



**University of
Leicester**

Archaeological Services



**An Archaeological Evaluation
on Land North of Main Street
Hungarton, Leicestershire**

NGR: SK 6884 0723

Gavin Speed

ULAS Report No 2010-222
©2010

**An Archaeological Evaluation
on Land North of Main Street,
Hungarton, Leicestershire
(SP 519 971)**

Gavin Speed

For: NCHA Ltd Architects

Approved by:



Signed

Date: 14/12/2010

Name: Patrick Clay

**University of Leicester
Archaeological Services**
University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH
Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614
www.le.ac.uk/ulas

ULAS Report Number 2010-222

©2010

Accession Number X.A201.2010.

CONTENTS

Summary	2
1. Introduction.....	2
2. Site Description, Topography and Geology.....	2
3. Historical and Archaeological Background.....	4
4. Aims and Objectives	4
5. Methodology	4
6. Results.....	4
7. Conclusion	6
8. Archive.....	6
9. Publication	7
10. Bibliography	7
11. Acknowledgements.....	7
Appendix: Plan of proposed development.....	8

FIGURES

Figure 1 Site location plan within the UK and county of Leicestershire.....	3
Figure 2: Site Location.....	3
Figure 3: Trench location plan.....	5
Figure 4: Trench 1 looking north-west (left) and south-east (right).....	6

An Archaeological Evaluation on Land North of Main Street, Hungarton, Leicestershire.

Gavin Speed

Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) carried out an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land to the north of Main Street, Hungarton, Leicestershire (SK 6884 0723). The work was undertaken as part of an archaeological impact assessment in advance of a proposed development. The evaluation revealed no archaeological finds or deposits. The site archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council, accession no. X.A201.2010.

1. Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by ULAS for NCHA Ltd Architects in December 2010 on land to the north of Main Street, Hungarton, Leicestershire (SK 6884 0723). The work was undertaken in advance of residential development (planning application number 10/00770/3).

An archaeological evaluation of the site was requested by Leicestershire County Council Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCC HNET), as archaeological advisors to the planning authority. The work was required in order to assess the nature, extent, date and significance of any archaeological deposits which might be present in order to determine the potential impact upon them from future development proposals.

This report presents the results of the trial trenching, with an assessment of the potential impact on buried archaeological remains from groundworks associated with future development. It addresses the requirements of the *Brief for Archaeological Investigation (exploratory trial trenching) at land opposite The Paddocks, Hungarton, Harborough, Leicestershire* (LCC HNET 27.10.2010).

2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

Hungarton lies in the Harborough District of Leicestershire, approximately 6.5 miles north-east of Leicester (Figure 1). The application area consists of a field to the south-west of Hungarton village core (Figure 2). The application area, consisting of a rectangular area of land currently in use as overgrown rough pasture, slopes sharply from north to south, covers c. 0.01 hectares, and lies at around 127m OD. The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 156 indicated that the underlying geology was likely to be glacial sand and gravel. A yellow clay substratum was revealed during the excavation consistent with a glacially derived deposit.

