



University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Evaluation
By Trial Trenching At 55 Brook Street,
Shepshed, Leicester
NGR: SK 480 200**

Jennifer Browning




**An Archaeological Evaluation By Trial Trenching
At 55 Brook Street,
Shepshed, Leicestershire**

NGR: SK 480 200

Jennifer Browning

For: Mr. Mark Horsley

Approved by	
Signed: 	Date: 10/9/2010.
Name: R. J. Buckley...	

University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH

Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614

ULAS Report Number 2010-090

©2010

X.A80.2010

CONTENTS

Summary	1
Introduction.....	1
Site description, Topography and Geology	2
Historical and Archaeological Background	2
Aims and Objectives	3
Methodology	3
Results.....	3
Discussion.....	6
Archive.....	7
Acknowledgements.....	7
Bibliography	7
Appendix: Design Specification for archaeological work.....	8

FIGURES

Figure 1: Location plan. Based on the 1:50 000 Landranger series. Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL100029495	1
Figure 2: Trench location plan (Based on a survey produced by Greenhatch Group for the client)	4
Figure 3: Foundations and floor surfaces within Trench 1	5
Figure 4: Stony patch observed in Trench 2	6
Figure 5: Extract from the 1884 First Edition Ordnance Survey 25 inch map (Sheet XVII.6) (Reproduced from Sheppard 2010).....	6

Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching at 55 Brook Street, Shepshed, Leicestershire (NGR SK 480 200)

Summary

Two trial trenches were excavated by ULAS on behalf of Mark Horsley in the grounds of a former pub, The Lifeguardsman, Brook Street, Shepshed, Leicestershire in order to establish the nature, extent and significance of any archaeological features which might be present in the proposed development area. The remains of ancillary buildings associated with the pub were observed in trench 1, while a cobbled surface was seen in the second trench. Neither trench produced evidence for pre-modern archaeology. The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service, under Accession Number: X.A80 2010.

Introduction

Archaeological trial trenching was carried out in the grounds of a former pub, The Lifeguardsman, 55 Brook Street, Shepshed, Leicestershire (NGR SK 480 200) on the 10th May 2010. The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5) and was undertaken as part of planning application P/09/2454/2 to provide preliminary indications of the character and extent of any buried archaeological remains in order that the potential impact of development may be assessed by the Planning Authority. The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application area lies in a site of archaeological interest, within the historic core of Shepshed (HER Ref. MLE940).

