

Bascote Lane, Cadeby, Leicestershire

Project specification for archaeological evaluation

**5th September 2025
rev 16/9/25**

Accession no: X A124.2025



25em86ev

Brascote Lane, Cadeby, Leicestershire Proposal for an archaeological evaluation

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Planning permission (25/00306/FUL) is currently being sought from Hinkley & Bosworth Borough Council for the erection of a pipe manufacturing facility with associated storage and biodiversity enhancements to the south of the current FP McCann concrete product facility at Brascote Lane, Cadeby, Leicestershire (SK 4310 0218) (Fig. 1). While the site consists of three agricultural fields covering c.12ha, only the eastern-most field covering c.5.6ha currently requires archaeological investigation. An archaeological evaluation has been requested in order to inform the application and allow the formation of an appropriate mitigation strategy as necessary.
- 1.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment undertaken in June 2025 (AJA 2025) noted that numerous archaeological investigations often in advance of quarrying activity, have taken place within the surrounding landscape demonstrating later prehistoric, Iron Age and Roman settlement activity. To the south-west of and within the western field of the proposal site a geophysical survey (Leicester HER ref. ELE5352), evaluation trenching (ELE4913) and an archaeological excavation (ELE7951) were undertaken ahead of mineral extraction. This identified an early/middle 1st century AD Roman settlement (MLE20096) consisting of an enclosure with two structures and a number of pits. Further to the south, within the same excavation area, ditches, pits and evidence of a kiln of a similar date were also identified. Crop marks seen to the south-west of the proposed survey area suggest the presence of two ring ditches, most likely representing levelled Bronze Age barrows while another barrow was excavated c.1km north-east of the proposed survey area along with a collared urn and cremation pit (MLE27084). The same site also produced two Saxon sunken feature buildings (MLE27085) which were dated to the 5th or 6th century AD.

Multiple finds ranging in date from the Mesolithic to the medieval period and including flint scatters, Roman coins and fragments of a Viking trefoil broach have been found across the study area suggesting a continuous use of the landscape across the ages. Despite this, a geophysical survey undertaken on the site only identified a single pit-type feature of possible archaeological interest, a number of magnetic anomalies related to agricultural land use were also noted (Dawson *et al.* 2025).
- 1.3 The underlying geology is recorded as Gunthorpe Member mudstone with superficial mid-Pleistocene glaciofluvial deposits overlying the majority of the north-western half of the survey area (BGS 2010). The site slopes from a height of 125m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north to 112m aOD in the south.

2.0 Requirement for Work

- 2.1 As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits on the site, an archaeological field evaluation is required as set out in *Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2025) and the Hinkley & Bosworth Borough Council's policies on archaeology.
- 2.2 At this stage a single component of archaeological work is proposed in the form of a field evaluation by means of machine-dug trenching. The results of the field evaluation will inform the County Archaeological Officer whether further mitigation works is required. Any further archaeological works will be governed by a separate WSI.

3.0 Aims and Objectives

- 3.1 The aims of the evaluation are to determine the presence/ absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date, state of preservation and importance of any archaeological or palaeoenvironmental deposits within the area of development.
- 3.2 This work will be carried out in a manner which will not compromise the integrity of archaeological features or deposits which warrant preservation in-situ, or might better be excavated under conditions pertaining to full excavation.
- 3.3 The specific research aims of this project are:
 - a) To determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on the site;

- b) To determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
 - c) To determine if the pit-type feature identified during the geophysical survey is of archaeological interest;
 - d) To determine if any metallic objects possibly related to the Battle of Bosworth are present on the site;
 - e) To provide sufficient information to enable an appropriate mitigation strategy to be produced if necessary.
- 3.4 The potential and significance of any such deposits located will be assessed according to the research priorities such as set out in *Historic England Research Agenda* (HE 2017), the East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework (ALGAO 2012) or any more local or thematic research priorities as necessary (Cooper 2005; HE 2021).

