



University of **Leicester**

Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Evaluation
Wood Gate/Beehive Lane,
Loughborough, Leicestershire
NGR: SK 5365 1934 centre**

Tim Higgins



ULAS Report No 2010-114
©2010

**An Archaeological Evaluation at
Woodgate/Beehive Lane
Loughborough, Leicestershire**

NGR: SK 5365 1934

Tim Higgins

For: Waldron Developments

Approved by

Signed:  **Date:** 1/7/2010..

Name: R.J. Buckley.

University of Leicester
Archaeological Services
University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH
Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614

ULAS Report Number 2010-114

©2010

X.A70. 2010

CONTENTS

Contents

Summary	1
1. Introduction.....	1
2. Site Description, Topography and Geology.....	1
4. Aims and Objectives	2
5. Methodology	3
6. Results.....	5
7. Discussion	10
8. Development impact	11
9. Archive.....	11
Appendix 1.....	5
<i>Deborah Sawday</i>	5
The Pottery and Miscellaneous Finds	5
Appendix 2.....	8
<i>Jennifer Browning</i>	8
Animal Bone	8
<i>Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement</i>	6

FIGURES

Figure 1 Location of the proposed development	2
Figure 2 Trench Locations	4
Figure 3 Trenches 1 and 4	6
Figure 4 Trenches 2 and 3	9
Figure 5 Trench Sections	10

PLATES

Plate 1 Evaluation Trench 1 stone and brick foundations looking north.....	11
Plate 2 Evaluation Trench 3 looking southwest and test slot excavated into possible ditch cut [105] fill (106).....	12
Plate 3 Evaluation Trench 3 looking southwest and test slots across ditch cut [101] fill (100)	13
Plate 4 Evaluation Trench 4 looking north west with test excavated into possible pit cut [142].....	14

An Archaeological Evaluation at Wood Gate/Beehive Lane Loughborough, Leicestershire (SK 5365 1934)

Tim Higgins

Summary

An archaeological field evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken on behalf of Waldron Developments at Woodgate/Beehive Lane, Loughborough, Leicestershire by University of Leicester Archaeological Services in advance of proposed new school buildings. Four trenches were excavated in an area defined as having archaeological potential as it was close to the medieval settlement core of Loughborough. The trial trenching revealed two probable ditches, one late medieval and one early post medieval, together with stone wall foundations possibly associated with cottages of the 18th to 19th centuries. The site archive will be held with Leicestershire Museums under accession code X.A70.2010

1. Introduction

An archaeological field evaluation (AFE) by trial trenching was undertaken on land at the junction of Woodgate and Beehive Lane, Loughborough (SK 5365 1934; Figure 1) by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) in connection with a planning application for the construction of a student accommodation block.

The work was carried out on behalf of Waldron Developments as part of the requirements identified by the planning authority, Charnwood Borough Council, following Planning Policy Statement 5 (Planning for the Historic Environment). The purpose of the AFE was to assess the nature, extent, date and significance of any archaeological deposits in the development area in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the development proposals. This report presents the results of the trial trenching carried out by ULAS in April 2010.

The development site has also been subject to an archaeological desk-based assessment (Flitcroft 2010), which concluded that the application area lies on the southern edge of Loughborough's medieval and latter settlement core and therefore has potential for evidence relating to activity during these periods.

2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

The site is located at the corner of Woodgate and Beehive Lane, Loughborough (SK 5365 1934) and comprises an area of c. 0.12 hectares of level ground at around 44mOD (Figure 2). The site is roughly L shaped and is bounded to north and east by Wood Gate/Beehive Lane. The southern boundary is formed by the Southfield Road and the rear of the properties forming Nos 14-17 Southfield Road. Built development lies to the west.

Until recently the site had been occupied by modern factory/warehouse buildings and tarmac surfaces. These buildings were demolished and the site levelled before being used as a car park.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 141, 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.

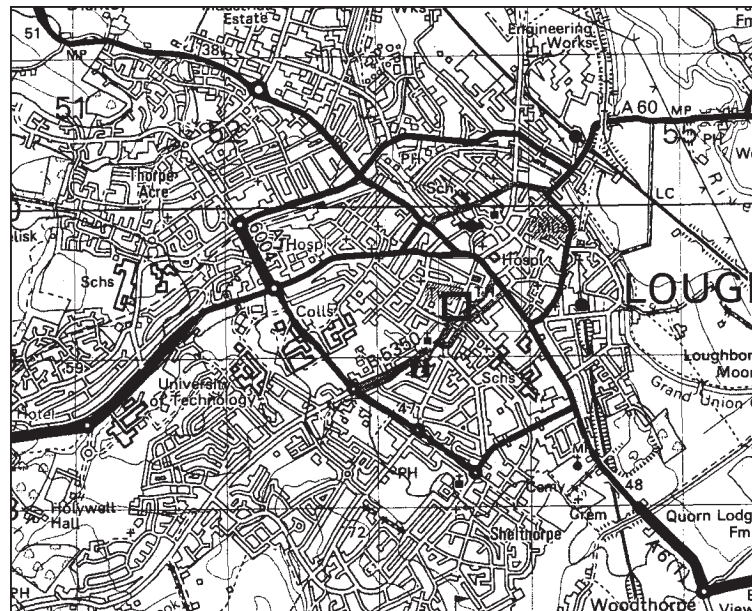


Figure 1 Location of the proposed development

Reproduced from the Landranger 129 Nottingham and Loughborough area 1:50000 map by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright 1996. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 10002187.

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

Archaeological desk-based assessment (Flitcroft 2010) has indicated that the proposed site lies on the southern edge of Loughborough's medieval and latter settlement core and therefore has potential for evidence relating to activity during these periods. Woodgate is believed to have become an integral part of the built up centre in the 16th century, if not before (Postles 2009, 160) and there are references to cottages and tenements, whilst further houses and other structures are being erected nearby at Fishpool Head (south of the market place) in the late 16th and 17th century. Woodgate later became one of the main streets of Loughborough, with large areas of built development being recorded along the sides of the street from at least the 16th Century onwards.

