

**An Archaeological Watching Brief during groundworks for  
the proposed Enderby Park & Ride Installation, Leicester  
Lane/St Johns, Enderby, Leicestershire (SP 5111 9958)**

**PA 2006/0967/01**

Martin Shore

For:

**Leicestershire County Council**

**Checked by Project Manager**

**Signed:** .



**..Date:** 29.01.2009

**Name:** ..Patrick Clay..

**University of Leicester**  
Archaeological Services  
University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH  
Tel; (01160 252 2848 fax: 0116) 252 2614

ULAS Report No. 2009-11

©2009

## **CONTENTS**

1	Summary	1
2	Introduction	1
3	Aims & objectives	1
4	Methodology	2
5	Results	2
6	Conclusion	4
7	Archive and Publication	4
8	Bibliography	6
9	Acknowledgements	6
10	OASIS Record	7
Appendix:	Design Specification	8

## **ILLUSTRATIONS**

Figure 1:	Location map	2
Figure 2:	Location of watching brief and detected finds	

## **PLATES**

Plate 1:	General view of excavations looking south-west	4
Plate 2:	Area of the possible Roman road metalling	5
Plate 3:	Area of silt, probably a plough furrow, looking north-east	5
Plate 4:	The medieval seal matrix.	6

## **An Archaeological Watching Brief during groundworks for the proposed Enderby Park & Ride Installation, Leicester Lane/St Johns, Enderby, Leicestershire (SP 5111 9958)**

*Martin Shore*

### **1. Summary**

*An archaeological watching brief was carried out between the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008 by the University Of Leicester Archaeological Services, (ULAS), at the proposed Enderby Park & Ride scheme car park Leicestershire (SP 5511 9958; Planning Application PA 2006/0967/01) during the construction of a pathway. Possible road metalling was observed which may be associated with Fosse Way Roman road. Finds and records will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums (XA6.2006).*

### **2. Introduction**

This document provides the results of a watching brief undertaken during groundworks for the construction of a footpath in connection with a planning application for the construction of a Park and Ride car park with waiting facility at land west of St Johns and south of Leicester Lane, Enderby, Leicestershire (SP 5111 9958) by Leicestershire County Council, Highways Section.

The area lies within an area with known Iron Age and Roman remains. In view of this the Senior Planning Archaeologist as adviser to the planning authority has requested a programme of archaeological work. Geophysical survey and evaluation has been undertaken for the area (Harvey 2006; Heard 2006). On the basis of the evaluative work an archaeological excavation covering two areas was undertaken in 2008 which located Iron Age – Roman ditch systems and Roman burials (Harvey forthcoming). This phase of archaeological work involved the attendance (a watching brief) during the construction of a footpath within the development area. The work addressed the requirements of the *Brief for the Archaeological Excavation and Attendance (watching brief) of land between Leicester Lane and St Johns, Enderby, Narborough, Leicestershire* (Leicestershire County Council Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCC HNET) 15.10.2007 hereinafter the 'Brief'). The watching brief followed the design specification approved by LCC HNET (Appendix 1).

The footpath construction was aligned north to south and located to the west of the development area (Fig.2).

### **3. Aims & objectives**

The aim of the archaeological watching brief was:

1. To identify the presence/absence of any earlier building phases or archaeological deposits.
2. To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
3. To record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the groundworks.
4. To produce an archive and report of any results.

The work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*, and adhered to the ULAS Health and Safety policy (2007).

