

# Archaeological Strip, Map and Record at 21 Lime Avenue, Duffield, Derbyshire



For Locus Consulting (acting on behalf of Chevin Homes Ltd)

Prepared by: K. Bentley, J. Reeves, and V. Owen



Report Number: 084/2018

TPA Project Code: LAD2

Trent & Peak Archaeology ©  
Unit 1, Holly Lane  
Chilwell  
Nottingham  
NG9 4AB  
0115 8967400 (Tel.)  
tparchaeology.co.uk  
trentpeak@yorkat.co.uk



**Client Name:** Locus Consulting on behalf of Chevin Homes Ltd  
**Document Title:** An Archaeological Strip, Map and Record at 21 Lime Avenue, Duffield, Derbyshire  
**Document Type:** Final Report  
**Issue/Version Number:** V1  
**Grid Reference:** SK 34250 43984  
**Planning Reference:** AVA/2017/0640  
**TPA Site Code:** LAD2  
**Report No.** 084/2018

<b>Issue Number</b>	V1
<b>Prepared by</b>	Kath Bentley Project Officer
<b>Date</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
<b>Amended by</b>	Victoria Owen Project Supervisor
<b>Checked by</b>	Tom Hooley Project Manager
<b>Signed</b>	
<b>Date</b>	25/05/2018
<b>Approved by</b>	Dr. Gareth Davies, MCIfA Director of Operations
<b>Signed</b>	
<b>Status</b>	V1

## Disclaimer

This Report has been prepared solely for the person/party which commissioned it and for the specifically titled project or named part thereof referred to in the Report. The Report should not be relied upon or used for any other project by the commissioning person/party without first obtaining independent verification as to its suitability for such other project, and obtaining the prior written approval of York Archaeological Trust for Excavation and Research Limited ("YAT") (trading as Trent & Peak Archaeology) YAT accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this Report being relied upon or used for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was specifically commissioned. Nobody is entitled to rely upon this Report other than the person/party which commissioned it. YAT accepts no responsibility or liability for any use of or reliance upon this Report by anybody other than the commissioning person/party.



Trent & Peak Archaeology ©  
Unit 1, Holly Lane  
Chilwell  
Nottingham  
NG9 4AB  
0115 8967400 (Tel.)  
tparchaeology.co.uk  
trentpeak@yorkat.co.uk

## Acknowledgements

---

Thanks are extended to Locus Consultants LTD and their team for their assistance and cooperation on site during this phase of works. The project was undertaken by Kath Bentley, Tina Roushannafas and Alix Lowe, and was managed by Tom Hooley. The works were monitored by the Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist, Steve Baker.

All illustrations were compiled by Norma Oldfield.

All specialist analyses were undertaken in house by Alison Wilson (Project Manager), Tina Roushannafas (Project Officer) and Dr. Neil Hall (Metallurgist).

## Summary

---

- Trent & Peak Archaeology (TPA) was commissioned by Locus Consulting, on behalf of Chevin Homes Ltd, to undertake an archaeological strip, map and record in the rear garden at 21 Lime Avenue, Duffield, Derbyshire (Fig. 1) in advance of the construction of a new dwelling and replacement garage at the property, as a condition of planning permission.
- The work was carried out as part of a phased programme of archaeological works required by Derbyshire County Council's Principal Planning Archaeologist in advance of a residential development. The work was carried out between the 23<sup>rd</sup> April and the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018.
- The site was centred at SK 34250 43984 (Fig. 1), an area of approximately 575m<sup>2</sup> was subjected to strip map and record. This was a landscaped garden which was bounded by residential properties on all sides.
- Prior to this phase of work a trial trench evaluation was undertaken by TPA in December 2017, this evaluation revealed a linear feature running north-east to south-west across site which contained Roman Derbyshire Ware, along with a spread at the southern end of site which contained more of the same pottery (Roushannafas 2017, 4).
- A series of post-medieval and modern features relating to drainage and horticulture were also identified during this trial trench evaluation, as was an area of made ground at the eastern end of site to offset the natural slope of the garden (Roushannafas 2017, 4).
- All features identified in the December 2017 trial trenching were confirmed by this strip, map and record, further modern features identified as horticultural beds were also revealed (Fig. 2).
- The linear feature discovered running north-east to south-west across site was identified and revealed to a greater extent [0001] and a second parallel linear was also excavated at the southern end of site [0004] (Fig. 2). Both ditches contained fragments of Romano-British pottery, including 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> century AD Roman Derbyshire Ware.
- The area of spread at the southern end of site was found to cover a larger extent than previously identified (0011) & (0012) and contained fragments of Roman-Pottery in the form of abraded Samian Ware and Roman Derbyshire Ware (Plates 5- 7).
- Overall, the archaeological evidence encountered during the strip map and record suggests domestic/occupation activity on site during the Romano-British Period, and this same evidence contributes to the likely existence of a Romano-British settlement within the locality of the site.

## Contents

---

<b>Acknowledgements</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Summary</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Contents</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>List of Plates</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>List of Figures</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>1 Introduction</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>2 Topography and Geology</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>3 Historical and Archaeological Background</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>4 Aims and Objectives</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>5 Methodology</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>6 Results</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>7 The Finds</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>8 The Environmental Remains by Tina Roushannafas</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<b>9 Discussion and Conclusion</b> .....	<b>17</b>
<b>10 Bibliography</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>Appendix 1: Context register</b> .....	<b>20</b>
<b>Appendix 2: Plates</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>Appendix 3: Figures</b> .....	<b>24</b>

## List of Plates

---

**Plate 1:** Overview of the stripped area, looking south. No scale

**Plate 2:** South-west facing section of ditch [0001], looking north-east. Scale 1m x 1m x 0.50m

**Plate 3:** North-east facing section of ditch [0004], looking south-west. Scale 1m x 0.50m

**Plate 4:** North-west facing section of ditch [0004], looking south-east. Scale 1m x 0.50m

**Plate 5:** Pre-ex of spread (0011), looking south-west. Scale 1m x 1m

**Plate 6:** Post-ex of spread (0011), looking south-west. Scale 1m x 0.50m

**Plate 7:** Post-ex of spread (0012). Scale 1m

## List of Figures

---

**Figure 1:** Site location

**Figure 2:** Site plan

**Figure 3:** Sections 01-03

**Figure 4:** Sections 04-05

## 1 Introduction

---

- 1.1 Trent & Peak Archaeology (TPA) was commissioned by Locus Consulting, on behalf of Chevin Homes Ltd, to carry out an archaeological strip, map and record exercise in the rear garden at 21 Lime Avenue, Duffield, Derbyshire, SK 34250 43984 (Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The work was carried out as part of a phased programme of archaeological works required by Derby and Derbyshire County Council's Development Control Archaeologist in advance of a residential development, in accordance with *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).
- 1.3 The site is currently a landscaped garden which is bounded on all sides by residential properties, the eastern end of the site suggests that the ground level has been artificially raised to offset the severity of the slope upon which the garden is located.
- 1.4 Prior to this phase of work a trial trench evaluation undertaken by TPA identified a drainage linear feature containing Roman Derbyshire Ware pottery, a spread also containing Roman Derbyshire Ware pottery. A number of features were also identified as horticultural activity (Roushannafas 2018). All work undertaken as part of this project was done so in accordance with the approved WSI (Linnington 2017).
- 1.5 The work was carried out between the 23<sup>rd</sup> April and the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018. A total area measuring 575m<sup>2</sup> was stripped.
- 1.6 The sitecode is LAD2.

