

Former Moore's Arms

6 Orton Lane, Norton Juxta Twycross, Warwickshire, CV9 3PU.

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Evaluation.

NGR: *SP 32223 06987*

Site code: *NJT22*

Museum Accession number: *X.A135.2023*

Sean Cook BA (Hons) MCIfA

24th November 2023

one ten archaeology

6 Elm Close, Pebworth, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 8XL

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out details of a research design for archaeological evaluation at the former Moore's Arms, 6 Orton Lane, Norton Juxta Twycross, Warwickshire, CV9 3PU on behalf of the owner. Planning applications ([21/01146/FUL](#) & [21/00537/OUT](#)) have been approved by Hinkley and Bosworth Borough Council for the conversion of the former public house to one dwelling, demolition of outbuilding and the erection of three new dwellings to the west and north, including new access road, garage and parking.

The permission is subject to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requiring an evaluation to identify any heritage assets that may be affected by the redevelopment and to consider the potential impact on archaeological deposits, the results of which would, if necessary, inform a mitigation strategy for further archaeological work on site prior to or during the commencement of development.

The Historic Environment Record (HER) has identified a range of medieval earthworks, of closes and a possible moat, on land to the north and west of the application site ([mle3274](#)) indicating there is potential for medieval archaeological features within the development area. Furthermore, the HER has also identified an outbuilding to the rear of the Moore's Arms, as a possible C18 outbuilding of the former public house ([mle12973](#)).

Historic building recording will be carried on the outbuilding prior to its demolition. This will be the subject of a separate report.

- 1.2 Norton Juxta Twycross, usually known as simply Norton (*or "Norton-Juxta"*), is a small village in Leicestershire, England. The village is part of the parish of Appleby Magna. The population is included in the civil parish of Twycross. The village has traditionally, and historically, been known as "Norton": deriving from the Anglo-Saxon, meaning "North-Town"; with variable spellings including "Northton" and "Nortone". The village, however, was also known for a brief period in the C17 "Hoggs Norton". The village's current name was acquired to differentiate the village from the several others in the county named Norton. "Juxta" is Latin for "near", and Twycross is a small village approximately 2 miles southeast of Norton.

The proposed development site is located on the northern side of Norton Juxta Twycross, a predominantly residential settlement. The site consists of the principal Grade II listed building (the former Moore's Arms public house), ([mle12973](#)) which has its principal elevation facing south onto Orton Lane together with a range of red brick. with painted brickwork to the front and gable elevations, with a plain tile roof.

The village is listed in the Domesday Book and the Lord of the Manor was recorded in both 1066 and 1086 as Countess (*Lady*) Godiva, widow of Leofric, Earl of Mercia. The village is listed as a very small settlement, with only four households.

Norton was previously an independent parish, however, by 1839 was recorded as a chapelry within the parish of Orton on the Hill. It is currently within the parish of Appleby Magna.

- 1.3 The site lies on the north of Norton Juxta Twycross it comprises a roughly rectangular area former pub and car park and amounting to approx. 880m² situated at about 108m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The Geological Survey of Great Britain indicates that the underlying geology is likely to be red brown mudstone. (BGS, 1994).

2 *Archaeological background*

- 2.1 The Leicestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) will be consulted with a search carried out over a 500m radius centred on the site in order understand the archaeology of the locality. Significant aspects of the data within the HER that is relevant to the site will be outlined in the report detailing the results of the work.
- 2.2 the Moore's Arms in the early C19 is situated to the south-west of the church occupying a narrow linear plot with a long frontage to Orton Lane at the bend in the road. The historic evidence therefore suggests that the present building has had a long established use as a public house and a similar range of buildings is shown on the OS maps throughout the C20. The early OS maps show a detached range of buildings occupying a similar narrow and separate plot to the rear. The former Moore's Arms ([mle12972](#)) is described in the list description as a mid to late C18 public house, with a painted brick exterior, plain tile roofs and brick end stacks. Although the list description does not provide any details of its historic

