

Archaeological Works on Land adjacent to 29 Main Street Osgathorpe, Leicestershire



ARS Ltd Report 2019/82

April 2019

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Archaeological Works on Land Adjacent to 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Leicestershire

Chronology (calendar years BC-AD)	Glacial Eras	British Archaeological Periods	Climatic Phases	Environment		
AD 1901	Holocene	modern	Sub-atlantic (climatic warming)	Open landscapes with forested areas. Mixed farming widespread		
AD 1837		Victorian				
AD 1714		Georgian				
AD 1485		post-medieval				
		medieval				
AD 1066		early medieval				
AD 410		Roman Britain				
AD 43						
0		Iron Age				
500 BC					(abrupt climatic deterioration)	
700 BC		Bronze Age			(climatic warming)	Deciduous woodland clearance for agriculture
800 BC						
1800 BC		Beaker period			Sub-boreal (episodes of abrupt climatic deterioration, colder and wetter)	Last of large North Sea islands submerged
2400 BC						
		Neolithic (advent of farming)				Elm decline
3800 BC					(climatic optimum)	Mixed deciduous forest (oak, elm, pine, alder, hazel and full range of trees) Increased amount of alder
4000 BC						
4200 BC		Late Mesolithic			Atlantic	Storegga Slide tsunami Britain becomes an island
6175 BC					(Abrupt climatic deterioration, colder and drier)	
6400 BC		Boreal	Mixed forest (hazel, birch, pine, willow, heather)			
7000 BC		Early Mesolithic	Preboreal (very rapid decadal warming)	Temperate forest (birch, pine, willow)		
9700 BC	Pleistocene	Palaeolithic	Arctic	Tundra		
11500 BC			Loch Lomond Stadial (known as Younger Dryas across NW Europe)	Late Upper Palaeolithic Ahrensburgian		
15000 BC			Windermere Interstadial or 'Late Glacial Interstadial'	Upper Palaeolithic Creswellian/ Magdalenian	Sub-arctic	Plains and woodland (dwarf birch, willow) Mammoths in Britain
18000 BC	Devensian 'LGM' (Last Glacial Maximum)	Upper Palaeolithic	Arctic	Ice and tundra steppe		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Name:	Archaeological Works on Land adjacent to 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Leicestershire
Site Code:	MSO'19
Planning Authority:	North West Leicestershire Borough Council
Planning Reference:	16/00183/FUL
Location:	29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 9TA
Parish:	Osgathorpe
Geology:	Tarporley Siltstone Formation
NGR:	SK 42821 19384
Date of Fieldwork:	8 th April 2019
Date of Report:	17th April 2019

Archaeological Research Services was commissioned by Mr & Mrs J & C Bramley to undertake an Archaeological Watching Brief on land adjacent to 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Leicestershire, LE12 9TA. The site lies close to the centre of the village of Osgathorpe, which is thought to have its' origins in the early medieval or medieval period, and close to several historic buildings which are designated heritage assets.

The watching brief was carried out on 8th April 2019 in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation agreed in advance with the Principal Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council.

The Watching Brief comprised the archaeological monitoring and supervision of the machine excavation of wall footings for the proposed dwelling in part fulfilment of conditioned planning consent. Excavations revealed extensive truncation thought to relate to the site's previous use as allotments as well as substantial levelling up deposits associated with the construction of the adjacent road. No archaeological features or artefacts were present.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background and Scope of Work

1.1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Archaeological Research Services Ltd. On behalf of Mr & Mrs J & C Bramley during groundworks associated with the construction of a detached dwelling and associated off-street parking on land adjacent to 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Leicestershire (Figure 1), centred at NGR SK 42821 19384.

1.1.2 A planning application has been approved, subject to condition, for the development of the site. The Leicestershire County Council (LCC) Principal Archaeologist, on behalf of North West Leicestershire Borough Council, was consulted and a condition was attached to the planning permission for a programme of archaeological works to be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation.

1.1.3 Archaeology is a material consideration in the planning process. The aim of this programme of works was, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 199 (MHCLG 2019), to record and to advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or partly) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publically accessible.

1.1.4 Planning conditions 14-15 of the planning consent (Ref. No. 16/00183/FUL) require the following:

“14 No development shall commence until a programme of archaeological work including a Written Scheme of Investigation has first been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason – to ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation and recording.

15 No development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation agreed under Condition 14.

Reason - to ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation and recording.”

1.1.5 The archaeological works comprised the recording of three ground testing test pits and the archaeological monitoring of all intrusive groundworks associated with the construction of the footings of the proposed detached dwelling.

1.1.6 The works were undertaken in compliance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Dyson 2019). The monitoring took place on 8th April 2019 and was

undertaken by Robert Cole, Assistant Project Officer at Archaeological Research Services Ltd. The project was managed by Reuben Thorpe MCIfA, FSA, Head of Field Archaeology at Archaeological Research Services Ltd.

1.2 Site Location

1.2.1 The village of Osgathorpe lies 11km west of Loughborough and 22km north-west of Leicester. The proposed development area (hereafter PDA) lies close to the centre of the village of Osgathorpe on the south side of Main Street between house number 29 and the brook that runs through the village.

1.3 Site Description

1.3.1 The PDA currently comprises a field used for rough grazing, with wooded hedgerows alongside Westmeadow Brook forming the boundary to the south-east. A large barn structure is located to the south-west but otherwise the PDA is undeveloped. The site measures c.490m².

1.4 Geology and Soils

1.4.1 The solid geology of the site comprises siltstone, mudstone and sandstone of the Tarporley Siltstone Formation; sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 242 to 250 million years ago in the Triassic Period when the local environment was dominated by lakes. No overlying superficial deposits are recorded (BGS 2019).

