# An Archaeological Watching Brief at The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland SK 893 164

# **Wayne Jarvis**

**For: The Lodge Trust** 

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# An Archaeological Watching Brief at The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland, SK 893 164

## Wayne Jarvis

## 1. Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by ULAS at The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland (SK 893 164), on behalf of The Lodge Trust. This work was carried out during the groundworks for a new visitors' site. No archaeological deposits were identified, with the former ironstone mineral railway and a large pond having disturbed much of the stripped area. Finds were restricted to unstratified prehistoric flint, Roman, Saxo-Norman, medieval and later pottery. The site archive will be held by the Rutland Museum, accession number OAKRM.2008.38.

#### 2. Introduction

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief, which was undertaken by ULAS at The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland (SK 893 164. Planning permission for the construction of a storage building and shop/café, log cabins and hardstanding had been granted by Rutland County Council (P.A. 2006/0202/9) A condition of the permission was for a scheme of archaeological work involving an intermittent archaeological watching brief during the development area to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as detailed in the *Brief for Archaeological attendance for inspection and recording (a watching brief) at the Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland* (Leicestershire County Council 09.01.2007 hereinafter the 'brief').

The work was carried out during groundworks for a new visitors' site on behalf of The Lodge Trust. The development is both on the same site, and adjacent to known sites, of Roman date, and there are also sites of other dates in the vicinity.

# 3. Background

The proposed development site is located to the east of The Lodge Trust buildings, and to the east of Market Overton (figs.1 and 2). It consists of an area of c.5 ha, within which the proposals are to erect a storage building, a shop/café, two log cabins, five caravan hardstanding areas, a path circuit, and associated works and landscaping (Bocock and Parker 2006). The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 157 indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of Inferior Oolite. The site lies at a height of c.145 m above O.D.

A desk-based assessment has been prepared for the application (Bocock and Parker 2006). The HER shows that there are two archaeological sites located within the proposed development area (*ibid.*). The north field of Lodge Farm was excavated in 1903, revealing fragments of masonry, 1,900 sherds of pottery, 43 pieces of Roman brick and tile, 33 pieces of bone and teeth and a few coins, suggesting a Roman occupation site. In addition, the line of the Market Overton Mineral Railway runs through the site. Various other Roman sites have been identified in the vicinity of the proposed development area. A probable Roman road runs within 475m of the

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development, and Roman pottery, brooches and coins suggest an occupation site 470m to the north-west. Nearby, cinerary urns and small flasks, suggesting a burial site, a Roman pottery kiln, and a Roman well have been identified. Six Roman coins have also been found within 600m of the site.

Three Anglo-Saxon sites have been located in the vicinity of the proposed development area. St Peter's and St Paul's Church is late Saxon with medieval additions, and two Anglo-Saxon cemeteries are recorded to the north-west. Medieval village earthworks lie 845m to the south, with a ruined chapel nearby, and a further probable medieval village or manorial site is located 480m to the north-west.

Although the initial Desk Based Assessment suggested that there was a moderate to high potential for archaeological deposits, this was dependant on the extent of impacts from the mineral railway and associated quarrying within the site area (Bocock and Parker 2006:1, 'Brief':1).

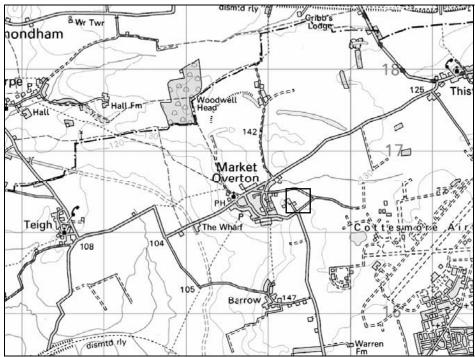


Figure 1 Site location Scale 1:50000. © Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100029495.

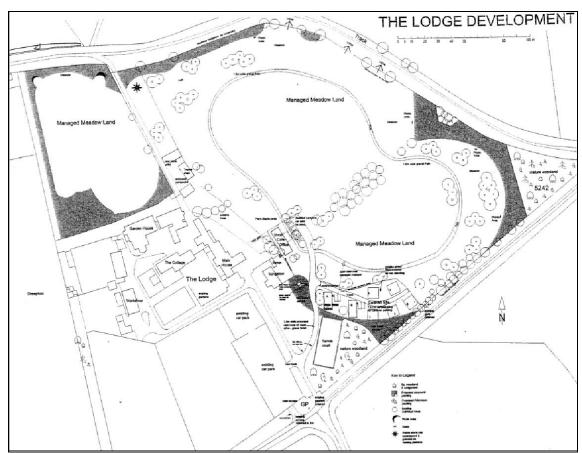


Figure 2 Proposed development plan, supplied by the developer (100m scale shown at top)

### 4. Aims and Methods

In response to a planning application (Plan App No.: FUL/2006/0202) the Senior Planning Archaeologist of LCC, as advisor to the planning authority, advised that planning be granted subject to a programme of archaeological work in the form of archaeological attendance (an intermittent watching brief) during the machine excavation of all groundworks ('Brief'). These groundworks include stripping of building footprints, access roads and paths, service trenches and planting/landscaping.

