



# University of Leicester

## Archaeological Services

An Archaeological Investigation  
at The Bungalow,  
22, Main Street,  
Stathern, Leicestershire  
(SK 7717 3103)

Leon Hunt



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**An Archaeological Investigation  
at The Bungalow,  
22, Main Street,  
Stathern, Leicestershire  
(SK 7717 3103)**

**Leon Hunt**

*for*

Neil Herries

Planning Application Number 10/00252/FUL

**Checked by Project Manager**

**Signed:**  **Date:** 12-01-2011

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## **An Archaeological Investigation at The Bungalow, 22, Main Street, Stathern, Leicestershire (SK 7717 3103)**

Leon Hunt

### **Summary**

*In accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, Policy HE12.3 (DCLG 2010) an archaeological investigation (Strip, Plan and Record) was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on land adjacent to The Bungalow, 22, Main Street, Stathern, Leicestershire (SK 7717 3103).*

*The site had been identified as an area of archaeological potential; the site lies within the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of Stathern and also lies on the street frontage on an area shown as undeveloped land in the late 19th century.*

*An area was stripped of topsoil and subsoil at the eastern edge of the site along the street frontage and no archaeological features were observed a further area to the north of the bungalow was stripped to subsoil and overlain with hardcore. The rest of the site was then stripped of topsoil and subsoil.*

*No archaeological features were observed. The archive for the site will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council with accession number X.A2.2011.*

### **Introduction**

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by Neil Herries to carry out an archaeological investigation (Strip, Plan and Record) during groundworks associated with the construction of a new dwelling on land The Bungalow, 22, Main Street, Stathern, Leicestershire (SK 7717 3103).

This archaeological work is in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, Policy HE12.3 (DCLG 2010).

The Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services, as archaeological advisers to Melton Borough Council, detailed the need for archaeological investigation of the proposed development area in the *Brief for Archaeological Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation at The Bungalow, 22, Main Street, Stathern, Leicestershire* (see Appendix I). The work followed the *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Attendance for Inspection and Recording* prepared by ULAS. (ULAS 11/307: see Appendix II).

### **Location and Geology**

The site lies to the west of Main Street, Stathern, Melton Borough, Leicestershire (NGR: 7717 3103) (Figure 1). The area covers approximately 0.04 hectares and consisted of a garden lawn to the north-east of the bungalow (Figure 2).

The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 142 (Melton Mowbray) indicates that the underlying geology is likely to consist of Jurassic Mudstone bedrock (Charmouth Mudstone Formation).

The site lies on a terrace of flat ground at *c.*75m aOD and is bounded by a hedge to the north and east and a small stream to the north-west and west.

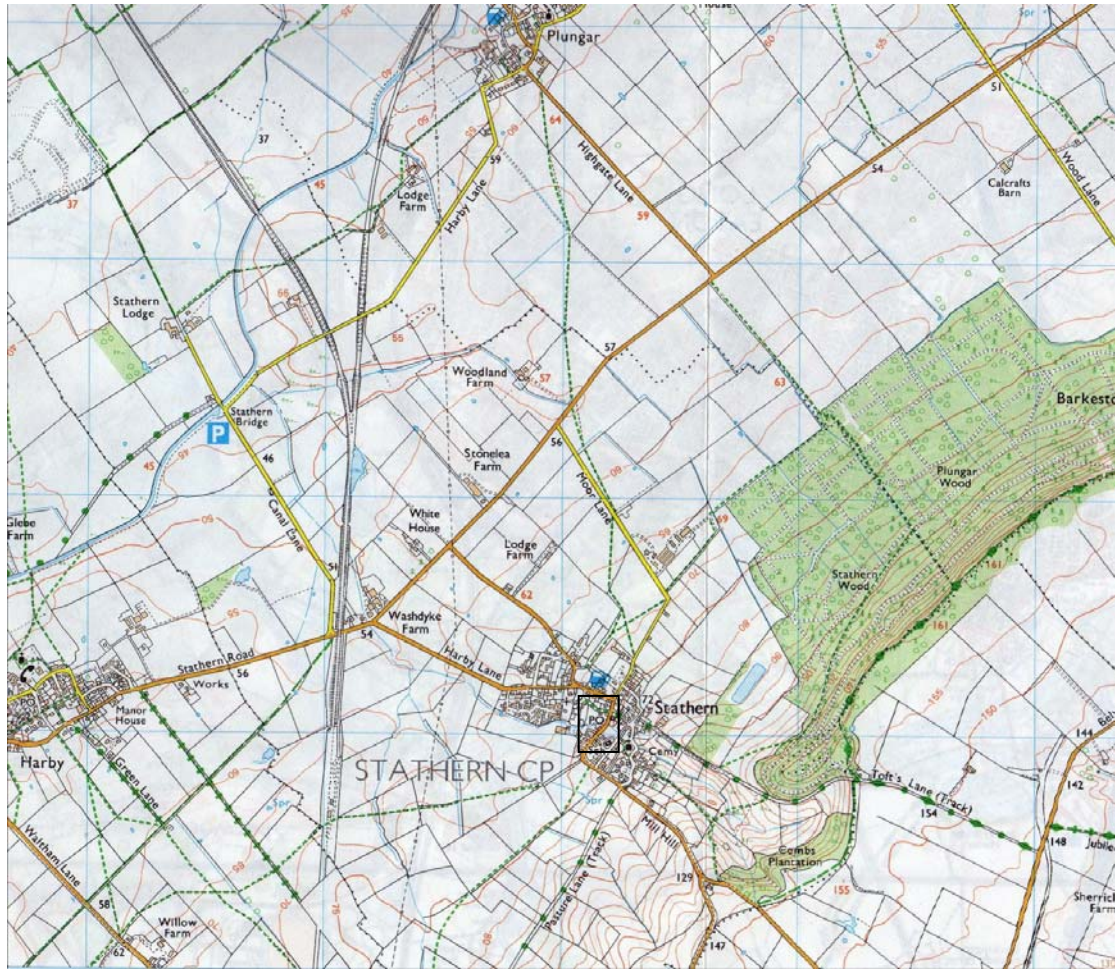


Figure 1: Site Location

Reproduced from the Landranger 140 Leicester 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 100029495

### Historical and Archaeological Background

The site has been identified as an area of archaeological potential from information held in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER). This shows that the site lies within the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of Stathern. It also lies on the street frontage on an area shown as undeveloped land in the late 19th century.