## 2 Topography and Geology

---

- 2.1 The site lies within the northern end of the village of Duffield and within the administrative district of Amber Valley Borough Council (SL 34250 43984) (Fig. 1). The site comprises a 0.5ha rear garden, including a tarmac access drive and a double garage that has been partially demolished.
- 2.2 The underlying bedrock geology of the site consists of Ashover Grit Sandstone. No superficial geological deposits are recorded for the site (British Geological Survey 2018).
- 2.3 The overlying soils of the site consist of slowly permeable, seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils ([www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes](http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes)).
- 2.4 The site lies on the same, predominantly east facing slope, as Duffield Castle, which slopes down to meet the River Derwent.
- 2.5 The site is roughly L-shaped and aligned north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west.
- 2.6 The part of the predominantly east-facing slope on which the site is situated is orientated more north-east to south-west. The topography of the garden from north-west to south-east is relatively level at 75.52–75.93m AOD. However, from the north-eastern end to the south-western end the ground slopes up sharply to 77.71m AOD.
- 2.7 Comparison with the surrounding topography would seem to suggest that the lower, north-eastern end of the garden has been landscaped and to some extent levelled to offset the severity of the slope on which it is located.

## 3 Historical and Archaeological Background

---

- 3.1 The Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER) records fourteen heritage assets and five Excavation Index (EI) records within a 250m radius of the development site. All five of the EI records lie within Duffield Castle and its defences. These records are discussed here, together with background information, organised by period.

### *Prehistoric*

- 3.1.1 No prehistoric heritage assets have been recorded within the immediate vicinity of the development site.

### *Roman*

- 3.1.2 Multiple phases of excavations at Duffield Castle have established that the hill it is located on is likely to have been settled since the Roman period (Jessop 2015, 2).
- 3.1.3 In 1886 the excavation of a 179 ft (55m) trench extending due west from the keep into the adjacent field recovered numerous sherds of Roman Derbyshire Ware (Cox 1887, 141–2, HER 19405). This field corresponds with the later location of Lime Avenue, and it is likely that the trench extended immediately to the east of the eventual location of the road.
- 3.1.4 A 'quantity of' Roman Derbyshire Ware, including a kiln waster, was found at 1 Avenue Road, approximately 120m north-east of the development site, (Manby 1959, 1–3; HER 19408). Manby (1959) also notes that 'much Derbyshire ware has been found in adjoining gardens which encroach on the north side of the motte'.
- 3.1.5 Numerous sherds of Roman pottery, as well as pottery of 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century date, were also recovered from the garden at The Knoll on Vicarage Lane in the 1930s (Williamson 1931). The finds were described as being of 'medieval rather than Roman appearance' (Charlton 1932, 103) but have since been identified as 'Derbyshire Ware'.
- 3.1.6 Just outside the 250m radius of the development site reports of Roman finds and the theory of a possible Roman ford crossing the Derwent were made by Cox (1887, 141), however, this has not been verified by later investigations (HER 19414).
- 3.1.7 The site sits approximately 1.5km west of the route of the Roman road which ran between the Romano-British settlements of Derby (*Derbentio*) and Buxton (*Aquae Armetiae*), this route has produced evidence of settlement activity dating to this period along much of its length (Allen et al. 2016).
- 3.1.8 The region in which the site sits was well connected in the Romano-British period with two major Roman roads running through it, that mentioned above, as well as the route joining the Romano-British settlements of Derby (*Derbentio*) and Chesterfield (Allen et al. 2016). Unsurprisingly, there is much evidence for settlement and production sites within the region (Allen et al. 2016).
- 3.1.9 In December 2017 Trent & Peak Archaeology undertook a trial trench evaluation on this site. 2 20m by 1.8m trenches were opened running north to south and east to west across the site (Roushannafas 2017, 4). This evaluation revealed a linear feature running north-east to south-west which contained sherds of Roman Derbyshire Ware, along with a spread at the southern end of site containing more of the same pottery (Roushannafas 2017, 4). A series of post-medieval and modern features were also uncovered; all were related to either drainage or horticulture, the stratigraphy of the site also revealed that the ground has been built up at the eastern end presumably to offset the severity of the natural slope of the garden (Roushannafas 2017, 4).

### *Anglo-Saxon*

- 3.1.10 Duffield or '*Duvelle*' is recorded in Domesday as a fairly small settlement of 8.5 households, made up of 32 villagers, 8 smallholders, 10 slaves and a priest. It is recorded as being under



the previous lordship of Siward, with lordship transferred to Henry of Ferrers following the conquest (<http://opendomesday.org>). The name is likely to originate from the Old English 'dūfe' (dove) and 'feld' (open land) (Mills 2011, 162).

- 3.1.11 An Anglian burial with associated amber bead and cruciform brooch was found in 1886 in the north-west angle of the keep of Duffield Castle (HER 19409, Cox 1887, 151–2).

#### *Medieval*

- 3.1.12 The development site is located less than a 100m south-west of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Duffield Castle (List Entry No. 1015109, HER 19401,), at which the foundations of the 11<sup>th</sup> century motte and bailey castle and 12<sup>th</sup> century stone keep survive. The 12<sup>th</sup> century keep was built by the Ferrers family but was destroyed following the Battle of Chesterfield in 1266 (Jessop 2015).
- 3.1.13 Possible foundation walls pertaining to the castle were identified at Castle Hill House in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Bland 1922, 11; HER 19446).
- 3.1.14 The EI records excavations undertaken in 1999 on land off Lime Avenue, on the outer lip of the outer bailey ditch of Duffield Castle at SK 3430 4400 (most likely no. 7 Lime Avenue), 135m north-east of the development site. Investigation of the outer bailey ditch itself was hampered, but excavations did reveal a single medieval ditch (Cromwell 1999).
- 3.1.15 Medieval kiln sites have been identified at nearby King Street, Duffield as well as at Burley Hill, Duffield (Cumberpatch 2002–3).
- 3.1.16 Areas of Medieval ridge and furrow were identified during a LiDAR survey in 2015 during in the immediate environs both north and south of Duffield Castle, this demonstrates that this land was utilised for agricultural purposes during the medieval period (HER 28816).

#### *Post-Medieval*

- 3.1.17 A school built on Vicarage Lane, 230m south-east of the site, is likely to have its origins in the 16<sup>th</sup> century (HER 19459).

#### *Modern*

- 3.1.18 Lime Avenue first appears on the 1938 3<sup>rd</sup> revision Count Series 1:25000 Ordnance Survey mapping by which time the current building at No. 21 appears to have been constructed. Prior to this the land was open pasture (Jessop 2015, 2).
- 3.1.19 An unlisted house with 17<sup>th</sup> century origins is recorded in the Derbyshire HER (19428) at 21 Hazelwood Road, a short distance south of the junction with Lime Avenue.
- 3.1.20 New Inn House, constructed in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century and enlarged in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, lies on Hazelwood Road, a short distance north of the junction with Lime Avenue (HER 19440).
- 3.1.21 A 'saw mill' is marked south-east of the site at Milford Road on late 19<sup>th</sup>–mid 20<sup>th</sup> century Ordnance Mapping (HER 19434).
- 3.1.22 A grade II listed cemetery chapel was built north-west of the site on Hazelwood Road (HER 19450). A 19<sup>th</sup> century parish pump is also listed on the Derbyshire HER (HER 19430).
- 3.1.23 A 19<sup>th</sup> century grade II listed railway bridge is located 230m north-east of the development site (HER 40127).

## 4 Aims and Objectives

---

- 4.1 The aim of the works is to enable the identification and recording to a professional standard of any buried archaeological deposits which may be encountered during groundworks for the proposed redevelopment. This will ensure their preservation by record.
- 4.2 The programme of archaeological works was conducted within the general research parameters and objectives defined by Knight *et al.* (2012) and hosted by ADS as part of the East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework (EMHERF) Interactive Digital Resource (<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/researchframeworks/eastmidlands/wiki/Main>)
- 4.3 The development of the site gives us the opportunity to address some of the research questions stated in the EMHERF, those most relevant to the site are listed below:

### **Roman**

- How did field and boundary systems relate to earlier systems of land allotment, and how did these boundary networks develop over time?
- What patterns can be discerned in the location of settlements in the landscape?