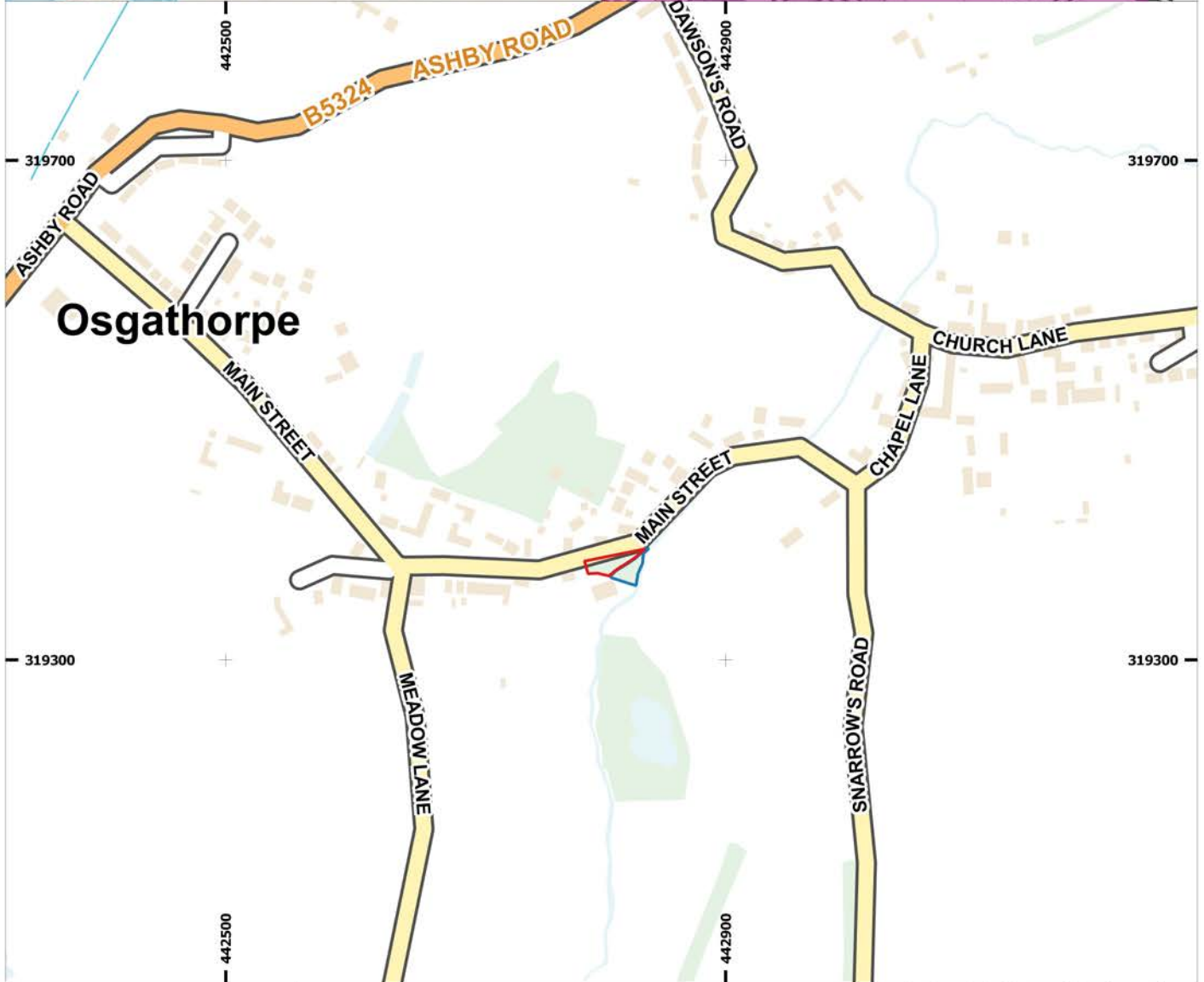
1.5 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.5.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the PDA lies in an area of archaeological interest, on the frontage of Main Street, within the medieval and post-medieval settlement core of Osgathorpe village (MLE12321).

1.5.2 The village of Osgathorpe dates back at least as far as the early medieval period and is recorded in the Domesday book as *Osgodthorp* when it had a population of eight households and a taxable value of 1 geld unit, which is considered to be very small (opendomesday.org 2019).

1.5.3 The village contains several listed buildings, some of which lie close to the PDA. These date from 14th to the 17th centuries and are predominantly concentrated around the parish church of St Mary the Blessed Virgin c.300m north-east of the site. The church itself was built in the 14th century and extensively restored in the 19th century.

1.5.4 In a wider context the villages of Leicestershire and the wider English Central Midlands appear to have evolved alongside their open field systems during the later 1st millennium AD. Because of this it was thought that archaeological evidence relating to the evolution of the village and spanning the period from the inception of the village to its more recent past might be expected within the development area (Dyson 2019).




Site name: 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe
 Date: March 2019
 Drawn by: BD
 Scale: Varies

Site boundary
 Local Authority Boundary

Flood risk area

This drawing: © ARS Ltd
 Contains Ordnance Survey data.
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**Figure 1:
Site location**



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2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 Regional Research Aims and Objectives

2.1.1 The proposed archaeological works were adjudged to have the potential to provide evidence relating to research themes and specific objectives identified in the *Updated Research Agenda for the East Midlands* (Knight *et al.* 2012), notably for the medieval and post-medieval period.

2.1.2 For the medieval period this includes the following:

- ◆ 7.7 – The agrarian landscape and food-producing economy: Can we shed further light upon the origins and development of the field system and its impact upon agricultural practices?

