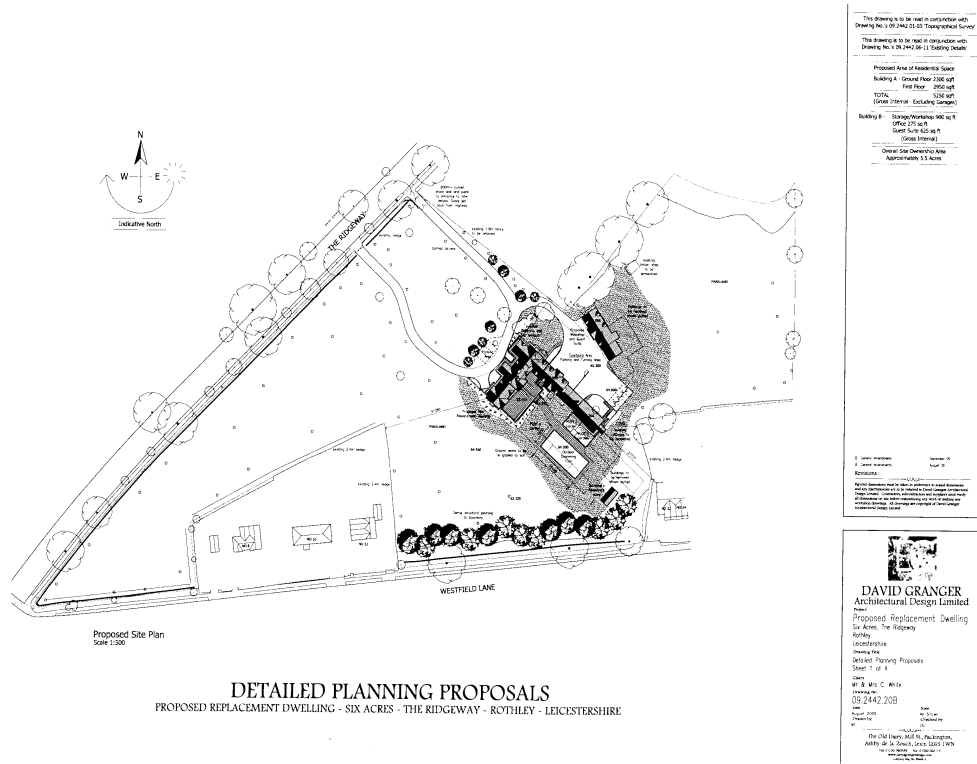


Figure 2 Proposed development at Six Acres, 17, The Ridgeway, Rothley

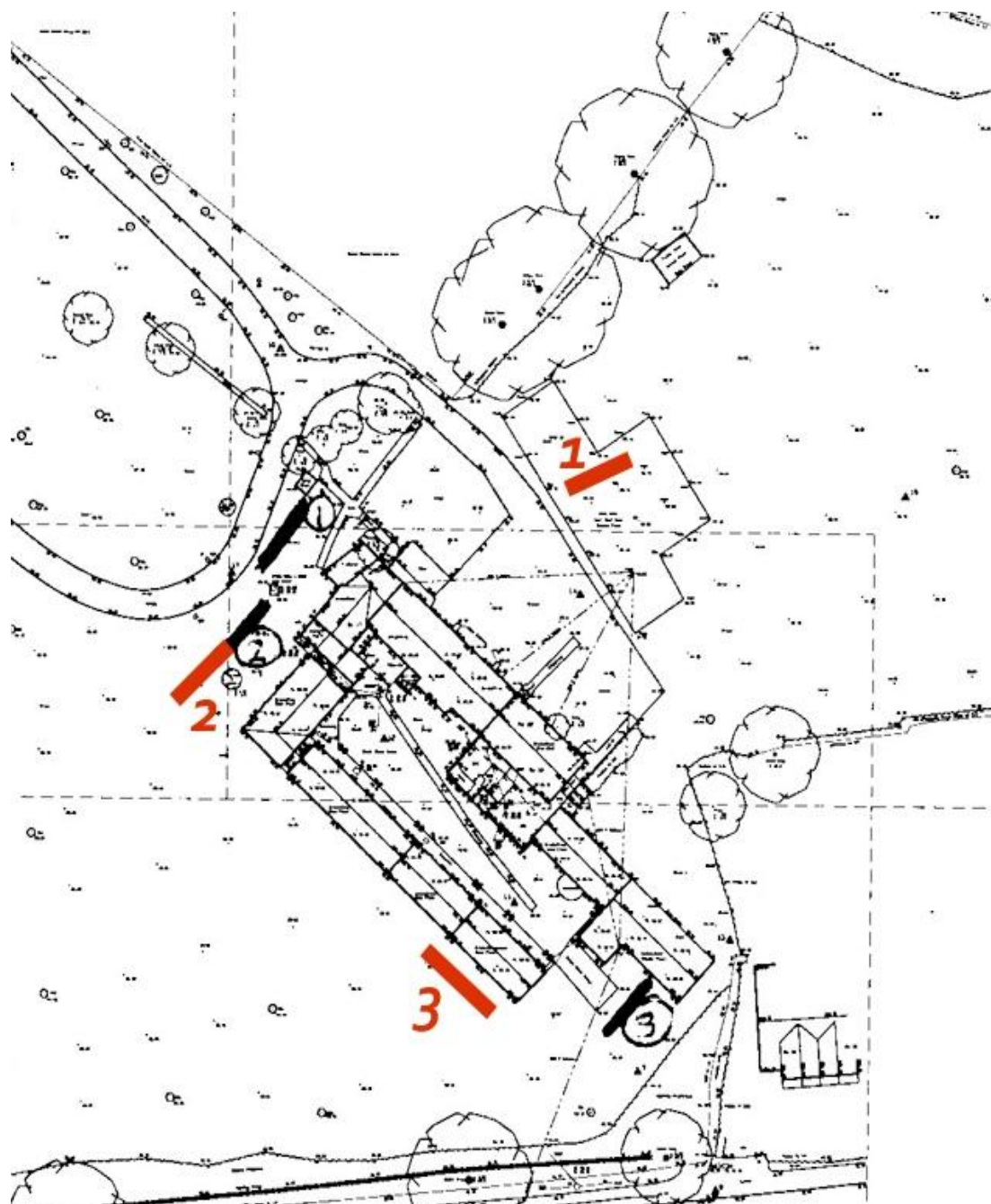


Figure 3. Suggested trench location (red)

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

A risks assessment will be produced by on-site staff, which will be updated and amended during the course of the evaluation.

1. Nature of the work

1.1 Brief description of the work involved e.g.

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

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 *Working on an excavation site.*

Precautions. Trenches to not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m. Spoil will be kept 1.5m away from the edge of the excavated area to prevent falls of loose debris. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. Hard hats will be worn when working in deeper sections or with plant. First aid kit to be kept in site accommodation/vehicle. Vehicle and mobile phone to be kept on site in case of emergency.

2.2 *Working with plant.*

Precautions. Archaeologists experienced in working with machines will supervise topsoil stripping at all times. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. Machine driver to be suitably qualified and insured. If services or wells are encountered machining will be halted until extent has been established by hand excavation or areas where it is safe to machine have been established.

2.3 *Working within areas prone to waterlogging.*

If waterlogging occurs on site preventing work continuing it is proposed to excavate a sump, suitably fenced and clearly marked to enable the water to drain away. If this is insufficient a pump will be used. The sump will be covered when not in use and backfilled if no longer required. Protective clothing will be worn at all times and precautions taken to prevent contact with stagnant water which may carry Wiels 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.

Appendix IV OASIS Information

INFORMATION	
Project Name	Six Acres, 17 The Ridgeway, Rothley, Leics
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	P Clay
Project Supervisor	A Hyam
Previous/Future work	DBA, unknown future work
Current Land Use	Agricultural
Development Type	Residential
Reason for Investigation	As a provisional condition
Position in the Planning Process	Preliminary
Site Co ordinates	SK 572 124
Start/end dates of field work	8th January 2010
Archive Recipient	LCC
Study Area	2.2ha

ULAS Contact Details

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