

**An Archaeological Evaluation of  
3 to 8 Main Street, Great Casterton,  
Rutland.**


**(NGR TF 001 089)**

**Gerwyn Richards**

**Planning Application:** Pre-Planning Enquiry

**For:** Cecil Estate Family Trust

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(NGR TF 001 089).**

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**An Archaeological Evaluation of 3 to 8, Main Street, Great Casterton, Rutland,  
(NGR TF 001 089).**

**Gerwyn Richards**

*Summary*

*University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by the Cecil Estate Family Trust to undertake an archaeological evaluation of 3 to 8 Main Street, Great Casterton, where planning permission may be sought for the refurbishment of the existing properties and the construction of two new residential units. The proposed development area had been identified as being of possible archaeological significance due to its proximity to known sites of archaeological importance.*

*Three evaluation trenches were machine excavated within the garden of number 3, where less disturbed areas would be impacted on. All of the trenches showed evidence of archaeologically significant remains. Trench 1 within the front garden uncovered evidence of post-medieval cottages which originally occupied the site prior to the present houses being built. Trench 2 uncovered undisturbed medieval deposits containing re-deposited Roman material at depth and Trench 3 contained extensive in-situ stone built structures, one of which was possibly Roman in date.*

*The archive will be held by Rutland County Museum, under the accession number OAK 2009.8.*

**1. Introduction**

University of Leicester Archaeological Services were commissioned by the Cecil Estate Family Trust to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed redevelopment of numbers 3 to 8 Main Street, Great Casterton, Rutland (TF 001 089). Planning permission may be sought for the refurbishment of the existing properties and the construction of two new residential units. No previous intrusive archaeological work has been carried out within the proposed development area.

The proposed development area is on the fringe of the historic settlement core of Great Casterton, within an area of considerable archaeological potential, having been identified as the site of a small fortified Roman town and a Roman fort. An archaeological desk-based assessment, produced on behalf of the client (ULAS Report No 2009-030), suggests a high potential for earthfast archaeological remains. Numerous archaeologically significant discoveries have also been made during the course of other groundworks within the vicinity of the proposed development area.

In view of this a programme of intrusive investigation through trial trenching and test pitting was agreed by Leicestershire County Council, as archaeological advisors to the planning authority, to confirm whether archaeological remains are present within the application area and, if necessary, formulate a mitigation strategy.

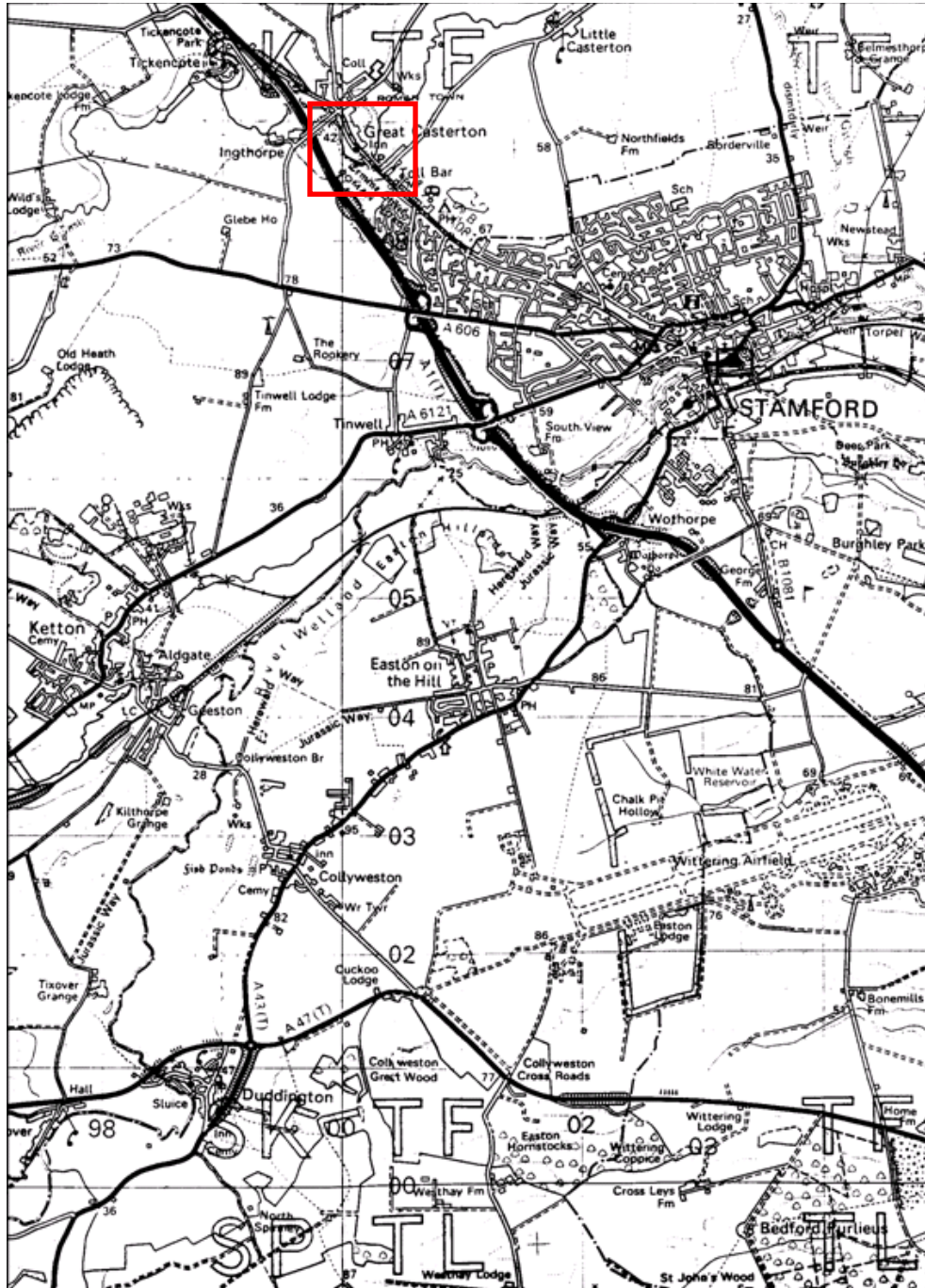


Figure 1. Site location Scale 1: 50000

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## 2. Aims and Methodology

The aim of the archaeological work was to ascertain whether any significant archaeological remains were present within the area to be developed. If identified a sufficient sample was to be excavated and recorded to establish their extent, date, quality, character, form and potential including environmental data. Further archaeological recording would be undertaken, if required, in the light of the results of this programme.