4.0 Methodology

- 4.1 We propose to dig 27 trenches 1.8-2m wide and 30m long (covering a 3.2% sample area) as shown in figures 2 and 3. The trench positions may be adjusted in order to avoid services or other obstacles present on site.
- 4.2 A contingency of 1% (9 trenches) is included in the proposal should this be required to clarify the results of the initial trenching.

5.0 Excavation Methodology

- 5.2 Topsoil and other overburden will be removed by a JCB-type or 360°-type tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. This will take place under constant archaeological supervision.
- 5.1 Where archaeological features are certainly or probably present, the stripped areas will be cleaned using appropriate hand tools.
- 5.2 Sufficient of the archaeological features and deposits exposed will be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims of the brief, without compromising the objective set out in 3.2. Any strategy will be in agreement with the county archaeological office. All discrete features will be investigated by hand and at least 50% of the volume of each pit or posthole will be dug. A 25% sample of each linear feature will also be dug (a minimum of a 1m wide slot per feature).
- 5.3 In general, all finds and artefacts will be retained on-site. At the post-excavation stage (see below) the collection policy of the Leicestershire Museum will be followed and which may involve the discarding of some classes of building material, such as brick and tile or flint nodules after recording with only a representative sample being retained.
- 5.4 Conservation on site will follow guidelines in *First Aid For Finds* with any other specialist conservation work subcontracted to our conservation advisor (see below).
- 5.5 Discovery of any human remains will be reported to the coroner and the County Archaeological Officer but no further action will be taken as part of the evaluation exercise, unless requested as additional work by the client in consultation with the Leicestershire County Archaeological Officer. Burials will be covered and protected before reburial. Recovery and recording methodologies for human remains follow guidelines issued by the Ministry of Justice, and the standard procedures identified by Mitchell and Brickley (2017) and TVAS Field Recording Manual (9th edition 2020). Should it become necessary to disturb or remove any human remains this will only be done so once the appropriate licence has been obtained. Any human remains that have to be removed will be deposited with Leicestershire Museum and will not be reinterred.
- 5.6 A programme of environmental sampling will take place should sufficient well stratified subsoil deposits be located. Typically this involves samples of 40L depending on the size of the feature examined. A programme of environmental sampling will take place, if any significant deposits are encountered. These will be sampled in consultation with our environmental consultants and the County Archaeological Officer. Sampling will take place according to Historic England guidance (HE 2015a).

- 5.7 Metal detectors will be used to enhance the recovery of metal finds. There will be no removal without reference to contextual information. No title will be assumed by the finder of any gold, silver or prehistoric base metal objects and the provisions of the Treasure Act (1996) and its subsequent amendments, will be implemented where appropriate.
- 5.8 Spoilheaps will be searched for finds throughout the works.
- 5.9 Following completion of all excavation and recording, the trench will be efficiently backfilled but not resurfaced, returfed or reseeded. Topsoil will be stored separately and replaced last. No liability is accepted for damage to any services unless a plan of these is provided by the client.

6.0 Recording Methodology

- 6.1 A single context recording system will be used in accordance with the TVAS Field Recording Manual (9th edition 2020). Descriptions of individual deposits and features will be recorded on pro-forma context recording sheets.
- 6.2 All archaeological deposits exposed will be planned at a scale of 1:20 and sections drawn at a scale of 1:10. All site drawings will be by pencil on drafting film. Plans will be hachured
- 6.3 Heights above OD will be taken and recorded on plans and sections.
- 6.4 The locations of the trenches, and of all plans and sections will be tied into the National Grid using a Korec Handheld GPS unit.
- 6.5 A photographic record will be made of the evaluation project, consisting of digital images. It will record the principal features and finds discovered, both in detail and in their general context. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' and, where applicable, aerial photographs to illustrate the nature of the archaeological fieldwork programme. All feature shots will include appropriate scales and a photo board, the latter positioned in such a way that the writing is legible and including the context number, site code and direction of north. Digital images are taken on Canon EOS 4000D cameras with APS-C sensors taking 16-megapixel images.

