
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSPECTION AND
RECORDING
AT 15 MAIN STREET,
MUSTON,
LEICESTERSHIRE
(MUMS 09)**

**Work Undertaken For
Mr Clayton and Ms O'Connor**

July 2010

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons)

Planning Application No: 08/00649/FUL
National Grid Reference: SK 8281 3806
Accession No: X.A84.2009
OASIS Record No: archaeol1-80271

APS Report No: **65/10**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES**



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1. SUMMARY

A programme of archaeological inspection and recording was undertaken at 15 Main Street, Muston, Leicestershire. The works monitored the stripping of overburden in advance of the construction of a new stable and foundation trenches for four new holiday lets.

Bronze Age (2500-801 BC) and Iron Age (800 BC - AD 42) activity has been identified around the village and later Romano-British (AD 42 - 409) and Saxon (AD 410- 1066) pottery was retrieved during construction of a bypass. The development area lies within the medieval (AD 1066-1539) village and earthworks of this settlement, including an earthwork enclosure which is a scheduled monument, are found south and west of the site.

The watching brief revealed a sequence of natural, undated and recent deposits. A ditch is undated due to a lack of artefactual material though may be of some antiquity. Finds from the investigations include Roman, medieval, post-medieval and recent pottery. Other finds include roof tile, floor tile, fired clay, slag, a bone handle and leather shoe fragment. Animal bone was also collected.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Mr Clayton and Ms O'Connor to undertake a programme of archaeological inspection and recording during groundworks associated with a new stable block and four holiday lets at 15 Main Street, Muston, Leicestershire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application 08/00649/FUL. The watching brief was carried out on the 21st July 2009 and 28th June 2010 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (Appendix

1) prepared by Archaeological Project Services and approved by the Senior Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council.

2.2 Topography and Geology

Muston is located 20km northeast of Melton Mowbray and 30km north of Oakham, in Melton District, Leicestershire (Fig. 1).

The development site is situated 250m north of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. John the Baptist at National Grid Reference SK 8281 3806 (Fig. 2). The site lies to the west of Main Street at a height of c. 40m OD on the southwest facing slope of the River Devon valley.

Local soils are of the Evesham 2 Association, typically clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 188). The soils overlie a solid geology of Lower Jurassic Stubton Limestone and mudstones of the Beckingham Member (BGS 1996).

2.3 Archaeological Setting

Muston lies in an area of known archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. A single Mesolithic scraper was retrieved during the construction of the Bottesford bypass northwest of the village.

Possibly dating to the Bronze Age was a cropmark feature known as a ring ditch which was near a sub-rectangular enclosure of possible Iron Age date northwest of the village (Pickering and Hartley 1985, 42). Evidence for Iron Age occupation close to this enclosure was retrieved during the construction of the bypass. Although undated, an enclosure is also known from aerial photography northeast of the village (Pickering and Hartley 1985, 42) and a circular cropmark

from south of the village may also be prehistoric.

Romano-British and Anglo Saxon pottery was retrieved during the construction of the Bottesford bypass and attests to a continued presence in the vicinity, although no settlement has yet been identified.

Muston is first mentioned in the period between 1106 and 1123 in the Charter Rolls. Referred to as *Muston*, the name may be derived from the Old English '*Mūs tūn*', meaning a mouse infested homestead or from '*Must tūn*' meaning a homestead in a muddy place (Ekwall 1974, 334). No mention is made of Muston in the Domesday Survey of c. 1086, where it is possible that the land was grouped with Bottesford.

The only extant remains of the medieval period are the 13th century church of St. John the Baptist (Pevsner 1992, 327). Earthworks are also evident and comprise an earthwork enclosure, possibly a grange of Olveston Priory, immediately to the west of the site (Hartley 1987, 11) and ridge and furrow of the medieval field system (*ibid.*, 53). The earthwork enclosure is protected as a Scheduled Monument (English Heritage 1996, 13). A second moated enclosure, now destroyed by the bypass, may have been a post-medieval duck decoy or moat (*ibid.*, 12).

A watching brief undertaken 100m to the southeast revealed a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil deposits with no archaeological features recorded (Cope-Faulkner 2000, 3).

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation, as detailed in the specification (Appendix 1), was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks should be

recorded and, if present, to determine their date, function and origin.

4. METHODS

Topsoil was stripped from the area for the new stables and holiday lets. Foundation trenches for the holiday lets were then excavated by machine to depths of 1m below the current ground level. Following excavation, the sides of the trenches and surface of the stripped area were examined for archaeological deposits. Selected deposits were then excavated further to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their function. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

5. RESULTS

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Stable

The earliest deposit exposed during the stripping of overburden in the stable area was a layer of yellowish grey silty clay (002). This measured in excess of 0.61m thick.

This was sealed by topsoil, comprising a 0.25m thick (Fig. 4, Section 1; Plate 2) layer of brown clayey silt (001). Roman, medieval and later pottery was retrieved from this deposit along with slag, stone roof tile, floor tile, fired clay and animal bone.

