

**Archaeological Excavation on Land  
North of Coventry Road, Hinckley,  
Leicestershire (SP 406 935)**

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**Planning Application No. 99/00048/OUT/4**

**Planning Authority: Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council**

**Checked by Project Manager**

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## **Archaeological Excavation on Land North of Coventry Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire, (SP 406 935)**

### ***Summary***

*University of Leicester Archaeological Services was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of Tungsten Properties Ltd. to undertake an archaeological excavation in advance of a development at Coventry Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire (SP 406 935). An archaeological evaluation carried out by ULAS (ULAS Report No 99-117) had identified the site as having archaeological potential and the Senior Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council required a programme of archaeological investigation as a condition of planning permission. As a result of the evaluation a large area to the north of the site was identified as requiring open area excavation, covering an area of approximately 0.4 hectares. Excavation revealed a palaeochannel (former stream course) aligned east - west and a linear ditch running north-south in the northernmost corner of the site. Other potential archaeological features were on examination found to be of natural origin.*

### **1. Introduction**

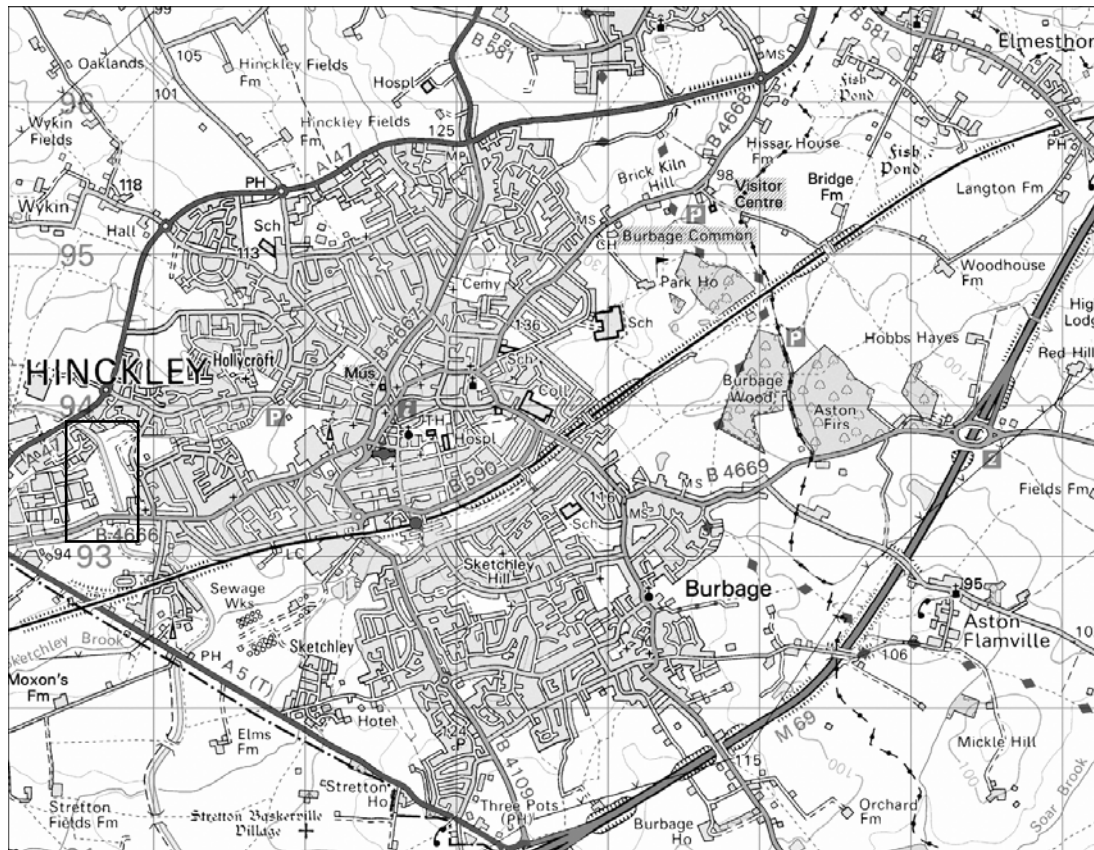
1.1 University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of Tungsten Properties Ltd. to undertake archaeological excavations prior to development at Coventry Road; Hinckley (SP 406 935) Planning application 99/00048/OUT/4. An examination of the Leicestershire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) identified the site as being of possible archaeological significance and as a result the Leicestershire County Council, Senior Planning Archaeologist, as advisor to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, required further excavation as a condition of planning permission.

1.2 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment had been previously carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS Report No 99/36) which identified the site has having potential for buried archaeological remains which would be adversely affected by any potential developments.

1.3 As a result of the desk-based assessment the Senior Planning Archaeologist, of Leicestershire County Council, requested a further programme of archaeological investigation, including trial trench evaluation. The trial trenching was carried out in July–August 1999 and uncovered archaeological remains, potentially dating to the prehistoric or Roman periods, in the north-eastern corner and in a small central area of the Site (Trenches 32, 33, 36-39).

1.4 In the light of the results of evaluation, the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council requested further archaeological work in the form of archaeologically controlled topsoil stripping, recording and excavation of archaeological deposits that would be destroyed or damaged by the development proposals. This report details the results of the excavation, which was undertaken by ULAS between the 27th.November-20th December 2006. All work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologist's (IFA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and*

*Guidelines for Archaeological Excavations* and adhered to the Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by CgMs (Appendix 1)



**Fig. 1. Site location Scale 1:50000**

Reproduced from the Landranger 140 Leicester area 1:50000 map by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright 1996. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 10002186.

## 2. Location

2.1 The site lies to the west of Hinckley, at a height of approximately 93m O.D. (SP 406 935). It is situated on the northern side of Coventry Road (which forms its southern extent). The Harrowbrook Industrial Estate defines the western edge of the field, and to the east it is delimited by the Ashby Canal. The northern boundary of the site is defined by Harrow Brook. The site consists of lightly undulating agricultural land.

2.2 The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 169 indicates that the underlying geology of the site consists of boulder clays overlying sands and gravels.

### **3. Historical and Archaeological Background**

#### **3.1 *Historical Background***

An examination of the cartographic evidence for the proposed development site, including enclosure maps and early Ordnance Survey maps, revealed that the majority of the area has been in agricultural use from at least the 19th century (Sturgess 1999, 4). The lack of recent development suggested that there was some potential for the survival of any archaeological remains in the area.

#### **3.2 *Archaeological Background***

The Sites and Monuments Records for both Leicestershire and Warwickshire (Appendix 1) listed no known archaeological sites within the proposed development area. The site is, however, in an area of known archaeological potential. To the south of Coventry Road only a few hundred yards from the site, Late Iron Age to early Roman period enclosures were identified (Appendix 1, p.17-19). In Leicestershire several flint finds in the vicinity suggested activity from the Palaeolithic to the Bronze Age (SMR references 49SW. AX, AZ, BB and BQ). The Warwickshire SMR has details of three cropmark enclosures (WA2759, 2760 and 2761), the form of which suggested a prehistoric date. The site also lies at a rough mid-point between the two Roman small towns of Mancetter and High Cross. Construction of the Ashby-Nuneaton railway line unearthed a hoard of Roman coins to the northwest of the site (49SW. AG). The proposed development areas also had potential for medieval remains with two deserted medieval villages known in the vicinity, on the Warwickshire side of Watling Street (WA2762 and 2758).

### **4.0 Aims and objectives**

4.1 The archaeological investigation was to comprise an archaeologically controlled topsoil strip and excavation of significant surviving archaeological features. It aimed to investigate, record and analyse, as far as is reasonably possible, the extent, date, character and chronological development of the potential prehistoric and Roman activity as represented by the area excavated.