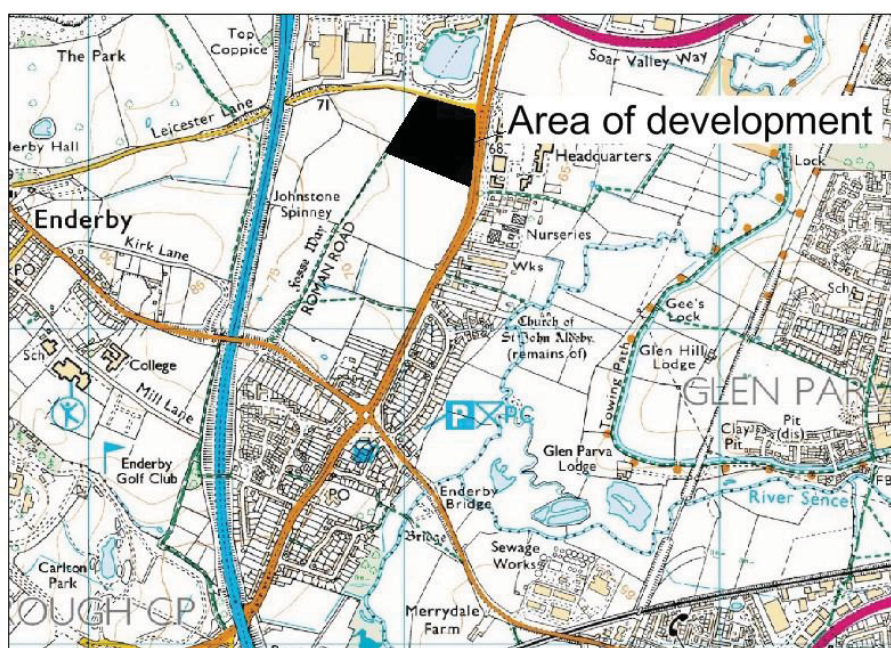


Figure 1: Location map

#### 4. Methodology

The project involved the supervision of overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the construction of the footpath. Any archaeological deposits located were hand cleaned and planned as appropriate, while samples of any archaeological deposits located were to be hand excavated. A metal detector survey with a Viking 10 metal detector was carried out within and around the footprint of the proposed bedding trench of the paved footpath prior to excavation. The watching brief also involved the spoil being searched for finds.

#### 4. Results

During the comprehensive attendance between the 9th to the 12th of December 2008, the groundworks in preparation for the construction of a paved footpath were examined. Prior to the watching brief the metal detector survey was undertaken but with negative results.

Following the metal detecting survey a single linear bedding trench was excavated using a 360 mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m wide ditching bucket. This was aligned north-east to south-west and parallel to the projected line of the Fosse Way roman road. The trench was 3m in width, and over 160m in length within which the topsoil was reduced in level spits to a depth of 0.30m into the subsoil which was in turn reduced by a maximum of approximately 0.05m. Within the trench a medium grey brown silty topsoil formed a deposit approximately 0.25 -0.30m in depth. Medium yellow brown silty clay subsoil was observed directly beneath the topsoil. No underlying deposits or natural substratum was observed during the excavation of the bedding trench.