2.1.3 For the post-medieval period research themes include:

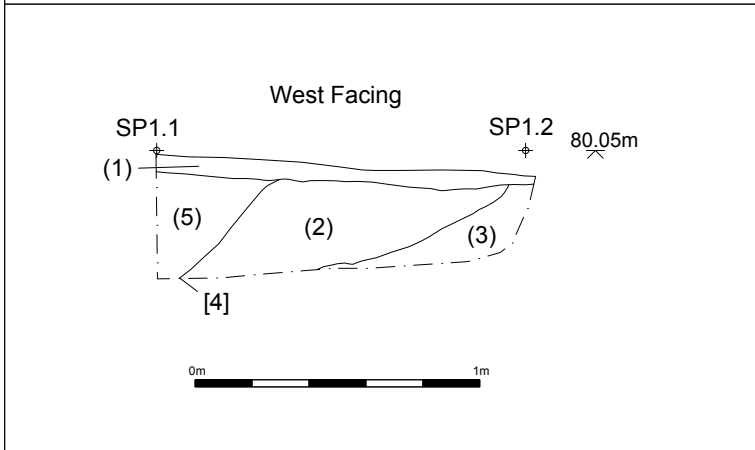
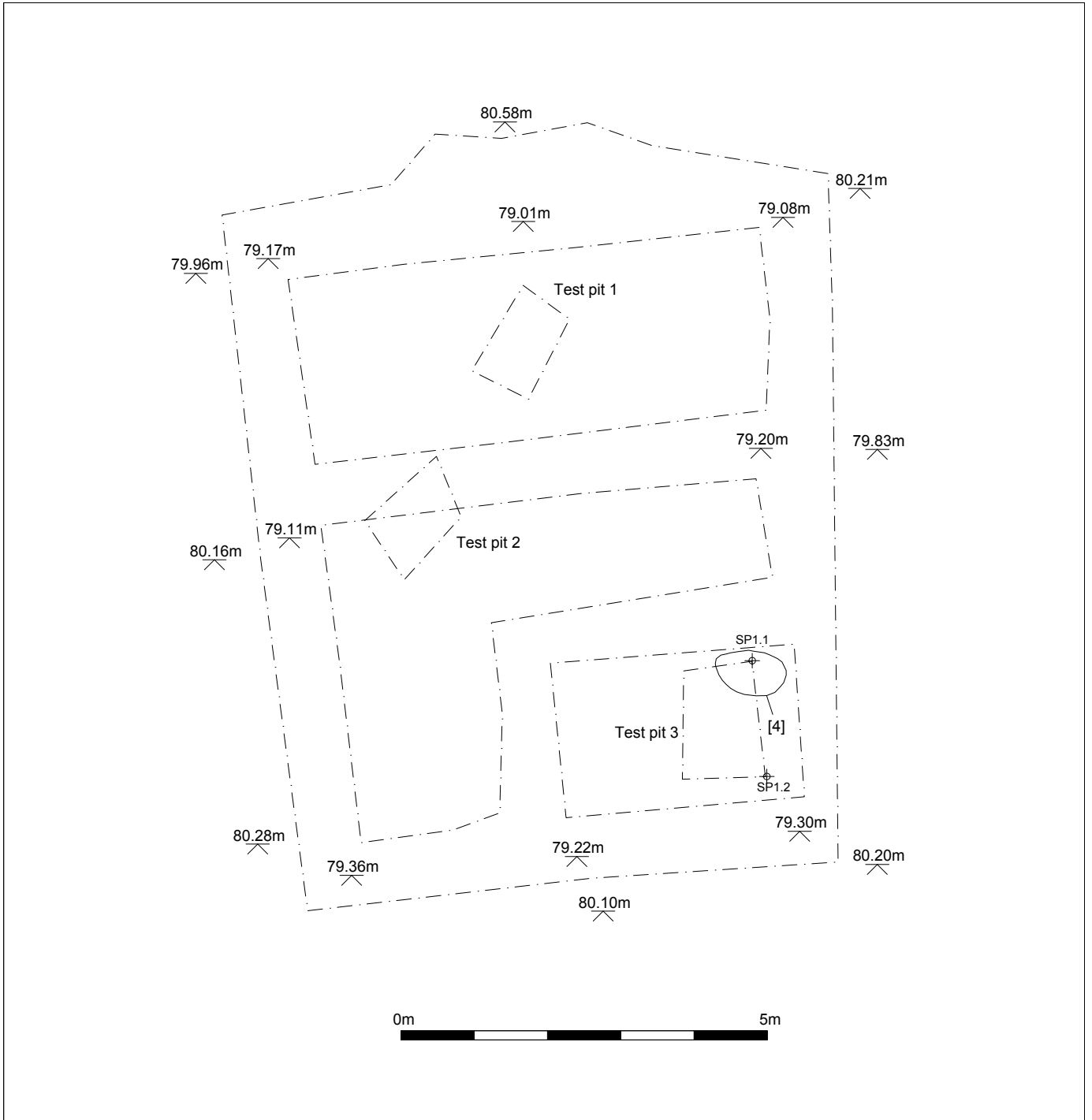
- ◆ 8.4 – Rural settlement patterns and building traditions: What was the impact of industrialisation upon established settlement patterns and the rural landscape, and how did this vary regionally?

2.2 Principal Aims and Objectives

2.2.1 The aims of the programme of archaeological works are to gather sufficient evidence to establish, supplement, improve and make available information about any archaeological remains existing within the area of investigation, and to provide appropriate post-excavation assessment, analysis, reporting, archiving and dissemination.

2.2.2 The objectives are as follows:

- ◆ To produce a photographic, drawn and descriptive record of any surviving below-ground archaeological remains.
- ◆ To produce dating and phasing for archaeological deposits recorded on the site.
- ◆ To establish the character and delimit the extent of archaeological deposits in order to define functional areas on the site, e.g. industrial and domestic.
- ◆ To produce information on the economy and local environment.



Site Name: 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe
 Date: April 2019
 Drawn by: RHC
 Scale: As shown

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 Licencing
 This Drawing
 © A.R.S. Ltd

Figure 2: Site plan showing test pits and wall foundation trenches

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3 Method Statement

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The methodology for the works is outlined in details in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Dyson 2019) which is attached as Appendix III of this document. A summary is presented below.

3.2 Coverage

3.2.1 Three test pits and 43.5m length of foundation trenches were dug across the site. The test pits measured approximately 1m x 1.5m and the foundation trenches were approximately 1m in width and excavated into the underlying natural to a depth of between 0.9m and 1.13m below contemporary ground level (BGL). Between them they amounted to an area of 49m² within a total building footprint of 77.4m² (Figure 2).

3.3 Watching Brief

3.3.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2014a) and *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2014b)

3.3.2 All aspects of the project conformed to the specifications set out in the Leicestershire County Council's generic *Brief for Archaeological Attendance* (2019)

3.3.3 A risk assessment was undertaken before commencement of the work. Health and Safety regulations were adhered to at all times.

3.3.4 All machine excavation was undertaken with a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under continuous archaeological supervision.

3.3.5 Each of the test pits was cleaned by hand to expose and clarify potential archaeological features.

3.3.6 All excavated areas were recorded in Ordnance Survey co-ordinates and their elevations calculated in metres above Ordnance Datum (aOD) using a survey grade RTK GNSS operating on the OSGB36(15) co-ordinate system.

4 Results

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Topsoil (1) on the site characteristically comprised a dark brownish black sandy silt which contained a large quantity of modern glass, ceramic and plastic waste. It varied in thickness across the site measuring c. 0.60m thick in the north along Main Street, c. 0.10m thick in the centre and south of the site. The topsoil overlay alluvium which comprised a

mid reddish brown silty clay subsoil (2) c. 0.45m thick and was present across the whole of the site.

4.1.2 Geological natural (3) was encountered in Test Pit 3 and in the south-eastern corner of wall footings. It was characteristically comprised of sandstone/siltstone boulder clay derived from the Tarporley siltstone formation and deposited as glaciaofluvial sediment. Pieces of sandstone and siltstone ranged in size from 50mm to 0.75m in diameter and were set in a matrix of light brownish yellow sandy clay.

