FIELDWORK BY TRENT & PEAK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST IN DERBYSHIRE, 1997

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INTRODUCTION

During 1997, Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust (hereinafter T&PAT) conducted fieldwork of one sort or another at eighteen locations in Derbyshire, mostly in response to some threat of development or destruction thought likely to impact upon features of archaeological importance or areas believed to have archaeological potential. The interest of the sites under investigation ranges in type and time from a stone-circle of the Bronze Age to a mill of the 19th–20th centuries, and varies in geographical situation from the floodplain of the Trent Valley, in the southern part of the county, to the White Peak, in the northern part (Fig. 1). This compilation of summary reports, relating exclusively to that fieldwork, follows the format of a similar set dealing with 1995–96, including the division between 'definitive' and 'interim' accounts, as explained in the previous introductory notes (Guilbert *et al.* 1998, 148). Again, whereas definitive reports specify the whereabouts of the related written, drawn and photographic archive (generally the Sites & Monuments Record maintained by Derbyshire County Council in Matlock — hereinafter SMR) as well as those of any artefacts recovered, such information can be expected to appear in a separate, final publication for those projects which make only an interim appearance here.

Each report is headed by a name appropriate to the site of the archaeological fieldwork, followed by a National Grid Reference for that location and the name(s) of those responsible for the report and/or the fieldwork (all authors bar Miss P. Beswick, Dr A. J. Howard, Dr I. D. A. Hulk and Dr C. R. Salisbury being among the regular staff of T&PAT in 1997). Due acknowledgement to others who have contributed to a given project (in cash, in kind, or of their expertise) is generally stated at the relevant point in the text. For simplicity, the reports are set out in alphabetical order of site-names, numbered as in Fig. 1; though it should be remarked that one site shown there (Lees Bottom, Taddington) is excluded from these reports because it is afforded more extensive treatment elsewhere in this volume.

Finally, it will be appropriate to note here that the intention to produce similar compilations in future years stands firm, though these will appear under the name of Trent & Peak Archaeological Unit (T&PAU), to which T&PAT became translated in 1998, following a formal merger with the Department of Archaeology, University of Nottingham, where the field-unit has been housed ever since its foundation in 1967, operating initially as Trent Valley Archaeological Research Committee.

Reference

Guilbert, G. *et al.* (1998) Fieldwork by Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust in Derbyshire, 1995–96. *DAJ* 118: 147–62.

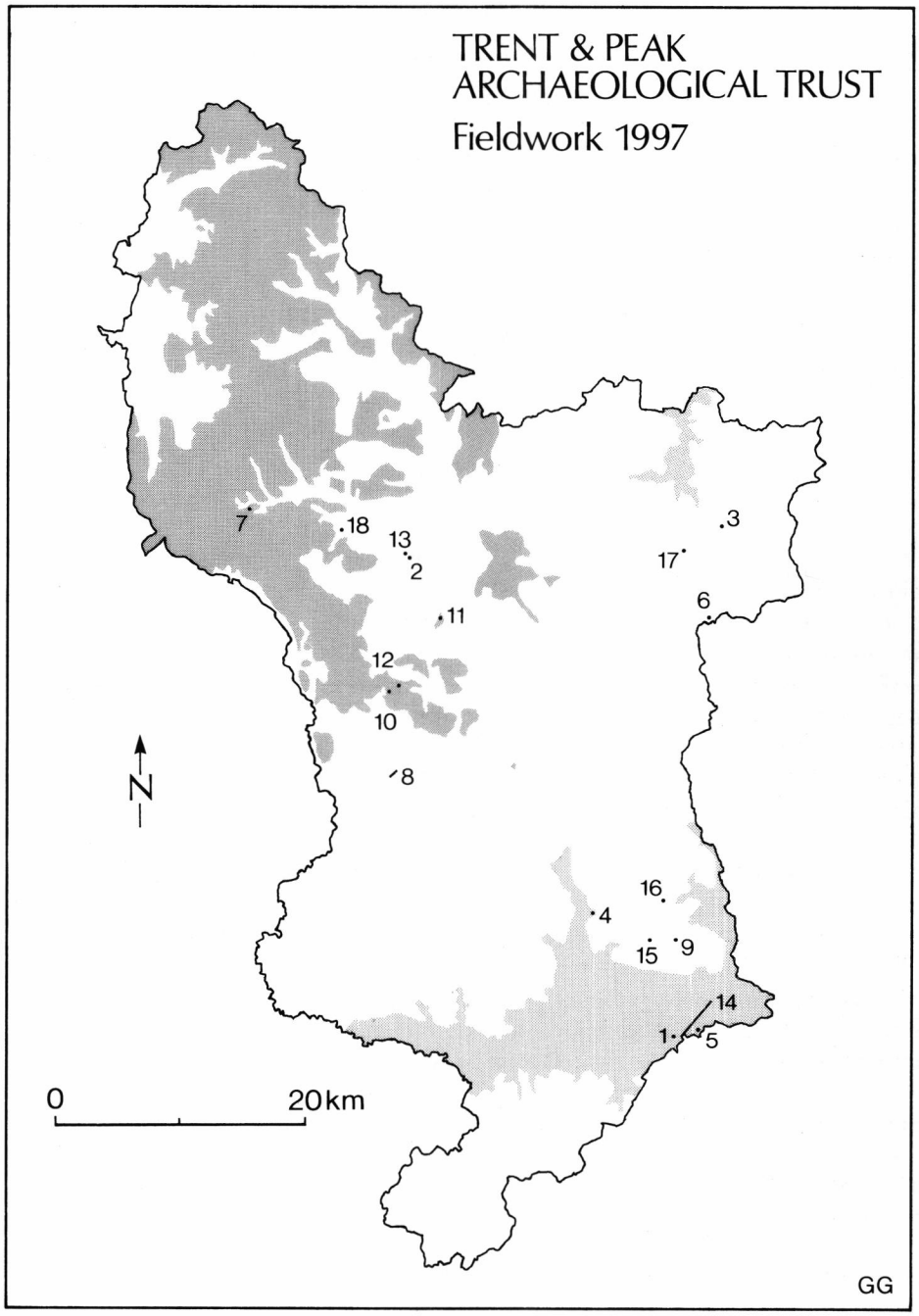

Fig. 1: Derbyshire, with the highest land, over 300m OD in the Peak District, shaded dark, and the lowest, under 60m OD in the Trent and Rother valleys, shaded relatively pale. Each site investigated by T&PAT in 1997 is marked by a spot, each pipeline by a bar, numbered in a single series, as follows: 1 Argosy Washolme, Aston upon Trent; 2 Bakewell Showground; 3 Bolsover Castle; 4 Breadsall Old Hall; 5 Chapel Farm, Shardlow; 6 Hardwick Old Hall; 7 King Sterndale; 8 Kniveton; 9 Littlehay Grange, Ockbrook; 10 Minninglow Hill; 11 Nine Ladies, Stanton Moor; 12 Rockhurst Farm, Aldwark; 13 Rutland Works, Bakewell; 14 Shardlow - Church Wilne; 15 Spondonwood Farm, Ockbrook; 16 Stanley Grange; 17 Sutton Scarsdale Hall; 18 Lees Bottom, Taddington.

REPORTS

1. **ARGOSY WASHOLME, ASTON UPON TRENT** (SK 434298)

I. D. A. Hulk & C. R. Salisbury

Informal monitoring of gravel-extraction (by permission of R. Woolley, ARC) led to identification of a linear arrangement of wooden piles with brushwood and blocks of quarried sandstone, some 12m across overall. The piles were disposed in overlapping V-settings, extending for at least 50m (both ends having been damaged by quarrying before recording). This structure appeared analogous to Medieval and Post-Medieval 'training' weirs, as recorded running parallel to the River Trent elsewhere; such weirs were designed to cut off side-channels and broad, shallow shoals and bays, hence narrowing and deepening the channel to facilitate navigation (Lord and Salisbury 1997, 56–7). Further work is anticipated for 1998.

