

**Denby Plot, 10 Station Road, Denby,
Derbyshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief



Footings at 10 Station Road, Denby, looking west

ARS Ltd Report 2014/41
April 2014
OASIS ID: archaeol5 – 172536

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Archaeological Research Services Ltd

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Executive Summary

In March 2014 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Steve Smith to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 10 Station Road, Denby, Derbyshire. The scheme of works involved foundation excavation for the construction of a house at the site.

The archaeological watching brief monitored the excavation of footings for one dwelling. Below a layer of made ground, the natural substratum was encountered at approximately 0.2 to 0.3m below ground level. No archaeological finds, features or buried land surfaces were found.

1 Introduction

1.1 Location and Scope of Work

1.1.1 In February 2014 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) was commissioned by Steve Smith to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 10 Station Road, Denby, Derbyshire. The scheme of works related to the construction of a house at 10 Station Road, Denby, Derbyshire (Figure 1). Ground works during the course of these works entailed foundation excavation and services preparation in relation to the house construction. The site is centred at SK 38637 47266.

1.2 Geology

1.2.1 The solid geology of the site consists of Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone of the Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation. No superficial geology has been recorded at the site (British Geological Survey 2014).

1.3 Background

1.3.1 The site lies just to the north (c.850m) of, and on an approximate alignment with, the Tykneld Street section of a Roman Road, which is a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1007036).

2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 Consent was granted for the works on condition that a Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix 1), and subsequent archaeological monitoring of the groundwork, was approved in writing by the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist.

2.2 The objective of the watching brief was to ensure that any archaeological features encountered during the ground works in the specified area were recorded and interpreted.

