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Land at Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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archaeology

Land at Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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* I= Internal Draft; E= External Draft; F= Final

Land at Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Contents

Figures

Plates

Land at Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out an archaeological evaluation ahead of a development for residential housing on land at Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire (hereafter the 'Site'). The Site covers an area of 3ha located on the north-eastern side of Dove Holes (**Figure 1**).

Fifteen trenches of 50m and 25m lengths were excavated across the Site, with two proposed 50m trenches and one proposed 25m trench test pitted following discussions with the local planning archaeologist; the trenches were located within modern made ground. Two additional test pits were also excavated to examine natural chert outcrops. The purpose of the trenching was to assess the positive worked lithic artefact results of a previous shovel test pit evaluation, and to examine blank areas to determine the archaeological potential of the Site to inform any mitigation strategy prior to the impact of the development. The trenching amounted to a 5% coverage of the total area.

The results of the evaluation revealed no archaeological remains and the recovery of flint or chert artefacts consisted of two, tentatively assigned worked chert lithics.

The evaluation did uncover a spur of undulating natural chert bedrock running across the Site from the centre towards the south-west corner. The outcrops showed frost shattered weathering and the small to medium sized chips and angular fragments of degraded chert, had migrated into the surrounding clay natural substrate and overlying subsoil via natural and recent human agricultural and landscaping activities. It is considered that this concentration of angular chert in the south-west quadrant of the Site may have accounted for the interpretation of worked lithics in that region from the previous shovel test pitting programme.

The evaluation also uncovered substantial disturbance in the form of quarrying, landscaping, rubbish disposal, sewage drainage cuts and a modern building site compound. The northern tip of the Site was made up of over 1.8m of modern made ground, and substantial areas in the north-eastern, eastern and south-eastern parts of the Site contained modern made ground deposits over which the previous shovel test pitting programme had found worked lithics. These heavily disturbed areas would have effectively removed any earlier archaeological activity within those affected areas.

The results from the evaluation indicate that the development is highly unlikely to impact on any significant archaeological remains.

The project archive has been compiled according to the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (CgMs 2014) and is fully cross-referenced and indexed. It is currently held by Wessex Archaeology under the project code **106970**. A bound and digital copy of the report will be sent to the HER and the OASIS form updated under accession number DERBS:2013.12.

Land at Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting. The Fieldwork was directed by Neil Dransfield with the assistance of Lawrence Savage and John Landless. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andrew Norton. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Steve Baker, the Derbyshire County Council (Local Planning Authority - LPA), Planning Officer, for his involvement in the project.

The report was compiled by Neil Dransfield with contributions by Phil Harding (flint and chert). The illustrations were prepared by Alix Sperr.

Land at Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out an archaeological evaluation in advance of residential development on land at Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire (hereafter the 'Site'). The works were required as a condition placed on an outline planning permission (HPK/2013/0625).

1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (CgMs 2014) set out the strategy and methodology by which Wessex Archaeology implemented the archaeological evaluation. All works undertaken conformed to the standards and guidelines for archaeology projects in Derbyshire within the parameters and objectives of the 'East Midlands Heritage: A research agenda and strategy for the Historic Environment' as well as current best practice and to the guidance outlined in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment ('MoRPHE') (English Heritage 2006), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Standards and Guidance for archaeological evaluation (IfA 2013). The WSI was submitted to the LPA Senior Planning Officer for the (Derbyshire) High Peak Borough Council (Steve Baker) and was approved prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The Site comprises two parcels of land to the northeast of Dove Holes, Buxton, (NGR: 407800, 378600) (**Figure 1**). The western parcel is a grassed public recreation area. The eastern extent and north of the Site is covered by pasture grassland/scrub and the Site is bisected by a public right of way (PROW). The Site is bounded to the north and east by the cutting for the former Peak Forest Tramway and to the west and south by residential development.

1.2.2 The underlying geology comprises the Monsal Dale Limestone formation (BGS) http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html. The overlying soils are recorded as aeolian silty drift over limestone. The Site is *c.* 334m aOD at the southern end, sloping gently to the north to a height of 326m aOD. Steep quarried slopes to the north and east were created by the Peak Forest Tramway.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following section summarises the Site's historical and archaeological background as presented in the WSI (CgMs 2014).

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 The Site lies *c.* 200m north of the Late Neolithic Bullring henge monument (National Monument number 23282). A nearby, purported, late Neolithic oval barrow has a Bronze Age barrow superimposed over the top, demonstrating later prehistoric activity in the region.

2.3 Post-medieval and modern

2.3.1 The Peak Tramway, to the immediate east of the Site was constructed in the late 18th century and forms a steep eastern boundary. Associated quarrying to the immediate north-east of the Site is evident within the Site boundary.

2.4 Previous archaeological investigations

2.4.1 Shovel test pitting undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North (OAN 2013) recovered a large quantity of lithic material of which *c.* 270 pieces were ascribed as worked and tentatively dated to the Mesolithic/early Neolithic period (information from CgMs - Figure 2, 2014). No patterning to the scatter could be determined; however, the material seemed to intensify over a very large area to the south-western quadrant of the Site.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 General

The aim of the project was to evaluate the archaeological potential of the Site to inform any further mitigation requirements connected to the outline planning permission.

3.2 Specific

3.2.1 Specific aims to assist the methodology were:

- *To record, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains observed;*
- *to test areas of higher lithic recovery in the previous shovel test pitting scheme;*
- *to test blank or low retrieval areas of the shovel pitting;*
- *to assess the nature of any human activity on Site and place the Site in its local, regional and national context, as appropriate;*
- *to assess the Site formation processes and the effects that these may have had on any archaeological remains;*
- *to produce a Site report and archive suitable for museum archive and HER deposition to ensure the long-term survival of any excavated data.*

3.3 Fieldwork methodology

3.3.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of ten trenches measuring 50m x 1.8m and four trenches measuring 25m x 1.8m (**Figure 2**). Two additional 50m trenches and one 25m trench were originally proposed, but were found to be located within modern made

ground. Following discussions with CgMs and DCC test pits were excavated at either ends of the proposed trench array. Two additional test pits (North and South) were also excavated to examine chert within the subsoil/natural (**Figure 2**).

