Whitehouse Farm
Belper
Derbyshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Planning Ref: AVA/2016/1020
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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Wheeldon Brothers Ltd to conduct an archaeological trench evaluation of a 3.58 ha parcel of land located at Whitehouse Farm, Belper Lane, Belper, Derbyshire, NGR 433904 348825. This was part of archaeological work in response to a planning condition for a housing development. A 2 % sample of the area was provided through excavation of 15 trenches. An additional 10 x 10 m area around a possible Romano-British pit feature was excavated to check for further related features.

The site is characterised mainly by post-medieval agriculture and allotment gardening. One pit (506) was dated by the presence of a single sherd of pottery to the Romano-British period. The 10 x 10 m strip area around this feature uncovered no further archaeological material. The remaining gullies, pits, postholes and a demolished dry stone wall may all be recent in date although artefacts were infrequently recovered and only two further features can be dated by the presence of pottery and clay tobacco pipe. Linear features were generally in alignment with the extant field system, suggesting that they post-date inclosure. Historic maps show that the north of the site was used as allotment gardens in the 20th century, which may be the origin of some of the features. Other features are probably agricultural in origin, perhaps including drains, furrows and plough scars or trends. Gullies in trenches 2 and 15 were on different alignments and could potentially be earlier in date, although trench 2 lies within the area of former allotments and gully 209 may therefore be the product of small-scale allotment gardening.

The results are consistent with the general picture revealed by previous walkover and geophysical survey, although the detailed results of the geophysical survey did not correlate directly with the detailed results of the trial trenching.

Ridge and furrow identified by non-intrusive survey generally did not translate into observable below-ground features. The evidence for furrows does suggest that the site may have been in agricultural use in the medieval period (although a medieval origin for the furrows is speculative). It is most likely that any exploitation of the site during any period comprised low-intensity activity such as agriculture undertaken at some distance from settlement.

Despite evidence for Romano-British quern production in the immediate area, there was no evidence for quern manufacture or consumption on the site. Two sherds of Romano-British pottery might represent transient activity in the hinterland of the quern production site.

Though there was evidence of ploughing in the fields evaluated, the ploughsoil was relatively shallow suggesting that recent ploughing has had little impact on preservation of earlier features.

The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield under the project code 239450. Following correspondence with Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist at Derbyshire County Council, the archive will not be deposited with Derby Museum. An OASIS form, wessexar1-408792 will be finalised following acceptance of this report by the Development Control Archaeologist and a copy of this report will be forwarded on to the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Wheeldon Brothers Ltd, for commissioning the archaeological evaluation, in particular Sean Ingles. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist, who monitored the project for Derbyshire County Council, and J C Balls and Sons for their excellent machine work and help on site. A special thanks goes to Chris and Veronica at Whitehouse Farm who kindly let us use an outbuilding and toilet for the duration of the site.

The samples were processed by Fiona Eaglesham. The flots were sorted by Fiona Eaglesham and assessed by Inés López-Dóriga. This report was written by Inés López-Dóriga and Fiona Eaglesham.

Artefactual assessment and reporting was completed by Lorraine Mepham. Graphics are by Joanna Debska. This report was written by Paula Whittaker with contributions from Ben Saunders and edited by Ashley Tuck.

Whitehouse Farm, Belper, Derbyshire

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology has been commissioned by Wheeldon Brothers Ltd ('the client') to conduct an archaeological trench evaluation of a 3.58 ha parcel of land located in Whitehouse Farm, Belper Lane, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 2UJ, within the wider development area of 8 ha. The evaluation area is centred on NGR 433904 348825 (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 This work was undertaken in response to a condition attached to a planning application (AVA/2016/1020) submitted to Amber Valley Borough Council that was granted following appeal to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government on 29 July 2020. The development comprises a residential development of 118 dwellings including sustainable drainage and infrastructure, demolition of 153 Belper Lane and outbuildings, extension and enhancement of existing public open space including new recreational facilities, landscape and ecological enhancements. An existing recreational ground at Oakhurst is to be retained.

1.1.3 All works were undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed in order to undertake the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2020). The Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist at Derbyshire County Council approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.4 The evaluation comprising 15 trial trenches (2% sample) was undertaken between 9–13 November 2020. An additional 10 x 10 m strip area was excavated around a feature identified in trench 5 between 25–27 January 2021. The programme of trail trenching was devised to test the positive results of the geophysical survey and validate the blank results.

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.

1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the proposed development and facilitate an informed decision with regard to the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The site is located to the west of Belper Lane in the north-western outskirts of Belper located within the buffer zone of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS). The evaluation area consists of an irregular parcel of land measuring 3.54 ha located at the north-west edge of the Mount Pleasant area, approximately 1.6 km north-west of Belper

and approximately 11 km north of Derby. The evaluation area lies within a wider 8 ha development site.

1.3.2 The site comprises parts of four fields covered with short grass, several small areas of hard standing with temporary stable and shed structures, building number 153 Belper Lane which is composed of a linear amalgamation of structures, several outbuildings along the northern side of the access track and a recreational ground at Oakhurst Close.

1.3.3 The site is bounded to the north and west by agricultural land, to the south by a public park and residential development and to the east by the back gardens of a row of houses fronting onto Belper Lane.

1.3.4 The site is situated on sloping ground falling from approximately 150 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at its north-western edge to approximately 139 m at its south-eastern edge, presently used as pastureland.

1.3.5 The underlying bedrock geology is mapped as Chatsworth Grit sandstone. No superficial deposits are recorded (British Geological Survey online viewer).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following section has been summarised from the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2020).

2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development

2.2.1 This evaluation is part of staged approach in determining the archaeological potential of the site, and follows other non-intrusive archaeological work, including a Historic Environment Assessment with Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment regarding the nearby World Heritage Site of Derwent Valley (Wessex Archaeology 2016a), a walkover survey (Wessex Archaeology 2016b) and a gradiometer geophysical survey of the site (Wessex Archaeology 2016c).

Walkover survey

2.2.2 A walkover survey (Wessex Archaeology 2016b) of the site identified several features, including ridge and furrow, which indicate the site's agricultural past. The survey also noted the presence of low earthworks representing former field boundaries indicating that the site was previously sub-divided. The presence of an area of quarrying/extraction was also identified.

2.2.3 An examination of the fabric of the standing walls did not identify any quernstones reused in their construction. A limited amount of re-used dressed stone of unknown date was identified.

Geophysical survey

2.2.4 The detailed gradiometer geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2016c) demonstrated the presence of a number of anomalies of archaeological interest (**Figure 2**). The anomalies identified as being of archaeological interest were primarily ditch-like features, most likely former subdivisions or other boundaries. They were all situated on a similar west-south-west to east-north-east alignment, which also corresponds with other features identified during the walkover survey of the area and interpreted as former field boundaries. Whilst it is possible that these features may be earlier in date, the similarity in alignment may suggest

a degree of contemporaneity and it was suggested that they form part of a post-medieval agricultural landscape.