4.2 Test pits

Test Pit 1

(Figures 2, 3, 4)

4.2.1 Test Pit 1 was situated in the northern internal division on the proposed dwelling. It was excavated by machine to a single bucket width (0.80m) to a depth of 0.55m. Topsoil (1) measured 0.10m thick and overlay subsoil (2) which measured 0.45m thick. No archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.

Test Pit 2

(Figures 2, 3, 5)

4.2.2 Test pit 2 was situated to the south-west of Test Pit 1 partly within the central/western internal division of the proposed dwelling and partly within the wall footing. No topsoil was present. The test pit was excavated by machine to single bucket width and a depth of 0.70m and was entirely cut through the backfill of a 20th century land drain. The ceramic tiles within the land drain were not observed during the excavation of the test pit but were subsequently exposed within the wall footing.

Test Pit 3

(Figures 2, 3, 6)

4.2.3 Test Pit 3 was situated within the south-eastern internal division of the proposed dwelling. It was excavated by machine to a depth of 0.45m. A thin layer of topsoil was present measuring 80mm thick. This overlay alluvium (2) which measured 0.45m thick. Geological natural was observed in the south-east corner of the test pit below the alluvium. In the north-east corner of the test pit the alluvium was cut by a small pit [4] thought to be a planting hole from the site's previous use as an allotment. The fill of the pit contained broken modern glass and ceramics.



Figure 3: Post-ex test pits 1, 2 & 3 (left to right)



Figure 4: Test pit 1 looking north



Figure 5: Test pit 2 looking north-west



Figure 6: Test pit 3 looking north-east

4.3 Wall Foundations

(Figures 2, 7, 8, 9, 10)

4.3.1 The wall foundations were excavated by machine under continuous archaeological supervision to a single bucket width and a uniform depth of c. 79.00m – 79.30m aOD. Excavation started with northern external wall and then proceeded anticlockwise with the west wall and south wall. The internal divisions were excavated next before finishing with the east wall.

4.3.2 The northern internal dividing wall followed the line of a 20th century land drain, the backfill of which having been identified in Test Pit 2. The drain itself was constructed from curved ceramic tiles.

4.3.3 With the exception of the northern internal dividing wall, the wall trenches displayed a similar sequence of deposits with topsoil (1) overlying alluvium (2). Geological natural (3) was only encountered in the south-eastern corner.

4.3.4 The pit cut [4] identified in test pit three was not visible in the eastern wall trench or southern internal dividing wall trench, placing a limit on the potential size of the feature.

5 Conclusion

5.1.1 The archaeological works demonstrated that the previous land use as allotments had only a limited impact on the deposits present. Only one cut feature relating to this period could be clearly identified and it was quite small in size. Subsequent clearance of vegetation after the allotment fell into disuse is thought to account for the scanty nature of the topsoil in the centre and south of the site and there was an indication that an amount of topsoil had been removed from within the building footprint and reinstated immediately to the west.

5.1.2 The difference in the thickness of the topsoil was even more pronounced because the deposit was unusually thick at the northern end of the side along Main Street. The land surface sloped down significantly from the road towards the site so it is to be expected that the deposit would be thicker at the base of the slope, where the northern wall trench was located, but this difference seem to have been accentuated by the dumping of additional material most likely as made ground for the construction of the tarmacked road.

5.1.3 No archaeological features or artefacts were present on the site.



Figure 7: West wall foundation trench looking north



Figure 8: North wall foundation trench looking east



Figure 9: Excavation of the east wall foundation trench.



Figure 10: Excavation of internal dividing wall foundation.

6 Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright

6.1.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

6.1.2 ARS Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

7 Statement of Indemnity

7.1.1 All statements and opinions contained within this report arising from the works undertaken are offered in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of the report for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

8 Archive

8.1.1 A digital and paper archive will be prepared by ARS Ltd, consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data, which will be deposited with Leicestershire Arts and Museums Services.

8.1.2 An accession number was obtained prior to the commencement of the project. That number is **X.A16.2019**.

8.1.3 The archive will be prepared in line with the recommendations provided by ClfA's (2014c) *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, the Society of Museum Archaeologists' (1993) *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*.

8.1.4 A full set of annotated, illustrative pictures of the site, excavation, features on CD or DVD ROM will be deposited with the report

8.1.5 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> has been initiated and will be completed for this work and all parts of the OASIS online form completed for submission to the HER. This will include an uploaded pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included within the archive)

9 Acknowledgements

9.1.1 ARS Ltd would like to thank to thank Mr & Mrs J & C Bramley for commissioning the project. We would also like to thank Richard Clark, Principal Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council, for his assistance with the project.

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APPENDIX I: CONTEXT SUMMARY TABLE

Archaeological Works on Land Adjacent to 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Leicestershire

Context	Type/	Description / Processual Interpretation	Thickness/extent (depth/length x width)	Depth to top (BGL)
1	Deposit/Topsoil	Dark blackish brown sandy silt with brick rubble, roots and leaves	0.60m/whole site	0
2	Deposit/Subsoil	Mid reddish brown clayey silt with occasional stones	0.45/whole site	0.60m
3	Deposit/Geological natural	Light brownish yellow sandy clay matrix with 75% sandstone and siltstone/boulder clay	∞/Whole site	1.05 m
4	Cut/Pit	Small cut feature, shape in plan not seen, u-shaped in profile	0.40m/1.15m x 0.70m	0.10m
5	Deposit/Fill	Mid reddish brown clayey silt with CBM, charcoal and stone inclusions	0.40m/1.15m x 0.70m	0.10m

APPENDIX II: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

**Land adjacent to 29 Main Street,
Osgathorpe, Leicestershire**

**Written Scheme of Investigation
for Archaeological Works**

March 2019



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Angel House, Portland Square, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1HB

www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

Prepared on behalf of: Mr & Mrs J & C Bramley

Date of compilation: March 2019

Compiled by: Ben Dyson ACIfA

Planning Reference: 16/00183/FUL

Local Authority: North West Leicestershire
District Council

Site central NGR: SK 42821 19384

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1 Introduction

1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) on behalf of Mr & Mrs J & C Bramley (the clients). It details a scheme of archaeological works for a watching brief on land adjacent to 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 9TA (NGR: SK 42821 19384) (Figure 1).

1.2 The application relates to the proposed construction of a detached dwelling with associated off-street parking.

1.3 Planning permission has been granted by North West Leicestershire District Council for the proposed development (planning ref: 16/00183/FUL). Condition numbers 14-15 of the planning permission require the following:

“14 No development shall commence until a programme of archaeological work including a Written Scheme of Investigation has first been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason – to ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation and recording.

