



# University of Leicester

## Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Watching Brief  
37, Long Street/Tylers Road  
Belton, Leicestershire  
NGR: SK 4464 2057 centre**

Tim Higgins



ULAS Report No 2010-172.  
©2010

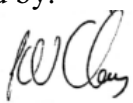
**An Archaeological Watching Brief  
at land adjacent to 37, Long Street/Tylers Road,  
Belton, Leicestershire**

**NGR: SK 4464 2057**

**Tim Higgins]**

**For: Mr Eric Lee**

Approved by:

**Signed:**  **...Date:** 16.09.2010..

**Name:** Patrick Clay

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

**ULAS Report Number 2010-172**

**©2010**

**X.A138 2010**

## CONTENTS

1. Summary .....	1
2. Introduction.....	1
3. Site description, topography and geology.....	1
4. Archaeological and Historical background.....	2
5. Aims and method. ....	2
6. Results.....	3
7. Conclusion. ....	4
8. Acknowledgements and publication .....	5
9. Archive.....	5
10. Bibliography .....	5
Appendix 1 Oasis Summary .....	6
Appendix 2 Design Specification .....	7

## FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location Belton.....	2
Figure 2: Location of the Development .....	3
Figure 3: Machine excavating foundations.....	4

## **An Archaeological Watching Brief at land adjacent to 37, Long Street/Tylers Road, Belton, Leicestershire**

**(NGR: SK 4464 2057)**

**Tim Higgins**

### **1. Summary**

*An archaeological watching brief of groundworks at land adjacent to 37, Long Street/Tylers Road, Belton, Leicestershire was undertaken by ULAS on behalf of Mr Eric Lee. The initial groundwork comprised removal of overburden and the excavation of new foundations for new residential buildings. Attendance at the site was undertaken on the 9th August 2010.*

*The watching brief revealed no archaeological deposits or pre-modern artefacts during the inspection of the site.*

*The archive will be deposited with Archaeology, Environment and Heritage Services (Leicestershire County Council Museum), subject to their confirmation. Accession No. X.A138.2010*

### **2. Introduction**

This report presents the results of an extended archaeological watching brief of groundwork at land adjacent to 37, Long Street/Tylers Road Belton, Leicestershire (NGR SK 4464 2057). In view of the potential impact of the development this was undertaken as a mitigation strategy following recommendations by the Leicestershire County Council Planning Archaeologist as advisor to the planning authority covering planning permission for a new dwelling and garage (P.A. 10/00454/FUL, Condition 12).

The ground-works involved ground clearance, reduction of the ground levels and the excavation of foundations, following the demolition of an old barn building.

The archaeological watching brief was carried out in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5, Planning and the Historic Environment). All archaeological work adhered to the Institute for Archaeologist's (IfA) *Code of Conduct* and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and followed the design specification approved by LCC (Appendix 2).

### **3. Site description, topography and geology**

The site is located in the village of Belton, in, Leicestershire (Fig. 1). The site lies at NGR SK 4464 2057 on the south side of the village off Long Street and Tylers Road at a height of *c.* 70m OD (Figure 1). The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet 125 indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of sand and gravel over Mercia Mudstone.



Figure 1: Site location Belton

Reproduced from the Landranger OS map 129 Leicester, 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.

#### 4. Archaeological and Historical background

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application site lies in an area of archaeological interest, within the medieval and post-medieval historic settlement core of the village.

#### 5. Aims and methods.

Through archaeological attendance and, as appropriate, controlled stripping and investigation the aim of the 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 proposed ground-works.
3. To record any archaeological deposits to 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 (appendix 1) and adherence to the University's Health and Safety policy.