In the more recent past the site had been a small orchard.

## Archaeological Objectives

The aims of the archaeological work were:

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

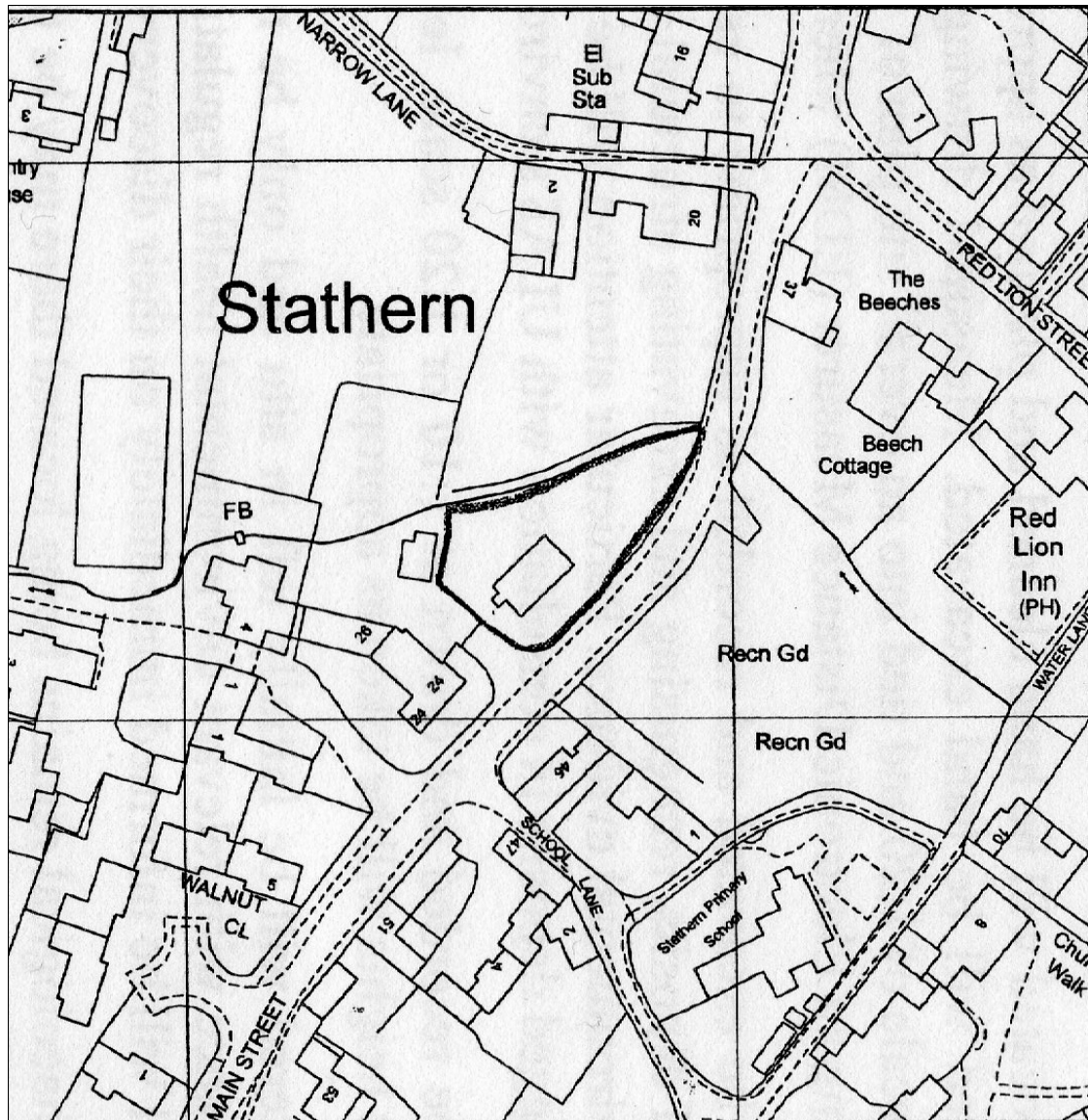


Figure 2: Location of the site within Stathern village. Scale 1: 1250.  
Plan provided by developer

## Methodology

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2010) and adhered to their *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2008).

The project involved the supervision of overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the works. It was proposed that a trial trench be opened first to assess the depth of topsoil/overburden and determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains.

The area had been partially covered in trees and the remains of these had been removed trees prior to the visit. Initially the area at the street front was stripped of topsoil, followed by the subsoil down to the natural substratum or archaeological layers, whichever the higher. The stripping of this area, followed by the area directly to the north-east of the bungalow, for the access road for the new dwelling, served as the trial area.