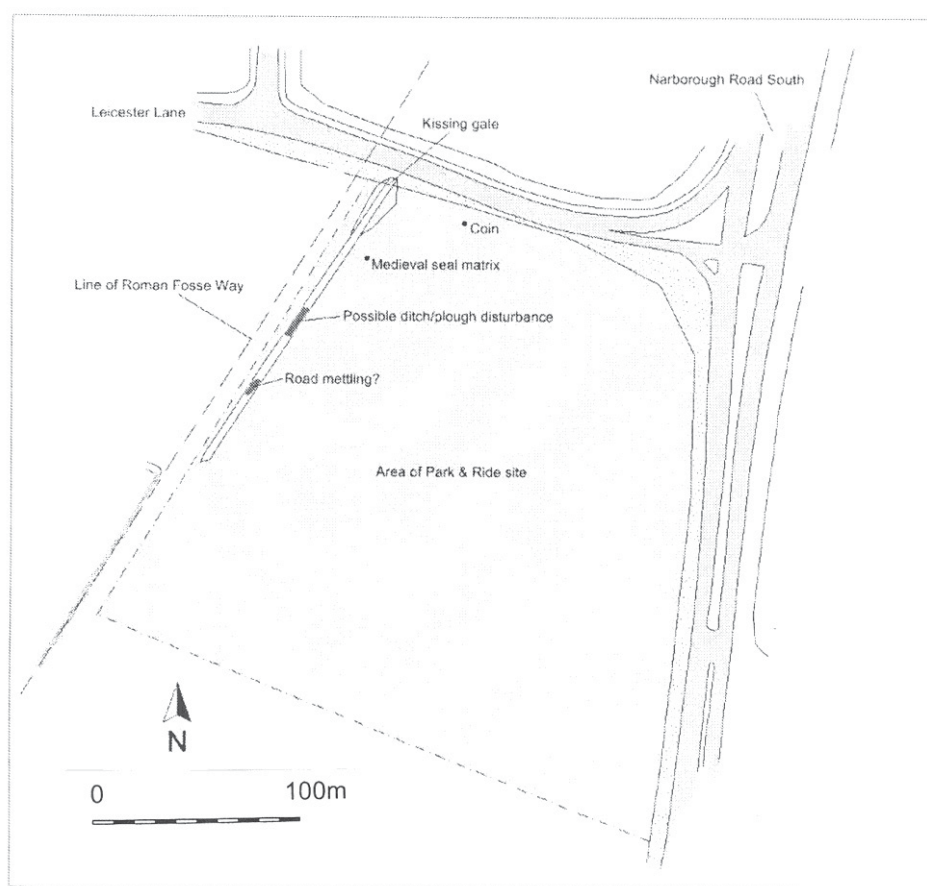


Figure 2: Location of the watching brief also showing location of metal finds

At the north-east end, the width of the bedding trench was increased to 7m to provide support for a rise in gradient up to the south side of Leicester Lane, where the footpath was to meet the main road at the point where a new kissing gate was to be constructed (see figure 2). A single modern clay cylindrical field drain traversing west to east across the trench was observed approximately 20m from the north end of the trench.

At 70m from the north end of the trench, a dark area of silt was located cutting the natural subsoil. This feature was 4.50m in width and appeared to run north-west to south-east across the trench, and although this was thought at first to be a ditch, further investigation suggests that it may be the base of a medieval furrow. It is along the same alignment as furrows located during the evaluation (Harvey 2006, 24). Further south from this feature a spread of pebbles were seen at a depth of 0.30m within the subsoil.

A further metal detecting survey was carried out immediately to the east of the main excavation area. This located a 14<sup>th</sup> century bronze medieval seal matrix, with a bird motif, and a George II halfpenny, both in corroded condition (Figure 2; Plate 4).

## 6. Conclusions



The watching brief revealed little evidence of archaeological deposits, with the probable exception of the pebbled area. This may have been part of plough disturbed metalling from the Roman Fosse Way, although the road is known from earlier evaluation work to be at least 10m further west (Harvey 2006). In those evaluation trenches metalling deposits appeared restricted to a distribution over and along the projected line of the Fosse way and sealing the residual remains of the Roman road. If this is derived from the road metalling it would indicate considerable plough dispersion.

The other soils and subsoils identified during the watching brief are consistent with those located during the earlier evaluation (Harvey 2006). The medieval seal may have derived from medieval manuring on to the open fields.

## **7. Archive**

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums with accession number XA6 2006 and consist of the following:

Two metal finds  
Two watching brief recording sheets  
38 digital photographs.



Plate 1: Excavations looking south-west.