2.2.5 In addition to the former land divisions, geophysical survey provided additional evidence for quarrying along the western edge of the site, as well as extensive ridge and furrow ploughing across the entirety of the area. As the ridge and furrow was on the same orientation as many of the existing and extant field boundaries, it is likely that they are associated with the same agricultural landscape.

2.2.6 Additionally, the survey detected evidence for historic cultivation and a path or track which intersected the south-eastern part of the site. This path leads to an extant horse arena.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

2.3.1 There are no designated historical assets within the site, however it does fall within the buffer zone of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS). This contains 18th- and 19th-century cotton mills which are considered to be of historical and technological significance as they provided the blueprint for factory production methods.

2.3.2 The earliest evidence of human activity within the surrounding area is the findspot of a Neolithic polished stone axe (MDR4663) found in a garden approximately 250 m to the south.

2.3.3 Investigations carried out approximately 600 m south-west of the site (MDR13089) identified around 30 Romano-British or earlier quernstones amongst the rubble of fallen sections of drystone walls. Outcrops of Ashover Grit are located immediately to the east of Starbuck House, which may have been the production site for the querns. The availability of fallen stone from the outcrops may have made quarrying unnecessary. The querns may have been transported along Longwalls Lane (MDR11703) which is thought to have been a Romano-British or earlier routeway. An excavation at Starbuck House in 2009 uncovered at least three phases of activity including a smoothed paved area, possibly for loading stone or the interior floor of an industrial building, cobbled and beaten earth floors, possible wall remnants and a circular feature which may represent the base of a domestic oven.

2.3.4 Two beehive type quern top stones (MDR13211) dating to the Iron Age were also identified at Gorses Farm approximately 880 m to the north-north-west. One of the pieces was almost entirely complete whilst the second had been cut in half, probably for use within a wall. A further two quernstones were found in the boundary wall of Holly House, approximately 900 m to the south-west.

2.3.5 There is little evidence in the surrounding area for activity during the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods. The extent (boundary) of a medieval deer park was located approximately 900 m west of the site, close to evidence of medieval agriculture identified from LiDAR data. It is likely the Site and the surrounding area were part of an agricultural landscape throughout these periods.

2.3.6 There are listed buildings within a 1 km radius of the site, many of which are located to the south-east and are associated with the 19th-century mill complex in the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site. Other nearby listed buildings include Belper cemetery, dwellings in Belper and farmhouses.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2020) and in compliance with the CIfA *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a), were:

- to provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and,
- to inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were:

- to determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- to establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- to place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and,
- to make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework (East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework) the site-specific objectives of the evaluation were defined in the WSI as:

- to test the results of the geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2016c);
- to examine evidence for quernstone manufacture, including quarrying and production, which is known to have occurred within the local area during the Romano-British period;
- to examine evidence for remains of medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow (known from geophysical survey and walkover) and assess if this has impacted on any earlier remains;
- to assess the potential for the recovery of artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2020) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in CIfA guidance (CIfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 Trenches 1–10 were 50 m long and targeted anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. Trenches 11–15 were 25 m long and targeted areas where any potential archaeology may be disturbed by tree planting. The additional strip area around the feature in trench 5 measuring 10 x 10 m.

4.2.2 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the positions proposed in the WSI, although trenches 7 and 8 had to be extended to the south-east as an electric cable was encountered in the centre of the trenches. Trench 14 was moved slightly to avoid a large quarry pit in the north-east corner of site (**Figure 2**).

4.2.3 All trial trench locations were scanned before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) to verify the absence of any live underground services. Where an electric cable was identified the line was marked out with flags so the area could be bypassed where it fell within the trench.

4.2.4 The trenches were excavated in level spits using a JCB excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.5 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.

4.2.6 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained.

4.2.7 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

Recording

4.2.8 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.

4.2.9 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.

4.2.10 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes to ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2020). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (Campbell et al. 2011).

4.4 Monitoring

4.4.1 The Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA, visiting the site on 12 November 2020.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological features and deposits discussed in trench order. Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (**Appendix 1**). **Figure 2** shows all archaeological features recorded within the trenches, together with the geophysical survey results. **Figures 3–5** are more detailed plans.

5.1.2 Twelve of the 15 excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, indicating archaeological remains are present across the site, with a lower concentration in the central and western area of site (**Figure 2**). Uncovered features comprised gullies, pits, postholes and a demolished wall and were generally of recent date or were undated. A single pit dating to the Romano-British period was recorded in trench 5.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

5.2.1 The stratigraphy was fairly consistent across the site The natural was generally mid- to dark orange sandy silt with frequent sub-angular gritstone inclusions (eg, 103), but was also recorded as orange yellow sandy or clayey silt with fewer stone inclusions in trenches 7 and 8 (eg, 803) and as mid-yellowish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular gritstone inclusions in part of trench 5 (504). The natural contained pale pinkish grey clayey silt patches; these variations may be responsible for some of the results of the geophysical survey (**Figure 2**).

5.2.2 Relict ploughsoil subsoil was present in each trench except trench 3 and comprised mid-orange brown sandy silt with frequent small sub-angular gritstone fragments derived from the natural (eg, 102). Topsoil sealed each trench, typically comprising brown sandy loam or clay silt (eg, 101), except in the west (trenches 13–15) where it was mid-grey brown sand silt (eg, 1301). The total depth of soil overburden ranged from 0.32 m to 0.55 m (mean 0.43 m).

5.3 Trench 1

5.3.1 Trench 1 contained four gullies (104, 108, 110 and 112) and a pit (106).

5.3.2 The gullies (104, 108, 110 and 112) were all on the same north-east to south-west alignment (**Figure 3**) following the general alignment of extant and former field boundaries and geophysically-identified ploughing trends. Gullies 110 and 112 were adjacent to each other in the north end of the trench (**Plate 1**). Gullies 104 (**Figure 6 Section 1**) and 112 were 0.15 m deep, whereas gully 110 was only 0.06 m deep. In contrast, gully 108 was wider

(1.14 m) and deeper (0.3 m). Each gully contained a similar fill of mid-to dark grey brown clayey silt, with rare small stone inclusions. Gully 108 contained a sherd of 19th-/20th-century pottery indicating a recent date.

5.3.3 Small pit 106 was 0.7 m in diameter and 0.15 m deep and contained a similar fill to the gullies with a small fragment of animal bone.

5.4 Trench 2

5.4.1 Trench 2 contained a rectangular posthole (206), another posthole or small pit (204), and a poorly defined gully (209). None of these features correspond with a linear anomaly identified as a former field boundary on the geophysical plot (**Figure 3**), but gully 209 was oriented perpendicular to it.

5.4.2 Posthole 206 was rectangular in plan and measured 0.31 x 0.24 x 0.06 m, with a mid-brown sandy silt upper fill and a primary fill of dark grey brown sandy silt with charcoal inclusions. A similar upper fill was seen in posthole/small pit 204 further along the trench.

5.4.3 Gully 209, oriented north-east to south-west, was poorly defined. It was filled with a mid-orangey brown sandy silt with frequent small sub-angular stone inclusions which was very similar to the natural substrate. It had a bowl-shaped cut with a width of 1 m and depth of 0.26 m.