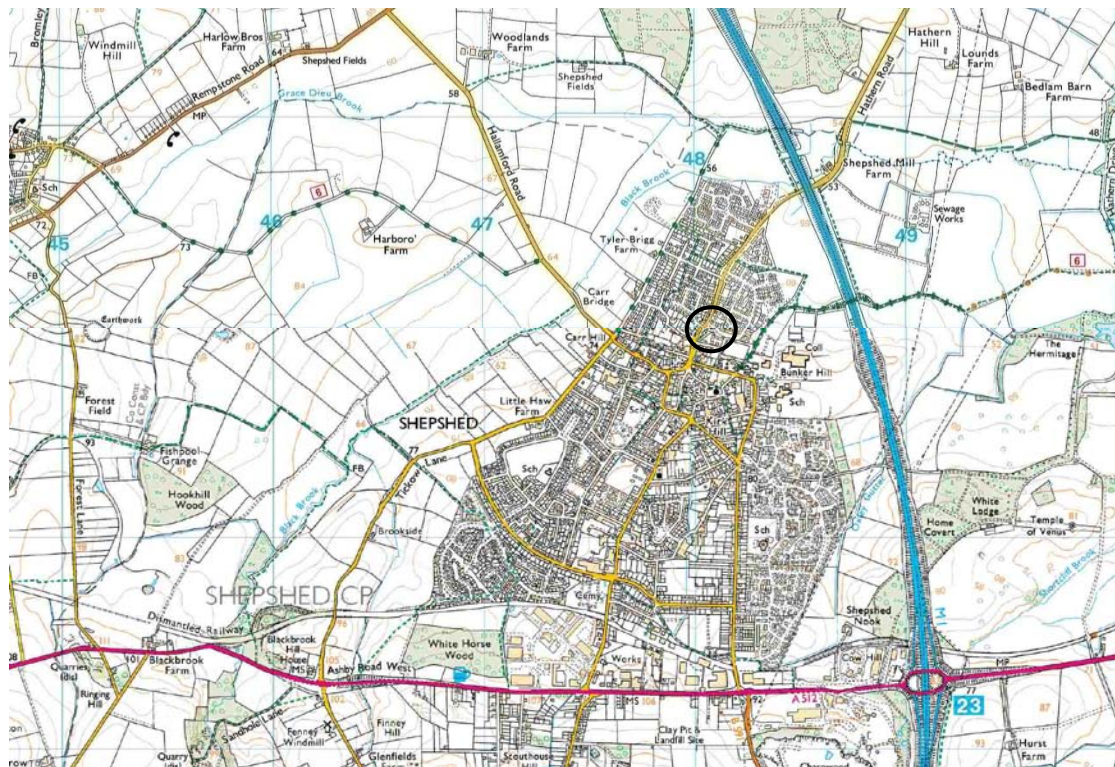


Figure 1: Location plan. Based on the 1:50 000 Landranger series. Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL100029495

Site description, Topography and Geology

The site is located towards the north end of Shepshed and occupies the corner of Brook Street and Countryman's Way, just within the boundary of the Shepshed Conservation Area. It was previously used as a pub beer garden and car park and has evidently been heavily landscaped. The site slopes naturally down from east to west towards the frontage of Brook Street. However, there is also a steep slope from the eastern boundary to the car park, which was until recently heavily shrubbed. The car park occupies the centre of the site, has evidently been levelled and is surfaced in tarmac. Between the car park and the Brook Street frontage, there is a short, steep, westwards slope, followed by a gentler gradient down to the frontage itself. The western side of the site is separated from the car park by a hedge and is generally under grass, with a patio to the centre of the area. According to a survey produced by Greenhatch Group for the client, the site lies at a height of *c.*65.93m O.D. on the eastern boundary and 60.54m O.D. on the western frontage, with the car park at *c.*63.00m O.D.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 141 indicates that the geology of the site is likely to consist of Mudstone with underlying sand and gravel.

Historical and Archaeological Background

Prior to the trial trenching an archaeological desk-based assessment and building appraisal was produced by Trent and Peak Archaeology (Sheppard 2010) and its conclusions are summarised below.

This document examined the potential impact of the development by assembling data from available sources such as the Record Office for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, the Local Studies section of Shepshed and Loughborough Libraries and the Manuscripts department at the University of Nottingham, paying particular attention to previous maps of the site.

The Lifeguardsman public house was probably originally built as a farmhouse in the late 18th century and was first used as a public house in the 1860s (Sheppard 2010, 2). Early Ordnance Survey maps consulted during this work show the existence of buildings on the frontage of Brook Street, in the area formerly used as a beer garden to the north of the pub and also along a now disappeared lane running perpendicular to Brook Street (Sheppard 2010), which is likely to have run through the evaluation area. The buildings were still present at the time of the survey for the 1967 Ordnance survey map (National Grid 1:2500, 1st revision SK4819) but the 2nd revision shows that by 1987, they had been demolished and the car park and beer garden existed in their current form.

Aims and Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation were:

- 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 groundworks
- To report any results and produce an archive

Within these stated objectives, the principal aim of the trial trenching was 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.

Methodology

The topsoil and underlying layers were excavated under continuous archaeological supervision using a JCB 3CX with a 1.6m ditching bucket until either the top of archaeology or the natural substratum/undisturbed ground was reached or to a maximum depth of 1.2m.

The bases of the trenches were cleaned in areas where potential archaeological deposits were observed. Limited excavation was also undertaken in order to determine the character and date of any remains and they were photographed and described and drawn, as appropriate.

All the work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*. The trenches were located by taking measurements to known points and the final plans were completed with the aid of TurboCad v.15 design software.