7.0 Post-fieldwork

- 7.1 Finds processing and analysis will commence immediately following the completion of the fieldwork in accordance with guidelines in MoRPHE (HE 2015b), CIfA and TVAS post-excavation procedures (6th edition 2013).
- 7.2 Artefacts/ecofacts will be cleaned, conserved and prepared for long term museum storage.
- 7.3 Specialist reports will be prepared on the artefacts recovered. Particular attention will be paid to correlating the pottery recovered with local or regional fabric type sequences.
- 7.4 Specialist analysis and reporting will be carried out by the following specialist staff or consultants as appropriate:-

Pottery specialist	Dr Jane Timby, Ms Sue Anderson, Ms Lorraine Mephram, Mr Luke Barber (consultants) or Dr Cristina Mateos-Leal (TVAS)
Environment (general)	Professor Mark Robinson (Oxford University)
Brick and tile	Ms Danielle Milbank (TVAS)
Carbonised botanical remains	Professor Mark Robinson (Oxford University), Ms Rosalind McKenna (consultant) or Ms Molly Larkby (TVAS)
Faunal remains	Dr Matilda Holmes (consultant), Dr Ceri Falys or Ms Harriet Wright (TVAS)
Human remains	Dr Ceri Falys (TVAS)
Coins	Dr Pierre Manisse (TVAS)
Metalwork	Dr Robin Taylor (consultant), or Ms Sophie Peng (TVAS)
Pollen	Quest (Reading University)
Wood	Ms Rosalind McKenna (consultant)
Slag	Dr David Dungworth or Mr Luke Barber (consultants)
Archaeomagnetism	Bradford University

Radiocarbon dating Queens University, Belfast

Conservation Wiltshire County Council Heritage Centre

8.0 Report and Dissemination

- 8.1 A report on the results of the fieldwork should be available within two to three weeks following completion of the fieldwork.
- 8.2 The report will follow our established format, comprising a descriptive text, illustrations and catalogues in appendices as appropriate.
- 8.3 The text will address the aims and objectives of the project, the methodology employed, describe the basic nature of the stratigraphy of the site and archaeological deposits discovered, and specialist report on the artefacts recovered. It will then attempt to place the significance of the findings in their local, regional and national setting if appropriate.
- 8.4 The report will include a frontsheet providing the following information:
 - * Site name
 - * Grid reference
 - * Site activity (evaluation trenching, geophysical survey, fieldwalking, watching brief, excavation, etc.)
 - * Date and duration of project
 - * Site code
 - * Area of site
 - * Summary of results
 - * Monuments identified (referenced to the RCHME Thesaurus of Monument Types)
 - * Location and reference of archive
- 8.5 The illustrations will include:
 - * A site location plan
 - * A trench layout plan
 - * Trench plans and sections
 - * Profiles/sections of a selection of excavated features
 - * A selection of colour photos of significant findings
- 8.6 Any findings even if negative will be published as a note or article in an appropriate journal such as *Transactions of Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* as necessary.
- 8.7 Copies of the results will be supplied to the Leicestershire Historic Environment Record in digital archival (PDF/A-1a) format. Paper copies will be supplied if requested.
- 8.8 A digital version of the report will be provided to the OASIS project under UID thamesva1-509153.
- 8.9 Copies of digital images will be supplied to the Leicestershire HER (if requested).

9.0 Archive Selection Strategy and Data Management Plan

- 9.1 The selection strategy deals only with the aims and objectives of this specific project – points 3.1 to 3.3 above.
- 9.2 **Finds**
 - 9.2.1 All material recovered during the excavation (with the exception of building materials) will be returned to the TVAS offices for cleaning and analysis.
 - 9.2.2 Building material will be assessed and recorded on site and examples retained for further assessment.
 - 9.2.3 The finds returned to the TVAS offices will be reviewed following analysis.