5.4.4 A spread of pinkish grey sandy slightly clayey silt (211) was seen in the middle of trench 2 but was confirmed to be geological in nature.

5.5 Trench 3

5.5.1 Trench 3 uncovered just one posthole (303; **Plate 2**), which was rectangular and similar to posthole 206 in trench 2.

5.6 Trench 4

5.6.1 Trench 4 (**Figure 3**) contained a demolished dry stone wall (411), a group of two postholes (404 and 409) and a gully (406).

5.6.2 The demolished dry-stone wall 411 was orientated north-north-west to south-south-east and was made up of angular gritstone blocks and fragments. It was a continuation of an extant dry stone wall to the north, matched a geophysical feature, and could be seen as an earthwork on the surface of the field (**Plate 3**). The gully (406) was parallel to wall 411, 15 m to the west-north-west of the wall. Gully 406 had a bowl-shaped cut 0.82 m wide and 0.31 m deep (**Plate 5**). It was filled with a mid-brown sandy, slightly clayey silt with orange mottling and frequent stone inclusions.

5.6.3 Postholes 404 and 409 (**Figure 6 Section 2**; **Plate 4**) were 2 m apart, and similarly sized at 0.42 m in diameter with a ‘U’-shaped profile to a depth of 0.16 m. They were filled with a mid-brown clayey silt with light brown flecks. The postholes may represent an alignment perpendicular to wall 411.

5.7 Trench 5

5.7.1 Trench 5 (**Figure 4**) contained one small pit (506; **Figure 6 Section 3**; **Plate 6**). It was 0.62 m in diameter, 0.52 m deep and filled with a brown sandy silt with occasional small stone inclusions and rare charcoal fragments. Pit 506 contained a single sherd of Romano-British

pottery and was the only early dated feature identified by the evaluation. A 10 x 10 m strip area around this feature contained no further archaeological material (**Plate 7**).

5.7.2 As mentioned above, part of the west of trench 5 contained an area of geological variation.

5.8 Trench 6

5.8.1 One possible pit feature (605; **Figure 6 Section 4**) was found in trench 6 (**Figure 4**), different in character to other features due to its pale brown grey sandy silt fill (**Plate 8**). It contained charcoal fragments.

5.9 Trenches 7 and 8

5.9.1 Trenches 7 and 8 (**Figure 4**) were bisected by modern services: an electric cable and water pipe feeding the horse arena.

5.9.2 A gully (704 = 804; **Figure 6 Section 5**; **Plate 9**) extended north-east to south-west across both trenches 7 and 8 and was 0.65 m wide with a depth of 0.2 m, filled with a mid-brown silty sand. A geophysical anomaly that may have been archaeological in origin did not correlate with anything in the excavated trenches.

5.10 Trench 9

5.10.1 Trench 9 (**Figure 4**) contained two shallow pits located partially within the trench. Pit 904 (**Plate 10**) was 1.37 x 0.65 x 0.27 m filled with a dark brown slightly clayey silt with charcoal fragments and a clay pipe stem, dating it to the post-medieval period.

5.11 Trench 10

5.11.1 Trench 10 contained two gullies (1004 and 1006) on different alignments (**Figure 4**).

5.11.2 Gully 1004 (**Plate 11**) was aligned south-east to north-west, 0.8 m wide and 0.1 m deep, filled with a mid-orange brown sandy silt with frequent small sub-angular stones. It was located close to a geophysical anomaly identified as possible archaeology; however it was on a different alignment. The alignment of gully 1004 was similar to those of the extant field system.

5.11.3 Gully 1006 (**Figure 6**, **Section 6**) was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 0.6 m wide by 0.15 m in depth filled with a mid-greyish brown sandy silt fill. It was located within the north of the trench, close to a geophysical anomaly identified as a likely post-medieval field boundary, but did not correlate with this anomaly directly. Gully 1006 was on the same alignment as gully 704 = 804 seen in trenches 7 and 8 and could potentially be the same feature, although there was almost 100 m between trenches 7 and 10.

5.12 Trench 12

5.12.1 A possible pit or ditch terminal (1204; **Figure 6**, **Section 7**) was located partly within trench 12 (**Figure 5**). Feature 1204 was 1.05 x 0.5 x 0.11 m. It was filled with a mid-orange brown sandy silt with frequent patches of charcoal fragments .

5.13 Trench 15

5.13.1 Trench 15 (**Figure 3**) contained one gully (1504; **Figure 6 Section 8**; **Plate 12**) aligned north-east to south-west at odds with the extant field system and with other features recorded by the evaluation. It was 0.65 m wide and 0.25 m deep with a bowl-shaped cut.

The gully was filled with mid-reddish brown slightly clayey sandy silt, with occasional sub-angular gritstone and charcoal fragments.

5.14 Negative results

5.14.1 Three trenches (trenches 11, 13 and 14) contained no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The evaluation produced a small quantity of finds, largely consisting of pottery. The assemblage is almost entirely of post-medieval/modern date, with two Romano-British items. Most finds derived from topsoil/subsoil contexts, with a few finds from feature fills.

6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	Clay Pipe	Pottery	Other Finds
107			1 animal bone
109		1/7	
201		3/38	1 glass
301		1/15	2 CBM
501		1/11	
505		1/4	
701		6/74	
801	1/3	6/21	
901	1/7		
905	1/5		
1001	1/2	1/7	
1002		1/23	
1101		2/32	
Total	**4/17**	**23/232**	

CBM = Ceramic Building Material

6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 The small pottery assemblage amounts to 23 sherds, weighing 232 g. Of this, two sherds are Romano-British and the remainder is post-medieval/modern. Condition is fair; sherds are generally small, but the hard-fired post-medieval/modern wares have suffered only low levels of surface and edge abrasion despite their predominantly topsoil provenance. Mean sherd weight is 10.1 g.

6.2.2 The assemblage has been quantified (sherd count) by ware type within each context. Broad types have been used for Romano-British wares (eg, sandy greyware); no detailed fabric analysis has been undertaken at this stage. Post-medieval/modern wares follow established regional nomenclature (eg, redware, refined whiteware). Note has been made of identifiable vessel forms. Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) have not been used for such a small assemblage; as an alternative means of quantification, the maximum Number of Vessels (MNV) has been used, counting each non-joining sherd as a separate vessel except where

there is a high probability of a context containing same-vessel sherds. In fact, no conjoining or same-vessel sherds were noted, so the MNV is 23. The level of recording accords with the 'basic record' advocated for the purpose of characterising an assemblage rapidly (Barclay et al. 2016, section 2.4.5). A full breakdown of pottery by context is given in Table 2.