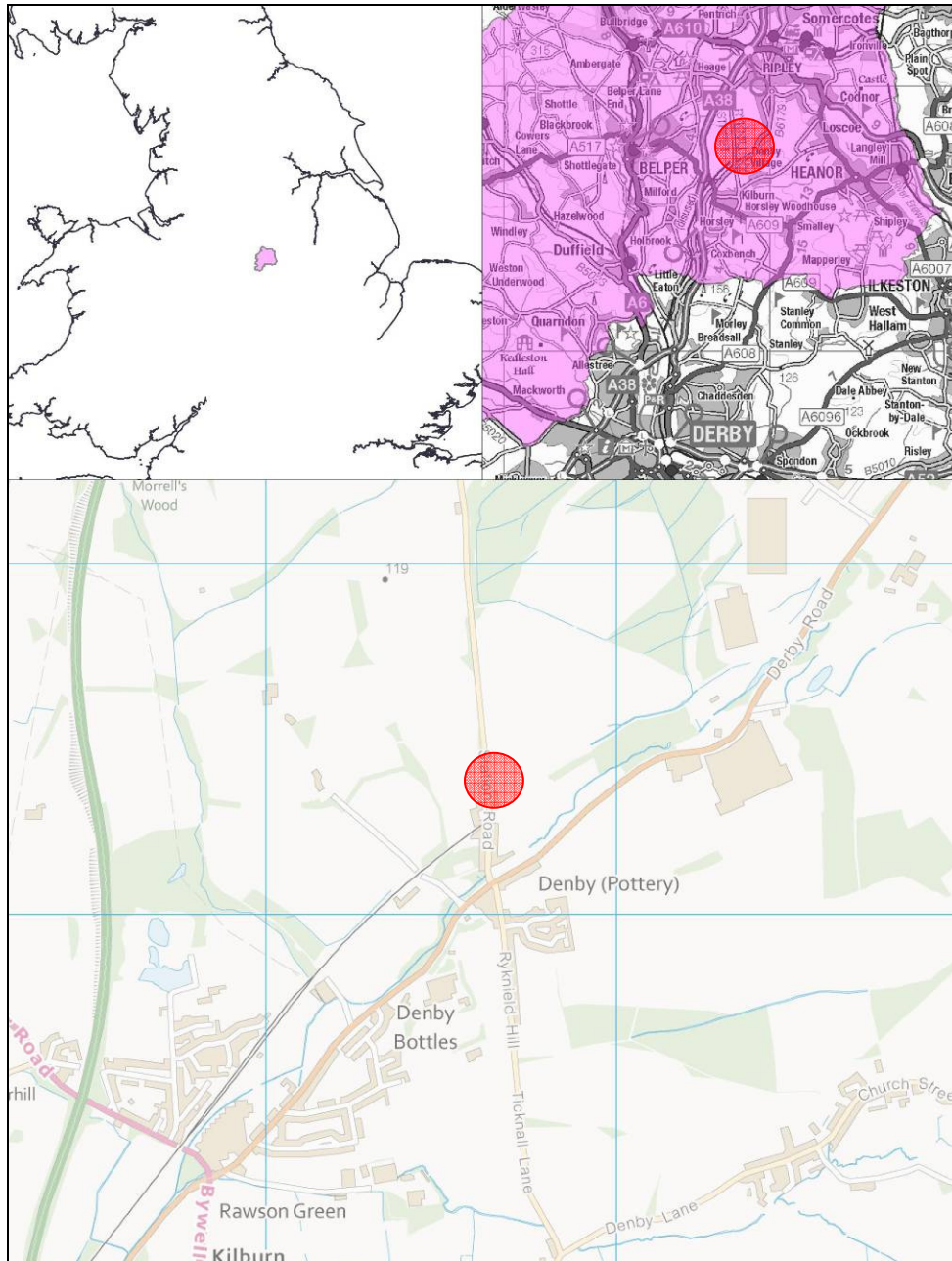


Figure 1. Location of site (highlighted in red). Ordnance Survey data Copyright OS, reproduced by permission, Licence No. 100045420).

3 Methodology

3.1 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2008) and *Code of Conduct* (2012). The records followed standard conventions set by the Museum of London Archaeological Services (MoLAS) (2002).

3.2 All relevant ground works were undertaken by a suitable mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Archaeological monitoring did not entail excavation beyond the total areas exposed by the development works.

3.3 ARS Ltd provided a suitably qualified archaeologist at all times during all ground works on the site to undertake the watching brief.

3.4 A written, drawn and photographic record was maintained during the watching brief. All excavations were recorded in accordance with normal principles of archaeological evaluation upon pro forma context sheets.

3.5 A plan of the excavated areas was maintained. All drawings were carried out at an appropriate scale and all contexts were recorded using a single context recording system. The site archive includes plans at an appropriate scale, a scale photographic record, and full stratigraphic records on recording forms/context sheets or their electronic equivalent.

3.7 A risk assessment was undertaken before commencement of the work and health and safety regulations was adhered to at all times.

3.8 The representative from ARS Ltd inspected and monitored upcast spoil from the site investigations.

4 Results

4.1 Footings for the construction of one dwelling measuring 11m long, and 5.75m wide (Figures 2 and 3) were dug with a toothless ditching bucket. The footings were approximately 1m deep.

4.2 The entire plot was covered in a layer of made ground (001) and (002). To the southern part of the footings, this consisted of a coarse reddish-brown layer of what appeared to be crushed and fragmented roof tiles and bricks with a thin compact darker layer of tarmac at the top (001) (Figure 4). This layer most likely relates to the construction of the adjacent dwelling. It extended for approximately 1.5 m from the wall of the adjacent dwelling at 10 Station Road into the building plot, to a varying depth of 0.15m to 0.30m. (002) was found across the remainder of the plot, and consisted of a compact, medium mid grey-brown sandy deposit with a high percentage of small to medium sized inclusions (Figure 7). No finds were encountered in either (001) or (002) and there was no clear division between the two contexts.