9.2.4 Selection decisions will be based on specialists' reports and selection recommendations and the Leicestershire Museum collecting policy, and with consideration to the research priorities such as set out in Cooper (2005).

9.2.5 Uncollected building material will be assessed and recorded in consultation with the TVAS CBM specialist and/or in accordance with the project specific discard policy prepared by the specialist. The uncollected material will be left on-site and incorporated into the backfill.

9.2.6 Material not selected for inclusion in the finds archive will be disposed of in agreement with landowner, museum and planning archaeologist.

9.3 **Documentary**

9.3.1 All primary context records will be selected for inclusion in the documentary archive. Duplicates, photocopies of original records, research materials and anything else unsuitable for inclusion in the final archive will be deselected either after project completion or during archive preparation in line with Leicestershire Museum deposition guidelines.

9.3.2 It is anticipated that the material de-selected from inclusion will be research material or duplicates/reproductions created during the post excavation stage of the project. Any such material will either be retained as part of TVAS' research files or recycled.

9.4 **Digital data**

9.4.1 Digital data will be selected for inclusion in the final archive based on the TVAS Data Management Plan (DMP) for forward deposition with the Archaeology Data Service.

9.4.2 Only the final version of all born digital documents will be selected for inclusion in the final archive.

9.4.3 Digital photographs will be assessed by the project team during post-ex and selected based on the TVAS DMP, Historic England (HE 2015c), and ADS guidelines.

9.4.4 The digital data will be reviewed following data gathering and post-excavation to ensure it is being stored and that version-control is being adhered to as described in the TVAS DMP.

9.4.5 The final decision on selection for the preserved digital archive will be made following project completion.

9.4.6 The selection of digital data will be guided by the following standards and guidance:

Thames Valley Archaeological Services 2021. Data Management Plan. TVAS
 ADS. *Guides to good practice*. <http://guides.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/g2gp/Main>
 ADS. *Guidelines for depositors*. <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/advice/guidelinesForDepositors>
 ADS. *Guidance for the selection of material for deposit and archive*
<https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/advice/selectionGuidance>
 Historic England (2015c) Digital Image Capture and File Storage

10.0 **Archive Deposition**

10.1 The finds and site archive will be prepared in accordance with guidelines in 'MoRPHE' (HE 2015b), CIfA guidance (CIfA 2020) and after consultation with the recipient museum. Guidance produced by the Museum and Galleries Commission's Standards in the 'Museum Care of Archaeological Collections' (1992), the Society of Museum Archaeologist's 'Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections' (1993), the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 'Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage' (1990) and 'The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire County Council Museum Collections' (LCC 2024), will be followed.

10.2 The site archive will be deposited with an approved local museum (Leicestershire Museum) with accession number X.A112.2022. The museum will be contacted following the approval of the WSI as necessary.

10.3 With the agreement of the landowner, the finds will be deposited with an approved local museum (Leicestershire Museum).

- 10.4 The records will be copied onto microfiche for the National Archaeological Record.

11.0 General Items

- 11.1 The project will be managed on a regular basis by a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists with an appropriate area of competence (Dr. S. Ford, BA PhD MCIFA FSA or Mr. A. Taylor, BA MSc MCIFA) and carried out by an experienced supervisor (from Maisie Foster, Kyle Beaverstock, Josh Hargreaves, Will Attard, Pierre Manisse, Anne Huvig, Joanna Pine).
- 11.2 The project will be carried out in accordance with the CIFA Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation (2023a; 2023b) and Code of Conduct (2022) and the quality control mechanisms set out in the TVAS fieldwork and post-fieldwork manuals.
- 11.3 Safe working practices will be adopted as set out in the TVAS health and safety manual and current health and safety standards will be adhered to.
- 11.4 Our insurance cover comprises £10 million for public liability, £10 million for employee liability, cover for any hired-in plant, and professional indemnity cover of £5m.
- 11.5 The archaeological advisor to the Council will be contacted both prior to work commencing on site, and during the evaluation itself, to arrange a site monitoring visit. Any changes in the agreed project design will be discussed and agreed with the archaeological advisor to the Council before implementation.