4. Aims and Objectives

The main aims of the evaluation were:

- 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 new development.

- To produce an archive and report of any results

Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation 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.

5. Methodology

The *Design Specification* (Appendix 3) agreed with the Charnwood Borough Council proposed a c. 8% excavation sample of the development area and comprised trial trenching totalling c. 96 sq metres, the equivalent of three 20m x 1.6m trenches to maximum depth of 1.2m (Figure 2). The actual position size and number of the trenches were modified during the excavations in response to the site constraints. The trial trenching would now comprise two trenches 16m x 1.6m, a third 22m x 1.6m and fourth trench 3.00m x 2.00m.

The tarmac surfaces and underlying layers were removed by JCB mechanical excavator under full archaeological supervision until either the top of archaeology or the natural substratum/undisturbed ground was reached, or to a depth of 1.2m.

The bases of the trenches were cleaned in areas where potential archaeological deposits were observed. If archaeological remains were identified, they were to be planned to scale and recorded. Limited excavation would also be undertaken in order to determine the character and date of any remains.

The trenches were located using a Leica EDM and the final plans completed with the aid of TurboCad v.11 design software. Particular attention was paid to potential buried palaeosols in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer. Deposits which may provide possible pollen or insect evidence were sampled.

All the work followed the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*, and the *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service).