Reference

Lord, P. and Salisbury, C. R. (1997) Brush-piling: eighteenth century engineering in an American wilderness. *Industrial Archaeology Review* 19: 49–60.

2. **BAKEWELL SHOWGROUND** (SK 2268)

D. Garton, J. Brown, A. J. Howard & V. Priest

Archaeological evaluation of some 16ha on the floodplain of the River Wye to the south-east of Bakewell town was commissioned by Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC) under the terms of a planning condition, as requested by Peak District National Park Authority. Documentary survey (by P. Arrowsmith) and a desk-top assessment (by P. Beswick) identified several areas of potential interest, some of which were to be directly affected by, and were therefore evaluated in advance of, proposed development-works.

Site A (SK 221685) featured an area of preserved ridge-and-furrow, one edge of which coincided with a boundary recorded in the Bakewell Rough Survey of 1709 (DRO D258/61/33e) and the Bakewell Enclosure Award of 1810, where it is termed an 'ancient inclosure called Grammer Croft' (DRO D1289 B/L246 and XM 21/4). A trench, excavated partly by machine and partly by hand, showed that the ridge-and-furrow had developed upon riverine alluvium, but there was no archaeological feature reflecting the recorded boundary.

Site B (SK 225680) lay on the supposed continuation (as conjectured by J. Stetka) of an earthwork that survives superficially some 190m to the east, and which has been postulated by Hart (1981, 118–21, figs 9.9 and 9.10) to have defined a *burh* of the 10th century (as mentioned in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* — see, e.g., Cox 1905, 376; Garmonsway 1972, 104). Two trenches, again dug in part mechanically and in part manually, were opened across the projected line of the *burh*-ditch, but only features of the Enclosure-period or later were revealed, suggesting that the *burh*, if it existed in this part of the valley, did not extend into the area now proposed for development.

Both sites A and B overlay deposits with potential for information regarding landscape-development, and these were examined more extensively by hand-augering and machine-dug test-pits (SK 222685–224678), identifying the following general sequence of deposits. Overlying the basal sands and gravels were lenses of oncoidal tufa (identified by M. Pedley, University of Hull) and silty clays, themselves overlain by a

discontinuous peaty layer up to 0.3m in thickness, and later by up to 1.0m of alluvium. Medieval and later ploughing, as well as the relatively recent features recorded on sites A and B, were sandwiched between the alluvium and modern topsoil. The peaty horizon was sampled for palaeo-environmental evidence and radiocarbon-dating, and it is hoped that this will not only provide a date for the initiation of alluviation in this stretch of the Upper Wye but also facilitate interpretation of the peat and tufa, and perhaps provide an environmental context for the creation of a Saxon *burh* somewhere within the floodplain.

A fuller, illustrated account of various aspects of this project will be prepared once the specialist analyses have been completed. Meanwhile, a leather shoe (Fig. 2) recovered from one of the test-pits (numbered 27 in archive, at SK 22396798) can be detailed here. This test-pit was located within a narrow terrace adjacent to the river, probably resulting from the most recent phase of river-action, and it filled quickly with ground-water during excavation, allowing limited time for recording, but sufficient to show that the shoe probably lay at the interface of peat with gravel, at *c.* 0.8m depth. It was accompanied by fragments of chicken-bone and several pieces of cut wood, including carpenters' waste of larch, commonly used only after the Reformation, when this tree was introduced into Britain (Edlin 1974, 129; Mitchell 1974, 119; thanks to C. R. Salisbury for this information). Archaeologically, it is unclear whether the shoe was contemporaneous with the accumulation of the peat, or whether it was intrusive, perhaps lost while the owner walked on boggy ground — this issue should be resolved in due course by radiocarbon-dating of the peat. The shoe has been inspected by F. Pitts, B. Hensman and D. Friendship-Taylor (Shoe Collection, Northampton Central Museum & Art Gallery), who confirm that it is a rare survival of its kind and offer comments upon its interpretation and dating, the essence of which is incorporated in the following paragraph.

The shoe was probably made as working-footwear for a man or woman, and was later cut down to make a mule (i.e. a slip-on shoe or slipper), perhaps serving one person for much of their life. It has undergone major repair, notably by cutting a V-shaped slot into the heel to receive a new sole, which was then sewn, and finally secured with an iron nail, to ensure that it did not flex out of place. The edge of the heel is fixed by a row of at least ten nails, and another eight are grouped at the toe of the sole, where they may be either original or supplementary to the stitching. A date of 1780–1820 is suggested for its initial manufacture because it is hand-sewn (whereas machine-sewing was introduced about 1850), it has a fairly broad sole (shoes of the early-18th century tend to be narrower), the heel is bulky (heels before the late-18th century tend to be slighter), the toe is round (square toes became fashionable after 1830), there is no lining (common before machine-sewing), and it was made with the flesh-side of the leather outwards (usual in this quality of footwear up to the mid-19th century). Its recovery archaeologically is itself of some interest, as most items of working-footwear known from this period have been found in house-wall cavities, apparently put there as 'good-luck charms' (Dixon-Smith 1990).

Once the shoe has been conserved (with funding from DDDC), the landowners (Bakewell Agricultural & Horticultural Society) have agreed that it may be presented to the Bakewell Historical Society for display and safe-keeping in the Old House Museum, Bakewell.