Results

Figure 2 shows the location of the trenches. No evidence for pre-modern archaeology or stray finds were identified in the trenches.

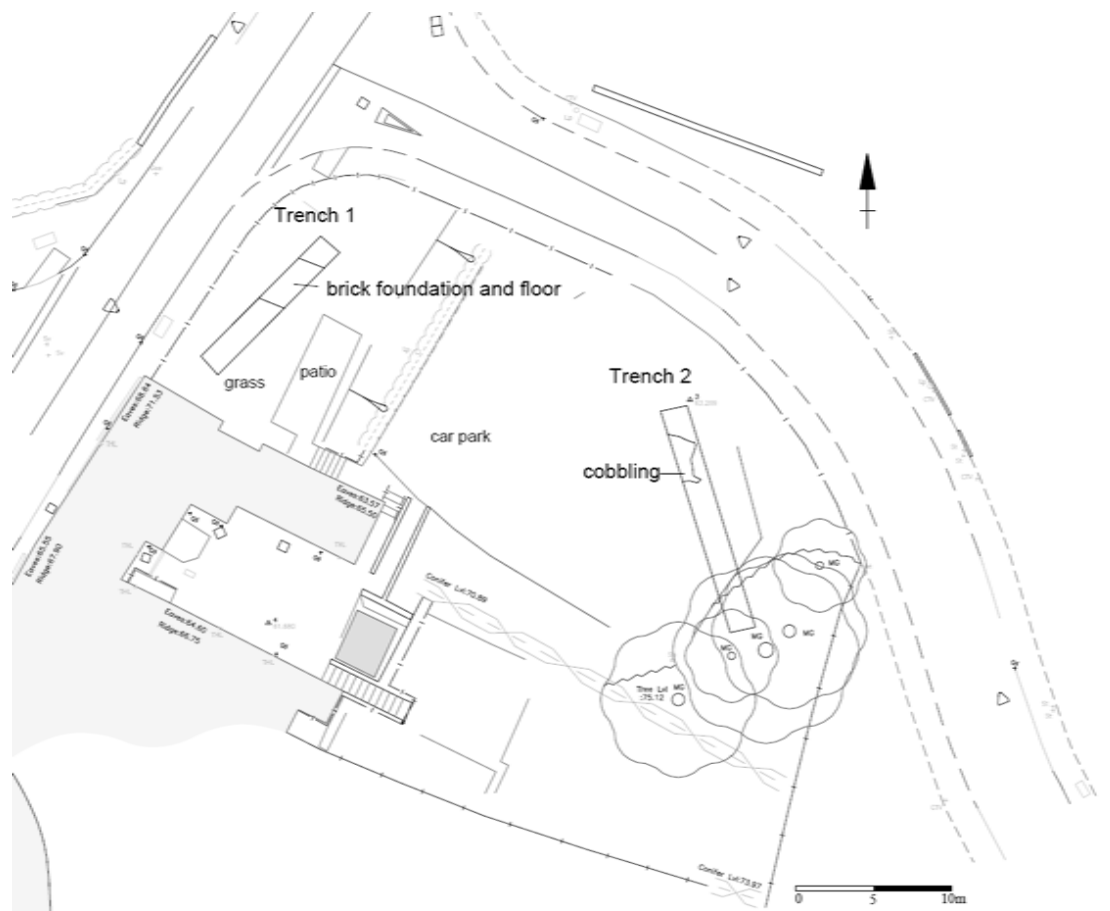


Figure 2: Trench location plan (Based on a survey produced by Greenhatch Group for the client)

