

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF, 21-23 MILL LANE, COTGRAVE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



**On behalf of Mr. D Clarke
Nostalgic Homes**

Planning Ref., 15/03097/FUL, Rushcliffe BC

CS Archaeology
March 2016

On behalf of: Nostalgic Homes Ltd
150 Browns Lane
Stanton on the Wolds
Nottingham
NG12 5BN

The Site's National Grid Reference (NGR): SK644356

Project Number: 161

Oasis Reference Code: csarchae1-245530

Planning Reference: 15/03097/FUL

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Timing: Fieldworks and Reporting, March 2016

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Frontispiece: view of the PDA showing its terraced character

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1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is in response to a condition placed on Planning consent (**Application No. 15/03097/FUL**) by Ruscliffe BC. This consent permits development to proceed subject to an approved WSI (Appendix 1), which was agreed with Ms U Spence (Nottingham CC) in March 2016, and adhered to throughout the development works.
- 1.2 This condition was imposed because the Proposed Development Area (PDA) lies in proximity to an area of Anglo-Saxon Burials uncovered during the 1980s (see Appendix 1).
- 1.3 No significant archaeology was revealed, and no environmental sampling was undertaken.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 *Site Name:* 21 & 23 Mill Lane Cottages, Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire (**Figure 1**)

2.2 *Status:* non-statutory

2.3 *Grid reference:* SK644 356

2.4 *Area of site (hectares):* 0.1

2.5 *Purpose of the work:* to record the archaeological resource. This recorded the absence, of any archaeological deposits within the PDA in the areas outlined in **Figure 2**.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 To ensure that any buried archaeological remains present are investigated in order than an understanding of their nature extent and significance, before they are damaged or destroyed. The watching Brief will also allow for the identification and recording of any archaeological material that might be uncovered and that this knowledge and evidence is then disseminated to the public.

3.2 If archaeology is revealed every effort will be made to enable the deposits to be preserved in situ.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 This has been carried out according to an agreed specification in the Project Design (Appendix 1).

5 THE WATCHING BRIEF

- 5.1 This took place on the 3 March 2016, and consisted of a back actor excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The PDA was in an undisturbed condition (**Plates 1-3**) and was characterized by tall grassland in two distinct levels (**Figure 2**). Site reduction work started in the south-east corner of the PDA (**Plate 3**), and proceeded to the northern edge of the PDA (**Plate 4**). This allowed for uninterrupted views of the underlying stratigraphy, which consisted of clay throughout the PDA (**Plates 5-6**).
- 5.2. The northern edge of the PDA featured deep redeposited site building waste probably following on from construction activity during the 1980s. No significant features were revealed and it became apparent, through the course of the day, that the PDA had been exposed to historical site reduction excavations. Indeed, so severe was this truncation that the site's archaeological potential was directly affected and reduced to negligible. The watching brief was, with NCC approval, agreed to be suspended, on the proviso that should any anomalies be revealed during the course of the foundation excavations, CS Archaeology would be consulted, and an inspection undertaken.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The archaeological work has been able to establish the complete absence of significant archaeological contexts across the PDA.

7 PROPOSED ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

NO FURTHER WORK IS RECOMMENDED.

8 REFERENCES

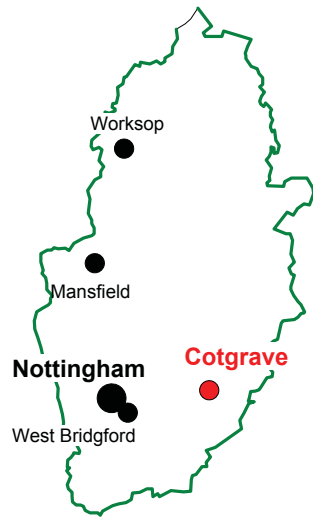
8.1 Cartographic References

2008, Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 1:25000 (Sheet 260).

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to Mr D Clarke, of Nostalgic Homes and Ms K Greenwood of Greenwood Architects for commissioning this report and to Ms U Spence for approving the project design and works suspension.