15 No development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation agreed under Condition 14.

Reason - to ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation and recording.”

1.4 Archaeology is a material consideration in the planning process. The aim of this programme of works is, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 199 (MHCLG 2018), to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publically accessible.

1.5 This document comprises the WSI and sets out the archaeological works to be undertaken by ARS Ltd on land adjacent to 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Loughborough, Leicestershire in accordance with the generic *Brief for Archaeological Attendance* (2019) produced by Leicestershire County Council, Historic and Natural Environment Team.

2 Background

2.1 Site Location and Geology

2.1.1 The proposed development area (hereafter PDA) lies close to the centre of the village of Osgathorpe on the south side of Main Street. The PDA currently comprises a field used for rough grazing, with wooded hedgerows alongside Westmeadow Brook forming the boundary to the south-east. A large existing barn structure is located to the south-west but otherwise the PDA is undeveloped. The site is centred at SK 42821 19384 and measures c.490m² (Figure 1).

2.1.2 The underlying solid geology of the site comprises siltstone, mudstone and sandstone of the Tarporley Siltstone Formation; sedimentary bedrock formed

approximately 242 to 250 million years ago in the Triassic Period when the local environment was dominated by lakes. No overlying superficial deposits are recorded (BGS 2019).

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.2.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the PDA lies in an area of archaeological interest, on the frontage of Main Street, within the medieval and post-medieval settlement core of Osgathorpe village (MLE12321).

2.2.2 The villages of Leicestershire and the wider English Central Midlands appear to have evolved alongside their open field systems, during the later 1st millennium AD. Buried archaeological evidence, constituting one or more as yet unidentified heritage asset(s), spanning the period from the earliest evolution of the village to its more recent past, can be expected within the development area. Consequently, there is likelihood that buried archaeological remains will be affected by the development.

3 Aims and Objectives

3.1 Regional Research Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 The proposed archaeological works have the potential to provide evidence relating to research objectives and overarching research themes identified in the *Updated Research Agenda for the East Midlands* (Knight *et al.* 2012), notably for the High Medieval and Post-Medieval periods.

3.1.2 For the High Medieval Period these include the following:

- ♦ 7.7 – The agrarian landscape and food-producing economy: Can we shed further light upon the origins and development of the open-field system and its impact upon agricultural practices? (Knight *et al.* 2012, 94).

3.1.3 For the Post-Medieval period research themes include:

- ♦ 8.4 – Rural settlement patterns and building traditions: What was the impact of industrialisation upon established settlement patterns and the rural landscape, and how did this vary regionally?

3.2 Principal Aims and Objectives

3.2.1 The aims of the programme of archaeological works are to gather sufficient evidence to establish, supplement, improve and make available information about any archaeological remains existing within the area of investigation, and to provide appropriate post-excavation assessment, analysis, reporting, archiving and dissemination.

3.2.2 The objectives are as follows.

- ♦ To produce a photographic, drawn and descriptive record of any surviving below-ground archaeological remains.

- ◆ To produce dating and phasing for archaeological deposits recorded on the site.
- ◆ To establish the character and delimit the extent of archaeological deposits in order to define functional areas on the site, e.g. industrial and domestic.
- ◆ To produce information on the economy and local environment.

4 Fieldwork Methodology

4.1 General Statement of Practice

4.1.1 All staff employed on the project will be suitably qualified for their respective project roles and have substantial experience of archaeological excavation and recording.

4.1.2 All staff will be made aware of the archaeological importance of the area surrounding the site and will be fully briefed on the work required by this specification.

4.1.3 All ground works covered under this specification will be undertaken by a suitable mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, or by hand, working in plan.

4.1.4 ARS Ltd will ensure that plant or machinery will not be operated in the immediate vicinity of any archaeological remains until they have been recorded.

4.1.5 Contractors and plant operators will be notified that any observations of archaeological remains must be reported immediately to the archaeologist on site.

4.1.6 Regular contact will be ensured between ARS Ltd and the site project manager to ensure that ARS Ltd is kept up to date with site works and given the change to respond appropriately and in line with the requirements of LCC's Planning Archaeologist.

4.1.7 All site operations will be carried out in a safe manner in accordance with ARS Ltd's health and safety policy. A risk assessment will be prepared before commencement on site.

4.2 Excavation and Recording

4.2.1 All elements of the watching brief will be carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2014a) and *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2014b) and Leicestershire County Council's generic *Brief for Archaeological Attendance* (2019). The site will be recorded in accordance with ARS Ltd's field recording manual and single context recording system, and will include as a minimum context record sheets, an accurate site plan and record photography where no archaeological features are present.

4.2.2 The project will involve intensive monitoring during all groundworks likely to disturb archaeological remains. In general this will take the form of the removal, under archaeological control, of overburden followed by investigation and recording

of exposed archaeological deposits. This work will be undertaken by an experienced professional archaeologist appointed by ARS Ltd.

4.2.3 Mechanical excavation will be undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket and will be continuously monitored by an experienced archaeologist. Excavation will proceed 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 deposits.

4.2.3 Where archaeological deposits/features are located, 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 contractors on site to ensure the minimum interruption to the work.

4.2.4 Any archaeological deposits located will be hand cleaned and recorded as appropriate. Samples of any archaeological deposits located will be excavated. Particular attention will be paid to the potential for buried palaeosoils and waterlogged deposits in consultation with our in house environmental officer.

4.2.5 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. This will encompass a minimum sample excavation of: 50% of each discrete feature; 10% of each linear feature in addition to terminals and intersections, each excavated slot measuring at least 1m in width (wherever possible); 100% of special features/deposits including burials, structural remains, kilns, etc. will be excavated, unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Archaeologist.

4.2.6 Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied to an overall site plan of 1:100. All plans will be tied into the National Grid using an Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM) or Leica Survey grade GPS. All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale and these tied to XYZ coordinates of the Ordnance Survey. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

4.3 Photography

4.3.1 Photography will comprise colour slide photography and black and white print and will be compiled under the following (excepting those provisions specifically relating to digital photography).

