



**University of
Leicester**

Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Watching Brief during
Groundworks for the proposed Enderby Park
and Ride Installation, Leicester Lane, St John's,
Enderby, Leicestershire**

NGR: (SP 5511 9958)

Daniel Stone



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**An Archaeological Watching Brief during
Groundworks for the proposed Enderby Park
and Ride Installation, Leicester Lane,
St John's, Enderby, Leicestershire**

NGR: (SP 5511 9958)


Daniel Stone

For: Leicestershire County Council

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Signed:  **Date:** 20/11/09
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ULAS Report Number 2009-064

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An Archaeological Watching Brief during groundworks for the proposed Enderby Park and Ride Installation, Leicester Lane, St John's, Enderby, Leicestershire, (SP 5511 9958)

Dan Stone

Summary

An Archaeological watching brief was undertaken by ULAS on behalf of Leicestershire County Council during groundwork for the proposed park and ride car park with waiting facility on land west of St John's and south of Leicester Lane. (SP 5511 9958). The groundwork involved excavation for perimeter storm drains, Settling ponds, topsoil stripping and ground reduction for car parking bays, pedestrian walkways and associated landscaping and amenities within the site interior and new access roads off Leicester Lane and St Johns into the site. The area had previously been subject to archaeological evaluation and excavation (Harvey 2006; 2009).

Attendance at the site occurred from the 11th of May 2009 to the 9th of June 2009. No significant archaeological finds or deposits were observed during groundwork. The archive is to be deposited with Leicestershire County Council under accession number X.A120.2009

1. Introduction

This report presents the results of an extended watching brief on behalf of Leicestershire County Council during groundwork for the proposed Enderby Park and Ride car park with waiting facility on land west of St John's and south of Leicester Lane (SP 5511 9958).

Two phases of attendance took place during the watching brief at the site on land west of St John's and south of Leicester Lane, (SP 5511 9958). First an intermittent phase was undertaken from the 11th to 15th of May 2009 to observe the construction of extensive subsurface foul water drains and two manhole inspection chambers. Second a comprehensive phase was undertaken from the 18th of May 2009. This involved observation of all groundwork which included perimeter storm drains, settling ponds, topsoil stripping and ground reduction for car parking bays, pedestrian walkways and associated landscaping and amenities and new access roads off Leicester Lane and St Johns into the site.

The watching brief was carried out in accordance with Planning Policy Guidelines 16 (PPG16, Archaeology & Planning), paragraph 30 and involved archaeological attendance for inspection and recording during groundwork within the development area to identify any deposits of archaeological importance.

2. Site description, topography and geology

The proposed site of the park and ride is located 7km south-west of Leicester, to the north-west of the village of Enderby. It consists of an area of c. 6.4 ha that is bounded

to the north by Leicester Lane and to the east by St John's Road (centred on SP 5511 9958). The site lies on a slight south-east facing slope, between a height of 65.70-68.95m OD overlooking the confluences of Lubbesthorpe Brook and other tributary streams that flow into the River Soar to the east. A public footpath runs along the western perimeter of the site.

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 156, indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of glacial sands and gravel to the northeast, river gravel to the south east, with Mercian mudstone solid geology beneath. The proposed development area lies between a height of 65.70 – 68.96m OD on land that slopes gently to the south.

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

The area lies within an area with known Iron Age and Roman remains. In view of this the Senior Planning Archaeologist as advisor 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). This located the line of the Roman Fosse Way and a number of other features. 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 2009). A subsequent watching brief took place at the site along the line of the western footpath during an upgrade of the footpath and observed probable Roman road metalling associated with the Fosse Way (Shore 2009)

4. Aims and Objectives

4.1 The aims through archaeological monitoring and observation were:

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

All work and archaeological deposits encountered were recorded in accordance and follow the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*, the standard policy and practice of ULAS as set out in the design specification and adherence to the University's Health and Safety policy.