The Planning Archaeologist of Historic and Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council as advisor to Rutland County Council following Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG 16, Archaeology and Planning para. 30) agreed a c.5% sample of accessible area, the garden of number 3 Main Street, the equivalent of two 10m x 1.6m trenches and a single 5m x 1.6m trench, totaling 40sq metres. One was to be located within proposed footprint of the new building, to the south-east of number 3 Main Street, the second located within the footprint of the proposed rear car parking and the final trench targeted the proposed services within the front garden.. As a result of services identified on site, a request to preserve a number of garden features and the use of a mini digger because of limited access, trenching was limited to a 5m x 1.35m trench, a 9m x 1.2m trench and a 6.5m x 1.2m trench, covering approximately 25sq metres. The evaluation took place on April 16th - 20th 2009. The evaluation followed the *Design specification for archaeological evaluation* (09/613; Appendix 2).



**Figure 2:** Plan of application area (highlighted). Provided by David Todd Architecture

### **3. Results of Trial Trench Evaluation**

#### **3.1 Trench 1**

Trench 1 was excavated in the southernmost corner of the proposed development area (*Figure 3*); within the front garden of number 3 Main Street, approximately 5metres from the house and 2metres from the Main Street frontage in an area of formal lawn. The trench was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west and measured 5 metres long by 1.35 metres wide.

Approximately 500mm to 600mm of topsoil was removed revealing a significant deposit of possibly structural stone work. Machine excavation was stopped at this level and the trench hand cleaned.

Hand cleaning of trench 1 revealed a number of potentially archaeological deposits (*Figures 4 & 8*). The most significant of these was a short length of stone-built wall (001), the visible section of the which measured approximately 2.5metres long and 1.5metres wide and was aligned north-east to south-west; part of the wall had been destroyed by a recent service trench. Against the north-west face of (001), there was a deposit of garden soil (002), the depth of which was not ascertained. The alignment indicates the wall was originally perpendicular to Main Street. Further, possible structural remains, (007) were uncovered towards the south-westernmost end of the trench, however, extensive cleaning failed to uncover clear structural evidence, and the exposed stonework was mainly lime mortar bonded rubble.

There were other potentially archaeological significant deposits within the trench including a compact layer of mortar (003) adjacent to (001) and a possible pit (005) adjacent to (007). Neither of which were excavated during this evaluation.

The pottery recovered within trench 1 was all 17th to 19th century in date suggesting that the structural remains most likely relate to the cottages which originally fronted Main Street. It is possible, however, that earlier archaeological remains survive below the level reached by the trenching. The highest archaeological remains was (001) at 53.6m OD and no undisturbed substratum was encountered.

#### **3.2 Trench 2**

Trench 2 was excavated approximately 6 metres north-east of trench 1, approximately 4 metres from the house and 3 metres from the south-easternmost boundary of the proposed development area (*Figure 3*), in an overgrown garden area. The trench was aligned east-north-east to west-south-west and measured 9 metres long and 1.2metres wide.

Approximately 400mm of topsoil was removed revealing an extremely compacted demolition layer of rubble and lime mortar (021), at 54.29m OD. In all likelihood, this material again relates to the demolition of the frontage cottages before the current houses were built. A section was excavated through this demolition material in order to establish the extent of any archaeologically significant deposits below. Excavation

indicated that (021) was approximately 340mm deep sealing a silty-sandy clay deposit (025) which again sealed a similar deposit (020) (*Figures 5 & 9*). Although no distinct features were observed within (020) a significant quantity of medieval and Romano-British pottery was recovered during hand cleaning of (020) as well as a quantity of tap slag. It is possible that (020) is a buried topsoil layer which is sealing *in-situ* archaeological remains and the latest pottery suggests a 16th century date. Excavation ceased at 53.13m OD again without exposing undisturbed substratum.

### 3.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was excavated approximately 9 metres north-east of trench 2, and approximately 2 metres from the north-easternmost boundary of the proposed development area (*Figure 3*), in an area of overgrown lawn. The trench was aligned north to south and measured 6.5 metres long by 1.2 metres wide; a septic tank prevented further excavation to the south.

Approximately 400mm of topsoil was removed before a substantial amount of apparently *in-situ* stonework was uncovered (*Figures 6 & 7*). Machine excavation ceased and the trench was hand cleaned. At the northern end of the trench there was a brick-built structure (009), of machine made red bricks, 3 inch by 9 inch, of probable late 19th century date. It is almost certain that (009) is one of the outside privies recorded on the 1930 Ordnance Survey map (Richards 2009, Fig. 6). Below (009) there was a linear stone built feature (012), the relationship between the two being below the baulk and therefore, not visible. Abutting the northern face of (012) was (011), a buried topsoil from which three sherds of 3rd or 4th century Romano-British pottery was recovered. The lack of a construction cut for (012) suggests it may predate (011) and may, therefore be Roman in date.

The material to the south of (012), (011) was markedly different; again it abutted (012) with no evidence of a construction cut, further suggesting that (012) may be an *in-situ* Romano British wall. Very little of (011) remained within the evaluation trench, most of it apparently having been truncated by a later pit [013]/(014), some of which was machine excavated revealing a possible second stone-built wall (015). Although, not as clearly defined as (012) there did appear to be facing stones to the south. This wall was at the deepest part of the evaluation trench, at *c.* 53m OD.

Towards the southern end of the trench a substantial stone-built feature was uncovered. (017) is a rectangular stone built chamber which as only loosely filled with rubble (*Figure 11*), and voids between the rubble indicates that the chamber is over a metre deep and likely to be deeper. A limited view of a north-west facing internal wall suggested a possible opening in the wall over which was a void of a size to house a lintel, beyond which was another possible chamber. The stonework was lime mortar bonded within a cut. Unfortunately no secure dating evidence was recovered from within or around (017). At its highest point (017) is 53.11m OD.

