



# University of Leicester

## Archaeological Services

An archaeological field  
evaluation on land north of  
Snelsmoor Lane,  
(Boulton Moor West),  
Chellaston,  
Derby  
(SK 392 311)

Leon Hunt



ULAS Report No 2014-143  
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(SK 392 311)**

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**Accession Number: DBYMU. 2014-15**

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## **An archaeological field evaluation on land north of Snelsmoor Lane, (Boulton Moor West), Chellaston, Derby (SK 392 311)**

Leon Hunt

### **Summary**

*An archaeological field evaluation was carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on land north of Snelsmoor Lane, Chellaston, Derby (NGR: SK 392 311).*

*The work was in advance of the proposed development of the site, part of an arable field, by Bellway East Midlands Ltd.*

*This area of Derbyshire, to the south of Derby, is very rich in prehistoric archaeology and recent work to the north-east of the site has revealed Iron Age features, such as pit alignments, ditches and gullies.*

*The evaluation consisted of 18 trenches placed across the field. A geophysical survey had been carried out in 2013, but had only highlighted a few anomalies and ridge and furrow earthworks running east to west.*

*The trenches were largely negative for archaeological features. A few trenches contained the remnants of furrows and tree throws. One contained a furrow running north to south, which may be part of the headland of the medieval fields or part of a group of furrows running perpendicular to those identified.*

*One trench placed across a discrete anomaly contained evidence of waterlogging and this feature may be associated with the land being very wet at this point. Mill waste and other debris was encountered within this trench, which may be evidence of an attempt to stem the waterlogging here.*

*Three archaeological features were identified in a trench at the north-eastern edge of the site. These consisted of two gullies, one of which cut a medium sized pit. Very abraded Roman pottery was recovered from one gully, giving a putative date for this feature, although as it is so abraded the pottery could easily have been residual, rendering the features without a close date.*

*The archive for the work will be deposited with Derby Museums with accession number DBYMU.2014-15.*

### **Introduction**

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by Bellway East Midlands Ltd and Clowne Developments Ltd to carry out an archaeological field evaluation on land north of Snelsmoor Lane, Chellaston, Derby (NGR: SK 392 311).

Planning consent is to be sought for the development of the site for new housing (Snelsmoor Grange: Boulton Moor West).

This archaeological work is in accordance with NPPF Section 12: Enhancing and Conserving the Historic Environment.



The Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER) indicates that the area around the southern part of Derby is rich in prehistoric archaeology, with two scheduled sites close to the assessment area, including the Swarkestone Lows barrow cemetery, which lies around 2.5km south-west of Boulton Moor.

The site consists of a broadly sub-rectangular area within a larger enclosed field.

### Location and Geology

Boulton Moor lies to the south-east of Derby and north-east of Chellaston (Figure 1). The site itself lies at the southern edge of Boulton Moor, just within the Derby City boundary. The site consists of a sub-rectangular area of around 6.3 hectares, at the eastern end of a much larger arable field.

The British Geological Survey website indicates that the underlying geology of the area is likely to be Branscombe Mudstone Formation, overlain by sand and gravel in the northern part of the site (Allenton Terrace Deposit) and by Head (a combination of sand and gravel, silt and clay) towards the centre and south of the site.