5. Methodology

The project involved the supervision of overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist. The groundworks were undertaken using hymax 360 machines and for the topsoil stripping a tractor hauled grader. The freshly exposed surfaces were examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Topsoil removal did not take place in the area of bunding to the east of the site so protecting the main areas examined during the excavation

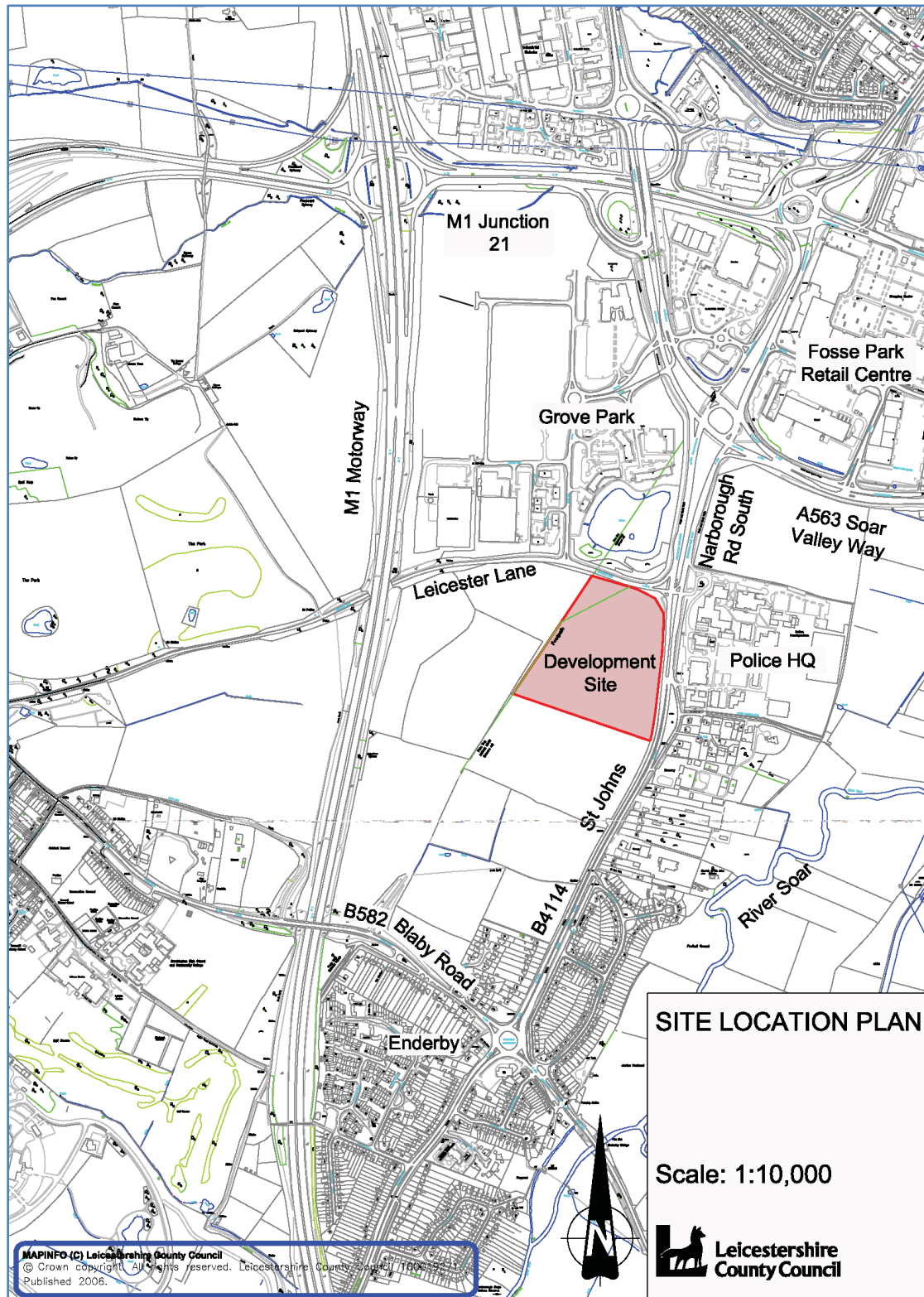


Figure 1: Site Location showing area of development scale 1:10,000 (supplied by Leicestershire County Council) Reproduced from Explorer 1:10 000 OS map by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty’s Stationery Office. © Crown copyright 2007. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100029495.