3.4 Machine excavation

3.4.1 Topsoil and subsoil were removed using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, working under the continuous direct supervision of a suitably experienced archaeologist.

3.4.2 Topsoil was carefully removed in a series of level spits down to the subsoil, and/or interface between the topsoil and top of the upper natural substrate (**Plates 1** and **2**). Machining was halted at this level, and subsequent spits to the clean natural horizon to allow for the retrieval of any worked lithics (**Plate 3**) and to three-dimensionally record their positions.

3.5 Hand excavation

3.5.1 Natural features were were hand excavated and sampled sufficiently to establish their origin and to characterise any related human activity.

3.5.2 No archaeological features were uncovered.

3.6 Recording

3.6.1 All recording was undertaken using Wessex Archaeology pro forma recording sheets and a continuous unique numbering system. A stratigraphic matrix was compiled to record the relationships between features and deposits (including those within 'blank' trenches).

3.6.2 Specific care was taken to note the natural geological formations, particularly the type and extent of outcrops of limestone and chert and the extent to which that material was included within the overlying natural clays and overlying soils.

3.6.3 All trenches were located in relation to the OS grid, and other plans, sections and elevations of archaeological features and deposits were drawn as necessary at 1:10 and 1:20 as appropriate.

3.6.4 Photographs were taken of all trenches and geological and bioturbatory features to produce a photographic record consisting of digital images to a resolution of at least 10 megapixel.

3.7 Monitoring

3.7.1 The trenches were subsequently backfilled after inspection by the LPA and the evaluation was deemed successful.

3.8 Specialist strategies

Artefacts

3.8.1 All finds were treated in accordance with relevant industry guidance (UKIC 2001; MGC 1991; English Heritage 2005, 2006) and the requirements of the Buxton Museum and Art Gallery.

3.8.2 No recognisable lithic artefacts were recovered from the initial trenching exercise. To further test the results of the previous shovel test pitting programme, potential artefact material was bagged and labelled from specific trench context layer or test pit layer.

These were cleaned and sent to a recognised specialist for analysis. Material was cleaned, weighed, counted and identified. The results are noted in **Section 5** below.

3.8.3 Modern artefacts were noted by individual context and discarded in the field, in line with recommendations in the WSI (CgMs 2014).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 A total of fifteen trenches (1 to 18) were proposed across the Site (**Figure 2**), providing a 5% sample of the area. The trenches were located to examine potential lithic scatters and blank areas following the previous shovel test pitting programme (OAN 2013).

4.1.2 **Trenches 1-3** were replaced by test pits due to their location within modern made-ground. **Trench 11** was moved slightly to the south as the line of the trench ran across the length of a PROW.

4.1.3 Two extra test pits (**TP North and South – Figure 2**) measuring 1.8 x 1m were excavated to the top of the chert baring layers to faciliatate the collection of chert from locations close to visible chert sources. **TP North** was located near **Trench 9** to examine the nature of the visible chert with the natural clays, and due to its proximity to a large quantity of uncovered worked lithics (6 pieces – OAN 2013). **TP South** was located near **Trench 16** where a large quantity (28-30+) of worked lithics (OAN 2013) was uncovered around a natural outcrop of frost/machine shattered outcrop of chert (**Figure 2**). The material was carefully separated from the obvious large nodules of natural rock for assessment by a lithics specialist (Phil Harding). Two trenches (**9** and **11**) were scanned for chert included within the natural clays. These were also sent for specialist lithic anaysis (see **Section 5** below).

4.1.4 The archaeological layers, features and stratigraphy were recorded in all the excavated trenches, and were recorded by context. Features of note are described by trench below. A full trench context listing is provided in **Appendix 1**.

4.2 General summary

4.2.1 The Site's landscape history can be divided into two broad phases and areas of activity. The first is an apparently undisturbed area in the south-western quadrant of the Site, which has been subject to some minor bioturbatory disturbance in the form of tree bowls and other unidentified, less severe disturbance, probably a result of natural hollows or undulations in the natural surface. Later plough activity appeared to have spread small to medium angular chert fragments from the natural outcrops and natural soil matrix into the subsoil underlying the topsoil.

4.3 Natural geology

4.3.1 The evaluation revealed that the underlying natural geology consisted of patches of underlying bedrock in the form of limestone and chert overlain be varying shades of orangey coloured fine sandy clay.

4.3.2 The trenching uncovered a highly undulating natural bedrock layering with a small outcrop of limestone noted at the far eastern end of **Trench 17** and patches running along the length of **Trench 14** to its immediate north. Similar patches of limestone were noted at the southern end of **Trench 7** and the eastern end of **Trench 10**; all of these trenches were

located at the eastern edge of the Site (**Figure 2**). Two further patches of degraded limestone were uncovered in the central and eastern portions of **Trench 12**.

4.3.3 The central southern part of the Site uncovered several outcrops of natural chert (**Plates 4** and **5**). A large 7m long outcrop was uncovered in the northern third of **Trench 12** (**Figure 2**). The outcrop showed a fractured appearance which was probably a result of both frost shattering and a product of machine breakage. Several large pieces were un-lodged that demonstrated a propensity to fissilate and fracture (**Plates 6** and **7**). It was likely that a spur of chert ran through this part of the Site. **Trench 9** uncovered four outcrops of dense chert material which appeared to continue into the very southern tip of **Trench 8** (**Figure 2**).