floor plans and circulation routes, it does refer to chamfered ceiling beams and an open fireplace with salt and spice boxes. In addition, the building also derives some historic interest from its name, the Moore's Arms reflects the family name of the one of the principal landowners in the area, the Moore family who had their family seat in Appleby Magna, and illustrates the historic social hierarchy in the village. The Church of the Holy Trinity ([mle12969](#)) stands to the north-east of the former Moore's Arms and the list description notes that the Church consists of a four bay nave, three bay chancel with vestry and a west tower and whilst it has early C14 origins, it was heavily restored in 1841. On the eastern side of the churchyard a pair of C13-C14 recumbent stone effigies ([mle12971](#)) as well as the chest tomb of William Glen who died in 1808 ([mle12970](#)).

- 2.3 The Ordnance Survey First Edition County Series plan of 1886 shows the site standing within a cluster of buildings around the former Moore's Arms.

2 Aims of the investigation

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation are to determine the date, character, quality, survival and extent of the archaeological deposits within the application area likely to be threatened by the proposed development in order that an informed decision on their importance in a local, regional and national context can be made. This information will clarify whether any remains should be considered for preservation in situ or form the basis of a mitigation strategy.

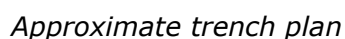
In general, the aims of the investigation will include:

- i) establishing the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation on the development site.
- ii) recovering artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region.
- iii) recovering palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

In particular, the aims of the investigation will include:

- iv) establishing the potential for Medieval archaeological deposits related to the early settlement.

- 4.1 The archaeological field work and post-excavation assessment will be carried out in accordance with the code of conduct (CIfA, 2019) and the standards and guidance for archaeological field evaluations produced by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA, 2020).
- 4.2 It is anticipated that the evaluation will comprise a total of three trenches, excavation to be carried out in two phases. The first phase will consist of two 15m long trenches located in the area of plot 1 and associated parking fronting Orton Lane and within the footprint of plot 4 (to the north of the site). The third trench will be excavated within the footprint of the outbuilding during the second stage of excavation following its demolition. All of the trenches will be excavated at a minimum width of 1.50m.
- 4.3 Machine excavation will only be used for the removal of non-archaeologically significant material (modern deposits) and will be used to excavate these layers stratigraphically. All machining will be conducted under archaeological supervision using a toothless bucket and will cease when the first archaeological horizon or natural substrate is revealed (whichever is encountered first). Excavation will continue by hand thereafter.



5 *Excavation Guidelines*

- 5.1 A representative sample of any archaeological features or deposits that are identified will be excavated by hand. For the purposes of the report, the site stratigraphy will be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified.
- 5.2 All excavation, both by machine and by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be worthy of preservation in situ. Should the need arise the relevant curatorial authority will be informed so that appropriate strategies can be applied to the treatment of the remains.
- 5.3 Where human remains are encountered, these will be planned and recorded in detail and will initially be left in situ. Where excavation of remains is required, this will be conducted following the regulations of the requisite Home Office license.
- 5.4 Finds that constitute 'treasure' under the Treasure Act 1996 will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner, in the event that they cannot be removed during the same day then suitable security will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 5.5 Due care will be taken to identify deposits that may have environmental potential, and where appropriate, a programme of environmental sampling will be initiated. This will be undertaken in accordance with Historic England guidelines (Historic England, 2011). Samples will be taken, processed and assessed for potential.

6 *Excavation of archaeological deposits.*

- 6.1 The various types of features and deposits revealed following the removal of non-significant overburden will be subject to the following sampling levels which will be undertaken by hand.
 - a) any deposits relating to funerary/ritual activity (eg, burials, cremations) and domestic/industrial activity (post-holes, hearths, floor

surfaces/floor make-up deposits) will if required, be investigated by removing a 100% sample of the deposit from each feature.

b) Pits will require a minimum of a 50% sample of the deposits from each feature, but a 100% sample may be necessary should significant assemblages of finds be present; linear features (eg, ditches/gullies, paths/tracks) will require a minimum of a 20% sample of the deposits from each feature.