### **Early-Medieval**

- How did the medieval manor and manorial estates develop from the Anglo-Saxon period, and what was the impact of the Danelaw?

### **High-Medieval**

- Can we define more closely the industrial and trading activities associated with towns and the nature and extent of urban influence upon the countryside?

### **Post-Medieval**

- How did water management and land drainage change the landscape during this period?

## 5 Methodology

---

- 5.1 All work was undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced archaeologists selected from TPA's supervisory staff in accordance with accepted archaeological practice and the *Standard & Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* produced by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014).
  - 5.2 The work consisted of an archaeological 'strip, plan and record' of the site, before the commencement of groundworks associated with the proposed development.
  - 5.3 The archaeological remit focused solely on the 575m<sup>2</sup> area.
  - 5.4 The fieldwork aimed to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological deposits and their significance, value and extent as set out by English Heritage (MoRPHE, 2008).
- Details of the Specification for Archaeological Strip, Plan and Record*
- 5.5 Stripping was carried out with a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision.
  - 5.6 Areas targeted for stripping and any archaeological features were located by GPS (Leica CS15/GS15 RTK Differential GNSS) during the course of excavation.
  - 5.7 Topsoil, subsoil and any garden soils were stripped down to the first archaeological horizon. This was to allow for full exposure of archaeological remains in plan, to allow investigation and recording before land was released for development.
  - 5.8 All revealed potential archaeological features were recorded in plan, with provisions made for hand-excavation where it was deemed necessary.
  - 5.9 The area was located with reference to the OS grid, with all features photographed and drawn at 1:10/1:20.
  - 5.10 Feature fills were removed by contextual change (the smallest usefully definable unit of stratification) in spits no greater than 100mm. At the request of the client, on completion of the fieldwork the areas subject to targeted stripping were not backfilled.
  - 5.11 A complete digital archive, including a full photographic archive, will be deposited with ADS in accordance with OASIS deposition (see appendix 5).

## 6 Results

---

- 6.1 The site measured approximately 575m<sup>2</sup> and was excavated to the depth of the light pinkish brown clay natural (0008), at approximately 0.5m (Plate 4). The subsoil (0007) which overlaid the natural (0008) consisted of a layer of greyish brown clay. The uppermost layer of stratigraphy was composed of the topsoil (0006) which included areas of dumping and modern rubble (0013), likely associated with the landscaping of the current garden.
- 6.2 Following the removal of the 0.4m deep topsoil (0006) and 0.3m deep subsoil (0007) with the machine several archaeological features were revealed in plan. Also revealed were the two evaluation trenches from December 2017 archaeological investigations which could be seen running north-west to south-east (Trench 1) and north-east to south-west (Trench 2) across the site.
- 6.3 Several modern features were indentified these consisted of a number of features attributed the current garden and modern horticultural activity they included; a field drain running east to west across the site, and a series of horticultural beds and garden features which were concentrated in the southern and central areas of the site (Fig. 2 & 3).
- 6.4 Several features dated to the Romano-British period based on finds of pottery within them were also found to be present. These consisted of a ditch running east-west in the northern corner of the site which had previously been identified in Trench 1 of the December 2017 evaluation, a second ditch running in an approximate parallel north-east to south-west visible in the southern corner of the site, and a layer of colluvium at the southern end of site (Fig. 2).

### **Romano-British**

#### **Deposit (0013) (Plate 3 & Plate 4)**

- 6.5 (0013) was a 0.3m deep deposit of loose dark grey brown compost in the bulk across site after it had been excavated by machine. This deposit contained modern ceramic building material (CBM) rubble and was interpreted as relating to modern landscaping within the garden. It was visible more clearly at the southern end of site possibly due to a modern path necessitating the denser compaction of rubble in this area (Fig. 4 & Plate 3).

#### **Ditch [0001] (Fig. 3-Dr. 01, Plate 2)**

- 6.6 [0001] presented as a linear feature approximately 9.5m long running north-east to south-west in the northern corner of the site and it was identified as the ditch discovered and excavated in the December 2017 evaluation (Fig. 2 - 3 & Plate 2). Hand excavation to a depth of 0.46m revealed a ditch with irregularly shaped sides which sloped at approximately 45° down to a flat base. The primary fill (0003) consisted of a plastic mid grey orange clay, the fill contained occasional small sub-rounded pebbles and frequent flecks of manganese, this fill represents likely represents a natural silting layer which was sealed by the secondary/bulk fill (0002). The secondary fill (0002) consisted of a sticky dark brownish grey clay, similarly to the primary fill (0003) it contained rare small sub-rounded pebbles, but this fill (0002) contained only rare flecks of manganese, this fill may have occurred as the result of deliberate backfilling. This ditch produced finds of Roman pottery, including a pot base from the primary fill (0003). There were 16 sherds in total from this feature 12 of which were identified as Derbyshire ware dating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD.

#### **Ditch [0004] (Fig. 4-Dr. 05, Plates 3 & 4)**

- 6.7 [0004] presented as a linear feature in the southern corner of the site, it was observed in a north-east to south-west alignment running along the south-east edge of site for approximately 7.7m before disappearing into the south-west bulk (Fig. 2, Fig. 4, Plate 3 & Plate 4). Its position on site meant that a slot excavated to a depth of 0.5 m revealed only part of the north-west side of the ditch, which consisted of a steep irregular slope, the bottom of the ditch was not revealed as it existed outside the boundary of the site. What was revealed of the ditch contained only a single fill (0005), this was a firm greyish orange clay containing rare small rounded pebbles <20mm in size, and frequent manganese flecks. This fill (0005) was interpreted on site as having appeared naturally over a long period of time. The ditch [0004] can be dated using the large quantities of abraded Roman pottery within the fill (0005), there were 36 sherds of Derbyshire ware (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD) 29 of which seem to have come from the same vessel which is indicative of primary deposition. This feature also contained two fragments of slag which is indicative of industry, although this small amount of evidence is limited. This ditch [0004] runs in an alignment across site roughly parallel to the other ditch [0001], this alignment combined with the Roman pottery fragments found within the fills of both (0002), (0003) & (0005) may suggest that the two features were contemporary.

#### **Spreads (0011) & (0012) (Fig. 3-Dr. 02, Fig. 4-Dr. 04, Plates 5 – 7)**

- 6.8 (0011) & (0012) appear to be part of the same spread covering an area of approximately 11.4m<sup>2</sup> in the southern part of site, the two are separated by a modern drain system which truncates them with branches running north-east to south-west and north-west to south-east (Fig. 2 - 4 & Plates 5 - 7). These spreads (0011) & (0012) appear to be a layer of colluvium which is the result of hillslope processes. The site rises sharply upwards at its south-western end and these spreads (0011) & (0012) appear to have been carried down this gradient as hillwash to lie at the bottom of this slope, stretching approximately 6m onto site from the furthest south-western edge. Two sondages were placed through these two features (0011) & (0012), hand excavation to a depth of 0.06m revealed a firm greyish orange clay silt (Fig. 3 & Fig. 4). The deposit (0011) contained occasional pebbles and manganese flecks, it was also affected by rooting. Both spreads (0011) & (0012) contained small quantities of abraded Roman pottery including; one piece of Samian ware (0012), and four pieces of 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> century AD Derbyshire ware, however, the nature of this type of layer means that this is not reliable dating evidence.

#### **Modern**

#### **Ditch [0009] (Fig. 3-Dr. 03)**

- 6.9 [0009] was identified as one of the modern horticultural features present on site and was excavated as a sample of these (Fig. 2 & 3). It appeared as a linear feature within the clay natural, with an extremely dark fill (0010). Hand excavation to a depth of 0.1m revealed the feature was cut into the clay natural with near vertical sides and a flat base. The fill (0010) was formed of a loose dark greyish brown silty garden soil, containing occasional small rounded pebbles <40mm in size and lots of roots. The clear cut sides and dark fill of this feature initially helped to identify it as being modern, and this was confirmed by the presence of a sherd of modern white earthenware pottery within the fill (0010).