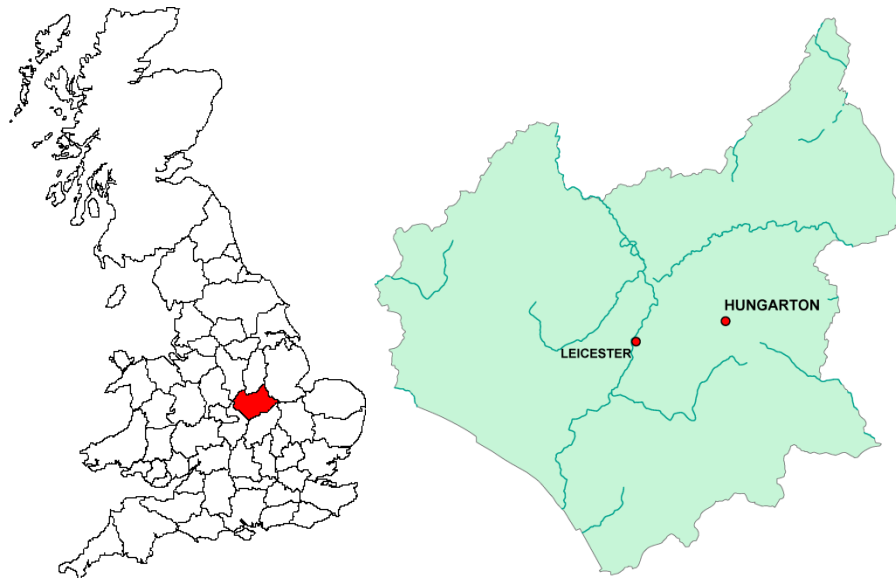


Figure 1 Site location plan within the UK and county of Leicestershire

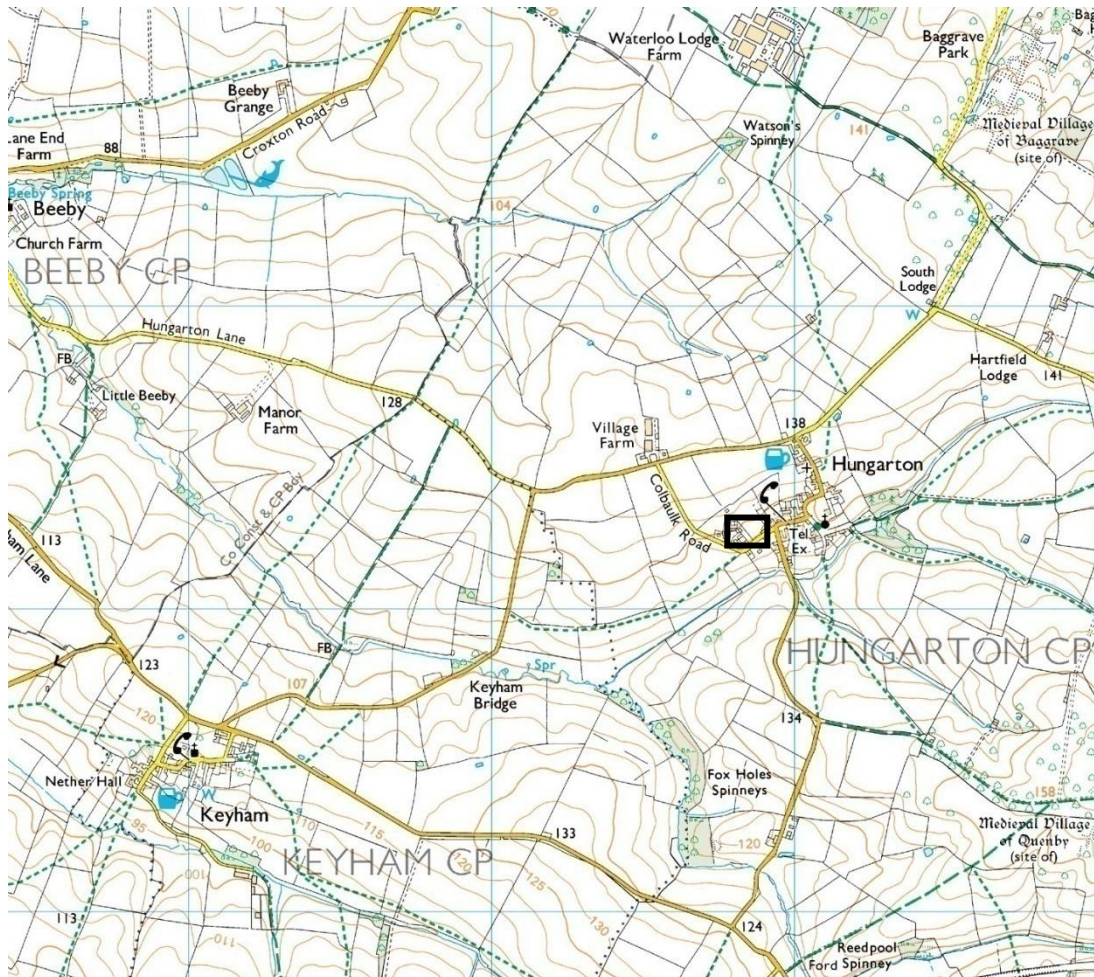


Figure 2: Site Location

Reproduced from the Explorer 233 Leicester & Hinckley area 1:25 000 map by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright 2005. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100029495

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

The site lies in the western extent of the historic core of Hungarton, immediately to the east of 'The Cottage' a building of historic interest. The village has Anglo-Saxon origins – it is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as 'Hungretone' (Morris 1979).

