



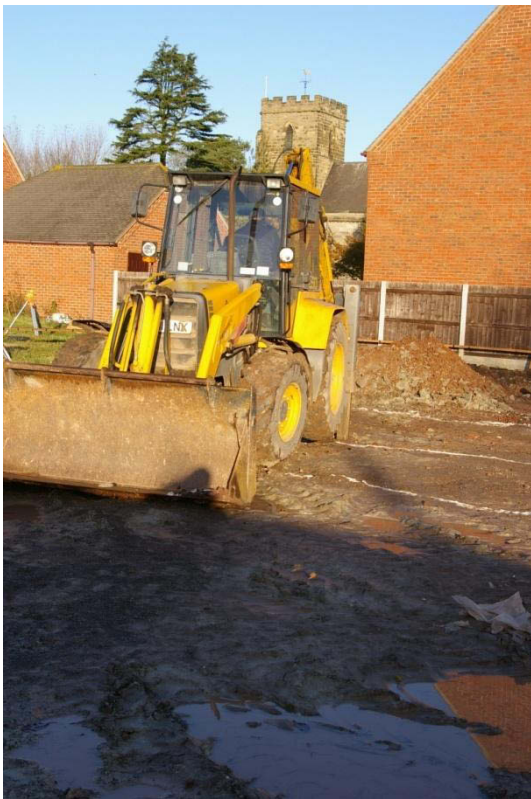
**University of  
Leicester**

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**Archaeological Services**

**An Archaeological Watching Brief  
Carried Out at The Glebe,  
Main Street, Norton Juxta Twycross,  
Leicestershire (SK 323 069)**

**By Gerwyn Richards**



ULAS Report No 2009-163  
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**An Archaeological Watching Brief Carried Out  
At The Glebe, Main Street,  
Norton Juxta Twycross  
Leicestershire.**

**(NGR SK 323 069)**

**Gerwyn Richards**

**Planning Application: 07/01418/4**

**For: D.H Builders Ltd.**

**Checked by**

**Signed**  **Date:** 11/11/2009

**Name:...** Nicholas J. Cooper

**Approved by**

**Signed:**  **ate:** 11/11/2009

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**An Archaeological Watching Brief Carried Out At The Glebe, Main Street, Norton  
Juxta Twycross. Leicestershire. (SK 323 069)**

**Contents**

Summary	1
1. Introduction	1
2. Aims and Methodology	3
3. Results	4
4. Conclusion	4
5. Archive & Publication	4
6. References	5
Appendix Design Specification	8

**Figures**

Figure 1	Site Location	2
Figure 2	Development Area.	3
Figure 2	Development Area showing location of demolished bungalow	3
Figure 4	Retaining wall and change in ground level apparent in southern wall.	6
Figure 5	Exposed Stratigraphy within Plot 4.	6
Figure 6	Exposed Stratigraphy within Plot 4A.	7

**An Archaeological Watching Brief Carried Out At The Glebe, Main Street,  
Norton Juxta Twycross. Leicestershire. (SK 323 069)**

**Gerwyn Richards**

**Summary**

*University of Leicester Archaeological Services was commissioned by D.H Builders Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks in advance of the redevelopment of The Glebe, Main Street, Norton Juxta Twycross, Leicestershire. Planning permission had been granted for the construction of two new residential units.*

*The whole area affected by the groundworks had clearly been reduced during the original construction work. All monitored groundworks exposed only undisturbed bedrock and nothing of archaeological significance was observed.*

*The archive will be held by Leicester County Council, under the accession number X.A202. 2009.*

**1. Introduction**

University of Leicester Archaeological Services was commissioned by D.H Builders Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks in advance of the proposed redevelopment of The Glebe, 4 Main Street, Norton Juxta Twycross, Leicestershire (SK 323 069; *Figure 1*). Outline Planning Permission has been granted for the demolition of the existing bungalow and for the construction of two new residential units. No previous non-intrusive or intrusive archaeological work has been carried out within the proposed development area.

The Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) indicates that the proposed development area is situated within the historic settlement core of Norton Juxta Twycross (HER ref: MLE 6001). To the south there is evidence for medieval settlement (HER ref MLE 8377), while to the north there are a number of earthworks, representing the possible extent of the pre-shrunken village visible on aerial photographs (HER ref MLE 3274).

The Senior Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council, as archaeological advisor to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council advised that the proposed works may have an impact upon buried archaeological remains. In view of this a programme of archaeological attendance by way of a watching brief was carried out during the groundworks by the clients contractors on 1st and 6th November 2009, following Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG 16, Archaeology and Planning para. 30).

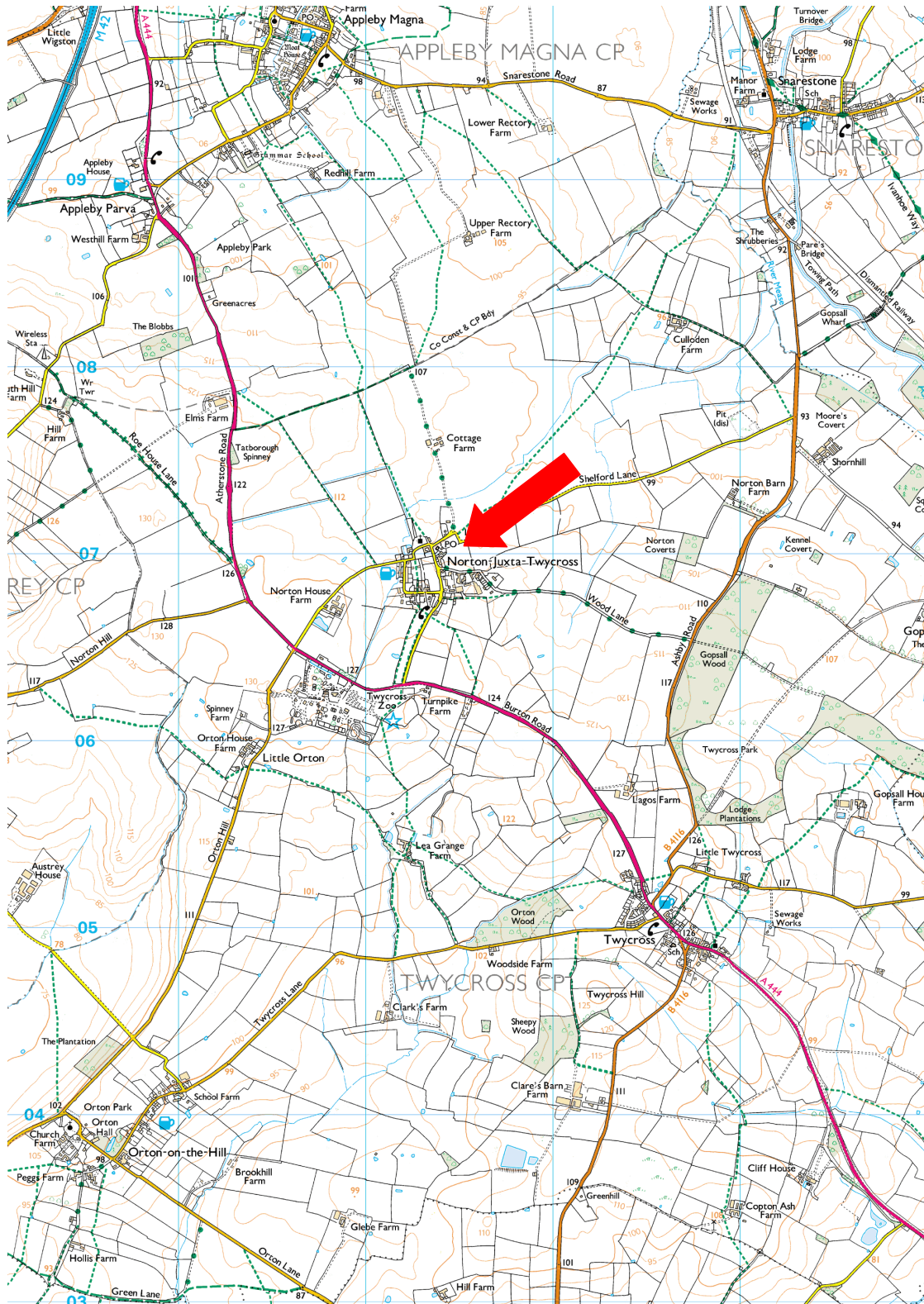


Figure 1. Site location

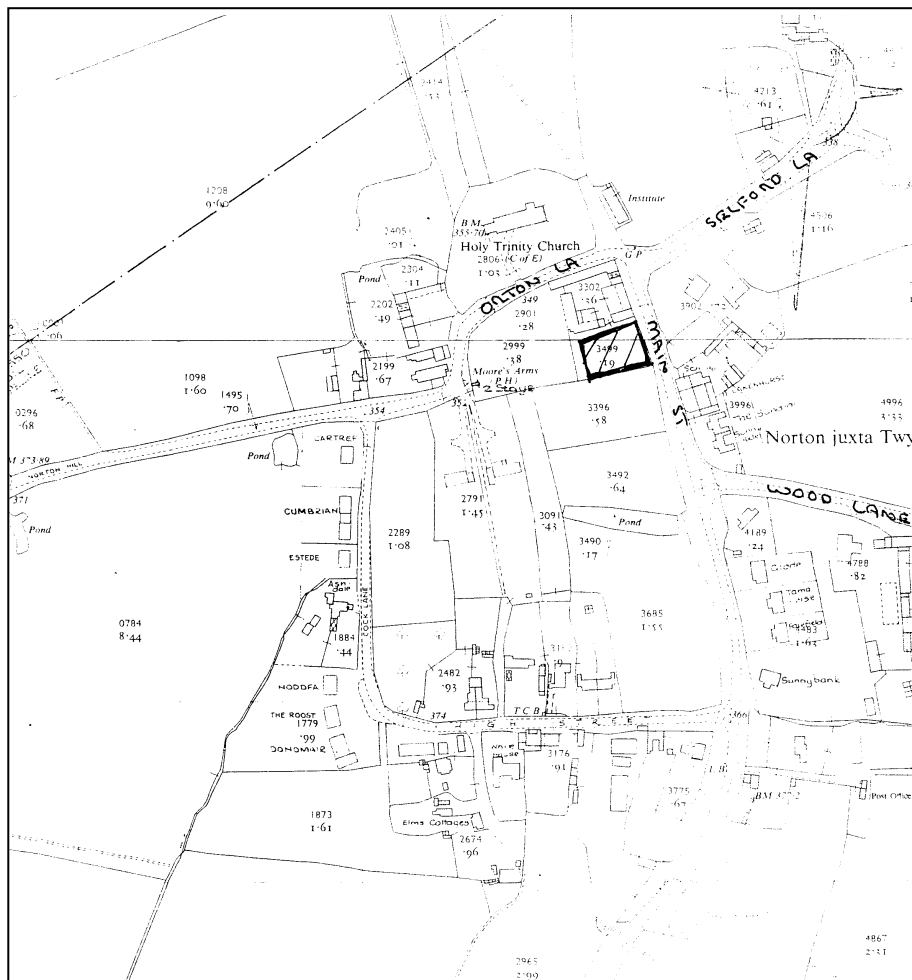
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## 2. Aims and Methodology