## **7 The Finds**

---

By Alison Wilson

A total of 97 finds were recovered from an archaeological strip, map and record at 21 Lime Avenue, Duffield, Derbyshire. A quantification of these finds can be seen in Table 1 below.

<b>Material</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Fired clay	1
Slag	3
Pot - Romano-British	92
Pot - Post-medieval	1

Table 1: Quantification of finds

## The Pottery

- 7.1 A total of 93 fragments of pottery weighing 1129g; 92 Romano-British pottery sherds and a single small fragment of 18th-20th century white bodied earthenware were recovered from the excavation on Lime Avenue, Duffield. The assemblage was quantified by two measures: number of sherds and weight, and the resulting archive was entered into an excel spreadsheet. The pottery is stored in one archive box which is at present stored at the Trent & Peak Archaeology stores, Chilwell, Nottingham.

### ***Context (0001), fill [0002][0003]***

- 7.2 Context (0001), a NE-SW Romano-British aligned linear feature, contained 16 sherds of Romano-British pottery. 12 of these sherds can be identified as Derbyshire ware, while the remaining pottery sherds in context (0001) consisted of a reduced gritty ware body and rim and 2 body fragments of badly degraded grey ware.

### ***Context (0004), fill [0005]***

- 7.3 Context (0004), a NE-SW aligned Romano-British linear feature, contained 36 sherds of Derbyshire ware, 29 of these are likely to be fragments of the same vessel. The remaining sherds were gritty reduced wares, one with an oxidised inner surface.

### ***Context [0009], fill (0010)***

- 7.4 Context [0009], a cut in a modern horticultural bed, contained just a small body sherd of white glazed white bodied earthenware dating to between the 18th and 20th centuries.

### **Deposits (0011) and (0012)**

- 7.5 Deposits (0011) and (0012) were both colluvial spread. (0011) contained a further 4 body sherds of Derbyshire Ware and a fragment of unidentified fired clay, while deposit (0012) contained a small fragment of badly degraded Samian ware.
- 7.6 The remainder of the assemblage consisted of 4 unstratified sherds of Derbyshire Ware.
- 7.7 **Ironworking slag**  
*By Dr.Neil Hall.*
- 7.8 Two pieces of smithing slag, totalling 196g, were recovered from the fill (0005) of a NE-SW linear [0004]. This fill also produced 36 sherds of Derbyshire ware pottery which dated to the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries A.D.
- 7.9 One of the slag pieces was part of a smithing hearth bottom with maximum dimensions of 101mm L x 66mm W x 31mm D, and a mass of 181g. The piece was incomplete exhibiting archaeological breaks at two approximately radial angles. It is likely that the slag pieces were redeposited in the ditch as the rest of the hearth bottom was not found, and the pieces were not found in association with any other metallurgical debris.

### **Discussion**

- 7.10 The assemblage from Lime Avenue, Duffield is on the whole part of a typical Romano-British domestic assemblage. The bulk of the pottery consisted of Derbyshire ware, a hard fired ware, typically in the form of a jar with a deep bell-mouthed or rolled rim, although bowls and dishes have been known. It was produced in Derbyshire and distributed across central and northern Britain during the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD. The ware tends to be ubiquitous on Romano-British sites in Derbyshire, easily recognisable by its hard, gritty fabric and pimply surface, varying in colour from buff, brick-red to dark blue-grey/purple. The site of Lime Avenue is very close to Duffield Castle where finds of Roman pottery and tile, especially Derbyshire Ware have been recorded since Victorian times. There are recorded kilns producing Derbyshire Ware at the nearby sites of Hazelwood, Holbrook, Milford and Shottlegate (Leary 2003).
- 7.11 The remaining pottery finds were also Romano-British and of a similar date with the exception of the single small sherd of white bodied earthenware recovered from a modern flower bed.

### **Further work:**

- 7.12 No further work is recommended on the pottery assemblage recovered from the site.
- 7.13 It is recommended that the fragment of Romano-British smithing slag and all pottery of Romano-British date, even those recovered from un-stratified context, be retained with the archive for deposition with Derbyshire Museum and Art Gallery under accession number DBYMU 2018-14.
- 7.14 Fragments of post-medieval/modern pottery and undated fired clay is recommended for discard.

## 8 The Environmental Remains *by Tina Roushannafas*

---

### 8.1 Methodology

- 8.1.1 Three contexts were sampled for environmental evidence: context (0002) from ditch [0001], (0005) from ditch [0004] and colluvial spread (0012).
- 8.1.2 Forty litres of soil from each context were machine-floated through a 0.5mm mesh and the flot collected in a 0.25mm mesh, with residues also retained for hand-sorting. The flots were separated into fractions using graded sieves of 2mm, 1mm and 0.25mm to aid the sorting process. The residues were similarly divided into fractions of >1cm, >2mm and >0.25mm. Fifty percent of the residue was sorted due to its relatively large volume and the low density of environmental evidence within both the flot and residue. Identifications were made with the assistance of personal reference material and Cappers, Bekker & Jans (2012).

### 8.2 Results

- 8.2.1 Overall, machine-assisted flotation of the samples produced flots with little identifiable organic material. Full results are listed in Table 1 below.

#### **Context 0002**

- 8.2.2 No charred plant remains were recovered from context (0002). The upper fill of this ditch has previously been assessed at the evaluation stage, producing only two charred weed seeds of the *Lamiaceae* family (Roushannafas 2017). As when previously assessed, numerous hair-like roots were identified within the sample, likely due to the relatively shallow depth at which the feature is located beneath the overlying turf. Numerous charcoal fragments of <2mm were recovered (approximately 100) from the residue, but these are generally small and abraded.

#### **Context 0005**

- 8.2.3 One poorly preserved seed of the family *Poaceae* (grasses) and two fragments of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) were recovered from context 0005. Numerous non-identifiable, highly vesicular fragments of plant matter were observed within the sample suggesting exposure to high temperatures. The sample contained approximately 70 fragments of charcoal >2mm, although again these were generally small and abraded.

#### **Context 0012**

- 8.2.4 Two charred seeds of the genus *Chenopodium* (goosefoot) and two of *Hypericum* (St. John's Wort) were recovered from context 0012. *Chenopodium* species are often associated with spring-sown crops but are also characteristic of ruderal weed communities (Küster 2016, 20). Common St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) is found in open woods, hedgebanks and grassland (pfaf.org). Approximately 80 fragments of charcoal >2mm were recovered from the sample, and were as described above, with little further potential for study.

### 8.3 Discussion

- 8.3.1 Overall the amount of organic material recovered from the samples was very low. The only edible plant identified was *Corylus avellana* which is generally a common component of archaeobotanical assemblages due to its taphonomical advantages over other types of plant remains (Jones 2000). The limited evidence precludes any meaningful conclusions as to the economy or ecology of the site.

