

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at
24 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire**



24 Macclesfield Road looking North

ARS Ltd Report 2011/78
November 2011

Planning ref: HPK/2008/0678
Oasis no: archaeol5-114735

Compiled By:
Kate Mapplethorpe
Specialist analysis by Dr Clive Waddington
Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Angel House
Portland Square
Bakewell
Derbyshire
DE45 1HB
admin@archaeologicalresearchservices.com
www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

Checked By:
Gareth Davies
Tel: 01629 814540
Fax: 01629 814657

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Archaeological Research Services Ltd

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In November 2011 Archaeological Research Services Ltd were commissioned by Cathy Ridington to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 24 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire. The monitoring was carried out during ground works for the construction of a new dwelling to the rear of the house.

The work consisted of the clearing of flowerbeds and scrub from the garden before topsoil stripping of the area. The excavation area was then reduced to the correct level for the excavation of the trenches to begin. An archaeologist was present for all of the above works, but it was deemed unnecessary for one to be present during the excavation of the trenches as the level of the natural substratum had already been reached.

No features of archaeological significance or buried land surfaces were revealed. Systematic sieving of topsoil from the site recovered two prehistoric lithics from the topsoil. Only one of the two flints was diagnostic as a broken or snapped edge-trimmed bladelet segment. This piece belongs to a narrow blade manufacturing tradition and is likely to date to the Late Mesolithic period c.8000-4000 cal BC. These artefacts demonstrate that there may have been some form of human exploitation, either contemporary with or earlier than the Lismore Fields settlement, on this side of the valley. However, these finds alone cannot reveal a great deal about the character of prehistoric land-use at the site.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Location and scope of work

1.1.1. In November 2011 Archaeological Research Services Ltd were commissioned by Cathy Ridington to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 24 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire (Fig. 1). The work was carried out during groundworks for the construction of a new semi-detached dwelling to the rear of the property.

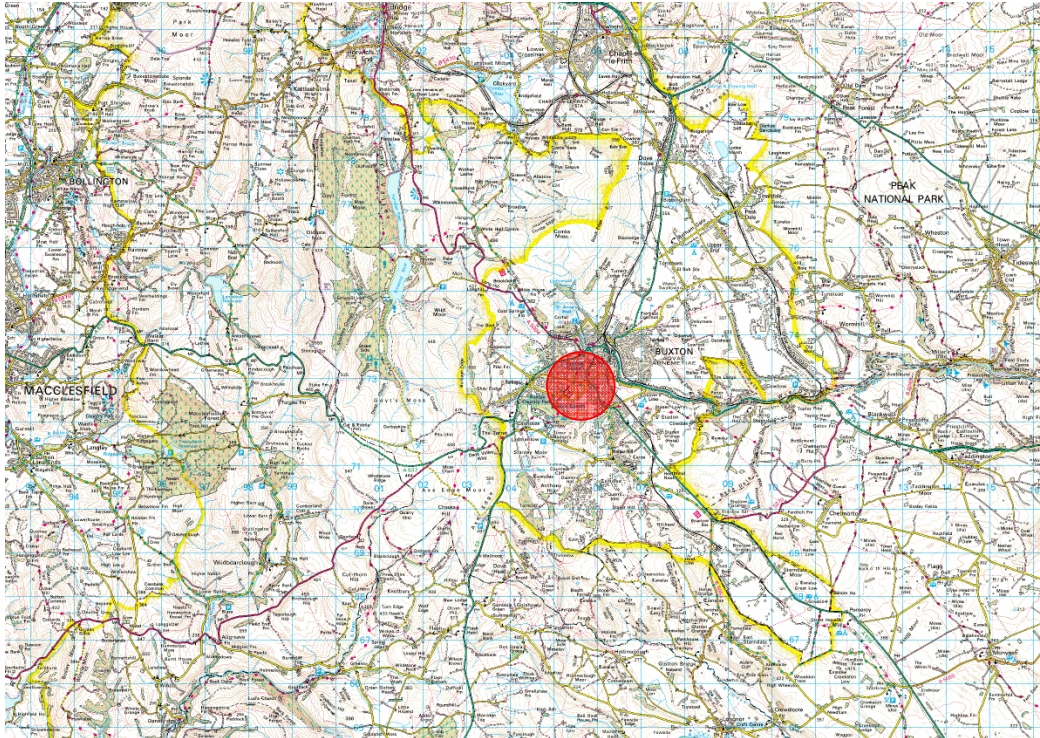


Fig. 1 Site location

Ordnance Survey data copyright OS, reproduced by permission, Licence no. 100045420

1.1.2 The site is centred at SK 05160 73005. It is 200m to the south-east of the Scheduled Monument Dr 278 “Mesolithic and Neolithic Settlement at Lismore Fields”, and just immediately to the south-east of entries on the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR 2898, 2899) that relate to previously excavated areas at Lismore Fields that produced remarkable evidence for Mesolithic and Neolithic settlement. Recent fieldwork to the east of Lismore Fields at Otterhole Farm and at Burbage Hall has demonstrated that evidence for later Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic activity and settlement is quite widespread. Prior to development at Otterhole Farm two later Mesolithic sites were found close together, while at Burbage Hall part of an earlier Neolithic/ later Mesolithic scatter of evidence was identified.