4. Aims and Objectives

The principal aims of the archaeological evaluation were:

- To identify possible areas of archaeological potential liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- To establish the location, extent, date, and significance of any archaeological deposits located.
- To define the quality and state of preservation of these deposits.
- To assess the local, regional and national importance of any deposits.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

The objective was to gain an indication of the nature, extent, date and significance of any archaeological deposits which may be present in order that an informed planning decision can be taken.

5. Methodology

Prior to any machining of trial trenches, general photographs of the site areas were taken. The Senior Planning Archaeologist had requested the examination of a sample of one trial trench, 20m in length, prior to determination of any planning application to develop the site.

The trenches were excavated using a mini-digger mechanical excavator equipped with a 1.3m wide toothless ditching bucket. The topsoil and overlying layers were removed under full archaeological supervision until either the top of archaeology or the natural undisturbed substratum was reached. Trenches were examined for archaeological deposits or finds by hand cleaning, the trenches were tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The trenches were backfilled and leveled at the end of the evaluation.

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (2008).

6. Results

No archaeological finds or deposits were identified in the trench. It measured 20m in length and 1.3m in width. The topsoil, consisting of grey-brown sandy-clay with occasional small rounded pebbles, ranged in thickness from 0.25m to 0.35m, becoming thicker towards the south-end of the site. Below this was a brown clay subsoil, ranging in thickness from 0.2m to 0.3m, again getting slightly thicker at the south-end of the site. The topsoil and subsoil was remarkably sterile with no archaeological finds identified. The natural substratum consisted of a yellow clay, reached at a depth of 0.45m to 0.65m below current ground level. No finds were present.