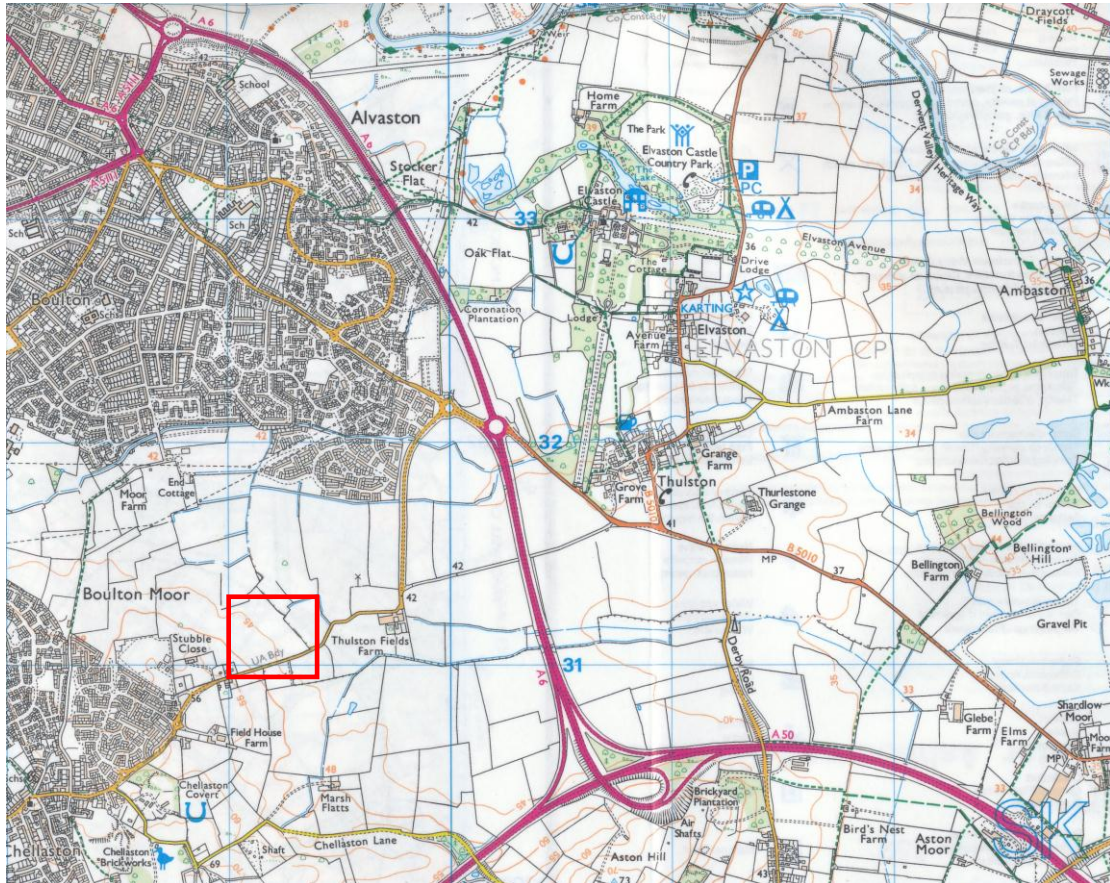


Figure 3: Site Location

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### Historical and Archaeological Background

The Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER) indicates that the area around the southern part of Derby is rich in prehistoric archaeology, with two scheduled sites

close to the assessment area, including the Swarkestone Lows barrow cemetery, which lies around 2.5km south-west of Boulton Moor (Hunt 2013).

Recent archaeological work carried out by ULAS around 1km to the north-east of the site has located evidence of Iron Age settlement including a pit alignment, gullies, ditches and other large pits (Hunt 2014).

A geophysical survey carried out by Stratascan in 2012 revealed evidence for medieval ridge and furrow earthworks running along a broadly east to west alignment (not visible on the surface of the field) and two other anomalies, probably relating to magnetic disturbances or field drains (Smalley 2012).



Figure 4: Trench location plan, with spot heights at trench ends

## Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation were:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation is to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development.

Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area.

## Methodology

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Code of Conduct* (2010) in accordance with their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2010). The archaeological work followed the *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological work* (WSI) prepared by ULAS (Appendix I).

A 2% sample was proposed for trenching (c. 975m<sup>2</sup>), the equivalent of 18, 30m x 1.8m trenches. The machine bucket use was 2m wide and so the trenches were 2.1m wide, giving a slightly larger sample than was intended.

Two trenches (Trenches 07 & 08) were moved slightly from their intended place in order to avoid piles of hay, which had been reaped but not collected (Figure 2).

The trenches were excavated by a large tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision (Plate 1). After recording the trenches was backfilled.