Trench 1 was positioned along the frontage of Brook Street on a northeast to southwest alignment. It was excavated to 11m in length, after which the JCB was unable to move further back while remaining within the boundary of the site. The trench was excavated through topsoil, 0.3m thick, consisting of dark-brown silty clay loam with frequent brick and tile fragments and modern rubbish. A thin interface, up to 0.16m thick, of firm clayey-sand was the only evidence of subsoil. The trench depth was 0.56m at the south-west end and at its deepest was excavated to 0.7m towards the north-east end. The natural subsoil, only observed at the south-west, consisted of red-brown clay with patches of reddish-brown sand. At approximately 4m from the south-western end of the trench, brick foundations and a floor surface were encountered, with some tiling still *in situ* (Figure 3). There was compacted mixed rubble at the north-eastern end of the trench, beyond the floor. Investigation indicated that these remains were constructed of well-mortared modern-sized bricks and with deep foundations. These evidently belong to buildings which were present on the Ordnance Survey plans prior to the construction of Countryman's Way and their location suggests that they may be the remains of No 59 Brook Street, which previously occupied the corner of the former lane (Figure 5).



Figure 3: Foundations and floor surfaces within Trench 1

Trench 2 was located towards the rear of the plot, mostly within the former pub car park. The south-eastern end of the trench was excavated into the soft ground of the steep slope at the west of the plot, extending 14.5m north-west. Excavation halted at this point, mainly to avoid trenching across the entrance to the site. Topsoil was present only at the south-east end of the trench and consisted of dark-brown clayey silty loam, 0.38m thick. The surface of the car park comprised tarmac over a layer of mill waste and hardcore. No subsoil was present in the trench and the natural subsoil was encountered at a depth of 0.4m below ground level and consisted of red-brown clay interrupted by patches of reddish brown sand and grey/green degraded mudstone. An irregularly-shaped patch of cobbles was observed at 10m from the end of the trench (Figure 4). Investigation suggested that these large and medium cobbles, together with sandstone and limestone fragments, were pressed into the top of the natural subsoil. Their irregular size and lack of compaction suggested them to be make-up for a road or possibly, yard surface. Examination of the 1884 Ordnance survey map indicates that the former lane ran through this part of the site.



Figure 4: Stony patch observed in Trench 2

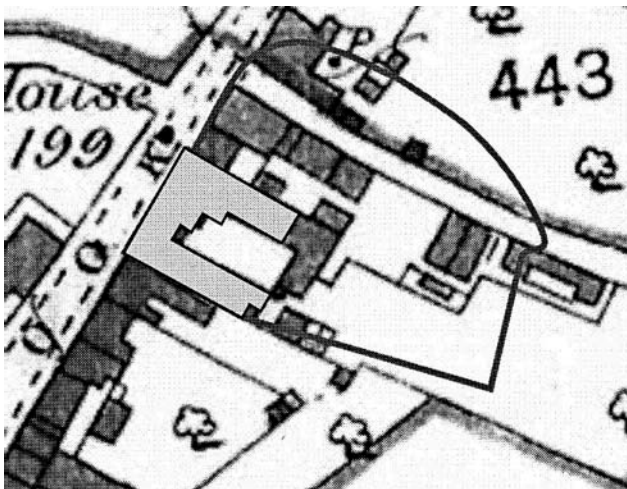


Figure 5: Extract from the 1884 First Edition Ordnance Survey 25 inch map (Sheet XVII.6) (Reproduced from Sheppard 2010)

Discussion

Trial trenching revealed foundations and a floor surface relating to demolished buildings fronting onto Brook Lane. The location of these remains in Trench 1 suggests that they may have belonged to the former No. 59 Brook Street. A stony patch and loose cobbling noted in Trench 2 may be associated with a former lane. No evidence for earlier archaeology was identified and no finds were recovered. The archive will be held by Leicestershire Museums Archaeology Collections, Accession Number pending.

Archive

A full copy of the archive as defined in Brown (2008) includes all written, drawn and photographic records relating to the investigations undertaken.

The archive consists of:

A copy of the report,

2 x trench recording sheets,

Colour digital photographs and black and white negatives and contact sheet,

1 x photographic index,

The Leicestershire Museums Accession Number is X.A80.2010.