The soils were removed by a JCB back actor fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

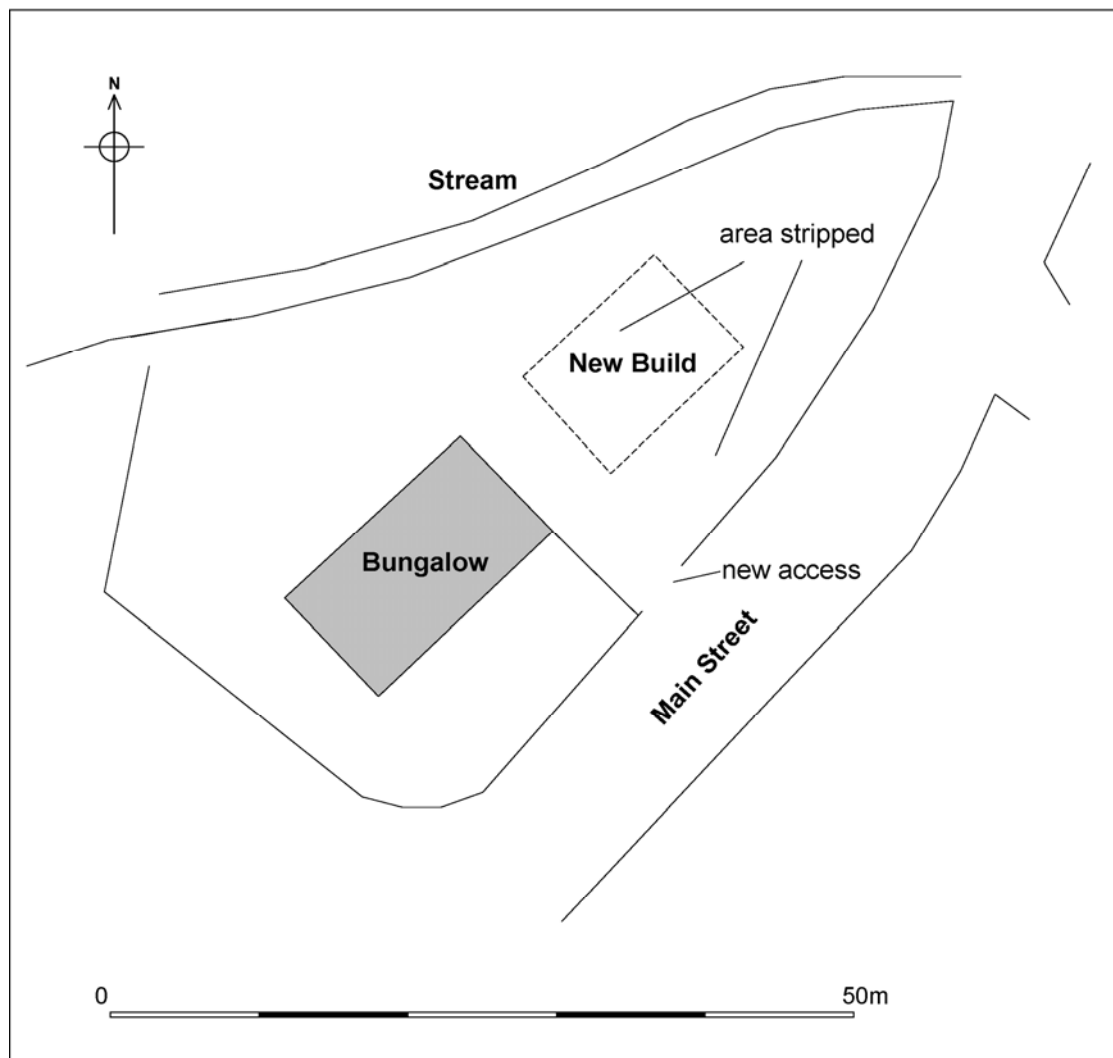


Figure 3: Plan of site with areas observed

## **Results**

Part of the hedge to the east of the site had been removed prior to the commencement of the groundworks to facilitate the ingress of the machine and to eventually serve as access for the new dwelling.

Initially the eastern part of the site was stripped of topsoil. The topsoil consisted of a dark brown loam, of around 200mm depth. This lay over 150-200mm of yellowish brown subsoil, which itself overlay the substratum of brownish yellow clay, with occasional patches of ironstone. The soils contained an abundance of roots and areas that had been disturbed by root action.

Once the area at the street front had been stripped to the substratum, a 2m wide strip between the street front and the western edge of the site was stripped of topsoil to provide access to the new dwelling. After this was checked for archaeological features, the area was covered in stone and stripping continued to the substratum over the remainder of the site.

No archaeological features were observed and no archaeological artefacts were recovered during the work.

## **Conclusion**

The site at 22, Main Street, Stathern had some potential for archaeological remains as the site faced the street frontage of Main Street and lay within the historic core of the village. It was possible that although the plot had been empty since at least the late 19th century it may have contained a building prior to this date.

The archaeological examination during the groundworks on the site did not reveal any building remains, or any other archaeological features. The site was quite disturbed by root action and this would indicate that the site may have been an orchard for some time and had possibly always been open land.

## **Acknowledgements**

ULAS would like to thank Neil Herries, Mark Bailey and the contractors M.R.J Faulks for their help and co-operation during this work. The author carried out the archaeological work. Vicki Score was the project manager.

## **Archive**

The archive for this project will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services with accession number X.A2.2011 and consists of:

- 1 watching brief recording sheet
- 1 CD digital photographs
- 1 Contact sheet of digital photographs
- 1 contact sheet B & W photographs
- 1 set B & W negatives
- 1 Unbound copy of this report

## **Bibliography**



IfA, 2010, *Code of Conduct*

IfA, 2008, *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

LCC, 2011, *Brief for Archaeological Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation at The Bungalow, 22, Main Street, Stathern, Leicestershire*

ULAS 11/307 2011, *Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Attendance for Inspection and Recording.*

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Plate 1: The site from Main Street with hedge removed for access, looking north-west



Plate 2: The street frontage stripped to natural clay, looking north-east



Plate 3: The southern part of the site, to the north of the bungalow, stripped of topsoil, looking west north-west



Plate 4: Work in progress, looking north



Plate 5: The north-eastern part of the site stripped, looking north

**Appendix I: Brief for Archaeological Investigation (Strip, Plan and Sample)**

**A**

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***BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION  
(STRIP, PLAN & SAMPLE EXCAVATION)***

***AT***

***THE BUNGALOW, 22, MAIN STREET,  
STATHERN, LEICESTERSHIRE  
(NGR SK77173103)***

**Planning Reference: 10/00252/FUL**

**Description of development: Alterations to existing bungalow to add first floor and new 3 bedroom dwelling to the side, etc.:**