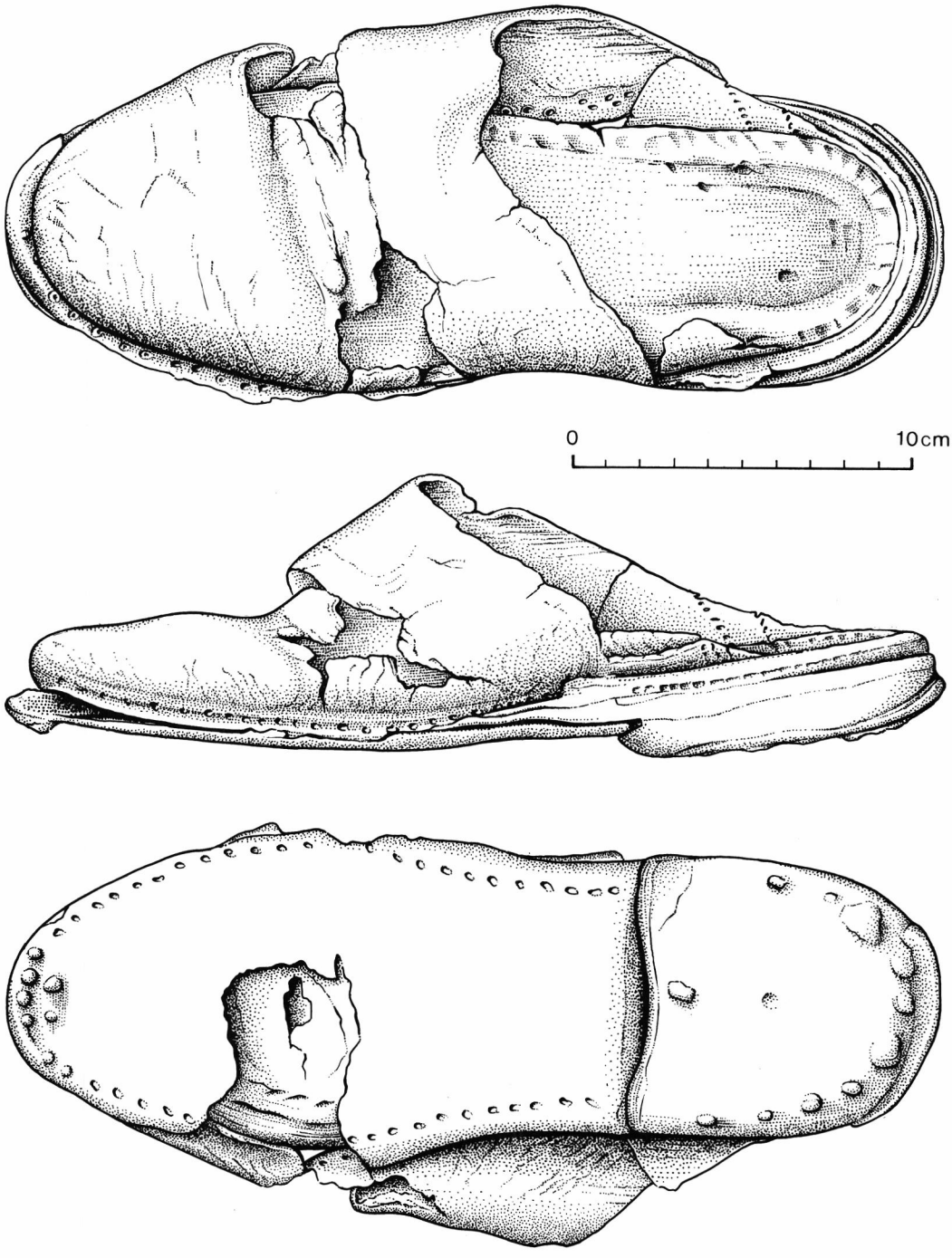

Fig. 2: Bakewell Showground: leather shoe/mule of the late-18th or early-19th century; scale 1:2. *Drawn by J. Goddard.*

References

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Garmonsway, G.N. (1972) *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*. London.

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Mitchell, A. (1974) *A Field Guide to the Trees of Britain and Northern Europe*. London.

3. **BOLSOVER CASTLE** (SK 471707) *R. Sheppard & G. Kinsley*

Considered to be one of England's finest and most complete mansions of the early-17th century, Bolsover Castle is currently undergoing works by English Heritage (EH) in order both to ensure its conservation and to improve its display, while there are proposals from the local authority to revitalize the historic centre of the town and to restore the landscape around the castle. T&PAT has been involved with this monument intermittently since 1991 (on behalf of EH), and 1997 saw archaeological evaluations of both the Riding School (soon to be adapted, in part, for use as an auditorium and educational centre) and the site for a new Visitor Centre.

The Riding School, a rare survival in England of a 17th-century school for horsemanship (Girouard 1983, 279–84, 300–1; Faulkner 1985, 12–15), is still maintained for occasional use by disabled riders. Two hand-dug test-pits inside the building revealed an artificial build-up at least 1.2m thick, containing fragments of tile and clay-pipe, believed to be consistent with a 17th-century date. Since excavation elsewhere within the Castle suggests that limestone bedrock generally occurs at 0.4–0.8m below modern ground-level, it appears that the interior of this building was lowered before or during construction; and its foundations extend down to at least 1.8m below floor-level.

The Visitor Centre is to be built close to the present main entrance, in an area known as Castle Yard. Although the 17th-century castle (which lies to north of the site of this evaluation) has been much studied, the former existence of a Medieval castle here is known principally from documentary rather than archaeological sources (Brown and Colvin 1963, 572–3); and no trace of any Medieval building remains standing, except perhaps for walling around the inner bailey, some exposed by the Ministry of Works in 1946, and some recorded by RS more recently. In addition, a bank and ditch defining the south-east boundary of Castle Yard is generally thought to be the Medieval defence of an outer bailey. Two trenches (01, measuring 25 × 3m; 02, 17.5 × 3m), excavated partly by machine and partly by hand, were intended to evaluate the proposed position of the new building, 01 extending into the presumed bailey-bank. In the area enclosed by the bank, both trenches revealed a 0.30m thickness of topsoil over a homogeneous brown loamy clay, averaging *c.* 0.25m thick and overlying a similar soil mixed with broken limestone. Besides several items of worked flint and chert (identified by D. Garton as probably Mesolithic) and a sherd of Romano-British Grey Ware (identified by R. Leary), the loamy clay contained numerous potsherds of the 10th–13th centuries (identified by V. Nailor as including shelly ware, sandy glazed ware, Torksey-type ware and Stamford Ware), though the relatively few Post-Medieval sherds and fragments of clay-pipe found towards its base are sufficient to indicate the disturbed nature of this deposit. Although

the stony make-up of the bailey-bank remains undated, a deposit containing sherds of fine shelly ware and Stamford Ware lay beneath it, providing the earthwork with an 11th-century *terminus post quem*; and therefore allowing the possibility that the original castle comprised a motte and two baileys, though the outer bailey could have been a secondary development. A fragment of wall sealed by the bank, and partially separated from it by a thin loamy clay, represents structural activity prior to the construction of the outer bailey. Within Castle Yard, potsherds antedating the 17th century were found in several pits, but these could not be fully excavated. Otherwise, there is scant indication that this area was occupied in the Medieval period, though the artefacts noted above would seem to indicate a presence declining after the mid-13th century (always assuming that the earlier potsherds were not merely rubbish dumped here, away from contemporary occupation).

Further excavation is scheduled for 1998, and an illustrated account of all these archaeological investigations will be prepared in due course. Meanwhile, detailed reports upon the 1997 excavations have been deposited in the SMR; and thanks are due to P. Caldwell, M. Hurford and C. Scurfield for assistance in the field.

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Girouard, M. (1983) *Robert Smythson and the Elizabethan Country House*. New Haven & London.

4. **BREADSALL OLD HALL** (SK 37073983) *R. Sheppard & J. Brown*

The Parochial Church Council of All Saints, Breadsall commissioned documentary (by JB) and structural (RS) surveys of the Old Hall, before its sale at auction. Although this building has been subjected to structural analysis previously, there is no detailed published account of it (see Craven and Stanley 1991, 41 for a historical and structural summary, with photograph taken before 19th-century restoration, and *cf.* Pl. 2 here). The primary records compiled in 1997 include measured drawings of floor-plans, elevations, and cross sections, as well as photographs.

The Old Hall retains an undercroft which has escaped alteration and survives as a rare example of Medieval domestic architecture in Derbyshire; some of its ceiling-timbers have recently been dated by dendrochronology to the 13th century (Howard *et al.* 1996, 81, 83). Inside the undercroft, the east wall (left in Pl. 1) displays the external plinth of, and blocked doorways into, an earlier (or near contemporary) stone building that was once abutted by the Hall; part of this earlier wall rises above ground-level externally, where blocked openings and the brick-infilling of a former internal fireplace are visible (Fig. 3). Above the undercroft, the structure of the Hall has been much altered, leaving its original status uncertain; but it appears to have been a typical 'first-floor hall', with stone walls and raised hall above an undercroft, smaller than the more common, timber-built, aisled, ground-floor halls of the 12th–14th centuries. Like the better-known example at Boothby Pagnell in Lincolnshire (Pevsner *et al.* 1989, 152–3), such buildings are now considered to have been separate chamber-blocks rather than halls proper (Blair 1993). At some point, the east end of the building was largely rebuilt in timber to form a cross-wing, and this may have occurred when the building to the east was removed.