Figure 2: Proposed development plan (supplied by Leicestershire County Council)

6. Results

During the intermittent attendance between the 11th and the 15th of May, groundwork for a foul water drain along the eastern perimeter of the site was observed. Two perpendicular 4m deep slit trenches approximately 1.2 m wide were excavated. To the north a deep inspection access hatch / manhole was constructed within a 3m sq 4m deep void. The slit trenches were approximately 100m long running north to south parallel with St Johns Road and east to west from the east side to the centre of the site. The construction process involved the excavation of the trench to half its final depth and the insertion of 3m long x 2m tall metal shuttering to shore the sides. Then excavation recommenced to the final depth of the trench. Drain pipes were inserted and hardcore gravel packed over the drain and spoil re-instated to the original ground surface. Observation of the sections of the slit trenches revealed a topsoil approximately 200mm depth, above a subsoil of 100 mm depth. This subsoil lay across natural yellow brown clay substratum.

A deep foul water drain was laid from the interior of the site to the east perimeter and down the east edge of site to the main external drain on St John s Road. Perimeter storm drains were excavated along the South, and West edges of the site. In the northwest and south east corners of the site two Settling ponds were constructed.

Within the site interior topsoil stripping and ground reduction for car parking bays occurred, with pedestrian walkways and associated landscaping and amenities. Excess soil was deposited as bunds along the south, west and east sides of the site and new access roads off Leicester Lane and St Johns Road with associated drainage were excavated leading into the site.

Perimeter storm drains

Examination of the east - west drain revealed numerous field drains in the sections of the slit trench and at the west end a granite stone lined drain.

Settling ponds

Topsoil was stripped with to the north-west approximately 600mm removed for the creating a shallow settling pond. To the south-east a second pond was excavated to a depth of approximately 2 metres.

Topsoil strip and ground reduction for interior roads and parking bays.

The site strip involved the removal of approximately 250 mm of topsoil and subsoil initially from the interior of the site. This was then reduced by a further 150mm along the route of interior carriageways and walkways. The outer perimeter of the site remained undisturbed along the eastern, southern and western edges which was then increased in height by the banking of spoil from stripping the interior. Along the east side stripping began approximately 30m west of St Johns. This area of undisturbed land contained the ditch features and burials excavated in areas 1 and 2.

Perimeter fencing.

Secure perimeter fencing was constructed along the edges of the site and involved excavation of post-holes c. 500mm in diameter and depth, through the topsoil and into subsoil.

Access roads.

At the north and east sides of the site new access roads were constructed involving the removal of hedges, and landscaping, laying of new drains and provision of pavements into the site.

The line of the eastern access road passed through the excavated area 2. An area c. 12m wide east to west lies between the western edge of St John's road and the east edge of area 2. Within this area it was possible to observe the line of the ditches seen in area 1 and 2 running north-north-west to south-south-east. An approximately 5m wide band along the edge of St John's road had been disturbed and compromised by modern reduction and road building associated with St Johns road and associated fibre optic cables, street light power cables, utility electric main cables, road side hedges and bioturbation and modern road side drainage ditches.