12.0 References

- AJA, 2025, 'Erection of a Pipe Manufacturing Facility with Associated Storage, Brascote Lane, Cadeby: Archaeological Assessment', Andrew Josephs Associates unpublished report, Leamington Spa
- ALGAO, 2012, 'East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework', Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
- BGS, 2010, *British Geological Survey*, Sheet 155, 1:50,000 series, Bedrock and Superficial Deposits, Keyworth
- CifA, 2020, *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- CifA, 2022, *Code of Conduct*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- CifA, 2023a, *Standard archaeological field evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- CifA, 2023b, *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading
- Cooper, N J (ed), 2006, *The Archaeology of the East Midlands: an archaeological resource assessment and research agenda*, Univ Leicester Archaeol Monogr **13**, Leicester
- Dawson, T, Carvalho, C, and O'Callaghan, L, 2025, 'Brascote Lane, Cadeby, Leicestershire: Geophysical survey (magnetic) report' TVAS unpubl rep **25/156**, Wellingborough
- HE, 2015a, *Environmental Archaeology*. Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 1, Historic England, Portsmouth. (3rd edn)
- HE, 2015b, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*, MoRPHE project planning, Historic England, London
- HE, 2015c *Digital Image Capture and File Storage, Guidelines for Best Practice*, Historic England, London
- HE, 2017, *Research Agenda*, Historic England, London
- HE, 2021, 'Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England', Historic England website
- LCC, 2024, 'The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire County Council Museum Collections', Leicestershire County Council, Leicester
- NPPF, 2025, *National Planning Policy Framework* (revised), Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, London

Brascote Lane, Cadeby, Leicestershire Data Management Plan

Project ref: 25em86ev

Author: Beth Tucker

Created: 5th September 2025

Last updated: 5th September 2025

1. Introduction

This Data Management Plan has been prepared by the TVAS Management Team including the editor and archive coordinator, and is subject to review every two years or in response to changes in legislation or working procedures. Changes will be communicated to the relevant staff via memo/digital comms, meetings, or via in house training. It has been prepared with reference to the relevant guidance presented by the Archaeological Data Service (ADS), CIfA *DigDigital DMP Checklist*, and *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (2014, updated 2020), and Historic England *Digital Image Capture and File Storage*.

2. Data Collection or creation

Type	Format
Text / documents	Excel (.xlsx) To be deposited in preservation format (.csv)
Spreadsheets	Word (.docx) PDF (.pdf/a)
Images	Graphics file (.jpg)
Drawings	CAD (dxf/FC7)
GIS	Shapefiles/geotiff/dxf
GPS	Shapefiles/dxf
Geophysics (geophysics projects only)	xcp/png/xyz

Data Standards / Methods

Standard methods of data collection will be applied throughout the project, working to best practice guidance where applicable/available. In general, data acquisition standards are defined against *ADS Guides to Good Practice*. Specific or additional guidance relevant to this project are listed below, and will be updated as the project progresses.

Methods of collection are specified within the WSI and will meet the requirement set out in the Project Brief and TVAS fieldwork manual.

Specific Guidance

- HE *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice* 2015
- HES *Applied Digital Documentation in the Historic Environment* 2018
- EAC *Guidelines for the use of geophysics in archaeology* 2016

Data storage / file naming

The working project archive will be stored in a project specific folder or data specific folder on the internal organisational server. The internal organisation server is backed up weekly to maintain an up to date security copy of the organisation wide data.

Data collected will be downloaded as soon as possible after creation and raw data will be stored in the appropriate folder.