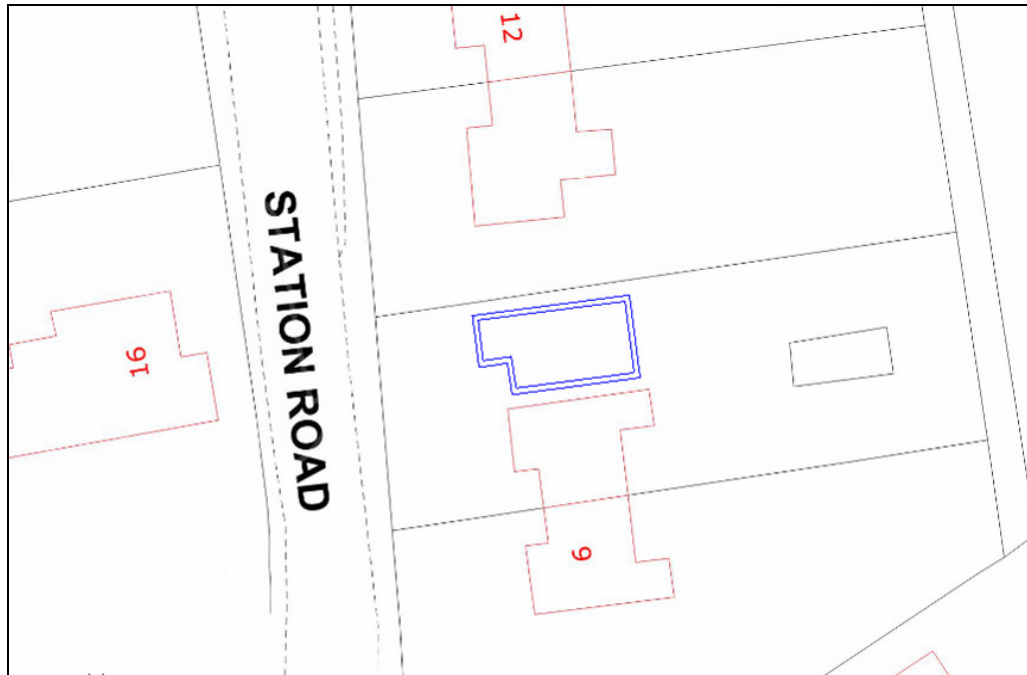


Figure 2. Location of footings (blue) in plot adjacent to 10 Station Road, Denby Copyright OS, reproduced by permission, Licence No. 100045420).

4.3 The natural substrate (003) was encountered immediately below the made ground (001) and (002). The depth at which (003) was encountered varied slightly across the plot, but averaged 0.3m to the south, rising to 0.2m to the north. The natural substrate (003) was a mid yellowish-brown clay which was slightly mottled in places, and was slightly darker towards the northern and western parts of the site (Figures 3, 5 and 7). No inclusions were observed.



Figure 3. Denby building plot with footings, looking east. Scale = 2 x 1m



Figure 4. Footing at the south of plot, looking west. Scale = 1m



Figure 5. Representative section through footing at south of plot, looking south. Scale = 1m



Figure 6. Footing at north of plot, looking west. Scale = 2 x 1m



Figure 7. Representative section through footing at north of plot, looking south. Scale = 1m

5 Conclusion

5.1 Although the site lay just to the north of the Tykneld Street section of a Roman Road (NHLE 1007036), no archaeologically significant finds, features or buried land surfaces were found during the watching brief.

6 Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright

6.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

6.2 Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

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 Archive Deposition

8.1 A digital and paper copy of the report will be submitted to the HER.

8.2 The OASIS record for the site will be completed and a copy of the report uploaded to OASIS.

9 Acknowledgements

9.1 Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank all those involved with the archaeological project, especially Steve Smith for commissioning the work, and Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist of Derbyshire County Council.

11 References

British Geological Survey 2014. *Geology of Britain Viewer* [online]. Available at: <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html?src=topNav> [Accessed 25th February 2014].

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

Institute for Archaeologists. 2012. *Code of Conduct*. Reading, Institute for Archaeologists.

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

APPENDIX I: SPECIFICATION

**Denby Building Plot, 10 Station Road, Derby,
Derbyshire**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological
Watching Brief**



1 Introduction

1.1 This scheme of works relates to the construction of a house at 10 Station Road, Denby, Derbyshire (Figure 1). Ground works during the course of these works will entail foundation installations and services preparation in relation to the house construction. The site is centred at SK 38637 47266.

1.2 Planning permission has been granted for the works on condition that a Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological monitoring of the groundworks is submitted to and approved in writing by the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist.

1.3 This Written Scheme of Investigation details the programme of work to be undertaken during an archaeological watching brief at the site.

1.4 The objective of the watching brief is to ensure that any heritage assets encountered during the works in the specified area are recorded and understood.

2 Background

2.1 The site lies just to the north (c.850m) of, and on an approximate alignment with, the Tykneld Street section of a Roman Road which is a Scheduled monument (NHLE 1007036).