#### **Further work:**



8.4 No further work is recommended; the sample is recommended for discard.

Table 1: Results

		(0002) Roman ditch [0001]	(0005) Roman ditch [0004]	(0012) Colluvial spread
		40 litres	40 litres	40 litres
Nut	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazelnut)		2	
Weed seeds	<i>Chenopodium</i> (goosefoot)			2
	<i>Hypericum</i> (St John's Wort)			2
	Poaceae (grasses)		1	
Charcoal	Fragments >2mm	~100	~70	~80

## 9 Discussion and Conclusion

- 9.1 The strip map and record positively identified a number of features previously located by the trial trench investigation (Roushannafas 2017), and recorded a number of other features possibly relating to a zone of Romano-British occupational/domestic activity dating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries.
- 9.2 The presence of Duffield Castle approximately 100m north-west of the site which is known to have been occupied since the Romano-British Period (Jessop 2015, 2), along with the numerous excavations and finds spots which have produced Romano-British material surrounding the castle all indicate Romano-British domestic activity within the locality (Cox 1887, 141–2, Manby 1959, 1–3, Williamson 1931).
- 9.3 Duffield sits approximately 1.5km west of the route of the Roman road which ran between the Romano-British settlements of Derby (*Derbentio*) and Buxton (*Aquae Arnemetiae*), and there is much evidence for smaller settlements along its length in the region (Allen et al. 2016).
- 9.4 The finds and features discovered during the strip map and record add to the already substantial body of evidence above which seems to suggest an area of Romano-British settlement within the locality of the site, despite the lack of structural evidence.
- 9.5 Two ditches [0001] & [0004] were discovered on site running along an approximate parallel alignment north-east to south-west (Fig. 2). Both ditches produced fragments of Romano-British pottery, including fragments of Roman Derbyshire Ware dating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD.
- 9.6 The spreads at the southern end of the site (0011) & (0012) are colluvial in origin (Plates 5 – 7). The presence of a sherd of abraded Sampan ware and several sherds of contemporarily dated Derbyshire Ware (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD) suggest the presence of Romano-British occupational activity within the local proximity.
- 9.7 Interpretation of only two ditches [[0001] & [0004]] containing Romano-British pottery is hazardous at this stage but it may point towards domestic Romano-British activity within the locality. Possible interpretations of these features could point towards them representing

Romano-British farming activity in the area, possibly in the form of field boundaries, a field drainage system or arguably even a droveway towards the nearby River Derwent.

- 9.8 A number of modern features related to localised cultivation, drainage and landscaping were revealed during the excavation (Fig. 2), these features had little effect on the preservation of the archaeological remains on site.
- 9.9 Overall, the site produced evidence of Romano-British occupation, most notably in the form of the two ditches [0001] & [0004], and the pottery sherds they contained. However, the lack of structural evidence present means that these remains cannot be interpreted as evidence of settlement within the site.

## 10 Bibliography

---

Allen, M., Blick, N., Brindle, T., Evans, T., Fulford, M., Holbrook, N., Richards, J. D., Smith, A. 2016. *The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain: An Online Resource*. Archaeology Data Service. Available at: <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/romangl/map.html> [Accessed: 16/05/2018].

British Geological survey 2017. *Geology of Britain Viewer*. Available at: <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology>. [Accessed 5th April 2017].

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

Cappers, R. T. J., Bekker, R. M. and Jans, J. E. A. 2012. *Digitale Zadenatlas van Nederland*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edn. Groningen Archaeological Studies Volume 4. Groningen: Barkhuis and Groningen University Library.

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2012. *National Planning Policy Framework*. London; Department for Communities and Local Government

Jones, G. 2000. 'Evaluating the importance of cultivation and collecting in Neolithic Britain' in Fairbairn, A. S. (ed) *Plants in Neolithic Britain and Beyond*. Neolithic Studies Group Seminar Papers 5. Oxford: Oxbow, 79–84.

Knight, D., Vyner, B. and Allen, C. 2012 *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda for the Historic Environment in the East Midlands*. Nottingham; Buxton Press.

Küster, H. 2016. 'Phytosociology and archaeobotany' in Harris, D. R. and Thomas, K. D. (eds) *Modelling Ecological Change: Perspectives from Neoecology, Palaeoecology and Environmental Archaeology*. UCL Institute of Archaeology Publications 15. London: Routledge.

Linington, T. 2017. Written Scheme of Investigation, Archaeological Strip Map and Record at 21 Lime Avenue, Duffield, Derbyshire. Locus Consulting: Unpublished Report.

Leary, R.S. (2003) *The Romano-British Pottery from the Kilns at Lumb Brook, Hazelwood, Derbyshire*, Derbyshire Archaeological Journal 123 , 71-110

Plants for a Future (PFAF). [www.pfaf.org](http://www.pfaf.org)

Roushannafas, T. 2018. *21 Lime Avenue, Duffield, Derbyshire: Results of an Archaeological Trail Trenching Evaluation*. Trent and Peak Archaeology unpublished report.

## Appendix 1: Context register

Context	Feature	Description	Phase
0001	Cut	NE-SW aligned Roman linear	Roman
0002	Fill	Secondary fill of [0001]. Firm greyish orange clay with rare small sub rounded pebbles and frequent manganese flecks	Roman
0003	Fill	Primary fill of [0001] Firm dark brown grey clay with rare small sub rounded pebbles and occasional manganese flecks	Roman
0004	Cut	NE – SW aligned Roman linear	Roman
0005	Fill	Fill of [0004] Firm greyish orange clay with rare small sub rounded pebbles and frequent manganese flecks	Roman
0006	Layer	Topsoil Soft dark brown silty clay	Modern
0007	Layer	Subsoil Firm yellow brown silty clay with frequent small sub rounded pebbles	Modern
0008	Layer	Natural Firm brownish yellow clay	
0009	Cut	Cut of horticultural bed	Modern
0010	Fill	Primary fill of [0009] Soft dark brown silty clay	Modern
0011	Deposit	Colluvial spread Firm greyish brown silty clay	Roman
0012	Deposit	Colluvial spread Firm greyish brown silty clay	Roman
0013	Deposit	Horticultural layer Soft dark brown silty clay with very frequent landscaping materials	Undated

## Appendix 2: Plates



Plate 1: Overview stripped area, looking south. No scale



Plate 2: South-west facing section of ditch [0001], looking north-east.

Scale 1m x 1m x 0.50m



Plate 3: North-east facing section of ditch [0004], looking south-west.  
Scale 1m x 0.50m



Plate 4: North-west facing section of ditch [0004], looking south-east.  
Scale 1m x 0.50m

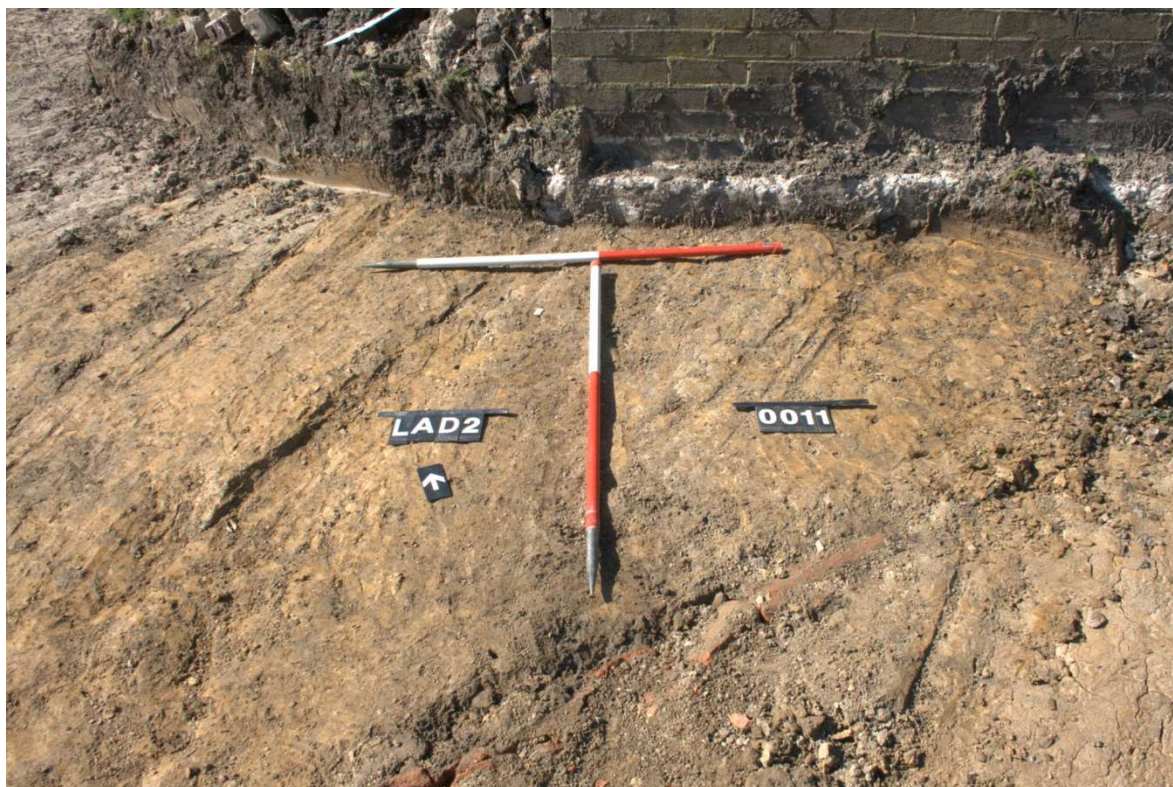


Plate 5: Pre-ex of spread (0011), looking south-west.