### **4.2 Planning Framework**

4.2.1 The archaeological investigations were conducted within the general parameters defined by PPG16 'Archaeology and Planning' and the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Structure Plan 1996-2016 (adopted by Leicestershire County Council 8<sup>th</sup> December 2004).

### **4.3 Research Framework**

A number of general, and more specific, research questions and objectives were identified:

- i What is the extent, character and date of activity on Site?
- ii The investigation should seek to establish the character, ground plan, chronological development and the economic status of activity on the Site.
- iii The investigation should take into account the research priorities highlighted

in the East Midlands Regional Research Framework for Archaeology (Cooper ed 2006)

## **5. Methodology**

5.1 The methodology followed that outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by CgMs Consulting (Appendix 1).

5.2 The archaeological investigation was focussed on trenches 32, 33, 36-38 and 39 where archaeological remains had been recorded in the evaluation (Browning 1999).

5.3 A total of 0.4ha was to be stripped of topsoil and any other overlying deposits under archaeological supervision. There was a contingency for a further 0.1ha to be stripped if necessary.

5.4 Topsoil stripping was to be followed by the excavation and recording of significant archaeological remains.

5.5 Provision was to be made for palaeo-environmental recording. The advice of Jim Williams, English Heritage Science Advisor for the East Midlands, was to be sought, as appropriate, to ensure that appropriate scientific sampling strategies are employed throughout the excavation.

5.1.6 The topsoil and any other overlying modern deposits were carefully removed by mechanical excavators fitted with a toothless bucket to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or natural substratum. All machining was under archaeological supervision and was ceased immediately if significant evidence was revealed.

5.1.7 The stripped surfaces were then examined for archaeological material and areas where the presence of features or possible features were suspected were hand-cleaned to ensure proper definition to produce a base plan.

5.1.8 All archaeological features and deposits of early post-medieval date or earlier were to be excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to meet the aims of the excavation.

5.1.9 Large homogenous linear features were to be sampled as appropriate and the intersections of features were to be investigated so that their stratigraphic relationships may be recorded. Discrete features such as pits and postholes were to be investigated.

5.1.10 A strategy for the recovery and sampling of environmental remains from the Site was agreed in advance of the project.

5.2.7 The excavation and spoil heaps were scanned with a metal detector to assist in the recovery of dateable material. Spoil heaps were also searched for artefactual material.

5.2.8 A series of monitoring meetings were held throughout the topsoil strip and subsequent excavation programme with CgMs Consulting and the Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council.