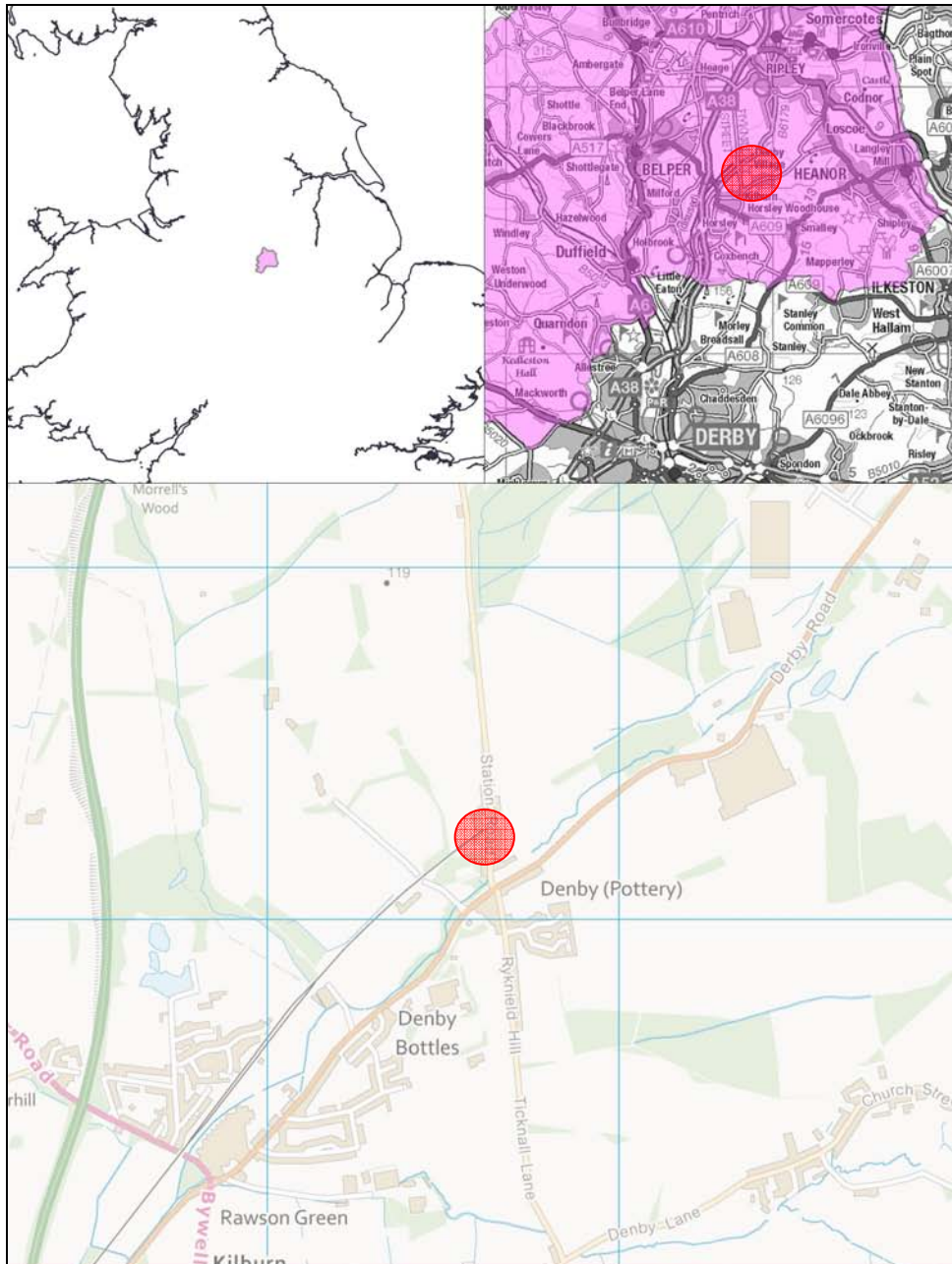


Figure 1. Location of site (highlighted in red)
 (Ordnance Survey Data © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence No. 100045420)

3 Objectives

3.1 The objective of the watching brief is to ensure that any archaeological features encountered during the ground works in the specified area are recorded and interpreted.

4 Fieldwork methodology

4.1 Watching brief

4.1.1 All relevant ground works will be undertaken by a suitable mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket or by hand once any overlying concrete and stone

has been removed. Archaeological monitoring will not entail excavation beyond the total areas exposed by the development works. Arrangement will be made to avoid any tracking of machinery across recently stripped areas until the areas have been checked and cleared by a representative of Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd). If significant archaeological features are identified, the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist, will be notified and a decision taken as to the best method of proceeding.

4.1.2 ARS Ltd will provide a suitably qualified archaeologist at all times during any ground works on the site to undertake a watching brief. 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.

4.1.3 A written, drawn and photographic record will be maintained during the watching brief plus all significant archaeological remains will be recorded and/or retrieved. All excavations will be recorded in accordance with normal principles of archaeological evaluation upon pro forma context sheets. All significant architectural features will be photographed (with scale) *in situ* and their location recorded on a plan of the site.

4.1.4 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.

4.1.5 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).

4.1.6 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, 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.

4.1.7 The watching brief will be undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2008) and *Code of Conduct* (2012). The records will follow standard conventions set by the Museum of London Archaeological Services (MoLAS) (2002).

4.1.8 In the unlikely event that human remains are discovered, they 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.

4.1.9 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 archaeologist on site.