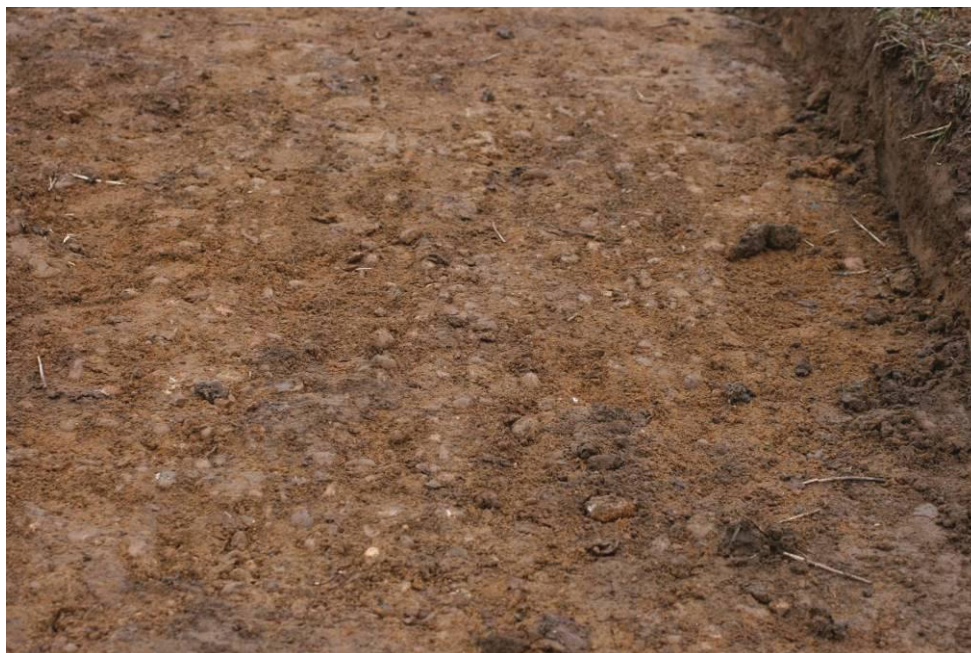


Plate 2: Area of the possible road metalling.



Plate 3: Area of silt, probably the base of a furrow, looking north-east





Plate 4: The medieval seal matrix.

## 8. Bibliography

Harvey, J. 2006 *An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching at the Proposed Leicester Park and Ride Scheme Site 35, Leicester Lane, Enderby, Leicestershire NGR: SP 5111 9958 (centre)* ULAS Report 2006-023.

Harvey, J. forthcoming *An Archaeological Excavation at the Proposed Leicester Park and Ride Scheme Site 35, Leicester Lane, Enderby, Leicestershire NGR: SP 5111 9958 (centre)* ULAS Report.

Heard, H., 2006 *Geophysical survey report: Aylestone Park and Ride Scheme*. Stratascan Report J2099

## 9. Acknowledgments

ULAS would like to thank Leicestershire County Council and the developers for their help and co-operation. The watching brief was undertaken by Dan Stone and Martin Shore who also carried out the metal detector survey. The project was managed by Patrick Clay.



**10. OASIS Record**

<b>INFORMATION REQUIRED</b>	
Project Name	An Archaeological Watching Brief during groundworks for the proposed Enderby Park & Ride Installation, Leicester Lane/St Johns, Enderby, Leicestershire (SP 5111 9958)
Project Type	Watching brief
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	John Stone/Martin Shore
Previous/Future work	Geophysical survey (Heard 2006); Evaluation (Harvey 2006)
Current Land Use	Arable farmland
Development Type	Park and ride installation
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	SP 5111 9958
Start/end dates of field work	December 2008
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire Museums
<b>Study Area *</b>	c. 620 square metres

Martin Shore  
 ULAS  
 University of Leicester  
 University Road  
 Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel:0116 252 2848  
 Fax: 0116 252 2614  
 Email: pnc3@le.ac.uk

29.01.2009

## Appendix Design Specification

### UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

#### Design Specification for archaeological work

*Job title: Enderby, St Johns/Leicester Lane, Leicestershire*

*NGR: SP 5111 9958*

*Client: Leicestershire County Council*

*Planning Authority: Blaby District Council*

### 1 Definition and scope of the specification

1.1 In accordance with Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and planning), para.30, this specification provides a written scheme for archaeological attendance for inspection and recording (a watching brief), as required by the Planning Authority, of any groundworks on the site which may disturb areas of archaeological potential in connection with a planning application for the construction of a Park and Ride car park with waiting facility at land west of St Johns and south of Leicester Lane, Enderby, Leicestershire (SP 5111 9958) by Leicestershire County Council, Highways Section.