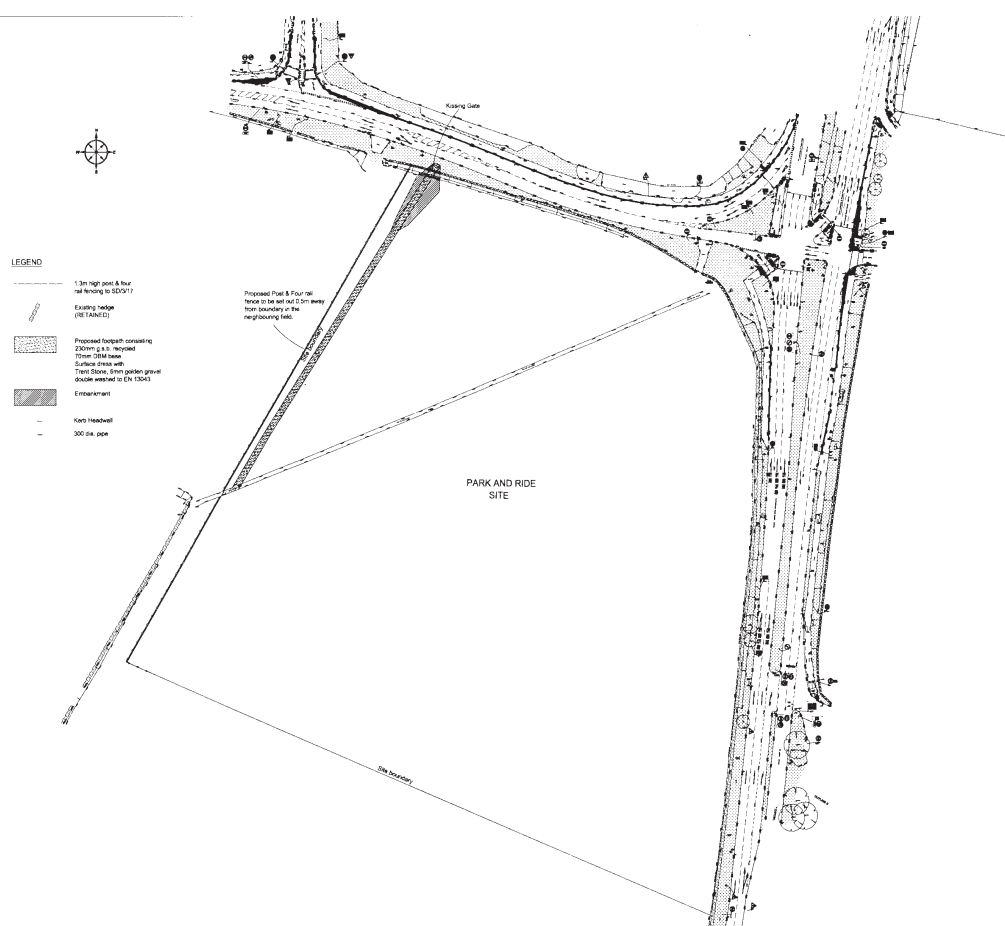


Figure 3: Location of the development area

6. Conclusion

No archaeological deposits were located during the watching brief other than the two previously recorded ditches which were visible during stripping for an access road. Examination of the stripped surface, immediately following the stripping revealed a small range of Roman and medieval ceramics. These are likely to be associated with the Roman activity identified during previous excavation and the medieval activity which may be connected with manuring the open fields around Enderby. Most of the area examined during the 2008 excavations however remained undisturbed.

7. Archive and Publication

A full copy of the archive as defined in Brown (2008) will usually be presented within six months of the completion of fieldwork. This archive will include all records directly relating to the investigation undertaken.

The archive consists of 1 copy of this report, 4 watching brief recording forms, 1 sketch plan on sheet of permatrace, 1 photo index form, 1 colour digital photo contact sheet, and 1 CD containing 20 digital photos. The site archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council under accession code X.A120.2009.