Through archaeological observation of existing overburden stripping and groundworks by the client's contractors the aim of the watching brief was:

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

The project involved the supervision of overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the works specified above. During these ground works, if any archaeological deposits were seen to be present,

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the archaeologist would record areas of archaeological interest. The spoil was also examined for artefacts.

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

#### 5. Results

Fieldwork was carried out on 14/06/07 and 08/01/08, with groundworks having been carried out using a hymac 360 with a ditching bucket for the stripping. On the first visit, areas that were stripped include the car park, the shop/office complex, the majority of the access road from these towards the Main Street entrance, and the footprints for the new log cabins. Additionally, 25m along the southern part of the meadow path was topsoil stripped. The rest of the meadow path was not stripped as of 14/06/07, although this would only be stripped to topsoil level. Overburden was removed over the main site area down to natural subsoil, at a depth of between 0.3m and 0.4m (deeper in the north of the area). The natural substratum exposed was mostly clear, and consisted of an orange to orangey grey clay. The shop/office complex area was very mixed however and this most likely represents backfill of the pond shown on the 1886 OS map. In the south-western area (i.e. the footprints for the new cabins) modern infill (brick and concrete rubble) was also exposed, which presumably represented infill of the former mineral railway line. No archaeological features were observed over this stripped area. A return follow-up visit was carried out on 08/01/08, to observe further machine stripped areas including the path circuit (plates 3 and 4). The rest of the path had again been stripped only of topsoil (maximum depth 0.25m), with no further reduction in level to take place. Seventy metres of the path in the south-east was not stripped as deep as subsoil level. Again, no features were identified, although occasional unstratified finds were recovered, including prehistoric flint, Roman, Saxo-Norman and Medieval and later pottery.



Plate 1 General view of south area of site after stripping, looking north-west



Plate 2 View of footprint of shop after stripping, looking north north-west.

Backfilled pond in background



Plate 3 View of path circuit at north end of site, looking east.



Plate 4 Main area of development, showing shop/café and path circuit, looking north west.

#### 6. Conclusions

No archaeological features were identified during this work. The results from The Lodge provided little supportive evidence for Roman activity on this site. This is primarily due to the relatively shallow groundworks over the majority of the development area, and also the earlier disturbance on site from the ironstone mineral railway and large pond in the north area of the site in areas now subjected to deeper groundworks.

Finds of various dates were made however, including prehistoric flint, Roman, Saxo-Norman and medieval and later pottery, suggesting earlier activity on the site. Identifiable flint suggests Bronze Age activity while the Roman pottery probably derived from the known site of this period excavated in 1903. The Saxo-Norman and later pottery is likely to be associated with the growth and development of the village from its core to the north-west. Ironstone quarrying in the 20th century appears to have significantly disturbed earlier deposits as has been evident from other archaeological work in Market Overton (e.g Shore 2007).

#### 7. Archive

The site archive will be held by Rutland Museum, accession number OAKRM.2008.38 (ULAS no. RT08 2007). The archive consists of a watching brief record sheet, a CD including 7 digital photographs and a contact sheet, a copy of this report, and the finds, which consist of prehistoric flint, Roman, Saxo-Norman and medieval and later pottery.

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#### 8. Publication

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

### 9. Acknowledgements

I am grateful to the client for assistance in this fieldwork. The project was managed by Patrick Clay of ULAS. I am also grateful to Deborah Sawday and Lynden Cooper, also of ULAS, for finds identification.

## 10. Bibliography

Bocock S. and Parker M. 2006 An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment for a Proposed Development at The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland (SK 893 164) ULAS Report no. 2006-089

Connor, A., and Buckley, R.. 1999. *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeology Mon. **5.** 

Kilmurry, K., 1984. *The Pottery Industry of Stamford, Lincolnshire, c. A.D.850-1250*. B.A.R. (British Series) **84**, Oxford

Sawday, D., 1989. 'The post Roman pottery' in J.N. Lucas, 'An excavation in the north east quarter of Leicester: Elbow Lane, 1977', *Trans. Leicestershire Archaeol. and Hist. Soc.* **63**, 18-47 (28-41).