1.1.3 In addition to the prehistoric evidence found in the area remains of a possible Roman building, including part of a stone column, were reported from work near to the vicarage in Lismore Road. In 1892 the remains of a pitched road surface, believed

possibly to be Roman, was uncovered by workmen during pipe laying along Macclesfield Road.

1.1.4 The High Peak Borough Local Plan (2006) includes an “Area of Archaeological Interest” (AAI) for Buxton. This area is thought to define the core area of Roman settlement in the town. The present site lies 400m to the west of the AAI.

1.2 Geology and preservation

1.2.1 The solid geology of the site consists of Bowland shale formation with mudstone, siltstone and sandstone and the drift geology consists of clay and sand (British Geological Survey 2011).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 The specification required that a watching brief should be carried out to observe any ground works taking place for the proposed development, in order to identify any potential archaeological remains. This involved monitoring the levelling of the driveway area, along with the stripping and levelling of the area of the new dwelling. .

2.2 The trenches were excavated by machine, using a back-acting toothless ditching bucket under continuous archaeological supervision. The machine removed the topsoil (001) in level spits until the first potential archaeological horizon (003) was exposed. The surface was then cleaned using hand tools in order to expose any archaeological features.

2.3 Sample sieving of all layers was carried out at a suitable mesh size to recover small and fragmentary lithics. For areas of open excavation a sample of 10 litres of topsoil was sieved for every 3 x 3m area. For linear trenches the sample amount was 20 litres for every five metre length.

2.4 A single context recording system was employed. Each layer encountered was given a unique context number and a full written description. Photographs were taken in black and white print and digital in order to record the ground work.

Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Angel House
Portland Square
Bakewell
Derbyshire
DE45 1HB

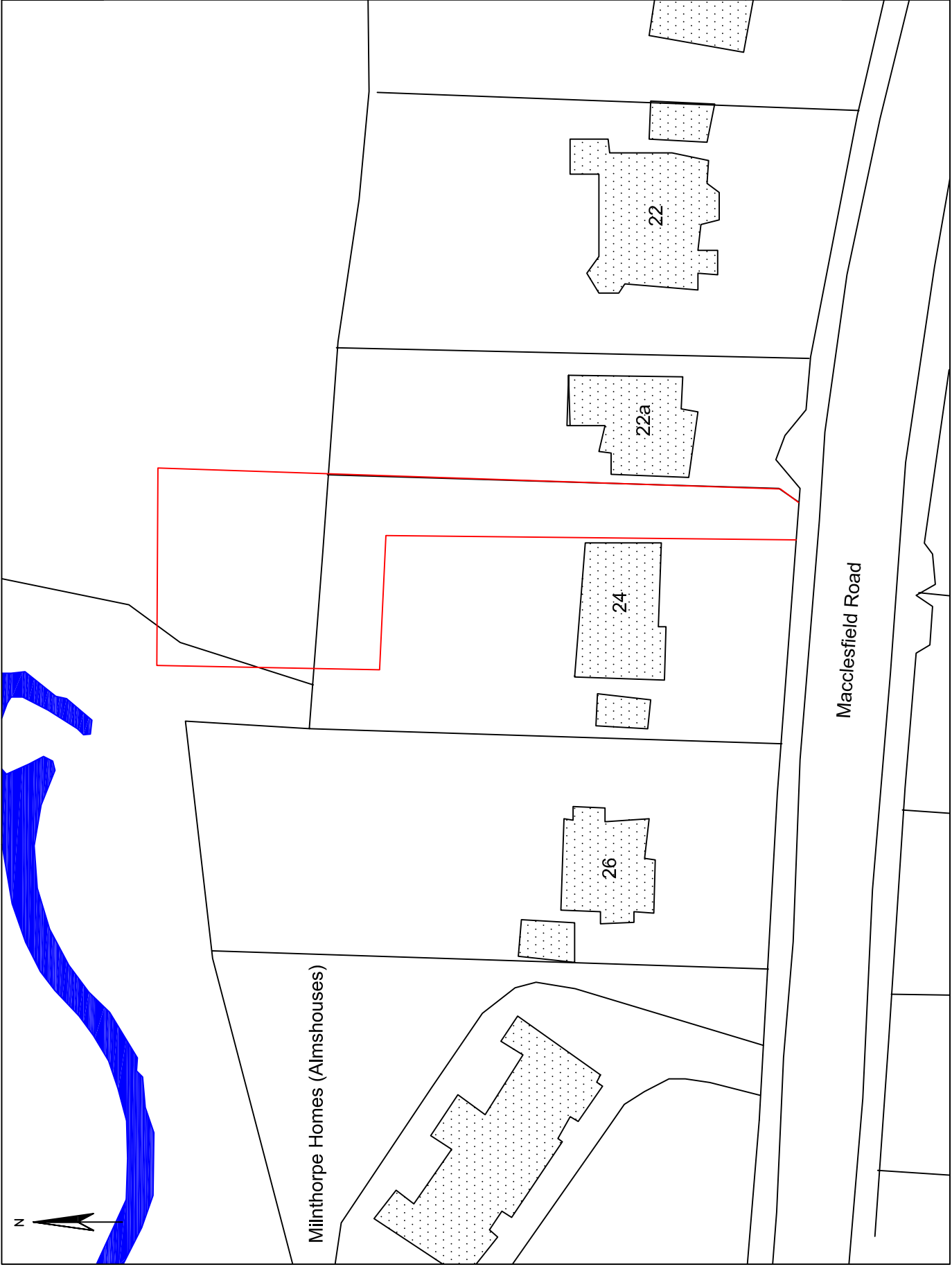
Site Code: MAC '11
Date: 10/08/11
Drawn: KM
Scale: 1:500 at A4