Project folders and files are named following established organisational procedures based on ADS file naming guidance and will include version control management.

Final versions of files will include FINAL within the file name.

Quality assurance

Instruments used in the collection of data are calibrated prior to use and checked to ensure they are in full working order.

All site records and data collected will be reviewed on completion of fieldwork to ensure data is accurate and secure.

Data collection and management are reviewed regularly as part of the organisational Quality Assurance policies (Thames Valley Archaeological Services - Procedure Document for Quality Assurance 4th Edition, 2024)

3. Documentation and metadata

Data collected will include standard formats which maximise opportunities for use and reuse in the future.

A Collection Level Metadata Summary will be included in the project and will be finalised when the project is completed. A working copy will be kept on the TVAS server in the Project Folder. It will include a register of data types and number of objects included in the archive, along with all other archive components.

Data documentation will meet the requirement of the Project Brief, Museum Deposition Guidelines, Digital Repository Guidelines and the methodology described in the WSI.

4. Ethics and legal compliance- copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues

All legal requirements will be followed and as guided by professional practice advice.

5. Data Security: Storage and Backup

All digital data created will be stored on the TVAS internal archive server which is backed up weekly using SynchBackSE software onto 6TB external hard drive. This is stored off site. Storage capacity is sufficient and regularly monitored.

6. Selection and Preservation

Data selection will be informed by the WSI, defined against the research aims, regional and national research frameworks, specialist advice and the significance of the project results.

Data that has been selected or that is required for the digital archive will be retained when the project is complete.

The archive will be prepared for deposition by the project team and the costs for the time needed for preparation, and the cost of deposition will be included in the project budget.

The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service, which is a certified repository with Core Trust Seal.

The relevant Museum (Leicestershire Museum) will be contacted during project initiation or according to their procedures and confirmed that the digital archive component should be deposited with a trusted digital repository.

It is considered that the digital archive for this project will be suitable for upload via ADS-Easy and therefore prior contact with ADS is not necessary.
--

Costing estimates will use the ADS Costing Calculator and sufficient resources to cover these costs, and to allow for the preparation of the archive, will be included in the project budget
--

7. Data Sharing

A summary of the project will be included on the OASIS Index of Archaeological Investigation and will be updated as the project progresses.

A report is expected to be completed within 1 month of the completion of fieldwork and the final version will be supplied to the Leicestershire Historic Environment Record via OASIS.
--

The location(s) of the final Archaeological Archive will be added to OASIS when appropriate.
--

The ADS will disseminate the digital elements of the Archaeological Archive online under a creative commons licence and the dataset will receive a unique identifier (DOI).

If restrictions on the sharing of any aspects of the project and its results are necessary, specific details, once agreed, will be included in an updated version of this DMP and documented in the Project collection metadata.
--

8. Responsibilities

The project co-ordinator and project officer will be responsible for implementing the DMP.
--

Data capture, and data quality is the responsibility of the project team, overseen by the project co-ordinator and relevant post-excavation officer.
--