The report is 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/>

Oasis Summary

INFORMATION REQUIRED	
Project Name	55 Brook Street, Shepshed
Project Type	Evaluation (Trial Trenching)
Project Manager	Richard Buckley
Project Supervisor	Jennifer Browning
Previous/Future work	Desk-based assessment and building appraisal,
Current Land Use	Car park and beer garden
Development Type	Residential
Reason for Investigation	PPS5
Position in the Planning Process	Planning Application P/09/2454/2
Site Co ordinates	NGR SK 480 200
Start/end dates of field work	10/05/10
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire Museums, Arts and records Service
Site Code	X.A80.2010
Study Area	c. 912m ²

Acknowledgements

The site work was carried out by the author with the assistance of Siobhan Brocklehurst and the project was managed by Richard Buckley.

Bibliography

Sheppard, R., 2010 A desk-based archaeological assessment and building appraisal of the Lifeguardsman public house, 55, Brook Street, Shepshed, Leicestershire Trent and Peak Archaeology report (unpub.)

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

Appendix: Design Specification for archaeological work

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

- *Job title: Shepshed,*

Client: Mark Horsley

Planning Authority: Charnwood Borough Council

Planning application No. P/09/2454/2

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 Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5). 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 for 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 proposed development site is located in Shepshed within the Borough of Charnwood, at to the rear of 55 Brook Street, the former Lifeguardsman Inn. New residential units with associated car parking are to be constructed in the former pub car park.
- 2.1.2 Charnwood Borough Council requested trial trenching 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 (taken from advice letter from R Clark, Leics. County Council)*

- 2.2.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment record (HER) and DBA show that the application site lies in an area of archaeological interest, within the historic core of Shepshed (HER Ref. MLE940). The site has been occupied by a number of former buildings and was also crossed by a former lane and the DBA indicates that the presence and survival of archaeological deposits can be anticipated. Shepshed was an important market centre associated with the wool trade and during the early 19th century the town experienced rapid population growth, having for example 2,500 residents by 1815, a large population for that period. The appraisal, of the Lifeguardsman Inn suggests its construction in the late 18th century or at least post enclosure (c.1778).

- 2.2.2 The Desk-based Assessment (shows the rear of the development site lies well within the plots fronting onto Brook Street shown on plans of the 18th and 19th centuries and it is likely that these plots have an origin in the post-medieval period if not earlier. As such they have the potential to contain evidence of the ancillary activity, e.g. industrial or agricultural processes, that typically occurred behind the street frontages. To that effect, the OS map of the later 19th century indicates structures, on, or immediately to the north of the proposed house footprints (facing Countrymans Way). The report also notes the presence of a 'curvilinear' alignment of field boundaries, possibly indicating a former routeway, shown on aerial photographs of c. 1953; the southern end of the alignment appears to run through the centre/rear of the development site.
- 2.2.3 The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain indicates that the site lies on a gravel terrace of the river Soar while the underlying geology is likely to consist of Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone of Triassic date. The site lies at a height of 44mOD and is fairly flat.

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* (2008).
- 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 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.
- 4.2.2 Trenches will be excavated to a width of 1.6m and down to the top of archaeological deposits. The area of the trenches will be protected by barrier fencing.
- 4.2.3 The trenches will be backfilled and levelled at the end of the evaluation.
- 4.2.4 To evaluate about 5% of the proposed development area, approximately 35 metres of 1.6m-wide trial trench will be investigated, one located on the Brook Street frontage and one in the rear car park (fig. 2).
- 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.
- 4.2.9 The proposed locations of the trenches are shown on figure 2: the former archaeological adviser to Charnwood recommended 'there is no need to trench the central portion of the site, west of the intended building footprints (D) and east of the terrace'. The main constraint to undertaking such an investigation, however, would appear to be the existing tree cover.

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, HER 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 *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 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 10.5.2010 with two staff.
- 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 Authority subject to the health and safety requirements of the site. .
- 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 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

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

Shepherd, R. 2010 *An Archaeological Desk Based assessment and Building Appraisal of the Lifeguardsman Inn, 55 Brook Street, Shepshed, Leicestershire*. Unpub. Trent and Peak Archaeology report.