Holiday Lets

Natural deposits comprised a layer of bluish grey to yellow clayey silt (004) that was over 0.7m thick.

Cut into the natural was a north-south aligned feature (007) possibly a ditch. This was over 0.25m wide and over 0.43m deep (Fig. 4, Section 3; Plate 5). A single fill of brown clayey silt (008) was recorded.

This was sealed by a former topsoil of brown clayey silt (006) that was 0.25m thick which had been overlain by a mixed deposit that had resulted from a bonfire (005).

Topsoil across the area of the holiday lets consisted of brown clayey silt with moderate quantities of brick rubble (003). This was up to 0.3m thick. Post-medieval pottery, 20th century glass, bone handle and leather were recovered from this layer

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits of silty clay and clayey silt relate to the upper weathered surface of the underling solid geology.

A ditch was recorded which remains undated due to a lack of artefactual material. No boundary appears in this position on early Ordnance Survey plans which implies that the feature may be of some antiquity.

No subsoil layers were encountered which may suggest that the site had previously been stripped, perhaps when the adjacent house was constructed. Buildings that formerly stood at the site were not

recorded though their building materials had been incorporated into topsoil layers.

Finds retrieved from the investigation comprise pottery spanning the Roman, medieval and later periods. Ceramic floor tile, fired clay, animal bone, glass, slag, stone roof tile, a bone handle and a leather shoe sole were also found.

7. CONCLUSION

A programme of archaeological inspection and recording was undertaken at Main Street, Muston, as the site lay within the core of the medieval village and adjacent to a scheduled monument comprising an earthwork enclosure.

However, the only archaeological feature identified was an undated ditch with natural and recent deposits also recorded.

Roman and later pottery was retrieved from the investigation along with stone and ceramic tile, glass, fired clay, slag, a bone handle and leatherwork. A small quantity of animal bone was also collected.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Mr I Clayton and Ms L O'Connor for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was coordinated by Dale Trimble who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble
 Site Supervisors: Lavinia Green, Vicky Mellor
 Finds processing: Denise Buckley
 Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth

Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

BGS British Geological Survey

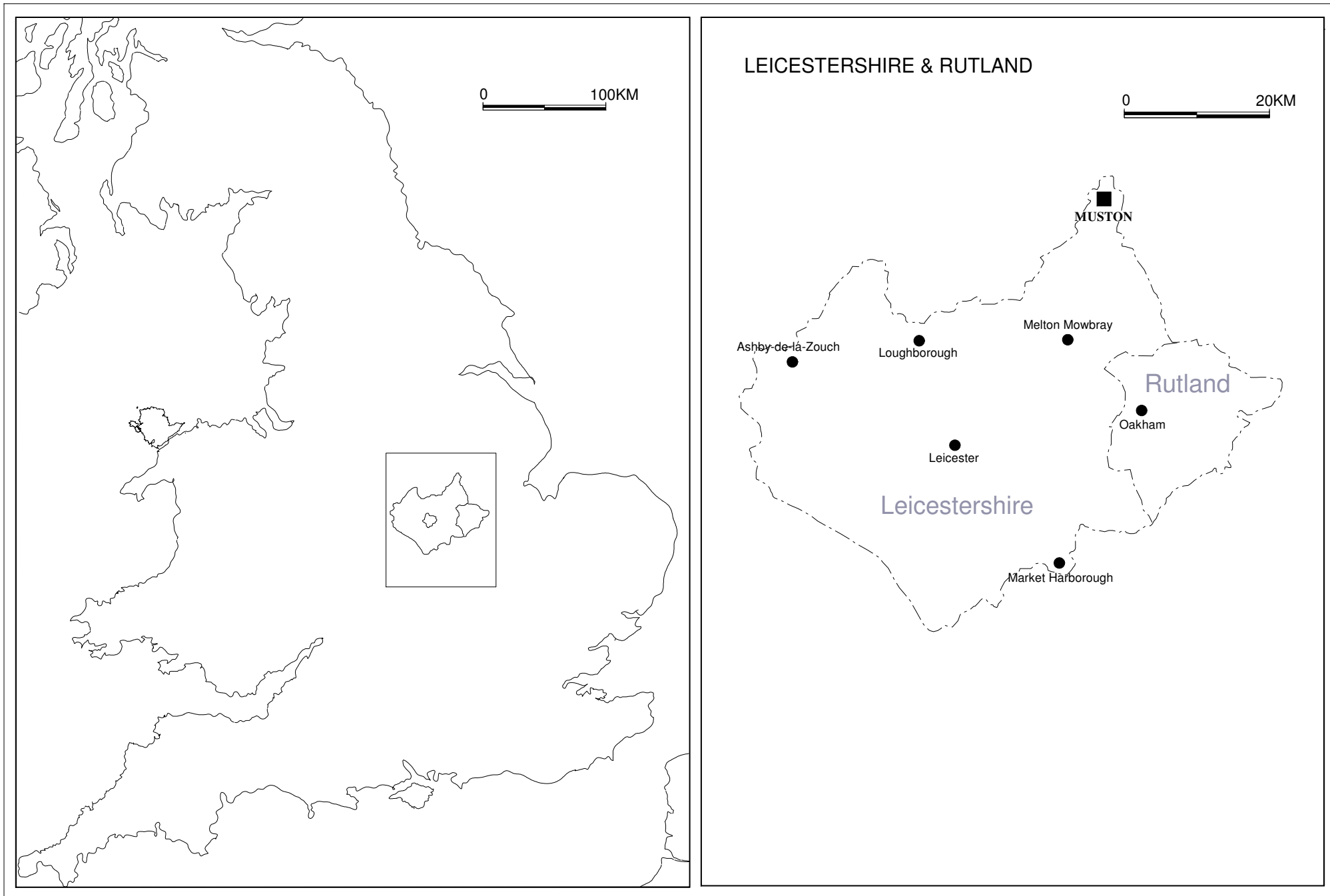
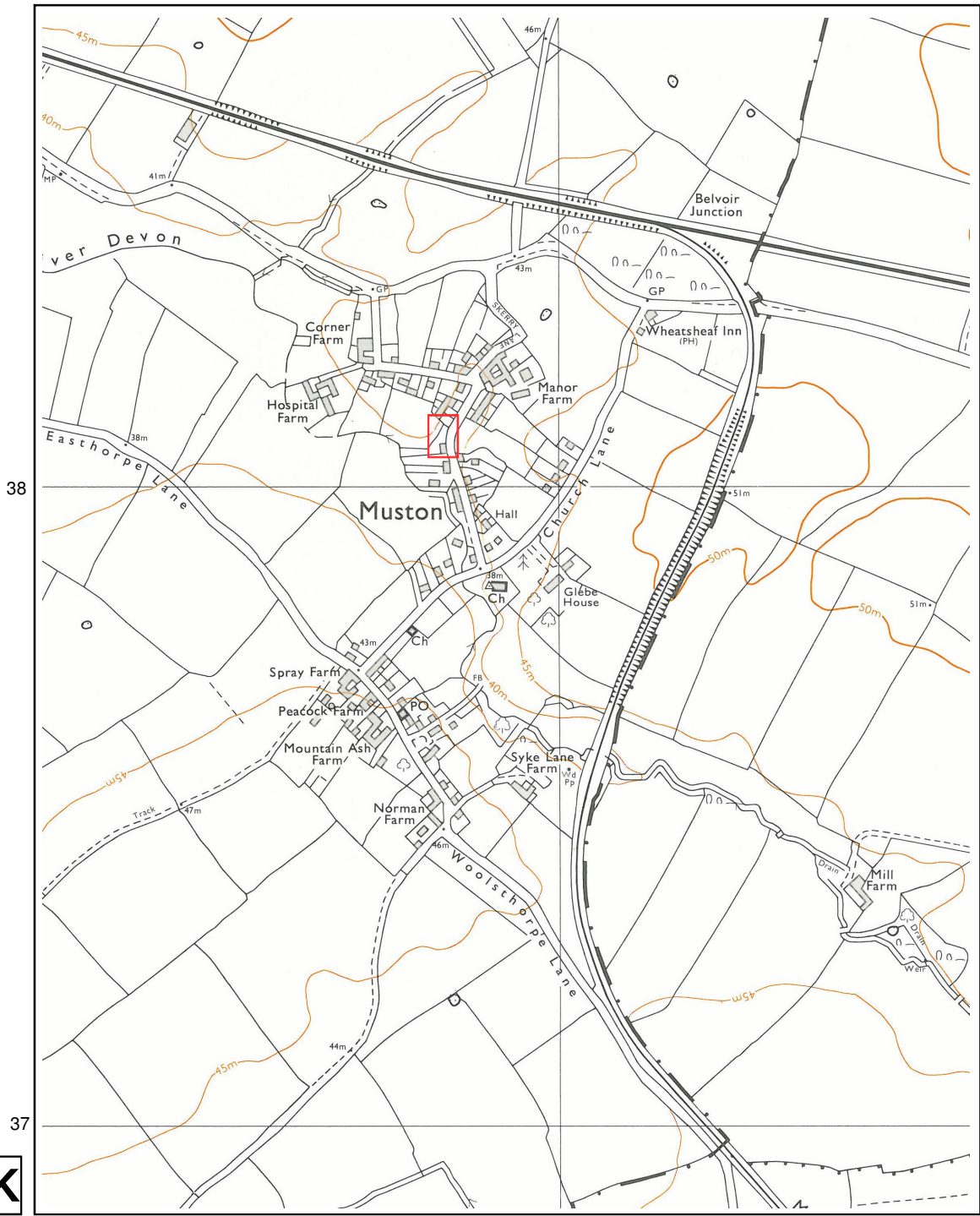


Figure 1 - General location map



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Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 plan with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. HTL Ltd Licence No. AL5041A0001

 Area detailed in Figure 3




 Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: 15 Main Street, Muston MUMS09		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 65/10