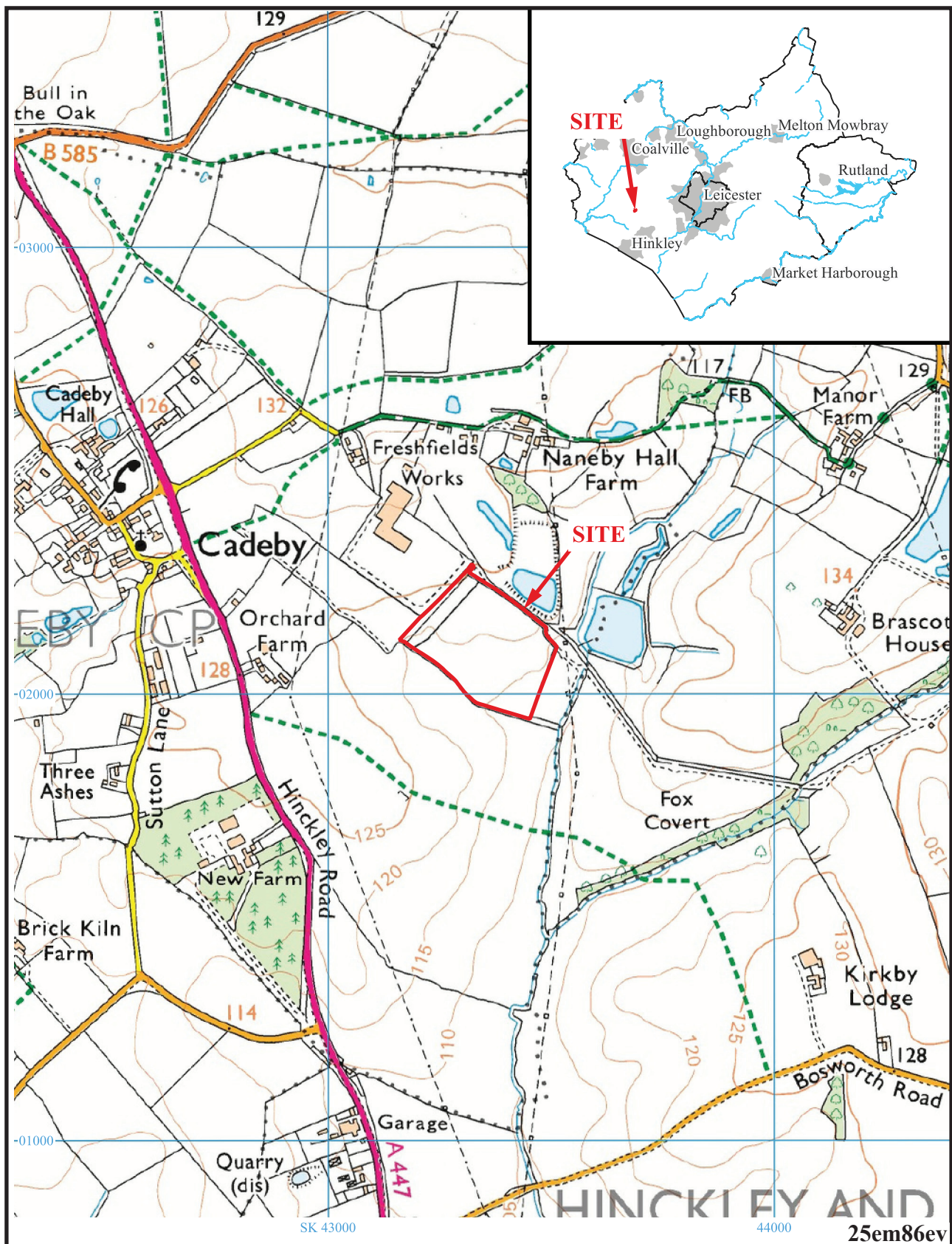
Metadata production is the responsibility of the project team overseen by the project officer and archives officer.

Storage of data in the field is the responsibility of the field team.

Once data is uploaded to the TVAS server, storage and back is managed by the relevant post-excavation officer.
--

Data archiving is undertaken by the project team under the guidance of the archives officer, who is responsible for the transfer of the digital project archive to the designated repository.