Table 2: Pottery by context

Context	Material	Count	Comments
109	Refined whiteware	1	Rim; small bowl or cup?
201	Redware	3	Body sherds, 1 black-glazed
301	refined whiteware	1	Plate rim, blue feathered edge
501	Staffs-type slipware	1	Platter body sherd
506	RB grog-tempered	1	Body sherd
701	Redware	3	Body sherds, 2 glazed
	Refined whiteware	3	Body sherds, 1 transfer-printed
801	Refined whiteware	5	3 transfer-printed flatwares; 2 banded, incl. 1 jug rim
801	Redware	1	Unglazed body sherd
1001	Redware	1	Black-glazed body sherd
1002	RB sandy greyware	1	Jar rim
1101	Redware	1	Base, unglazed flowerpot
1101	Refined whiteware	1	Body sherd with handle stump; jug with blue-glazed annular reeding

Romano-British

6.2.3 Two sherds have been identified as Romano-British. These comprise a jar rim in a sandy greyware from subsoil 1002, and a grog-tempered body sherd which provides the only dating evidence (and indeed the only find) from pit 506 (fill 505). Neither of these sherds can be dated more closely within the period.

Post-medieval/modern

6.2.4 The remaining 21 sherds are post-medieval/modern. These are divided roughly equally between redwares (nine sherds), mostly glazed (one is black-glazed) but including one unglazed flowerpot (trench 11 topsoil), and refined whitewares (11 sherds). Apart from the flowerpot, which is 19th-/20th-century, the redwares are only broadly dated, although likely to be 18th-century or later. The refined whitewares date to the 19th or 20th century and include tea- and tablewares (plates, jugs), some transfer-printed and some banded. There is also one sherd from a feathered slipware platter (trench 5 topsoil); these were produced in Staffordshire but also in other areas in the late 17th and 18th centuries.

6.2.5 Apart from one sherd from gully 108 (19th-/20th-century refined whiteware), all post-medieval/modern sherds came from topsoil contexts.

6.3 Clay tobacco pipe

6.3.1 Four fragments of clay pipe were recovered. Two of these are plain stems which are not closely datable, but which are probably 18th-century or later (pit 904, trench 10 topsoil). A second fragment from trench 9 (topsoil) is a partial spurred bowl. The full profile cannot be determined, but the pipe is of 18th-century date or later. The fragment from trench 8 (topsoil) is also a partial bowl with a short spur. The bowl is a moulded decorative example of which

only part of the lower bowl survives; it may be in the form of an acorn. Decorative styles such as this were popular in the 19th century.

6.4 Other finds

6.4.1 Other finds comprise one piece of machine-made green bottle glass (trench 2 topsoil), 2 fragments of modern hard-fired ceramic tile (trench 3 topsoil) and a small fragment of animal bone which is unidentifiable to species (pit 106).

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Three bulk sediment samples were taken from three pits and were processed for the recovery and assessment of the environmental evidence.

7.2 Aims and methods

7.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to determine the potential of the site for the preservation of environmental evidence. The nature of this assessment follows recommendations set up by Historic England (Campbell et al. 2011).

7.2.2 The samples were processed by standard bucket flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm and 1 mm fractions. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted by eye and discarded. The environmental material extracted from the residues was added to the flots. A subsample of the fine residue fractions and the flots were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy (Leica MS5 microscope) at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of environmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (eg, *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as earthworm eggs and insects, which would not be preserved unless anoxic conditions prevailed on site. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains was recorded. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000), for cereals. Abundance of remains is qualitatively quantified (A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5) as an estimation of the minimum number of individuals and not the number of remains per taxa.

7.3 Results

7.3.1 The flots from the bulk sediment samples varied in size (**Appendix 3**). There were high numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Environmental evidence comprised plant remains preserved by carbonisation and wood charcoal.

7.3.2 Charred material was comprised varying degrees of preservation. The charred plant remains comprise Triticeae (cereals), Poaceae (grasses), Vicieae (vetches) cotyledon, and fruit mesocarp and a bud of indeterminate taxa. Wood charcoal was noted in generally large quantities. No other environmental evidence was preserved in the bulk sediment samples.

7.4 Conclusions

7.4.1 The small amount of remains reflect the positive preservation of charred plant material which has the potential to inform on the exploitation of the plants and environment at the site. However, due to the numbers of roots and presence of modern seeds that are

indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination and the sparse amount of material, the potential may be limited.

7.4.2 Larger amounts of charcoal suggest combustion activities may have taken place at the site and there is potential for the preservation of fire remains that may inform on the local woodland and fuel exploitation practices.

7.4.3 The significance of the environmental evidence and any potential for analysis should be reconsidered once further fieldwork and sampling has taken place.

7.5 Recommendations for future sampling

7.5.1 Sampling should follow the recommendations set in its site-specific sampling strategy, if existing. As a general rule, samples should be taken for the recovery of charred plant remains where permitting from well-sealed and dateable features, especially any arising and related to settlement activities. Features that are specifically related to burning activities should also be sampled. Generally, samples should be taken covering as wide a range of feature types and phases as possible. Where available deposits permit, sample size should be of 40 litres from individual, secure contexts.

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Summary

8.1.1 The site is characterised mainly by post-medieval agriculture and allotment gardening. One pit (506) was dated by the presence of a single sherd of pottery to the Romano-British period. The remaining gullies, pits, postholes and a demolished dry stone wall may all be recent in date although artefacts were infrequently recovered and only two further features can be dated by the presence of pottery and clay tobacco pipe. Linear features were generally in alignment with the extant field system, suggesting that they post-date inclosure. Historic maps show that the north of the site was used as allotment gardens in the 20th century, which may be the origin of some of the features. Other features are probably agricultural in origin, perhaps including drains, furrows and plough scars or trends. Gullies in trenches 2 and 15 were on different alignments and could potentially be earlier in date, although trench 2 lies within the area of former allotments and gully 209 may therefore be the product of small-scale allotment gardening.

8.1.2 The results are consistent with the general picture revealed by previous walkover and geophysical survey, although the detailed results of the geophysical survey did not correlate directly with the detailed results of the trial trenching.

8.1.3 Ridge and furrow identified by non-intrusive survey generally did not translate into observable below-ground features. The evidence for furrows does suggest that the site may have been in agricultural use in the medieval period (although a medieval origin for the furrows is speculative). It is most likely that any exploitation of the site during any period comprised low-intensity activity such as agriculture undertaken at some distance from settlement.

8.1.4 Despite evidence for Romano-British quern production in the immediate area, there was no evidence for quern manufacture or consumption on the site. Two sherds of Romano-British pottery might represent transient activity in the hinterland of the quern production site.

8.1.5 Though there was evidence of ploughing in the fields evaluated, the ploughsoil was relatively shallow suggesting that recent ploughing has had little impact on preservation of earlier features.

8.2 Discussion

Romano-British

8.2.1 Only one small feature (pit 506 within trench 5) was datable to the Romano-British period by the presence of a single sherd of pottery; a second poorly-stratified sherd was the only other material of this date recovered. This evidence is too slight to be relied upon as evidence for Romano-British occupation of the site, and additional excavation found no nearby archaeological features. Any Romano-British activity may have comprised low-intensity activity such as agriculture and it is likely that the site lay at some distance from any Romano-British settlement. These two sherds may indicate transient activity in the hinterlands of nearby Romano-British quern production sites.