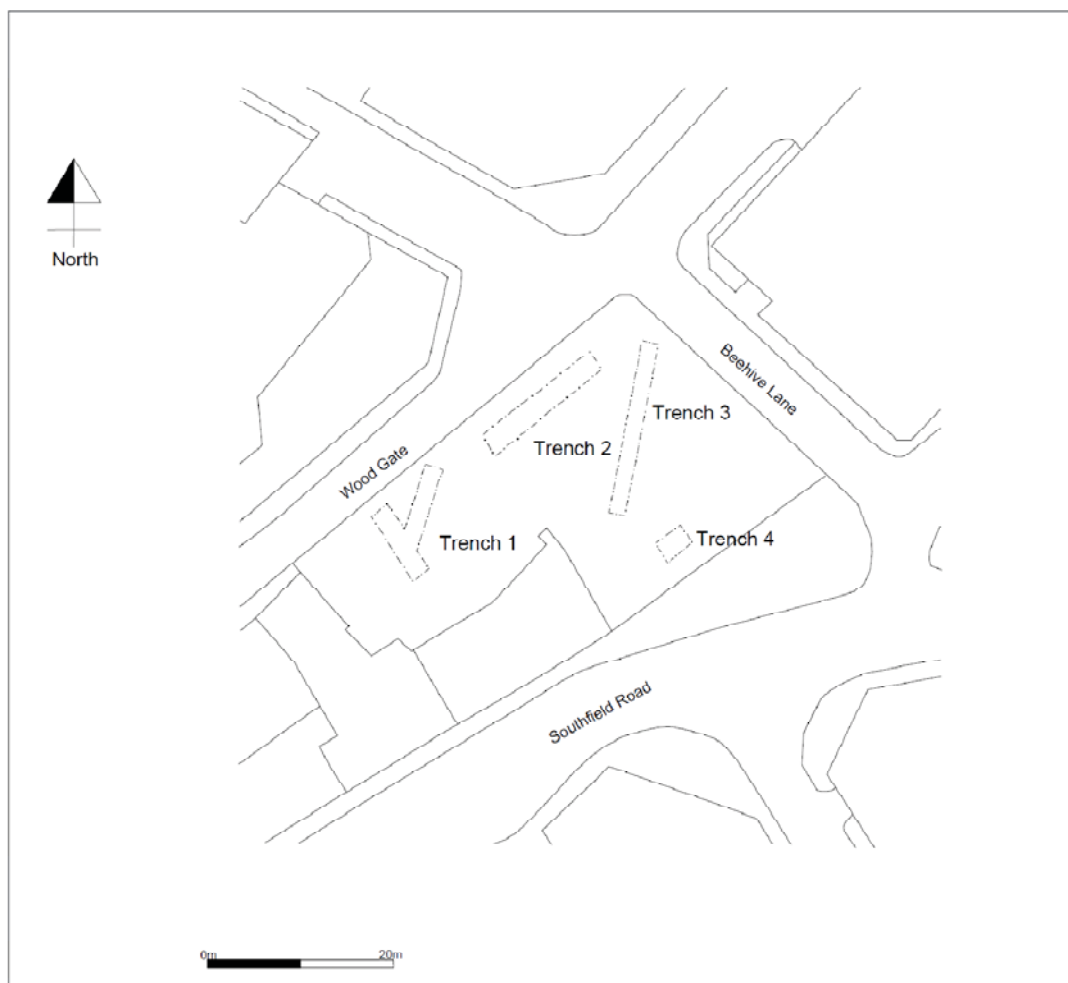


Figure 2 Trench Locations

6. Results

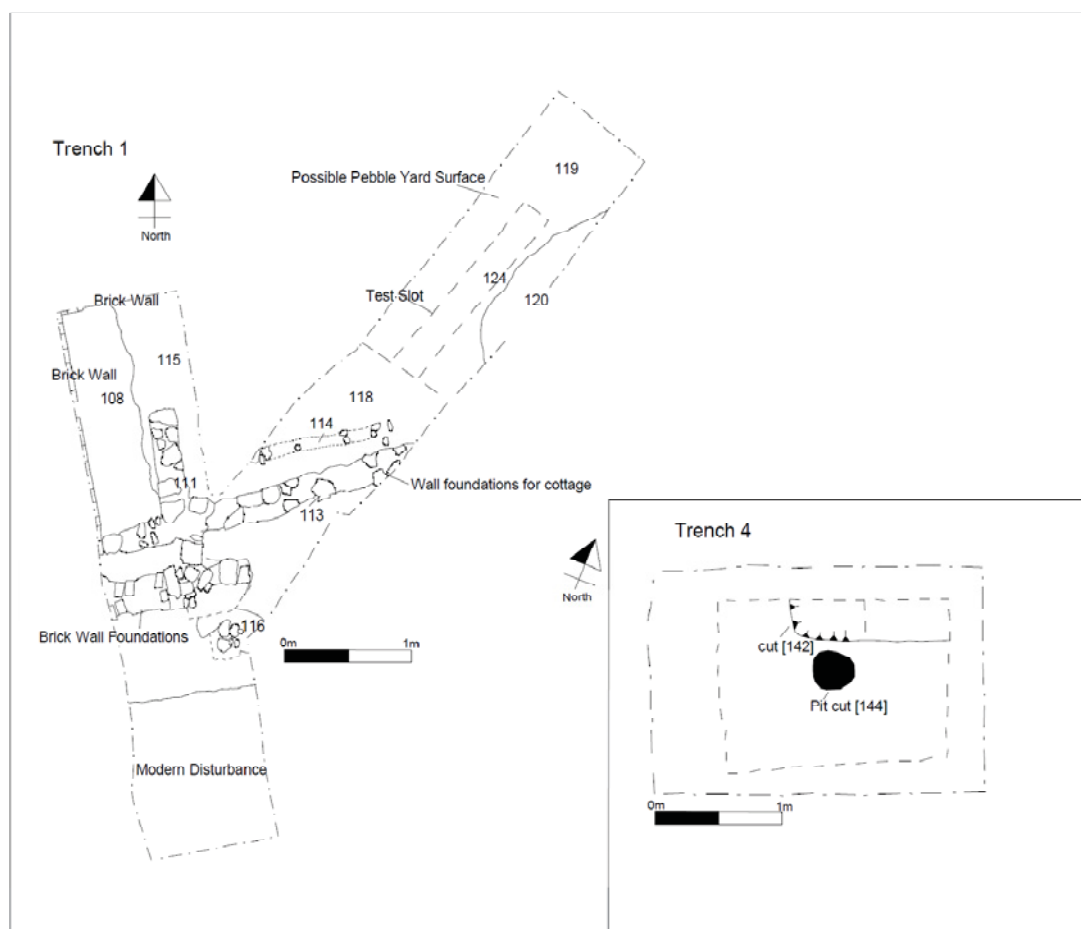


Figure 3: Trenches 1 and 4

Trench 1

Length 16.60m

Width 1.60m

Depth 0.68m minimum 1.18m maximum

Ground level: 44.19m O.D.

Top of archaeology: 43.41m O.D.

Top of natural substratum: not reached

Trench 1 was excavated in the north-west corner of the development site with the aim of targeting potential buildings on the Woodgate street frontage. Although a north-south orientated trench was planned, a large modern drainage pipe was encountered towards the southern end, so the trench was then extended to the north-west back towards the street frontage and away from the service trench.

Natural substratum was not reached within this trench but a subsoil layer (124) was reached at the base of a test slot trench at 42.92m O.D. in the north-east corner (Figure 3). The subsoil layer consisted of reddish-brown sandy silt mixed with occasional fragments of animal bone (Appendix 2). The subsoil was sealed by a layer

of mid-brown clay silt mixed with occasional pebbles and measured 0.50m deep (123). Above this layer was a 0.20m deep spread of pale brown sandy silt (122) over which was a possible bedding layer of pale grey clay, 0.20m deep (121). The latter was sealed by, and supported, a possible cobble surface context (119), which comprised abundant small- and medium-sized rounded pebbles embedded in grey silty clay. A single pottery sherd was found with this deposit which suggested a possible 15th- to early 18th-century date (Appendix 1).

Towards the centre and western side of the trench was a mid-brown clay layer (108 and 118) similar to deposit (121). It was mixed with occasional animal bone (Appendix 2) charcoal flecks and small pebbles and contained pottery of the 17th to 18th centuries. Embedded in this layer towards the centre of the trench was an east-west linear feature measuring 2.70m long and 0.28m wide containing large angular stones (114). This was thought to be a possible wall foundation (Figure 3). A possible stone post pad foundation, contexts (116) and (117), was observed towards the southern end of the trench. The sub-square feature comprised a group of large angular stones bonded together with reddish-orange sandy clay and measured 0.60m long and 0.50m wide. Both the post pad and wall foundation suggest the presence of a post-medieval/early modern building.

Sealing the potential building foundations and surfaces below was a layer of garden soil, contexts (109) (120) and (128). The layer was 0.26m deep and comprised soft friable greyish-brown clay silt mixed with pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. Pottery sherds found within this deposit suggest that it dates from the 18th to 19th centuries. On the western side of the trench, three adjoining stone wall foundations, contexts (112-113), were found cutting the garden soil below and are thought to relate to a house or cottage. All three wall foundations measured approximately 0.40m wide and 0.26m deep, and consisted predominately of large angular stones bonded loosely within yellowish-brown mortar. The remnants of a brick wall were found on top some of the stones. The bricks were fairly coarse and uneven and measured 0.20m long, 0.11m wide and 0.06m deep. A fourth disturbed brick wall foundation was observed at the northern end and a fifth in the western baulk section. Both foundations were thought to be supporting walls for a house or cottage.

The various wall foundations and garden soil layer were all sealed by a demolition rubble layer 0.20m deep, which supported a concrete surface 0.20m thick.

Trench 2

Length: 16.00m

Width: 1.60m

Depth: 0.85m minimum 1.52m maximum

Ground level: 44.12m O.D.