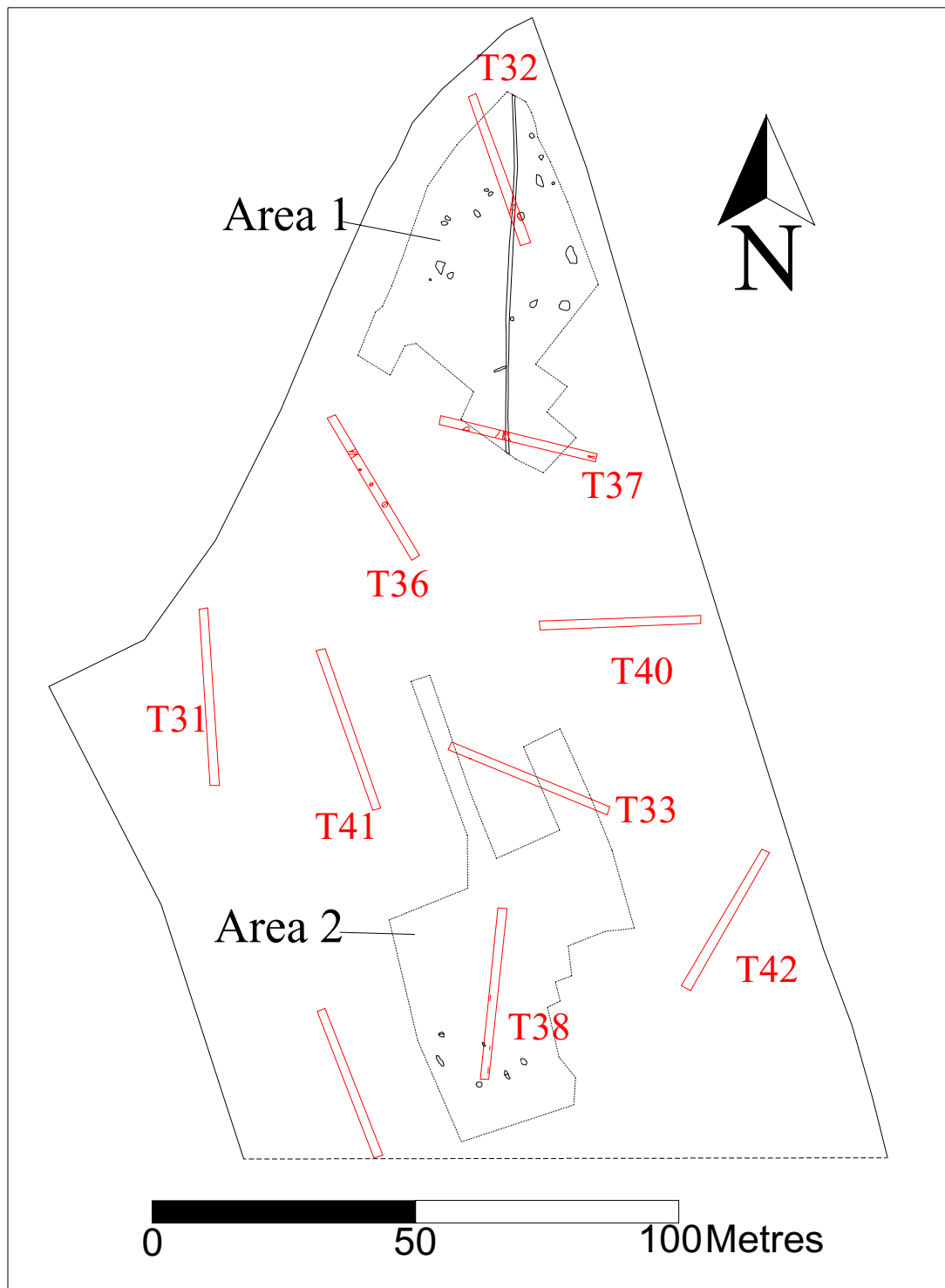


Figure 2 Excavated areas with evaluation trenches in red

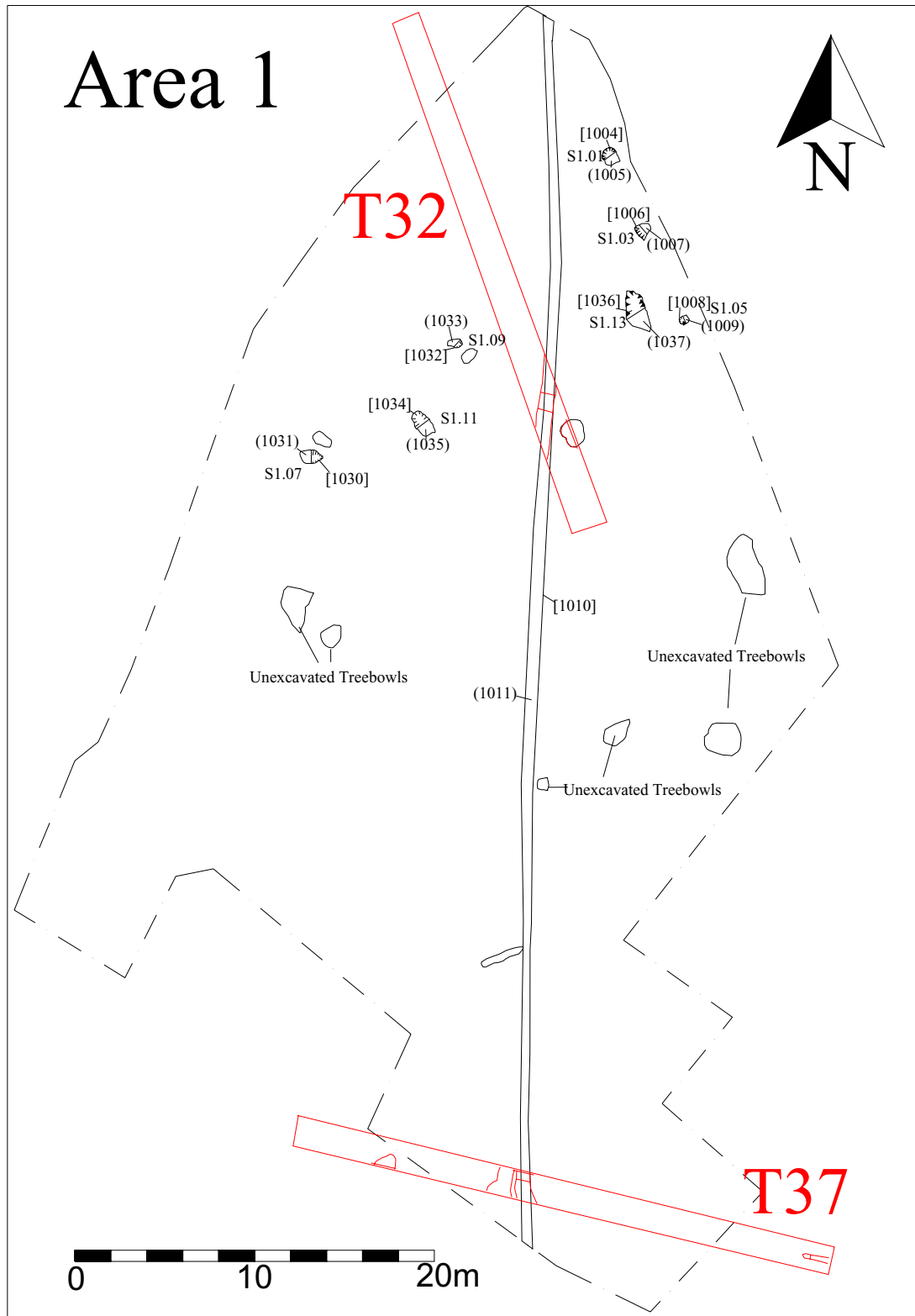


Figure 3 Area 1 Excavated area with evaluation trenches in red.



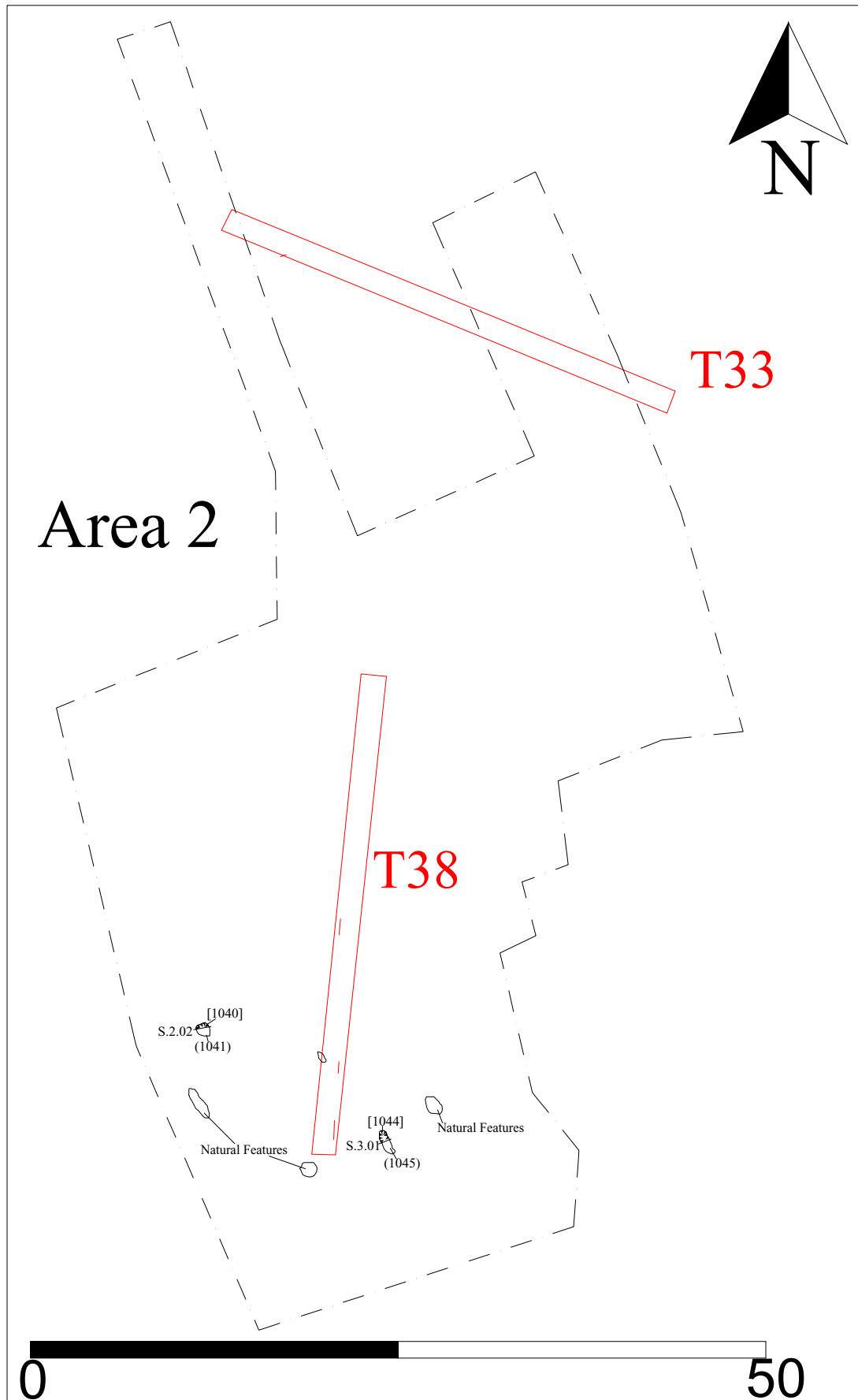


Figure 4 Area 2 Excavated area with evaluation trenches in red.

## 6. Results

Machine stripping was started in the northernmost corner of the site (fig.3 Area 1), adjacent to Harrow Brook concentrating on the area around evaluation trenches 32 and 37 this being where most of the archaeology had been found during the evaluation. Initial machining revealed beneath the subsoil, a thick layer of waterlogged clay parallel to the Harrow Brook which was machined to a depth of 1.20m. Heavy rain during the excavation caused flooding, making access to this area of the site problematic and full recording impossible. Whilst it was visible however, it appeared to represent a palaeochannel, or an earlier course of the Harrow Brook. The natural substratum generally consisted of mottled yellow or grey clay with occasional sandy patches.

Machining continued to the south despite experiencing adverse conditions due to flooding. In total an area measuring approximately 50m x 30m was stripped at the northern end of the site. At the most north-westerly corner of the site a well defined linear feature with steep sides [1010] was aligned north-south. [1010] measured 0.3m wide, 0.3m deep and was >60m long. The fill [1011] was not dated, although a flint flake, recovered during the evaluation from trench 32 may be associated, as linear feature [1010] is positively identified with [51] and [55] from the evaluation.

Machining revealed a total of 16 other potential features in Area 1 (fig.3), eight of which were excavated. None however contained any finds and all the features appeared to display all the characteristics of having resulted from tree bowl and tree throw action.