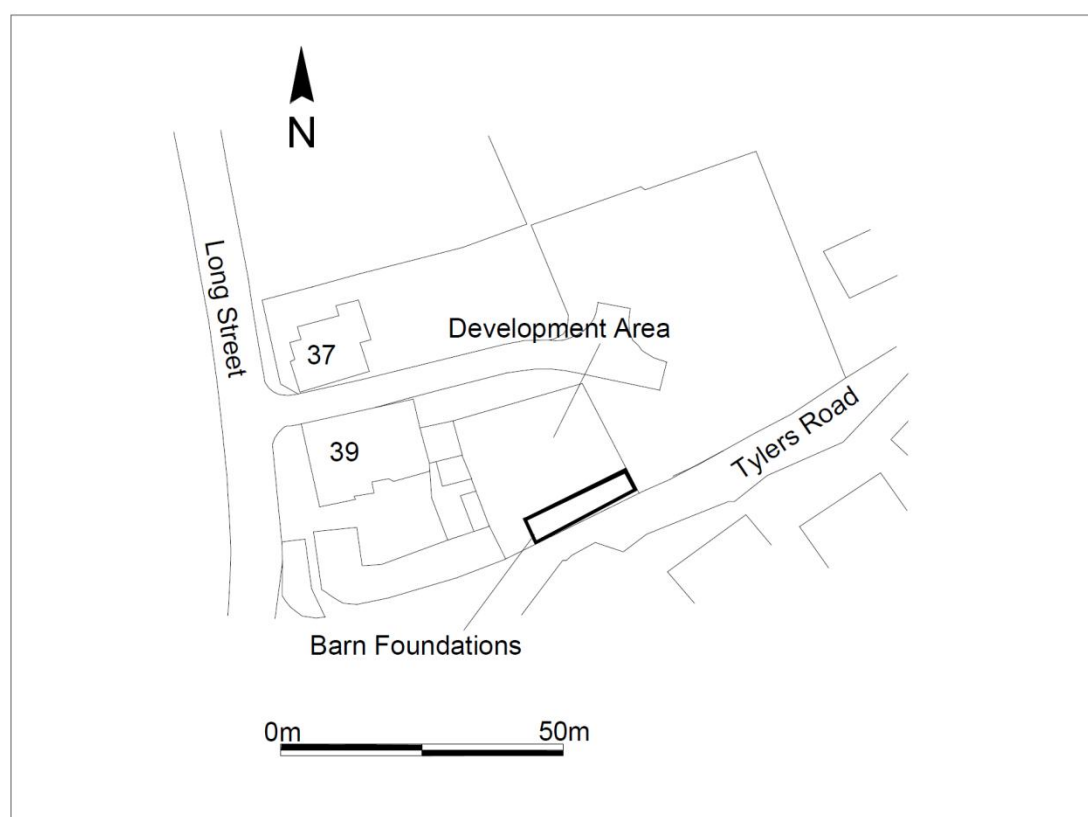


Figure 2: Location of the development area

## 6. Results

Initial groundwork involved the clearance of topsoil and an area strip for new dwelling down to natural (Figure 2) during a site visit was undertaken on the 9th August 2010. The machine used for the ground works was a Kubota KX1613 degree excavator fitted with a 1.40m wide ditching bucket. A visual inspection was conducted across the new foundation trenches.

The excavations were located in south side of the development area and comprised area strip for the new dwelling and garage measuring 15m x 10m. The natural substratum consisted of reddish brown sandy clay found at depth of 0.30m below the present ground surface.

This area appeared to have been previously levelled, with a layer 0.30m deep comprising dark greyish brown clay and sand mixed with modern building materials apparently deposited to raise the ground levels. The re-deposited layer and levelling probably occurred during the construction of a former barn structure or storage shed, which once fronted onto Tylers Road and may have removed evidence of any potential early archaeological deposits.





Figure 3 Machine excavating foundation trenches

Within the area strip the foundations for the barn or storage shed's foundations were exposed (Figure 2). The structure appeared to be rectangular in shape and measured 15.m long and 4.30m wide and fronted on to Tyler Road. The foundations trenches for the structure had a 0.50m width and 0.20m depth, and were filled with large and medium size angular stones with the occasional modern brick.

All of the stripped areas, and spoil heaps were walked over and visually inspected. No archaeological deposits or pre-modern artefacts were encountered during the inspection of the site.

## 7. Conclusion.

Despite its location within the historic village core, nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered during the course of the archaeological work. The inspection of the ground works at development site on Tylers Road revealed that the natural horizons appeared to have been levelled at some point in the past. The topsoil and subsoil had been removed and replaced with modern mixed layer used to raise the ground levels. The foundations of a barn that once fronted on to Tylers Road were also exposed during the ground strip (Figure 2). Any earlier archaeological deposits that may have been located fronting on to Tyler Road are likely to have been disturbed by the construction of the barn and raising of the ground levels.

## 8. Acknowledgements and publication

I would like to thank the clients for their help and co-operation on site. The project was managed by Patrick Clay and the fieldwork was carried out by the author, Tim Higgins both of ULAS.

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in a suitable regional or national archaeological journal within one year of completion of fieldwork. 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. Archive

A full copy of the archive as defined in Brown (2008) will usually be presented to 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, indices, 1 watching brief recording forms, copies of site location plans and synthesised plans, 1 copy brief for archaeological work, 1 photo index form, colour digital photo contact sheet, and 1 CD containing 12 digital photos, B+W photos contact sheet and negatives.

Subject to confirmation it will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council under accession number X.A138 2009.

All modern artefacts found during the watching brief were examined and then discarded.

## 10. Bibliography

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

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

[th31@le.ac.uk](mailto:th31@le.ac.uk);

T: 0116 252 2848

F: 0116 252 2614

16.09.2010



## Appendix 1 Oasis Summary

INFORMATION REQUIRED	EXAMPLE
Project Name	An archaeological watching brief Land 37, Long Street/Tylers Road, Belton, Leicestershire (SK 4464 2057).
Project Type	Archaeological watching brief
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Tim Higgins
Previous/Future work	Unknown
Current Land Use	Garden/Barn
Development Type	Residential
Reason for Investigation	PPS5
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	NGR : SK 4464 2057
Start/end dates of field work	9/08/10
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire County Council
<b>Study Area *</b>	Approx

## **Appendix 2 Design Specification**

### **UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**

#### **Design Specification for archaeological work**

***Job title: 37, Long Street/Tylers Road, Belton, Leicestershire***

***NGR: SK 4464 2057***

***Client: Mr Eric Lee***

***Planning Authority: North West Leicestershire District Council***

***PA 10/00454/FUL***

#### ***1 Definition and scope of the Specification***

1.1 In accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5, Planning and the historic Environment), 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 a proposed new dwelling and garage at 37, Long Street/Tylers Road, Belton, Leicestershire.

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* (LCC 1997).

#### ***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.

2.2.2 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application site lies in an area of archaeological interest, within the historic settlement core of Belton.

2.2.3 The proposal are likely to include the excavation of footings and the introduction of services, etc., that will damage or destroy buried archaeological remains, if present, within the development area.

#### ***3 Aims***

3.1 Through archaeological attendance and, as appropriate, 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 Brown (2008) 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**

Brown, D.,           *Standard and guidance for the preparation of Archaeological Archives* (Institute for  
2008                   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](mailto:pnc3@le.ac.uk)

07.07.2010

## 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](mailto:ulas@le.ac.uk)

**w:** [www.le.ac.uk/ulas](http://www.le.ac.uk/ulas)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR 2008/9**