4.3.4 Overlying the undulating bedrock outcrops was a fine sandy clay that varied in colour from a mid-brownish/reddish to lighter orange (**Appendix 1**). A mottled grey/orange gleyed clay was noted in **Trenches 16** and **18**, to the southwest corner of the Site, indicating conditions more suitable to periodic drying and saturation on the flatter ground surface. Differing quantities of frost shattered chert or shale were uncovered within the differing colours of sandy clay. It was noted that the darker orangey matrix held a more abundant proportion of small to medium sized chips or flakes of angular chert/chert-like material (**Plates 8** and **9**) than inclusions in the lighter orange material (**Appendix 1**) which was also evident below the darker material (**See Appendix 1 – Trench 7**).

4.3.5 Several plough marks were noted in the trenches indicating that the area had been subjected to agricultural cultivation at some point in the recent past. This was confirmed by anecdotal evidence from the current landowner who also claimed to have rotavated the majority of the Site prior to bulldozing the land to "flatten out" the hummocks.

4.3.6 Following the completion of the excavation, the bases of **Trenches 9** and **11** were scanned for potential lithic artefacts visible in the surface of the natural deposits. Two large (600mm x 450mm) bags of lithics were collected from **Trench 9** and one from **Trench 11**. These were sent to a recognised lithics specialist (Phil Harding) for analysis (See **Section 5**). One piece of possible worked chert was recovered from **Trench 11**, but the worked diagnostic characteristics and signs of subsequent use were unconvincing.

4.3.7 Two further test pits (**North** and **South, Figure 2**) were also excavated to collect potentially worked chert for specialist analysis (**Section 5**). **TP North** was located next to **Trench 9** where several worked lithics were noted (OAN 2013) and the natural substrate contained abundant chert and chert outcrops. **TP South** was located next to **Trench 16** for the same reasons. Only one piece of chert from **TP South** showed diagnostic signs of manufacture and may have been a fragment of a quern stone.

4.4 Subsoil

4.4.1 The subsoil predominantly consisted of a light reddish brown clayey silt between 0.05 and 0.12m thick where extant. The layer was only present in the relatively undisturbed area to the south-western quadrant of the Site (**Trenches 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17** and **18**) and was interpreted as a disturbed plough topsoil/natural interface (see **4.3.5** above). Particular attention was given to this layer during the machining in line with the WSI (CgMs 2014) (**Plates 1 – 3**). Where evident, the layer contained an abundant quantity of small to medium sized angular pieces of fractured stone. The material appeared to be fairly evenly distributed within this layer and no discernible discrete spreads of stone or worked lithics could be determined in the field (see also **Section 5** below).

4.5 Topsoil

4.5.1 The topsoil was predominantly a reddish or greyish brown clayey silt typically present to a depth of 0.15 to 0.3m below ground level (bgl). Very little difference was noted in the character of the layer across the site and artefact recovery was very low consisting of modern material.

4.6 Natural features

4.6.1 Ten discrete anomalies in the natural were sample excavated in the less disturbed south-western quadrant of the Site (**Figure 2**). A large irregularly edged feature **1504** in **Trench 15** (**Figure 2**) contained modern glass and pottery in the single fill **1505**. Six discrete features were examined in **Trenches 8, 12** and **16** (**Figure 2**) and found to be very shallow irregularly edged and based natural hollows or shallow bioturbation (**Plates 10** and **11**). Three relatively modern tree bowls with loosely compacted fills were uncovered in **Trenches 4**, **5** and **11** (**Plate 12**).

4.7 Quarrying and landscaping

4.7.1 The eastern and northern parts of the Site had been subject to major disturbance and modification in recent history.

4.7.2 Starting at the south, the western two thirds of **Trench 17** had been disturbed. A former builder's compound yard covered 9m of the western section of the trench and some 6m to the east was a 6.5m wide cut for a sewage main. It was noted that several shovel test pits containing 1 – 2 worked lithics were located along the known route of the sewage cut and subsequent backfill. To the immediate east of the sewage cut was a 9m long area containing the remains of a sprung mattress and modern rubbish, including several large pieces of light blue glass-like industrial waste material that could have been mistaken for pitch stone if found in smaller pieces.

4.7.3 **Trench 13** contained a single north-south aligned quarry cut **1307** in the centre of the trench (**Figure 2**). The eastern edge was not located in this trench or **Trench 14**, to the immediate east, suggesting the eastern edge lay between the two trenches. A sondage placed in the centre of the single homogeneous clay fill **1306** showed that cut was 0.75m deep, down to the limestone bedrock below. The remaining western part of the trench had a buried topsoil **1303** and yellow brown silty clay made ground **1302** above this which could have been mistaken for natural in a restrictive shovel test pit. It was noted that a shovel test pit containing 5 - 6 worked lithics was excavated immediately above this layer and two further shovel test pits containing lithics were located above the quarry.

4.7.4 **Trenches 7** and **10** (cuts **704** and **1005**) contained the southern and eastern edge of a large cut measuring at least 13m x 8.5m x 1m deep (**Figure 2**). The excavation revealed that the flat base of cut **704** extended to the northern end of **Trench 7** forming a level plateau. The cut contained two made ground clay deposits (**704** and **705**) which contained modern artefacts (19^{th}/20^{th} century). A buried soil **703** and later clay made ground layer **702** immediately below the current topsoil **701**. It seemed evident that the cut formed some form of substantial landscaping works as no suitable quarry material was observed.

4.7.5 **Trench 5** was located to the immediate south of the existing quarry edge (**Figure 2**) and contained two substantial cuts (**504** and **506**) measuring 4.7m and 8.8m wide. The cuts were filled by clinker and ash deposits (**505** and **507**) containing large quantities of modern (19^{th}/20^{th} century) pottery, glass, ceramic building material (CBM), slag and stones.