Machining was slow going due to bad weather and flooding and the decision was taken half way through the excavation to halt it at the northern end of the site (Area 1) and to re-evaluate the strategy of archaeological investigation. It was agreed that further machining should concentrate on the area around Trench 38 (fig 3 Area 2).

Initial machining in the northern end of Area 2 (fig 4.) produced no traces of archaeological remains other than recent field drainage. Machining in the southern end of the trench around evaluation trench 38 revealed a series of possible features. These were however all heavily truncated, produced no finds and were all potentially natural in origin. After a further site meeting it was concluded that excavation should be discontinued due to the absence of any significant archaeology on site.

## 7. Discussion

7.1 This programme of topsoil stripping has revealed some evidence for archaeological activity within the northern part of the field. Unfortunately no finds were uncovered from any of these features making it impossible to establish a reliable date for the activity. Moreover most of the features excavated appeared to be natural in origin except for a linear ditch [1010], which may have been an early field boundary. The evaluation report (Browning, 1999) suggested an Iron Age date for this ditch (context [55] in the evaluation report). The modern period was represented by ceramic field drains. The natural substratum generally consisted of mottled yellow or grey clay with occasional sandy patches.

7.2 Most of the features identified were heavily truncated by later agricultural activity. They initially appeared to represent a mixture of small pits, gullies and post holes. However subsequent excavation of *c.*50% of these features indicated that most were natural in origin, probably resulting from tree bowls and root action. The most convincing feature was a linear ditch [1010], running north-south from the most northerly corner of the site. This feature was positively identified as context [51] and [55] from the evaluation (Trenches 32 and 37). The most likely interpretation of this linear feature [1010] is that it was an early field boundary. Comparisons with field boundaries on early Ordnance survey maps failed to produce a match. Moreover the alignment of [1010] is significantly different than that of the present field boundary suggesting an earlier date. Combined with the discovery of flint from this feature in the evaluation it is possible that it may be prehistoric.

7.3 The topsoil strip also uncovered a palaeochannel on the northern edge of the site, consistent with the findings from evaluation Trench 32. The palaeochannel may represent an earlier course of Harrow Brook, but unfortunately it was not possible to investigate it further due to on site flooding. The limited features uncovered on site show a similarity with those found to the south of Coventry Road (Thomas 1999 (a)) which may suggest a date from the Iron Age to the Roman period.

## **8. Conclusion**

8.1 It is difficult to deduce any significant new archaeological information from the features identified during the topsoil strip. Apart from the linear ditch [1010] none of the features were positively identified as being of an archaeological origin, due mainly to the heavy truncation of the features and the complete absence of finds. Moreover most of the features excavated appeared to be the remnants of tree bowl and root action disturbance. However, the linear feature [1010] does indicate that some activity was taking place on the site associated with field systems, being either a drainage channel gully, a field boundary. These features are similar to those found to the south of Coventry Road (Thomas 1999 (a)), although much more truncated. Perhaps by way of reference to these, a date in the late prehistoric or early Roman period may be suggested.

## **9. Archive**

The Archive Consists of

- 19 Digital Photographs
- 1 Monochrome & Contact Sheets
- 3 Permatrace Drawings (2 A3, 1 A2)
- 14 A4 and A5 Context Summary Sheets.
- 116 A5 Single Context Record Sheets.
- 1 A4 Drawing Sheet Index.

- 1 A4 Drawing Record Sheets.
- 1 A4 Photograph Index Sheets.

And will be held by Leicestershire Museum under Accession No. X.A56.2006

## 10. Acknowledgements

The excavation was carried out between 27th November 2006 and December 20th 2006 under the supervision of the author with the assistance of Hugh Shannon and other ULAS staff. Patrick Clay managed the project.

## 11. Bibliography

Browning, J., 1999 *An Archaeological Excavation on Land North of Coventry Road, Hinckley*. ULAS Report Number 99-117

Cooper, N., (ed) 2006 *The Archaeology of the East Midlands. An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph **13**, Leicester

Patrick, C, 2005 *Specification for Archaeological Excavation, Post-Excavation Assessment, Analysis and Publication, Coventry Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire* CgMs Limited - CP/5725

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17.01.07

## 12. Appendix 1: Leicestershire Sites and Monuments Record

No archaeological sites are recorded from the application area. The following sites, located in the vicinity of the proposed development area, are listed on the Leicestershire SMR:

<b>MonUID</b>	MLE1388
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE1388
<b>Name</b>	Watling Street
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP48NE
<b>Grid Reference</b>	SP 47860 87933 (point)
<b>Summary</b>	Roman road running from Chester to Richborough forming the border between Leicestershire and Warwickshire passing through Bittesby. LF4.
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Lutterworth, Harborough, Leicestershire
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Shawell, Harborough, Leicestershire
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Higham-on-the-Hill, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Sharnford, Blaby, Leicestershire
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Wigston Parva, Blaby, Leicestershire
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Ulverscroft, Charnwood, Leicestershire
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Bittesby, Harborough, Leicestershire
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Claybrooke Parva, Harborough, Leicestershire
<b>Monument/Component Types</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ROAD (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD)</li> </ul>
<b>Find Types</b>	
<b>Designations</b>	
<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
<b>Other Statuses and References</b>	
<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
Old SMR Ref	48NE AE

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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE2889
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE2889
<b>Name</b>	South of Hollycroft Park
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	Centroid SP 422 938 (MBR: 100m by 100m)
<b>Summary</b>	Documentary evidence for post Medieval tower windmill
<b>Description</b>	
<b>Sources</b>	
<b>Number</b>	<b>Reference</b>
<b>Location - Administrative Areas</b>	
<b>Civil Parish</b>	Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire
<b>Monument/Component Types</b>	

- TOWER MILL (Post-medieval - 1540 AD to 1899 AD)

#### Find Types

#### Designations

Type/Grade	Reference/Title
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#### Other Statuses and References

Type/Grade	Reference/Title
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Old SMR Ref	49SW S
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**MonUID** MLE2900

**Preferred Ref.** MLE2900

**Name** North of Battling Brook

**Map Sheet** SP49SW

**Grid Reference** Centroid SP 412 942 (MBR: 100m by 100m) (Approximate)

**Summary** Neolithic to early Bronze Age flint scatter suggesting occupation.

#### Description

#### Sources

Number	Reference
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#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- SITE (Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age - 3000 BC to 1501 BC)

#### Find Types

- KNIFE (Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age - 3000 BC to 1501 BC)
- POINT (Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age - 3000 BC to 1501 BC)
- SCRAPER (TOOL) (Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age - 3000 BC to 1501 BC)
- CORE (Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age - 4000 BC to 801 BC)
- FLAKE (Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age - 4000 BC to 801 BC)
- RETOUCHE FLAKE (Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age - 4000 BC to 801 BC)

#### Designations

Type/Grade	Reference/Title
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#### Other Statuses and References

Type/Grade	Reference/Title
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Old SMR Ref	49SW BD
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**MonUID** MLE6062

**Preferred Ref.** MLE6062

**Name** North East of Harrow Farm

**Map Sheet** SP49SW

**Grid Reference** Centroid SP 400 935 (MBR: 100m by 100m) (Estimated from sources)

**Summary** A Palaeolithic flake found

#### Description

#### Sources

Number	Reference
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#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- FINDSPOT (Palaeolithic - 500000 BC to 10001 BC)

#### Find Types

- LITHIC IMPLEMENT (Palaeolithic - 500000 BC to 10001 BC)

#### Designations

Type/Grade	Reference/Title
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#### Other Statuses and References

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
Old SMR Ref	49SW AX

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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE6063
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE6063
<b>Name</b>	North of Battling Brook,
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	Centroid SP 412 942 (MBR: 100m by 100m) (Approximate)
<b>Summary</b>	A collection of lower Palaeolithic artefacts of flint and Quartzite redeposited in river gravels. 1 quartzite,1 roughout?