Figure 2 - Site location plan

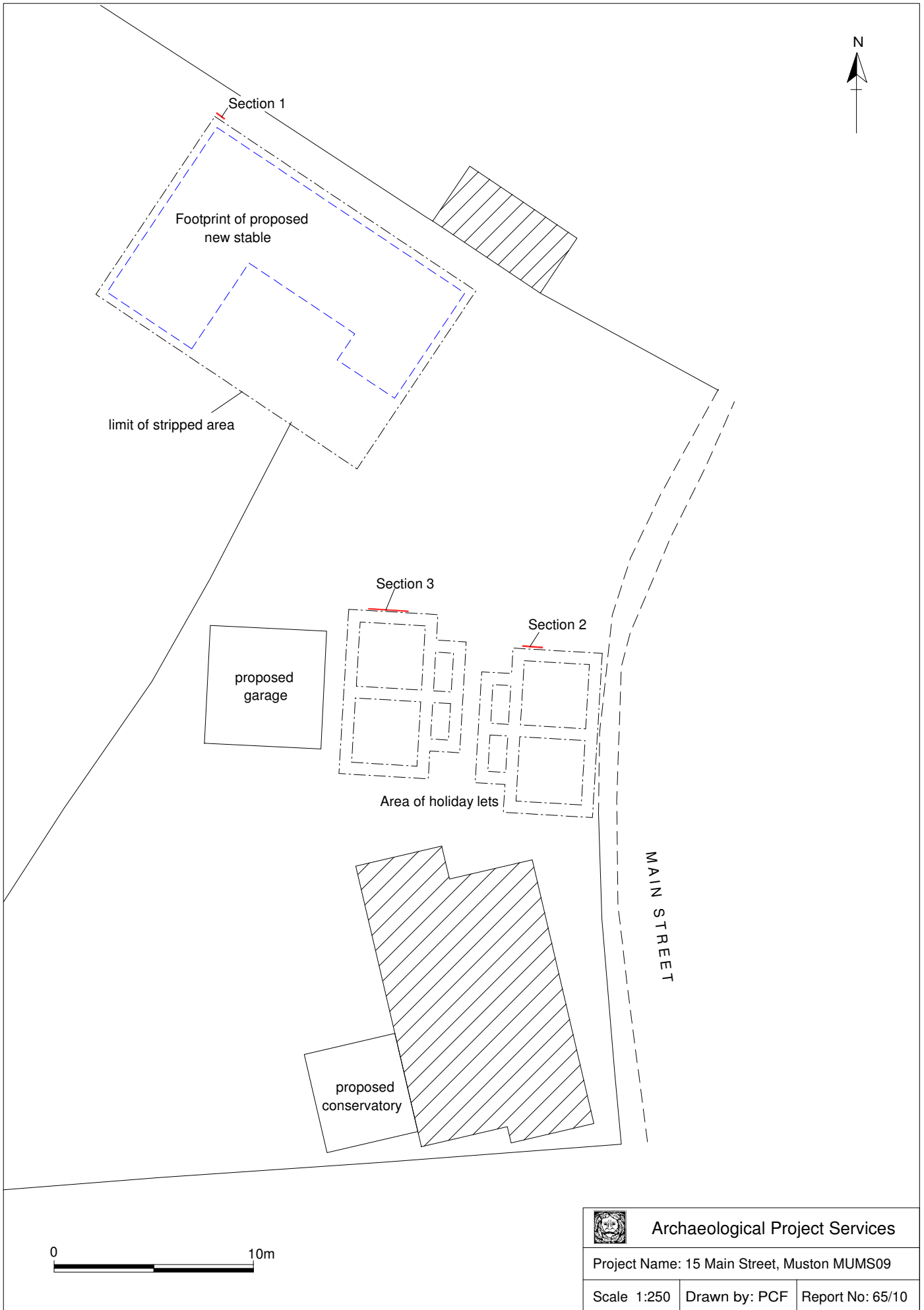


Figure 3 - Plan of the development showing section locations



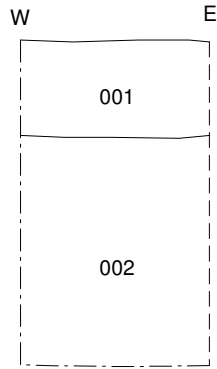
Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: 15 Main Street, Muston MUMS09

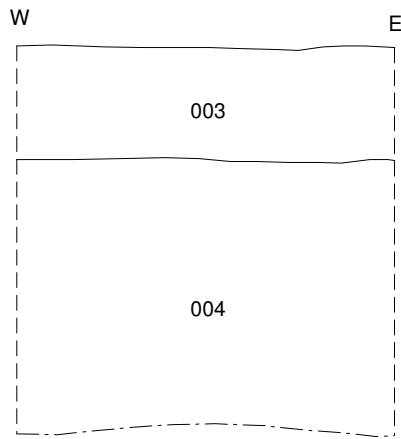
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Drawn by: PCF