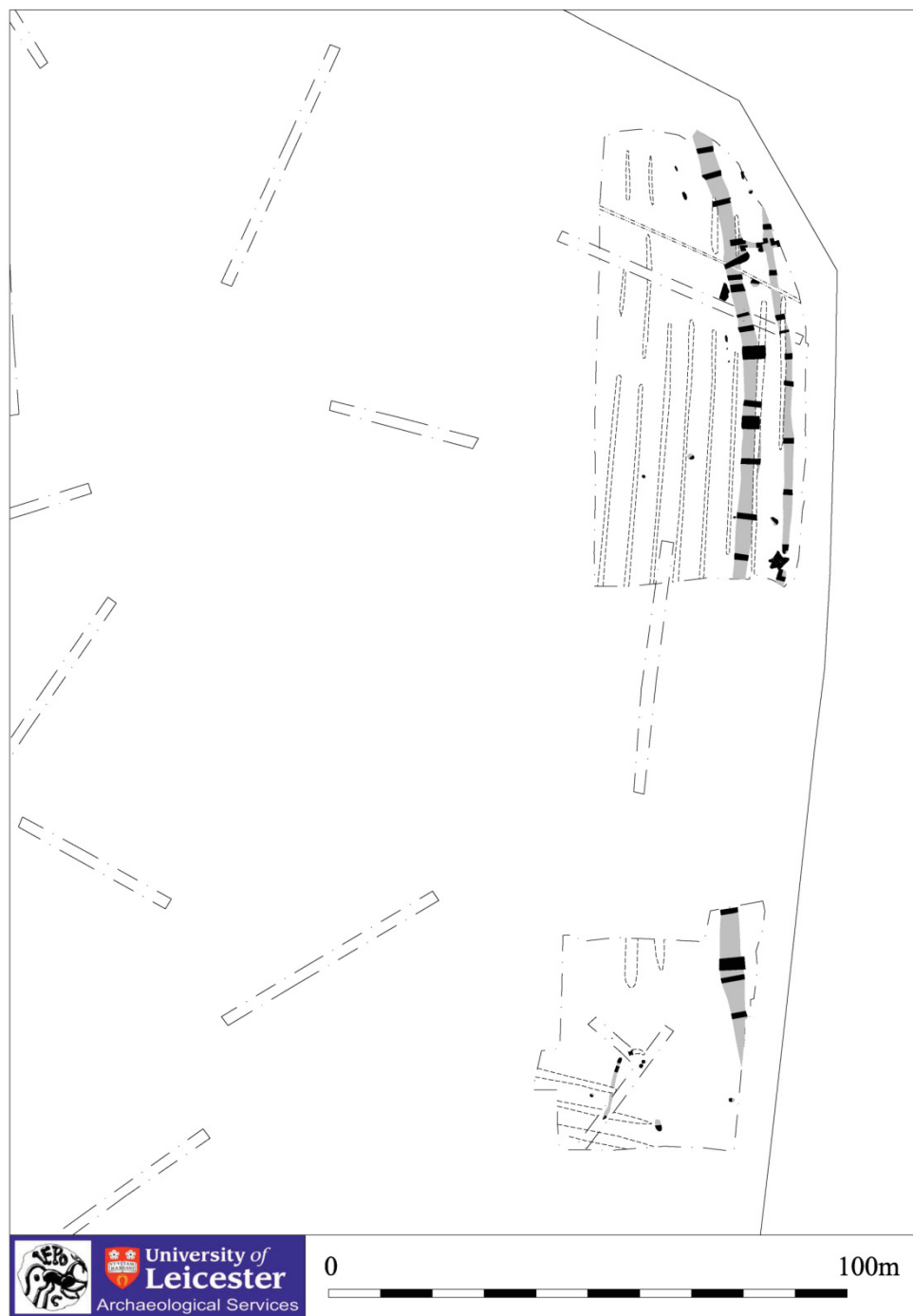


Figure 4 Plan of the archaeological deposits located during the excavation (from Harvey 2009)