Plate 1: Breadsall Old Hall: a corner of the undercroft, showing (left to right) the plinth of an earlier building, the enclosing wall of a spiral stairway, and a Medieval splayed window contemporary with its wall; looking south-east. *Photograph by R. Sheppard.*

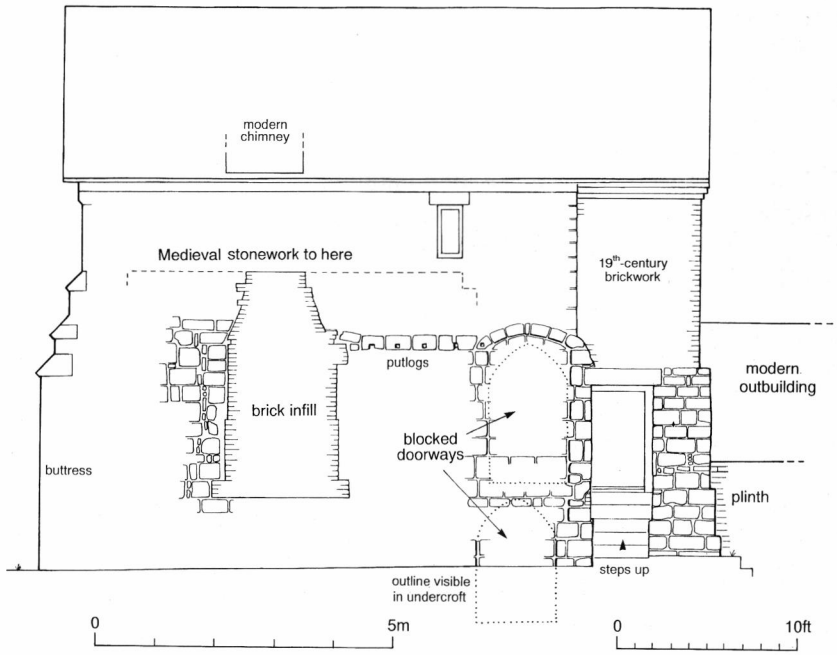

Fig. 3: Breadsall Old Hall: eastern external elevation, incorporating infilled fireplace and blocked openings that once functioned as part of the western end of an earlier building; openings visible inside the building are shown in dotted outline; scale 1:125. *Drawn by R. Sheppard.*

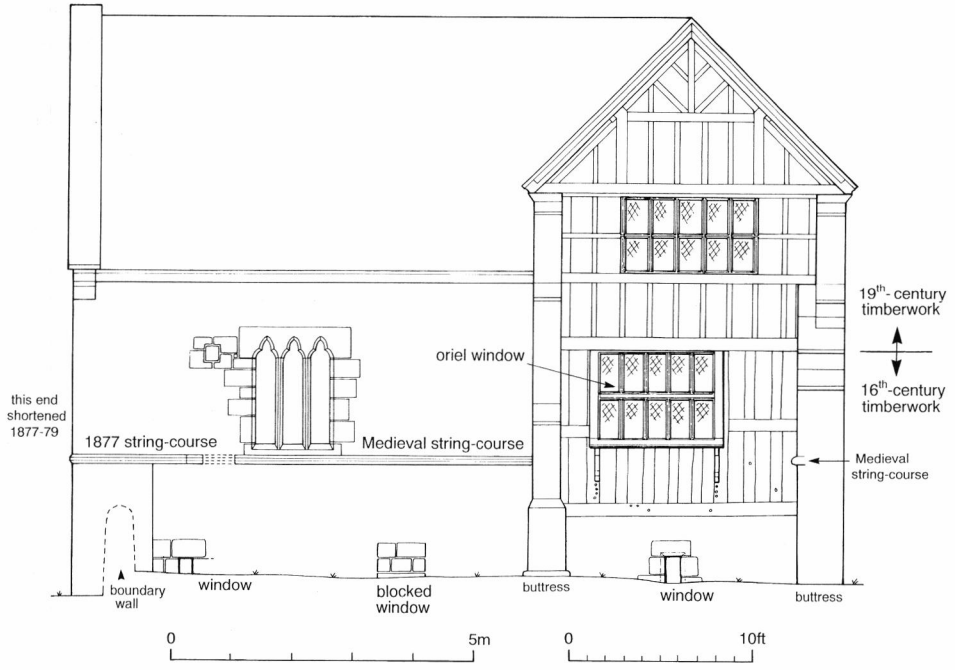

Fig. 4: Breadsall Old Hall: southern external elevation, showing features ranging in origin from Medieval to 19th century (*cf.* Pl. 2); scale 1:125. *Drawn by R. Sheppard.*

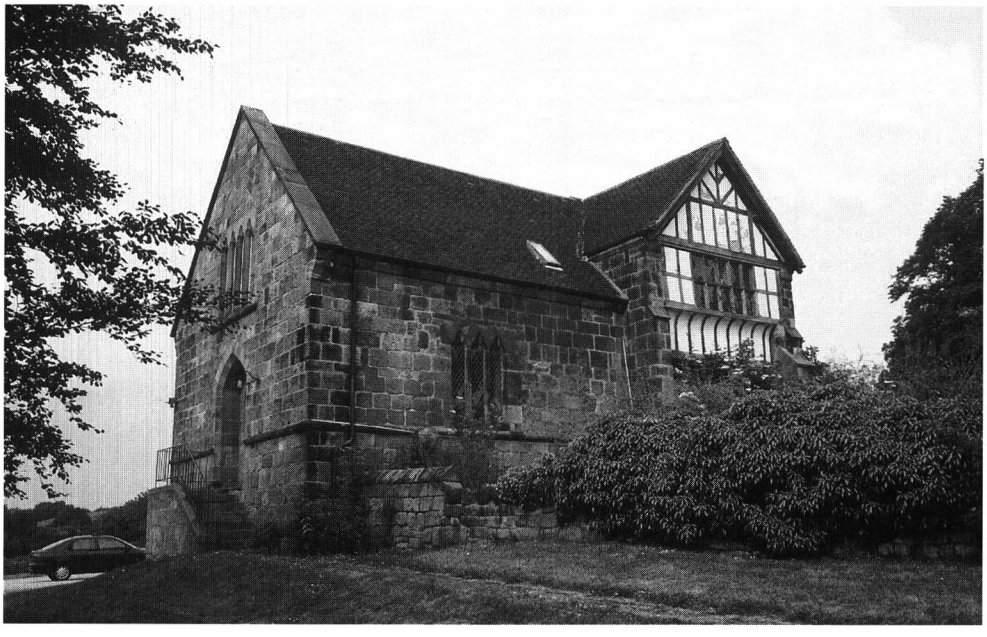

Plate 2: Breadsall Old Hall: as in 1997; looking north-north-east. *Photograph by R. Sheppard.*

Principal beams from the floor of the wing have been attributed dendrochronologically to the late-15th century; though an oriel window with ogee mouldings, surviving at ground-floor level in the wing, suggests that it may have been built in the 16th century. After its manorial function ceased, the Hall was used as a rectory in the 17th century. From the early-18th century until the 1850s, it served as a public house, with its undercroft used as a kitchen and for storing ale. Throughout much of the 18th and 19th centuries, it was occupied by the Hollingworth family, though remaining in the ownership of the Harpur and Harpur-Crewe families, who finally disposed of it in 1949, reputedly for only £5 (information from C. Hurd of Breadsall). In 1877–79, Sir John Harpur-Crewe had the building renovated, and its west end was shortened to a position formerly occupied by the timber screen of a passage — a 'grotesque attempt at [making] a Gothic ecclesiastical building', as Tilley put it (1893, vol. II, 26). Hence it gradually reached the condition in which it is seen today (e.g. Fig. 4; Pl. 2).

A full report (including copies of the 1997 drawings and photographs, as well as copies taken from a selection of older sources) has been deposited in the SMR. Thanks go to D. Gilbert for assistance with the structural survey.

References

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Tilley, J. (1893) *The Old Halls, Manors and Families of Derbyshire, vols I-IV*. Buxton.