Richard Buckley
Director

ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel:0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614

Email: rjb16@le.ac.uk

© ULAS 30/4/2010

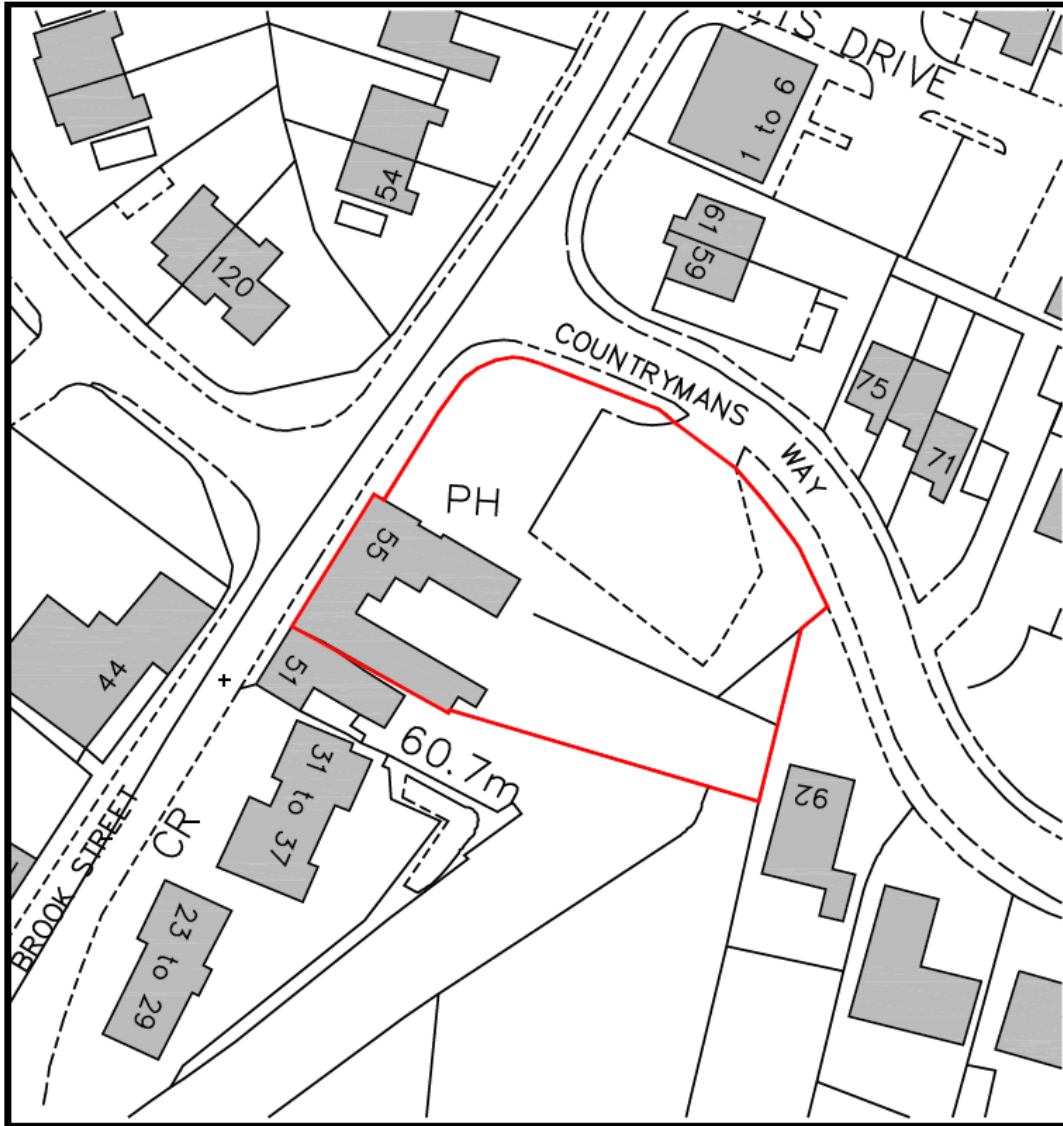


Figure 1 Site Location (not to scale)





Figure 2 Proposed site layout and suggested trench locations. (not to scale)



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 Wiers 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.

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