4.3.2 Where digital photography is undertaken:

- Photographs will be taken with a high resolution digital SLR camera with sensor exceeding 12 Mega pixels;
- Photographs will only be taken by staff who have been trained properly to use the camera;

- All photographs will be taken using the highest quality setting and saved in JPEG format. JPEG images will not be constantly re-opened and re-saved and that filing naming processes do not lead to additional image compression.
- All digital photographs will be taken in colour;
- Digital photographs will be taken either on a manual, aperture or shutter priority setting;
- A low ISO setting will be used.
- The aperture setting will be appropriate to the required depth of field of the image;
- A tripod will be used in low light conditions so that a long exposure shot (slower shutter speed) can be taken;
- All photographs (except large general or publicity shots) will include a suitable scale bar or rod.
- Photographs of features will include a north arrow;
- All photographs (except general shots) must include an information board displaying the Site Code or Accession Number and the principal context number;
- The information board must be legible;
- Photographs will be taken in appropriate light conditions (i.e. not strong sun). Where this is not feasible measures will be taken to ensure detail and clarity in representation of the object photograph.
- A photographic register will be compiled.
- Where 'bracketed shots' are taken (where it may not be possible to check an image for quality immediately or where lighting levels may affect contrast), only one image from the bracketed shot will be archived, the rest should be deleted.
- All digital photographs should be saved with a file name that uses the Accession Number, then an underscore followed by 'Figure' and a simple numerical sequence.
- ARS Ltd has a daily and weekly back-up and data recovery protocols. All digital photographs will be uploaded onto the project file on our network at daily intervals where backup copies are also made on a daily basis.

4.4 Sampling, Faunal Remains and Treasure

4.4.1 This section outlines sampling methodologies to be utilised.

4.4.2 A minimum bulk sample of 40 litres will be taken from sealed and stratigraphically secure deposits, that are adjudged to have the potential to provide environmental evidence relating to diet and economy, dating evidence or land use

regime. A 100% bulk sample of the deposit will be taken if the deposit is less than 40L in volume.

4.4.3 Samples will be assessed by a suitable specialist and provision will be made for scientific dating, where justified against the project aims.

4.4.4 In the case of waterlogged or anaerobic deposits a minimum sample size of 20L will be taken.

4.4.5 Should a sequence of superimposed deposits of note be present, column sampling may be considered.

4.4.6 Where there is evidence for industrial activity, macroscopic technological residues (or samples of them) will be collected by hand. Separate samples (c. 10ml) will be collected from micro-slugs (hammer scale and spherical droplets) in accordance with Historic England's guidance on *Archaeometallurgy* (2015a) and *Archaeological Evidence for Glassworking* (2018).

4.4.7 Samples will be taken for scientific dating (such as radiocarbon dating) in specific circumstances that will apply where dating by artefacts is insecure or absent.

4.4.8 Appropriate consideration will be given to the need for any geoarchaeological assessment of buried soils and sediment sequences exposed. Where said is necessary these will be inspected and recorded on site by a recognised geoarchaeologist as field inspection may provide sufficient data for understanding site formation processes. The procedures and techniques presented in Historic England's *Geoarchaeology: Using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record* (2015b) will be applied. Samples for laboratory assessment will be collected where appropriate, following discussion with the Planning Archaeologist.

4.4.9 Sampling strategies for wooden structures should follow the methodologies presented in English Heritage's *Waterlogged Wood: Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood* (2010).

4.4.10 Should other types of environmental deposits be encountered, appropriate specialist advice will be sought and an appropriate sampling strategy devised. Samples will be assessed by a suitable specialist with provision for further analysis as required. Advice from the Historic England Scientific Advisor will be taken as appropriate.

4.4.11 In all instances sampling strategies will be in accordance with guidelines issued by Historic England's *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice Methods, from sampling and recovery to post excavation* (Campbell *et al.* 2011) and will be targeted in order to explore the levels and types of preservation present.

4.4.12 Any human remains will initially be left *in-situ* and protected and removal undertaken once a Coroners licence has been obtained in accordance with the relevant Ministry of Justice regulations.

4.4.12 All finds that may constitute 'treasure' under the Treasure Act, 1996, will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner in accordance with the

Treasure Act (DCMS 2008). The Portable Antiquities Liaison Officer will also be notified.

HM Coroner	Finds Liaison Officer
Mr T.H Kirkman	Wendy Scott
Charnwood Borough Council Offices	Room 600
Southfield Road	County Hall
Loughborough	Glenfield
Leicestershire	Leicestershire
LE11 2TR	LE3 8TE

Tel: 0116 305 7732

Tel: 0116 3058325

e-mail: wendy.scott@leics.gov.uk

4.6.13 Where removal cannot take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be taken to protect the finds from theft. The planning archaeologist will be notified and, if necessary, a site meeting arranged to determine if further investigation in the vicinity of the find spot is required.

4.5 Treatment of Finds

4.5.1 All finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid for Finds*, (1998) and ClfA (2014c) *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* and the recipient museum's guidelines.

4.5.2 If large quantities, bulky or conservationally complex finds are discovered on site, the Archaeological Contractor must contact the Archives Curator at the earliest opportunity to enter into discussions regarding preservation and long-term storage of the archive.

4.5.3 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 Archives Curator.

4.6 Preservation *in-situ* and Contingency

4.3.1 In the event of significant archaeological remains being located during the archaeological investigation there may be a need for contingency time and finance to be invoked to ensure that adequate recording is undertaken. Should significant remains be discovered ARS Ltd will inform the developer, the Planning Archaeologist and the Planning Authority.

4.3.2 Should significant archaeological deposits or structural remains requiring preservation *in-situ* be encountered detailed discussions between all relevant parties will be initiated. Where structures, features or finds appear to merit preservation *in-situ*, they will be adequately protected from deterioration.

4.3.3 Where design modification is not practically possible ARS Ltd will liaise with the developer for sufficient time and financial resources for full excavation, conservation, and curation of the archaeological resources before development continues.

5 Post-excavation

5.1. The archaeological fieldwork will be followed by 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. Where artefacts are recovered from identified features they will be quantified by date class and type; in other circumstances, they will be quantified by period and class and type (e.g. 5 sherds, late Roman grey ware pottery); in other circumstances, as a minimum, they should be quantified by period and class (e.g. 5 sherds, Roman pottery).

5.2 Artefacts, biological samples and soils will be assessed for evidence of site and deposit formation processes and for evidence of recent changes that may have been caused by alterations in the site environment. Assessment will where necessary include x-radiography of all iron objects, (after initial screening to exclude obvious recent debris), and a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins).

5.3 Where necessary, active stabilisation or consolidation will be carried out, to ensure long-term survival of the material with due consideration to possible future investigation.