4.7.6 It would appear that the entire northern spur of the Site covered by **Trenches 1** to **3** (**Figure 2**) was subjected to extensive quarry disturbance and subsequent ground levelling. The modernity of the deposits was noticed during the LPA monitor meeting and it was agreed that test sondages at both ends of each trench was necessary to confirm similar sequences throughout the area. The southern end of **Trench 3** was excavated to a depth of 0.9m to reveal modern made ground deposits (**302 – 304**) sloping down slightly from west to east. A deep sondage at the northern end of the trench was excavated to a depth of 1.8m bgl to reveal a grey clay, similar to **303** in the southern end of the trench, continuing below that depth (**Plate 12**). Similar sondage at the north-western end of **Trench 1** and the eastern end of **Trench 2** revealed made ground to depths of 1.2m and 1m respectively.

5 FINDS

5.1 General

5.1.1 A total of 12.5 kilogrammes of stone was collected from the Site from two trenches (**9** and **11**) and two test pits (**North** and **South**) and retained for specialist examination to determine whether any had been worked or utilised. Most of this material comprised fragments of chert, which outcrops naturally within the Site. Fragments of sandstone were also present.

5.1.2 Examination highlighted only two small pieces of stone that showed possible signs of utilisation. One piece from **Test Pit South** has one flat surface and part of a possible curved edge; this just might be a quernstone fragment. The second piece, from **Trench 11**, has two flattish surfaces approximately at right angles, and one convex face. This is less convincingly utilised, and its function, if it is worked, is uncertain. However, in light of the difficulty in identifying worked chert on this Site a natural origin cannot be ruled out for either piece.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Summary

6.1.1 A total of eighteen trenches were excavated across the Site. Two further test pits were excavated to assess the worked lithic potential. The evaluation uncovered no significant archaeological remains.

6.1.2 The evaluation uncovered an undulating bedrock evident as outcrops of limestone and chert that were fragmentary as a result of frost shattering and breakage by machine. The limestone was predominantly located along the eastern fringe of the Site. Natural outcrops of chert were located in the central portion of the Site in what appeared to be a spur running northeast to southwest. The overlying dark orange fine sandy clay around the chert spur contained an abundance of small to medium sized chips and fragments of angular chert, which had migrated into the overlying subsoil probably through a combination of weathering (mechanical disintegration or chemical decomposition), cryo- and bioturbation, ploughing and rotavation. Large quantities of chert/shale were noted in the subsoil in **Trenches 4**, **6**, **8**, **9**, **11**, **12**, **15** and **16**. A close examination of the interface between the topsoil and natural was undertaken in each trench and no worked flints or chert could be identified. Only two pieces of chert that were analysed, from the large

quantity of chert sent for specialist analysis, were tentatively noted as potentially worked or utilised.

6.1.3 Several discrete anomalies were investigated and found to be tree bowls, bioturbatory features or geological hollows. No archaeological features were uncovered.

6.1.4 A large proportion of the Site (**Trenches 1 – 3**, **5**, **7**, **10**, **13** and **17**) had been heavily truncated by modern landscaping or quarrying. Up to 1.8m+ made ground material was uncovered in the northern tip of the Site indicating that the entire area had been quarried and re-landscaped to level it up to the area immediately west. Large earthworks filled by industrial waste were uncovered in **Trench 5** and a large "shelving" landscape cut was identified in Trenches **7** and **10**. A small quarry pit was uncovered in the eastern half of **Trench 13** and the majority of **Trench 17** was disturbed by a modern construction site compound, a large sewer drain and a rubbish dump.

6.2 Conclusions

6.2.1 From the conclusions reached in the previous shovel test pitting programme (OAN 2013) there is an obvious disparity between the two sets of results. OAN (2013) recovered *c.* 270 pieces of lithic material that was identified as worked whilst the investigations here tentatively noted only two potentially worked chert stones.

6.2.2 The evaluation revealed that the Site contained what appeared to be an undulating spur of natural chert bedrock that ran through the southern half of the Site from north-east towards the south-west corner, where the OAN results collected the majority of the worked lithic material. No patterning to the scatter could be determined; however, the material seemed to intensify over a very large area in the south-western quadrant of the Site. The excavations here revealed that the chert outcrops had weathered via frost shattering and that the small to medium sized angular material had migrated to the overlying natural fine sandy clay and subsoil. The material was fairly evenly spread in large patches within the natural substrate and appeared to be evenly dispersed throughout the subsoil.

6.2.3 It was noted that a number of OAN worked lithics had been collected from shovel test pits over made ground. A total of *c.* 36 were located over the northern spur of the Site which the evaluation trenches uncovered made ground deposits over 1.8m in depth. A total of *c.* 66 lithics were recovered from shovel test pits on or near the tops of known large sewage service cuts running up the western edge and through the central portion of the Site. Similarly, a further *c.*18 lithics were recovered from pits over made/disturbed ground and small scale quarrying in the south-eastern quadrant of the Site. The shovel test pits probably encountered the made ground clays underlying the topsoil as natural (understandable in a restrictive shovel test pit).

6.2.4 The evaluation is considered a success in identifying the natural geological sequences and taphonomic processes by which small to medium sized chips and fragments natural chert material has migrated from the chert outcrops into the surrounding natural clays and into the subsoil. Although there is disparity between the shovel test pitting programme and the evaluation in terms of lithic identification, this larger scale work could not convincingly identify a quantity of worked chert pieces. Similarly, no archaeological features could be identified which would corroborate the density of worked lithic material previously identified (OAN 2013). Substantial quarry activity, landscaping and modern disturbance in the eastern and northern tip of the Site has been uncovered which would have effectively obliterated any earlier remains.