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**Historic & Natural Environment Team, Community Services  
Department, Leicestershire County Council**

**Revised on: 11 March 2011**

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION (STRIP, PLAN & SAMPLE  
EXCAVATION) AT THE BUNGALOW, 22, MAIN STREET, STATHERN, LEICESTERSHIRE

**1. Summary of Brief**

- 1.1 **The proposed development site at The Bungalow, 22, Main Street, Stathern has been identified as an area of significant archaeological potential based upon an assessment of information held in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER).**
- 1.2 In consequence the Planning Archaeologist (PA) has recommended the need for a programme of archaeological investigation and recording prior to the start of development. This shall comprise a soil strip under archaeological control and supervision of the development footprint, planning of the exposed surface and sample excavation of features identified. All archaeological work shall be undertaken in accordance with this brief and an approved Specification/Written Scheme of Investigation, as secured by conditions (14 and 15) on the current planning permission 10/00252/FUL.

**2. Appendices for reference as part of this Brief (to be supplied by the developer to the archaeological contractor)**

- 2.1 General location plan;  
2.2 Site layout plan(s);  
2.3 Architect's plans to show areas of ground impact;

**3. Site location and description**

- 3.1 The development area is located on the west of Main Street at NGR SK77173103, within the village of Stathern. The site is approximately triangular and totals some 0.04ha in area. At present, the site is forms part of the garden and access to 22, The Bungalow.

**Geology & Topography**

- 4.1 *The development site lies upon Jurassic mudstone bedrock (Charmouth Mudstone Formation) with overlying colluvial/alluvial (clay, silt sand and gravel) superficial deposits (British Geological Survey of Great Britain, Melton Mowbray, Sheet 142). The site appears to be located on a terrace of flat ground at c. 75m aOD, the northern and western boundary of which is defined be a small stream.*

**Site Constraints**

- 5.1 The PA has not determined the location of any on site underground services.  
5.2 The archaeological contractor is responsible for determining the presence of any obstacle, or constraint to the successful completion of the project, whether statutory designation (e.g. PROW), physical constraint (including health and safety), or permissive access, etc.. Such information should be clearly outlined and brought to the attention of the LLC PA at the earliest opportunity.

**Historical and Archaeological Background**

- 6.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application site lies in an area of archaeological interest, as it is within the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of Stathern. The site is also situated on

- the street frontage in an area which appears to show as undeveloped land on the late 19th century 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map.
- 6.2 The villages of Leicestershire, in common with the wider English Central Midlands, appear to have evolved alongside their open field systems, during the later 1<sup>st</sup> millennium AD. Buried archaeological evidence spanning the period from the earliest evolution of the village to its more recent past can be expected within the development area.
- 6.3 The proposal are likely to include the excavation of footings, landscaping and the introduction of services, etc., that will damage or destroy buried archaeological remains within the development area.

### **Previous work and archaeological survey**

- 7.1 *No known previous archaeological work has been carried out within the application area.*

### **8. Planning Background and Requirement for Work**

- 8.1 In response to a planning application submitted to *Melton Borough Council (Plan App No.: 10/00252/FUL)* for alterations to the existing bungalow (no. 22) to add first floor and new 3 bedroom dwelling to the side, etc., the PA advised that planning permission should be granted subject to an archaeological investigation secured by conditions upon any planning approval.
- 8.2 The archaeological investigation, a 'Strip, Plan and Sample' record forms the "programme of archaeological work" specified in the above conditions. The requirement for archaeological work is in accordance with national Planning Policy Statement PPS5 "Planning for the Historic Environment", Policy HE12.3. The purpose of the work is to mitigate the impact of development upon the historic environment. This will be achieved by preparing a suitable record of the effected heritage assets and through appropriate investigation and recording, advance our understanding of their significance, prior to their whole or partial loss as a result of the proposed development.

### **9. Methodology**

- 9.1 Arrangements for the deposition of the project archive should be made prior to the start of the archaeological project.
- 9.2 Where deposition with the local museums service or approved archiving repository is proposed, an accession number (or similar) **must** be applied for prior to the start of the project. The accession number will be applied to all components of the project defined by this brief. (*See 22. below for contact details*).
- 9.3 Where demolition of standing buildings/structures or site clearance is required, prior to the start of such works the developer will liaise with the archaeological curator and contractor to determine the need for and level of archaeological attendance.
- 9.4 In order to clarify the archaeological character of the application area and to inform the subsequent overburden stripping, an initial trial trench or trenches, will be excavated on the site of the proposed development to provide an indication of the depth and spread of any archaeological deposits present.
- 9.5 The main project will involve the archaeological control of overburden stripping, followed by sample investigation and recording of exposed archaeological deposits. This work shall be undertaken by an experienced professional archaeologist in relation to the permitted development detailed above (8.1). Where mechanical excavation is required all such works will be undertaken using a bladed bucket and will be continuously monitored by an appropriately experienced archaeologist. Soil will be excavated to the top of any significant archaeological horizon, *or* to the proposed formation level where this lies no less than 0.15m above any significant archaeological deposit.
- 9.6 Where archaeological deposits/features are located, an appropriate archaeological investigation and recording will be completed prior to further ground reduction. The developer will make provision for the necessary archaeological investigation (fieldwork, post-excavation analysis, reporting and archive deposition). The archaeologist will co-

- operate at all times with the contractors on site to ensure the minimum interruption to the work
- 9.7 Any archaeological deposits located will be hand cleaned and recorded 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. 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.
- 9.8 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establish 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 a specialist environmental officer.
- 9.9 Any human remains encountered will be initially left in situ and only be removed in accordance with a Ministry of Justice licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. The landowner and/or developer, the Historic & Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council and the coroner will be informed immediately of their discovery.
- 9.10 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site from the project manager. These must ensure the application of appropriate professional standards. Provision will be made for monitoring visits by representatives of the Historic & Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council and the planning authority.
- 9.11 In the event of significant archaeological remains being located during the archaeological investigation 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 PA at Leicestershire County Council and the planning authority.