#### Description

#### Sources

**Number Reference**

#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- FINDSPOT (Palaeolithic - 500000 BC to 10001 BC)

#### Find Types

- CHOPPER (Lower Palaeolithic - 500000 BC to 150001 BC)
- FLAKE (Lower Palaeolithic - 500000 BC to 150001 BC)
- HANDAXE (Lower Palaeolithic - 500000 BC? to 150001 BC?)
- SCRAPER (TOOL) (Lower Palaeolithic - 500000 BC to 150001 BC)

#### Designations

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
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#### Other Statuses and References

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
Old SMR Ref	49SW BD

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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE6079
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE6079
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	Centroid SP 4033 9403 (MBR: 10m by 10m)
<b>Summary</b>	A Palaeolithic axe and a chopper were found
<b>Description</b>	

#### Sources

**Number Reference**

#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- FINDSPOT (Palaeolithic - 500000 BC? to 10001 BC?)

#### Find Types

- AXE (Palaeolithic - 500000 BC? to 10001 BC?)
- CHOPPER (Palaeolithic - 500000 BC? to 10001 BC?)

#### Designations

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
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#### Other Statuses and References

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
Old SMR Ref	49SW BQ

#### Associated Activities/Events

<b>Event ID</b>	<b>Name/Ref</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Description</b>
ELE1980			

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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE6352
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE6352
<b>Name</b>	South West of White House
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	Centroid SP 404 940 (MBR: 100m by 100m)
<b>Summary</b>	An early Bronze Age barbed and tanged arrowhead found
<b>Description</b>	

#### Sources

<b>Number</b>	<b>Reference</b>
---------------	------------------

#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- FINDSPOT (Early Bronze Age - 2350 BC to 1501 BC)

#### Find Types

- ARROWHEAD (Early Bronze Age - 2350 BC to 1501 BC)

#### Designations

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
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#### Other Statuses and References

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
Old SMR Ref	49SW AZ

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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE6791
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE6791
<b>Name</b>	Rugby Road Railway Bridge
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	Centroid SP 425 931 (MBR: 100m by 100m)
<b>Summary</b>	A medieval stone mortar with lugs found in 1895.
<b>Description</b>	

#### Sources

<b>Number</b>	<b>Reference</b>
---------------	------------------

#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Burbage, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- FINDSPOT (Medieval - 1067 AD to 1539 AD)

#### Find Types

- MORTAR (VESSEL) (Medieval - 1067 AD to 1539 AD)

#### Designations

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
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#### Other Statuses and References

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
Old SMR Ref	49SW AL

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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE7058
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE7058
<b>Name</b>	North of Battling Brook,
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	Centroid SP 412 942 (MBR: 100m by 100m) (Approximate)
<b>Summary</b>	A late Mesolithic or early Neolithic core rejuvenation flake found amongst the later flint scatter.
<b>Description</b>	



### Description

#### Sources

**Number Reference**

#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- FINDSPOT (Mesolithic - 10000 BC to 4001 BC)

#### Find Types

- BLADE CORE (Early Mesolithic to Early Neolithic - 10000 BC to 3001 BC)

#### Designations

**Type/Grade Reference/Title**

#### Other Statuses and References

**Type/Grade Reference/Title**  
Old SMR Ref 49SW BD

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**MonUID** MLE7236  
**Preferred Ref.** MLE7236  
**Name** North East of The Lime Kilns Inn  
**Map Sheet** SP49SW  
**Grid Reference** Centroid SP 413 924 (MBR: 100m by 100m)  
**Summary** A Neolithic polished stone axe of Group 6 type found.  
**Description**

#### Sources

**Number Reference**

#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Burbage, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- FINDSPOT (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)

#### Find Types

- AXE (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)

#### Designations

**Type/Grade Reference/Title**

#### Other Statuses and References

**Type/Grade Reference/Title**  
Old SMR Ref 49SW BB

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**MonUID** MLE7940  
**Preferred Ref.** MLE7940  
**Name** North east of Harrow Farm  
**Map Sheet** SP49SW  
**Grid Reference** Centroid SP 400 936 (MBR: 100m by 100m)  
**Summary** A large number (estimates vary between 200 and 1000) silver denarii including Otho to Marcus Aurelius, found by railway labourers in 1871.  
**Description**

#### Sources

**Number Reference**

#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

**Monument/Component Types**

- FINDSPOT (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD)

**Find Types**

- COIN HOARD (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD)

**Designations**

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
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**Other Statuses and References**

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
Old SMR Ref	49SW AG

<b>MonUID</b>	MLE7941
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE7941
<b>Name</b>	Walton Terrace
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	Centroid SP 422 936 (MBR: 100m by 100m)
<b>Summary</b>	two Roman coins found
<b>Description</b>	

**Sources**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Reference</i>
---------------	------------------

**Location - Administrative Areas**

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

**Monument/Component Types**

- FINDSPOT (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD)

**Find Types**

- COIN (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD)

**Designations**

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
-------------------	------------------------

**Other Statuses and References**

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
Old SMR Ref	49SW AP

<b>MonUID</b>	MLE8916
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE8916
<b>Name</b>	Ashby de la Zouch Canal
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	SP 41020 92991 (point)
<b>Summary</b>	An early 19th century canal running from Ashby Woulds down to the Coventry Canal in Warwickshire.
<b>Description</b>	

**Sources**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Reference</i>
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**Location - Administrative Areas**

**Civil Parish** Carlton, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Higham-on-the-Hill, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Market Bosworth, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Shackerstone, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Sheepy, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Sutton Cheney, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Twycross, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Burbage, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Ashby Woulds, North West Leicestershire, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Measham, North West Leicestershire, Leicestershire

**Civil Parish** Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe, North West Leicestershire, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Snarestone, North West Leicestershire, Leicestershire  
**Civil Parish** Stoke Golding, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

**Monument/Component Types**

- CANAL (Late Post-medieval - 1700 AD to 1899 AD)

**Find Types**

**Designations**

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
Conservation Area (Ashby Canal)	

**Other Statuses and References**

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
Old SMR Ref	49SW BL

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**MonUID** MLE8918  
**Preferred Ref.** MLE8918  
**Name** South west of Nutts Bridge  
**Map Sheet** SP49SW  
**Grid Reference** SP 40999 92965 (point)  
**Summary** A hexagonal, second world war pillbox is said to stand here. Not on OS Landline or 1:10000 map

**Description**

**Sources**

**Number Reference**

**Location - Administrative Areas**

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

**Monument/Component Types**

- PILLBOX (Modern - 1900 AD to 2050 AD)

**Find Types**

**Designations**

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
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**Other Statuses and References**

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
Old SMR Ref	49SW BU

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**MonUID** MLE8919  
**Preferred Ref.** MLE8919  
**Name** North west of the greyhound stadium  
**Map Sheet** SP49SW  
**Grid Reference** SP 40536 93087 (point)  
**Summary** Excavations by Northamptonshire Archaeology in 2002 revealed two separate settlements. The Iron Age settlement comprised of a principle roundhouse with 2 subsidiary roundhouses enclosed by circular ditches with 4 further roundhouses around the eastern entrance. A scatter of smaller pits and a large pit at the northern edge of the area were identified. 217 sherds of hand made pottery, worked bone and a rubbing stone were recovered.