Figure 3: Work in progress on Trench 15, looking east

## Results

### *Trench 01*

Orientation: East-West

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown or yellowish brown silty clay with very rare sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Red and bluish grey clay with stones

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	Interval	15m	20m	25m	30m W
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.30m	0.26m	0.20m	<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.15m	0.15m	0.20m	0.25m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	-	0.20m	0.21m	<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	-	0.15m	0.18m	0.20m
<b>Clay layer/ *mill waste</b>	0.18m*	0.32m	0.16m	<b>Top of natural</b>	0.15m	0.30m	0.38m	0.45m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.48m	0.78m	0.56m	<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.30m	0.38m	0.40m	0.45m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.53m	0.87m	0.64m					

At the eastern end of the trench under the topsoil was a layer of mill waste, which overlay a layer of dark grey clay of around 0.20m thickness. This was overlain by subsoil further along the trench and the clay petered out at around the halfway point of the trench (Plate 2). No other features were identified within this trench.





Figure 4: Trench 01, post-excavation, looking west

### ***Trench 02***

Orientation: East-West

Length: 29.5m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay

Natural Substratum: Red and bluish grey clay with stones

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29.5m W
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.23m	0.25m	0.30m	0.23m	0.27m	0.20m	0.20m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.11m	0.11m	0.15m	0.16m	0.15m	0.15m	-
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.34m	0.36m	0.45m	0.39m	0.42m	0.35m	0.20m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.34m	0.40m	0.48m	0.47m	0.48m	0.38m	0.22m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

**Trench 03**

Orientation: East-West

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay

Natural Substratum: Red and bluish grey clay with stony bands

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m W
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.23m	0.28m	0.30m	0.28m	0.20m	0.22m	0.20m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.18m	0.18m	0.09m	0.15m	0.24m	0.14m	0.12m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.41m	0.46m	0.39m	0.43m	0.44m	0.36m	0.32m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.45m	0.51m	0.48m	0.50m	0.50m	0.45m	0.35m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

**Trench 04**

Orientation: East-West

Length: 29.4m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay

Natural Substratum: Red and bluish grey clay with stones

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29.4m W
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.22m	0.24m	0.23m	0.20m	0.28m	0.16m	0.23m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.16m	0.10m	0.12m	0.11m	0.17m	0.16m	0.22m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.38m	0.34m	0.45m	0.31m	0.45m	0.32m	0.45m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.42m	0.36m	0.48m	0.41m	0.53m	0.42m	0.46m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. A field drain was identified running north-west to south-east (Plate 3).



Figure 5: Trench 05, post-excavation, looking west

### ***Trench 05***

Orientation: East-West

Length: 29.5m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay

Natural Substratum: Red and bluish grey clay with stones

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29.5m W
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.21m	0.24m	0.30m	0.19m	0.28m	0.26m	0.16m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.15m	0.20m	0.10m	0.18m	0.12m	0.15m	0.18m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.36m	0.44m	0.40m	0.37m	0.40m	0.41m	0.34m

<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.44m	0.55m	0.48m	0.43m	0.48m	0.52m	0.34m
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No archaeological features were identified within this trench. A field drain was identified running north-east to south-west.

### ***Trench 06***

Orientation: East-West

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Mid to dark brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Reddish brown silty clay

<b>Interval</b>	<b>E 0m</b>	<b>5m</b>	<b>10m</b>	<b>15m</b>	<b>20m</b>	<b>25m</b>	<b>30m W</b>
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.22m	0.28m	0.26m	0.22m	0.23m	0.30m	0.27m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.31m	0.30m	0.30m	0.27m	0.25m	0.17m	0.26m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.53m	0.58m	0.56m	0.49m	0.48m	0.47m	0.53m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.54m	0.60m	0.63m	0.53m	0.53m	0.49m	0.60m

A feature (7)/[8] was identified running broadly north to south across the trench. On investigation this proved to be a shallow depression, 2.12m wide and 0.16m deep, similar in form to a furrow. Although given a cut number [8], no obvious cut was identified.

### ***Trench 07***

Orientation: East-West

Length: 29m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Brownish red silty clay

Natural Substratum: Red silty clay

<b>Interval</b>	<b>E 0m</b>	<b>5m</b>	<b>10m</b>	<b>15m</b>	<b>20m</b>	<b>25m</b>	<b>29.5m W</b>
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<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.20m	0.18m	0.21m	0.22m	0.21m	0.24m	0.21m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.11m	0.12m	0.11m	0.05m	0.10m	0.10m	-
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.31m	0.30m	0.32m	0.22m	0.31m	0.34m	-
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.31m	0.32m	0.33m	0.27m	0.33m	0.36m	0.21m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