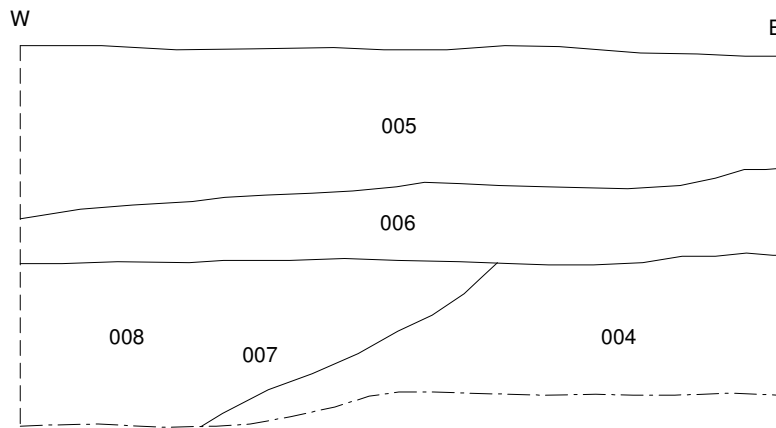
Report No: 65/10



Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: 15 Main Street, Muston MUMS09

Scale 1:20

Drawn by: PCF

Report No: 65/10

Figure 4 - Sections 1 to 3



Plate 1 – View over the stable area, looking northwest



Plate 2 – Section 1, looking northwest



Plate 3 – Excavation of the foundation trenches for the new Holiday lets, looking north



Plate 4 – Section 2, looking west



Plate 5 – Section 5, looking north

Appendix 1

LAND AT 15 MAIN STREET, MUSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE - WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSPECTION AND RECORDING

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 *Attendance for archaeological inspection and recording is required as a condition of planning on development at 15 Main St., Muston, Leicestershire.*
- 1.2 *The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the site lies with the historic core of Muston village.*
- 1.3 *The archaeological work will comprise a watching brief involving attendance and recording during all phases of the work resulting in ground disturbance.*
- 1.4 *On completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared detailing the results of the watching brief. The report will consist of a narrative supported by illustrations and photographs.*

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This document comprises a specification for attendance for archaeological inspection and recording during groundworks associated with development at 15 Main Street, Muston, Leicestershire.
- 2.2 This document contains the following parts:
 - 2.2.1 Overview.
 - 2.2.2 Stages of work and methodologies.
 - 2.2.3 List of specialists.
 - 2.2.4 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

- 3.1 Muston is located approximately 9km west of Grantham in the northeast corner of Leicestershire in Melton district. The site lies towards the center of the village on the west side of Main Street and centred on national grid reference SK 4281 3806.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A planning application (08/00649/FUL) for development of domestic stables/wood store/feed, implementation store, conservatory to existing dwelling and erection of 4 holiday let units at 15 Main Street Muston has been submitted to Melton District Council. The planning permission is subject to a condition that, 'no development shall take place within the application area until the applicant, or their agents or their successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted and approved in writing by the planning authority'.
- 4.2 This document forms the written specification referred to above and is based on a brief issued by the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 5.1 Located on the north bank of the River Devon, the site lies at approximately 40m OD. Soils of the area are Evesham 2 Association clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils developed in Jurassic and Cretaceous clay shales (Hodge *et al* 1984, 188).

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

- 6.1 The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the site lies in the historic core of the village of Muston (HER Ref. No. MLE16636), immediately east of a field containing Scheduled Monument (SM 17041) (HER MLE3411). The monument includes the earthwork and buried remains of a monastic grange, moat and fishpond.
- 6.2 A medieval cross (Scheduled Monument 30232) is located in the southern part of the village at the church of St John the Baptist. The church, restored in the late 19th century, includes fabric dating from the 13th and 14th centuries (HER MLE12743).
- 6.3 Archaeological sites recorded in the vicinity of Muston include cropmarks and finds dating from the prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods to the west of the village, together with the site of medieval or post-medieval earthworks (now destroyed). Undated cropmark enclosures have been recorded to the south and northeast of the village.
- 6.4 An archaeological watching brief undertaken during development at 31 Main Street, Muston during 2000 recorded no significant archaeological remains (Cope-Faulkner 2000).

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 7.1 The aims of the inspection and recording will be:
 - 7.1.1 To record and interpret the archaeological features exposed during the groundworks.
- 7.2 The objectives of the inspection and recording will be to:
 - 7.2.1 Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.2 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
 - 7.2.3 As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features, and
 - 7.2.4 Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

8 SITE OPERATIONS

8.1 General considerations

- 8.1.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the watching brief.
- 8.1.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practise issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), under the management of a Member of the institute (MIFA). Archaeological Project Services is IFA registered organisation no. 21.
- 8.1.3 Any and all artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The archaeological monitoring will be undertaken during the ground works phase of development.
- 8.2.2 Stripped areas and trench sections will be observed regularly to identify and record archaeological features that are exposed and to record changes in the geological conditions. The section drawings of the trenches will be recorded at a scale of 1:10. Should features be recorded in plan these will be drawn at a scale of 1:20. Written descriptions detailing the nature of the deposits, features and fills encountered will be compiled on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma record sheets.
- 8.2.3 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled for later analysis.
- 8.2.4 Throughout the watching brief a photographic record will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:
- the site during work to show specific stages, and the layout of the archaeology within the trench.
 - groups of features where their relationship is important
- 8.2.5 Should human remains be located the appropriate Home Office licence will be obtained before their removal. In addition, the Local Environmental Health Department and the police will be informed.