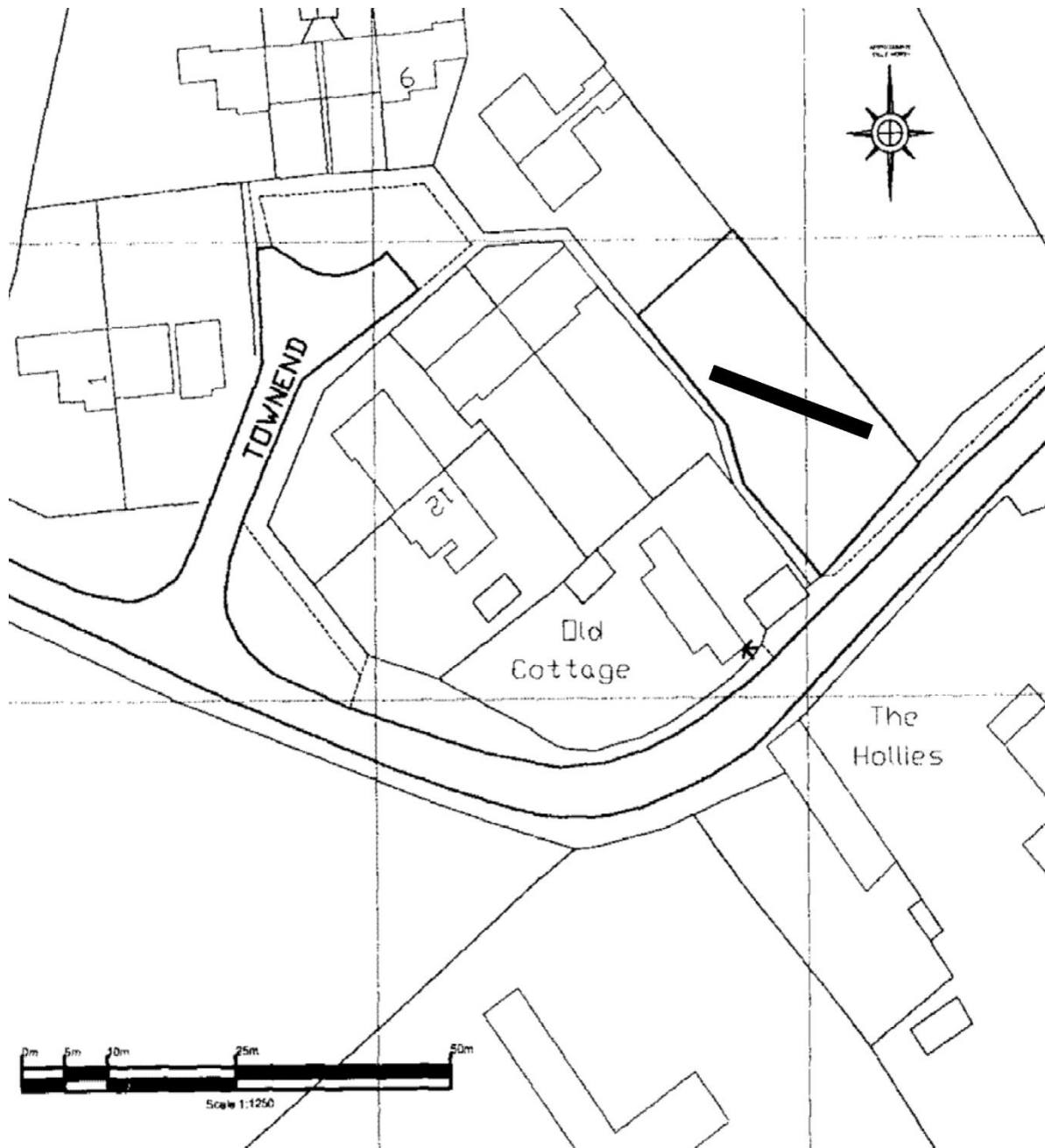


Figure 3: Trench location plan



Figure 4: Trench 1 looking north-west (left) and south-east (right)

7. Conclusion

The evaluation revealed no archaeological evidence. This suggests that the area has always been agricultural land and that it was outside the medieval village core.

8. Archive

The site archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services Section, accession no. X.A201.2010.

The archive contains:

- 1 trench recording sheet
- 1 photographic recording sheet
- Thumbnail print of digital photographs
- CD containing digital photographs and report
- 33mm black and white contact sheet and negatives (x1 film)
- Unbound copy of this report

The report has been listed on the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York. Available at: <http://oasis.ac.uk/> (ID universi1-89478)

ID	OASIS entry summary
Project Name	Main Street, Hungarton, Leicestershire
Summary	The evaluation revealed no archaeological evidence.
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Gavin Speed
Previous/Future work	Previous: none. / Future: uncertain
Current Land Use	Pasture field
Development Type	Residential
Reason for Investigation	PPS5
Position in the Planning Process	Pre-application
Site Co ordinates	SK 519 971
Start/end dates of field work	13/12/2010
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services
Study Area	0.01ha
Associated project reference codes	Museum accession ID: X.A201.2010. OASIS form ID: universi1-89478

9. Publication

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the local archaeological journal *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. The report has been added to the Archaeology Data Service's (ADS) Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database held by the University of York.

10. Bibliography

Morris, P. 1979, *Domesday Book. 22 Leicestershire*. Phillimore, Chichester.
(ed.)

11. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by Gavin Speed. Patrick Clay managed the project. We would like to thank NCHA for their help and co-operation with this project.