### ***Trench 08***

Orientation: East-West

Length: 28m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Greyish brown silty clay

Natural Substratum: Red silty clay

<b>Interval</b>	<b>W 0m</b>	<b>5m</b>	<b>10m</b>	<b>15m</b>	<b>20m</b>	<b>25m</b>	<b>28m E</b>
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.23m	0.25m	0.17m	0.20m	0.20m	0.21m	0.23m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.06m	0.10m	0.09m	0.10m	0.15m	0.12m	0.16m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.29m	0.35m	0.26m	0.30m	0.35m	0.33m	0.39m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.31m	0.36m	0.50m	0.50m	0.48m	0.60m	0.50m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. A furrow was identified at the western end of the trench running broadly east to west.

### ***Trench 09***

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Mid brownish red silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles



Natural Substratum: Reddish brown silty clay (south end of trench). Mid grey silty clay (north end of trench)

Interval	SE 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m NW
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.10m	0.20m	0.18m	0.27m	0.24m	0.23m	0.25m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.39m	0.30m	0.17m	0.24m	0.24m	0.20m	0.11m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.49m	0.50m	0.35m	0.51m	0.48m	0.43m	0.36m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.54m	0.58m	0.37m	0.53m	0.53m	0.48m	0.41m

A narrow gully [2] 0.53m wide and 0.19m deep ran across the trench from east to west. It had almost vertical sides and a slightly concave base. The fill (1) was a mid to dark brown silty clay with 2% rounded pebbles (Plate 4 & Figure 3: Plan and Section a). Two sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the fill.



Figure 6: East facing section of gully [2], looking west

To the south of this feature was another gully [4], which appeared to cut a pit [6]. The gully was quite irregular and almost natural looking (like the result of burrowing). It was 0.45m wide and 0.19m deep with a fill (3) of mid reddish brown silty clay with the occasional rounded pebble. The pit was almost square with rounded corners and measured 0.76m by 1.03m, and was 0.46m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The fill (5) was a mid reddish brown with patches of clay silty clay with 5% rounded pebbles (Plate 5 & Figure 3: Plan and Section b). No finds were recovered from either feature.