Shore, M., 2007 An Archaeological Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation for a proposed development at Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland. ULAS Report 2007-102

LCC, 2007, Brief for Archaeological Attendance for Inspection and Recording (A Watching Brief) at The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland. Planning Ref FUL/2006/0202, Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leics. County Council

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### 11. Appendices

### 1 Site Diary

14/06/07 1/2 day WJ 08/01/08 1/2 day WJ

### 2 The Finds

# The Pottery and Flint

Deborah Sawday/Lynden Cooper

The pottery was examined with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Connor and Buckley 1999;Sawday 1989). Worked flint was also present. All the finds were from unstratified contexts, see below.

Site/ Parish: the Lodge, Main St, Market
Overton, Rutland
Accession No.: OAKRM.2008.38
Document Ref: market overton1.doc
Material: pottery & flint
Site Type: village core

Submitter: W. Jarvis
Identifier: D. Sawday (ceramics)/
L. Cooper (flint)
Date of Identification: 14.1.08/18.1.07
Method of recovery: watching brief
Job Number: 07-611

Context	Fabric/Ware	Nos.	Weight	Comments
POT				
U/S	GW – Grey ware	1	5	? Roman, abraded.
U/S	WW – White ware	1	6	Lid seated jar rim, late 1st
				early 2nd century AD
U/S	ST2 – Fine Stamford ware	2	18	Includes a bowl rim
				(Kilmurry form 1-08),
				mid/late 11th C.
U/S	MS – Medieval Sandy ware	1	8	13th -14th C.
U/S	EA1 – Earthenwarre1	1	19	Bowl rim, post-med
				/modern
U/S	EA2 – Earthenware 2	3	17	Post-med/modern.
CBM				
U/S	Earthenware	1		Post-med brick
FLINT				
U/S	flint	1		Piercer
U/S	flint	2		Core tablet – deep patina
U/S	flint	1		Thumbnail scraper – Early
				Bronze Age
U/S	flint	1		Tertiary flake

### 3. Design Specification

### UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

### Design Specification for archaeological work

The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland (SK 893 164)

Planning Application: 06/00202/9

Planning authority: Rutland County Council

For: The Lodge Trust

### 1 Definition and scope of the specification

- 1.1 In accordance with Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and planning), para.30, this specification provides a written scheme for archaeological attendance, including control and supervision of ground works, as required by the Planning Authority, of any ground works on the site which may disturb areas of archaeological potential in connection with a planning application for the construction of a storage building and shop/café, log cabins and hardstanding at The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland (SK 893 164) for The Lodge Trust.
- 1.2 All archaeological work will adhere to the Institute of Field Archaeologist's (IFA) Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs and the Guidelines for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland (LMARS).

# 2 Background

- 2.1 Requirement for archaeological work
- 2.1.1 The archaeological work involves an intermittent archaeological watching brief during the development area to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as detailed in the *Brief for Archaeological attendance for inspection and recording (a watching brief) at the Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland* (LCC 09.01.2007).
- 2.2 Archaeological potential
- 2.2.1 A desk-based assessment has been prepared for this application (ULAS Report 2006-89). The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that two archaeological sites have been recorded within the proposed development area; a Roman occupation site (MLE5516) and a post-medieval Mineral Railway (MLE16094). In addition, various archaeological sites have been located within 1km of the development area. These include a prehistoric site (MLE9398), ten Roman sites (MLE5508, MLE5511, MLE5512, MLE5513, MLE5514, MLE5524, MLE8104, MLE8105, MLE8106 and MLE9002) and three Anglo-Saxon sites (MLE5509, MLE5517 and MLE5518). In addition, eight medieval (MLE5026, MLE5027, MLE5510, MLE5519, MLE5522, MLE6945, MLE8634 and MLE9004) and three post-medieval (MLE5525, MLE5526 and MLE8633) archaeological sites are located mainly to the west of the proposed development area.

#### 3 Aims

- 3.1 Through archaeological observation of existing overburden stripping and groundworks by the client's contractors:
- 1. To identify the presence/absence of any earlier building phases or archaeological deposits.
- 2. To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- 3. To record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
- 4. To produce an archive and report of any results.