## 10. Site Access: Health and Safety

- 10.1 The archaeological Contractor will be responsible for ensuring that all works are conducted in accordance with a defined Health and Safety Policy. Contractors must observe all current safe working practices, whether required by their own policy or those of the principal development contractor (see *FAME Manual, Health & Safety in Field Archaeology, 1997, updated 2006*).
- 10.2 Before commencing work the Contractor **must** carry out a Risk Assessment in accordance with the requirements the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992. The assessment should as appropriate include liaison with the site owner and the PA in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised and their implications properly understood. A copy of this must be given to the PA **before** commencement of Site works.
- 10.3 The developer must provide all information reasonably obtainable on contamination and the location of live services before commencement of Site works.

## 11. Archaeological Science & Environmental Sampling

- 11.1 The minimum requirement for Archaeological Science and Environmental sampling during fieldwork is that the archaeological contractor should commission programmes of investigation which are adequate to provide an appropriate record of the palaeo-environmental significance of the affect heritage assets. The results of this work must be presented in the final report.
- 11.2 General recommendation for minimum standards for archaeological science work have been produced by English Heritage. The document "Archaeological Science at PPG16 interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists" is available through the English Heritage website (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.001002003009003>). Subject specific guidelines produced by English Heritage are also available, and these provide recommendations for best practice for a range of archaeological science topics, including



- Archaeometallurgy (2001), Environmental Archaeology (2002), Dendrochronology (2004), Geoarchaeology (2004), Human Remains (2005), and X-radiography of archaeological metalwork (2006). All of these can be downloaded from the EH Guidance section of the HELM website, ([www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk)).
- 11.3 Advice on archaeological science can also be acquired from the English Heritage Regional Archaeological Science Advisor, Jim Williams, contact details provided at end of document.
- 11.4 All such investigations during excavation should be undertaken in a manner broadly consistent with the English Heritage document **The Management of Archaeological Projects** (English Heritage 1991).
- 11.5 All specialists (both those employed in-house by the contracting field unit or those sub-contracted) should be named in project documents. Agreement of specialists must always be obtained before their names are listed. Their competence to undertake proposed investigations, and the availability of adequate laboratory facilities and reference collections should be demonstrated. There should be agreement in writing on time-tables and deadlines for all stages of work.

## **12. Treatment of finds**

- 12.1 All finds will be exposed and as appropriate, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition) and the recipient museum's guidelines.
- 12.2 Finds which may constitute 'treasure' under the Treasure Act, 1996 must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner. Where removal can not take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 12.3 In line with an agreed discard strategy, all identified finds and artefacts will be retained. Certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording if an appropriate sample is recommended by the recipient museum's archive curator.

## **13. Post-excavation work**

- 13.1 According to standard procedure, the archaeological fieldwork will be followed by a period of post-excavation analysis and reporting. This will include the cataloguing and analysis of any finds, samples and the preparation of the archive for the site report and its subsequent deposition.

## **14. Reports**

- 14.1 A full written report combining all stages of the investigation shall be prepared, at least two copies of which should be sent to the Historic & Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council. If this report is to form part of the planning process, it is in the developer's interest to ensure this report is prepared to an adequate standard (see 'Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland') in order that a judgement of the archaeological value of the site can be made as quickly as possible and the PA can recommend the archaeological condition is discharged.
- 14.2 The report/s will:
- i) Include:
    - a) All plans tied into the Ordnance Survey data
    - b) Drawing and plans
    - c) A summary of any artefacts together with their interpretation
    - d) Any specialist reports
    - e) A concise non-technical summary of the project results
    - f) A full listing of the archive contents
  - ii) Assess:
    - a) The archaeological significance of the development site and any archaeological deposits encountered during the fieldwork

- b) The evidence in its local, regional and national context, as appropriate, also aiming to highlight any research priorities where applicable
- 14.3 The final report/s will be deposited with the Leicestershire and Rutland HER no later than six months after completion of the project. As a minimum this will comprise two full colour paper copies of the report including its relevant accompanying plans.
- 14.4 Results of the project, even if negative, will be submitted for publication in the appropriate academic journals. Contractors are to provide a summary of findings to the 'Transactions of the Leicestershire Historical and Archaeological Society'.
- 14.5 If significant results are obtained a copy of the final report/s will be deposited in the National Monuments Record, English Heritage, Swindon.

## **15. Archive**

- 15.1 The archive consists of all artefacts, written records, drawn and photographic records. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It should also contain Site matrix, site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data. The site accession number will be appropriate marked on all elements forming part of the site/project archive (See 9.2. above).
- 15.2 Archive will be prepared in line with UKIC Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (1990), 'Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation' (Archaeological Archives Forum 2007) and the current version of Leicestershire Museums Services' document "The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service".

## **16. Deposition**

- 16.1 The integrity of the site archive should be maintained. All find and records should be properly curated by a single organisation, and be available for public consultation.
- 16.2 Subject to the landowner's agreement, arrangements for deposition of the full site archive must be made with the appropriate collecting body, (e.g. Leicestershire Museums Service, County Hall, Glenfield, LE3 8TB). The archive will be presented to the Archive Curator within 9 months of completion of the fieldwork, unless alternative arrangements have been agreed in writing with the PA and Archive Curator.
- 16.3 It should be noted that the PA will not recommend the discharge of any planning conditions until he/she has approved the report, has received confirmation that the archive meets current standards by the Archive Curator and has received written confirmation that a summary of the archaeological work has been forwarded to the above mentioned journals.

## **17. Requirements (including responsibilities of prospective developer and Archaeological Contractor)**

### **17.1 Appointment of Archaeological Contractors**

- 17.1.1 The professional archaeological Contractors invited to tender for the work must be able to demonstrate within their Specification that they can provide staffing and expertise with the appropriate experience in dealing with technology of the type and nature required in this Brief.
- 17.1.2 Contractors will operate in line with professional guidelines and standards as stated in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA):
- Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (1994, revised 2008)
  - Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (1995, revised 2008)
  - IfA Code of Conduct (1985, as revised 2010) and,
  - IfA By-Law Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology (IfA, 1990 as revised, 2008).