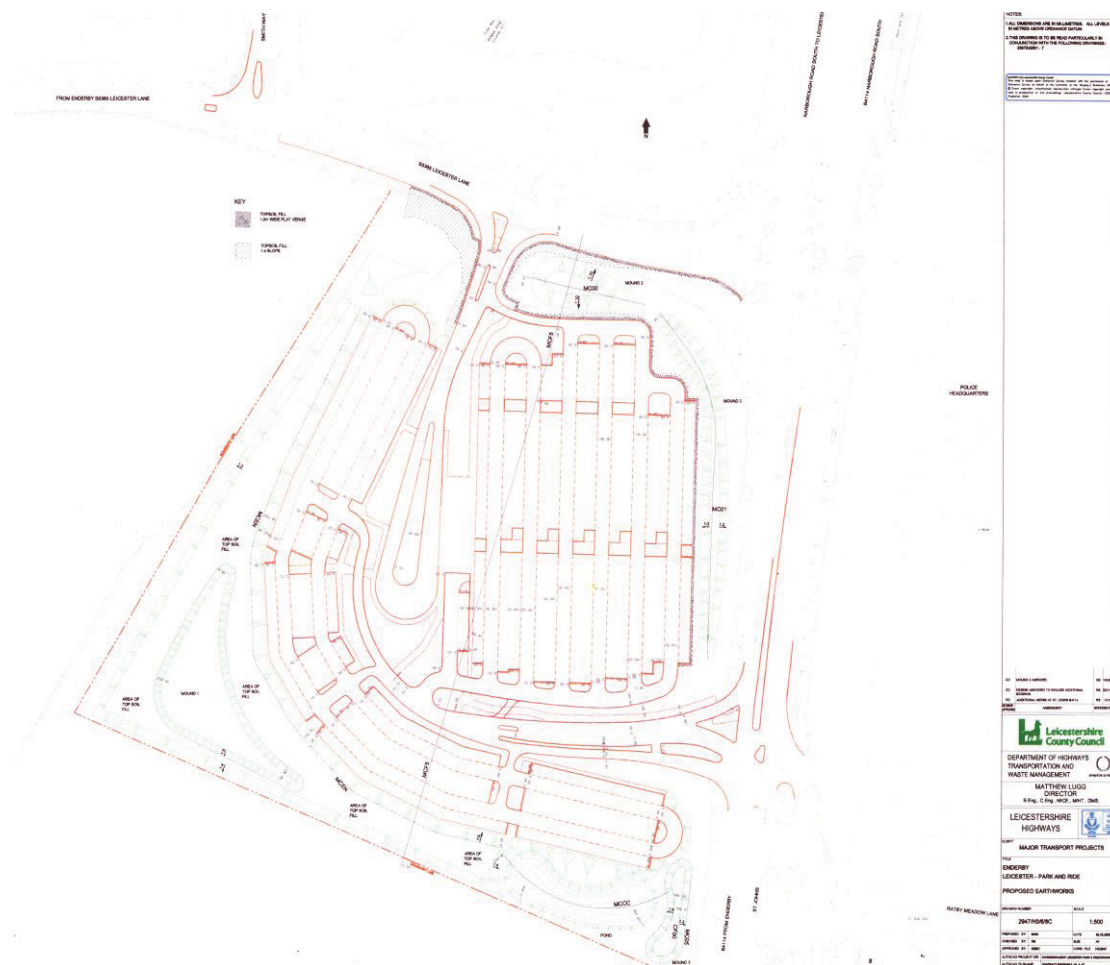


Figure 5 Development plan showing areas where groundworks were undertaken in red.

8. Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Leicestershire County Council for their help and co-operation. The project was managed by Patrick Clay, the fieldwork was carried out by Daniel Stone. A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the local archaeological journal *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* and any relevant period journals in due course. The report has been added to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) Online Access to the index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database held by the University of York.