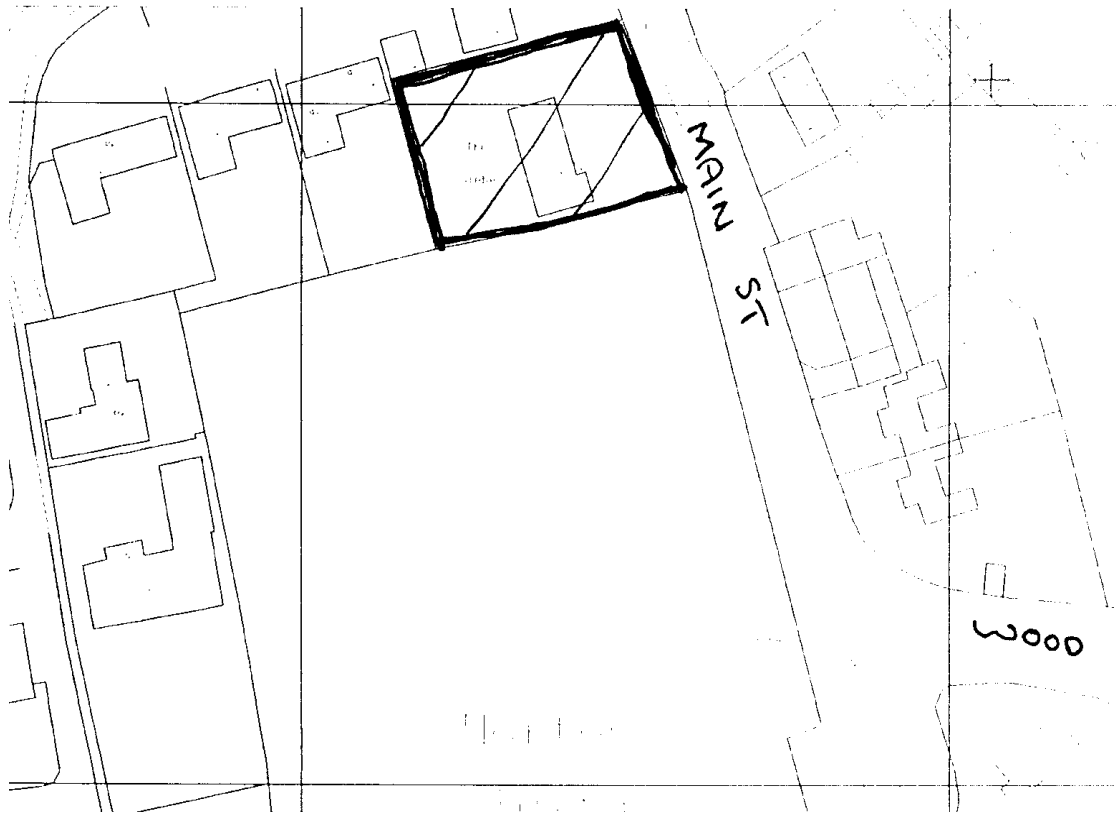
The aim of the archaeological work, through archaeological inspection and recording of groundworks by the client's contractors, was to:

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

The work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2006) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and the *Guidelines for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (LMARS) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008), and adhered to the University's Health and Safety policy.



**Figure 2** Development Area.  
(Original drawing supplied by client)



**Figure 3** Development Area showing location of since demolished bungalow.  
(Original drawing supplied by client)

### **3. Results**

#### **3.1 Plot 4**

Plot 4 was the first of the plots to be excavated and was located on the northern part of the proposed development area. This area was outside the footprint of the recently demolished bungalow, although the area appeared to have been disturbed, almost certainly during previous construction work. As a result there were no undisturbed ground levels and the Mercia mudstone substratum was already exposed.

The excavated footings consisted of 550mm wide trenches for the exterior walls and 450mm wide trenches for the internal walls. All trenches were excavated to approximately 900mm below existing ground level. The exposed stratigraphy consisted exclusively of undisturbed Mercia mudstone (*Figure 4*).

Towards the southern end of plot 4 the concrete footings of the demolished bungalow were encountered.

#### **3.2 Plot 4A**

Plot 4A was located on the southern part of the proposed development area. The original topography sloped down from the south to the north and as a result the area occupied by Plot 4A had been reduced by an even greater amount than elsewhere and

was within the footprint of the recently demolished bungalow. Once again, the stratigraphy within the excavated footings consisted of undisturbed Mercia mudstone (*Figure 5*).

#### **4. Conclusion**

The proposed development area occupied a promising location within the historic settlement core of the village. However extensive groundworks during the construction of the bungalow which previously occupied the site had truncated any potential archaeologically significant deposits. A concrete retaining wall on the southern boundary clearly shows the depth of material which had been removed during this earlier building work (*Figure 3*). It is possible that the lawn area on the western part of the proposed development area is undisturbed, but this area was unaffected by these groundworks.