Post-medieval and modern

8.2.2 Ordnance survey maps (not reproduced) show there to have been allotment gardens in the north of site around trenches 1–3 from at least 1922 through to 1955, before the area reverted to more open fields at least by the compilation of the 1972 Ordnance Survey map. The features recorded in trenches 1–3 are all consistent with allotment gardens, as was the only stratified find from these features (a pottery sherd of 19th-/20th-century date from gully 108). Postholes 204, 206 and 303 may relate to fencing or other ephemeral allotment structures. The geophysical survey also plotted a wide linear anomaly in the centre of this field, which is probably related to an allotment pathway that can be seen on historic maps.

8.2.3 If not related to allotment gardening, the gullies of trench 1 may represent drains, furrows, plough scars or ploughing trends from agricultural use of the site. Trenches 7, 8 and 10 also contained similar gullies (they could potentially all be the same gully) again aligned with the extant field system, and probably with a similar agricultural origin. The absence of land drains from the site suggests that the sandy site may not have required artificial drainage and the gullies seen in the evaluation trenches are therefore less likely to have been drains. These gullies align with furrows and ploughing trends identified by the walkover and geophysical surveys although they do not generally share the typical appearance or broad morphology of ridge and furrow.

8.2.4 Features aligned perpendicularly to the gullies of trenches 1, 7, 8 and 10 were present in trenches 4 and 10. These features comprise a former dry stone wall (411) correlating with a boundary present on 19th- and 20th-century Ordnance Survey maps (not reproduced), a gully accompanying this wall (406) and another gully elsewhere on the site (1004). A member of the public suggested that wall 406 had been removed during the construction of a football pitch in the last quarter of the 20th century. These features are probably all contemporary with the extant post-medieval field system. Postholes in trench 4 may represent a fence perpendicular to wall 411 and are probably of recent date.

8.2.5 A pit in trench 9 was dated by the presence of clay tobacco pipe stem.

Undated

8.2.6 An undated gully in trench 15 (1504) was not aligned with the extant field system and could potentially be of earlier date. The same may be true of gully 209, if 209 is not the result of allotment gardening.

8.2.7 Further undated pits (or ditch terminals) were present in trenches 6 and 12.

9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

9.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield under the project code 239450. Following correspondence with Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist at Derbyshire County Council, the archive will not be deposited with Derby Museum. An OASIS form, wessexar1-408792 will be finalised following acceptance of this report by the Development Control Archaeologist and a copy of this report will be forwarded on to the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record.

9.2 Security copy

9.2.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

9.3 OASIS

9.3.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main) has been initiated , with key fields completed (Appendix 3). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Archive and report copyright

10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification.

10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

10.2 Third party data copyright

10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summaries

Trench 1				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
101	Topsoil		Mid-brown sandy silt	0.00–0.37
102	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.37–0.4
103	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.4+
104	Gully		0.3 m wide, bowl shaped, 0.05 m deep	0.4–0.45
105	Primary fill	104	Dark grey brown clayey silt	0.4–0.45
106	Pit		'U' shaped, 0.7 m diameter, 0.32 m deep	0.4–0.72
107	Fill	106	Mid-to dark grey brown silty sand, with rare coal fragments	0.4–0.72
108	Gully		1.14 m wide, bowl shaped, 0.3 m deep, tapers out to south-west	0.4–0.7
109	Fill	108	Mid-to dark grey brown sandy silt	0.4–0.7
110	Gully		0.4 m wide, bowl shaped, 0.06 m deep	0.4–0.46
111	Fill	110	Mid-grey brown sandy silt	0.4–0.46
112	Gully		0.5 m wide, bowl shaped, 0.2 m deep	0.4–0.6
113	Fill	112	Mid-grey brown sandy silt	0.4–0.6

Trench 2				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
201	Topsoil		Mid-grey brown sandy silt	0.00–0.35
202	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.35–0.42
203	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.42+
204	Posthole		Rectangular 0.37 m x 0.36 m x 0.31 m deep	0.42–0.73
205	Fill	204	Mid-brown slightly clayey silt	0.42–0.73
206	Posthole		Rectangular 0.37 m x 0.36 m x 0.21 m deep	0.42–0.63
207	Primary fill	206	Dark grey brown silt with frequent charcoal inclusions	0.42–0.63
208	Fill	206	Mid-reddish brown slightly clayey silt	0.42–0.63
209	Gully		1 m wide, bowl shaped, 0.26 m deep	0.42–0.68
210	Fill	209	Mid-rusty brown slightly sandy silt occasional small grit stones	0.42–0.68
211	Geological feature		Pinkish grey slightly clayey silt	0.42+

Trench 3				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
301	Topsoil		Mid-brown slightly clayey silt	0.00–0.4
302	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.4+
303	Posthole		Rectangular 0.27 m x 0.28 m x 0.19 m deep	0.4–0.59
304	Fill	303	Mid-brown slightly clayey silt	0.4–0.59

Trench 4				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
401	Topsoil		Mid-brown slightly clayey silt	0.0–0.24
402	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.24–0.39
403	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.39+
404	Posthole		'U' shaped, 0.42 m diameter, 0.16 m deep	0.39–0.55
405	Fill	404	Mid-brown sandy silt, with light brown flecks	0.39–0.55
406	Gully		Cut 0.82 m wide, bowl shaped, 0.31 m deep	0.39–0.8
407	Fill	406	Mid-brown slightly clayey silt with frequent small gritstones	0.39–0.8
409	Posthole		'U' shaped, 0.42 m diameter, 0.16 m deep	0.39–0.55
410	Fill	409	Mid-brown sandy silt, with light brown flecks	0.39–0.55
411	Structure		Dry stone wall 0.65 m wide contained within soil overburden. Grit stone roughly coursed blocks. Flat bottomed.	Not recorded

Trench 5				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
501	Topsoil		Mid-brown slightly clayey silt	0.0–0.28
502	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.28–0.41
503	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.41+
504	Natural		Mid-yellowish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.41+
505	Fill	506	Mid-brown sandy silt, occasional grit stone inclusions, rare charcoal and 1 x pottery sherd	0.41–0.77
506	Pit		Circular 'U'-shaped cut, diameter 0.62 m, 0.36 m deep	0.41–0.77

Trench 6				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
601	Topsoil		Mid-brown slightly clayey silt	0.0–0.25
602	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.25–0.55
603	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.55+
604	Fill	605	Pale to mid-pinkish grey sandy silt, rare charcoal, nutshell fragments	0.55–0.87
605	Pit		'U'-shaped cut, 0.42 m wide, length > 1m, 0.32 m deep	0.55–0.87

Trench 7				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
701	Topsoil		Mid-brown sandy silt	0.0–0.33
702	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.33–0.4
703	Natural		Orange, yellow sandy silt, with occasional grit stone inclusions	0.4+
704	Gully		Cut 0.68 m wide, bowl-shaped, 0.17 m deep	0.4–0.57
705	Fill	704	Mid-brown sandy silt, occasional grit stone inclusions	0.4–0.57