Figure 2: Plan of development site

Key:
Area of excavation
River Wye

Notes:

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© A.R.S. Ltd
Ordnance Survey data if applicable
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3. RESULTS

3.1 Topsoil

The topsoil (101) covered the whole of the site and had a maximum depth of 0.27m. It consisted of a medium textured dark blackish brown clayey silt with inclusions of small limestone chips. A large amount of modern debris (pottery, glass, animal bone etc.) was recovered from this layer during sieving. Two flint fragments were also recovered, which are discussed below.

3.2 Subsoil

The subsoil (102) covered the whole of the site and had an average depth of approximately 0.74m. It consisted of a medium textured mid orangey brown clayish silt with few inclusions of small limestone chunks. It was very well mixed, with much root disturbance and bioturbation. It appeared to be (at least in part) made ground at the western edge of the site, where the garden sloped up to the rockery area. A small amount of modern debris was recovered from this layer.

3.2. Natural substratum

Directly below the subsoil (102) lay the natural substratum (103). This varied from north to south. At the north of the site, towards the stream, the natural substratum consisted of bright yellow clay overlying shattered limestone. Amongst this clay were areas of water-smoothed limestone fragments near the surface of the deposit, which appeared to have become solution hollows for the passage of water through the clay. These areas were silty and dark in colour, much different to the bright yellow clay of the rest of the area. The clay was also spotted with patches of a crushed shale deposit, dark purplish brown in colour.

Towards the southern end of the site (near to the existing house) the natural substratum consisted of dark brown clayish silt overlying shattered limestone. Although rich in clay, it was not very similar to the clay deposit to the north. The change between the two was obvious, with a distinct line.



Figure 3: Photograph showing the stratigraphy of the site.

3.4 No features, finds or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed during the excavation process.

3.5 **Lithic Report** (Dr. Clive Waddington)

A total of two lithics were retrieved from the excavation and submitted for assessment and analysis. The two lithics came from context 101. Measurements are not given for either piece as they are broken in line with lithic recording conventions (Saville 1980).

3.5.1 *Flint 1*

A broken or snapped edge-trimmed bladelet segment, possibly the waste burin from the production of a narrow blade microlith blank. It is made from a high quality dark grey chert and has narrow parallel-sided bladelet scars on its dorsal surface. There is some secondary edge trimming on the shorter of the two long edges. This piece belongs to a narrow blade manufacturing tradition and is likely to date to the Late Mesolithic period *c.*8000-4000 cal BC.

3.5.2 *Flint 2*

A small broken primary flint flake with some cortex surviving. This flake is undiagnostic, although it is made from a good quality flint.

4. CONCLUSION

There were no archaeological features, deposits, buried land surfaces located within the trenches. The flint artefacts demonstrate that there may have been some form of human exploitation, either contemporary with or earlier than the Lismore Fields settlement, on this side of the valley. However, these finds alone cannot reveal a great deal about the character of prehistoric land-use at the site.

5. PUBLICITY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND COPYRIGHT

- 5.1. Any publicity will be handled by the client.
- 5.2. Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

6. ARCHIVE DEPOSITION AND PUBLICATION

- 6.1 A digital and paper archive will be prepared and deposited with Derby Museum and Art Gallery by February 2012. This will consist of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data associated with the project. An accession number has been requested from Buxton Museum and this is DERSB 2011.35.
- 6.2 A summary of the project, with selected drawings, illustrations and photographs will be submitted within 2 years of the completion of the project to the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal for publication. The results of the work will be published at least in summary form in the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal.

7. STATEMENT OF INDEMNITY

- 7.1 All statements and opinions contained within this report arising from the works undertaken are offered in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of the report for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1. Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank all those involved in this project, in particular Mr and Mrs A. Ridington, Paul Dinsdale of Price Dinsdale Associated Ltd, Alan Gamble and Steve Baker of Derbyshire County Council.

9. REFERENCES

British Geological Survey 1979. *Geological Survey 1:50000 Map*. Third Edition (Solid). Southampton: Ordnance Survey.

Saville, A. 1980. On the measurement of struck flakes and flake tools. *Lithics* 1: 16-20.

APPENDIX I: Brief

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SITE NAME: Land to rear of 24 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER: High Peak Borough Council HPK/2008/0678

NGR: SK 0516 7303 (centred)

ISSUED BY: Steve Baker (Development Control Archaeologist for HPBC)

DATE: 25th November 2009

1 Introduction

1.1 Planning consent HPK/2008/0678 has been granted for the erection of one detached house on garden land to the rear of 24, Macclesfield Road, Buxton.