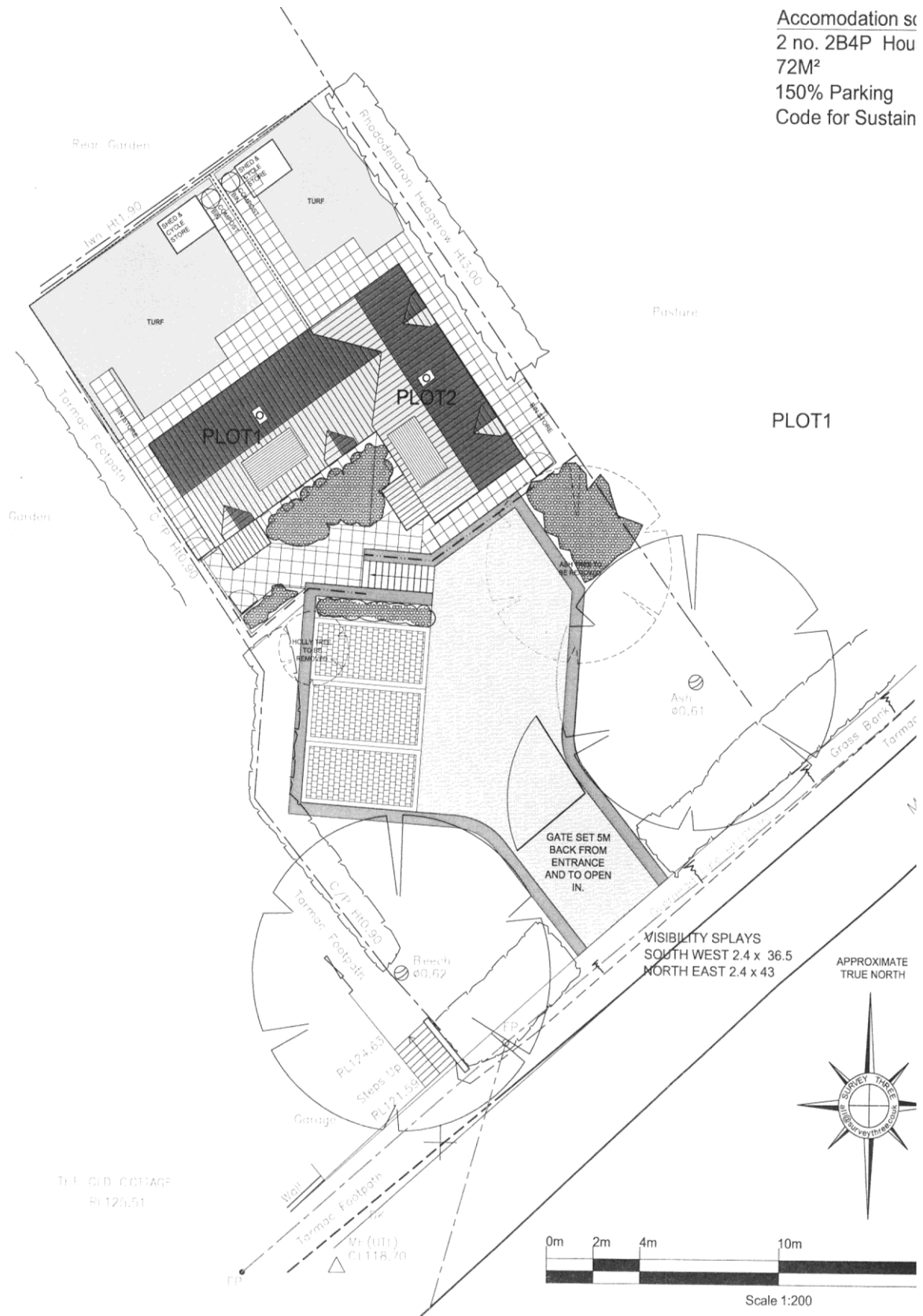
Gavin Speed
Senior Archaeological Supervisor
University of Leicester Archaeological Services
University Road
Leicester
LE1 7RH

gs50@le.ac.uk

Tel: 0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614

13/12/2010

Appendix 1: Plan of proposed development



Appendix 2 Design Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

Job title: The Paddocks, Main Street, Hungarton, Leicestershire

NGR: SK 6884 0723

Client: NCHA Ltd Architects

Planning Authority: Harborough District Council

Planning application No. 10/00770/3

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 PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment. 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 (2008) 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

Context of the Project

- 2.1 Hungarton lies in the District of Harborough, Leicestershire. The proposed development covers an area of c. 0.01 ha currently used as rough pasture (Fig. 1).
- 2.2 An application has been made for the construction of a residential dwelling and access (Fig.2).
- 2.3 Leicestershire County Council, Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCCHNET) as archaeological advisors to the planning authority will require that an evaluation is undertaken as detailed in Brief for archaeological investigation (exploratory trial trenching) at land opposite the Paddocks, Hungarton, Leicestershire (LCC HNET 27.10.2010 – hereinafter the ‘Brief’).

Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.4 The site lies at a height of around 127m OD. The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 156 indicates that the underlying geology of the site was likely to consist of Glacial sand and gravel.
- 2.5 The site lies in the western extent of the historic core of Hungarton immediately to the east of ‘The Cottage’ a building of historic interest (MLE15256).

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

General Methodology and Standards

- 4.1 All work will follow the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct (2008) and adhere to their Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2008).
- 4.2 Staffing, recording systems, health and safety provisions and insurance details are included below.
- 4.3 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 Planning Authority and the Client, if required.

Trial Trenching Methodology

- 4.4 Prior to any machining of trial trenches general photographs of the site areas may be taken.
- 4.5 It is proposed to excavate one 20m long trench. The provisional trench plan attached (Fig. 1) shows the proposed locations of the trench. The size and position of the trench indicated on the provisional trench plan may vary due to unforeseen site constraints or archaeology.
- 4.6 Topsoil and overburden will be removed carefully in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket. Trenches will be excavated down to the top of archaeological deposits or natural undisturbed ground, whichever is reached first.
- 4.7 Trenches will be examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located will be planned at an appropriate scale. Archaeological deposits will be sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establish the stratigraphic and chronological sequence, 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.
- 4.8 Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan. All plans will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Relative spot heights will be taken as appropriate.
- 4.9 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 benchmark.
- 4.10 Trench locations will be recorded by an appropriate method. These will then be tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 4.11 Any human remains encountered 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.
- 4.12 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the project a contingency may be required to clarify the character or extent of additional features. The

contingency will only be initiated after consultation with the Client and the Planning Archaeologist and Planning Authority. 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.