4.1.10 A risk assessment will be undertaken before commencement of the work and health and safety regulations will be adhered to at all times.

4.1.11 Should archaeological remains be encountered for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard, then work on site shall cease and the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist shall be notified immediately. Site works will not recommence until resources are in place to secure preservation *in situ* or adequate archaeological treatment of the relevant remains.

5 Artefact and ecofact collection and recording

5.1 Artefact collection policy will be concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work. All finds of medieval and earlier date will be collected as a matter of course. 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 Archive Deposition below).

5.2 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).

5.3 Collection and 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.

5.4 The representative from ARS Ltd will inspect and monitor the upcast spoil from the site investigations.

5.5 If significant waterlogged deposits are found, which are judged to be of palaeoenvironmental significance in relation to archaeological deposits, contingency will be set aside to allow for retrieval and assessment of such samples.

6 Monitoring arrangements

6.1 Ideally, at least one week prior notice of the commencement of the ground works will be given to the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist.

Steve Baker
Derbyshire County Council
Shand House
Dale Road South
Matlock
Derbyshire
DE4 3RY
Tel: 01629 539773

6.2 ARS Ltd will liaise with the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist at regular intervals throughout the course of the work.

7 Report

7.1 Within two months of the 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 and any archaeological features with respect to nearby fixed structures and roads
- Illustrations of all archaeological features with appropriately scaled hachured plans and sections.
- An objective summary statement of results
- Conclusions
- Recommendations for the retention or discard of archive material
- 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 approved scheme of works (WSI)
- A copy of the OASIS form.

7.2 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER).

7.3 If the watching brief is blank, then the report to the HER will be the only record required, and needs to include a good selection of photos.

8 Archive deposition

8.1 Should significant finds or stratigraphy be generated, then an accession number will be requested from the Derby Museum, and a digital, paper and artefactual archive will be prepared by ARS Ltd, consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data (in a format to be agreed by Derby Museum). The archive will be deposited in line with *Procedures for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives: Museums in Derbyshire* (2003), and will be deposited within two months of the completion of the report.

8.2 The Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist and Museum Curator will be notified in writing on completion of the fieldwork with projected dates for the completion of the report and deposition of the archive. The date for deposition of the archive will be confirmed in the report and the Derby and Derbyshire

Development Control Archaeologist informed in writing on final deposition of the archive.

8.2 All artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive (see above).

8.3 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.

8.4 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields 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).

9 Changes to Methodology or Work Programme

9.1 Changes to the approved methodology or programme of works will only be made with prior written approval of the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist.

10 Publication

10.1 If significant archaeological remains are recorded, a summary of the project with, if appropriate, selected drawings, illustrations and photographs, will be submitted within 2 years of the completion of the project to Derbyshire Archaeological Journal for publication.

11 References

Derby Museum & Art Gallery. 2003. *Procedures for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives: Museums in Derbyshire*. Derby Museum & Art Gallery.

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

Institute for Archaeologists. 2012. *Code of Conduct*. Reading, Institute for Archaeologists.

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

Society of Museum Archaeologists. 1993. *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*. London: Society of Museum Archaeologists.

APPENDIX II: OASIS FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: archaeol5-172536

Project details

Project name 10 Station Road, Denby, Derbyshire

Short description of the project In March 2014 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Steve Smith to undertake an archaeological watching brief at 10 Station Road, Denby, Derbyshire. The scheme of works involved foundation excavation for the construction of a house at the site. The archaeological watching brief monitored the excavation of footings for one dwelling. Below a layer of made ground, the natural substratum was encountered at approximately 0.2 to 0.3m below ground level. No archaeological finds, features or buried land surfaces were found.

Project dates Start: 31-03-2014 End: 31-03-2014

Previous/future work No / No

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Investigation type ""Watching Brief""

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country England

Site location DERBYSHIRE AMBER VALLEY DENBY 10 Station Road, Denby

Study area 0 Square metres

Site coordinates SK 38637 47266 53.0209874458 -1.42393925436 53 01 15 N 001 25 26 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Project brief originator Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Project design originator Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Project director/manager Robin Holgate

Project supervisor Victoria Park

Project archives

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Physical Archive Exists? | No |
| Digital Archive recipient | Derbyshire HER |
| Digital Media available | "Images raster / digital photography","Text" |
| Paper Archive recipient | Derbyshire HER |
| Paper Media available | "Report" |
| Entered by | Victoria Park (victoria@archaeologicalresearchservices.com) |
| Entered on | 3 April 2014 |

OASIS:

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