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

The site archive consists of:

CD containing 12 digital images  
12 Black & White negatives and contact prints  
1 A4 Contact sheets  
2 A4 Watching brief sheet  
Unbound copy of this report (ULAS Report Number 2009-163)

The archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council under the Accession Number X.A202. 2009.

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

#### **6. References**

IfA, 2006 *Code of Conduct*

IfA, 2001 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*

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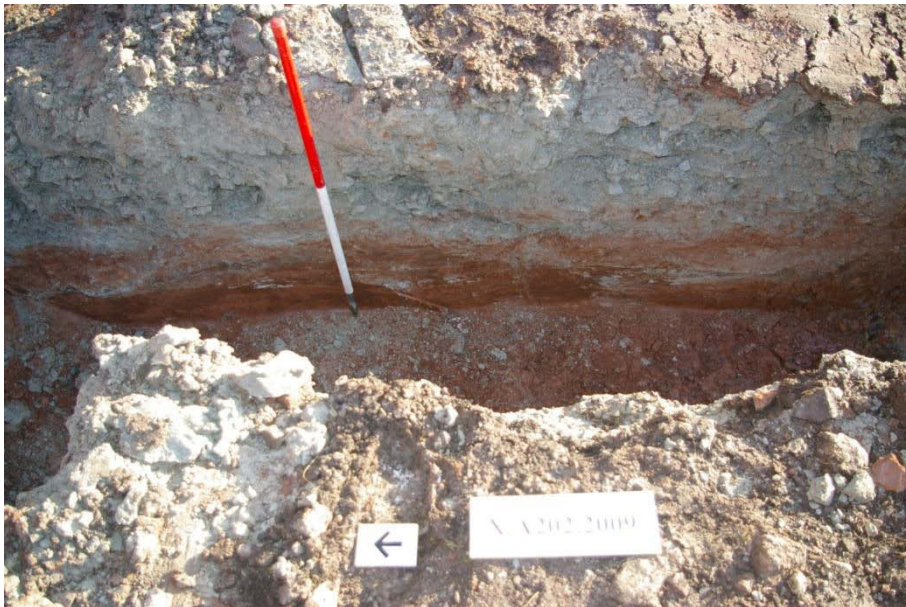
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**Figure 4** Retaining wall and change in ground level apparent in the southern wall.



**Figure 5** Exposed Stratigraphy within Plot 4.



**Figure 6** Exposed Stratigraphy within Plot 4A.

## Appendix

### UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

#### Design Specification for archaeological work

*The Glebe, 4 Main Street, Norton Juxta Twycross, Leicestershire (SK 323 069)*

*Planning Application: 07/01418/4*

*Planning Authority: Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council*

*For: D H Builders Ltd*

#### **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 for inspection and recording (a watching brief), as required by the Planning Authority, of any groundworks on the site which may disturb areas of archaeological potential in connection with a planning application for the erection of two dwellings at The Glebe, 4 Main Street, Norton Juxta Twycross, Leicestershire (SK 323 069) Planning Application: 07/01418/4 for Mr A Lennon.

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 archaeological attendance for inspection and recording within the development area to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as detailed in the advice letter from Leicestershire County Council to HBBC (16.01.2008).

##### *2.2 Archaeological potential*

2.1 The site is situated within an area of apparent archaeological significance, representing the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of the village of Norton Juxta Twycross (HER ref: MLE6001).

#### **3 Aims**

3.1 Through archaeological controlled stripping and investigation:

1. To identify the presence/absence of any 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.

4.2 Should significant archaeological remains be identified a programme of excavation and recording may be necessary, using additional personnel as necessary.

4.3 The archaeologist will co-operate at all times with the contractors on site to ensure the minimum interruption to the work.

4.4 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.

4.5 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.

4.6 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.

4.7 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 and Leicestershire County Council will be informed immediately on their discovery.

4.8 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 and Leicestershire County Council.

4.9 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, 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 <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis> will be completed. A report on the investigation will be provided following the groundworks.