FIGURES



4 64000 4 65000



For inset see Figure 2

An Archaeological WB
at 21-23 Mill Lane, Cotgrave
Nottinghamshire

Figure 1: Location Plan

scale 1:25000

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georeferenced map

 PDA

An Archaeological WB
at 21-23 Mill Lane, Cotgrave
Nottinghamshire

Figure 2: Site Plan

scale 1:1000

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PLATES



Plate 1: view of the PDA from the south



Plate 2: view of the PDA from the southwest



Plate 3: working view along the western boundary, from the south southeast



Plate 4: view of the PDA's northern edge after modern building waste was removed, from the south



Plate 5: view of the PDA's northern edge after modern dumped material was removed, from the west



Plate 6: view of the PDA, from the north

APPENDIX

Project Design for Archaeological Monitoring at 21 and 23 Mill Lane, Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire

For: Mr David Clarke, of Nostalgic Homes Ltd,
Planning Ref. 15/03097/FUL

CS Archaeology

February 2016

SUMMARY

- 0.1 This Project Design (PD) is in response to a condition on Planning Consent for the erection of 2 detached dwellings at land at 21 & 23 Mill Lane Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire.
- 0.2 This PD proposes that an archaeological watching brief is implemented to record potential archaeological deposits during all below ground works, specifically during site reduction, service trenches and foundation excavations.
- 0.3 The results from this works will provide a more detailed record of the Proposed Development Area's (PDA) archaeological resource, and will mitigate any archaeology by 'preservation by record'.
- 0.4 Archaeological monitoring (often referred to as a 'Watching Brief') is required to ensure that remains that are to be affected by works will be recorded and/or retrieved.
- 0.5 All archaeological work will comply with:
- relevant IfA Standard and guidance documents;
 - relevant EH best practice guidance documents.
- 0.6 All archaeological work will be monitored by the Nottinghamshire County Council Archaeology Section (NOTTS CC).

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Details

1.1.1 Site Name: 21 & 23 Mill Lane Cottages, Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire (**Figure 1**)

1.1.2 Status: non- statutory

1.2 Archaeological Background

2.2.1 The significance of the Cotgrave Anglo-Saxon cemetery must be seen its regional context. There is a notable sparsity of evidence, this absence of evidence may suggest that Anglo-Saxon settlement was not by a mass movement nor by penetration up the Trent and its tributaries, (although this may lie behind the *ing* and *ham* place-names in the Trent Valley in northeast Nottingham and adjacent north-west Lincolnshire). Rather it suggests piecemeal movement from the south and south east, into South Nottinghamshire and the Trent Valley. In this area, we can see the possible survival of territorial and estate structures, and some distributional association between A/S material and Roman settlement. The high population, extensive arable and lack of woodland in 1086 suggests that the Trent Valley and South Nottingham did not suffer as much depopulation as other areas in 5th century, and retained its economic vitality. It appears that it had an existing economy and social structures which were attractive to Anglo-Saxon takeover. By contrast, Nottinghamshire north and west of the Trent Valley and its hinterland exhibits an absence of Early Saxon settlement, and a distribution of Scandinavian place-names which suggests space for "colonisation". In 1086 it had a low population with extensive woodland and heath lands. Palaeo-environmental and other evidence demonstrates the growth of peat in Idle Valley from the 4th century. Together, this evidence suggests population decline and retraction from more marginal areas in at least 5th century. The growth of heath and woodland, combined with population decline, may suggest also a shift to animal husbandry and more pastoral farming regimes and socio-economic structures All this implies that during C5th and into the C6th, Notts was populated by British communities with a sub-Romano-British culture. In the absence of coinage and mass-produced pottery, and the disappearance of towns and villas and with no distinctive British material, it is very difficult to identify both the sites and character of this culture.

2.2.2 During the 1980s on land adjacent to the current development site, a pagan Anglo-Saxon graveyard was revealed. The graves were richly furnished with associated grave goods and these graves are of regional significance. Also suggested by the grave finds is a distinctive 'British' character which is suggested by the sparseness of distinctive Saxon burials (Anglo-Saxon Nottinghamshire:
https://www.le.ac.uk/ulas/publications/documents/30nottas_000.pdf).