Scale 1m x 1m



Plate 6: Post-ex of spread (0011), looking south-west.

Scale 1m x 0.50m



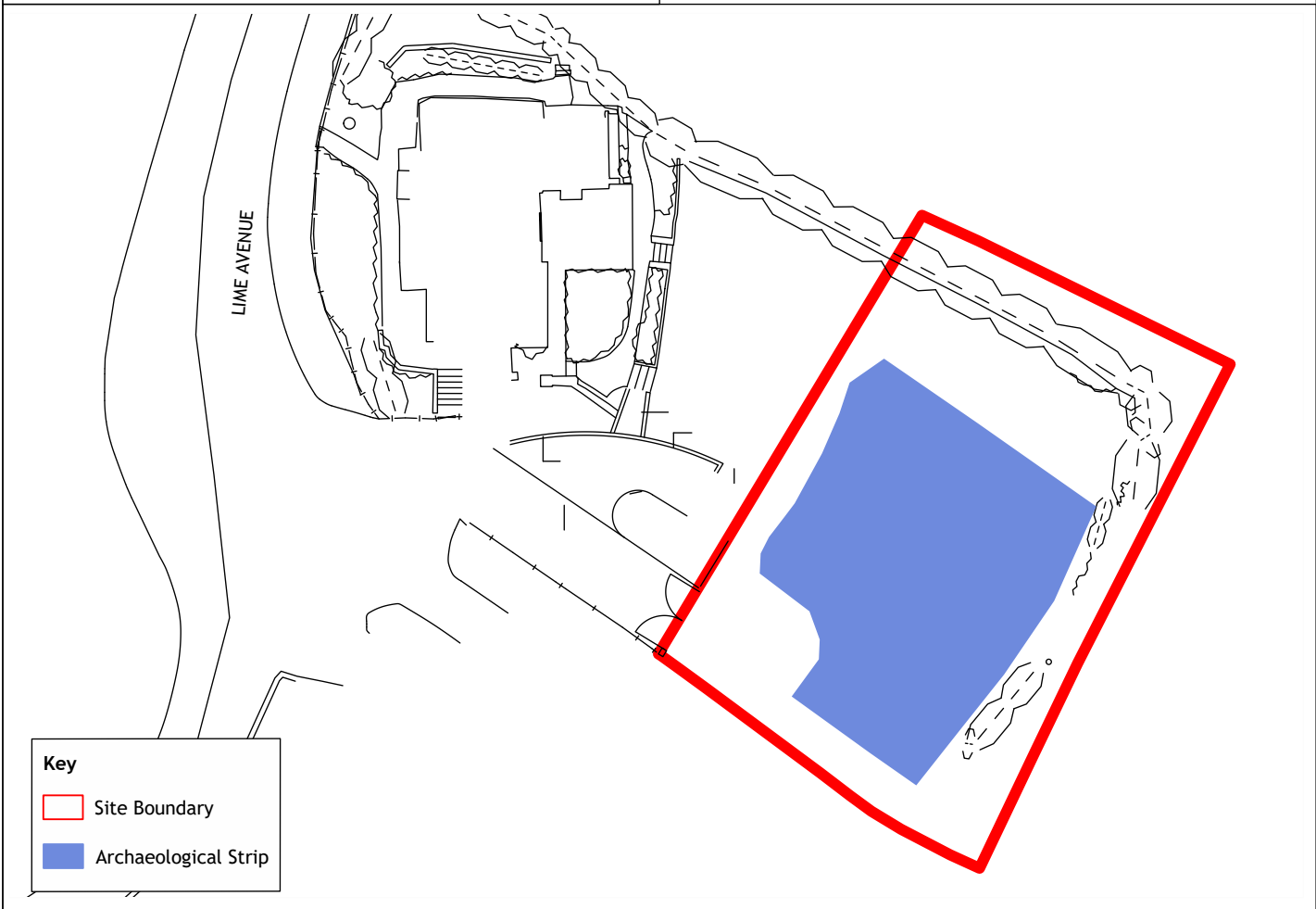
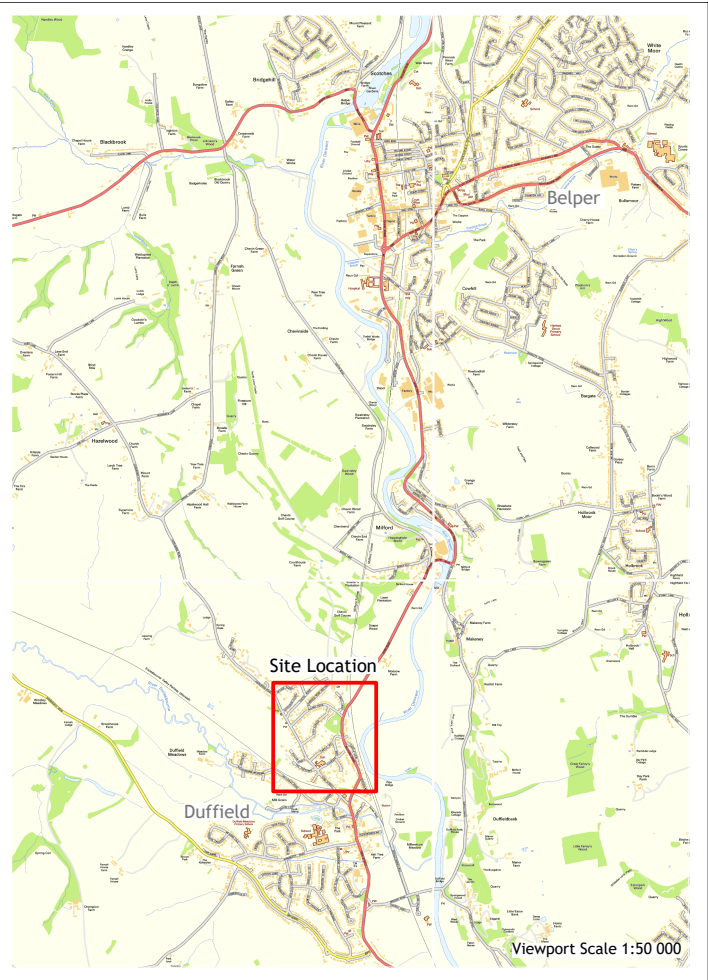
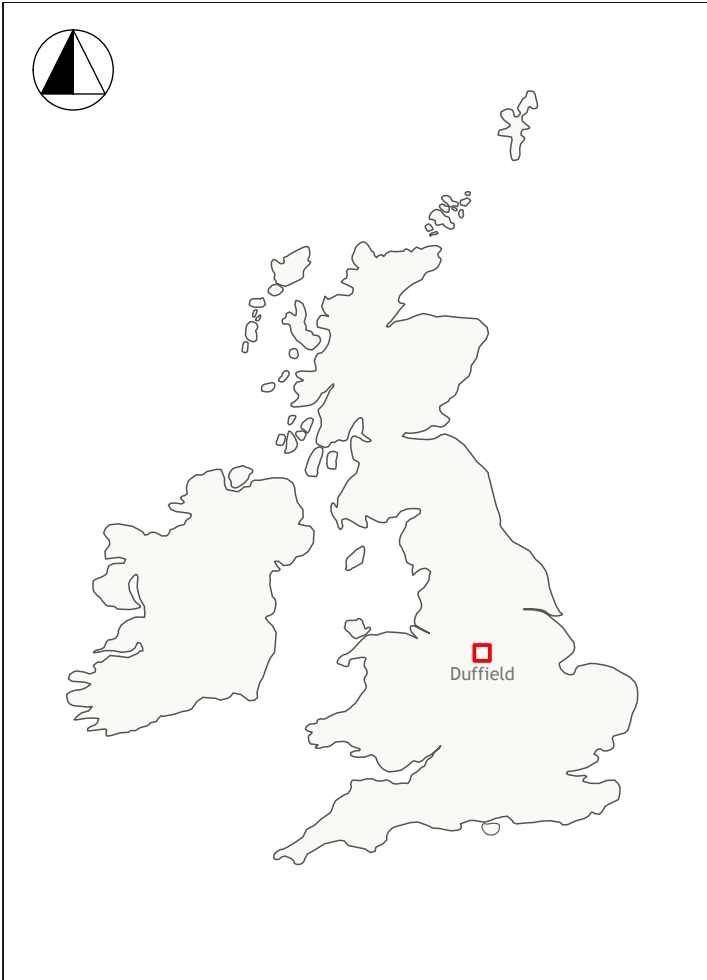
Plate 7: Post-ex of spread (0012), looking south-west.

