

SUMMARY

This report presents the results of research carried out by Witham Archaeology in relation to the site of a proposed four dwelling development on land located between Pickworth Road and Main Street, Great Casterton. The report, commissioned by Class Q Ltd., will inform the local planning authority in deciding the scope of further archaeological works prior to the determination of a planning application. The area of the proposed development, covering approximately 0.22 hectares, is located to the rear of an osteopathic clinic on Main Street, towards the northern part of Great Casterton. It was formerly used as a beer garden to the rear of The Plough Inn and as a bowling lawn.

Although this assessment identified no entries in the Leicestershire Historic Environment Record (LHER) relating to sites of archaeological significance within the proposed area of development, the Site is located at the periphery of a Roman small town, in close proximity to a Roman cemetery and pottery production and at the intersection of two Roman roads, Ermine Street and Tixover Road. Three possible prehistoric crouched inhumations were also found to the north-east of the Site. The cartographic evidence suggests that the site was occupied by houses and yards or small allotments since at least the late 18th century.

This investigation identified a high potential for Roman, medieval and post-medieval, a low to moderate potential for prehistoric and a moderate to high potential for Saxon remains to be present on the Site.