6.2 Copies will be provided for the client, Historic Environment 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 2007) 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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12.06.2008

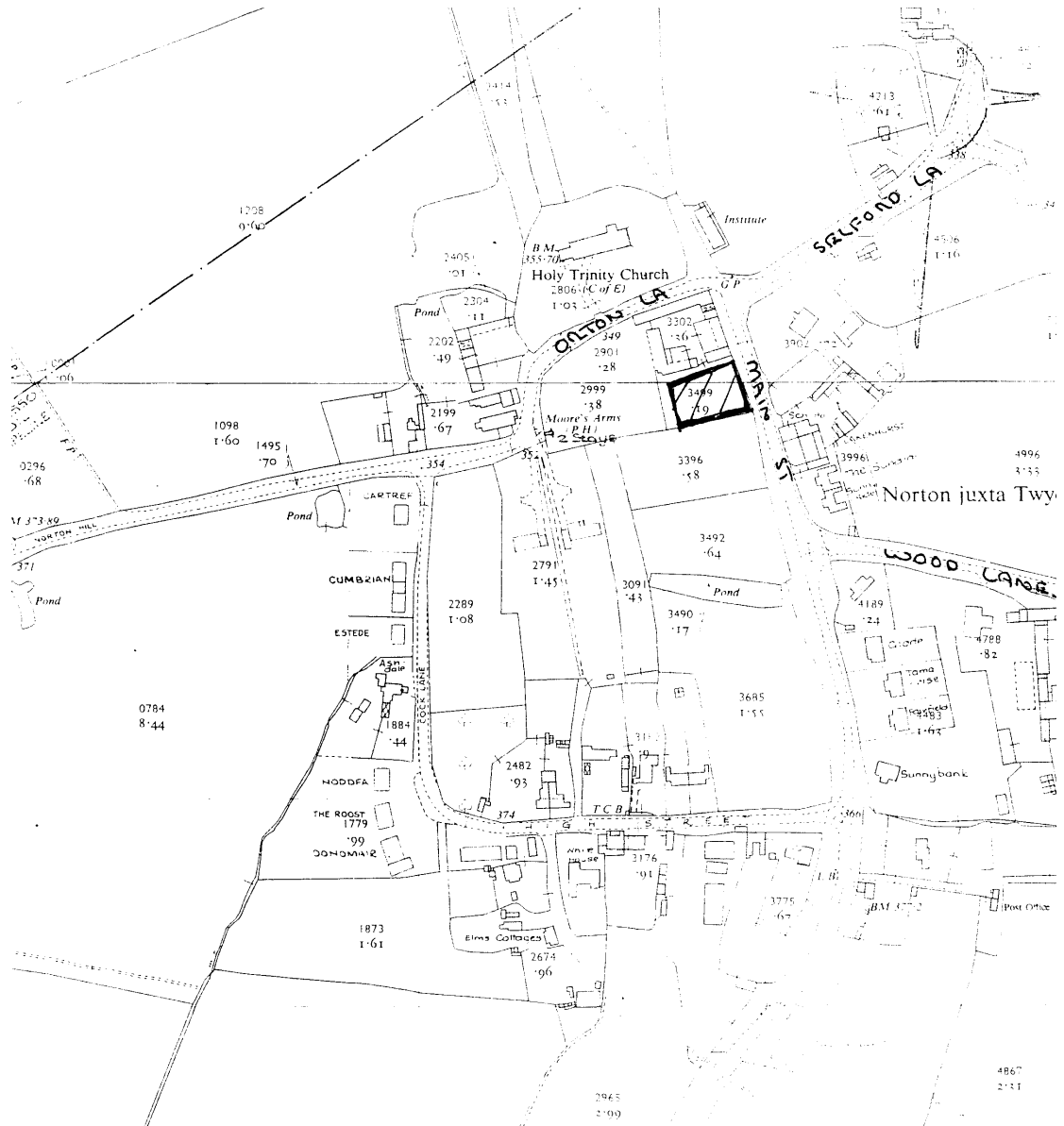
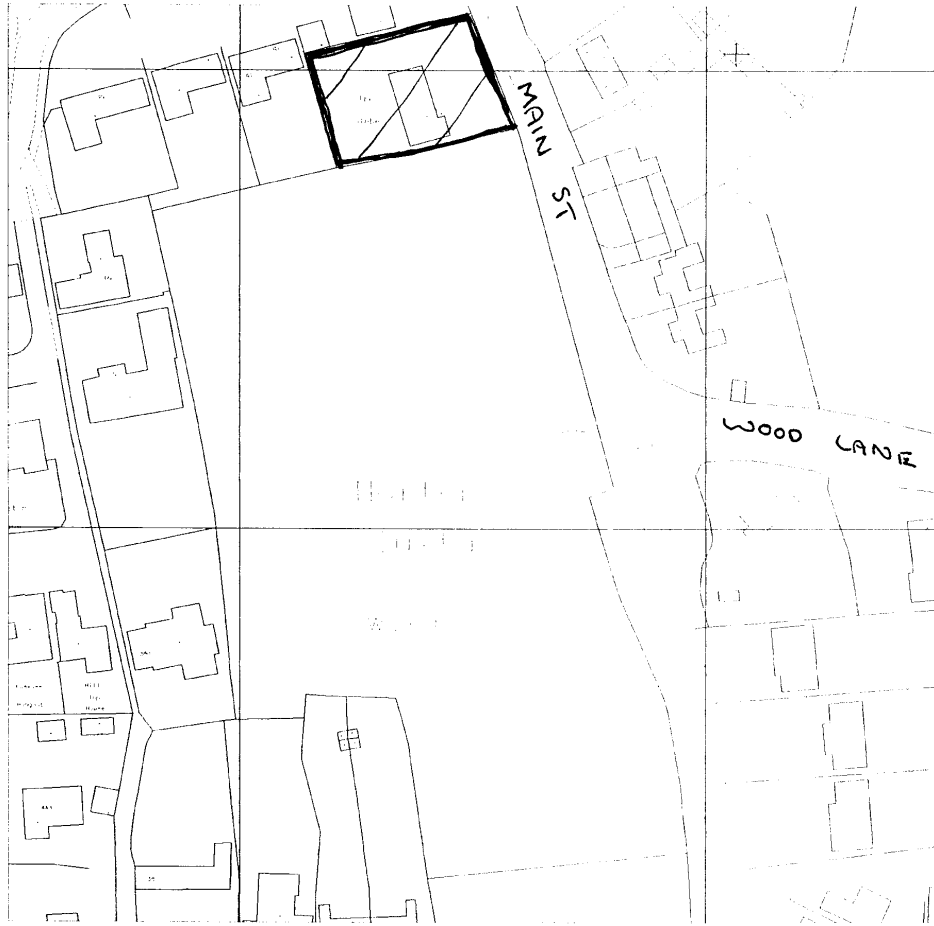