Top of archaeology: 43.27m O.D.

Top of natural substratum: 42.60m O.D.

A second trench was excavated running west to east along the length of the Woodgate frontage area (Figure 2). The natural substratum was reached at depth of 1.52m below modern ground level, and comprised yellowish-brown sands and gravel. The natural appeared to be sealed by possible buried subsoil layer context (131), which comprised pale brown sandy clay silt mixed with occasional charcoal flecks.

This layer measured 0.34m deep. Overlying the subsoil towards the west end of the trench was a 0.04m deep thin orange-brown sandy silt spread (132). This was sealed by a layer of pale brown sand clay (130) which was seen running across the full extent of the trench. The layer was compacted and contained frequent charcoal flecks and measured 0.20m deep. Above context (130) was a 0.10m deep pebble surface layer (126 and 129) which consisted of compacted pale-brown clay silt mixed with frequent pebbles. This potential surface or yard appeared to run the full length of the trench and was dated to the 17th to 18th centuries by associated pottery (Appendix 1). Overlying the pebble surface was a garden soil context (125), which comprised dark greyish-brown sandy clay mixed with charcoal flecks and measured 0.50m deep. This deposit contained pottery sherds of the 18th to 19th centuries (Appendix 1).

Towards the western end of the trench, a rubble stone wall foundation was found running across the trench in a north to south direction, cutting directly into the garden soil layer (125) below (Figure 4). The linear foundation cut (134) was 0.50m deep and 0.45m wide and contained angular stone rubble bonded with yellowish-brown mortar (133). The foundation supported brick wall comprising fairly course and uneven bricks that measured 0.20m long, 0.11m wide and 0.06m deep. Towards the east end of the trench a large pit (136) was found cutting the garden soil and running under the south baulk. The pit had a minimum width of 1.40m and a minimum excavated depth of 1.20m (Figure 5 Section 2.02) and was filled with greyish-brown sand clay silt mixed with frequent charcoal flecks (135). The pit was truncated on the east side by a large modern concrete foundation. Two further modern intrusions were encountered, comprising a rectangular concrete foundation and a brick cellar located respectively towards the western and eastern ends of the trench. The trench was sealed by a stone gravel make-up layer and a concrete surface with a combined depth 0.35m.

Trench 3

Length: 22.00m

Width: 1.60m

Depth: 0.80m.

Ground level: 44.09m O.D.

Top of archaeology: 43.42m O.D.

Top of natural substratum: 43.44m O.D.

Trench 3 was located in the north east corner of the site and orientated south-westwards towards the centre of the site (Figure 2). The natural substratum was reached at depth of 0.80m below the modern surface. Towards the northern end of the trench, two possible west to east oriented boundary ditch features were found. The first ditch cut [101] was located at the north end of the trench and measured 2.00m wide 0.45m deep (Figure 4). A test slot excavated across the linear cut [101] revealed very gradual sloping sides breaking into narrow rounded base (Figure 5 Section 3.03). The ditch contained brown sandy-clay silt fill, context (100), mixed with occasional charcoal flecks and two late medieval pottery sherds (Appendix 1). A second linear feature or ditch cut [105] was found 2.00m further south and had sharp sloping sides. This ditch was 2.00m wide and had a minimum depth of 0.32m. The fill context (104) comprised brown silty sandy clay mixed with occasional charcoal

fleck, pebbles and a single pottery sherd suggesting a possible 16th- or 17th-century date (Appendix 1).

Two possible post holes were found cutting the natural substratum within this trench. The first of these was a small sub-square cut [103] found towards the north-east end of the trench, which had rounded corners and sharp sloping sides breaking into a rounded base. It measured 0.45m long, 0.30m wide and 0.20m deep and was filled with dark greyish brown sandy clay mixed with occasional charcoal flecks and large rounded stones (102). A second post hole was found at the centre of the trench and comprised a sub-circular cut [107] with sharp sloping sides and rounded base. The feature measured 0.50m in diameter and had 0.20m depth. The fill context (106) comprised brown sandy silt clay mixed with occasional charcoal flecks and pebbles. Sealing ditch cut [101] was a 0.08m deep and 2.00m wide spread of ash and charcoal mixed with brown sandy clay and pebbles (138) which contained occasional animal bone fragments.

Overlying the spread and features in the northern half of the trench was a 0.22m deep garden soil context (137), comprising greyish-brown clay mixed with charcoal flecks. In the southern half of the trench various intrusive modern brick cellars or sumps were found truncating the garden soil and had removed any potential features below. The trench was sealed by a brick rubble demolition layer 0.30m deep, which supported a tarmac surface 0.05m thick.

Trench 4

Length: 3.10m

Width: 2.10m

Depth: 1.20m

Ground level: 44.37m O.D.

Top of archaeology: 43.53m O.D.

Top of natural substratum: 43.53m O.D.

This trench was located in the southern half of the site close to Southfield Road and was restricted in length by a large modern basement located directly to the east (Figure 2). In this trench the natural substratum comprised orange-brown sands and gravels and was reached at a depth of 0.84m below the modern surface. A large pit cut [142] was partially revealed at the base of the trench running under the north baulk. The full extent of the pit was not determined but it had a minimum width of 1.50m and a minimum depth of 0.35m and contained brown sandy silty clay mixed with occasional charcoal flecks and modern brick fragments. Overlying the pit was a 0.38m deep brown sandy-clay-silt garden soil (140) which was cut by a possible post-hole or pit [144] located towards the centre of the trench. The oval-shaped cut had steep sloping sides and measured 0.40m long, 0.30m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.38m, but was not bottomed.

A brick wall foundation was observed in the north baulk and consisted of four courses of randomly laid bricks. The bricks measured 0.22m long, 0.10m wide and 0.08m deep. The trench was sealed by 0.30m thick brick rubble layer that supported a concrete surface 0.30m deep.