1.2 The site lies adjacent to an area of known Mesolithic and Neolithic settlement at Lismore Fields, Buxton. The following condition has therefore been attached to the planning consent:

“No development shall take place within the site until the developer has secured the implementation of an archaeological watching brief on development groundworks, to be carried out in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This scheme shall include on site work, and off site work such as the analysis, publication and archiving of the results. All works shall be carried out and completed as approved, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority”

1.3 This document is a specification for archaeological watching brief, and will allow the archaeological contractor to prepare a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for approval by the Development Control Archaeologist. **The WSI must be submitted for approval at least two weeks before the commencement of fieldwork on site.**

1.4 Please note the archaeological condition is not a pre-start condition to be discharged before site works commence. Approval of the WSI is sufficient for works to start, but full discharge will not be possible until the archaeological work is complete to the required standard including reports and archiving.

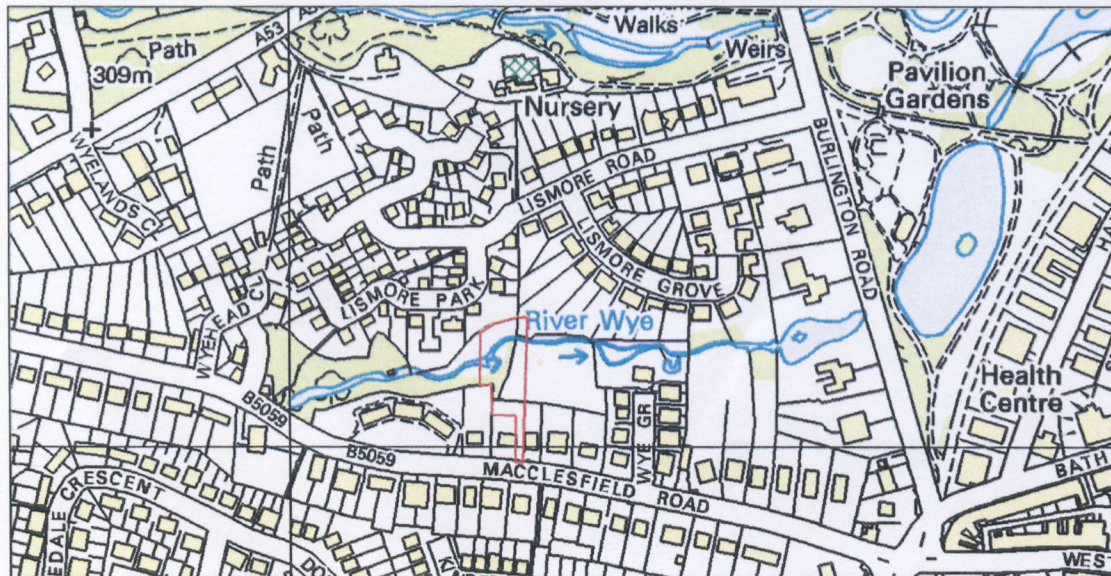


Figure 1: Site location

2 Background

2.1 The proposed development site is 200m to the south-east of the Scheduled Monument Dr 278 “Mesolithic and Neolithic Settlement at Lismore Fields”, and immediately adjacent to entries on the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER 2898, 2899) relating to previous

excavations at Lismore Fields, producing remarkable evidence for Mesolithic and Neolithic settlement. .

2.2 The proposals involve the construction of a detached house in ground that is presently gardens. There will also be a drive and area of hard standing to the front of the house. Historic mapping confirms that prior to being gardens this land was open fields.

3 Objectives

3.1 The watching brief should provide for achieving an appropriate level of *preservation by record* for any archaeological deposits exposed during the development groundworks.

4 Archaeological watching brief

4.1 The appointed archaeological contractor will monitor all ground excavation works associated with the development.

4.2 Where a mechanical excavator is to be used for ground excavation work, it should be fitted with a toothless bucket. A toothed bucket and/or concrete breaker may only be used where absolutely necessary to remove hard surfaces and other obstructions, and this must be agreed in advance with the on-site archaeologist. Excavation of foundation and service trenches must be carried out in successive level spits not exceeding 200mm in depth. Stripping of topsoil must be carried out using a toothless ditching bucket.

4.3 This will be a *continuous* watching brief, with an archaeologist present during all stages of ground excavation.

4.4 The watching brief will not entail archaeological excavation beyond the areas exposed by the development works.

4.5 The on site archaeologist will be given the opportunity to stop work where necessary in order to enter the excavations and inspect the surfaces revealed. Where archaeological features or deposits are present then time must be allowed for the archaeologist to carry out the appropriate cleaning and recording before work recommences.

4.6 The archaeologist should inspect and monitor the upcast spoil from the excavations. All stratified and unstratified worked stone should be retained, along with all pottery of early post-medieval date or earlier.

4.7 Sample sieving of all layers should be carried out at a suitable mesh size to recover small and fragmentary lithics. A detailed sampling strategy should be developed by the archaeological contractor in the WSI document.