Fig 1 Location of Development



# Siteplan<sup>®</sup> 1:1250



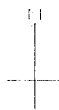
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Centre Coordinates 432350 306914

National Grid sheet reference at centre of this Siteplan: SK3206

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Fig. 2 Plan of proposed development area

**Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement**

*The Glebe, 4 Main Street, Norton Juxta Twycross,*

*Leicestershire (SK 323 069)*

*Planning Application: 07/01418/4*

*Planning Authority: Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council*

*For: D H Builders Ltd*

***1. Nature of the work***

1.1 This statement is for archaeological watching brief. It will be revised following the commencement of operations when the extent of risks can be assessed in full.

1.2 The work will involve overburden stripping by JCB 3C or similar during daylight hours and recording of any underlying archaeological deposits revealed. Overall depth is likely to be c. 1.0 –1.2m. Following stripping the exposed deposits will be examined with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and archaeological features will be excavated. All work will adhere to the University of Leicester Health and Safety Policy and follow the guidance in the ULAS Health and safety and the Standing Committee of Archaeological Unit Managers manuals, together with the following relevant Health and Safety guidelines, including the following.

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

1.3 The Health and Safety policy on site will be reassessed during the evaluation .All work will adhere to the company's health and safety policy.

***2 Risks Assessment***

***2.1 Working within an excavation.***

Precautions. No work will be undertaken beneath section faces deeper than 1.2m. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear 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.

***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.

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

08.05.2008

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