**Description**

**Sources**

**Number Reference**

**Location - Administrative Areas**

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

**Monument/Component Types**

- PIT (Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age - 1000 BC to 401 BC)
- RING DITCH (Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age - 1000 BC to 401 BC)
- ROUND HOUSE (DOMESTIC) (Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age - 1000 BC to 401 BC)
- SITE (Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age - 1000 BC to 101 BC)

#### Find Types

- SHERD (Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age - 1000 BC to 401 BC)
- WORKED OBJECT (Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age - 1000 BC to 401 BC)

#### Designations

Type/Grade	Reference/Title
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#### Other Statuses and References

Type/Grade	Reference/Title
Old SMR Ref	49SW BV

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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE8920
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE8920
<b>Name</b>	North west of Greyhound Stadium
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	SP 40537 93087 (point)
<b>Summary</b>	Excavations by Northamptonshire Archaeology in 2002 identified two separate settlements. A later enclosure and linear boundary ditch was set over the earlier Iron Age enclosure. A large rectangular enclosure to the east was divided into two by a north-south ditch. The eastern half contained a small trapezoidal enclosure and to the south of this the area was heavily disturbed by a number of depressions filled with ash deposits. Pottery recovered dated to the 2nd- 3rd century AD.

#### Description

#### Sources

Number	Reference
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#### Location - Administrative Areas

<b>Civil Parish</b>	Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire
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#### Monument/Component Types

- DITCH (Late Iron Age to Early Roman - 100 BC to 249 AD)
- PIT (Late Iron Age to Early Roman - 100 BC to 249 AD)
- RECTILINEAR ENCLOSURE (Late Iron Age to Early Roman - 100 BC to 249 AD)
- SITE (Late Iron Age to Early Roman - 100 BC to 249 AD)
- TRAPEZOIDAL ENCLOSURE (Late Iron Age to Early Roman - 100 BC to 249 AD)

#### Find Types

- SHERD (Late Iron Age - 100 BC to 42 AD)
- SHERD (Early Roman - 43 AD to 249 AD)

#### Designations

Type/Grade	Reference/Title
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#### Other Statuses and References

Type/Grade	Reference/Title
Old SMR Ref	49SW BV

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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE8921
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE8921
<b>Name</b>	Adjacent to Harrow Brook and the Ashby Canal
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	SP 40652 93578 (point)
<b>Summary</b>	Evaluation has produced post holes pit and gullies representing occupation of probable Iron Age date.

#### Description

#### Sources

Number	Reference
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**Location - Administrative Areas**

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

**Monument/Component Types**

- SITE (Iron Age - 800 BC? to 42 AD?)

**Find Types**

**Designations**

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
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**Other Statuses and References**

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
Old SMR Ref	49SW BW

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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE9143
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE9143
<b>Name</b>	North of Battling Brook
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	SP 41150 94254 (point)
<b>Summary</b>	A quantity of Roman material was apparently noted here but not collected. This may suggest an occupation site.

**Description**

**Sources**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Reference</b>
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**Location - Administrative Areas**

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

**Monument/Component Types**

- FINDSPOT (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD)

**Find Types**

- SHERD (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD)

**Designations**

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
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**Other Statuses and References**

<b>Type/Grade</b>	<b>Reference/Title</b>
Old SMR Ref	49SW BD

**Associated Activities/Events**

<b>Event ID</b>	<b>Name/Ref</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Description</b>
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<b>MonUID</b>	MLE9163
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE9163
<b>Name</b>	Nutts Lane
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	SP 40878 92916 (point)
<b>Summary</b>	Geophysical survey has revealed three pit type anomalies which may be archaeological.

**Description**

**Sources**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Reference</b>
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**Location - Administrative Areas**

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

**Monument/Component Types**

- PIT (Undated)

#### Find Types

#### Designations

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
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#### Other Statuses and References

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
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Old SMR Ref	49SW CE
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**MonUID** MLE9164

**Preferred Ref.** MLE9164

**Name** Land near Nutts Lane

**Map Sheet** SP49SW

**Grid Reference** SP 41242 92479 (point)

**Summary** Undated cobbled surface with associated postholes and ditches which may be boundary features and pre date ridge and furrow.

#### Description

#### Sources

<i>Number</i>	<i>Reference</i>
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#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- DITCH (Undated)
- PAVEMENT (Undated)

#### Find Types

#### Designations

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
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#### Other Statuses and References

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
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Old SMR Ref	49SW CF
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#### Associated Activities/Events

<i>Event ID</i>	<i>Name/Ref</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Description</i>
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**MonUID** MLE10136

**Preferred Ref.** MLE10136

**Name** Land at Coventry Road

**Map Sheet** SP49SW

**Grid Reference** SP 40565 92912 (point)

**Summary** A watching brief by Northamptonshire Archaeology between 2003 and 2004 identified a number of undated gullies.

#### Description

#### Sources

<i>Number</i>	<i>Reference</i>
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#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- GULLY (Unknown date)

#### Find Types

#### Designations

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
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#### Other Statuses and References

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
Old SMR Ref	49SW BV

<b>MonUID</b>	MLE10141
<b>Preferred Ref.</b>	MLE10141
<b>Name</b>	North West of the Greyhound Stadium
<b>Map Sheet</b>	SP49SW
<b>Grid Reference</b>	SP 40537 93086 (point)
<b>Summary</b>	A regular system of notheast- southwest furrows, remnants of a ploughed out medieval field system were identified by Northamptonshire Archaeology in 2003.

#### Description

#### Sources

**Number Reference**

#### Location - Administrative Areas

**Civil Parish** Hinckley, Hinckley and Bosworth, Leicestershire

#### Monument/Component Types

- RIDGE AND FURROW (Medieval - 1067 AD to 1539 AD)

#### Find Types

#### Designations

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
-------------------	------------------------

#### Other Statuses and References

<i>Type/Grade</i>	<i>Reference/Title</i>
Old SMR Ref	49SW BV

## Appendix 2: Warwickshire Sites and Monuments Record

The following sites located in the vicinity of the proposed development area are listed on the Warwickshire SMR:

WA 1662	Nuneaton, Nuneaton and Bedworth	SP3905 9110;	Flint objects
1) Two scrapers, a burin, laurel leaf and bifacially-flaked leaf – shaped arrowhead. 2) Neolithic axe fragment. Found by Mr R Waite.			
WA 1663	Nuneaton, Nuneaton and Bedworth	SP386 910;	Flint objects
Flint chipping floor. A J Pickering			
WA 4430	Nuneaton, Nuneaton and Bedworth	SP3891;	Flint scatter
1km east of Attleborough. Large flint assemblage.			
WA 2758	Stretton Baskerville, Rugby	SP395 921;	Deserted medieval settlement
Documentary reference.			
WA 2759	Stretton Baskerville, Rugby	SP4070 9125;	Neolithic – Bronze Age. Two ring ditches. Cropmark
WA 2760	Stretton Baskerville, Rugby	SP4070 9257;	Oval enclosure. Cropmark
WA 2761	Stretton Baskerville, Rugby	SP4210 9170;	Neolithic – Bronze Age. Ring ditches. Cropmark.

WA 2758            Stretton Baskerville, Rugby                            SP419 911;            Deserted            medieval  
settlement of Stretton Baskerville SAM 113 Earthwork remains. Documentary references.

WA 4390            Nuneaton, Nuneaton and Bedworth/Stretton Baskerville, Rugby  
SP4125 9248 – SP3685 8827;            Ashby de la Zouch Canal.

WA 5340            Stretton Baskerville, Rugby                            SP4192 9113;            Site of medieval  
Church part of Stretton Baskerville DMV SAM 113 Earthwork remains. Documentary references.

WA 5341            Stretton Baskerville, Rugby                            SP419 911;            Site of medieval  
fishponds part of Stretton Baskerville DMV SAM 113 Earthwork remains. Documentary references.

WA 420            Dordon, North Warwickshire/ Wibtoft , Nuneaton and Bedworth            SK2419 0073  
– SP4800 8827;            Watling Street, Roman road. Excavated evidence, Documentary references.