4.8 All archaeological fieldwork, recording of archaeological features and deposits and post-excavation analysis should be carried out to acceptable archaeological standards. The contractor will be expected to abide by the Code of Practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and to follow the guidance provided in *Archaeological Science at PPG16 Interventions* (English Heritage 2003).

4.9 Any archaeological features should be investigated and recorded according to the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation, and should be accurately located on a site plan and recorded using pro forma record sheets, photographs, summary scale drawings and written descriptions. Individual features will be planned at 1:20 where additional detail is required. Sections and profiles of each feature sampled will be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20, depending on the size of the feature. All plans, sections, profiles and topographic survey will be related to Ordnance Datum, in metres. All site drawings should follow the conventions detailed in the *MoLAS Archaeological Site Manual* (1994).

4.10 Should archaeological features be present then the locations of the features should be accurately fixed using an EDM/Total Station, surveying in either the planning baselines or the features themselves.

4.11 For brick structures, the record should include details of brick dimensions and type (handmade/machine-made, plain/frogged), mortar (colour, composition, hardness) and the extent of structures (number of courses, thickness in skins).

4.12 The photographic archive will comprise 35mm SLR black-and-white print photography, supplemented by *either* 35mm SLR colour slide photography, *or* digital colour photography using a digital SLR camera of at least 7 megapixel resolution.

4.13 Should deposits of palaeo-environmental potential be encountered, an environmental specialist will visit the site to advise on a sampling strategy and their suggested strategy will then be implemented.

4.14 Artefact collection policy should be concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work (but see 4.6 above). Any discarded artefactual materials should be described and quantified through assignment to broad categories in the field. All retained finds and palaeo-environmental samples should be treated in accordance with the EH guidance document *A strategy for the care and investigation of finds (1995)* and the UKIC's document *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage*. Analysis of finds and palaeo-environmental samples will be undertaken, as necessary, by suitably qualified specialists.

4.15 Any human remains encountered must initially be left *in situ*. If removal is necessary, this must comply with the relevant Ministry of Justice, Diocesan and other regulations, as appropriate. A strategy for the excavation, analysis, retention and/or reburial of a) disarticulated and b) articulated human remains will need to be developed and specified in the WSI. The cataloguing and analysis of all human remains will be undertaken, as necessary, by a suitably qualified osteoarchaeologist.

4.16 Contingency provision will be made for additional specialist advice, eg for finds analysis, palaeo-environmental work and conservation.

4.17 The appointed archaeological contractor should undertake a site risk assessment and operate at all times with due regard to health and safety regulations.

5 WSI and monitoring

5.1 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) should be formulated by potential contractors and submitted to the Development Control Archaeologist for approval. This document forms an agreed scope of works, and should explicitly cover all the requirements of this brief:

The proposal should include:

- A description of the proposed fieldwork methods to be used.
- An explanation of the sampling strategies to be used
- A projected timetable for work on site
- Details of the arrangements made for deposition of the finds and site archive
- A list of specialists available for undertaking finds, industrial and palaeo-environmental analyses

5.2 The work will be carried out by appropriately qualified and experienced staff. Details of staff numbers and their relevant experience should be included, plus their responsibilities in carrying out the work. On site archaeologist should have significant experience of prehistoric archaeology and lithics recognition. Staff CVs should be included, unless already submitted to the Development Control Archaeologist in previous project specifications.

5.3 Any changes to the agreed WSI will be discussed with, and agreed with, the Development Control Archaeologist before implementation

5.4 During the course of the fieldwork the Development Control Archaeologist may undertake monitoring visits. One week's prior notice of the commencement of fieldwork should therefore be given, including the name and contact number of the archaeologist on site.

5.5 Should significant archaeological deposits be encountered the archaeological contractor should contact the Development Control Archaeologist and arrange a convenient date and time for a site visit. Your contact will be:

Steve Baker,
Development Control Archaeologist,
Derbyshire County Council,
Shand House,
Dale Road South,
Matlock,
Derbyshire DE4 3RY

steve.baker@derbyshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01629 533358/07795 255837

6 Report

6.1 The preparation of the report should follow the guidelines published by the Institute of Field Archaeology.

6.2 Upon completion of the fieldwork a full report will be produced and copies submitted to the Local Planning Authority, the DCA and the Derbyshire HER. As a minimum, a summary or interim statement should be available 6 weeks after completion of fieldwork, and a full report within 6 months.

6.3 The report should include as a minimum,

- Non-technical summary
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purpose of the project
- Methodology
- An objective summary statement of results
- Conclusion
- Supporting illustrations at appropriate scales, all to include levels tied to Ordnance Datum. Drawings should follow the conventions developed in the MoLAS *Archaeological Site Manual* (1994)
- Illustrative site photography, including key features and working shots
- Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices, including as a minimum a basic quantification of all artefacts, ecofacts and structural data.
- Index to archive and details of archive location; confirmation of archive transfer arrangements including a provisional timetable for deposition.
- References
- A copy of the OASIS form
- A copy of this brief

6.4 A full set of annotated, illustrative pictures of the site, excavation, features, layers and selected artefacts should be supplied to the HER and deposited with the archive as digital images on a CD ROM attached to the report.