7 STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1 Museum

7.1.1 In light of the negative results, one hard copy and a pdf copy on disc of this report will be sent to the Derbyshire HER. An OASIS report accompanied by this report will also be uploaded.

7.2 Security copy

In line with current best practice (e.g. 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.

8 REFERENCES

8.1 Bibliography

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9 APPENDICES

9.1 Appendix 1: Trench context tables

Trench 1		Dimensions: 50* x 1.8m Max depth: 1.2m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
101	Topsoil – Dark reddish brown sandy clay with grass over.	0–0.25
102	Made ground – Mixed brown modern clay make up layer to level the ground surface to the south of tram/quarry cut. Possible up-cast material.	0.25-0.7
103	Made ground – Mid brownish grey clay, make up layer.	0.7-1.2
104	Made ground – Dark yellowish grey clay.	1.2+

* Trench excavated in two end segments to confirm the modernity and nature of the trench deposits (see Figure 2)

Trench 2		Dimensions: 25* x 1.8m Max depth: 0.98m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
201	Topsoil – Loose reddish brown sandy silt with grass over.	0-0.14
202	Modern made ground – Mixed deposit of yellow and grey clay with clinker inclusions. A compact land surface levelling layer.	0.14-0.52
203	Made ground – Dark pinkish orange sandy clay with gritty componant.	0.52-0.88
204	Made ground – Highly mixed orange/light brown clay tith limestone shumks and soil in pockets.	0.88-0.98+

* Trench excavated in two end segments to confirm the modernity and nature of the trench deposits (see Figure 2)

Trench 3		Dimensions: 50* x 1.8m Max depth: 1.8m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
301	Topsoil – Loose reddish brown sandy silt with grass over.	0-0.2
302	Made ground – Pinkish brown clay including sand and grit.	0.2-0.8
303	Made ground – Dark grey sandy clay. Deposit slopes down 0.15m from opposing section, from west to east, thickening downslope.	0.8-+
304	Made ground – Mixed yellowish orange/grey clay with pebbles and sand.	0.8 – 1.8+

* Trench excavated in two end segments to confirm the modernity and nature of the trench deposits (see Figure 2)

Trench 4		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.3m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
401	Topsoil – Dark greyish brown clayey silt with grass over. Rare small stone inclusions.	0-0.18/20
402	Subsoil – Light reddish brown clayey silt with abundant angular shale/chert? Inclusions.	0.18/20-0.3
403	Natural – An orangey brown silty clay with frost shattered chert/shale inclusions throughout, at the higher southern end. The lower northern half contained patches of chart/shale with more orangey fine sandy clay.	0.28-0.3+

Trench 5		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.52m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
501	Topsoil – Dark reddish brown clayey silt with rare small angular stone inclusions and modern (19th/20th century) pottery.	0-0.32
502	Subsoil – Mid orangey brown silty clay with rare small stone inclusions with some modern pottery.	0.32-0.52
503	Natural – Light yellowish orange silty clay with patches of dark orange sandy clay. Sparse stone inclusions throughout.	0.52+
504	Large linear cut (8.8m wide) extending across the trench width at the west trench end. Modern material in the fill indicated that the cut was probably modern quarrying activity.	0.17-0.52+
505	Modern clinker and ash fill of 504. Contained abundant modern pottery, glass bottles, slag, CBM and stones.	0.17-0.52+
506	Larger linear cut (5m wide) extending across the eastern end of the trench.	0.37+
507	Modern blackish clinker, ash and clayey silt fill of 505. Contains common modern pottery inclusions.	0.37+

Trench 6		Dimensions: 25 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.36m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
601	Topsoil – Mid greyish brown clayey silt with grass over and rare stone inclusions.	0-0.26
602	Subsoil – Mid orangey brown clayey silt with abundant stone inclusions.	0.26-0.36
603	Natural – Mid orange sandy clay with <15% angualr stone inclusions. The western 4m of natural contained abundant chart/shale inclusions.	0.36+

Trench 7		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 1m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
701	Topsoil – Dark greyish brown clayey silt with very rare small chert/shale inclusions and grass over.	0-0.12
702	Made ground – Intermittant layer of light brown/orange clay between the current and former topsoils.	0.12-0.2
703	Buried topsoil – Dark geryish brown clayey silt.	0.2-0.28
704	Landscaping cut – A single east-west linear cut 14.5m from the southern end of the trench, extending across the trench width. No oppossing cut was evident suggesting a terracing landscaping cut forming a shelf to the north. The cut corresponded to a north-south cut in trench 10 [1005] c. 12m to the east.	0.28-1
705	Lower terracing fill- A light pinkish, plastic silty clayextending from the sondahe cut through 704 to the northern end of the trench.	0.6-1
706	Upper terracing fill – Mid brown/orange mixed silt to sandy clay. Fill contained at least two modern ceramic sherds and CBM. Deposit extended from the cut 704 to the northern end of the trench. Probable lstabilizing, levelling layer below the buried topsoil.	0.28-0.6
707	Natural – A mid reddish orange fine sandy clay with patches of limestone bedrock below. Deposit survived up to cut 704, at the base of this cut the natural was orangey yellow fine sandy clay.	1+

Trench 8		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.3m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
801	Topsoil – Dark brown silt containing sub-angular stone inclusions and modern pot.	0-0.25
802	Natural – Yellowish brown clay with infrequent angular natural chert inclusions and two large sub-round chert rocks.	0.25+
803	Natural – Chert/shale frost shatterd bedrock outcrop at the southern end of the trench.	0.3+