Trench 8				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
801	Topsoil		Mid-brown sandy silt	0.0–0.24
802	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.24–0.38
803	Natural		Orange, yellow sandy silt, with occasional grit stone inclusions	0.38+
804	Gully		Cut 0.68 m wide, bowl shaped, 0.17 m deep	0.38–0.55
805	Fill	804	Mid-brown sandy silt, occasional grit stone inclusions	0.38–0.55
806	Layer		Geological deposit, mottled yellowish brown silty sand	0.38+

Trench 9				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
901	Topsoil		Mid-brown sandy silt	0.0–0.21
902	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.21–0.32
903	Natural		Orange, yellow sandy silt, with occasional grit stone inclusions	0.32+
904	Pit		Oval pit cut > 1.37 x >0.65 x 0.27 m deep	0.32–0.59
905	Fill	904	Dark brown sandy silt, occasional grit stone inclusions, frequent charcoal, 1 x clay pipe stem	0.32–0.59

Trench 10				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
1001	Topsoil		Mid-brown sandy silt	0.0–0.25
1002	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.25–0.45
1003	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular gritstone inclusions	0.45+
1004	Gully		0.8 m wide, bowl shaped, 0.1 m deep	0.45–0.55
1005	Fill	1004	Mid-orangey brown, medium gritstone inclusions	0.45–0.55
1006	Gully		0.6 m wide, bowl-shaped, 0.15 m deep	0.45–0.6
1007	Fill	1006	Mid-greyish brown silty sand	0.45–0.6

Trench 11				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
1101	Topsoil		Mid-brown sandy silt	0.0–0.25
1102	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.25–0.4
1103	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.4+

GullyTrench 12				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
1201	Topsoil		Mid-grey brown sandy silt	0.0–0.26
1202	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.26–0.52
1203	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.52+
1204	Pit		Bowl shaped 1.05 m x >0.5 m x 0.11 m deep	0.52–0.63
1205	Fill	1204	Patchy mid-brown and orange sandy silt, occasional medium and small gritstone inclusions, frequent charcoal fragments	0.52–0.63

Trench 13				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
1301	Topsoil		Mid-grey brown sandy silt	0.0–0.26
1302	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.26–0.4
1303	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.4+

Trench 14				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
1401	Topsoil		Mid-grey brown sandy silt	0.0–0.3
1402	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.3–0.5
1403	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.59+

Trench 15				
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (m) bgl**
1501	Topsoil		Mid-grey brown sandy silt	0.0–0.5
1502	Subsoil		Mid-orange brown sandy silt	0.5–0.55
1503	Natural		Dark reddish orange brown sand with frequent sub-angular grit stone inclusions	0.55+
1504	Gully		0.65 m wide, bowl-shaped, 0.25 m deep	0.55–0.8
1505	Fill	1504	Mid-reddish-brown sandy silt, frequent small gritstone inclusions, rare charcoal flacks	0.55–0.8

Appendix 2 Environmental data

Table 3: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation: fragmentation and erosion)
504	505	501	34	480	80%, C, I, E, F	C	-	Triticeae	-	-	191	Mature	-		Fair
605	604	601	0.03	3.5	5%	-	-	-	-	-	3	Mature	-		Good
1204	1205	1201	50	218	40%, B, I, E	-	-	-	C	Poaceae, Vicieae cotyledon, fruit mesocarp, indet. bud	173	Mature and roundwood	-		Heterogeneous

Key: Scale of abundance: C = <5; Bioturbation proxies: Roots (%), Uncharred seeds (scale of abundance), F = mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia, E = earthworm eggs, I = insects.

Appendix 3 OASIS record

OASIS ID: wessexar1-408792

Project details

Project name	Whitehouse Farm, Belper, Derbyshire
Short description of the project	A pit (506) was dated by the presence of a single sherd of pottery to the Romano-British period. The remaining gullies, pits, postholes and a demolished dry stone wall are predominantly recent in date although artefacts were infrequently recovered and only two further features can be dated by the presence of pottery and clay tobacco pipe. Linear features were generally in alignment with the extant field system, suggesting that they post-date inclosure. Historic maps show that the north of the site was used as allotment gardens in the 20th century, which may be the origin of some of the features. Other features are probably agricultural in origin, perhaps including drains, furrows and plough scars or trends. Gullies in trenches 2 and 15 were on different alignments and could potentially be earlier in date, although trench 2 lies within the area of former allotments and gully 209 may be the product of small-scale allotment gardening. The site is characterised primarily by post-medieval agricultural exploitation. Ridge and furrow identified by non-intrusive survey generally did not translate into observable below-ground features. The evidence for furrows does suggest that the site may have been in agricultural use in the medieval period (although a medieval origin for the furrows is speculative). It is possible that the site was also exploited during earlier periods, however this would probably have comprised low-intensity activity such as agriculture undertaken at some distance from any settlement.
Project dates	Start: 09-11-2020 End: 27-01-2021
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	239450 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	GULLY Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	POSTHOLE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Methods & techniques	""Targeted Trenches""
Development type	Housing estate

Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	DERBYSHIRE AMBER VALLEY BELPER Whitehouse Farm
Postcode	DE56 2UJ
Study area	3.58 Hectares
Site coordinates	SK 33904 48825 53.03532345941 -1.494339113308 53 02 07 N 001 29 39 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 139m Max: 149m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Wheeldon Brothers Ltd (Derby)
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	John Winfer
Project supervisor	Paula Whittaker
Type of sponsor/funding body	Wheeldon Bothers Ltd
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