#### **4. Conclusion**

This archaeological evaluation has confirmed that the south-eastern end, of the proposed development area contains significant multi-phase archaeological remains. Securely dated remains include structural remains from the 17th and 18th century within trench 1 on the Main Street frontage. This relates to the cottages which originally fronted Main Street and are recorded on the first edition Ordnance Survey map (Richards 2009, Fig. 4) and were demolished in the 1950s or 60s to make way for the existing houses. Trench 2 contained further evidence of the demolition of these cottages as well as an extremely compacted demolition layer, below which was sealed a 15th to 16th century deposit which also contained re-deposited Romano British pottery and a single coin dating from the reign of Constantine. This deposit also contained extensive fragments of tap slag. A number of other archaeological investigations within Great Casterton also uncovered similar slag remains, suggesting extensive iron working had occurred which is likely to have been of Roman date.

Trench 3 uncovered the most significant archaeological remains, including at least three separate stone built features, one of which was possibly of Roman in date. The most substantial feature was a large stone built chamber which was only loosely backfilled with rubble, suggesting a possible vaulted roof construction. Unfortunately, no dating evidence was recovered to confirm the date of this structure, however, its location, set back from the current road and alignment, which doesn't match that of the demolished cottages may suggest that it pre-dates them.

As a result of current land use only a small percentage of the proposed development area was evaluated, however, extensive and complex archaeological remains were uncovered. The extent of these remains suggests it is likely that they will also be present within the remainder of the eastern part of the proposed development area.

#### **5. Archive & Publication**

The site archive consists of

- 3 A2 permatrace sheet containing trench plans/sections
- 22 Black & White negatives and contact prints
- CD containing 22 digital images
- 1 A4 Contact sheet
- 1 A4 Photo Index Sheet
- 19 A4 context sheets
- 1 A4 context summary sheet
- 1 A3 paper trench location plan
- 1 CD containing digital plans supplied by client
- Unbound Copy of This Report (ULAS Report Number 2009-049)

The archive will be held at Rutland County Museum under the Accession Number OAKRM 2009.8



A version of the summary (above) will be published in *Transactions of Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course.

## 6. References

Richards, G. 2009. *An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment for the Proposed Redevelopment of Numbers 3-8 Main Street, Great Casterton, Rutland (TF 001 089)*. ULAS Report No 2009-030).

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07/05/2009

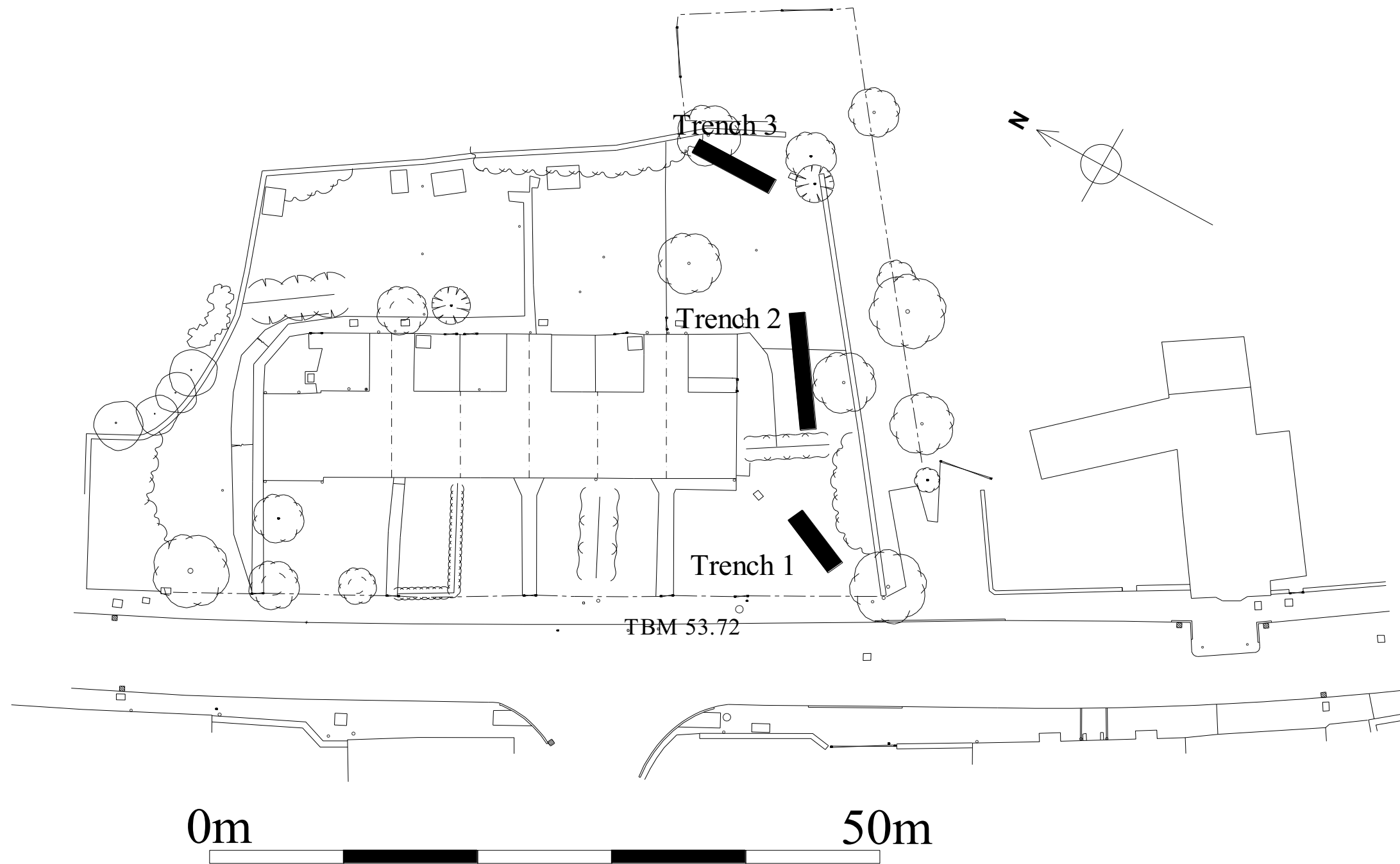


Figure 3 Trench Location Plan (Overlaid Drawing Supplied By David Todd Architecture).