### **17.2 Pre-tender site visit**

- 17.2.1 It is recommended that the Contractor visit the site before completing any Specification, as there may be implications for accurately costing the project. This visit should be noted, along with any other relevant site details, within the Specification.

### **17.3 Specification**

17.3.1 The Specification will cater for full post-excavation analysis, reporting and deposition of the site findings.

17.3.2 The Specification must:

- a) be prepared within a defined research context (e.g. *The Archaeology of the East Midlands, An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph 13, ed. N Cooper, 2006), and set out the site-specific objectives of the archaeological works,
- b) detail the proposed works as precisely as is reasonably possible, and where appropriate, indicate clearly on plan their location and extent,
- c) include details, including name, qualifications and experience of the Site director and all other key project personnel, including any specialist staff and sub-contractors, will be included in the Specification. The ratio of on-site voluntary assistance must not exceed a ratio of more than 1:2 employed experienced staff,
- d) detail archive deposition, publication and presentation,
- e) provide a timetable for proposed works.

#### 17.4 Approval of the Specification

17.4.1 The Specification must be forwarded to the PA for approval prior to the start of the proposed development.

17.4.2 Any changes the PA recommends to a preferred Specification might have financial implications for the costing of the archaeological Contractor; changes to the Specification will be discussed and agreed in writing by the PA and the archaeological Contractor, and submitted in writing to the Local Authority.

#### 17.5 Agreement

17.5.1 There must be a written archaeological agreement that satisfactorily implements the approved format and provides sufficient financial support for all aspects of the work including fieldwork, finds processing, conservation, specialist analysis, archiving, cataloguing, report work and long-term storage curation. The archaeological Consultant/Contractor must confirm with the PA that the prospective developer has signed such an agreement before the commencement of works on site.

### 18. Monitoring

18.1 The work undertaken by the archaeological Contractor, will be monitored under the auspices of the Leicestershire PA, or their appropriate representative, who is responsible for monitoring all archaeological work in Leicestershire and Rutland on behalf of the Local Planning Authority. Monitoring includes reviewing site work, the progress of excavation reports, archive preparation and final deposition.

18.2 Before the commencement of the project the Contractor must inform the PA, in writing, of the timetable of proposed works and ensure that the PA is kept regularly informed about developments during site and subsequent post-excavation work.

18.3 The PA will be given at least one week's written notice of commencement of archaeological work.

### 19. Alterations to this Brief

19.1 This Brief is valid for three months (from the date below). If not tendered within this period the prospective developer will seek confirmation from the PA of its continued validity. In addition the following apply:

19.2 Prior to the formal appointment of an archaeological Contractor, the PA reserves the right to alter this Brief if additional information comes to light that may have a bearing on the scope and methods of work currently required (e.g. site construction constraints, foundation details etc).

19.3 After formal appointment, any alterations recommended by the PA which may affect the archaeological Contractor's agreed Project Design (whether this is before commencement or during the project), will be made in consultation with the archaeological Contractor and submitted to the Local Planning Authority.

## 20. **Key Definitions**

### *Planning Archaeologist*

Responsible for providing an archaeological curatorial planning service to Leicestershire districts. Advises on the nature of the work required and monitors projects from implementation to completion.

### **Archive Curator:**

Responsible for the long-term curation of the archive in the recipient Museum.

### **Prospective Developer:**

Person/group/developer commissioning the archaeological work.

### **Contractor:**

Archaeological Contractor tendering to carry out the archaeological work and as appointed by the prospective developer.

### **Specification or Written Scheme of Investigation:**

Written document detailing the proposed work and as provided by a Contractor in line with the Brief provided by the PA.

## 21. **Contact details:**

### **Principal Planning Archaeologist:**

Historic & Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Hall, Leicester Road, Glenfield, Leicestershire, LE3 8RA. Telephone No.: 0116 3058322. Fax: 0116 3057965. Email: [richard.clark@leics.gov.uk](mailto:richard.clark@leics.gov.uk).

### **Senior Planning Archaeologist:**

Historic & Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Hall, Leicester Road, Glenfield, Leicestershire, LE3 8RA. Telephone No.: 0116 3056217. Fax: 0116 3057965. Email:

### **Regional Science Advisor (English Heritage):**

English Heritage, 44, Dergate, Northampton, Northamptonshire, NN1 1UH. Telephone No.: 01604 735451. Fax: 01604 735401. Email: [Jim.Williams@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:Jim.Williams@english-heritage.org.uk).

### **Curator Archaeology (Leicestershire Archives):**

Collections Resources Centre, Leicestershire Museums Services, c/o County Hall, Leicester Road, Glenfield, Leicestershire, LE3 8RA. Telephone No.: 01509 815514. Fax: 01509 813934. Email: [richard.pollard@leics.gov.uk](mailto:richard.pollard@leics.gov.uk).

### **Curator of Rutland County Museums Service (Rutland Archives):**

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Date: 11 March 2011

## **Appendix II: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Attendance for Inspection and Recording**

*The Bungalow, 22 Main Street, Stathern, Leicestershire*

**NGR:** SK77173103

**Planning Application:** 10/00200/FUL

**Client:** Neil Herries

**Planning Ref:** 10/00252/FUL

**Authority:** Melton Borough Council

### **1. Introduction**

#### *Definition and scope of the specification*

- 1.1 This document is a design specification for a phase of archaeological investigation and recording at the above site, in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, Policy HE12.3 (DCLG 2010). This specification provides a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a phase of archaeological attendance for inspection and recording. The fieldwork specified below is intended to provide information on the character and extent of any buried archaeological remains which may exist on the site.
- 1.3 This document provides details of the work proposed by ULAS on behalf of the client, and should be submitted to the Archaeological Advisor to the Planning Authority for approval before archaeological investigation by ULAS is implemented. The document provides details of the work proposed by ULAS on behalf of the client for:

Archaeological investigation (Strip, Plan and Sample)

### **2. Background**

#### *Context of the Project*

- 2.1. The project involves alterations to the existing bungalow to add first floor and a new 3 bedroom dwelling to the side. (Figs 1 and 2).