Trench 9		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.25m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
901	Topsoil – Dark greyish brown clayey silt with grass over and rae angular chert/shale inclusions.	0-0.2
902	Subsoil – Mid orangey brown topsoil/natural interface of silt and sandy clay with abundant angular chips of chart/shale at the northern end of trench.	0.2-0.25
903	Natural – Orange sandy clay with four large outcrops of frost shattered chert/shale along the trench. The chert outcrop density increases to the lower north-eastern end of the trench matching the density of chert in the soil matrix.	0.25+

Trench 10		Dimensions: 25 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.6m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
1001	Top soil – Dark greyish brown clayey silt with grass over.	0-0.15
1002	Modern made ground – Dark orange brown sandy/clayey silt.	0.15-0.2
1003	Buried soil – Dark greyish brown clayey silt over the terracing activity.	0.2-0.35
1004	VOID	
1005	Terracing cut – Single cut line aligned north-south extending across the trench width at mid-point. Possibly forms the eastern edge of the terracing noted in Trench 7 (See 704).	0.35+
1006	Terracing backfill – Very mixed deposit of orange sandy clay and silt pockets.	0.35-0.6+
1007	Natural – Brownish orange silty/sandy clay, immediately overlying the outcrop of frost shattered limestone natural at the eastern end of the trench.	0.2-0.35+

Trench 11		Dimensions: 25 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.3m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
1101	Topsoil – Mid yellowish brown clayey silt with grass over and rare angualr stone inclusions and modern pottery.	0-0.2
1102	Subsoil – Light brownish orange interface to natural of sandy/clayey silt.	0.2-0.3
1103	Natural – Mid orange fine sandy clay with a fairly evenly spread deposition of chert/shale throughout the eastern half of the trench. The spread thinned out towards the western half of the trench with increased yellow colouration to the clay.	0.3+

Trench 12		Dimensions: 25 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.36m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
1201	Topsoil – Dark greyish brown clayey silt with sparse angular stone inclusions	0-0.16
1202	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown clayey silt with moderate angualr stone inclusions	0.16-0.36
1203	Natural – Mid orange brown clayey silt with common chert/shale incusions throughout and occassional patches of more abundant limestone	0.6+

Trench 13		Dimensions: 25 x 1.8m Max depth: 1.5m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
1301	Topsoil – Dark brown clayey silt.	0 - 0.3
1302	Subsoil – Yellow brown silty clay.	0.3-0.4
1303	Buried topsoil – Dark brown clayey silt.	0.4-0.55
1304	Made ground – Orange brown sandy clay make up layer inclusing abundant sub-angular stones.	0.55-0.75
1305	Natural – Yellowish broen silty clay.	0.75+
1306	Fill of 1307 – Homogeneous light yellowish brown silty clay. An obvious backfill to level the hole made by 1307.	0.75–1.5
1307	Quarry cut – A single north-south aligned cut extending across the trench. A machine sondage in the centre of the visible extent was 0.75m deep to limestone and black overlying soil at the base. The cut was located centrally within the trench with the fill to the east. No opposing edge was uncovered in the this trench of Trench 14 to the immediate east suggesting that the eastern edge was beteween the eastern edge of this trench and the western side of Trench 14.	0.75–1.5

Trench 14		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.44m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
1401	Topsoil – Dark greyish brown clayey silt with rare unworked flint inclusions.	0-0.27
1402	Subsoil – Mid reddisah brown clayey silt with rare stone inclusions.	0.27-0.44
1403	Natural – Mid greyish orange clayey silt with abundant medium sized angular stone inclusions.	0.44+
1404	Natural – Frost shattered limestone bedrock patches underlying 1403.	0.44+

Trench 15		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.45m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
1501	Topsoil – Dark brown clayey silt with infrequent angular chert and subrounded limestone inclusions.	0-0.2
1502	Natural – Mid yellow sitly clay with infreqhent subangular chert/shale inclusions throughout. Layer wiothing the southwestern half of the trench.	0.2+
1503	Natural – Greyish yellow clay with infrequent subrounded stone inclusions. Layer present in the northeastern half of the trench.	0.3+
1504	Partially reveled highly irregularly northwestern edged cut measuring 5.7m long x 0.15m deep. Glassx uncovered from the fill confirmed the disturbance's modernity.	0.-0.45
1505	Fill of 1504 – Dark brown clayey silt containing modern glass.	0.3-0.45

Trench 16		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.5m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
1601	Topsoil – Dark greyish brown clayey silt with rare stone inclusions	0-0.24
1602	Subsoil – Mid yellowish grey clayey silt with common small to medium sized angualr shale/chert and rare unworked flint inclusions.	0.24-0.34+
1603	Natural – A mixed grey/orange gleyed sandy clay which contained a large patch or outcrop of frost and machine shattered chert/shale in the northern third of the trench.	0.34+
1604	Subsoil – Located at the northern end of the trench was a pocket of mid brownish orange silty clay in a hollow in the lee of the chert/shale outcrop.	0.35-0.50

Trench 17		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.44m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
1701	Topsoil – Mid greyish brown clayey silt heavily disturbed.	0-0.26
1702	Subsoil – Mid brownish orange sandy cl;ay with frequent limestone chunks	0.26-0.44
1703	Natural – Lighter orange sine sandy clay with abundant small to large chunks of limestion and chert overlying a frost shhattered limestone bedrock at the eastern end of the trench	0.44+

Trench 18		Dimensions: 50 x 1.8m Max depth: 0.48m
Context	**Description**	**Depth (m)**
1801	Topsoil – Dark reddish brown clayey silt at the eastern end of the trench, changing to a dark greyish brown at the west.	0-0.25
1802	Subsoil – Mid reddish orange sandy clay oresent at the eastern trench end where the natural deepens.	0.25-0.48
1803	Natural – Mottled (gleyed) greyish orange clay	0.27/0.48+
1804	Subsoil – A gritty grey clayey silt at the western end of the trench containing modern artefacts and abundant small to medium sized fragments of angular shale/chert.	0.25-0.27