- 4.13 The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.

Recording Systems

- 4.14 Any archaeological deposits encountered will be recorded and excavated using standard procedures as outlined in the ULAS recording manual. Sufficient of any archaeological features or deposits will be hand excavated in order to provide the information required.
- 4.15. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets.
- 4.16 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.
- 4.17 An adequate 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.
- 4.18 This record will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the project.

5. Finds

- 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 All antiquities, valuables, objects or remains of archaeological interest, other than articles declared by Coroner's Inquest to be subject to the Treasure Act, discovered in or under the Site during the carrying out of the project by ULAS or during works carried out on the Site by the Client shall be deemed to be the property of ULAS provided that ULAS after due examination of the said Archaeological Discoveries shall transfer ownership of all Archaeological Discoveries unconditionally to the appropriate authority for storage in perpetuity.
- 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 Planning Archaeologist.
- 5.5 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. All materials will be fully labelled, catalogued and stored in appropriate containers.

6. Environmental Sampling

- 6.1. If features are appropriate for environmental sampling a strategy and methodology will be developed on site following advice from ULAS's Environmental Specialist. Preparation, taking, processing and assessment of environmental samples will be in accordance with current best practice. The sampling strategy is likely to include the following:
- 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.
 - Any buried soils or well-sealed deposits with concentrations of carbonised material present will be intensively sampled taking a known proportion of the deposit.
 - Spot samples will be taken where concentrations of environmental remains are located.

- Waterlogged remains, if present, will be sampled for pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and radiocarbon dating provided that they are uncontaminated.
- 6.2 All collected samples will be labelled with context and sequential sample numbers.
- 6.3 Appropriate contexts will be bulk sampled (15 litre or the whole context depending on size) for the recovery of carbonised plant remains and insects.
- 6.4 Recovery of small animal bones, bird bone and large molluscs will normally be achieved through processing other bulk samples or 30 litre samples may be taken specifically to sample particularly rich deposits.
- 6.6 Wet sieving with flotation will be carried out using a York Archaeological Trust sieving tank with a 0.5mm mesh and a 0.3mm flotation sieve. The small size mesh will be used initially as flotation of plant remains may be incomplete and some may remain in the residue. The residue > 0.5mm from the tank will be separated into coarse fractions of over 4mm and fine fractions of > 0.5-4mm. The coarse fractions will be sorted for finds. The fine fractions and flots will be evaluated and prioritised; only those with remains apparent will be sorted. The prioritised flots will not be sorted until the analysis stage when phasing information is available. Flots will be scanned and plant remains from selected contexts will be identified and further sampling, sieving and sorting targeted towards higher potential deposits.

7 Report and Archive

- 7.1 A draft version of the report will normally be presented within four weeks of completion of site works. The full report in A4 format will usually follow within eight weeks. Copies will be provided for the client and the Local Planning Authority and deposited with the Historic Environment Record.
- 7.2 The report will include consideration of:
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the evaluation.
 - The nature, location and extent 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).
- 7.3 A full copy of the archive as defined in the IfA Standard and Guidance for archaeological archives (Brown 2008) will normally be presented to Leicestershire County Council within six months of the completion of fieldwork. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.
- 7.4 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.

8 Publication and Dissemination of Results

- 8.1 A summary report will be submitted to a suitable regional archaeological journal following completion of the fieldwork. A full report will be submitted to a national or period journal if the results are of significance.
- 8.2 University of Leicester Archaeological Services supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at <http://www.oasis.ac.uk> will be completed detailing the results of the project. ULAS will

contact the HER prior to completion of the form. Once a report has become a public document following its incorporation into the HER it may be placed on the web-site.

9 Acknowledgement and Publicity

9.1 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.

9.2 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.

10 Copyright

10.1 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.

11 Monitoring arrangements

11.1 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.