Figure 7: East facing section of gully [4] and pit [6], looking west

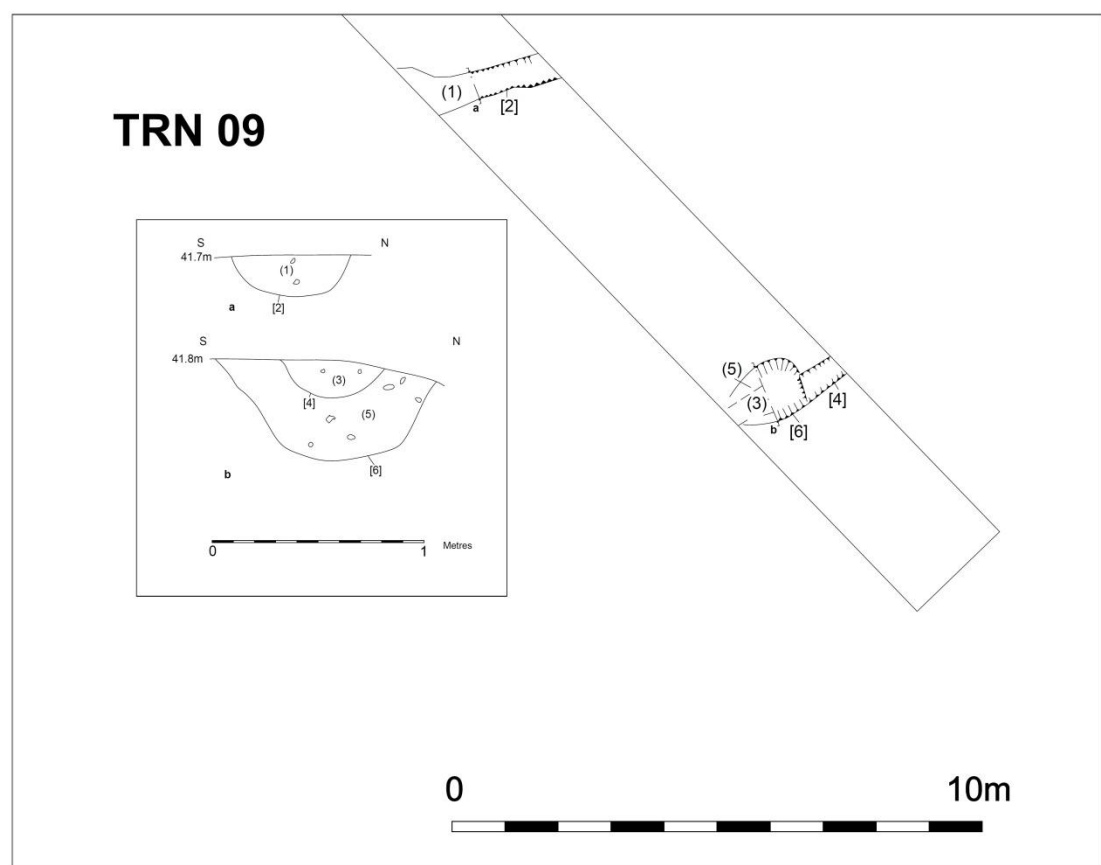


Figure 8: Trench 09 plan and sections of features

### ***Trench 10***

Orientation: North-west to south-east

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Greyish brown silty clay

Natural Substratum: Red clay

Interval	NW 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m SE
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.25m	0.25m	0.20m	0.17m	0.20m	0.26m	0.19m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.14m	0.14m	0.10m	0.16m	0.16m	0.16m	0.20m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.39m	0.39m	0.30m	0.33m	0.36m	0.32m	0.39m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.41m	0.46m	0.40m	0.35m	0.44m	0.50m	0.40m



No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

### ***Trench 11***

Orientation: East - West

Length: 29m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Greyish brown silty-clay with rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty-clay with very rare sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Red clay

Interval	W 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	29m E
Topsoil Depth	0.20m	0.29m	0.19m	0.20m	0.19m	0.20m	0.20m
Subsoil Depth	0.13m	0.13m	0.19m	0.25m	0.26m	0.20m	0.25m
Top of natural	0.33m	0.42m	0.38m	0.45m	0.45m	0.40m	0.45m
Base of Trench	0.33m	0.43m	0.39m	0.47m	0.56m	0.42m	0.51m



Figure 9: Trench 11, post-excavation, looking east

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. A furrow was identified crossing the trench from east to west (Plate 4).

### ***Trench 12***

Orientation: East - West

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark brown silty clay rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Red clay with silty patches

Interval	W 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m E
Topsoil Depth	0.23m	0.27m	0.24m	0.23m	0.20m	0.20m	0.20m
Subsoil Depth	0.16m	0.26m	0.16m	0.13m	0.23m	0.20m	0.11m
Top of natural	0.39m	0.53m	0.40m	0.46m	0.43m	0.40m	-
Base of Trench	0.47m	0.60m	0.50m	0.58m	0.60m	0.50m	0.31m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. A large tree throw was identified close to the centre of the trench.

### ***Trench 13***

Orientation: East - West

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark brown silty clay rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Red and bluish grey clay with silty patches

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m W
Topsoil Depth	0.24m	0.18m	0.19m	0.22m	0.24m	0.26m	0.25m
Subsoil Depth	0.08m	0.11m	0.12m	0.19m	0.25m	0.20m	0.14m
Top of	0.32m	0.29m	0.31m	0.41m	0.49m	0.46m	-



<b>natural</b>							
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.36m	0.38m	0.34m	0.44m	0.55m	0.64m	0.34m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

#### ***Trench 14***

Orientation: East - West

Length: 31m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark brown silty clay rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Red and bluish grey clay with silty patches

<b>Interval</b>	<b>E 0m</b>	<b>5m</b>	<b>10m</b>	<b>15m</b>	<b>20m</b>	<b>25m</b>	<b>31m W</b>
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.30m	0.27m	0.28m	0.23m	0.25m	0.26m	0.26m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.14m	0.20m	0.16m	0.23m	0.20m	0.25m	0.20m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.44m	0.47m	0.44m	0.46m	0.45m	0.51m	0.46m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.44m	0.60m	0.48m	0.58m	0.57m	0.77m	0.59m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