5. **CHAPEL FARM, SHARDLOW** (SK 455305)

D. Knight, S. Malone, A.J. Howard & E. Appleton

Evaluations within a proposed extension to Hemington Quarry were funded by Ennemix Construction Materials Ltd (Lafarge Group). This work followed a desk-top assessment of the proposed extraction-area, undertaken in 1995, and included geomorphological/earthwork survey, geophysical survey (by Oxford Archaeotechnics Ltd), radiocarbon-dating and assessment of organic samples from the fill of palaeochannels (by J. Greig and D. Smith, University of Birmingham), and evaluation-trenches across selected geophysical anomalies.

The geomorphological survey revealed a complex system of palaeochannels within the Trent floodplain, and radiocarbon-dates suggest a protracted sequence of channel-development from the Neolithic to the Post-Medieval period. Some samples incorporated well-preserved insects, pollen and plant-macrofossils, assessment of which has provided a valuable insight into the valley-environment since Neolithic times. A detailed survey of earthworks on the Floodplain Terrace located several phases of well-preserved Medieval ridge-and-furrow.

The most significant discovery, first revealed by geomagnetic survey, is a Late-Iron-Age and Romano-British settlement, the salient feature of which is a substantial

curvilinear boundary-ditch, demarcating a roughly semi-circular area of *c.* 0.5ha at the edge of the Floodplain Terrace. A high density of pits, postholes and other features was recorded both inside and outside the enclosed area, suggesting a focus of settlement. These yielded a large collection of artefacts, including pottery of the Late Iron Age to 2nd century AD, objects of lead and iron, quernstones, vitrified fuel-ash, and possible building-debris.

As a result of these evaluations, it has been proposed that the site should be conserved without further disturbance. A fuller, illustrated account will be published in due course.

6. **HARDWICK OLD HALL** (SK 46176367) *R. Sheppard & D. Gilbert*

Archaeological and structural recording has accompanied renovation by English Heritage (EH) of buildings within the complex around the Old Hall. The West Lodge, together with a similar building situated farther east along the northern boundary of the north courtyard, was probably built not long after the Hall itself (from before 1587 into the 1590s — Girouard 1983, 144–5), perhaps as servants' quarters. Its ground-floor room, now converted into a shop, had a flagged floor bedded on mortar, and investigations during its removal revealed the pad-stones of a timber partition (since replaced in brick), while another still stands upon a stone footing. Midland Yellow pottery of the 17th century (identified by V. Nailor) came from below the latter.

A small, single-storey outbuilding, situated in a yard to the south of the West Lodge, was fully recorded prior to its conversion for use as an events and display area. It is believed to have been erected as a pig-sty and kennel in the 19th century, when most of the Old Hall had become ruinous. Its internal walls (removed in 1997) were brick-built, but the exterior is of stone, and the roof is stone-slates. Its west wall was built on top of the boundary-wall of the yard, and this survives to the north, but not to the south, of the outbuilding.

A full report (including photographs plus drawings of plans and elevations) has been deposited in the SMR, and the artefacts will be offered to Derby Museum.

Reference

Girouard, M. (1983) *Robert Smythson and the Elizabethan Country House.* New Haven & London.

7. **KING STERNDALE** (*c.* SK 095720) *G. Kinsley*

Several hundred finds, made by a metal-detectorist at a site described as 'behind King Sterndale Hall', include a probable Iron-Age coin, several Medieval artefacts (including a coin, a bronze finger-ring and a bronze buckle), numerous Post-Medieval bronze buttons, and miscellaneous fittings of iron and bronze. These were inspected with funding provided by the Derbyshire Archaeological Advisory Committee, and a full report will be deposited in the SMR. The artefacts remain in the possession of the finder, B. Parker.

8. **KNIVETON** (SK 20855074–21305149) *P. Beswick & D. Garton*

A stretch of pipeline laid for Severn Trent Water (STW) ran through an area which, according to the SMR, has previously produced scatters of Romano-British pottery and archaeological features (at SK 207505 and throughout SK 2050), while prehistoric flintwork has come from the neighbourhood (SK 2051), and prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon burials have been excavated nearby on Wigber Low (SK 205513; Collis 1983).

Selective inspection (on behalf of STW) covered a 5m stretch of trench (0.5m wide by 1.0m deep) in the road immediately north of Closes Farm (SK 20855074) as well as ten pits (each 3.0 × 1.0m by 1.0m deep) spaced at *c.* 100m intervals, some in the road extending north from Closes Farm to Newhouse Farm, others in grassland between Newhouse Farm and the STW reservoir at SK 21305149. No artefacts other than fragments of brick and Post-Medieval pottery were found; and no stratification of archaeological significance, nor any feature cut into subsoil, was observed.

A full report will be deposited in the SMR.

Reference

Collis, J. (1983) *Wigber Low, Derbyshire: a Bronze Age and Anglian Burial Site in the White Peak.* Sheffield.

9. **LITTLEHAY GRANGE, OCKBROOK** (SK 437375) *S. Malone*

Resistivity-survey was undertaken during September 1997, at the request of Ockbrook & Borrowash Historical Society (OBHS), on the site of their excavations east of Littlehay Grange and Little London, Ockbrook. Excavation had uncovered substantial stone wall-footings of a Romano-British building as well as earlier ditches, and it was hoped that resistivity-survey would reveal further features in the vicinity. Where the survey overlapped the backfilled excavation, the wall-footings of the building showed well; otherwise, the strongest signals resulted from modern features (such as a water-pipeline) and variations in the geological background, or from surface noise (such as the effect of the relatively shallow ridge-and-furrow). No features were identified which appear to relate to the building.

The survey was funded by Derbyshire County Council, and a full report has been deposited in the SMR. Thanks go to J. Forrest (of T&PAT) and members of OBHS for assistance in the field.

10. **MINNINGLOW HILL** (SK 208575) *G. Kinsley*

A bronze penannular brooch of the late-3rd or 4th century has been found with 35 Roman coins and a bronze pin immediately south-west of the Roman road from Buxton to Derby, about 200m north-west of the summit of Minninglow Hill. They were discovered in 1994 by a metal-detectorist, P. Needham, who reported them to Sheffield City Museum and has supplied T&PAT with information on the circumstances of discovery. Although retained by the finder, the artefacts have been recorded with funding provided by the Derbyshire Archaeological Advisory Committee. It is intended to publish an illustrated account in due course.

11. **NINE LADIES, STANTON MOOR** (SK 24916349) *G. Guilbert & S. Malone*

A spot-height survey of the embanked stone-circle, undertaken in November 1997, is the seventh such record to be made of this famed monument since 1987. The purpose of this repeated recording (funded by English Heritage, lately through the auspices of Peak District National Park Authority, who manage the moor) is to quantify the rate of erosion, largely due to regular trampling by visitors, though those who often camp alongside the monument also contribute in considerable measure. The cumulative results make for dismal reading, as some parts of the site, especially around the perimeter of the