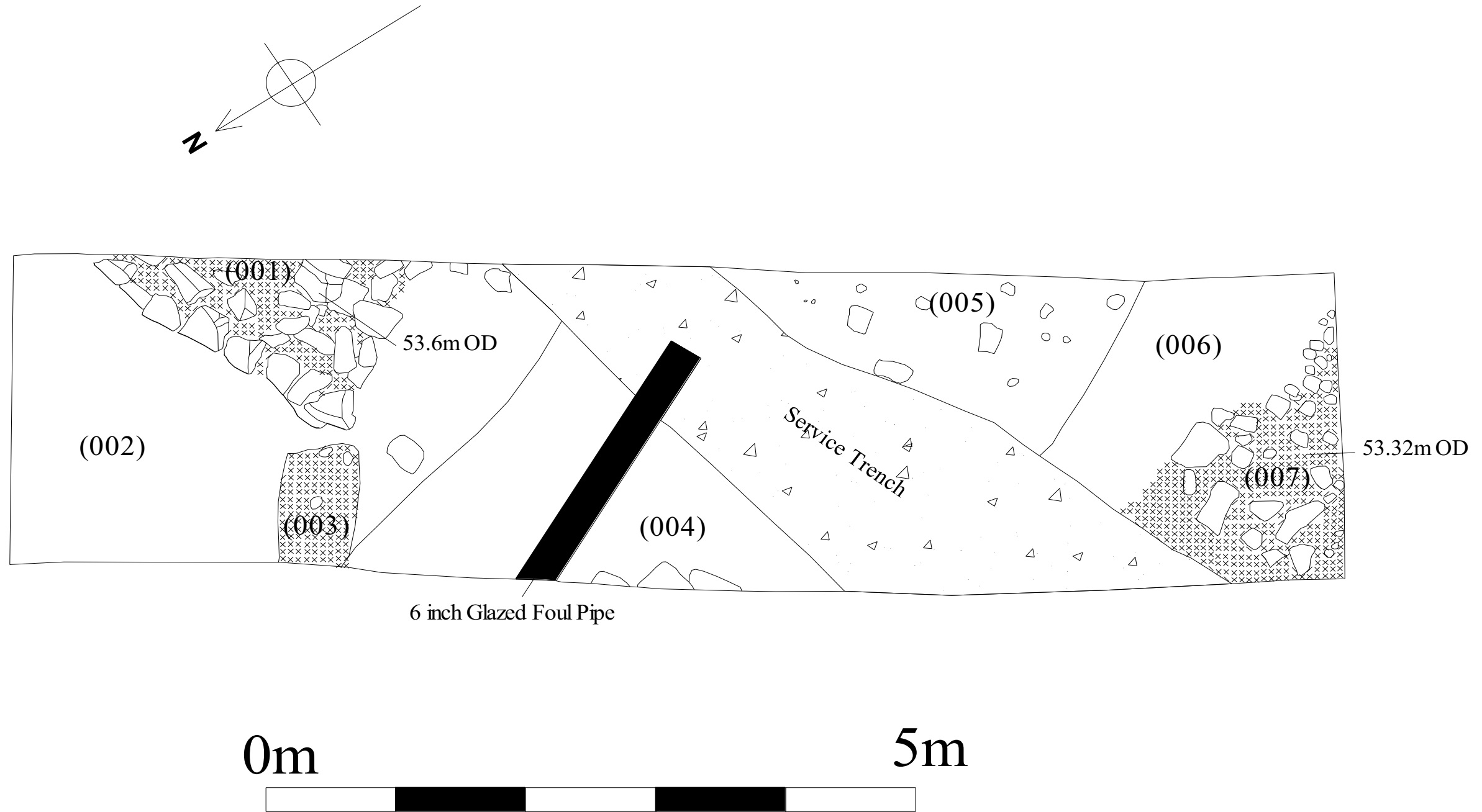


Figure 4 Trench 1 in Plan.

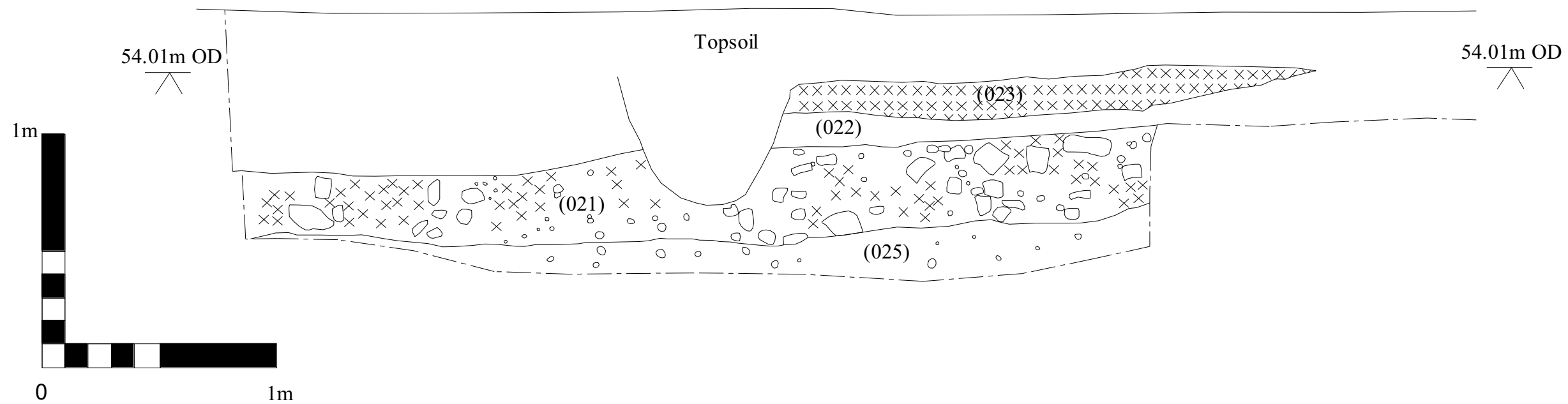


Figure 5 West-north-west facing section of Trench 2.