Scale 1m

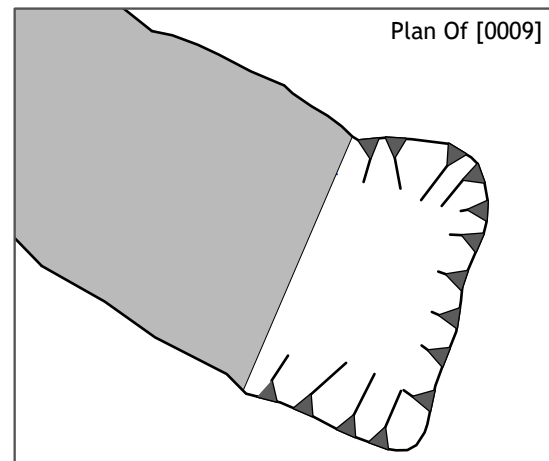
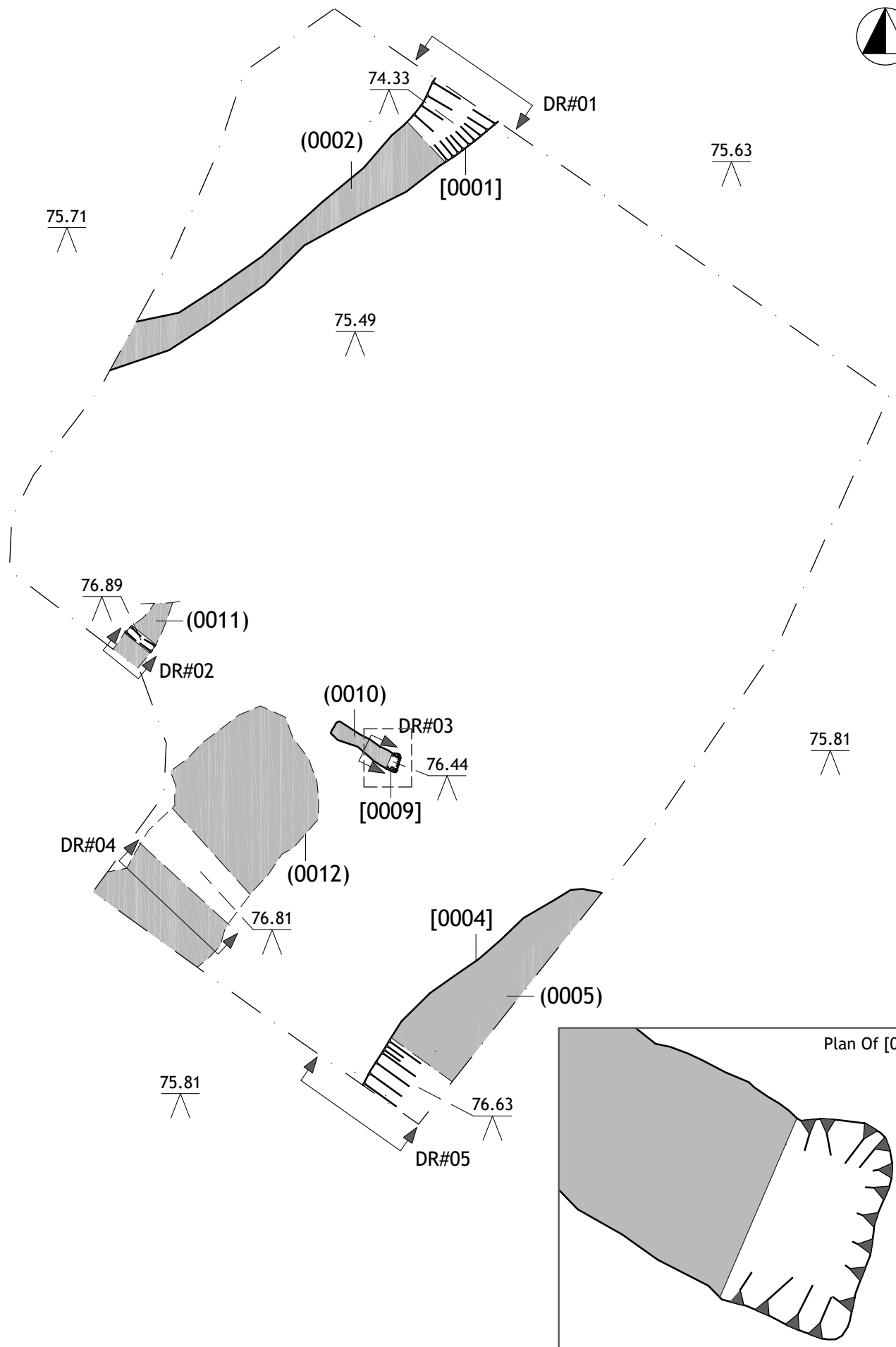
## Appendix 3: Figures

---



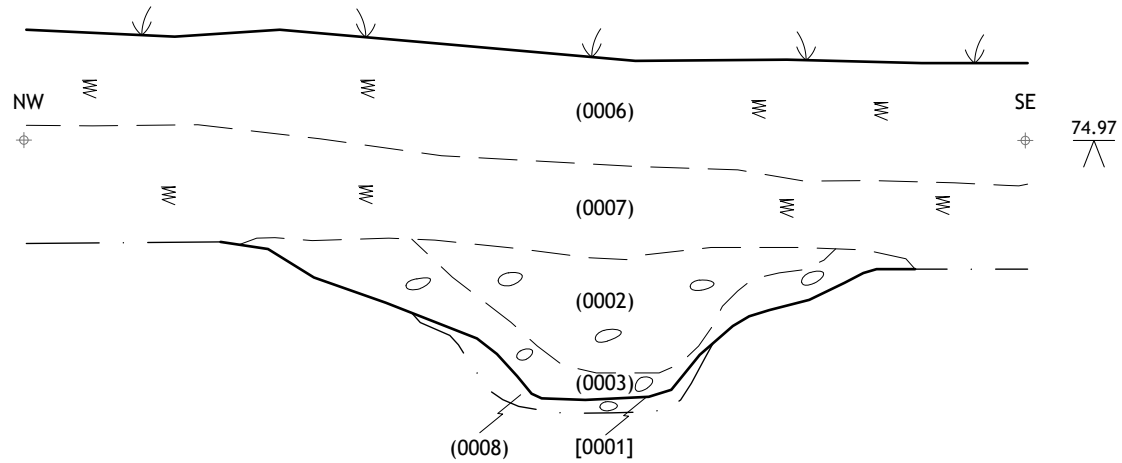


**Key**  
 [Red Line] Site Boundary  
 [Blue Area] Archaeological Strip

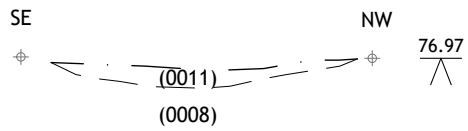


Scale at A4 - 1:10

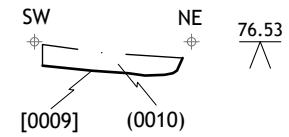
LAD2 DR#01  
 South West Facing Section Of [0001]