WA 4802            Dordon, North Warwickshire/ Wibtoft , Nuneaton and Bedworth            SK247 007 –  
SP563 740;            Watling Street, post medieval turnpike road.



## 13 Appendix 2:- Design Specification

### CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction and Scope of Document
- 2.0 Geology, Topography and Site Conditions
- 3.0 Archaeological Background
- 4.0 Aims and Objectives
- 5.0 Method Statement
- 6.0 Health and Safety Considerations
- 7.0 Other Matters

### *LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS*

- Fig. 1 Location of evaluation trenches (ULAS 1999)

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF DOCUMENT**

- 1.1 This document has been prepared by Cathy Patrick of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Crest Nicholson (Midlands) Ltd.
- 1.2 It presents a Specification for the archaeological excavation, post-excavation assessment, analysis and publication of land at Coventry Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire, which has outline planning permission for residential development. This permission contains a condition relating to archaeology.
- 1.3 As a result, this document presents details of the location, methodology and programme for an archaeological excavation, post-excavation assessment, analysis and publication of the residential development.
- 1.4 The archaeological on-site investigation will be programmed in to Crest Nicholson's pre-commencement schedule. No construction works will take place until the archaeological excavation has been completed, and the work has been approved and signed-off by the Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council and Advisor to the Local Authority. Off-site post-excavation assessment, analysis and publication will not impact on the construction works, although it should be noted that submission of the final report is an integral element of the archaeological condition placed on outline planning permission.
- 1.5 The proposed archaeological excavation strategy is based on the results of an archaeological field evaluation of the site (ULAS 1999), discussions with Richard Clark Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council and advisor to the Local Authority and advice from Crest Nicholson (Midlands) Ltd.

- 1.6 This Archaeological Specification provides the planning background, other relevant background information, the objectives and a method statement for an archaeological excavation, post-excavation assessment, analysis and publication that seeks to comply with the requirements of the conditional outline planning permission for this development.
- 1.7 The Site comprises c 4.7ha of land at Coventry Road, Hinckley which is located on the outskirts of Hinckley, c21km southwest of Leicester (centred on NGR SP 406 935). The Site was formerly agricultural land. It is bounded by Coventry Road to the south, the Harrowbrook Industrial Estate to the west, Harrow Brook to the north, and the Ashby de la Zouch Canal to the east.
- 1.8 An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (ULAS 1999) and field evaluation (ULAS 1999) of the site has been undertaken. A copy of the evaluation report is included at Appendix A.
- 1.8.1 The desk-based assessment and field evaluation established that no Scheduled Ancient Monuments occur within or adjacent to the site. No SMR evidence was recorded within the site itself prior to the evaluation. However, by analogy with adjacent areas, the Site was considered to have a potential for prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains.
- 1.8.2 The field evaluation demonstrated that archaeological remains, potentially dating to the prehistoric or Roman periods, survived only in the northeastern corner and in a small central area of the Site (Trenches 32, 33, 36-39). Here the uppermost archaeological deposits were sealed by c0.45m of topsoil (more detail is given at Appendix A).

Impacts to the archaeology will result from reduction of levels prior to construction of the residential development.

1.8.3 Accordingly, this Specification addresses those two areas where impacts from development will occur. One area comprises Trenches 32, 33, 36-38 and the second comprises the northeastern end of Trench 39 (Fig. 1).

1.9 In accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologist's Guidance and Standards relating to archaeological excavations, this Specification summarises the available archaeological and topographic evidence to provide a reasoned justification for the proposed excavation.

1.10 Once this Specification has been approved by Leicestershire County Council it will form the basis for the preparation of a Project Design by CgMs Consulting's archaeological contractor and as a basis for the monitoring of fieldwork and the post-excavation programme by CgMs Consulting for Crest Nicholson (Midlands) Ltd and the local planning authority's archaeological advisors.

## **2 GEOLOGY, TOPOGRAPHY AND SITE CONDITIONS**

### **2.1 Geology**

2.1.1 The Site is underlain by boulder clays overlying sands and gravels (ULAS 1999). The evaluation recorded the natural subsoil as a mottled yellow or grey clay with occasional sandy patches (ULAS 1999).

2.1.2 The archaeological evaluation report (ULAS 1999) provides further information of the geology and soils encountered and is included here at Appendix A.

### **2.2 Topography and Site Conditions**

2.2.1 The Site comprises an area of former agricultural land, measuring approximately 4.7 ha, and lying at 93m AOD.

2.2.2 An earlier course of the Harrow Brook – which forms the Site’s northern boundary - may have been detected in evaluation trench 32 and may continue across the northern part of the Site.

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 As outlined above, an archaeological desk based assessment has been carried out by ULAS (1999). Information from this assessment is incorporated into the evaluation report at Section 3 Historical and Archaeological Background, included here at Appendix A (ULAS 1999), and is not repeated here.

## **4.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

4.1 The archaeological investigation will comprise an archaeologically controlled topsoil strip and excavation of significant surviving archaeological features. It will aim to investigate, record and analyse, as far as is reasonably possible, the extent, date, character and chronological development of the potential prehistoric and Roman activity as represented by the area excavated.

## **4.2 Planning Framework**

4.2.1 The archaeological investigations will be conducted within the general parameters defined by PPG16 'Archaeology and Planning' and the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Structure Plan 1996-2016 (adopted by Leicestershire County Council 8<sup>th</sup> December 2004).

## **4.3 Research Framework**

4.3.1 A number of general, and more specific, research questions and objectives can be identified:

- i What is the extent, character and date of activity on Site?
- ii The investigation should seek to establish the character, ground plan,  
chronological development and the economic status of activity on the Site.
- iii The investigation should take into account the research priorities highlighted  
in the East Midlands Regional Research Framework for Archaeology

## **5.0 METHOD STATEMENT**

- 5.1 In order that the investigation supplies information of the required quality, the Codes, Standards and Guidance issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) form a requirement of this Specification.
- 5.2 Figure 1 shows the location of the evaluation trial trenches. Archaeological investigation will focus on trenches 32, 33, 36-38 and 39 where archaeological remains have been recorded.
- 5.3 A total of 0.4ha will be stripped – under archaeological supervision - of topsoil and any other overlying deposits. There will be a contingency for a further 0.1ha to be stripped.
- 5.4 Topsoil stripping will be followed by the excavation and recording of significant archaeological remains.
- 5.5 Provision should be made for palaeoenvironmental recording. The advice of Jim Williams, English Heritage Science Advisor for the East Midlands, should be sought to ensure that appropriate scientific sampling strategies are employed throughout the excavation.
- 5.6 The topsoil and any other overlying modern deposits will be carefully removed by mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon. That level should be cleaned by hand.
- 5.6.1 All machine work will be under archaeological supervision and will cease immediately if significant evidence is revealed.



- 5.6.2 The machine used will be powerful enough for a clean job of work. Spoil should be stored neatly on site, a safe distance from excavation edges.
- 5.6.3 Particular care should be taken not to damage any areas containing significant remains which might merit preservation in-situ. Such evidence would normally include deep or complex stratification, settlement evidence and structures. Such areas should be protected and not left open to the weather, or other forms of deterioration.
- 5.7 Stripped material will be visually examined for archaeological material.
- 5.8 Any human remains must be left in-situ, covered and protected. Removal can only take place under appropriate Home Office and environmental health regulations. Such removal must be in compliance with the Disused Burial Grounds Amendment Act 1981.
- 5.9 Those areas of the site where visual inspection suggests the presence of features or possible features will, if necessary, be hand-cleaned to ensure features are properly defined and sufficient to produce a base plan.
- 5.10 All archaeological features and deposits of early post-medieval date or earlier will be excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to meet the aims of the excavation.
- 5.11 Large homogenous linear features will be sampled as appropriate and the intersections of features will be investigated so that their stratigraphic relationships may be recorded. Discrete features such as pits and postholes will be investigated.