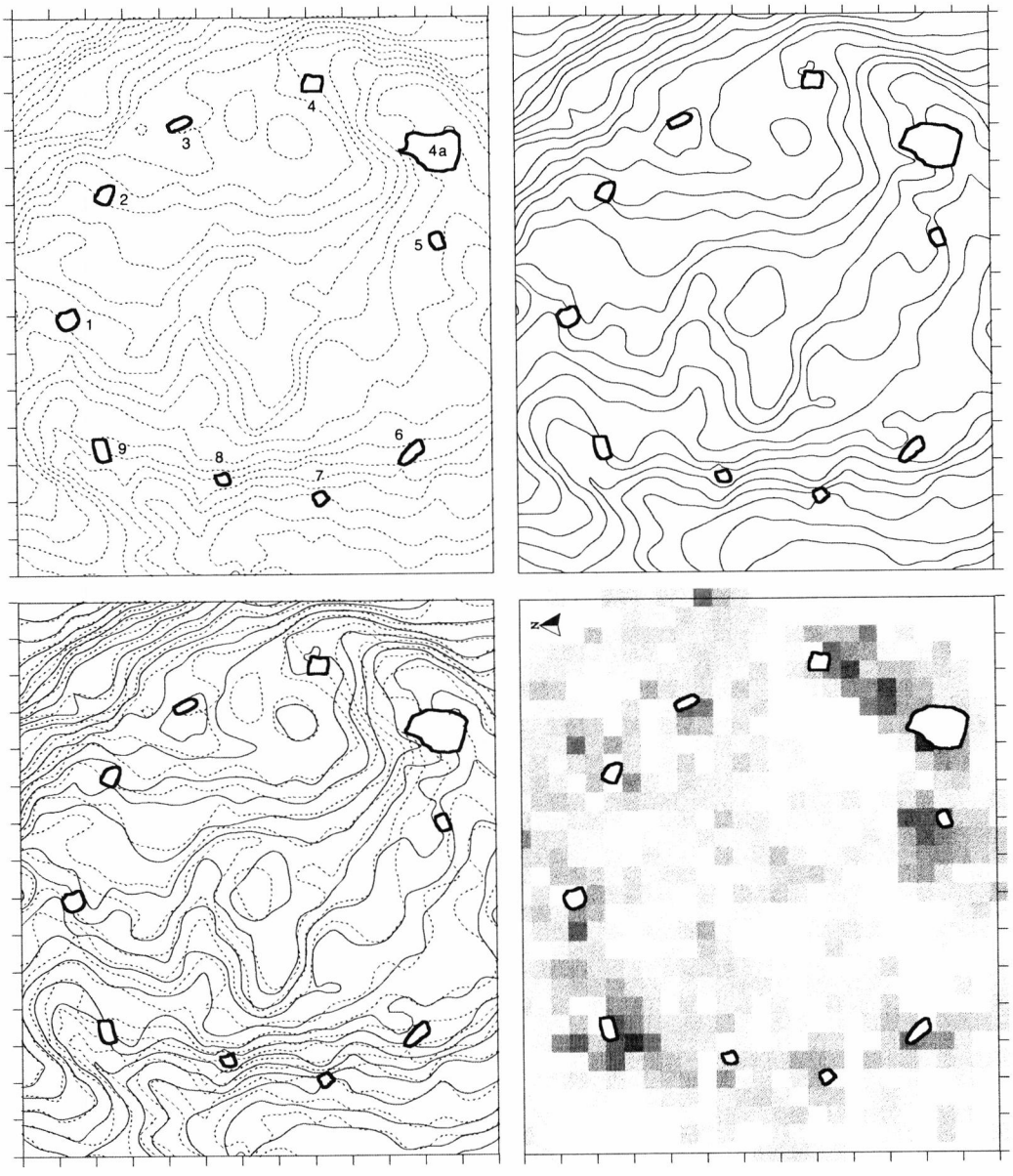

Fig. 5: Nine Ladies: four computer-generated plots of survey-data recorded in 1988–1997, with the stones of the circle outlined in each, and numbered (following Barnatt 1978, 137–42 and Heathcote 1980) in the plot at top left, where stone 4a is shown as exposed in 1988, whereas it is as in 1997 in all other plots; the border is graduated at 1m intervals, and each plot is at scale 1:200. The ground falls overall from west to east (i.e. from bottom to top of each plot). In the plot at top left, the ground-surface is depicted by contour-lines at 0.05m vertical interval, from spot-heights recorded in 1988; at top right, similar lines are derived from spot-heights of 1997; at bottom left, the same sets of lines, broken and continuous as in the foregoing, are superimposed to assist in their inter-relation; at bottom right, the same comparison is expressed more emphatically by a grey-scale of twelve grades, each equivalent to a loss of 0.01m over the nine years, with the patches that have suffered the greatest reduction (0.12m) represented by the darkest shade, while white represents no loss. *Produced by S. Malone.*

Plate 3: Nine Ladies: the stone-circle in November 1997, following a light snow-fall; looking south. *Photograph by G. Guilbert.*

circle, have been reduced by as much as 0.12m over the period of nine years. The monument can still appear charming in certain circumstances (Pl. 3), but it is evident that steps must be taken either to improve its protection from continued degradation or, failing this, to rescue the surviving archaeological information before it is diminished further, thus to ensure conservation at least as a paper-record.

It is hoped that circumstances will eventually facilitate the publication of a fuller account of the survey-results. In the meantime, Fig. 5 and its explanatory caption can portray the gist of the story so far, while the most recently published summary of Nine Ladies is that of Barnatt (1990, 77, listing earlier references).

References

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12. **ROCKHURST FARM, ALDWARK** (SK 216579) *G. Kinsley*

A Late-Iron-Age or Early-Roman iron spearhead has been found at the base of a rock-outcrop to the south of Rockhurst Farm, while an Early-Anglo-Saxon gilt-bronze stud and a bronze ring came from the top of the outcrop. A mound above this crag has been identified by Barnatt (1996, 212, site 10:8 or 'Rockhurst') as a barrow opened by Bateman (1848, 43–4), apparently yielding only prehistoric artefacts. Information regarding the discovery and whereabouts of the finds, as well as details of their recording and its funding, are as stated above for 'Minninglow Hill'.

References

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Bateman, T. (1848) *Vestiges of the Antiquities of Derbyshire*. London.

13. **RUTLAND WORKS, BAKEWELL** (SK 22056855) *R. Sheppard & J. Brown*

Documentary (by JB) and structural (RS) surveys have been undertaken on behalf of the Smith family, owners of the redundant industrial works known as Rutland Works or

Smith's Woodyard, located beside the River Wye in Bakewell. Unused since the 1970s, this complex began life in the early-19th century as a water-powered mill, processing 'Black Marble', a local form of limestone that was worked into products such as chimney-pieces and funerary monuments (Brighton 1997, 61). At the time of survey, the marble-works survived as two parallel ranges (one ruinous), separated by a partly infilled and overgrown mill-race; but no evidence remained for the sawing, grinding or polishing machinery once housed in these buildings. The works was expanded in the late-19th century to become a sawmill, processing timber from estates in the surrounding hills. Until recently, the sawmill-machinery, much of it dating from the Edwardian period, was intact. Reconstruction of a plan of the sawmill and its method of operation has been facilitated by the survival of a turbine water-wheel, gearing-machinery, settings for platforms, pits and rail-beds, together with photographs taken at various times in the past decade and information from a former mill-worker. The buildings have now been converted for light industrial use, retaining their characteristic sandstone exteriors, in keeping with the historic centre of this market town.

A full report (including photographs as well as measured drawings of floor-plans, elevations, and cross sections deriving from the 1997 survey, together with copies of older maps, photographs and documents) has been deposited in the SMR. Thanks go to C. Wickham for assistance with the structural recording.

Reference

Brighton, T. (1997) Marble works on the Wye at Ashford and Bakewell. *Journal Bakewell & District Historical Society* 24: 45–70.

14. **SHARDLOW to CHURCH WILNE PIPELINE** (SK 440301–463328)

S. Malone & D. Gilbert

The River Trent Abstraction Scheme, involving the construction of a 3.5km-long pipeline across the floodplain to west of the Trent/Derwent confluence, from the Trent south of Shardlow to the reservoir at Church Wilne, was monitored on behalf of Severn Trent Water. Preliminary appraisal of the route (by P. Beswick) identified three pieces of undiagnostic flintwork (SK 442310), a palaeochannel (SK 450312), an area of ridge-and-furrow (SK 441308), and a cropmark-enclosure (SK 460316 — the surviving portion of which was avoided by the eventual course of the pipeline), as well as noting that the projected line of the Derby-Sawley Roman road would be crossed by the pipeline at a point close to, and apparently already disturbed by, the reservoir. A watching-brief during the excavation-works revealed no sign of this road, but did record a scatter of Medieval pottery near Great Wilne (SK 44963115), dated provisionally to the 13th or 14th century, and remnants of two additional palaeochannels at SK 442307 and 465324.