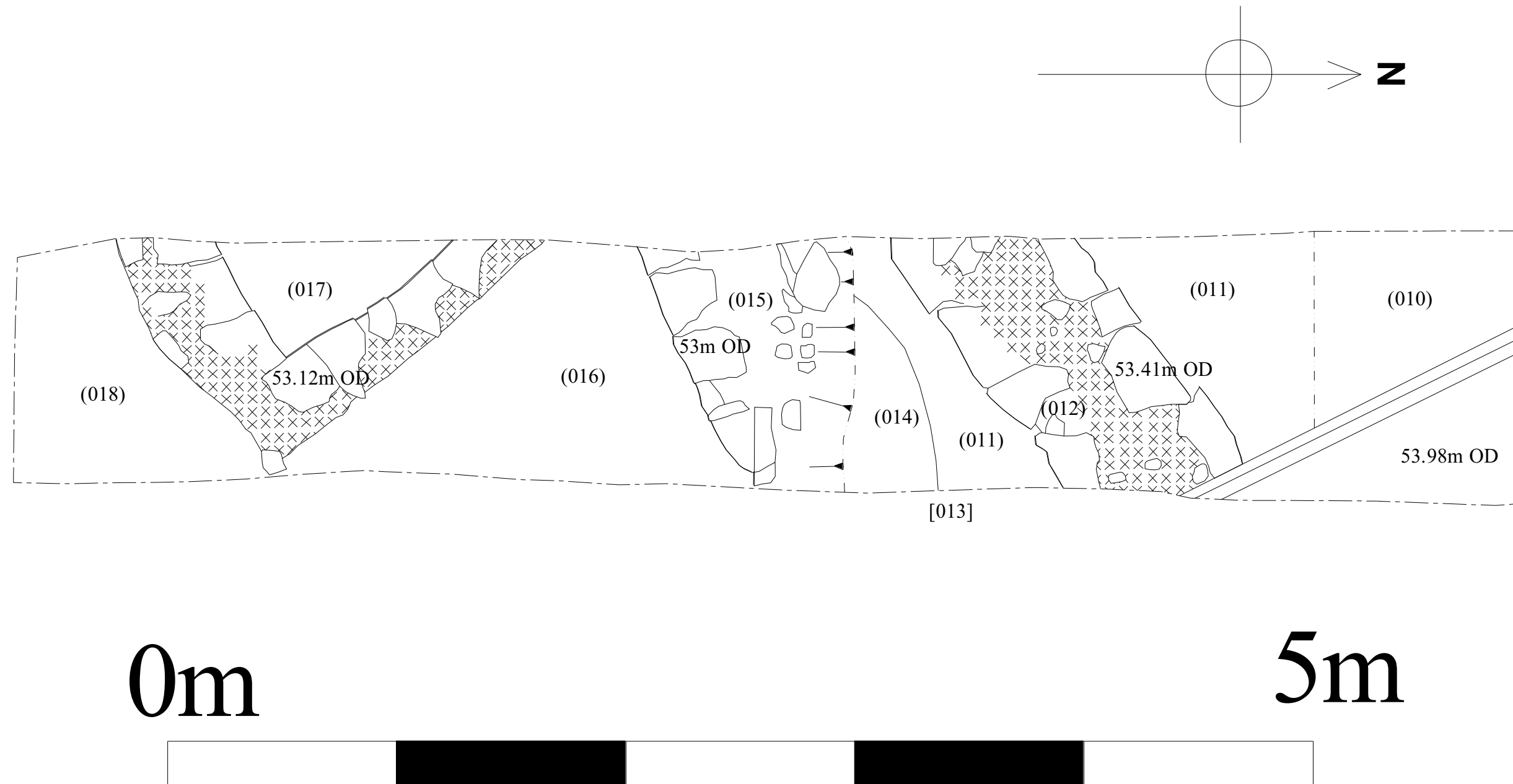


Figure 6 Trench 3 in Plan.

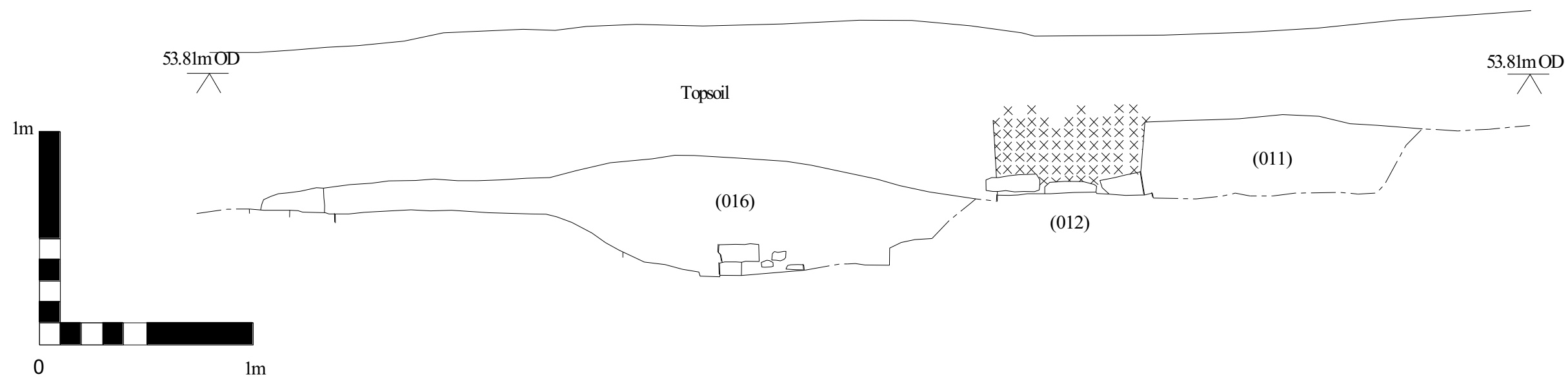


Figure 7 Trench 3 East Facing Section.