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 This Project Design (PD) has been written in response to a condition on planning consent (Application No. 15/03097/FUL), from Rushcliffe Borough Council.
- 1.3.2 This PD represents a summary of the broad archaeological requirements during the redevelopment of the PDA. This is in accordance with Local Plan Policies and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 12).

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 To ensure that any buried archaeological remains present are investigated in order than an understanding of their nature extent and significance, before they are damaged or destroyed. The watching Brief will also allow for the identification and recording of any archaeological material that might be uncovered and that this knowledge and evidence is then disseminated to the public.
- 2.2 If archaeology is revealed every effort will be made to enable the deposits to be preserved in situ.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Procedures and Objectives

- 3.1.1 Access during the works will be afforded to CS Archaeology at all reasonable times, arrangements for access to the site will be agreed with the client Mr David Clarke, of Nostalgic Homes Ltd, in advance.
- 3.1.2 CS Archaeology will ensure that any plant and machinery operated by CS Archaeology is used with due care and attention.
- 3.1.3 Ditching bucket will be used at all times unless modern/concrete deposits are encountered.
- 3.1.4 This project will be undertaken in a manner consistent with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and professional standards and guidance (IFA, 2001).
- 3.1.5 All finds that are 'treasure' will be reported to the coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act Code of Practice (1997).
- 3.1.6 If architectural features or archaeological remains are discovered during the course of the site works CS Archaeology will be afforded the opportunity to investigate and record them. Significant or unexpected discoveries will be immediately reported to the archaeological monitor (NOTTS CC).
- 3.1.7 During the watching brief analytical drawings and a written report on the deposits will be made sufficient to illustrate archaeological details.

3.2 Photography

- 3.2.1 A general and detailed photographic record of the demolition will be made. General and detailed photographs will be taken with a 35mm camera. If required black and white photographs will use an appropriate silver based film (Ilford Delta 400 Professional), this will form the primary photographic record.
- 3.2.2 This record will be supplemented by 35mm colour slides, especially where colour is an aspect that needs to be recorded, e.g. bedrock and characteristic stratigraphy. All photographs will contain an appropriate graduated photographic scale. Digital photographs will also be taken to illustrate the report and to supplement the archive, copies will be included in the digital archive which will be supplied both the client and to NOTTS CC.

3.3 Site Monitoring

- 3.3.1 NOTTS CC will be notified at least two weeks in advance of the site works and the start of the site works, so that arrangements for monitoring the work can be made.
- 3.3.2 Monitoring will be arranged so that all excavated areas can be inspected in an exposed condition.

3.4 Finds Recovery and Conservation Strategy

- 3.4.1 If any site reduction work does take place and this is not anticipated, the following categories of artefact may be predicted on this site: pottery, ferrous and non ferrous metalwork, glass, ceramic building material, worked bone, flint and/or worked stone. Potential finds could date from any period.
- 3.4.2 Should a site archive be created this will be offered to Sheffield Museum Service, and a project initiation form (attached) will be completed in advance with copies sent to Sheffield Museum and NOTTS CC.
- 3.4.3 All recording, marking and storage of material will be of archive quality and recording systems will be compatible with Nottingham Castle Museum. Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and stabilisation of all objects and an assessment of their long-term conservation and storage needs.
- 3.4.4 Finds will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in the RESCUE/UKIC publication First Aid for Finds. In accordance with the procedures outlined in MAP2, all iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including coins), and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy will be X-radiographed before assessment.
- 3.4.5 If required a specialist assessment report on the recovered artefacts will be undertaken, with a view to their potential for further study. Any assessment report will form an appendix to the main report. Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and storage needs.

3.5 Health and Safety

3.5.1 CS Archaeology will operate with due regard to health.

3.6 Post –Recording Work and Report Preparation

3.6.1 Once the site works have been completed, a full report of the results of the watching brief will be undertaken by CS Archaeology, within 3 months. The post-excavation assessment of material if recovered will be undertaken in accordance with the guidance of MAP2 (English Heritage, 1991). The report will include: background information, methods, detailed results, grid references, conclusion and discussion.