A full report has been deposited in the SMR, and the artefacts will be offered to Derby Museum. Thanks go to R. Sheppard for assistance with the fieldwork.

15. **SPONDONWOOD FARM, OCKBROOK** (SK 4137)

M. Southgate

Five fields overlooking the Trent Valley, situated on Mercia Mudstone and boulder-clay, were fieldwalked in conjunction with Ockbrook & Borrowash Historical Society (OBHS). Two of the fields (centred at SK 418375 and 414369) produced clusters of Romano-British pottery; two others (SK 417371 and 415370) also yielded scatters of

potsherds, including a mixture of Romano-British and Medieval types; the fifth (SK 416376) produced no artefacts. None of the artefacts have yet been studied in detail.

This work was conducted as part of an on-going programme of local fieldwork, in which T&PAT staff became involved in 1997 through funding provided by Derbyshire County Council, with the primary aim of instructing members of OBHS in the methodology of fieldwalking. All records and artefacts are currently held by OBHS.

16. **STANLEY GRANGE** (SK 427406) *K. Challis & M. Southgate*

Stanley Grange formed part of extensive estates granted to Dale Abbey during the 12th and 13th centuries. Although no trace of Medieval buildings survives, there is much re-used stonework in the Post-Medieval buildings of the farmstead which bears the name Stanley Grange, lying within the valley of Stanley Brook, a tributary of the River Erewash, surrounded by low undulating hills, which rise to *c.* 120m OD. Local geology is predominantly Lower Coal Measures, a source of Black Rake ironstone.

An iron-working site was identified during archaeological evaluation of a proposed open-cast coal-mine. Fieldwalking revealed surface concentrations of Medieval pottery associated with deposits of iron-slag and topsoil discoloured by a high content of ash and slag. A magnetic-susceptibility survey, taking readings at 10m centres, revealed several foci of topsoil strongly enhanced magnetically. Detailed gradiometer-survey of selected areas revealed numerous, intensely magnetic anomalies, apparently consistent with *in-situ* burning, while a number of bi-polar magnetic anomalies appeared to indicate furnaces. This was confirmed by trial-trenching and subsequent excavation of *c.* 1ha, undertaken in June-August 1997, with funding from RJB Mining (UK) Ltd, who also agreed to exclude a further 1ha area of iron-working remains from the open-cast site in order to ensure their preservation.

Eight iron-smelting furnaces were excavated, as well as areas associated with the roasting and crushing of iron-ore, extraction of clay for building furnaces, and disposal of iron-slag. A number of other features, including several small ground-level hearths, may have been associated with the refining or smithing of blooms. The superstructure of the furnaces did not survive; neither were there any associated structural features. Although the furnaces differed in detail, they shared a number of morphological characteristics (Fig. 6; Pl. 4). The majority comprised a bowl-shaped hollow, ranging from 0.70m to 1.10m in diameter, and lined with grey clay that had become intensely reduced by fire, giving an internal diameter of between 0.45m and 0.75m. A substantial cake of slag, presumably the product of the final smelt, lay *in situ* at the base of each furnace; and, in some cases, there was evidence for re-lining of the furnace, presumably after earlier smelts. Each furnace had a wide (*c.* 0.50m) opening on its western side, through which slag was tapped into a shallow pit, the base of which, cut into the undisturbed natural clay, was reddened by heat; in some cases, the grey clay of the furnace-lining extended some way into the pit. The absence of evidence for tuyere or blowing-holes for bellows, coupled with the intense and even firing of the furnace-walls, and the alignment of each furnace-mouth into the prevailing westerly wind, suggests that they were intended to be wind-assisted. The wind entering the furnace-mouth may have been pre-heated by passage over hot charcoal lying within the slag-tapping pit. (Thanks are due to P. Crew and S. Crew for detailed advice on interpretation.)

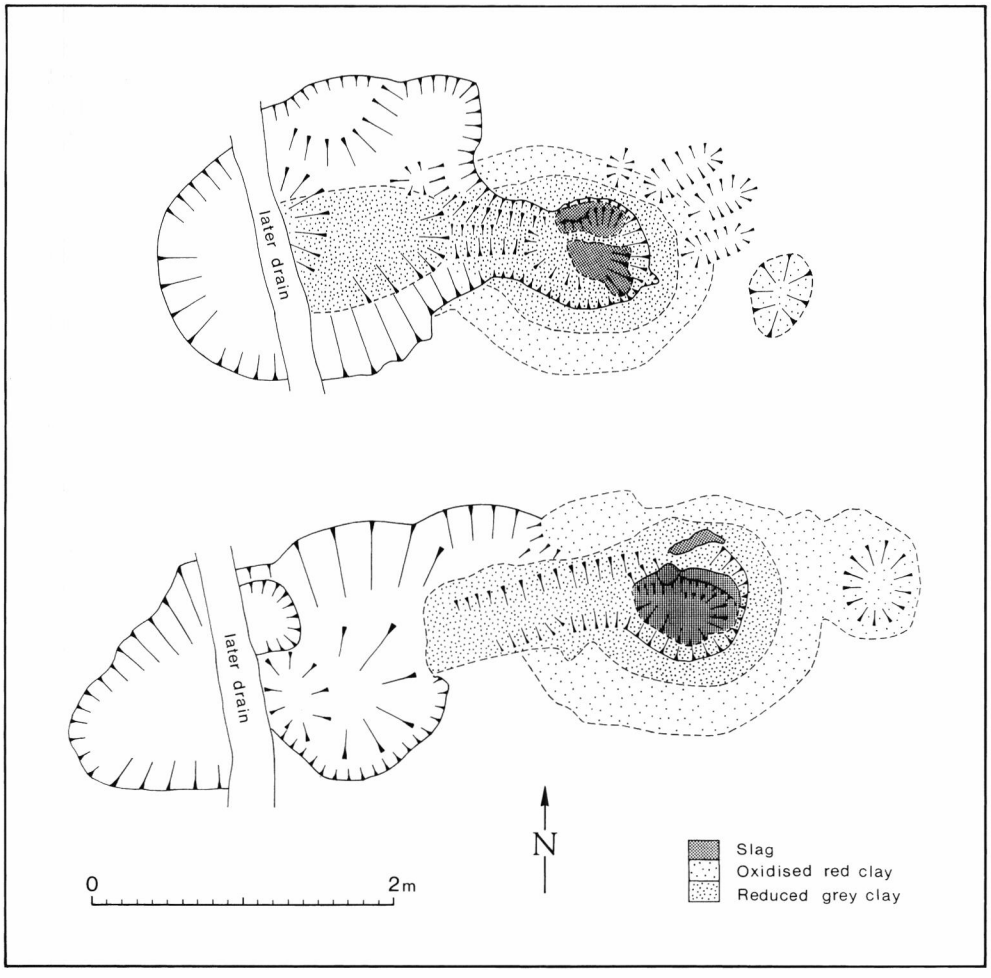

Fig. 6: Stanley Grange: plans of the excavated remains of two typical iron-smelting furnaces; scale 1:50. *Drawn by J. Goddard.*

Archaeomagnetic dates from the furnaces indicate use between AD 1220 and 1315. While documentary sources relating to Dale Abbey make no direct reference to iron-working at Stanley Grange or at any other of the Abbey's properties, there are references to activities and resources associated with iron-working in the Abbey's cartulary. These include numerous mentions of woodland (often for fuel), a single mention of charcoal-burning at Stanton (south-east of Ilkeston) in the 1240s (Charter 226: Saltman 1966, 175), and one of mining at Little Hallam in the 1250s (Charter 488: *ibid.*, 331). A separate grant of *c.* 1275 refers to mining of ironstone near 'Brokeshale Yard' in Cossall (Whyld 1987, 8); and the cartulary records grants of land in this same area to Dale Abbey in the 13th century (Charter 59: Saltman 1966, 76), perhaps indicating that Cossall provided one source of iron-ore for the bloomeries at Stanley Grange. Antiquarian references to Medieval mining of iron-ore in 'rakes' at Dale Abbey, Stanton and West Hallam (Farey