**Figure 8** Post-excitation view of trench 1 (looking north-north east).



**Figure 9** Post Excavation View of Trench 2 (Looking South-South West).





**Figure 10** Post Excavation View of Trench 3 (Looking North).



**Figure 11** Trench 3 Detailed View of Stone Built Structure.

## **Appendix 1: Pottery, Animal Bone and other Finds**

### ***The Roman Pottery Alice Forward and Nick Cooper***

Eleven sherds weighing 48g were retrieved from four contexts and catalogued with reference to the ULAS/Leicestershire Museums fabric series (Clark 1999). Contexts (11) and (16) contained only Roman pottery, dating to the later 3rd or 4th century AD and therefore could be of Roman date. Otherwise, six sherds of late 2nd-early 3rd century pottery, together with a coin of AD 330, occurred residually in context (20), a 16th-century layer sealed by demolition deposits relating to cottages thought to date to the 17th or 18th century and a single sherd came from a 19th-century demolition layer (4).

The assemblage is typical of that previously found within the Roman small town, comprising colour-coated and grey ware products of the Lower Nene Valley (Fabrics C2/3NV and GW4) (Howe *et al.* 1980) and a shell-tempered jar from the Bourne/Greetham kilns in Lincolnshire and Rutland (Fabric CG3B).

### ***The Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Pottery Deborah Sawday***

Seventeen sherds of medieval and early post-medieval pottery, weighing 180g, was catalogued with reference to the ULAS/Leicestershire Museums fabrics series (Davies and Sawday 1999). All of this material came from context (20) and a 16th-century date is indicated by the material.

The pottery evidently relates to earlier occupation on, or in the vicinity of the site which lies within the core of the medieval village. Stanion Lyveden in north Northamptonshire and Stamford and Bourne in Lincolnshire were all major centres of pottery production during this period and the pottery was widely traded within the region, and in the case of Stamford ware, throughout eastern England.

### ***The Late Post-Medieval and Modern Pottery Alice Forward***

The post-medieval and modern period pottery comprising 15 sherds, weighing 154g, was catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabrics Series (Davies and Sawday 1999). The material comes from two contexts, (2) and (8) both of which are demolition layers relating to the cottages. Context (8) contained two sherds of slip ware which can be dated to the late 17th or early 18th centuries, which mirrors the date at which the cottages are believed to have been built. Context (8) also contained stoneware and whiteware sherds, both of which can be dated from the 18th century, but are more likely to be 19th-century examples. Context (2) was a later 19th-century context as all the sherds were whitewares with overglazed painted decoration on three examples as well as pink lustre on the rim of one sherd. A clay pipe bowl of the mid-19th century also came from context (2).

### ***Metalworking Debris Alice Forward***

A small amount of iron tap slag resulting from iron smelting was retrieved from (20) and could technologically be of either Roman or medieval date.

**Animal Bone** Jennifer Browning

A small group of animal bone, mainly belonging to cattle of 19th-century date came from (8).

**Bibliography**

- Clark. R., 1999 'The Roman Pottery' in A. Connor and R. Buckley, 1999, 95-164.  
 Connor, A., and Buckley, R., 1999. *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeology Mon. 5.  
 Davies, S., and Sawday, D., 1999. 'The Post Roman Pottery and Tile' in A. Connor and R. Buckley, 1999, 165-213.  
 Healey, R.H., 1973. *Bourne Lincolnshire: Medieval Pottery Kilns* (unpublished notes).  
 Howe. M. D., Perrin. J. R., and Mackreth. D. F., 1980, *Roman Pottery from the Nene Valley, A Guide* Peterborough City Museum Occasional Paper 2.  
 Kilmurry, K., 1980 *The Pottery Industry of Stamford, Lincolnshire, AD 850-1250*. Oxford: Brit. Archaeol. Rep. (Brit. Ser.) 84.

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Site/ Parish: Main Street, Great Casterton | Submitter: G. Richards          |
| Accession No.: OAKRM 2009.8                | Identifier: D. Sawday/A Forward |
| Document Ref: great casterton2.            | Date of Identification: 30.4.09 |
| Material: pottery & misc. finds            | Method of recovery: evaluation  |
| Site Type: village core                    | Job Number: 09/613              |

| Context                      | Fabric/Ware                       | Nos. | Grams | Comments  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|-------|---|
| <b>ROMAN POTTERY</b>         |                                   |      |       |   |
| 004                          | CG3b                              | 1    | 4     |   |
| 011                          | C3                                | 1    | 5     |   |
| 011                          | WS                                | 1    | 9     |   |
| 011                          | GW3                               | 1    | 3     |   |
| 016                          | C2NV                              | 1    | 5     |   |
| 020                          | C2NV                              | 1    | 1     |   |
| 020                          | GW4                               | 1    | 9     | Form 18, flanged bowl (Howe et al 1980)                 |
| 020                          | GW4                               | 1    | 5     |   |
| 020                          | GW4                               | 1    | 1     |   |
| 020                          | S                                 | 1    | 1     |   |
| 020                          | WW2                               | 1    | 5     |   |
| <b>MEDIEVAL POTTERY</b>      |                                   |      |       |   |
| 020                          | LY1 – Stanion Lyveden type ware 1 | 1    | 6     | Abraded internally, green glaze externally, c.1225-1400 |
| 020                          | BO1 - Bourne ware/type ware 1     | 13   | 163   | c.1450-c.1550   |
| 020                          | ST2 – Fine Stamford ware          | 2    | 9     | Flat base & body fragment                               |
| <b>POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY</b> |                                   |      |       |   |
| 002                          | EA10                              | 2    | 33    |   |
| 002                          | EA10                              | 1    | 7     |   |
| 002                          | EA10                              | 2    | 36    |   |
| 008                          | EA7                               | 1    | 9     |   |
| 008                          | EA7                               | 1    | 19    |   |
| 008                          | SW                                | 1    | 7     |   |
| 008                          | SW                                | 3    | 23    |   |
| 008                          | EA9                               | 4    | 20    |   |
| <b>ROMAN COIN</b>            |                                   |      |       |   |
| 020                          | URBS Roma AD 330-331              | 1    |       | Constantine 1   |
| <b>CBM</b>                   |                                   |      |       |   |