5.4 Once assessed, all material should be packed and stored in optimum conditions, as described in UKIC's *First Aid for Finds* (1998).

5.5 Assessment of any technological residues should be undertaken.

5.6 Any samples for dating will be promptly submitted and prior agreement will be made with the laboratory on turn-around time and report production.

5.7 Processing of all soil samples collected for biological assessment, or sub-sample of them, will be completed. The preservation state, density and significance of material retrieved will be assessed by recognised specialists. Special consideration will be given to any evidence for recent changes in preservation conditions that may have been caused by alterations in the site environment. Unprocessed sub-samples will be stored in conditions specified by the appropriate specialists.

5.8 Samples collected for geoarchaeological assessment should be processed as necessary by a recognised specialist and appropriate assessment undertaken. Where preservation *in-situ* is a viable option consideration should be given to the possible effects of compression on the physical integrity of the site and to any hydrological impacts of development.

5.9 Animal bone assemblages, or sub-samples of them, should be assessed by a recognised specialist.

5.10 Where human remains have been lifted assessment should be undertaken by a recognised specialist.

6 Reporting

6.1 Following completion of analysis ARS Ltd will produce a report which will include:

- ◆ Non-technical executive summary
- ◆ Introductory statement
- ◆ Aims and purpose of the project
- ◆ Methodology
- ◆ A location plan showing all excavated areas and any archaeological features with respect to nearby fixed structures and roads All plans tied into the Ordnance Survey data
- ◆ Measured drawings and plans with accurate scales and north arrows
- ◆ Photographs showing the general nature and character of the site (even where no archaeological remains are encountered)
- ◆ Deposit descriptions, including depth of overburden and section drawings where necessary
- ◆ A summary of any artefacts together with their interpretation
- ◆ Any specialist reports
- ◆ A concise non-technical summary of the project results
- ◆ Conclusions
- ◆ A full listing of the archive contents
- ◆ Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices
- ◆ References
- ◆ Statement of intent regarding publication
- ◆ Confirmation of archive transfer arrangements
- ◆ A copy of the WSI and OASIS form

The report will be provided to assess the following:

- ◆ The archaeological significance of the development site and any archaeological deposits encountered during the fieldwork
- ◆ The evidence in its local, regional and national context, as appropriate, also aiming to highlight any research priorities where applicable

6.2 The final report(s), detailing all stages of the investigations, will be deposited with the Leicestershire and Rutland HER no later than six months after completion of the project, unless otherwise agreed with the Planning Archaeologist. As a minimum this will comprise one full colour digital copy of the written report in pdf/A-1a (archival pdf) format including its relevant accompanying plans.

6.3 A further digital copy of the report should be sent to the Planning Archaeologist for their approval on behalf of the Planning Authority.

6.4 Results of the project, even if negative, will be submitted for publication in appropriate academic journals. As a minimum ARS Ltd will provide a summary of findings to the '*Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*' (School of Archaeology & Ancient History, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH).

6.5 Where wider dissemination is appropriate and the significance of the results warrant, a full copy of the report in an appropriate format will be submitted for publication in a relevant academic journal. If significant results are obtained a copy of the final report(s) will be deposited in the Historic England Archive (NMR), Swindon. Where archaeological scientific investigation has formed an element of the project a copy of the report should be sent to the Historic England Regional Science Advisor for the East Midlands.

7 Monitoring Arrangements

7.1 Notice of the commencement of works will be given to the designated LCC Planning Archaeologist.

Richard Clark (MA, ACIfA)
Principle Archaeologist
Leicestershire County Council
Email: richard.clark@leics.gov.uk
Tel: 0116 3058322 (Personal)
0116 3051086 (Archaeology Team)

7.2 Internal monitoring of the project will be maintained by the designated project manager from ARS Ltd who will ensure the application of appropriate professional standards and will be overseen by Reuben Thorpe, MCIfA, FSA, Senior Project Manager at ARS Ltd. Provision will be made for monitoring visits by representatives of the Historic & Natural Environment Team, Leicestershire County Council and the Planning Authority.

7.3 ARS Ltd will liaise with LCC's Planning Archaeologist at regular intervals throughout the course of the work.

7.4 The client will afford reasonable access to LCC's Planning Archaeologist, or their representatives, for the purposes of monitoring the works.

8 Staffing

8.1 The Project Manager for the archaeological works will be Reuben Thorpe Senior Project Manager at ARS Ltd or Tony Brennan Operations Manager at ARS Ltd. The fieldwork Project Officer will be a suitably experienced core member of ARS Ltd staff.

8.2 Specialist analyses will be carried out by appropriately qualified specialists as detailed subject to availability.

- ◆ Flint and prehistoric pottery: Dr Robin Holgate MCI fA, FSA
- ◆ Romano-British pottery: Dr Phil Mills MCI fA
- ◆ Samian ware: Dr Gwladys Monteil
- ◆ Medieval and post-medieval pottery: Dr Chris Cumberpatch or Dr Robin Holgate, MCI fA, FSA
- ◆ Medieval and post-medieval metalwork, glass and clay pipes: Mike Wood MCI fA
- ◆ Plant macrofossils and charcoals: Luke Parker
- ◆ Human and animal bone: Milena Grzybowska
- ◆ Radiocarbon dating: Professor Gordon Cook (SUERC)
- ◆ Finds conservation: Vicky Garlick (Durham University)

9 Archiving

9.1 Compilation and Transfer

9.1.1 An Accession Number has been obtained prior to the commencement of the fieldwork. That accession number is X.A16.2019

9.1.2 All artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive (see above).

9.1.3 The archive will consist of all artefacts, written records, drawn and photographic records. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It will contain a site matrix, site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data. The site Accession Number will be appropriately marked on all elements of the site/project archive.

9.1.4 The archive must be prepared in line with *The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire County Council Museum Collections* (Leicestershire County Council, revised 2018) and other appropriate professional guidelines e.g. *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archives for Long-Term Storage* (UKIC 1990).

9.1.5 The archive will be deposited in line with the ClfA's *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (2014d), the Society of Museum Archaeologists (1993) *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*, and *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2007).

9.2 OASIS

9.2.1 The Leicestershire & Rutland HER supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. Upon completion of the fieldwork, the online OASIS form <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/> will be completed. Once reports have

become public documents and have been incorporated into the HER they will be uploaded to the Archaeological Data Service website so they can be freely consulted.