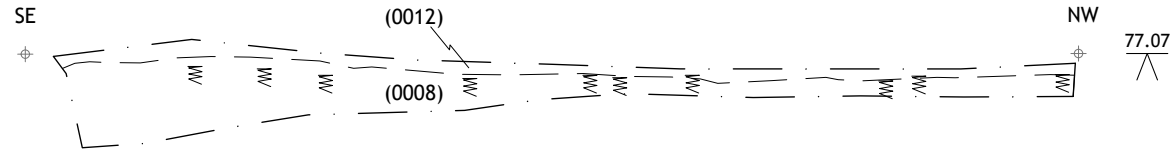
LAD2 DR#02  
 North East Facing Section Of (0011)



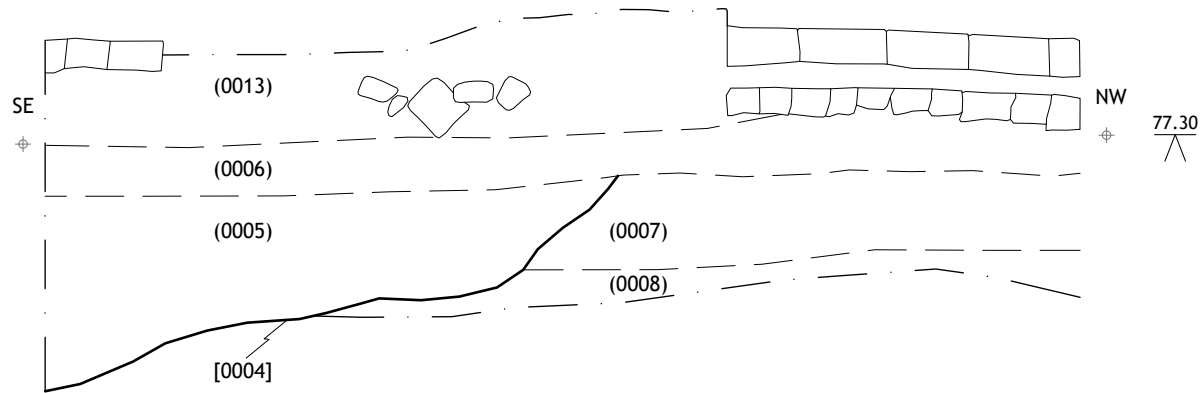
LAD2 DR#03  
 South East Facing Section Of [0009]



LAD2 DR#04  
North East Facing Section Of (0012)



LAD2 DR#05  
North East Facing Section Of [0004]



## 14 Plates

---



Plate 1: Overview stripped area, looking south. No scale



Plate 2: South-west facing section of ditch [0001], looking north-east.

Scale 1m x 1m x 0.50m



Plate 3: North-east facing section of ditch [0004], looking south-west.  
Scale 1m x 0.50m



Plate 4: North-west facing section of ditch [0004], looking south-east.  
Scale 1m x 0.50m



Plate 5: Pre-ex of spread (0011), looking south-west.

Scale 1m x 1m



Plate 6: Post-ex of spread (0011), looking south-west.

Scale 1m x 0.50m



Plate 7: Post-ex of spread (0012), looking south-west.

Scale 1m



## Appendix 1: Index of Archive and Arrangements for Deposition

<i>Field Records</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>
Context sheets	Record of features and deposits	13
Photo record sheet	Record of photographs taken	3
Digital photographs	All views	78
Site drawings	Plans and sections of site	9
<hr/>		
<i>Documents</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>
Written scheme of investigation	Statement of the aims, objectives and methodology for the project.	1
Health & Safety	Safe working statement & risk assessment	1
Report to client	Report of findings of the watching brief.	1
<hr/>		
Find	Description	Number
Artefact	Pottery (Romano-British)	92
	Slag	1

The site archive is currently held at the offices of Trent & Peak Archaeology, Unit 1, Holly Lane, Chilwell, Nottingham, NG9 4AB. It will be deposited with Derbyshire Museum and Art Gallery within 6 months of the completion of the report.

Fragments of Romano-British pottery and smithing slag are recommended for retention and deposition with the archive. Environmental residues and post-medieval pottery will be discarded as per recommendations by the specialists. The accession number for this project is: **DBYMU 2018-14**.

## Appendix 2: OASIS Data Collection Form

---

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

## Printable version

**OASIS ID: trentpea1-318098**

### Project details

Project name	21 Lime Avenue Duffield, Derbyshire
Short description of the project	Trent and Peak Archaeology (TPA) was commissioned by Locus Consulting, on behalf of Chevin Homes Ltd, to undertake an archaeological strip, map and record in the rear garden at 21 Lime Avenue, Duffield, Derbyshire in advance of the construction of a new dwelling and replacement garage at the property, as a condition of planning permission. The work was carried out as part of a phased programme of archaeological works required by Derbyshire County Council's Principal Planning Archaeologist in advance of a residential development. The work was carried out between the 23rd April and the 3rd May 2018. The site was centred at SK 34250 43984, an area of approximately 575m <sup>2</sup> was subjected to strip map and record. This was a landscaped garden which was bounded by residential properties on all sides. A series of post-medieval and modern features relating to drainage and horticulture were also identified during this trial trench evaluation, as was an area of made ground at the eastern end of site to offset the natural slope of the garden. All features identified in the December 2017 trial trenching were confirmed by this strip, map and record, further modern features identified as horticultural beds were also revealed. Overall, the archaeological evidence encountered during the strip map and record suggests domestic/occupation activity on site during the Romano-British Period, and this same evidence contributes to the likely existence of a Romano-British settlement within the locality of the site.
Project dates	Start: 23-04-2018 End: 03-05-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LAD2 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	DOMESTIC Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	DERBYSHIRE AMBER VALLEY DUFFIELD 21 Lime Avenue, Duffield
Postcode	DE56 4DX
Study area	536 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 434244 344063 52.905015417332 -1.354290688333 52 54 18 N 001 21 15 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown

Height OD / Depth Min: 75.52m Max: 77.71m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Trent and Peak Archaeology

Project brief originator Development Control Archaeologist

Project design originator Locus Consulting Ltd.

Project director/manager Tom Hooley

Project supervisor Kath Bentley

Type of sponsor/funding body Landowner

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Derby Museum and Art Gallery

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient Derby Museum and Art Gallery

Digital Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Media available "Database", "Images vector", "Survey"

Paper Archive recipient Derby Museum and Art Gallery

Paper Contents "Ceramics"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological Strip, Map and Record at 21 Lime Avenue, Duffield, Derbyshire

Author(s)/Editor(s) Bentley, K., Reeves, J., Owen, V.

Other bibliographic details Report number: 084/2018

Date 2018

Issuer or publisher Trent and Peak Archaeology

Place of issue or publication Trent and Peak Archaeology

Description Grey literature, PDF

Entered by Owen, V. (vowen@yorkat.co.uk)

Entered on 25 May 2018

# OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2012 Created by [Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham](#), [email](#) Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012

Cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page

[Cookies](#) [Privacy Policy](#)