#### *Geological and Topographical Background*

- 2.2 The site lies on the west of Main Street, Stathern, Leicestershire (NGR SK77173103). It totals approximately 0.04ha in area and is currently part of the existing garden and access to the bungalow.
- 2.3 The geology is Jurassic mudstone bedrock (Charmouth Mudstone formation) overlying colluvial/alluvial deposits (BGS Melton Mowbray Sheet 142). The site lies on a terrace of flat ground at c. 75m OD with a small stream along the northern and western boundary.

#### *Archaeological and Historical Background (from the brief)*

- 2.4 The site has been identified as an area of archaeological potential from information held in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER). The site lies within the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of Stathern. It also lies on the street frontage on an area shown as undeveloped land on the late 19th century 1st edition OS map. Buried archaeological evidence spanning the evolution of the village to its more recent past might be expected in the development area.
- 2.5 The Senior Planning Archaeologist has recommended an archaeological strip, plan and sample to be undertaken using a machine equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, followed by archaeological excavation of any archaeological deposits with a contingency for recording and detailed excavation if required.

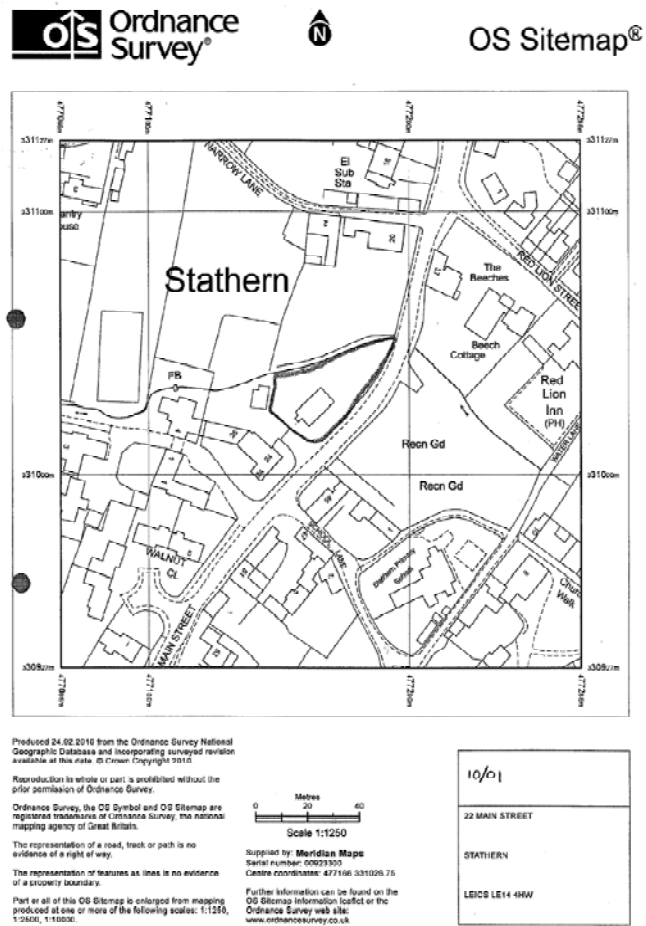


Figure 1: Site location. *Plan provided by client*

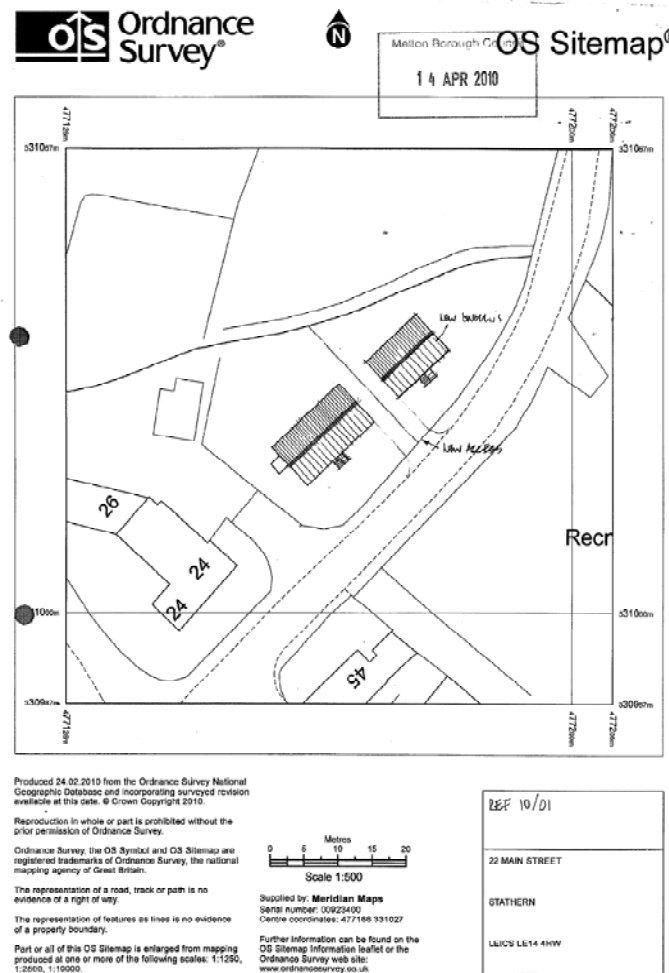


Figure 2: Detail of proposed work. *Plan provided by client*

### 3. Archaeological Objectives

#### 3.1 Through archaeological controlled stripping and investigation:

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

### 4. Methodology

#### *General Methodology and Standards*

- 4.1 All work will follow the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2010) and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2008).
- 4.2 Staffing, recording systems, health and safety provisions and insurance details are included below.
- 4.3 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 Planning authority and the Client, if required.
- 4.4 An accession number will be obtained prior to commencement of the project and used to identify all records and artefacts.