1.2 All archaeological work will adhere to the Institute for Archaeologist's (IfA) *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and the *Guidelines for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (LMARS).

### 2 Background

#### 2.1 Requirement for archaeological work

2.1.1 The archaeological work involves attendance (a watching brief) within the development area to identify any deposits of archaeological importance as detailed in the *Brief for the Archaeological Excavation and Attendance (watching brief) of land between Leicester Lane and St Johns, Enderby, Narborough, Leicestershire* (hereinafter the 'Brief' 15.10.2007).

2.1.2. In areas of higher potential the Senior Planning Archaeologist may require controlled stripping following the results of the excavation undertaken in August 2008.

#### 2.2 Archaeological potential

2.2.1 The area lies within an area with known Iron Age and Roman remains. Geophysical survey and evaluation has been undertaken for the area (ULAS Report; 2006-023, Stratascan Report J2099 2006). On the basis of the evaluative work an archaeological excavation covering two areas as detailed in the 'Brief' was undertaken in 2008 which located Iron Age – Roman ditch systems and Roman burials. The archaeological attendance is to cover all areas of groundworks not included in the two excavation areas. Initial works will involve the construction of a footpath (Fig.2).

### 3 Aims

3.1 Through archaeological attendance and, as appropriate, controlled stripping and investigation:

1. To identify the presence/absence of any earlier building phases or archaeological deposits.

2. To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
3. To record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
4. To produce an archive and report of any results.

#### **4 Methods**

4.1 The project will involve the supervision of overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the works specified above.

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

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

4.4 Any archaeological deposits located will be hand cleaned and planned as appropriate. Samples of any archaeological deposits located will be hand excavated. Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan of 1:100. All plans will be tied into the National Grid using an Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM) where appropriate.

4.5 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of deposits, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence. Particular attention will be paid to the potential for buried palaeosols and waterlogged deposits in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer.

4.6 All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, levelled and tied into the Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

4.7 Any human remains encountered will be initially left in situ and only be removed under a Ministry of Justice Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. The developer and Leicestershire County Council will be informed immediately on their discovery.

4.8 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site from the project manager. These will ensure that professional standards are being maintained. Provision will be made for monitoring visits with representatives of the owners and Leicestershire County Council.

4.9 In the event of significant archaeological remains being located during the watching brief there may be the need for contingency time and finance to be provided to ensure adequate recording is undertaken. On the discovery of potentially significant remains the archaeologist will inform the developer, the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council, and the planning authority. If the archaeological remains are identified to be of significance additional contingent archaeological works will be required.

#### **5 Recording Systems**

5.1 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets.

5.2 A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map, (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a plan at 1:200 (or 1:100), which will show the location of the areas investigated.

5.3 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made on drawing film, related to the OS grid and at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Elevations and sections of individual layers of features should be drawn where possible. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans.

5.4 An adequate photographic record of the investigations will be prepared. This will include black and white prints and colour transparencies illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds

discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

5.5 This record will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the watching brief.

5.6 All site records and finds will be kept securely.

## **6 Report and Archive**

6.1 An accession number will be drawn prior to the commencement of the project (Brief 8.1). Following the fieldwork the on-line OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis> will be completed. A report on the investigation will be provided following the groundworks.

6.2 Copies will be provided for the client, Historic Environment Record and planning Authority. The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

6.3 A full copy of the archive as defined in the 'Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage' (UKIC 1990), and Standards in the Museum care of archaeological collections (MGC 1992) and 'Guidelines for the preparation of site archives and assessments for all finds (other than fired clay objects) (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993) will be presented to Leicestershire County Council, normally within six months of the completion of analysis. This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

## **7 Publication**

7.1 A summary report will be submitted to a suitable regional or national archaeological journal within one year of completion of fieldwork. A full report will be submitted if the results are of significance.

## **8 Timetable and Staffing**

8.1 The investigation is scheduled to commence at the start of the contractors groundworks. An experienced archaeologist will be present during this work.