9. Oasis Record

INFORMATION REQUIRED	
Project Name	An Archaeological Watching Brief during groundwork for the proposed Enderby Park and Ride Installation, Leicester Lane /St John's, Enderby, Leicestershire.
Project Type	Watching Brief
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Dan Stone
Previous/Future work	Geophysical Survey (Heard 2006); Evaluation (Harvey 2006); Excavation (Harvey 2009)

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	May 2009, June 2009
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire County Council
Study Area *	6.4 ha

10. Bibliography.

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

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. 2009 *An Archaeological Excavation at the proposed Leicester Park and Ride Scheme Site 35, Leicester Lane, Enderby, Leicestershire* NGR: SP 5111 9958 (centre) ULAS Report 2009-169.

Heard, H. 2006. *Geophysical Survey Report: Aylestone park and ride scheme.* Stratascan Report J2099.

Shore, M. 2009. *An Archaeological watching brief during groundwork for the proposed Enderby Park and Ride Installation, Leicester Lane/ St Johns, Enderby, Leicestershire (SP 5111 9958)* ULAS Report 2009-011.

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15.09.2009



Figure 6: View of site groundworks from the south



Figure 7: View north of north - south drain slit trench with steel shuttering and drain in base.

Appendix 1: Site Visits

Visits to site	Half Day	Full Day	Initials
11 TH May 2009	1		DS
12 th May 2009	1		DS
13 th May 2009	1		DS
14 th May 2009	1		DS
15 th June 2009	1		DS
18 th May 2009		1	DS
19 th May 2009		1	DS
20 th May 2009		1	DS
21 st May 2009	1		DS
22 nd May 2009	1		DS
26 th May 2009	1		DS
27 th May 2009	1		DS
28 th May 2009	1		DS
29 th May 2009	1		DS
1 st June 2009	1		DS
2 nd June 2009	1		DS
4 th June 2009	1		DS
8 th June 2009	1		DS
9 th of June 2009	1		DS
	Total 16 half days	Total 3 full days	

Appendix 2. The Roman and Post Roman Pottery and tile Deborah Sawday

The pottery, which included both Roman and medieval material, fourteen sherds, weighing 80 grams, was catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Connor and Buckley, 1999). Fragments of Roman tile, and possibly Roman mortar and fired clay of uncertain date were also present. Unfortunately all of these finds occurred in unstratified contexts, but evidently relate to the Roman activity identified during previous excavation and the medieval activity which may be connected with manuring the open fields around Enderby.

Bibliography

Connor, A., and Buckley, R., 1999 *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeology Mon. 5.

Site/ Parish: St John's St/Leicester Lane, Enderby, Leics (Park & Ride). Accession No.: XA120 2009 Document Ref: enderby1.docx Material: pot, & mortar Site Type: adjacent to village/near Roman & prehistoric sites	Submitter: D. Stone/P. Clay Identifier: D. Sawday Date of Identification: 23.11.09 Method of Recovery: wb Job Number: 09 - 555
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Context	Fabric/Ware	Nos	Grams	Comments
POT				
U/S	WW - White ware	3	36	Roman – including a ?4th century flanged bowl
U/S	GW - Grey ware	2	7	Roman
U/S	ST1 – Stamford ware 1	1	3	Medieval c.1100-1250
U/S	PM – Potters Marston	7	31	Medieval 12th – 13th C
U/S	CC2 – Chilvers Coton ware 2	1	3	Medieval c.1300+
CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL				
U/S	EA - Earthenware	1	9	Roman tile
U/S	EA	1	8	?Fired Clay
MISCELLANEOUS				
U/S	Mortar	2	31	Possibly Roman

Appendix 3. 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)