9.2 Appendix 2:OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-197729

Project details	
Project name	Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire
Short description of the project	Eighteen trenches of 50m and 25m lengths were excavated across the Site. The purpose of the trenching was to assess the positive worked lithic artefact results of a previous shovel test pit evaluation and to examine blank areas to determine the archaeological potential of the Site and to inform any mitigation strategy prior to the impact of the development. The trenching amounted to a 5% coverage of the total area. The results of the evaluation revealed no archaeological remains and the recovery of flint or chert artefacts consisted of two, tentatively assigned worked chert lithics. The evaluation did uncover a spur of undulating natural chert bedrock running across the Site from the centre towards the southwest corner. The outcrops showed frost shattered weathering and the small to medium sized chips and angular fragments of degraded chert had migrated into the surrounding clay natural substrate and overlying subsoil via natural and recent human agricultural and landscaping activities. It is considered that this concentration of angular chert in the southwest quadrant of the Site may have accounted for the interpretation of worked lithics in that region from a previous shovel test pitting programme. The evaluation also uncovered substantial disturbance in the form of quarrying, landscaping, rubbish disposal, sewage drainage cuts and a modern building site compound. The entire northern tip of the Site was made up of over 1.8m of modern made ground and substantial areas in the north-eastern, eastern and south eastern parts of the Site contained modern made ground deposits over which the previous shovel test pitting programme had found worked lithics. These heavily disturbed areas would have effectively removed any earlier archaeological activity within those affected areas.
Project dates	Start: 24-12-2014 End: 28-12-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	106970 - Site code
Any associated project reference codes	DERBS:2013.12. - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	N/A None
Significant Finds	N/A None
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	DERBYSHIRE HIGH PEAK BUXTON Hallsteads, Dove Holes, Derbyshire
Postcode	SK17 8BX
Study area	3.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	SK 407800 378600 52.9362708504 -1.39317581078 52 56 10 N 001 23 35 W Point

Height OD / Depth	Min: 326.00m Max: 334.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting Ltd.
Project design originator	CgMS Consulting Ltd
Project supervisor	Neil Dransfield
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Buxton Museum
Digital Archive ID	DERBS:2013.12.
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Buxton Museum
Paper Archive ID	DERBS:2013.12.
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

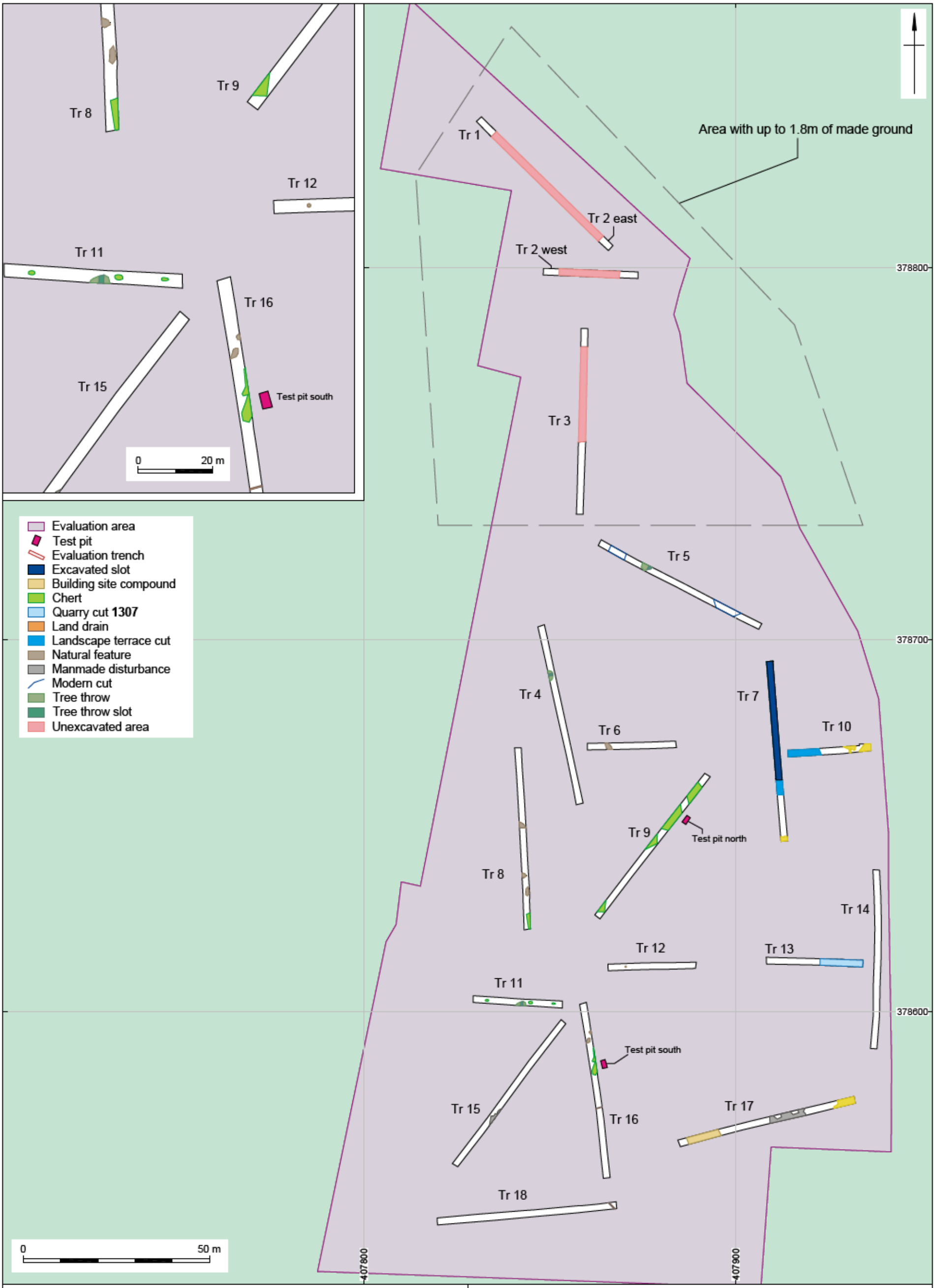
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Hallsteads , Dove Holes, Derbyshire Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	N. Dransfield
Date	2014