#### ***Trench 15***

Orientation: East - West

Length: 31m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark brown silty clay rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Red clay with silty patches

<b>Interval</b>	<b>E 0m</b>	<b>5m</b>	<b>10m</b>	<b>15m</b>	<b>20m</b>	<b>25m</b>	<b>30m W</b>
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.20m	0.23m	0.22m	0.26m	0.25m	0.23m	0.22m

<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.12m	0.13m	0.14m	0.16m	0.22m	0.20m	0.22m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.32m	0.36m	0.36m	0.42m	0.47m	0.43m	0.44m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.38m	0.49m	0.52m	0.64m	0.60m	0.60m	0.60m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. A tree throw pit was identified close to the centre of the trench.

### ***Trench 16***

Orientation: East - West

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark brown silty clay rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Red clay with silty patches

<b>Interval</b>	<b>E 0m</b>	<b>5m</b>	<b>10m</b>	<b>15m</b>	<b>20m</b>	<b>25m</b>	<b>30m W</b>
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.20m	0.20m	0.22m	0.26m	0.20m	0.20m	0.23m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.14m	0.12m	0.14m	0.24m	0.13m	0.23m	0.16m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.34m	0.32m	0.36m	0.40m	0.33m	0.43m	0.39m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.40m	0.58m	0.44m	0.54m	0.43m	0.52m	0.48m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. A tree throw pit was identified close to the centre of the trench.

### ***Trench 17***

Orientation: East - West

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark brown silty clay rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Red clay with silty patches

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m W
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.23m	0.20m	0.18m	0.18m	0.20m	0.19m	0.20m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.04m	0.18m	0.14m	0.16m	0.19m	0.18m	0.10m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.27m	0.38m	0.32m	0.34m	0.39m	0.37m	0.30m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.28m	0.52m	0.42m	0.40m	0.48m	0.40m	0.30m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench. Tree throws were identified at each end of the trench.

### ***Trench 18***

Orientation: East - West

Length: 30m

Width: 2.1m

Topsoil: Dark brown silty clay rare sub-rounded pebbles

Subsoil: Reddish brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded pebbles

Natural Substratum: Red clay

Interval	E 0m	5m	10m	15m	20m	25m	30m W
<b>Topsoil Depth</b>	0.28m	0.30m	0.25m	0.23m	0.25m	0.27m	0.20m
<b>Subsoil Depth</b>	0.05m	0.27m	0.23m	0.19m	0.23m	0.23m	0.20m
<b>Top of natural</b>	0.33m	0.57m	0.48m	0.42m	0.48m	0.50m	0.40m
<b>Base of Trench</b>	0.33m	0.64m	0.50m	0.50m	0.55m	0.59m	0.58m

No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

### **Conclusion**

The area around the southern part of Derby is very rich in archaeological sites, particularly from prehistoric periods and therefore the site at Snelsmoor Lane had some potential for archaeological features. Recent work on the new housing development to the north-east of this site (Boulton Moor Phase 1) has uncovered

evidence for Iron Age activity, so the potential was seen to have been relatively high (Hunt 2014).

The geophysical survey, carried out in 2012 showed little evidence for archaeological features, apart from a large circular anomaly at the south-eastern edge of the site (covered by Trench 01), and a linear feature, interpreted as a possible modern field drain (covered by Trenches 05 and 06) to the north-east (Smalley 2012). The survey also clearly shown medieval ridge and furrow crossing the field on a largely east to west alignment, although these features have been largely ploughed out and were not visible on the surface of the field.

The field evaluation was largely negative, with only faint furrows and a few tree throw pits revealed in the trenches along the central part of the site (Trenches 08, 11, 12, 15 etc).

Trench 01 contained a layer of dark sticky clay, overlain by a layer of mill waste and rubble. This would indicate that the area had been waterlogged sometime in the past. There is no evidence from old maps that a pond was once situated here, but it is at the lowest point in the area and the stone here may indicate an attempt to alleviate occasional flooding. This likely to be the anomaly identified by the geophysical survey (Smalley 2012).