#### *Strip, Plan and Sample*

- 4.4 The project will involve the supervision of overburden removal and other groundworks by an experienced professional archaeologist during the works specified above. Initially it is proposed to open a trial trench to assess the depth of topsoil/overburden and determine the presence/absence of any archaeological remains.
- 4.6 Should significant archaeological remains be identified in an initial trial trench, and found to be 0.15m or less below proposed formation, the site is to be stripped down to the top of the archaeology, followed by a programme of excavation and recording, using additional personnel as necessary.
- 4.6 In the event that archaeological remains of uncertain significance are located in the initial trench/test pit (e.g. undated post-hole/pit), further trenching may be necessary, at the discretion of the site supervisor, to clarify their nature and significance and determine the need for a full topsoil strip.
- 4.7 The archaeologist will co-operate at all times with the contractors on site to ensure the minimum interruption to the work.
- 4.8 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.
- 4.9 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establish 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.
- 4.10 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.
- 4.11 Any human remains encountered will be initially left in situ and only be removed under a Home Office Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. The

developer and Leicestershire County Council will be informed immediately on their discovery.

- 4.12 In the event of significant archaeological remains being located 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 Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services and the planning authority. If the archaeological remains are identified to be of significance additional contingent archaeological works will be required.

### ***Recording Systems***

- 4.11 The ULAS recording manual will be used as a guide for all recording.
- 4.12 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto pro-forma recording sheets.
- 4.13 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.
- 4.14 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. The relative height of all principal strata and features will be recorded. The stratigraphy of all trenches shall be recorded even where no archaeological features are identified.
- 4.15 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.
- 4.16 This record will be compiled and checked during the course of the excavations.

## **5. Finds**

- 5.1 The IfA Guidelines for Finds Work will be adhered to.
- 5.2 All antiquities, valuables, objects or remains of archaeological interest, other than articles declared by Coroner's Inquest to be subject to the Treasure Act, discovered in or under the Site during the carrying out of the project by ULAS or during works carried out on the Site by the Client shall be deemed to be the property of ULAS provided that ULAS after due examination of the said Archaeological Discoveries shall transfer ownership of all Archaeological Discoveries unconditionally to LCC for storage in perpetuity.
- 5.3 An Accession number will be obtained from the Assistant Keeper of Archaeological Archives at Leicestershire County Council that will be used to identify all records and finds from the site, prior to the commencement of any on-site works.
- 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.
- 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

## **6. Environmental Sampling**

- 6.1. If features are appropriate for environmental sampling a strategy and methodology will be developed on site following advice from ULAS's Environmental Specialist. Preparation,



taking, processing and assessment of environmental samples will be in accordance with current best practice. The sampling strategy is likely to include the following:

- 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.
  - Any buried soils or well-sealed deposits with concentrations of carbonised material present will be intensively sampled taking a known proportion of the deposit.
  - Spot samples will be taken where concentrations of environmental remains are located.
  - Waterlogged remains, if present, will be sampled for pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and radiocarbon dating provided that they are uncontaminated.
- 6.2 All collected samples will be labelled with context and sequential sample numbers.
- 6.3 Appropriate contexts will be bulk sampled (15 litre or the whole context depending on size) for the recovery of carbonised plant remains and insects.
- 6.4 Recovery of small animal bones, bird bone and large molluscs will normally be achieved through processing other bulk samples or 30 litre samples may be taken specifically to sample particularly rich deposits.
- 6.5 Wet sieving with flotation will be carried out using a York Archaeological Trust sieving tank with a 0.5mm mesh and a 0.3mm flotation sieve. The small size mesh will be used initially as flotation of plant remains may be incomplete and some may remain in the residue. The residue > 0.5mm from the tank will be separated into coarse fractions of over 4mm and fine fractions of > 0.5-4mm. The coarse fractions will be sorted for finds. The fine fractions and flots will be evaluated and prioritised; only those with remains apparent will be sorted. The prioritised flots will not be sorted until the analysis stage when phasing information is available. Flots will be scanned and plant remains from selected contexts will be identified and further sampling, sieving and sorting targeted towards higher potential deposits.
- 7. Report and Archive**
- 7.1 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 Senior Planning Archaeologist/HER to be distributed amongst relevant sections of Leicestershire County Council as necessary.
- 7.2 The report will include consideration of:
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the evaluation.
  - The nature, location and extent 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.
- 7.3 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.
- 7.4 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.

**8. Publication and Dissemination of Results**

- 8.1 A summary of the work will be submitted to the local archaeological journal, the Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society. A larger report will be submitted for inclusion if the results of the evaluation warrant it.
- 8.2 University of Leicester Archaeological Services supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The online OASIS form at <http://ads.ac.uk/project/oasis> will be completed detailing the results of the project. ULAS will contact Leicestershire County Council's SMR prior to completion of the form. Once a report has become a public document following its incorporation into Leicestershire SMR it may be placed on the web-site. The Developer should agree to this procedure in writing as part of the process of submitting the report to Leicestershire SMR.

## 9. Acknowledgement and Publicity

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 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.

## 10. Timetable

- 10.1 The work is expected to start on 13th December. It will involve one person on site at varying times throughout the groundworks.

## 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 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.

## 12. Bibliography

Brown, D., 2008	<i>Standard and guidance for the preparation of Archaeological Archives</i> (Institute for Archaeologists)
IfA, 2010	<i>Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Watching Briefs.</i>
IfA, 2008	<i>Code of Conduct</i>
LCC, 2010	<i>Brief for Archaeological Investigation (Strip, Plan and Sample Excavation) at The Bungalow, 22 Main Street, Stathern, Leicestershire (NGR SK77173103)</i>

05-12-2010

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