Entered by	Neil Dransfield (n.dransfield@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	10 December 2014

Date:	17/12/2014	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Main graphic - 1:5000 @ A4	Illustrator:	APS
Path:	Y:\Projects\106970\Graphics Office\Rep figs\Eval\2014_12_17		

Site and trench locations

Figure 1



Date:	17/12/2014	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Main graphic - 1:1000 @ A4 Insert - 1:500 @ A4	Illustrator:	APS
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Trench plans with detailed insert

Figure 2

Plate 1: Machining in spits to the top of the subsoil in **Trench 11**

Plate 2: The top of subsoil deposit **1102** in **Trench 11** showing abundant chert fragments

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Plate 3: Examining the subsoil for worked lithics in **Trench 16**

Plate 4: Chert outcrop at the south-western end of **Trench 9**

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Plate 5: Natural chert outcrop in **Trench 11**

Plate 6: Large piece of chert in **Trench 9** showing breakage by machine (left) and frost (right)

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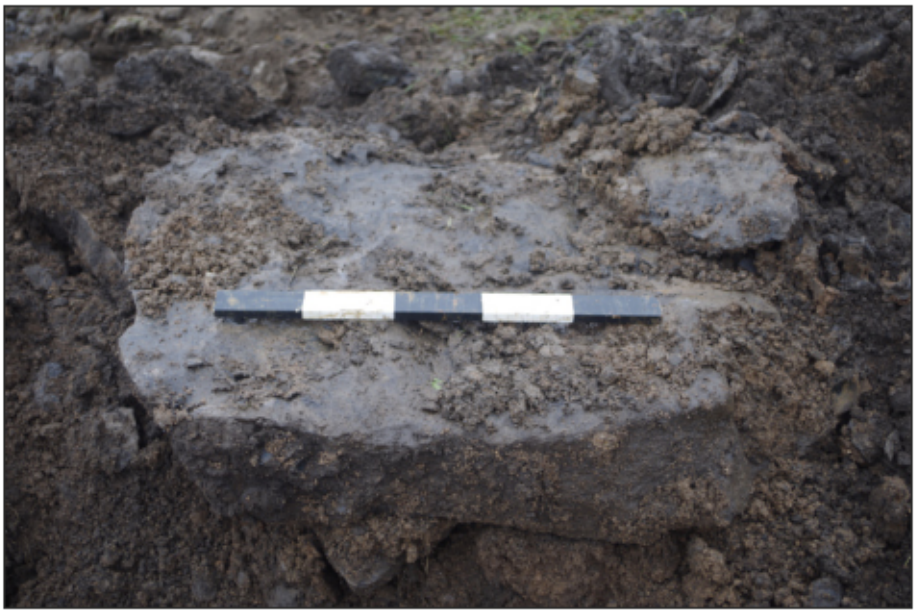

Plate 7: Large, flat chert boulder from **Trench 16**

Plate 8: Abundant chert in Natural layer **403**

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Scale:	N/A	Illustrator:	APS
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Plate 9: A small chert patch and abundant inclusions in **Trench 4**

Plate 10: Discrete natural feature in **Trench 8**

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Plate 11: Discrete natural feature in **Trench 16**

Plate 12: Tree bowl in **Trench 11**

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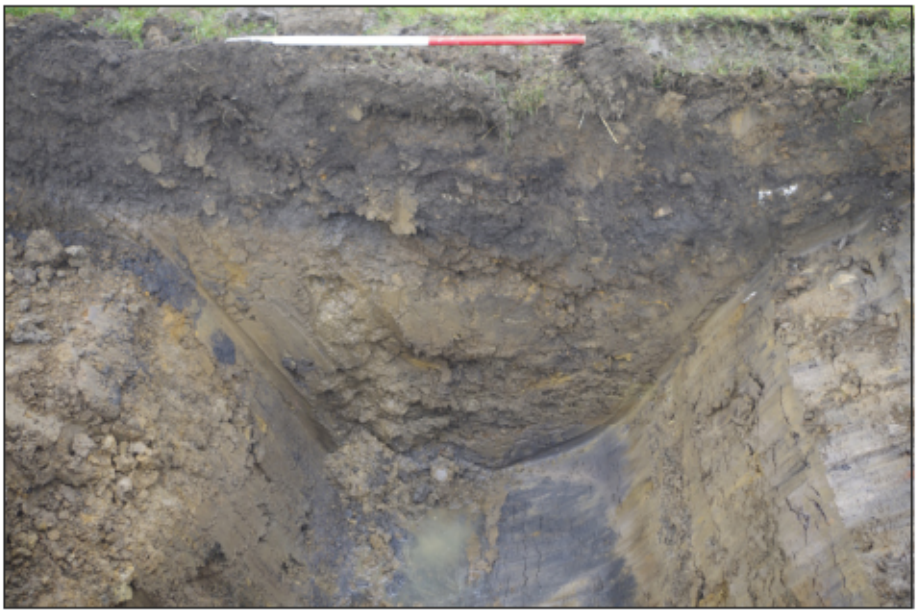

Plate 13: Sondage at the north of **Trench 3** to 1.8m deep

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