6.5 A short summary report (see notes attached) should be supplied as hard copy and a pdf to the DCA along with the full report. The appointed archaeological contractor should also provide the DCA with a written statement on how the project is to be published. *Where no further publication is envisaged then the short report will be published in an annual round-up on developer-funded archaeology in Derbyshire Archaeological Journal (see section 8 below).*

7 Archive deposition

7.1 Arrangements should be made from the outset of the project for the full and final archive to be deposited at Buxton Museum and Art Gallery in accordance with the deposition and archiving standards outlined in *Procedures for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives*

(Museums in Derbyshire, 2003). The Museum should be contacted before fieldwork to discuss potential costs for archiving, and these must be built into agreed project costs. Before fieldwork commences an accession number should be drawn and permission obtained from the landowner for deposition of the archive. Your contact will be:

Buxton Museum and Art Gallery
Terrace Road
Buxton
Derbyshire
SK17 6DA
☎ 01298 24658
Fax 01298 79394
buxton.museum@derbyshire.gov.uk

7.2 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the HER. This should include an uploaded pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

7.3 Written confirmation of the archive transfer arrangements, including a date (confirmed or projected) for the transfer, must be included as part of the final report. The Development Control Archaeologist must be informed in writing when final transfer of archives has taken place.

8 Publication

8.1 Contingency publication costs must be built into agreed project budgets from the outset. Where no further publication is envisaged then a summary of the project, with selected drawings, illustrations and photographs, should be submitted within 2 years of the completion of the project to Derbyshire Archaeological Journal for publication. A sheet of instructions for contributors is attached.

Guidance notes for contributors to the *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal* of interim and short reports on developer funded archaeology:

The aim is to publish annual compilations of short reports on developer funded archaeology in the county on a regular basis in the *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal*, in order to better inform the public of the results of the work being undertaken.

It is envisaged that the reports will take one of two forms;

1. Interim reports – short interim descriptions of an excavation or survey that will eventually be subjected to fuller publication.
2. Definitive reports – summaries of archaeological work which will not be pursued further. Note that even if the results were negative, if valid questions were posed then a brief explanation will be worthwhile.

MODEL – see 'Some Fieldwork in Derbyshire by the Trent & Peak Archaeological Unit in 1998-9' edited by Graeme Guilbert and Daryl Garton, *DAJ* vol. 121 (2001): 223-5. Number 18 is an example of an Interim report and numbers 19 to 20 are examples of definitive reports.

DETAILED NOTES

Set individual reports out in alphabetical order of site names.

NGR should follow site name, followed by names of those responsible for the report and/ or fieldwork.

Give due acknowledgement to sponsors of project within text.

Definitive reports should include whereabouts of the related written, drawn and photographic archive, as well as any artefacts.

Illustrations – include line drawings and/or photographs if appropriate.

References – include where appropriate at the end of each report.

FUNDING

The Derbyshire Archaeological Society will require an offer of grant-aid towards the printing costs of short reports submitted in order to guarantee publication. Costs will be determined from the printer's estimate. A contribution towards these costs of around 60% will be sought from the relevant contracting archaeological organisation. For further information contact Pauline Beswick (Hon. Editor), 4 Chapel Row, Froggatt, Calver, Hope Valley, S32 3ZA or tel. 01433 631256.

DEADLINE

Reports received by the end of July will be considered for inclusion in *DAJ* in the year following. If too late they will be saved for consideration for the succeeding year.

Reports to be submitted in hard copy and on disk to:

Steve Baker at Environmental Services Department, Derbyshire County Council, Shand House, Dale Road South, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3RY.

APPENDIX II: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

24 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief.



Archaeological Research
Services Ltd

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Planning application HPK/2008/0678 has received planning consent to construct one detached dwelling at 24 Macclesfield Road, Buxton.
- 1.2. This Written Scheme of Investigation has been requested by the Development Control Archaeologist for Derbyshire Dales District Council.
- 1.3. The objective of the watching brief is to ensure that any archaeological features encountered during the groundworks in the specified area are recorded and interpreted and, if at all possible protected.

2. Background

- 2.1. The proposed development site is 200m to the south-east of the Scheduled Monument Dr 278 “Mesolithic and Neolithic Settlement at Lismore Fields” (fig.1: 5), and just immediately to the south-east of entries on the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR 2898, 2899) that relate to previously excavated areas at Lismore Fields that produced remarkable evidence for Mesolithic and Neolithic settlement (fig.1: 1). Recent fieldwork to the east of Lismore Fields at Otterhole Farm and at Burbage Hall has demonstrated that evidence for later Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic activity and settlement is quite widespread. Prior to development at Otterhole Farm two later Mesolithic sites were found close together, while at Burbage Hall part of an earlier Neolithic/ later Mesolithic scatter of evidence was identified.
- 2.2. In addition to the prehistoric evidence found in the area remains of a possible Roman building, including part of a stone column, were reported from work near to the vicarage in Lismore Road. In 1892 the remains of a pitched road surface, believed possibly to be Roman, was uncovered by workmen during pipe laying along Macclesfield Road. High Peak Borough Local Plan (2006) includes an “Area of Archaeological Interest” (AAI) for Buxton. This area is thought to define the core area of Roman settlement in the town. The present site lies 400m to the west of the AAI.
- 2.3. The current development involves the construction of one detached dwelling.
- 2.4. Historic mapping indicates that prior to being gardens this land was open fields and has not been subject to intensive development pressure. There is a potential for this area to retain important buried archaeological evidence. Any such evidence would almost certainly be damaged or destroyed by the foundation construction, necessary service and drain excavations and the general construction process.

3. Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1. Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) will provide a suitably qualified archaeologist to observe groundworks. If a mechanical excavator is used for groundworks then the archaeologist on site will ensure that a toothless ditching bucket is used. The on-site archaeologist will be given the opportunity to stop site work in order to investigate potential archaeological features and adequate time will be allowed for recording any such features.
- 3.2. Sample sieving of all layers will be carried out at a suitable mesh size to recover small and fragmentary lithics. For areas of open excavation a sample of 10 litres of topsoil will be sieved for every 3 x 3m area. For linear trenches the sample amount will be 20 litres for every five metre length.
- 3.3. A written, drawn and photographic record will be maintained during the watching brief plus all significant archaeological remains will be recorded and/or retrieved. The onsite drawings will follow the archaeological drawing conventions in MoLAS' Archaeological Site Manual (2002). All excavations will be recorded in accordance with normal principles of archaeological evaluation upon pro forma context sheets.
- 3.4. Where archaeological features and/or deposits are identified during the watching brief, then a sufficient quantity of the said features will be investigated by hand to allow their date, nature and degree of survival to be ascribed. All features thus investigated will be recorded in plan and section and significant archaeological finds recovered will be retained for analysis. Any archaeological features identified will be photographed and drawn in plan at a scale of 1:20 and in section at a scale of 1:10. The stratigraphy, where relevant and apparent, will be recorded within the area of the excavation.
- 3.5. For brick structures, the record will include details of brick dimensions and type (handmade/machine-made, plain/frogged), mortar (colour, composition, hardness) and the extent of structures (number of courses, thickness in skins).
- 3.6. A plan of the excavated areas will be maintained, features noted and section lines recorded. All drawings will be carried out at an appropriate scale and all contexts will be recorded using a single context recording system. The site archive will include plans and sections at an appropriate scale, a scale photographic record in SLR black-and-white and digital, and full stratigraphic records on recording forms/context sheets or their electronic equivalent. Should archaeological features be present then the locations and height AOD of the features will be accurately fixed, surveying in either the planning baselines or the features themselves.
- 3.7. The watching brief will be undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Watching Briefs.(2001).
- 3.8. Any human remains discovered will initially be left in-situ and, if removal is deemed necessary, this will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant Ministry of Justice regulations.
- 3.9. ARS Ltd will ensure that heavy plant or machinery will not be operated in the immediate vicinity of archaeological remains until the remains have been recorded. Contractors and plant operators will be notified that any observations of archaeological remains must be reported immediately to the archaeological officer on site.
- 3.10. A risk assessment will be undertaken before commencement of the work and health and safety

regulations will be adhered to at all times.

4. Artefact and Ecofact Collection and Recording

- 4.1. Artefact collection policy will be concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work. Discarded artefactual materials will be described and quantified through assignment to broad categories in the field. Analysis of finds will be undertaken, as necessary, by suitably qualified specialists. Retained finds will be cleaned, marked, catalogued and packed in materials, as appropriate, for long term storage (see 7. Archive Deposition below).
- 4.2. Unstratified finds will only be collected where they contribute significantly to the project objectives or are of particular intrinsic interest. Finds of "treasure" will be reported to the Coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act (1996).
- 4.3. Collection policies for structural remains and industrial residues have been set out by the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA, 1993). The presence of such materials within a context will be recorded even where comprehensive retention is not considered appropriate.
- 4.4. It is not considered likely that waterlogged, palaeoenvironmental or human remains will be encountered at any stage of this project. However, should such remains be identified work will cease and a meeting arranged between ARS Ltd, the landowner and the Development Control Archaeologist to discuss further procedures.

5. Monitoring Arrangements

- 5.1. Reasonable prior notice of the commencement of the project is to be given to the Derbyshire County Council Development Control Archaeologist:

Steve Baker,
Development Control Archaeologist,
Derbyshire County Council,
Shand House,
Dale Road South,
Matlock,
Derbyshire DE4 3RY

steve.baker.@derbyshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01629 580000

- 5.2. ARS Ltd will liaise with the Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist at regular intervals throughout the course of the work.

6. Report

- 6.1. Following completion of the watching brief ARS Ltd will produce a report which will include:
 - Non-technical summary

- Introductory statement
 - Aims and purpose of the project
 - Methodology
 - A location plan showing all excavated areas with respect to nearby fixed structures and roads
 - Illustrations of all archaeological features with appropriately scaled hachured plans and sections (illustrating height AOD)
 - An objective summary statement of results
 - Conclusions
 - Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices
 - Index to archive and details of archive location
 - References
 - Statement of intent regarding publication
 - Confirmation of archive transfer arrangements
 - A copy of the DCC brief
 - A copy of the OASIS form
 - The proposed date of deposition of the archive
- 6.2. Copies of the final report will be deposited with the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record, and will be submitted to the Development Control Archaeologist within six weeks of the completion of fieldwork.