3.6.2 The watching brief report may if required include a phased interpretation of the site, and a detailed photographic index.

3.6.3 A copy of this PD will be included as an appendix to the final report.

3.7 Post Excavation Specialists

3.7.1

Prehistoric and Medieval Pottery	Dr C G Cumberpatch, Sheffield
Roman Pottery	Ms R Leary
Anglo-Saxon Pottery	Ms J Young
Slags	Dr R MacKenzie, Sheffield
Environmental sampling and analysis	Ms E Simmons, Sheffield
Bone (Animal)	Mr J Buglass, Northallerton
Bone (Human)	Mr M Holst, York Osteolo-Archaeology

3.7.2 Should any further specialists be required these will be employed accordingly after approval by the NOTTS CC.

3.8 Preservation in situ

3.8.1 During the course of the watching brief, structures and deposits could be encountered that require the need for preservation in situ. CS Archaeology will ensure that any feature meriting preservation will be reported to and a design solution if feasible will be developed in full consultation with Ms U Spence, NOTTS CC.

3.9 Archive Preparation & Deposition

3.9.1 A site archive will be prepared in accordance with English Heritage MoRPHE guidelines (English Heritage 2006). See also *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive, the Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums: Guidelines for use in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales* Society of Museum Archaeologists 1995.

3.9.2 The site archive, including finds and environmental material, subject to the permission of the relevant landowners, will be labelled, conserved and stored according to the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC)'s *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (Walker 1990) and the Museums and Galleries Commission's *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*, 1992.

- 3.9.3 Arrangements will be made for the full and final archive to be deposited in with Nottingham Castle Museum in accordance with their deposition and archiving standards. If, after the watching brief, no further archaeological work is initiated, the archive will be deposited. An agreed allowance will be made for a contribution to Nottingham Castle Museum towards the curation and storage of material.
- 3.9.4 If further archaeological mitigation is requested any additional archaeological work undertaken, the archive will be prepared accordingly for incorporation into the final archive.
- 3.9.5 Archive deposition will be arranged in consultation with, and will take account of Nottingham Castle Museum's requirements and the relevant guidelines (see above). The timetable for deposition shall be agreed on completion of the site archive and report.

3.10 Report Submission

- 3.10.1 Upon completion of the field work a full report will be produced and copies with CD Rom containing the text of the report and illustrations (including all photos and slides taken), scanned at 300 dpi, is to be provided with each copy of the printed report submitted to the client and Mr. J McNeil of the NOTTS CC. As a minimum, a summary or interim statement will be produced 6 weeks after completion of the fieldwork, and a full report within 3 months.
- 3.10.2 Copies of the completed report will be submitted in both hard (if required) and digital formats to:
- The Client Mr D Clarke
 - Ms. U Spence NOTTS CC.
- 3.10.3 A summary report of an appropriate length, accompanied by illustrations, will be prepared and submitted in digital format (word/jpg >300dpi), for publication in *Archaeology in South Yorkshire*.

3.9 Publicity

- 3.9.1 Provision will be made for publicising the results of the work locally, and an OASIS form will be completed for the project.
- 3.9.2 CS Archaeology will either arrange for copyright on the deposited material to be assigned to the Nottingham Museum in perpetuity; this licence will allow the archive to reproduce material, including for use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.
- 3.9.3 CS Archaeology is aware that this work may lead to further archaeological dissemination.

3.10 References

- English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*
Institute of Archaeologists, 2001, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* Reading
Watkinson D. & Neal V., 1998, *First Aid for Finds* (3rd edition), RESCUE & the Archaeological Section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation.
South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, 2014, 'Model Brief for Archaeological Monitoring (Watching Brief)
Treasure Act, 1996, Code of Practice
National Planning Policy Framework, 2012, Department for Communities and Local Government, Chp 12. Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

Any comments on this PD please address to Chris Scurfield at:

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courtesy of Greenwood Architects

An Archaeological WB
at 21 & 23 Mill Lane,
Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire

Figure 1: Site Plan

not to scale

CS Archaeology
February 2016