9 POST-EXCAVATION

9.1 Stage 1

- 9.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the watching brief will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence forming a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued and labelled, the labelling referring to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.
- 9.1.2 All finds recovered during the field work will be washed, marked and packaged according to the deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

9.2 Stage 2

- 9.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.
- 9.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

9.3 Stage 3

- 9.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the watching brief will be prepared.
- 9.3.2 This will consist of:
- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.
 - A description of the archaeological setting of the watching brief.
 - Description of the topography of the site.

- Description of the methodologies used during the watching brief.
- A text describing the findings of the watching brief.
- A consideration of the local, regional and national context of the watching brief findings.
- Plans of the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.
- Sections of the archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed, and their chronology and setting within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features.

10 REPORT DEPOSITION

- 10.1 Copies of the report will be sent to the Client; the Senior Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council and to the County Council Archaeological Sites and Monuments Record..

11 ARCHIVE

- 11.1 The documentation and records generated during the watching brief will be sorted and ordered into the format acceptable to the Leicestershire Museums Service. This sorting will be undertaken according to the document titled *The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service* for long term storage and curation.

12 PUBLICATION

- 12.1 Details of the project will be entered into the OASIS database. A report of the findings will be submitted to the editor of the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*. If appropriate notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* and *Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group* for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

13 CURATORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- 13.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with the Senior Planning Archaeologist, Leicestershire County Council. They will be given seven days notice in writing before the commencement of the project.

14 VARIATIONS AND CONTINGENCIES

- 14.1 Variations to the proposed scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation of acceptance from the archaeological curator.
- 14.2 In the event of the discovery of any unexpected remains of archaeological importance, or of any changed circumstances, it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to inform the archaeological curator.
- 14.3 Where important archaeological remains are discovered and deemed to merit further investigation additional resources may be required to provide an appropriate level of investigation, recording and analysis.

- 14.4 Any contingency requirement for additional fieldwork or post-excavation analysis outside the scope of the proposed scheme of works will only be activated following full consultation with the archaeological curator and the client.

15 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

- 15.1 The monitoring will be integrated with the programme of construction and is dependent on the developers' work programme. It is therefore not possible to specify the person-hours for the archaeological site work.
- 15.2 An archaeological supervisor with experience of watching briefs will undertake the work. Should archaeological remains of greater significance or intensity be encountered there is additional provision for a site assistant.
- 15.3 Post-excavation analysis and report production will be undertaken by the archaeological supervisor, or a post-excavation analyst as appropriate, with assistance from a finds supervisor, illustrator and external specialists. It is expected that each fieldwork day (equal to one person-day) will require a post- excavation day (equal to one-and-a-half person-days) for completion of the analysis and report. If the fieldwork lasts longer than about four days then there will be an economy of scale with the post-excavation analysis.

16 SPECIALISTS TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

- 16.1 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Body to be undertaking the work</u>
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric - Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust Roman - B Precious, Independent Specialist Anglo-Saxon - J Young, Independent Specialist Medieval and later - G Taylor, APS in consultation with H Healey, Independent Archaeologist
Non-pottery Artefacts	J Cowgill, Independent Specialist
Animal Bones	P Cope-Faulkner, APS
Environmental Analysis	J Rackham, Independent Specialist
Human Remains Analysis	R Gowland, Independent Specialist

17 INSURANCES

- 17.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability Insurance of £10,000,000, together with Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied on request.

18 COPYRIGHT

- 18.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

- 18.2 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and may result in legal action.
- 18.3 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication. Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

19 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Soil Survey of England and Wales **13**

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Firm dark brown clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Topsoil
002	Firm mid to light yellowish grey silty clay, >0.61m thick	Natural deposit
003	Loose to soft dark brown clayey silt with moderate brick rubble, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
004	Soft mixed light bluish grey to yellow clayey silt, 0.7m thick	Natural deposit
005	Firm mixed dark grey and brown clayey silt with ash and frequent charcoal and demolition rubble, 0.45m thick	Bonfire deposit
006	Soft dark brown clayey silt, 0.2m thick	Former topsoil
007	Linear feature, aligned north-south, >0.25m wide by >0.43m deep, gradual sides and flat base	Possible ditch
008	Soft mid brown clayey silt	Fill of (007)

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by Darling (2004), using the codes developed for the city of Lincoln archaeological unit (Darling and Precious, forthcoming). Equivalent codenames for Leicestershire and Rutland (Pollard 1994) are included in Table 1. A single sherd from one vessel weighing 3 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order before being counted and weighed by individual vessel. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1 below.