7. Archive Deposition

- 7.1. A digital, paper and artefactual archive will be prepared and deposited according to *Procedures for the transfer of archaeological archives* (Museums in Derbyshire 2003), and will consist of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data in a format to be agreed by the repository museum, which in this case will be:

Buxton Museum and Art Gallery
 Terrace Road
 Buxton
 Derbyshire
 SK17 6DA
 Tel: 01298 24658
 Fax: 01298 79394
buxton.museum@derbyshire.gov.uk

- 7.2. An accession number has been received from Buxton Museum and Art Gallery and this is DERSB 2011.35.
- 7.3. All artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive (see above).
- 7.4. A full set of annotated, illustrative pictures of the site, excavation, features, layers and selected artefacts will be supplied to the HER and deposited with the archive as digital images on a CD ROM along that will be attached with the report.
- 7.5. Both the Development Control Archaeologist and the museum curator will be notified on

completion of fieldwork, with a timetable for reporting and archive deposition.

- 7.6. Written confirmation of the archive transfer arrangements, including a date (confirmed or projected) for the transfer, will be included as part of the final report.
- 7.7. An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> has been initiated for the building recording phase of this project, and the watching brief data will be added to this record. Key fields will be completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included within the archive).
- 7.8. The Development Control Archaeologist will be notified of the final deposition of the archive.

8. Changes to Methodology or Work Programme

- 8.1. Changes to the approved methodology or programme of works will only be made with the prior written approval of the Development Control Archaeologist.

9. Publication

- 9.1. A summary of the project, with selected drawings, illustrations and photographs, will be submitted within 2 years of the completion of the project to Derbyshire Archaeological Journal for publication. The results of the work will be published at least in summary form in Derbyshire Archaeological Journal.

10. References

Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). 2008. *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Briefs*. Reading, Institute for Archaeologists.

Museum of London Archaeological Services (MoLAS). 2002. *Site Manual*. London, Museum of London.

Mora-Ottomano, A. 2010. *An Archaeological Building Recording at Bay Tree Farmhouse, Rodsley, Derbyshire*. Unpublished Archaeological Report prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd.

APPENDIX III: OASIS FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: archaeol5-114735

Project details

Project name	24 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire
Short description of the project	In November 2011 Archaeological Research Services Ltd were commissioned by Cathy Ridington to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 24 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire. The monitoring was carried out during ground works for the construction of a new dwelling to the rear of the house. The work consisted of the clearing of flowerbeds and scrub from the garden before topsoil stripping of the area. The excavation area was then reduced to the correct level for the excavation of the trenches to begin. An archaeologist was present for all of the above works, but it was deemed unnecessary for one to be present during the excavation of the trenches as the level of the natural substratum had already been reached. No features of archaeological significance or buried land surfaces were revealed. Systematic sieving of topsoil from the site recovered two prehistoric lithics from the topsoil. Only one of the two flints was diagnostic as a broken or snapped edge-trimmed bladelet segment. This piece belongs to a narrow blade manufacturing tradition and is likely to date to the Late Mesolithic period c.8000-4000 cal BC. These artefacts demonstrate that there may have been some form of human exploitation, either contemporary with or earlier than the Lismore Fields settlement, on this side of the valley. However, these finds alone cannot reveal a great deal about the character of prehistoric land-use at the site.
Project dates	Start: 22-11-2011 End: 25-11-2011
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ARS 2011/78 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	HPK/2008/0678 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	BLADE Late Mesolithic
Significant Finds	FLAKE Uncertain
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country England
 Site location DERBYSHIRE HIGH PEAK BUXTON 24 Macclesfield Road
 Study area 1100.00 Square metres
 Site coordinates SK 05160 73005 53.2537512790 -1.922650060440 53 15 13 N 001 55 21 W
 Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeological Research Services Ltd
 Project brief originator Derbyshire County Council
 Project design originator Archaeological Research Services Ltd
 Project director/manager Jim Brightman
 Project supervisor Kate Mapplethorpe
 Type of sponsor/funding body Landowner
 Name of sponsor/funding body Mrs Cathy Ridington

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Buxton Museum and Art Gallery
 Physical Archive ID DERSB 2011.35
 Physical Contents 'Worked stone/lithics'
 Digital Archive recipient Buxton Museum and Art Gallery
 Digital Archive ID DERSB 2011.35
 Digital Contents 'none'
 Digital Media available 'Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'
 Paper Archive recipient Buxton Museum and Art Gallery
 Paper Archive ID DERSB 2011.35
 Paper Contents 'none'
 Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Drawing','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Report','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title	An Archaeological Watching Brief at 24 Macclesfield Road, Derbyshire
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Mapplethorpe, K
Other bibliographic details	ARS 2011/78
Date	2011
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Bakewell
Entered by	Kate Mapplethorpe (kate@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)
Entered on	9 December 2011

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