|                     |                        |    |     |   |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|-----|---|
| 020                 | Roman                  | 1  | 27  |   |
| GLASS               |                        |    |     |   |
| 002                 | Clear glass            | 1  | 1   |   |
| 020                 | White painted(?) glass | 1  | 1   |   |
| INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL |                        |    |     |   |
| 020                 | Tap Slag               | 20 | 628 |   |
| 020                 | Iron object            | 1  | 19  |   |
| 020                 | Hearth bottom          | 1  | 23  |   |
| CLAY PIPE           |                        |    |     |   |
| 002                 | bowl                   | 1  | 7   | Leaf decoration on both seams, 7 ribs on bowl on either side of the seams and small flower motif on either side at the top of the heel. |
| 002                 | Stem                   | 1  | 1   |   |
| 008                 | Stems                  | 3  | 5   |   |

**Animal bone catalogue from Oakham 2009.8 (Great Casterton) Jennifer Browning**

| Context | N. | Species                    | Bone           | Comments  |
|---------|----|----------------------------|----------------|---|
| 008     | 1  | cattle                     | humerus        | Distal fused. Cut and chop marks on shaft and through articulation. Gnawed on lateral side. |
| 008     | 1  | cattle                     | radius         | Distal unfused. Chopped through shaft.  |
| 008     | 1  | Indeterminate large mammal | rib fragment   | Oblique chop through shaft  |
| 008     | 1  | Indeterminate large mammal | Shaft fragment | Possibly pelvis.  |

## UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

### Design Specification for archaeological work

*Job title: 3-8, Main Street, Great Casterton,  
Rutland (SP 8610 9975)*

*Client: Cecil Estate Family Trust*

*Planning Authority: Rutland County Council*

*Planning application No. pre-planning enquiry*

#### **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 of Field 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 on 3-8, Main Street, Great Casterton, Rutland (SP 8610 9975).
- 2.1.2 An application has been made for the refurbishment of 3-8, Main Street, Great Casterton including the provision of two new dwellings to the north-west and south-east with car parking to the rear (Figure 2).
- 2.1.3 Leicestershire County Council, Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCCHNET) as archaeological advisors to the planning authority have agreed that an evaluation by trial trenching is required to identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage by the development.

##### **2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 2.2.1 The main site is has been subject to a desk-based assessment (Richards 2009) which has identified that the area is close to the scheduled monument of Gt Casterton Roman town and where previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity had uncovered Roman remains.

#### **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* (2001).
- 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 Prior to any machining general photographs of the area will be undertaken.
- 4.2.2 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.
- 4.2.3 Trenches will be excavated to a width of 1.5m and down to the top of archaeological deposits. The area of the trenches will be protected by heras fencing. The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.
- 4.2.4 The area of impact covers *c.* 1200 sq.m, of which *c.* 60% is not accessible due to the presence of an existing building. A *c.* 5% sample of the accessible areas of the new building adjacent to No 3 Main Street and proposed access area is the equivalent of two 10m x 1.6m trenches and one 5m by 1.6m trench totaling *c.* 40 sq metres (Fig 1). 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; SMR 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 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 usually be presented to 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 17.04.2008 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**

- MAP 2            The management of archaeological projects 2nd edition English Heritage 1991
- MGC 1992       Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections 1992 (Museums and Galleries Commission)
- Richards, G,  
2009            *An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment for the Proposed Redevelopment of 3-8 Main Street, Great Casterton, Leicestershire (NGR TF 001 089)* . ULAS Report 2009-033
- RFG/FRG 1993   Guidelines for the preparation of site archives (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993)
- SMA 1993       Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 1993 (Society of Museum Archaeologists)

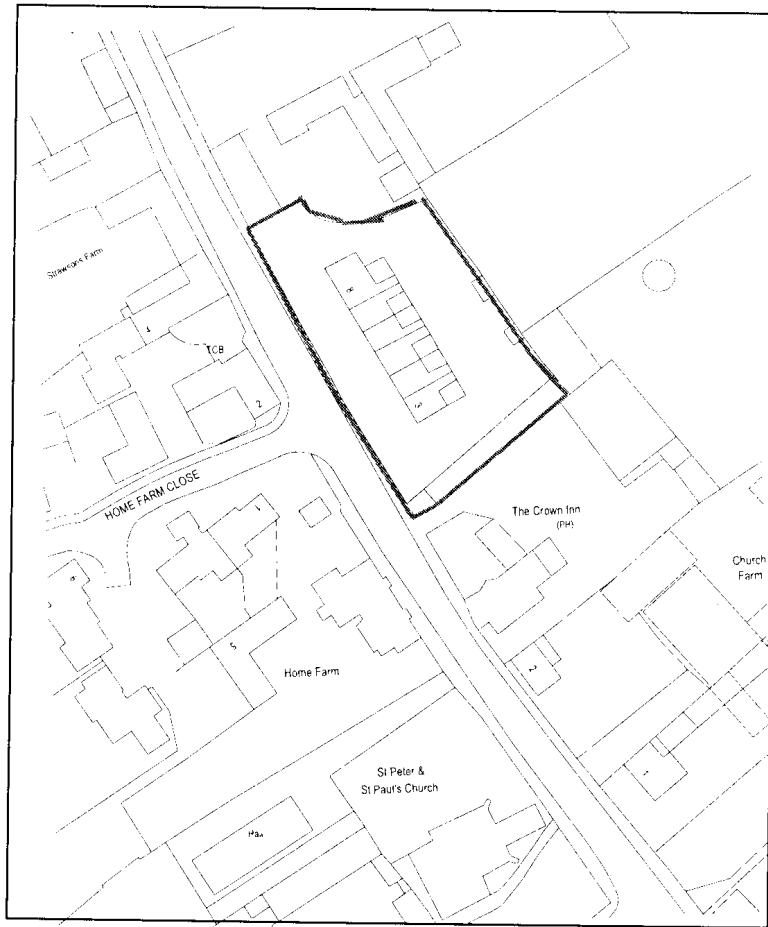
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**Figure 1:** Plan of application area (highlighted). Provided by David Todd Architecture