Condition

The sherd is small but fresh

Results

Table 1, Roman Pottery Archive

Cxt	Fabric	Leics Fabric	Form	Dec	Leics Form	Vessel	Comments	NoS	W (g)
001	BB2	BB2	JEV	B	3H	1	HIGHLY FIRED; RED MARGINS FE AND MATRIX COLOURED CLAY PELLIS	1	3
001	ZDATE						L2-M3C		

Provenance

The pottery came from topsoil deposit (001).

Range

There is a single piece of Black Burnished ware 2; a rim sherd from an everted rim jar.

Potential

There is little potential for further work. The pottery should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

Summary

A single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from the topsoil.

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Alex Beeby and Anne Boyle

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005) which also covers surrounding counties. Equivalent codenames for Leicestershire and Rutland (Sawday 2008) are included in Table 1. A total of 18 sherds from 10 vessels, weighing 935 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Archive catalogue 1, with a summary on Table 2 below. The pottery ranges in date from the Saxo- Norman to the Early Modern period.

Condition

The condition of the pottery is mixed. Most of the material dated to the early modern period is in large fresh pieces, whilst the post medieval and Saxo-Norman sherds are very abraded and fragmentary. Sherds from one vessel are

sooted suggesting use over a hearth or fire. A post medieval blacking jar is encrusted in dried blacking.

Results

Table 2, Summary of the Post Roman Pottery

Period	Cname	Leics Cname	Full Name	Earliest Date	Latest Date	NoS	NoV	W(g)
Saxo Norman	SLSNOL	CG	South Lincolnshire Saxo-Norman Oolitic	1050	1200	5	1	15
Post Medieval	MY	MY	Midlands Yellow ware	1550	1650	2	1	13
Early Modern	NOTS	SW5	Nottingham Stoneware	1800	1900	1	1	118
	BL (INDUS)	EA	Industrial Blackware	1800	1900	1	1	12
	BONE	EA	Bone China	1800	1900	1	1	18
	ENGS	SW	Unspecified English Stoneware	1800	1900	2	2	272
	NCBW	EA	19th-century Buff Ware	1800	1900	6	3	487
Total						18	10	935

Provenance

All of the material is unstratified and was recovered from the topsoil (001) and (003).

Range

There is a single example of a jar in Saxo-Norman Oolitic ware (SLSNOL), a bowl in midlands yellow ware (MY) and a number of early modern vessels. All of the early modern pottery dates to the 19th century and includes a range of widely traded and mass produced domestic types including Nottingham stoneware (NOTS), industrial black ware (BL (INDUS)), bone china (BONE), unspecified English stoneware (ENGS), and 19th Century buff ware (NCBW).

Potential

There is limited potential for further work. The pottery should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

Summary

A small group of pottery, mostly of early modern date, was recovered during the watching brief. A single example of a jar in Saxo-Norman Oolitic ware suggests activity on or near the site at that time.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Alex Beeby and Anne Boyle

Introduction

The material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). A single fragment of ceramic building material, weighing 192 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out, viewed and weighed before being examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the fired clay is included in Table 3 below.

Condition

The piece has a damaged upper surface but is otherwise very fresh.

Results

Table 3 Ceramic Building Material Archive

Context	Cname	Full Name	Fabric	NoF	W(g)	Description	Date
1	FLOOR	Floor Tile	Oxidised: Medium coarse sandy; Ca	1	192	Thick dark greeny-brown glaze; abraded upper; knife trimmed edges; coarsely sanded base; handmade	16th-17th

Range

There is a single piece of post medieval floor tile in a sandy oxidised fabric. This fragment was recovered from the topsoil.

Potential

There is limited potential for further work. The piece should be retained as part of the site archive.

Summary

A single piece of post medieval glazed floor tile was recovered from the topsoil during the watching brief.

FIRED CLAY

By Alex Beeby

Introduction

The material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). Two fragments of fired clay, weighing 192 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments of fired clay were counted and weighed and this information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the fired clay is included in Table 4 below.

Condition

The pieces are abraded, surfaceless and shapeless.

Results

Table 4, Fired Clay Archive

Context	Classification	Fabric	Fragments	W(g)	Comment
001	Unclassified	Oxidised; Fine	2	12	Surfaceless; abraded; micaceous; Ca; frequent organic inclusion hollows

Provenance

All of the material was recovered from topsoil layer (001).

Range

The fragments are not highly fired and have no diagnostic features.

Potential

There is little potential for further work. The fired clay should be retained as part of the site archive and should pose no problems for long term storage.

Summary

Two undiagnostic pieces of fired clay were recovered during the watching brief.

FAUNAL REMAINS

By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction

A total of 12 (342g) fragments of animal bone were recovered from stratified contexts.

Provenance

The animal bone was retrieved from topsoil deposits (001 and 003).

Condition

The overall condition of the remains was good.