10 General Items

10.1 Health and Safety

10.1.1 All work will be carried out in accordance with The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. Specific health and safety policies exist for all our workplaces and all staff employed will be made aware of the policy and any relevant issues. The particular risks involved with this project will be assessed, recorded and relevant mitigation measures put in place as part of a full risk assessment, which will be compiled in advance of fieldwork and will be read and signed by all on-site operatives. ARS Ltd retains Citation as its expert health and safety consultants.

10.2 Insurance Cover

10.2.1 ARS Ltd holds full Employer's Liability (£10 million), Public Liability (£5 million) and Professional Indemnity (£2 million) insurance, which also cover community groups and volunteers working under the supervision of ARS Ltd staff.

10.3 Changes to the Written Scheme of Investigation

10.3.1 Changes to the approved methodology or programme of works will only be made with prior written approval of NCC's Assistant County Archaeologist.

10.4 Publicity and Copyright

10.4.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client. ARS Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

11 References

British Geological Survey 2019. Geology of Britain viewer. Available online at: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?> [Accessed 5th March 2019].

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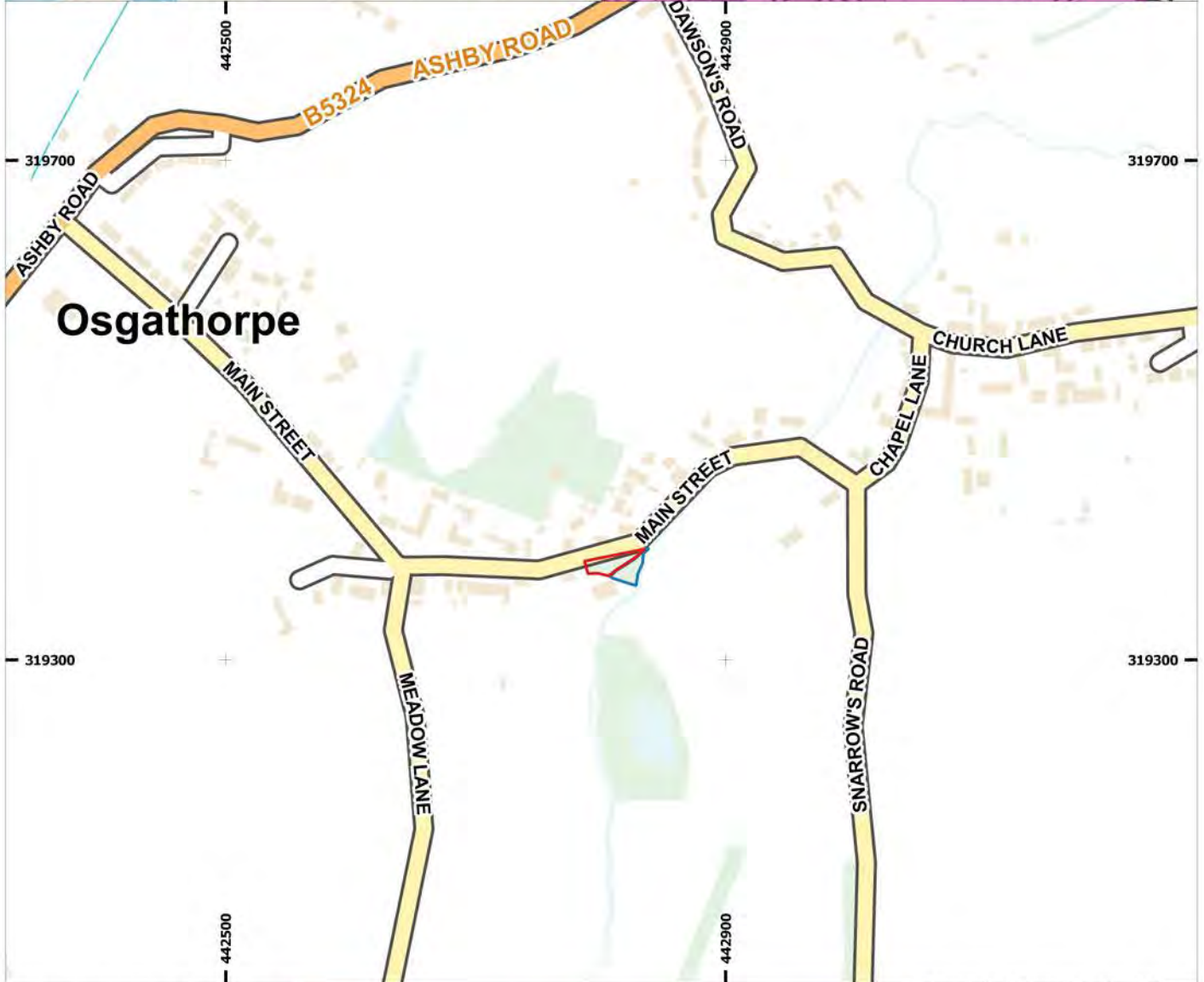
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- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation. 1998. *First Aid For Finds*.

Figures



Site name: 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe
 Date: March 2019
 Drawn by: BD
 Scale: Varies

 Site boundary
 Flood risk area

 Local Authority Boundary



Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Suite 1
 First Floor
 Dunham House
 Cross Street
 Sale
 M33 7HH



Tel: 01619 762544
www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

This drawing: © ARS Ltd
 Contains Ordnance Survey data.
 © Crown copyright and database right 2015

**Figure 1:
 Site location**

APPENDIX III: OASIS FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol5-349296

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Works on Land Adjacent to 29 Main Street Osgathorpe
Short description of the project	Archaeological Research Services was commissioned to undertake archaeological works on land adjacent to 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Leicestershire in satisfaction of a condition placed on planning consent. The work comprised the recording of three test pits and the archaeological supervision of the machine excavation of the wall foundations. No archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.
Project dates	Start: 08-04-2019 End: 08-04-2019
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	NONE None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Test Pits"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LEICESTERSHIRE NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE OSGATHORPE 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Leicestershire
Postcode	LE12 9TA
Study area	77 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 42821 19384 52.770014731363 -1.365234615529 52 46 12 N 001 21 54 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 79.09m Max: 80.05m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
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Project brief originator	Leicestershire County Council
Project design originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project director/manager	Reuben Thorpe
Project supervisor	Robert Cole
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Leicestershire museums archaeological collections
Digital Media available	"GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Leicestershire museums archaeology collections
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Diary", "Plan", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Works on Land adjacent to 29 Main Street, Osgathorpe, Leicestershire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cole, R
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Research Services
Place of issue or publication	Bakewell
Entered by	Robert Cole (robert@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)
Entered on	17 April 2019

OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

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