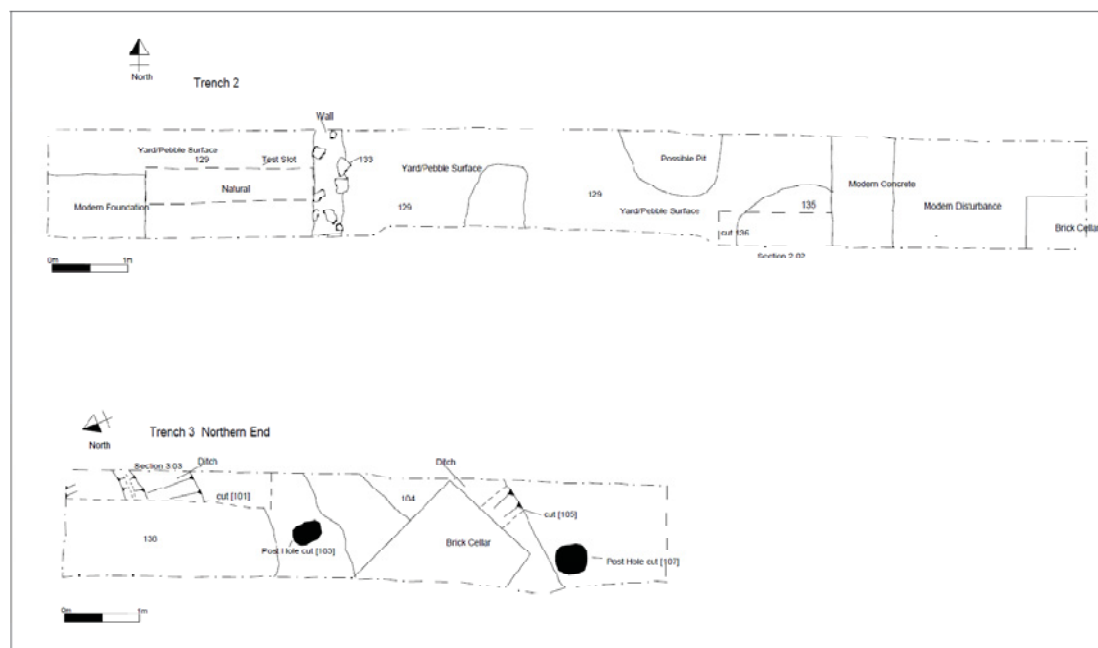


Figure 4: Trenches 2 and 3

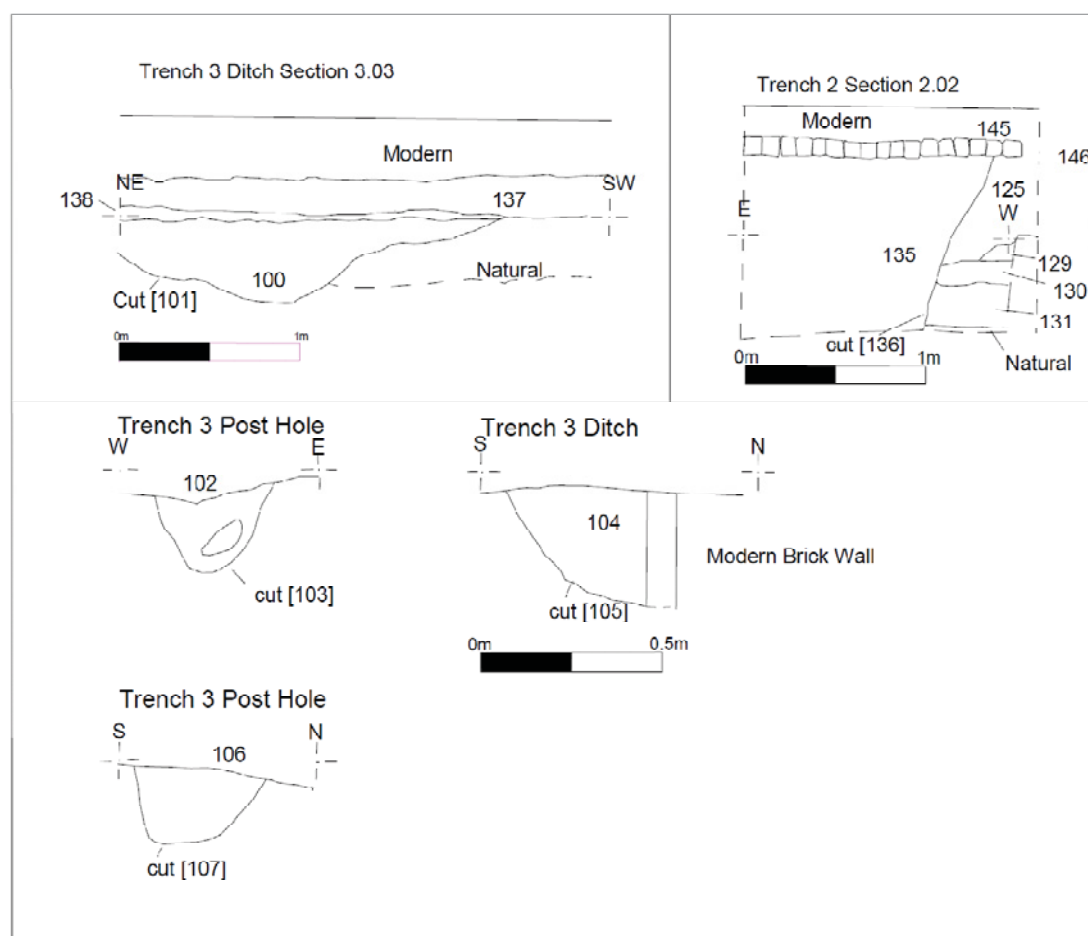


Figure 5: Sections

7. Discussion

The trial trenching undertaken on Wood Gate Beehive Lane development, revealed three potential archaeological phases.