Results

Table 5, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
001	cattle	metacarpus		1	49	
	large mammal	skull		2	31	
	large mammal	long bone		4	45	
	large mammal	rib		1	11	
	sheep/goat	mandible		2	13	
	sheep/goat	metacarpus		1	15	
003	cattle	metacarpus		1	178	

Summary

A small assemblage of animal bone was retrieved from topsoil deposits. The assemblage is too small for meaningful analysis, though should be retained as part of the site archive.

GLASS

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

Two pieces of glass weighing a total (with contents) of 1186g were retrieved.

Condition

Although naturally fragile the glass is in good condition, with both bottles being complete. One still retains fluid contents which should be extracted, or the vessel discarded.

Results

Table 6, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
003	Colourless bottle, early-mid 20 th century	1	420	Mid 20 th century
	Brown bottle, rubber stopper, still holds fluid contents, mid 20 th century	1	766	

Provenance

Both pieces of glass were recovered from the topsoil.

Range

Two bottles, both of 20th century date, were found.

Potential

The bottles have low potential but provide some dating evidence and are clearly from a layer that was little disturbed post-deposition.

OTHER FINDS

By Gary Taylor

Introduction

Six other finds weighing a total of 1115g were recovered.

Condition

All of the other finds are in good condition, though the leather has greater potential for decay.

Results

Table 7, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
001	Industrial residue	Iron smithing slag, plano-convex hearth bottom, medieval?	1	37	Medieval?
	stone	Roofing tile, Collyweston slate? 13mm thick, medieval?	2	149	
	stone	Burnt stone, roughly squared rubble	1	724	
003	bone	Handle, kitchen utensil?, late post-medieval	1	35	20 th century
	leather	Shoe sole, 20 th century	1	170	

Provenance

The other finds were recovered from the topsoil (001, 003).

Range

A mixed assemblage of other finds of medieval and modern date was retrieved. The piece of slag derives from smithing, though this process generates large quantities of residue and as the piece is in isolation this probably indicates that iron working did not take place on the site.

Both pieces of stone roofing tile were fairly thick. Previously identified medieval tiles are generally about 20mm thick, whereas post-medieval slates are much thinner, sometimes only 5mm (RCHME 1984, xlvi). On the basis of

the thickness of the present examples they are probably late medieval or early post-medieval. A piece of roughly squared rubble building stone, alter burnt, was found with the tile.

Potential

In general, the other finds have limited potential, though the stone may imply the former presence of buildings and the slag perhaps indicates iron smithing somewhere in the vicinity during the medieval period.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 8 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 8, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
001	M19th-20th	Topsoil
003	20th	Topsoil

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group
BS	Body sherd
CBM	Ceramic Building Material
CXT	Context
LHJ	Lower Handle Join
NoF	Number of Fragments
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
PCRG	Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group
RCHME	Royal Commission on Historical Monuments England
TR	Trench
UHJ	Upper Handle Join
W (g)	Weight (grams)

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ARCHIVE CATALOGUES

Archive catalogue 1, Post Roman Pottery

Cxt	Cname	Leics Cname	Full Name	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Decoration	Part	Comment	Date
001	SNOL		Saxo-Norman Oolitic	Jar	5	1	15		Rim; BSS	Sooted ex; ID?	11th-12th

Cxt	Cname	Leics Cname	Full Name	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Decoration	Part	Comment	Date
001	MY	MY	Midlands Yellow Ware	Bowl	2	1	13		BS	Abraded; crazed glaze	M16th-M17th
001	BL (INDUS)	EA	Industrial Black ware	Teapot	1	1	12	Engine turned	Base		M19th-20th
	NOTS	SW5	Nottingham Stoneware	Blacking Pot	1	1	118		Rim to Neck	Encrusted in dried blacking; sloping hollow everted rim	19th
003	ENGS	SW	Unspecified English Stoneware	Bottle	1	1	198		Rim to Neck		M19th-20th
003	NCBW	EA	Nineteenth Century Buff Ware	Bowl	1	1	19	White slip bands; blue dendritic mocha dec	Rim to Base		19th
003	NCBW	EA	Nineteenth Century Buff Ware	Bowl	3	1	46	Blue painted bands; blue mocha wash dec	Rim; BSS	Very fresh	19th
003	ENGS	SW	Unspecified English Stoneware	Bottle	1	1	74		BS		19th
003	NCBW	EA	Nineteenth Century Buff Ware	Jar	2	1	422		Base	Very Fresh; joining	19th
003	BONE	EA	Bone China	Flat	1	1	18	Moulded dec	Rim to Base		19th

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

Bronze Age	A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools, between 2250 and 800 BC.
Context	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
Cut	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
Fill	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Iron Age	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
Layer	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
Medieval	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
Mesolithic	The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 8200-4500 BC.
Natural	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

2	Daily record sheets
1	Context register sheet
8	Context record sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
3	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Stratigraphic matrix
1	Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services
Room 500
County Hall
Leicester Road
Glenfield
Leicester
LE3 8TE

Accession Number: X.A84.2009

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: MUMS 10

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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