5.12 A strategy for the recovery and sampling of environmental remains from the Site will be agreed in advance of the project. Opportunity should be afforded for an environmental specialist to visit the site during the excavation to discuss the strategy.

5.13 The excavation and spoil heaps will be scanned with a metal detector to assist in the recovery of dateable material. Spoil heaps will also be searched for artefactual material.

5.14 A series of monitoring meetings will be held throughout the topsoil strip and subsequent excavation programme with CgMs Consulting and the Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council. CgMs Consulting will organise these meetings.

5.15 Provisional Programme

5.15.1 Subject to the prior approval of this Specification, it is anticipated that the topsoil strip could commence June 2005.

5.16 Monitoring

5.16.1 Reasonable access to the site is to be arranged for the Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council who may wish to make a site inspection to ensure that the archaeological investigation is progressing satisfactorily.

5.16.2 Arrangements for this meeting will be made by CgMs Consulting.

5.16.3 The local authority and their Archaeological Advisor will be notified at least five working days prior to commencement of work on site.

## 5.17 Recording Systems

5.17.1 Context sheets should include all relevant stratigraphic relationships and for complex stratigraphy a separate matrix diagram should be employed. This matrix should be fully checked during the course of the investigation.

5.17.2 The site archive will be so organised as to be compatible with other archaeological archives produced in Leicestershire. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets. Sample recording sheets, sample registers, finds recording sheets, access catalogues, and photo record cards will also be used. This requirement for archival compatibility extends to the use of computerised database.

5.17.3 Plans of archaeological features on the site should be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 depending on the complexity of the feature.

5.17.4 All archaeological plans and sections should be on drawing film and should include context numbers and OD spot heights for all principal strata and features.

5.17.5 Other plans will include a site location plan, a general plan (e.g. OS 1:1250) showing investigation area and development site in relation to

surrounding locality and street pattern. These will be supplemented by trench plans at 1:500 (or 1:200), which will show the location of the areas investigated in relationship to the investigation area, OS grid and site grid (if any). The locations of the OS bench marks used and site TBMs will also be identified.

5.17.6 A photographic record of the project is required. This will include digital, black and white prints and colour transparencies (on 35mm film) as appropriate, 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. The transparencies will be mounted in suitable frames.

## 5.18 Finds and Samples

5.18.1 A high priority should be given to dating any remains and so all artefacts and finds are to be retained.

5.18.2 Assessments of artefacts should be made by appropriately qualified named specialists.

5.18.3 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 retained. No finds will, however, be discarded without the prior approval of the local authority's Archaeological Advisor.

5.18.4 A finds recovery and conservation strategy should be discussed with CgMs Consulting and the Planning Archaeologist and the recipient museum in advance of the project commencing, and a policy for finds

recording should be agreed and submitted to CgMs Consulting and the Planning Archaeologist, before commencement of site works

5.18.5 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner and to the standards of the UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines. They will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidelines set out in the UK Institute for Conservation “Conservation Guideline No 2”. Appropriate guidelines set out in the Museums and Galleries Commissions “Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections (1991)” will also be followed.

#### 5.19 Reports and Archives

5.19.1 It is proposed that within 12 weeks of completion of fieldwork, the archaeological contractor will produce an Assessment Report/Updated Project Design as reflecting the requirements of MAP2 (English Heritage, 1991). Copies of the Assessment Report are to be provided to CgMs Consulting for distribution to relevant parties.

##### **5.19.2 The Assessment report is to include:**

- Non-technical summary;
- Introduction;
- A factual summary, characterising the quantity and perceived quality of the data for each component of the site archive (eg stratigraphic/structural, artefactual, environmental), this summary should incorporate the results of the 1999 evaluation of the site;
- A statement of the archaeological potential of the data;
- A review of the data in the context of the questions posed in the Specification and Project Design;
- New research questions arising from the data collection;

- The value of the data to local, regional and national research priorities

5.19.3 *The draft of a fully illustrated analytical report will be submitted to CgMs Consulting and the Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council within an agreed period, generally not more than 6 months from the completion of the Assessment (MAP 2) Report. The report will include, as a minimum, a non-technical summary of the results, a detailed and illustrated description of the Site, a full analysis of the data complemented by relevant historical sources.*

5.19.4 Copies of the report will be presented to relevant bodies including the National Monuments Record and SMR.

5.19.5 If the findings warrant, a more detailed report will be published in an appropriate local or national journal. The format and scope of this document is to be finalised in consultation with CgMs Consulting, the Client and Leicestershire County Council.

5.19.6 The integrity of the site archive should be maintained. The archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles set out in the Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991), particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1.

5.19.7 The minimum acceptable standard for the archival report is defined in the “Management of Archaeological Projects” 5.4 and Appendix 3. It will include all materials recovered (or the comprehensive record of such materials) and all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It will also contain a site matrix, a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.

5.19.8 United Kingdom Institute for Conservation guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (1990) will be followed. Arrangements for the curation of the site archive will be agreed in writing with

the recipient Museum and details of such arrangements will be copied to CgMs Consulting and Leicestershire County Council before site works commence.

5.19.9 The requirements for archive preparation and deposition must be addressed and undertaken in a manner agreed with the recipient museum. The recipient museum must be contacted at an early stage, before submission of the project design and before commencement of fieldwork.

5.19.10 The site archive, including finds and environmental material, subject to the permission of the relevant landowners, should be labelled, conserved and stored according to the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC)'s *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (Walker 1990) and the Museums and Galleries Commission's *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*, 1992.

5.19.11 Provision should be made for the stable storage of paper records and their long-term storage on a suitable medium, such as microfiche or microfilm, a copy of which should be deposited with the NMR (RCHME). An index to the contents of the archive, together with details of its date and place of deposition should be lodged with the SMR.

5.19.12 *Subject to the agreement of the site owner, it is recommended that the written, drawn and photographic records of the excavation, together with any finds, are deposited in the city museum within a reasonable time of completion. The deposit will be accepted in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Society for Museum Archaeologists, Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums. Finds must be deposited in the standard boxes used by the city museum and be accompanied by box lists. The site archive will conform to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects.*

## **5.20 *Archaeological Contractor***

5.20.1 The Archaeological Contractor will have a proven track record in undertaking excavations on prehistoric and Roman rural sites.

5.20.2 The field team deployed by the Archaeological Contractor will include only full time professional archaeological staff. All staff in supervisory positions should be members, at an appropriate level, of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).

5.20.3 The Archaeological Contractor should preferably be a body on the IFA Register of Archaeological Organisations.

5.20.4 The composition of the project team must be detailed and agreed in advance with CgMs Consulting (this is to include any subcontractors).



## 6 HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed.
- 6.2 A risk assessment should be prepared and a copy should be sent to CgMs prior to commencement of the contract.
- 6.3 Machinery should be kept away from unsupported excavation edges and access routes should be supervised and controlled. Hi-visibility plastic mesh and warning notices should be installed as appropriate. Safety helmets and high visibility jackets are to be used by all personnel as necessary.
- 6.4 As a matter of course, the excavation area should be scanned with a CAT Scanner prior to and during topsoil removal works. Extreme care should be taken to ensure that any services located are avoided.
- 6.5 The Site should be made secure prior to commencement of the site investigation.

## **7.0 OTHER MATTERS**

### **7.1 Communication**

All queries and communication are to be directed through CgMs. No comment is to be made about this Specification or project to the media or other parties.

### **7.2 Copyright**

It is recognised that the copyright of written, graphic and photographic records and the evaluation report rests with the originating body. However, CgMs Consulting and their client require an agreement to facilitate the copying and use of any or all materials resulting from this project.

**APPENDIX A**  
ULAS Evaluation Report  
1999