Project archives

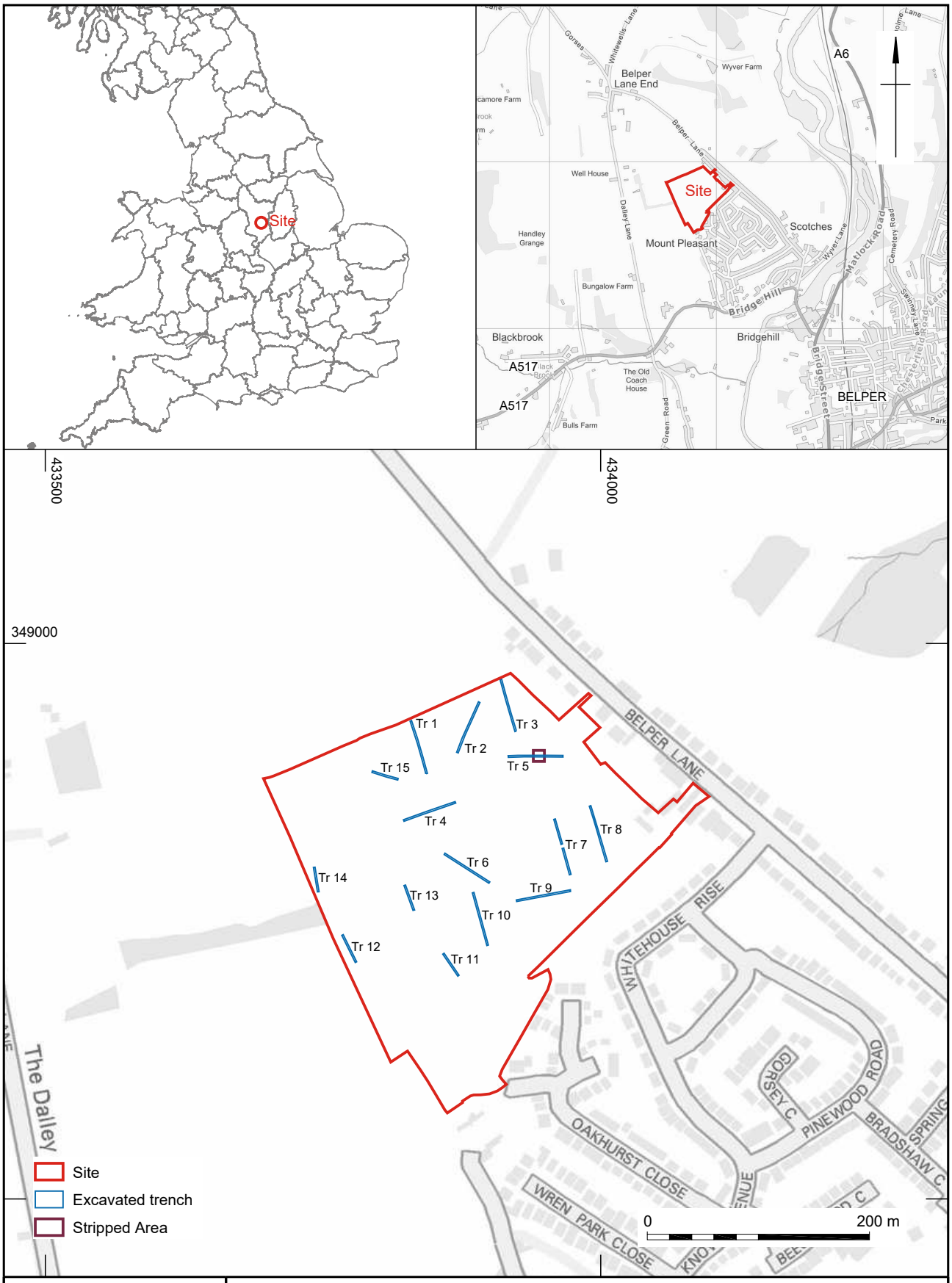
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	Derby Museum and Art Gallery
Physical Archive ID	WA_239450
Digital Archive recipient	ADS
Digital Archive ID	WA_239450
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Derby Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Archive ID	WA_239450

Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Whitehouse Farm, Belper, Derbyshire: Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Whittaker, P
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Saunders, B
Other bibliographic details	239450.03
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Sheffield
Description	A4 printed report, plastic spine

Entered by	Ashley Tuck (j.irwin@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	15 December 2020



Coordinate system: OSGB36

Date:	10/12/2020	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:5000 at A4	Illustrator:	JD
Path:	S:\PROJECTS\239450\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\Eval\2021_02_04		

Site location and trench layout

Figure 1

433750

434000

349000

348750

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Tr 1

Tr 2

Tr 3

Tr 4

Tr 5

Tr 6

Tr 7

Tr 8

Tr 9

Tr 10

Tr 11

Tr 12

Tr 13

Tr 14

Tr 15

Site

Evaluation trench

Stripped Area

Archaeological feature

Geophysical survey:

Extents

Possible archaeological feature

Former boundary

Trackway/path

Ridge and furrow

Ploughing line

Trend

Ferrous

Increased magnetic response

0

100 m

Date:	10/12/2020
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S:\PROJECTS\239450\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\Eval\2021_02_04

Trench layout with archaeological features and geophysical survey results

Figure 2

433800

433900

348900

Tr 1

Tr 2

Tr 3

Tr 4

Tr 5

Tr 15

112

110

108

106

104

Section 1

206

209

204

303

506

Section 3

1504

Section 8

406

411

409

404

Section 2

0

20 m

Site

Evaluation trench

Stripped Area

Archaeological feature

Geology

Wall

Excavated slot

Geophysical survey:

Extents

Former boundary

Ridge and furrow

Ploughing line

Trend

Ferrous

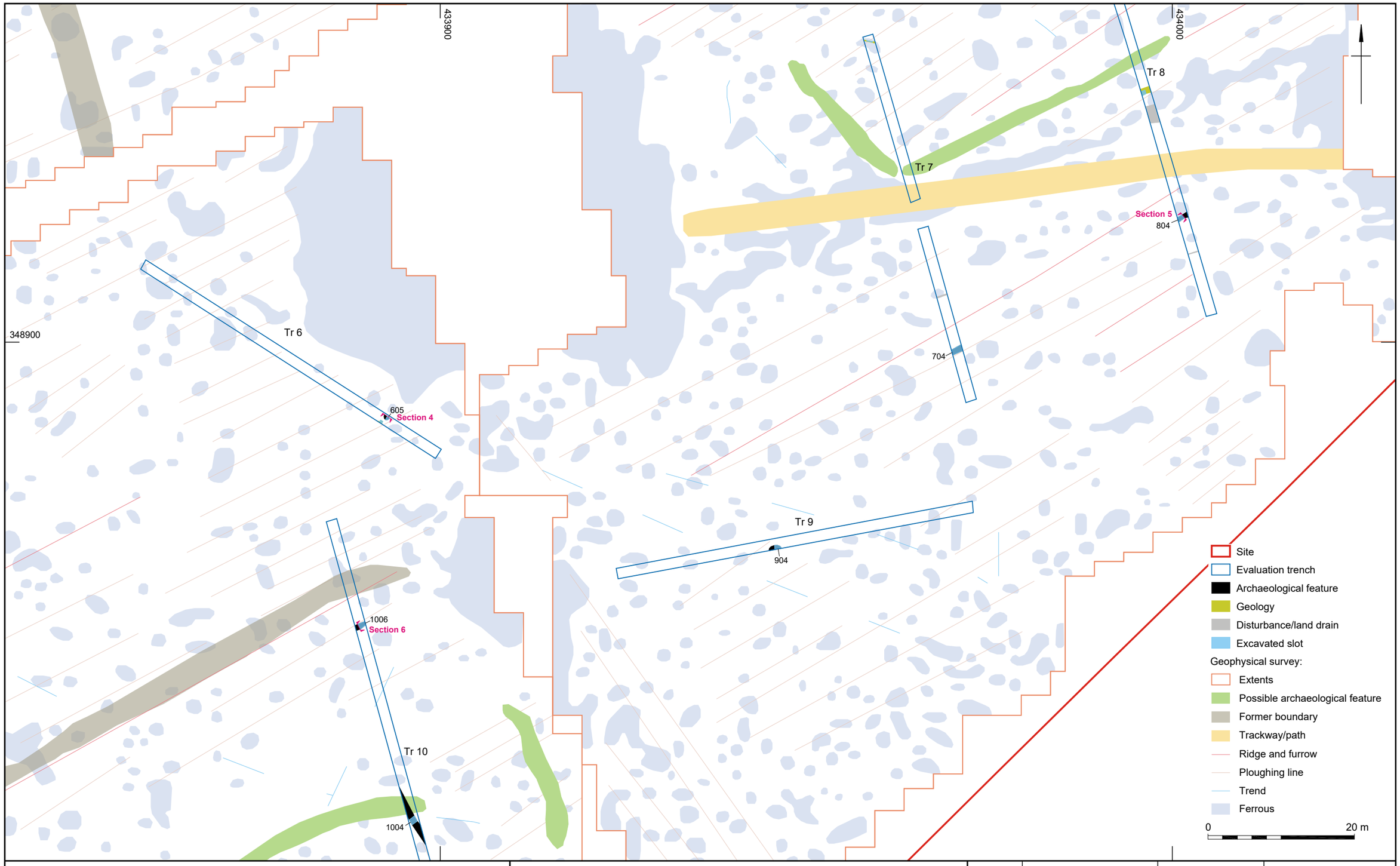
Increased magnetic response

Coordinate system: OSGB36

Date:	10/12/2020	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:500 at A3	Illustrator:	JD
Path:	S:\PROJECTS\239450\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\Eval\2021_02_04		

Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 15

Figure 3



Coordinate system: OSGB36

Date:	10/12/2020	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:500 at A3	Illustrator:	JD
Path:	S:\PROJECTS\239450\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\Eval\2020_12_09		

Trenches 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10

Figure 4

348800

433800

Tr 14

Tr 6

605

Tr 13

1006

Section 6

Tr 10

1004

Tr 12

Section 7

1204

Tr 11

0

20 m

Site

Evaluation trench

Archaeological feature

Geology

Excavated slot

Geophysical survey:

Extents

Possible archaeological feature

Former boundary

Ridge and furrow

Ploughing line

Trend

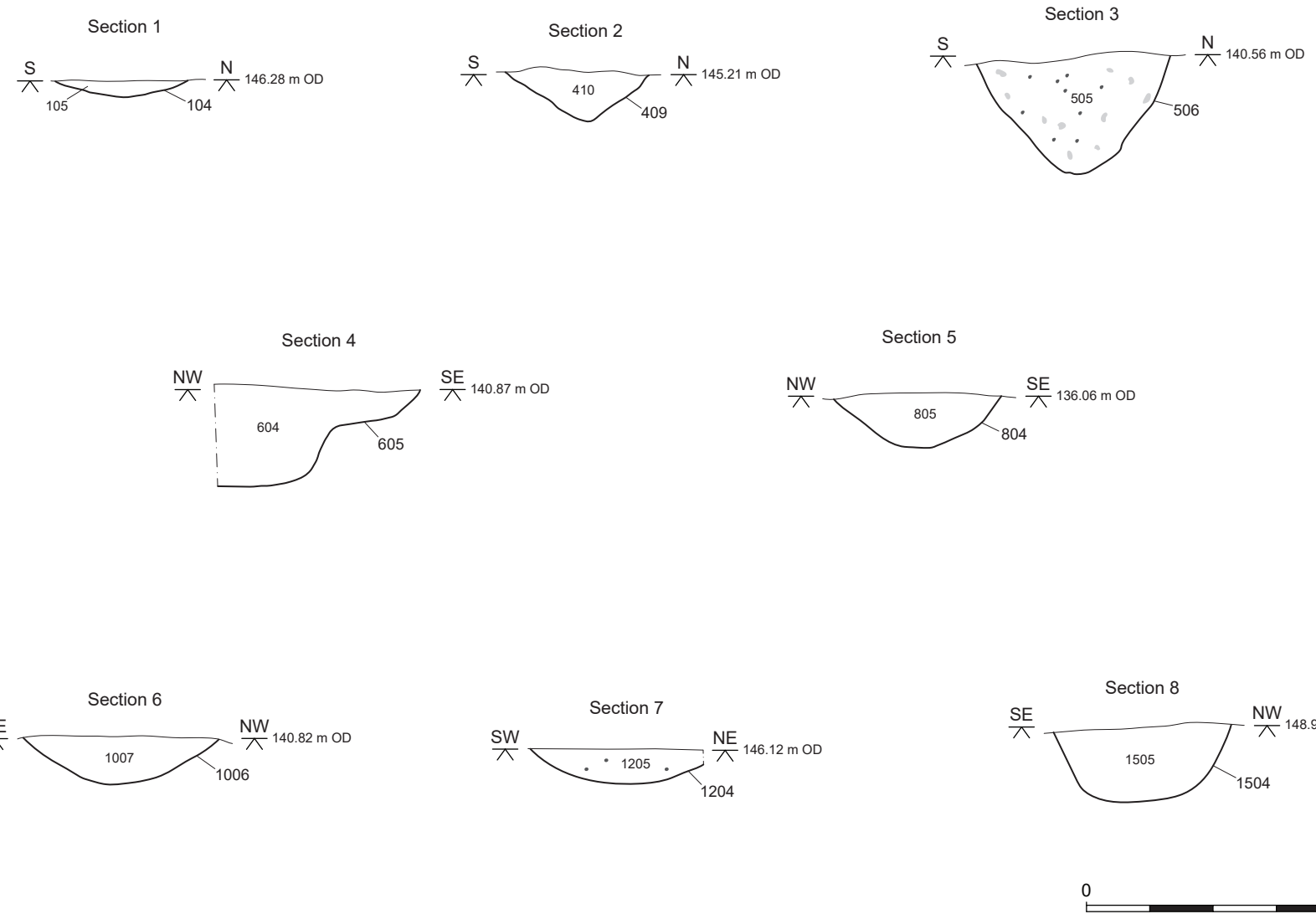
Ferrous

Coordinate system: OSGB36

Date:	10/12/2020	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Custom at A3	Illustrator:	JD
Path:	S:\PROJECTS\239450\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\Eval\2020_12_09		

Trenches 11, 12, 13 and 14

Figure 5



Date:	10/12/2020	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:20 at A4	Illustrator:	JD
Path:	S:\PROJECTS\239450\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\Eval\2020_12_09		

Sections

Figure 6

Plate 1: Trench 1, gullies 110 and 112, from the west

Plate 2: Trench 3, posthole 303 from the south-west

Date:	05/02/2021	Revision Number:	1
Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	JD
Path:	S:\PROJECTS\239450\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\Eval\2021_02_04		

Plate 3: Trench 4, dry stone wall 411, with earthwork behind, from the south-east

Plate 4: Trench 4, post holes 404 and 407 with wall 411 behind, from the east

Date:	05/02/2021	Revision Number:	1
Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	JD
Path:	S:\PROJECTS\239450\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\Eval\2021_02_04		

Plate 5: Trench 4, gully 406, from the north

Plate 6: Trench 5, pit 505, from the east

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Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	JD
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Plate 7: Area stripped around pit in Trench 5 looking west

Plate 8: Trench 6, pit 605, from the south-east

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Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	JD
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Plate 9: Trench 8, linear 804, from the south-west

Plate 10: Trench 9, pit 904, from the east

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Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	JD
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Plate 11: Trench 10, gully 1004, from the south-east

Plate 12: Trench 15, furrow 1504, from the north

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Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	JD
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