Trench 06 appeared to contain a linear feature (6) and [7], which appeared, after inspection, to be a furrow running north to south rather than east to west. The geophysical results seem to indicate that the furrows do not extend to this point. This feature may be the remains of a headland, or even another group of furrows, on a differing alignment.

The linear anomaly picked up on the geophysical survey at the north-eastern edge of the site (interpreted as a field drain) is likely to be such. There were a few field drains in the eastern trenches; most were broken and machined out during the work, but some remained, including one in Trench 05, which was on the correct alignment to be the anomaly located by the geophysical survey.

The only trench to show positive archaeological features was Trench 09. Two gullies were revealed running across the site from east to west. The northernmost feature [2] contained Roman pottery within the fill (1), although the sherds were so abraded that they may easily have been residual in this context.

The second gully [4] was not closely datable and cut a pit [6], which also yielded no artefacts.

These features may be the outlying agricultural remains of a Roman settlement, but equally the lack of definitive dating evidence may suggest that the features may be from a later period, possibly drainage gullies associated with the medieval or post-medieval field systems.

## References

Hunt, L., 2013 *An archaeological desk-based assessment for land at Snelsmoor Grange, Boulton Moor, Derby (SK 386 315)* ULAS Report 2013-028.

Hunt, 2014 *An archaeological field evaluation at Boulton Moor (Phase 1), Snelsmoor Lane, Elvaston, Derbyshire (SK 396 316)* (ULAS Report No. 2014-101)

Smalley., 2012 *Geophysical Survey Report, Boulton Moor, Derbyshire* Stratascan Report J3192

## Acknowledgements

ULAS would like to thank Bellway Homes for the work and Ed Hicklin, farmer, for his help and co-operation with this project. The machine was supplied by Planters and was driven by Michael Hall. The project was managed by Patrick Clay and the work carried out by Leon Hunt and Scott Lomax.



Figure 10: Trench plan with geophysical survey results (from Smalley 2012)



## Publication

Since 2004 ULAS has reported the results of all archaeological work through the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) database held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York.

A summary of the work will also be submitted for publication in a suitable regional archaeological journal in due course.

### *OASIS data entry*

Project Name	Snelsmoor Lane, Chellaston, Derby
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Leon Hunt
Previous/Future work	Geophysical Survey/ Not known
Current Land Use	Arable
Development Type	New Housing
Reason for Investigation	NPPF Section 12
Position in the Planning Process	Planning Condition
Site Co ordinates	SK 392 311
Start/end dates of field work	13-08-2014 to 15-08-2014
Archive Recipient	Derby Museum and Art Gallery
Study Area	6.3ha

## Archive

The archive for this project will be deposited with Derby Museum with accession number DBYMU.2014-15.

The archive consists of the following:

- 1 Unbound copy of this report (2014-143)
- 18 Trench recording sheets
- 4 Context sheets
- 1 Contact sheet of digital photographs
- 1 CD digital photographs
- 1 Set B&W contact sheets
- 1 Set B&W negatives

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19-08-2014

## Appendix I: List of contexts

Context	Cut	Description	Trench	Finds
1	2	Fill of gully	09	Pottery
2	2	Cut of gully	09	Pottery
3	4	Fill of gully	09	-
4	4	Cut of gully	09	-
5	6	Fill of pit	09	-
6	6	Cut of pit	09	-
7	-	Furrow	06	-
8	8	Erroneous cut no.	06	-

## Appendix II: The Roman Pottery

*Nicholas J. Cooper*

Two small and abraded sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from (1) [2]. They have been analysed under low power microscopy and identified in accordance with the Derbyshire Roman pottery fabric series (Leary 2001). One sherd (6g) was in an oxidised fabric (OAB1) and the other (2g) was in a grey ware fabric (GRB1). They are not precisely datable within the Roman period but, in the absence of other regional wares, a second century is probably most likely. The abraded nature of the sherd indicates that they have been re-deposited after a period on the ground surface, perhaps due to manuring practices on the fields and therefore are not likely to give a very accurate date for the context from which they come.

### Reference

Leary, R. S., 2001: Romano-British Pottery. Pp95-121 in Palfreyman, A., Report on the Excavation of a Romano-British Aisled Building at Little Hay Grange Farm, Ockbrook, Derbyshire 1994-97. *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal* **121**: 70-161.

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