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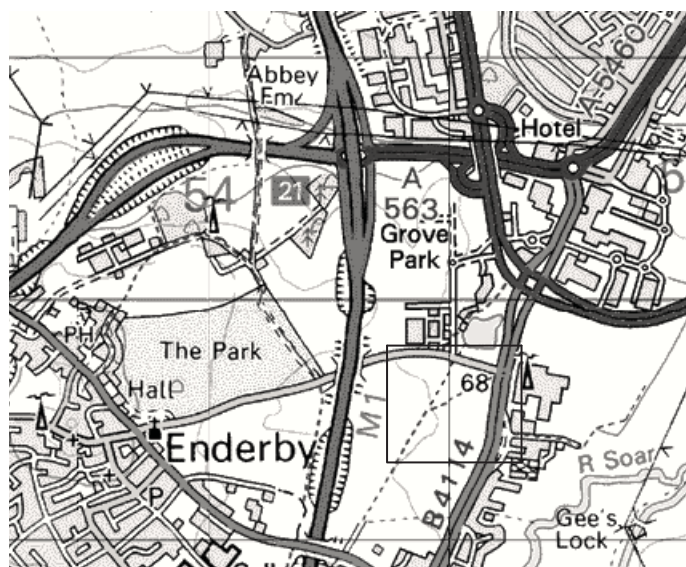


Fig 1 Location of Development

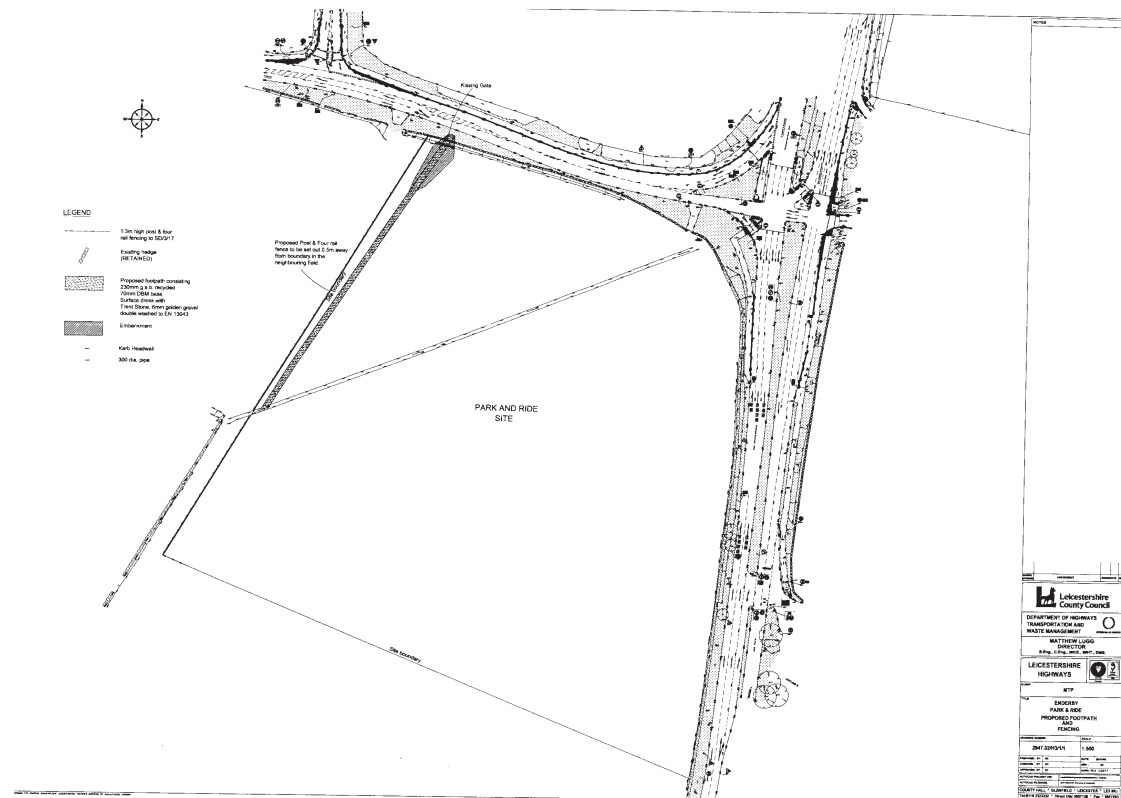


Fig. 2 Plan of proposed development. The watching brief will initially cover groundworks for the footpath.

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

ULAS Contact Details

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