7 Recording of archaeological deposits

7.1 During excavation all archaeological features revealed will be planned and recorded in accordance with the Museum of London Field Archaeology Manual a recognised standard for site recording during archaeological excavation. In the event, that no archaeological deposits are encountered, as an absolute minimum a written, drawn and photographic record will be compiled.

7.2 Each context will be recorded on a pro-forma context sheet by written and measured description; principal deposits will be recorded by drawn plans and sections at appropriate scales and related to the Ordnance datum. All finds and samples will be bagged separately and related to the context record.

7.3 A photographic record of all stratigraphic units will be compiled in accordance with Historic England guidelines (EH, 2015) using a digital SLR camera with a minimum of 20 mega pixles formatted for archival purposes as TIFF images.

8 Staff and timetable

8.1 The project will be managed by Sean Cook BA MCIfA, One Ten Archaeology who will also be responsible for on-site work. The team will consist of 1 site director and 1-2 assistants.

8.2 It is envisaged that the project will require approximately 2-3 days to complete. Analysis of the results and completion of the final report will, dependant on the results, take a minimum of 2-3 weeks.

- 8.3 Specialists who will be invited to advise and report on specific aspects of the project during the post-excavation stage as necessary are:

Animal bone	Matilda Holmes
Coins	Richard Reece
Conservation	Esther Cameron
Human skeletal remains	Gaynor Western
Pottery (post Roman)	Paul Blinkhorn/Philip Mills
Pottery (Roman)	Philip Mills
Pottery (prehistoric)	Elaine Morris
Small find ID	Nina Crummy
Palaeo-environmental	Val Fryer

- 8.4 Pottery reports will be expected to refer to the appropriate type series, including the Leicestershire type series for Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery.

9 *Report and Archive preparation*

- 9.1 The archaeological archive and artefact collection arising from the work will be appropriately conserved and held with One Ten Archaeology until deposition can be arranged with the Leicestershire County Museum Services. Artefacts will be deposited subject to agreement with the legal landowner.

- 9.2 In preparation for museum deposition, all finds and samples will be cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed separately and related to the context record. Documentary records will be catalogued and appropriately conserved.

- 9.3 An illustrated report will be compiled detailing the results of the fieldwork and assessment of the artefacts, palaeo-environmental deposits etc. The report will include an assessment of the impact of the development on archaeological remains. The structure of the report will include the following;

A non-technical summary
Introduction

Methodology
Description of deposits
Finds
Discussion
Impact of development
Archive

- 9.4 A digital pdf/a copy of the report detailing the results of the archaeological recording will be sent to Archaeological Advisor at Leicestershire County Council for approval. An approved copy of the evaluation report will be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record, on the understanding that it will be made available as a public document after an appropriate period (not exceeding 6 months from the completion of fieldwork).
- 9.5 An on-line form will be submitted to OASIS and it is anticipated that the digital archive resulting from the work will be deposited with the ADS within 6 months of completion of the project. Deposition of the archive to the County Museum will be made within 12 months of completion of the final report.
- 9.6 It is anticipated that on completion of the project as a minimum a short summary of the results will be provided for publication in the Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological & Historical Society. Should the results warrant wider dissemination, a full copy of the report, in an appropriate format shall be submitted for publication in the relevant academic journal.

10 *Health and Safety*

- 10.1 One Ten Archaeology will conduct all excavation work in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.
- 10.2 Notices and fencing will be installed as appropriate. Safety helmets and high visibility jackets will be used by all personnel as necessary.
- 10.3 One Ten Archaeology holds Public and Employers Liability Insurance and Professional Indemnity Insurance.

11 Bibliography

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