Phases 1 Late medieval to early post medieval

Two possible ditch features were found cutting the underlying natural substratum in Trench 2 and appeared to run parallel with Woodgate. Due to the limitations of trial trenching the full extent of these ditches could not be determined. Pottery from the ditch fills suggested that one ditch could possibly be a late medieval feature whilst the other was perhaps early post-medieval in date. The orientation of the ditches appeared to be west to east, parallel with Woodgate, thought to be a principal street within the medieval settlement core (Flitcroft 2010). An early Loughborough town plan from 1735 depicts fields to the south of Woodgate. The full extent of these features is unknown, however they could have been possible individual property divisions or boundary ditches dividing Woodgate from the fields to the south.

Phase 2 Post medieval

In both Trenches 1 and 2, compacted pebble surfaces were found, suggesting possible cobbled yards. The surfaces appeared to be dirty and mixed with a scatter of animal bone fragments and charcoal flecks suggesting perhaps some domestic occupation and trample. A possible post pad and wall footing were found at the same level as the pebble surfaces in trench 1 indicating presence of possible structures. The pottery sherds found associated with these features suggest they could date from the 17th to the early 18th centuries. The early Loughborough town plan of 1735 suggest that within the development area, there were open spaces and possible cottages located on the west side of the development area fronting on to Woodgate (Flitcroft 2010). The possible yard surfaces and structural foundations found in Trenches 1 and 2 could be associated with the open spaces and structures depicted on that plan.

Phase 3 Modern

A series of substantial stone and brick wall foundations were observed in Trench 1 and a single wall foundation in trench 2. The walls all appeared to be cutting a garden soil layer that may date from the 18th or 19th centuries. Towards the eastern side of the site, either large brick cellars or rainwater collection sumps were found in Trenches 2 and 3.

Plans of the development area from 1837 to 1884 shows an arrangement of terraced buildings along the western side of the Woodgate frontage and a range of buildings along Beehive Lane at the east end of the site (Flitcroft 2010). The various stone and brick wall foundations observed in the trenches may be associated with these buildings. A corner of a large brick basement backfilled with demolition material was observed within the south end of Trench 3 and it is believed that this was once part of the Philharmonic Hall built at the end of the 19th century. The various concrete foundations and floors found in the trenches are probably associated with various warehouse structures which replaced terraced buildings and courtyard buildings in the 1960s.

8. Development impact

Only comparatively limited evidence of activity of the medieval period was detected on the site – just one possible ditch and no other features suggestive of intensive occupation – and it seems likely that the earliest structures are of the 17th-early 18th century. In view of the fact that the development will potentially have an impact on the few remains identified, it is suggested that an archaeological watching brief during groundworks would be the most appropriate strategy to ensure that they are adequately recorded.

9. Archive

A full copy of the archive as defined in the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990), 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 objects) (Roman finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700, 1993) will usually be presented within six months of the completion of the fieldwork. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating to the investigations undertaken.

The archive consists of:

A copy of the report,

Indices

Four trench recording sheets

48 context sheets,

4 plan and section drawing sheets

Digital photos with contact prints, photographic index

Finds comprising of pottery, miscellaneous finds (Appendix 1) and animal bone (Appendix 2).

The site archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council Museum Service under the accession number X.A70.2010

A summary of the work will be published in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course.



Plate 1 Evaluation Trench 1 stone foundations looking north



Plate 2 Evaluation Trench 3 looking southwest with a test slot excavated into possible ditch cut [105] fill 104



Plate 3 Evaluation Trench 3 looking southwest with a test slot excavated across a possible ditch cut [101]



Plate 4 Evaluation Trench 4 looking northwest with a test slot excavated into possible pit

9. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by the author, assisted by David Parker. Richard Buckley managed the project. I would like to thank Mr R Waldron for arranging access for evaluation and for his help and assistance during the evaluation

10. Bibliography

Flitcroft, M., 2010 *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment RG+P, for Waldron Developments Proposed Student Accommodation, Wood Gate, Loughborough CgMs Ltd*

Postles, D., 2009 'The ecological and environmental contours of early modern small town: Loughborough 1540-60' *Trans Leicestershire Archaeol. And Hist. Soc.* 83, 155-176

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)

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)

Tim Higgins
Field Officer
University of Leicester Archaeological Services
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel: 0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614
Email: TH31@le.ac.uk

7.06.2010

Oasis Record

INFORMATION REQUIRED	
Project Name	An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching Woodgate/Beehive Lane, Loughborough
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	Richard Buckley
Project Supervisor	Tim Higgins
Previous/Future work	Previous work: Desk base assessment
Current Land Use	carpark
Development Type	Proposed student flats
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	Requirements planning permission
Site Co ordinates	NGR: SK 5365 1934
Start/end dates of field work	20th to 23th April 2010
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire County Council Museum Service
Study Area	0.12 hectares

Appendix 1

THE POST ROMAN POTTERY FROM AN EVALUATION AT WOODGATE/BEEHIVE LANE, LOUGHBOROUGH

Deborah Sawday

The Pottery and Miscellaneous Finds

The pottery, 43 sherds, weighing 18880 grams, was catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Sawday 1989), (Davies and Sawday 1999). The results are shown below (Tables 1 and 2).

Table 1: The medieval and later pottery by fabric, sherd numbers and weight (grams).