11.2 All monitoring shall be carried out in accordance with the IfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (2008)

11.3 Internal monitoring will be carried out by the ULAS project manager.

12 Timetable and Staffing

12.1 A start date has not yet been formalised but the work is likely to start within the next two weeks. The work is likely to take one to two days to complete and two experienced archaeologists are likely to be present during the work.

12.2 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.

13 Health and Safety

13.1 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.

14. Insurance

14.1 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.

15. Contingencies and unforeseen circumstances

15.1 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.

16. Bibliography

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

IfA, 2008 *Codes of Conduct and Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation.*

Patrick Clay
ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel:0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614

Email: pnc3@le.ac.uk

© ULAS 29-11-2010

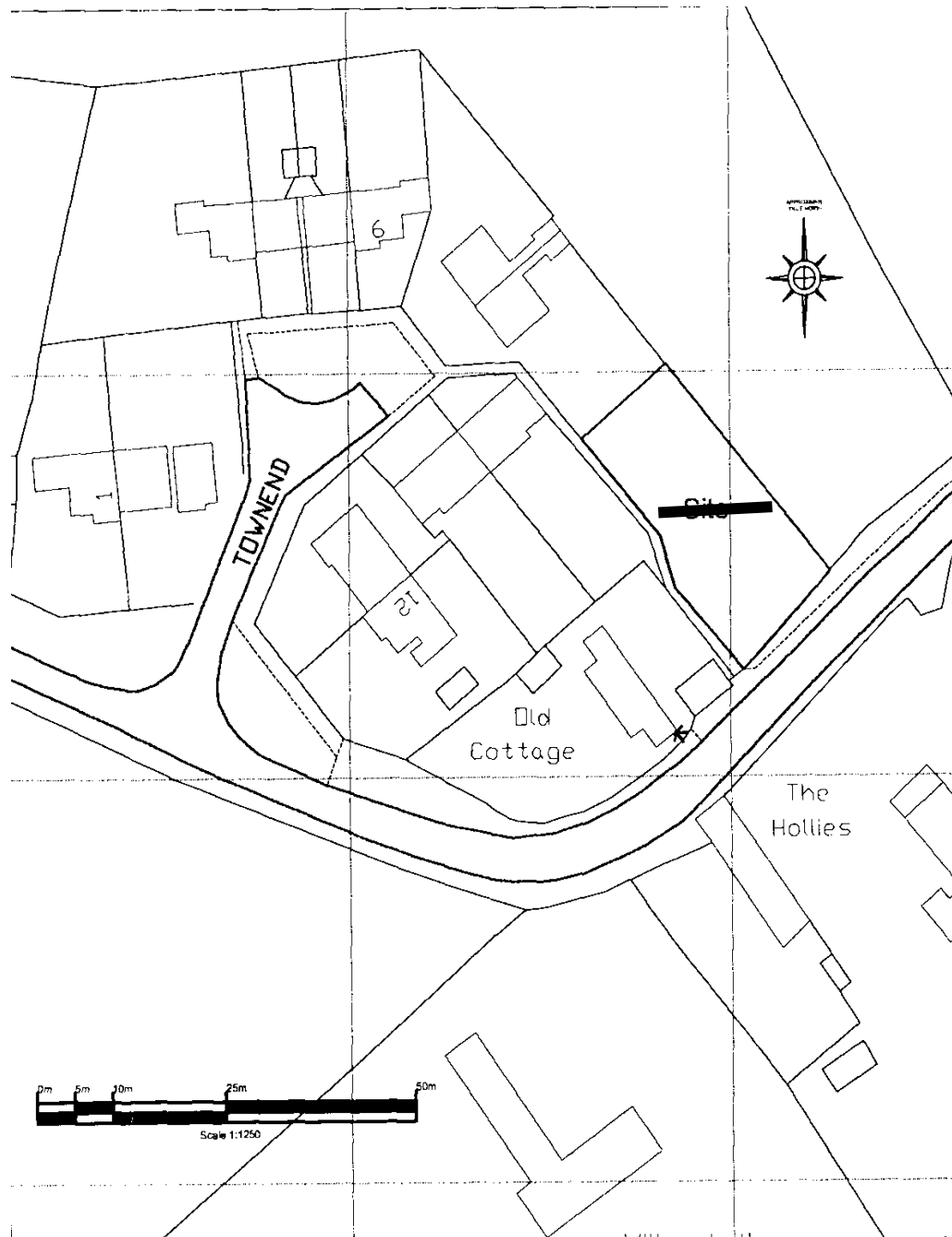


Figure 1 Proposed trench location

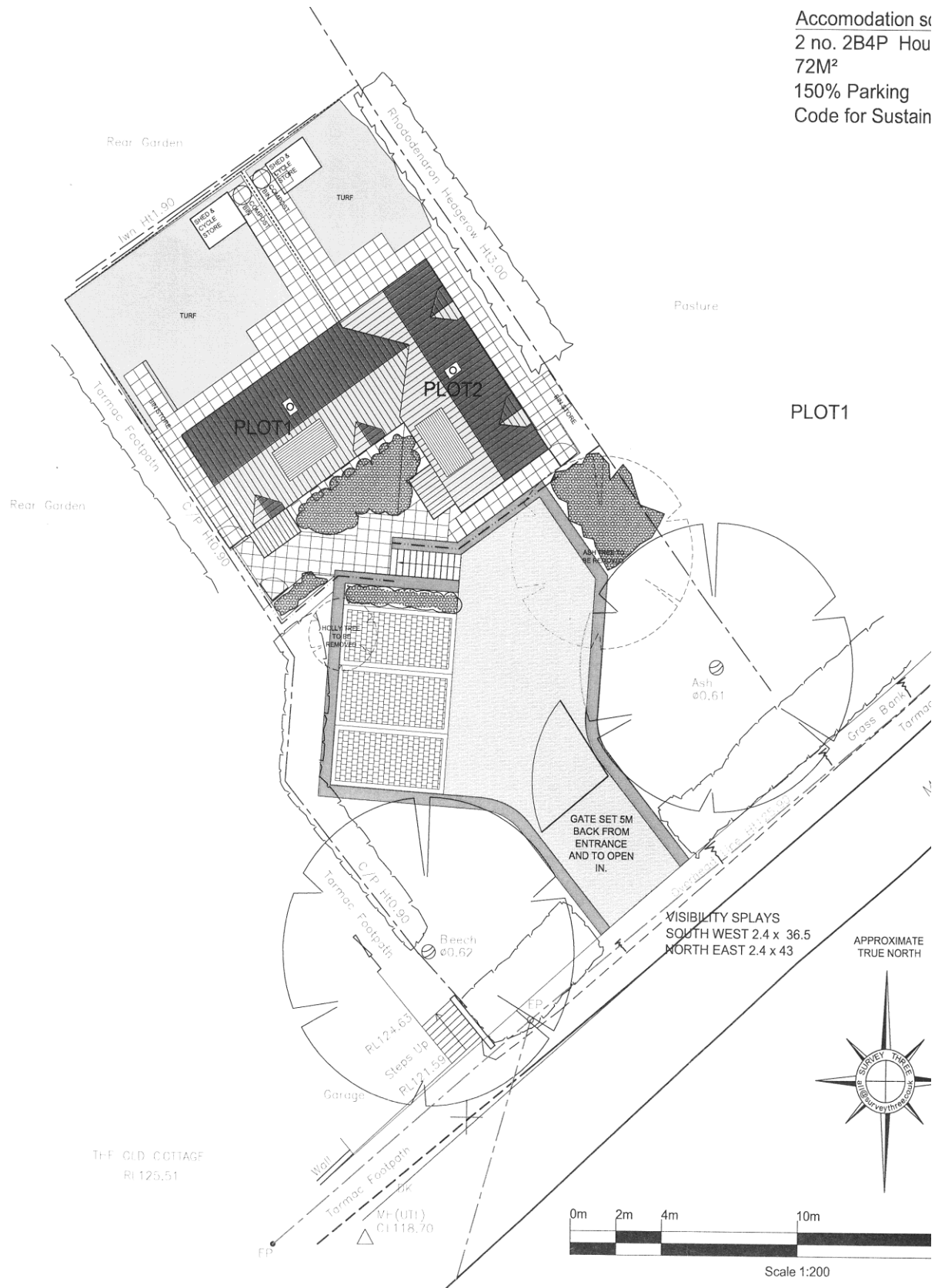


Figure 2 Plan of proposed development.

Contact Details

Richard Buckley or Patrick Clay
University of Leicester Archaeological
Services (ULAS)
University of Leicester,
University Road,
Leicester LE1 7RH

T: +44 (0)116 252 2848

F: +44 (0)116 252 2614

E: ulas@le.ac.uk

w: www.le.ac.uk/ulas



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR 2008/9