#### 4 Methods

- 4.1 The project will involve the supervision of overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the works specified above. Initially it may be appropriate to open trial trenches to assess the presence, extent and character of any archaeological deposits. During these groundworks, if any archaeological deposits are seen to be present, the archaeologist will record areas of archaeological interest.
- 4.2 The archaeologist will co-operate at all times with the contractors on site to ensure the minimum interruption to the work.
- 4.3 Any archaeological deposits located will be hand cleaned and planned as appropriate. Samples of any archaeological deposits located will be hand excavated. Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan of 1:100. All plans will be tied into the National Grid using an Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM) where appropriate.
- 4.4 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of deposits, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence. Particular attention will be paid to the potential for buried palaeosols and waterlogged deposits in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer.
- 4.5 All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, levelled and tied into the Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.
- 4.5 Any human remains encountered will be initially left *in situ* and only be removed under a Home Office Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. The developer, Leicestershire County Council, HNET and the coroner will be informed immediately on their discovery.
- 4.6 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site from the project manager. These will ensure that professional standards are being maintained. Provision will be made for monitoring visits with representatives of the owners, Leicestershire County Council and Rutland County Council.
- 4.7 In the event of significant archaeological remains being located during the watching brief there may be the need for contingency time and finance to be provided to ensure adequate recording is undertaken. On the discovery of potentially significant remains the archaeologist will inform the developer, the Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services and the planning authority. If the archaeological remains are identified to be of significance additional contingent archaeological works will be required.

# 5 Recording Systems

- 5.1 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets.
- 5.2 A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map, (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a plan at 1:200 (or 1:100), which will show the location of the areas investigated.
- 5.3 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made on drawing film, related to the OS grid and at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Elevations and sections of individual layers of features should be drawn where possible. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans.
- 5.4 An adequate photographic record of the investigations will be prepared. This will include black and white prints and colour transparencies illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.
- 5.5 This record will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the watching brief.
- 5.6 All site records and finds will be kept securely.

# 6 Report and Archive

- 6.1 An accession number will be drawn prior to the commencement of the project (Brief 8.1). Following the fieldwork the on-line OASIS form at <a href="http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project">http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project</a> /oasis will be completed. A report on the investigation will be provided following the groundworks.
- 6.2 Copies will be provided for the client, Sites and Monuments Record and planning Authority. The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.
- 6.3 A full copy of the archive as defined in the 'Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage' (UKIC 1990), and Standards in the Museum care of archaeological collections (MGC 1992) and 'Guidelines for the preparation of site archives and assessments for all finds (other than fired clay objects) (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993) will be presented to Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services normally within six months of the completion of analysis. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

#### 7 Publication

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

## 8 Timetable and Staffing

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

# 9 Health and Safety

9.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Statement of Safety Policy and uses the ULAS Health and Safety Manual (revised 2005) with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is in the Appendix. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate.

#### 10 Insurance

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

### 11. Bibliography

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

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

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

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

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01.02.2007

**Design Specification Appendix** 

**Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement** 

The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton, Rutland (SK 893 164

Planning Application: 06/00202/9

For: The Lodge Trust

# 1 Nature of the work

- 1.1 This statement is for an archaeological watching brief.
- 1.2 The work will involve observation of groundworks during daylight hours and recording of any underlying archaeological deposits revealed. Overall depth is likely to be c. 0.2-0.5m. This will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. All work will adhere to the University of Leicester Health and Safety Policy and follow the guidance in the ULAS Health and Safety Manual (2001) together with the following relevant Health and Safety guidelines.
- 1.3 HSE Construction Information Sheet CS8 Safety in excavations.

HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)143 (L): Getting to grips with manual handling.

HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)145 (L): Watch Your back.

CIRIA R97 Trenching practice.

CIRIA TN95 Proprietary Trench Support Systems.

HSE Guidance Note HS(G) 47 Avoiding danger to underground services. HSE Guidance Note GS7 Accidents to children on construction sites

- 1.4 The Health and Safety policy on site will be reassessed during the evaluation .
- 1.5 All work will adhere to the contractors' health and safety policy.

#### 2 Risks Assessment

### 2.1 Working within a building site

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

### 2.2 Working with plant.

Precautions. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. No examination of the area of stripping will take place until machines have vacated area. Observation of machines will be maintained during hand excavation. Liaison will be maintained with the contractors to ensure programme of machine movement is understood.

#### 2.3 Working within areas prone to waterlogging.

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

#### 2.4 Working with chemicals.

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

### 2.5 Other risks

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

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

Patrick Clay 13.11.2006

OASIS INFORMATION REQUIRED	
Project Name	The Lodge, Main Street, Market Overton
Project Type	Watching Brief
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Wayne Jarvis
Previous/Future work	-
Current Land Use	Pasture
Development Type	Visitor's site
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	SK 893 164
Start/end dates of field work	14/06/07 - 08/01/08
Archive Recipient	Rutland Museum
Study Area	5ha