Fabric	Common Name	Sherds	Weight
Late Medieval/Early Post Med			
MP2	Midland Purple ware 2	4	124
CW/MB	Cistercian/Midland Blackware	9	299
	Sub Totals	13	423
Post Medieval			
MY	Midland Yellow	9	623
EA1	Earthenware 1	6	312
EA3	Mottled ware	3	55
EA6	Black ware	5	272
EA7	Slip ware	1	16
	Sub Totals	24	1278
Post Medieval/Modern			
EA2	Earthenware 2/Pancheon ware	4	169
EA10	Fine White Earthenware	2	10
	Sub Totals	6	179
Totals		43	1880

Context 100 produced two sherds of late medieval Midland Purple ware, fabric MP2, and a single sherd, a possibly early example of the Earthenware fabric EA2, perhaps dating from the 16th or 17th centuries, was recovered from context 104. The three sherds from context 119 may be similarly early in date although Midland Blackware has a terminal date of *c.*1725. However, the dating evidence is limited by the very small size of the pottery assemblages from these contexts.

The majority of remainder of the contexts with pottery, the layers 108, 125, 126, and 127 all contained post medieval wares, fabrics EA3, EA6, EA7, with a possible terminal date in the 17th or the 18th centuries. Two fragments of modern fine White Earthenware, fabric EA10, as well as post medieval pottery were retrieved from context 128.

Looking at the assemblage as a whole, the range of vessel forms, predominantly bowls, jars and drinking vessels, is typically domestic in nature. The range of wares is also typical of that found in the locality, most of the late medieval and post medieval coarse earthenwares probably originating from production centres based at Chilvers Coton in Warwickshire and Ticknall in Derbyshire, although sources further afield

cannot be ruled out. It seems likely, for instance, that the relatively uncommon Slipware drinking vessel, fabric EA7, from context 125, is a product of the extensive pottery industry base at Stoke-on-Trent, where similar vessels have been recorded and dated from c.1640 to c.1670 (Kelly 1975, fig.2.1, fig.2.5, 12 - 13).

Table 2: The medieval and later pottery and the miscellaneous finds by context, fabric/material, numbers and weight (grams).

Context	Fabric/Ware	Nos	Grams	Comments
POTTERY				
100 T3	MP2 – Midland Purple 2	2	47	Body sherds – late medieval.
104 T3	EA2– Earthenware 2	1	104	Hollow ware – possibly a jar, purplish brown glaze exterior, ? early - 16/17th C+
108	CW/MB – Cistercian/ Midland Blackware	1	7	Cup handle, late medieval early post medieval.
108	MY – Midland Yellow	1	10	Oxidised body, c.1500-c.1725.
108	EA2 – Earthenware 2	1	25	Glazed internally –a jar, 17th. 18th C+.
108	EA6 – Earthenware 6	1	1	c.1650-1750
119	CW/MB	2	25	Handle stub from a hollow ware vessel, probably a cup, mug or jug, c.1450-1750.
119	EA1– Earthenware 1	1	6	Oxidised, brown glaze – 16th/17th C.
125 T2	CW/MB	3	186	Joining sherds, base and lower half of a hollow ware vessel with pronounced rilling and 2 handles to one side - a drinking vessel or tyg. Dark brown/black glaze. c.1450-1750
125 T2	MB – Midland Blackware	1	10	Thin walled, black glaze
125 T2	MY	2	437	Base and rim of a bowl with a flanged rim, Woodfield form Oa, (Woodfield 1984) – oxidised, c.1500-c.1725.
125 T2	MY	2	79	Base and body sherds, oxidised.
125 T2	EA1	2	256	Hollow ware
125 T2	EA1	3	50	Includes an abraded jar rim
125 T2	EA2	1	27	Brown glaze internally, possibly early, ?16th – 17th C
125 T2	EA6	2	171	Internally glazed base & body, c.1650 – 1750.
125 T2	EA7 - Slipware	1	16	Simple upright rim and upper wall of an elaborately decorated wheel thrown hollow ware vessel, with a pale buff body firing yellow under a lead glaze and trailed slip decoration in pale and dark brown clays.

				Similar pots, thought to be drinking vessels, are dated from c.1640 to 1670 at Burslem, Stoke on Trent, (Kelly 1975, fig.2.1, fig.2.5, 12 - 13), and a general date from the mid or later 17th century seems likely.
125 T2	MB	1	62	Complete base from a drinking vessel, probably a cup or tyg.
126 T2	MP2	1	61	
126 T2	EA3 – Mottled ware	1	44	Base of an internally glazed hollow ware vessel, c.1650-1780.
127 T3	MP2	1	16	
127 T3	EA6	1	44	Wide mouthed bowl rim, c.1650-1750.
128 T1	CW/MB	1	9	
128 T1	MY	1	53	Profile of a shallow bowl, Woodfield form Nb (Woodfield 1984). Oxidised, burnt post deposition, c.1500-c.1725.
128 T1	MY	3	44	Oxidised
128 T1	EA2	1	13	
128 T1	EA3	2	11	
128 T1	EA6	1	56	Part of a massive squared bowl rim.
128 T1	EA10 – Fine White Earthenware	2	10	One transfer printed blue under glaze, modern.
MISCELLANEOUS				
124	Plaster	1		
125	Glass	1		
126	Earthenware	3		Ceramic building material, probably roof tile
128	China Clay	1		Tobacco pipe stem

Bibliography

Barker, D., 1986 'North Staffordshire post-medieval ceramics – a type series. Part two: Blackware' *Staffordshire Archaeological Studies* **3**, 58-75.

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.

Kelly, J.H., 1975. 'Post Medieval Pottery from Newcastle St, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent SJ867 498' in *City of Stoke-on-Trent Museum Archaeology Society, Rep.* **8**. 1975, 11-20. .