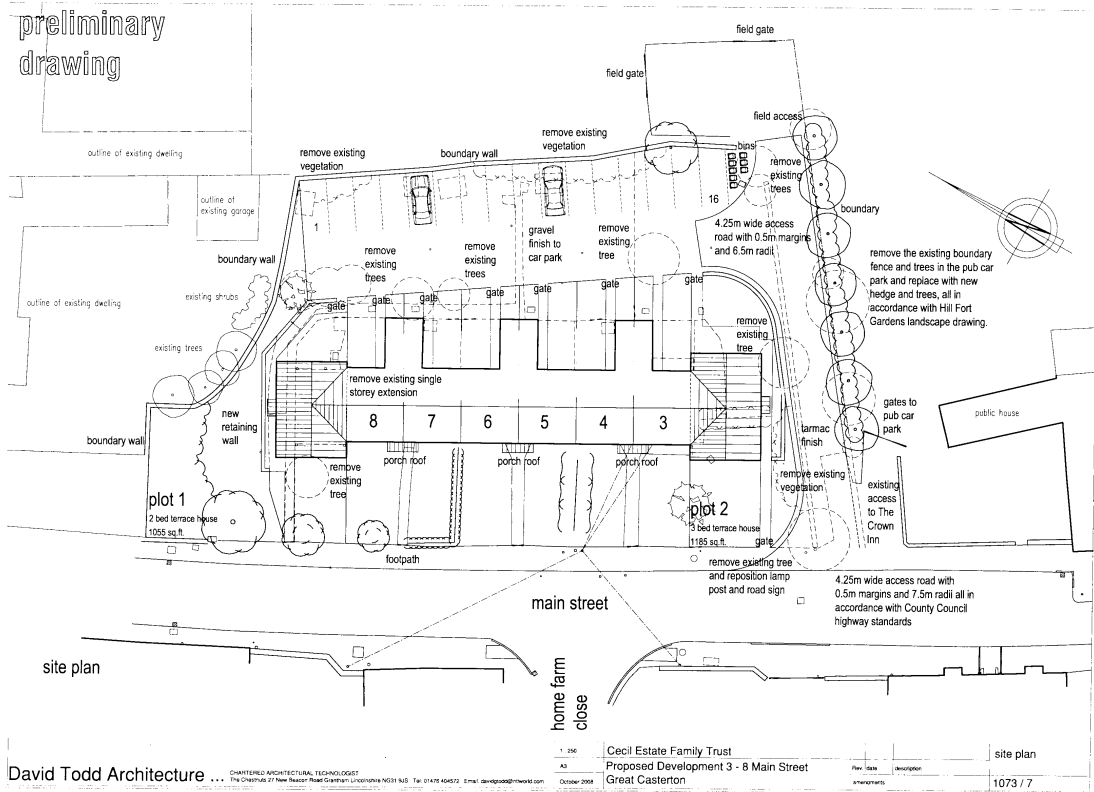


Fig 2 Proposed development

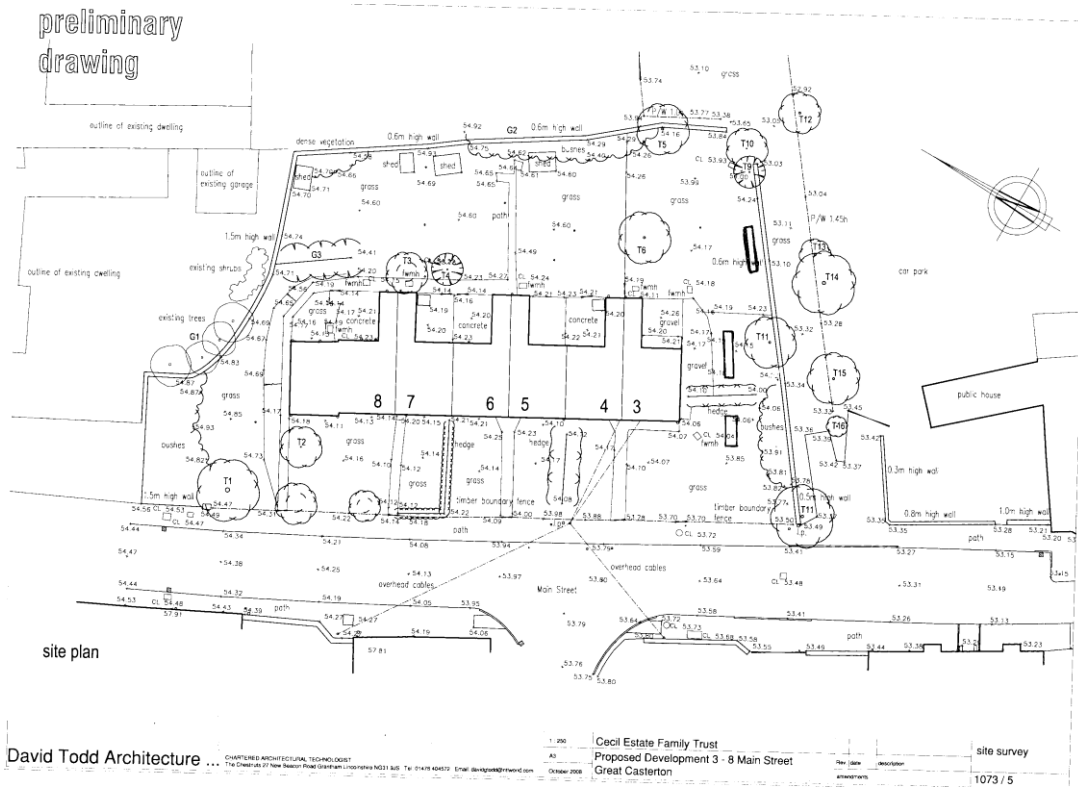


Fig. 3 Suggested trench locations

## APPENDIX 1

### *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.