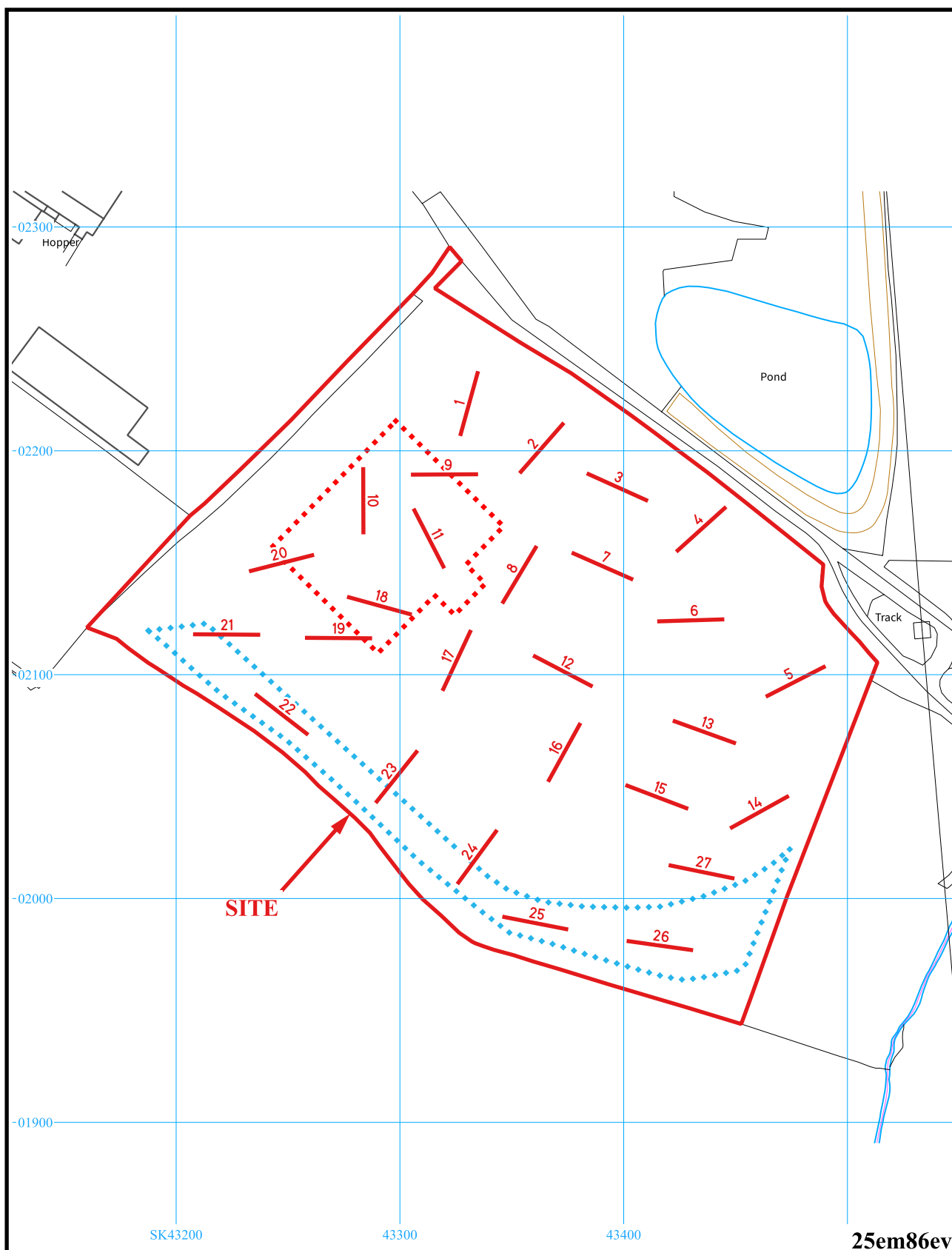
Details of the project team can be found in the WSI.
--



**Brascote Lane, Cadeby,
Leicestershire, 2025**
Project specification for archaeological evaluation.
 Figure 1. Location of site within Cadeby and Leicestershire.

Reproduced under licence from Ordnance Survey Explorer Digital mapping at 1:12500
 Crown Copyright reserved





25em86ev



**Brascote Lane, Cadeby,
Leicestershire**

Project specification for archaeological evaluation.

Figure 2. Proposed locations of trenches in relation to building footprint (red) and ditch corridor (blue).

0 20 40 60 80 100 m

T V A S

EAST MIDLANDS