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

Woodfield, P. 1984 'Midland Yellow Ware' *Newsletter West Midlands Pottery Research Group* **2**

Site/ Parish: Woodgate/Beehive Lane, Loughborough, Leics. Accession No.: XA70 2010 Document Ref: loughborough4.docx Material: pottery & misc. finds	Submitter: T. Higgins Identifier: D. Sawday Date of Identification: 30.4.2010 Method of Recovery: evaluation Job Number: 10-149/site village core
--	---

Appendix 2

THE ANIMAL BONE FROM EVALUATION AT WOODGATE/BEEHIVE LANE, LOUGHBOROUGH

Jennifer Browning

Animal Bone

A rapid scan of the animal bone was carried out, primarily to assess preservation and variety and therefore provide an indication of the faunal potential. The bones are believed to date to the early post-medieval period. The small quantity of bone recovered was fragmented and had suffered some surface abrasion. Only cattle bones were positively identified in the assemblage. It may be significant that all of the bones recovered are from large mammals; no bones from medium-sized (such as sheep and pigs), small mammals, birds or fish were observed. While it is not unusual for very small species to be absent from hand-recovered assemblages, the lack of medium-sized mammals is surprising, even for such a small sample, and may suggest that preservation of bone on the site is fairly poor.

Trench	Context	No fragments	Description
	124	5	Large mammal shaft fragments
2	125	6	Several fresh breaks. Cattle radius and large mammal humerus
2	126	1	Large mammal thoracic vertebrae fragment
3	127	2	Large mammal rib and mandible fragment

Summary of the animal bone recovered during trial trenching, arranged by context number

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

- ***Job title: Loughborough: Woodgate/Beehive Lane: Proposed Student Accommodation***

Client: Waldron Developments

Planning Authority: Charnwood Borough Council

Planning application No. P/09/1957/2

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). 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 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 Loughborough, within the Borough of Charnwood, at the junction of Woodgate and Beehive lane. It consists of an area of c.0.12 ha within which it is proposed to construct student accommodation.
- 2.1.2 Planning permission has been sought for the construction of a student accommodation block.
- 2.1.3 Leicestershire County Council, Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCCHNET) as former archaeological advisors to the planning authority have requested an evaluation by 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

- 2.2.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared for the area (Flitcroft 2010). The Leicestershire Historic Environment Record indicates that the proposed site lies on the southern edge of Loughborough's medieval and later settlement core and therefore has potential for evidence relating to activity during these periods. Woodgate is believed to have become an integral part of the built up centre in the 16th century, if not before (TLAHS 2009, 160) and there are references to cottages and tenements, whilst further houses and other structures are being erected nearby at Fishpool Head (south of the market place) in the late 16th and 17th century. Woodgate later became one of the main streets of Loughborough, with large areas of built development being recorded along the sides of the street from at least the 16th Century onwards.
- 2.2.2 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 1.5m 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 The application area covers *c.* 0.12ha. A *c.* 8% sample of the area is the equivalent of three 20m x 1.6m trenches totaling *c.* 96 sq. m. (Fig. 2). 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, 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 20.4.2010 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 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)

Flitcroft, M 2010 *Archaeological Desk-based Assessment RG+P, for Waldron Developments Proposed Student Accommodation, Wood Gate, Loughborough ULAS Report 2002-121*
Postles, D., 2009

Postles D., 2009 'The ecological and environmental contours of an early modern small town: Loughborough 1540-60' *Trans Leicestershire Archaeol. And Hist. Soc.* 83, 155-176

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 16/4/2010

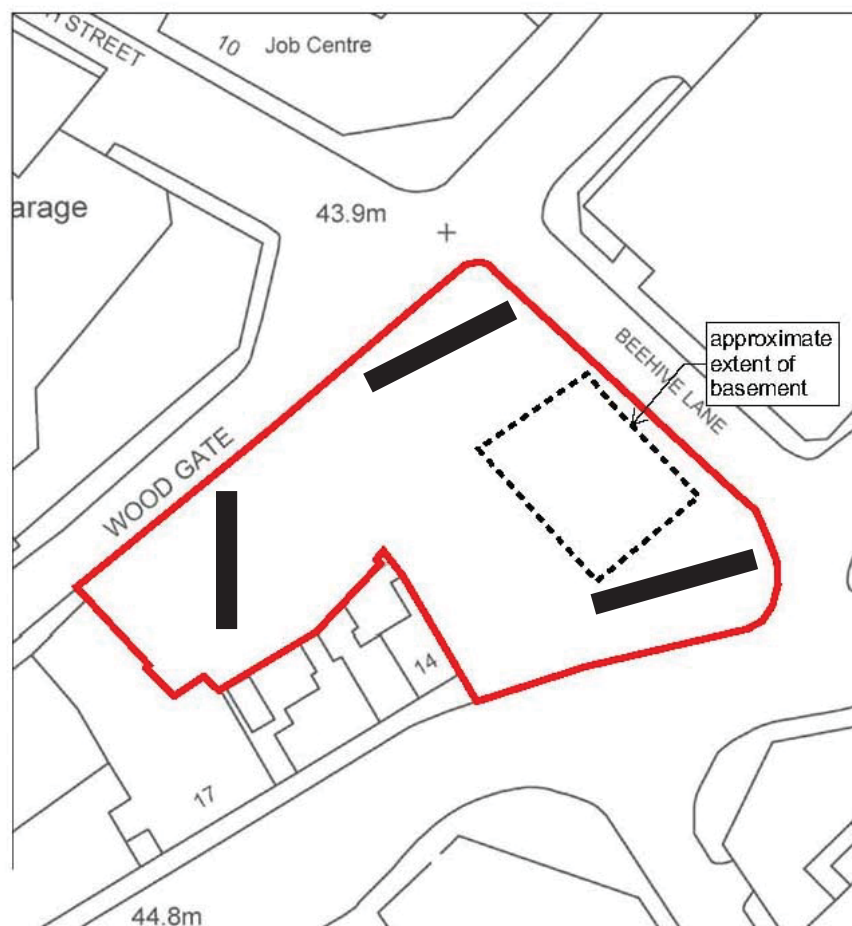


Figure 1 Site Location and proposed trench locations

↓
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 Wile's 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