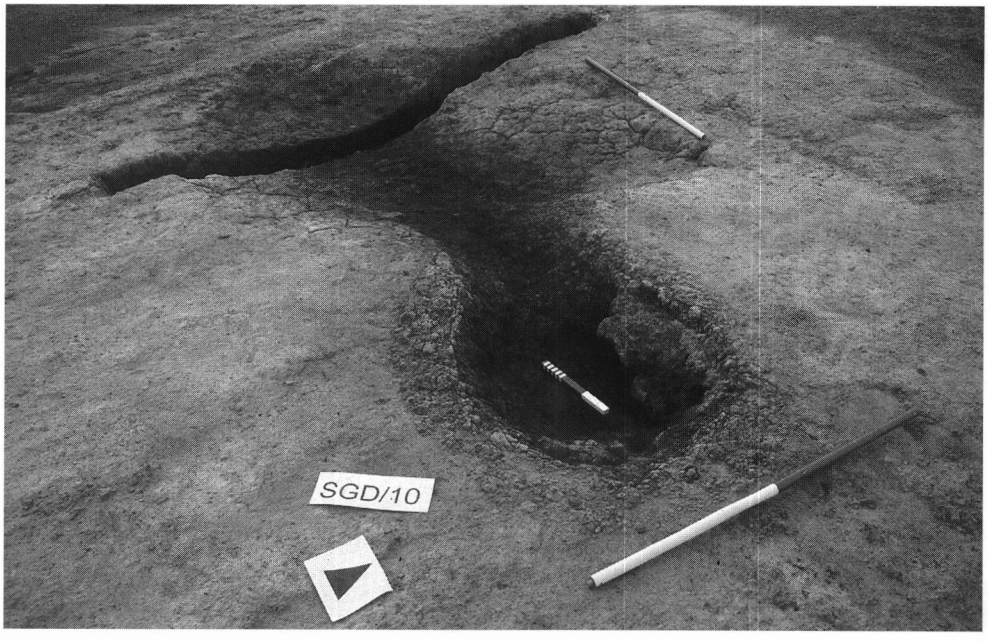

Plate 4: Stanley Grange: the furnace seen in the upper part of Fig. 6, partly excavated, looking north-west, with a 0.3m scale sitting on the lining revealed at its base; other scales 1m. *Photograph by K. Challis.*

1811, 217–18) reinforce the impression that iron-ore was actively extracted from the Coal Measures around Stanley Grange during the Middle Ages.

A fuller account will be published in due course.

References

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Saltman, A. (1966) *The Cartulary of Dale Abbey.* DAS Record Series, 2.

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17. **SUTTON SCARSDALE HALL** (SK 44186891) *R. Sheppard*

Restoration-work by English Heritage (EH) involved rebuilding much of the ha-ha wall to north and east of the Hall, and this was accompanied by a watching-brief and salvage-recording (funded by EH). North-east of the Hall, the drystone ha-ha revetment was laid directly on the sandstone bedrock. To the east, where the ha-ha runs north to south (Fig. 7), a similar retaining-wall had been set upon several courses of mortared stonework of an earlier, and formerly freestanding, wall, 24 inches (c. 0.60m) in width. This mortared wall continues southwards for *c.* 45m from the point where the ha-ha curves towards the west; within this stretch, three shallow buttresses supporting its east side are integral with its build. It was also uncovered for *c.* 10m northwards, passing under the ha-ha ditch and beyond it as far as an area disturbed by open-cast coal-mining in the 1940s. Below the ditch-fill, three other short stretches of mortared wall were recorded, each lying perpendicular to, and abutting, the west face of the north-south

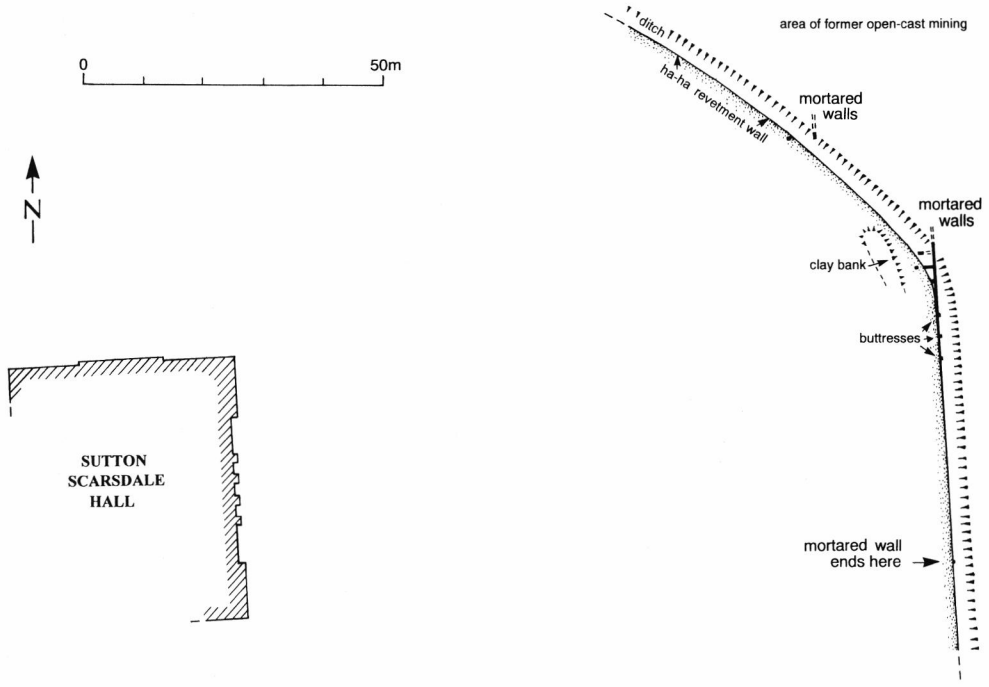

Fig. 7: Sutton Scarsdale Hall: plan showing the north-east sector of the ha-ha together with lengths of other walling exposed during recent repair-works; scale 1:1250. *Drawn by R. Sheppard.*

Plate 5: Sutton Scarsdale Hall: drystone-walling of the ha-ha (intact at left, under repair at right), with the levelled footings of earlier mortared walls in the foreground; looking north-west; scales 1m. *Photograph by R. Sheppard.*

mortared wall (two appear in Pl. 5); one of these stands to 0.7m where incorporated within the 2.0m height of made-ground retained by the ha-ha wall. Further stretches of mortared walls, on similar alignments, were encountered in similar circumstances at *c.* 25m to the north-west.

Although archaeological proof of its date is lacking (no stratified artefacts were recovered in 1997), it may be conjectured that the drystone revetment was built at much the same time as Francis Smith's re-modelling of the Hall in the 1720s, undertaken for the 4th Earl of Scarsdale. A lead plaque (now lost) recorded the names of craftsmen present during that building-work, noting too that 'the great pond in the Park was made', thus perhaps implying that improvements to the landscape occurred then (Jourdain 1919, 171). Further, it seems possible that the complex of mortared walls relate to major landscaping undertaken during building-operations in the late-16th or early-17th century, other evidence for which can be seen within the present ruin of the Hall (as recorded during the 1990s by RS and others on behalf of EH).

A more detailed report (including photographs and drawings of plans and sections) has been submitted to EH, and a copy deposited in the SMR.

Reference

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The Society gratefully acknowledges the financial support of various sponsors of Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust in the publication of this paper.