## **9 Health and Safety**

9.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Statement of Safety Policy and uses the ULAS Health and Safety Manual (revised 2007) with appropriate risks assessments for all archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is in the Appendix. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate.

## **10 Insurance**

10.1 All ULAS work is covered by the University of Leicester's Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance. The Public Liability Insurance is with St Pauls Travellers Policy No. UCPOP3651237 while the Professional Indemnity Insurance is with Lloyds Underwriters (50%) and Brit Insurances (50%) Policy No. FUNK3605.

## **11. Bibliography**

MAP 2, *The management of archaeological projects* 2nd edition English Heritage 1991

MGC 1992, *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission)

RFG/FRG 1993, *Guidelines for the preparation of site archives* (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700)

SMA 1993, *Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland* (Society of Museum Archaeologists)



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

Tel: 0116 252 2848  
Fax: 0116 252 2614  
Email: pnc3@le.ac.uk

08.12.2008

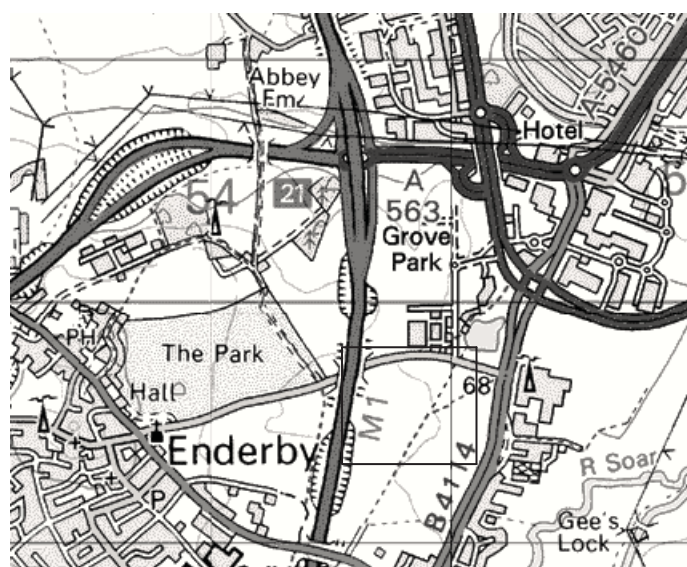


Fig 1 Location of Development



## **Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement**

***Job title: Enderby, St Johns/Leicester Lane, Leicestershire***

***NGR: SP 5111 9958***

***Client: Leicestershire County Council***

***Planning Authority: Blaby District Council***

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

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

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

HSE Construction Information Sheet CS8 Safety in excavations.

HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)143 (L): Getting to grips with manual handling.

HSE Industry Advisory leaflet IND (G)145 (L): Watch Your back.

CIRIA R97 Trenching practice.

CIRIA TN95 Proprietary Trench Support Systems.

HSE Guidance Note HS(G) 47 Avoiding danger to underground services. HSE Guidance Note GS7 Accidents to children on construction sites

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

### ***2 Risks Assessment***

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

Precautions. No work will be undertaken beneath section faces deeper than 1.2m. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. A member of staff qualified in First Aid will be present at all times. First aid kit, vehicle and mobile phone to be kept on site in case of emergency.

#### ***2.2 Working with plant.***

Precautions. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. No examination of the area of stripping will take place until machines have vacated area. Observation of machines will be maintained during hand excavation.

#### ***2.3 Working within areas prone to waterlogging.***

Protective clothing will be worn at all times and precautions taken to prevent contact with stagnant water which may carry Weils disease or similar.

#### ***2.4 Working with chemicals.***

If chemicals are used to conserve or help lift archaeological material these will only be used by qualified personnel with protective clothing (i.e a trained conservator) and will be removed from site immediately after use.

## 2.5 Other risks

Precautions. If there is any suspicion of unforeseen hazards being encountered e.g chemical contaminants, unexploded bombs, hazardous gases work will cease immediately. The client and relevant public authorities will be informed immediately.

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

08.12.2008