



Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Hipper Street South, Chesterfield, Derbyshire



Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Northampton NN4 8BE
t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822
e. sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk
w. www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk



**Northamptonshire
County Council**

Chesterfield Museum
Accession no. CHTFM 2011.15

Stephen Morris & Iain Soden

Report 11/169

December 2011



STAFF

Project Manager	Iain Soden BA, MIfA
Text	Stephen Morris
Fieldwork	Stephen Morris, Jonathan Elston BA James Ladocha BA
Illustration	Amir Bassir BSc
Pottery	Iain Soden
Clay tobacco-pipe	Tim Upson-Smith BA PGDip
Brick and tile	Pat Chapman BA CMS AlfA
Slag	Andy Chapman BSc MIfA FSA

QUALITY CONTROL

	Print name	Signed	Date
Checked by	Pat Chapman		
Verified by	Iain Soden		
Approved by	Andy Chapman		

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS							
Project name	Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Hipper Street South, Chesterfield, Derbyshire						
Short description (250 words maximum)	Archaeological trial excavations were undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on behalf of Wrightson Associates on land at Hipper Street South, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. A series of Victorian deposits were encountered during the investigation forming a terraced hillside on a steep south-facing slope, with a raised ground level up 2.4m above the floodplain of the River Hipper. The make-up deposits at the base of the slope included the spread of a Victorian rubbish dump of household pottery and glass waste. Other remains included brick walls dating to the 19th and 20th centuries, a flagstone floor and concrete path.						
Project type	Trial excavations						
Site status	Urban occupation						
Previous work	Desk-based assessment, watching brief and building recording on previous stages of Ravenside Retail Park development by Northamptonshire Archaeology.						
Current Land use	Terraced tenements/lodging house (demolished)						
Future work	No						
Monument / period	Victorian and modern						
Significant finds	Victorian pottery/glass						
PROJECT LOCATION							
County	Derbyshire						
Site address	Ravenside Retail Park, Hipper Street South, Chesterfield S40 1SS						
Study area	0.5ha						
OS location	centred on NGR SK 3845 7080						
Height OD	C79--82m above Ordnance Datum						
PROJECT CREATORS							
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology						
Project brief originator	Steve Baker, Derbyshire County Council						
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire Archaeology						
Director/Supervisor	Stephen Morris, Northamptonshire Archaeology						
Project Manager	Iain Soden, Northamptonshire Archaeology,						
Sponsor	Land Securities PLC; agent Wrightson Associates						
PROJECT DATE							
Start date	July 2011						
End date	August 2011						
ARCHIVES	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>Location (Accession no)</th> <th>Content</th> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">CHTFM 2011.15</td> <td>Pottery, glass, brick, tile</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Context record, associated registers, photographic record, permatrace drawings & background documentation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Client report PDF</td> </tr> </table>	Location (Accession no)	Content	CHTFM 2011.15	Pottery, glass, brick, tile	Context record, associated registers, photographic record, permatrace drawings & background documentation	Client report PDF
Location (Accession no)	Content						
CHTFM 2011.15	Pottery, glass, brick, tile						
	Context record, associated registers, photographic record, permatrace drawings & background documentation						
	Client report PDF						
Physical							
Paper							
Digital							
BIBLIOGRAPHY	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report						
Title	Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Hipper Street South, Chesterfield, Derbyshire						
Serial title & volume	Northamptonshire Archaeology report 11/169						
Author(s)	Stephen Morris						
Page numbers	1-27						
Date	December 2011						

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	
2	BACKGROUND	
2.1	Archaeological background	
2.2	Topography and geology	
3	TRIAL EXCAVATION STRATEGY	
3.1	Objectives	
3.2	Methodology	
4	THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE	
4.1	Trenches 2-4	
4.2	Trenches 5-7	
5	THE FINDS	
5.1	Post-medieval pottery	by Iain Soden
5.2	Clay tobacco-pipe	by Tim Upson-Smith
5.3	Brick and tile	by Pat Chapman
5.4	Slags	by Andy Chapman
6	SUMMARY	
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	
	APPENDIX 1: LEVEL DATA	
	APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX	

Tables

Table 1: Pottery by context and type

Figures

Front: View between Hipper Street South and East View, looking north

- Fig 1: Site location
- Fig 2: Trial trench location
- Fig 3: Trenches 2 and 3, plans and sections 1 and 2
- Fig 4: Trenches 4 and 5, plans and sections 3 and 4
- Fig 5: Trench 2, south facing section with soil layers (203) and (204)
- Fig 6: Trenches 3 and 4, the rear of Hipper Street South, facing north-east
- Fig 7: Trench 4, wall [408] and flagstone/brick floor [409] of outbuilding
- Fig 8: Trench 4, drain cover [405], a possible reused millstone
- Fig 9: Trenches 6 and 7, plans and sections 5 and 6
- Fig 10: Trench 5, south facing section, with layers (501) to (519)
- Fig 11: Trench 6, displaying the east facing section, with layers (601) to (611)
- Fig 12: Trench 7, north facing section, with layers (701) to (707)
- Fig13: 2009 watching brief trench, north-south arm, facing south
- Fig14: Examples of the locally produced Brampton ware,
(Nottingham Stoneware tradition) from layers (702) and (517)

Back: 14th-century spire of Chesterfield Parish Church, St Mary and All Saints,
looking east

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION AT HIPPER STREET SOUTH, CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE

Abstract

Archaeological trial excavations were undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology on land at Hipper Street South, Chesterfield, to the east of the Ravenside Retail Park. A series of Victorian deposits were encountered during the investigation forming a terraced hillside on a steep south facing slope, with a raised ground level up to 2.4m above the floodplain of the River Hipper. The make-up deposits at the base of the slope included the spread of a Victorian rubbish dump of household pottery and glass waste. Other remains included brick walls dating to the later 19th and early 20th centuries, stone and concrete surfaces. These deposits directly overlie undisturbed natural.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology undertook archaeological trial trench excavation on c 0.55ha of land at Hipper Street South, Chesterfield, Derbyshire (Fig 1; centred on NGR SK 3845 7080). The work was undertaken on behalf of Wrightson Associates acting for Land Securites in fulfilment of a Chesterfield Borough Council condition (Planning Application CHE/06/00243/FUL). The work was carried out in July-August 2011 in fine weather conditions and in accordance with a Derbyshire County Council Brief from Derbyshire County Council and an agreed Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA 2011).

In 2009 on the same site a watching brief was mounted during the insertion of drains in the former Cattelco Car Park (Fig 2). This was dug to natural clay at a depth of c 0.75m, but no archaeological remains were encountered other than modern build up and truncated brick foundation (Fig 13).

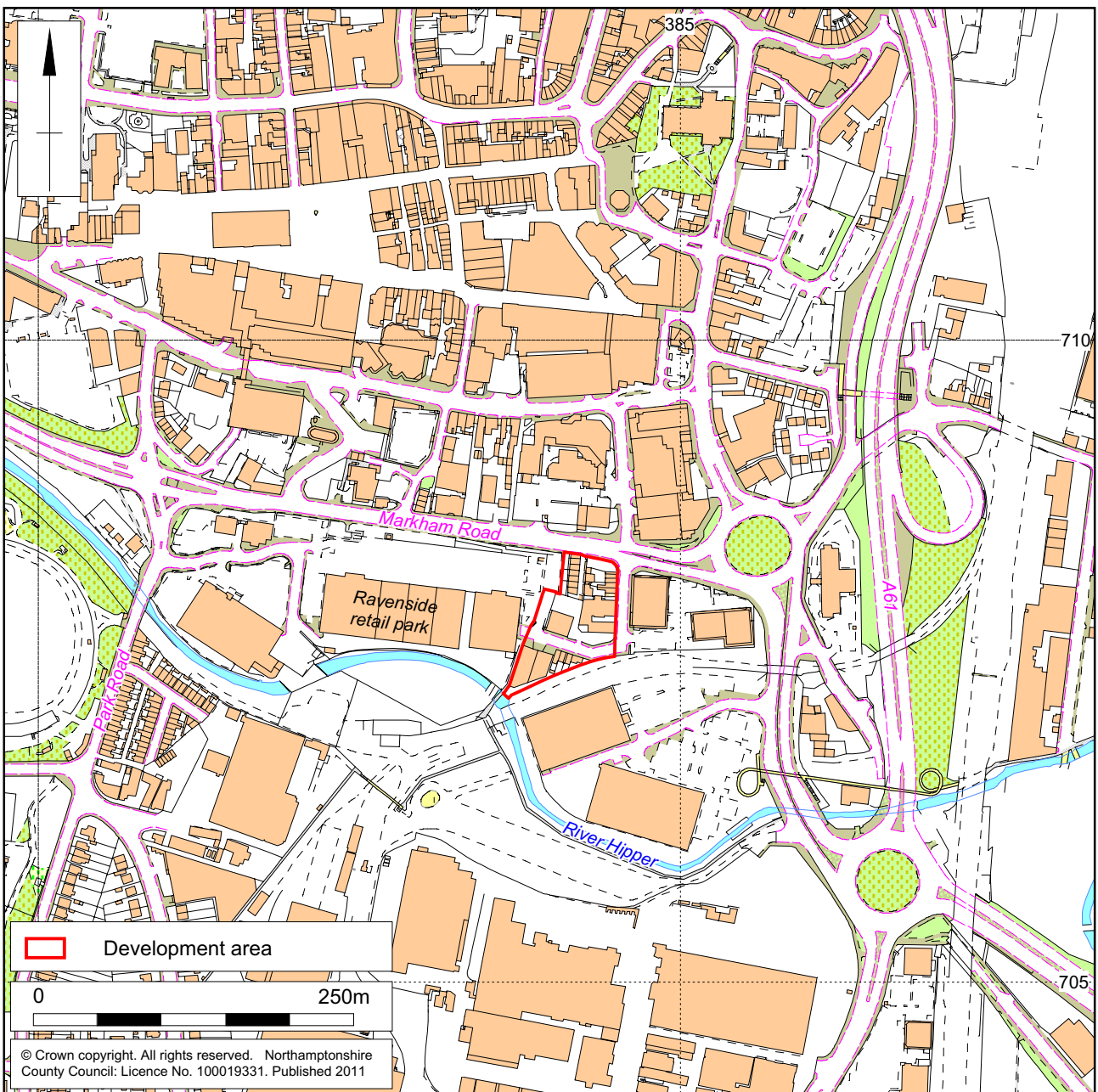
2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological background

The current works come at the end of a prolonged series of assessments and watching briefs related to the progressive development of the Ravenside Retail Park from the mid-1990s. These commenced with a desk-based assessment (Chapman 1995) followed by successive stages of watching brief (Chapman 1997 and 2002). These earlier phases of investigation were concerned with the recent development of the area, beginning in the mid to late-19th century.

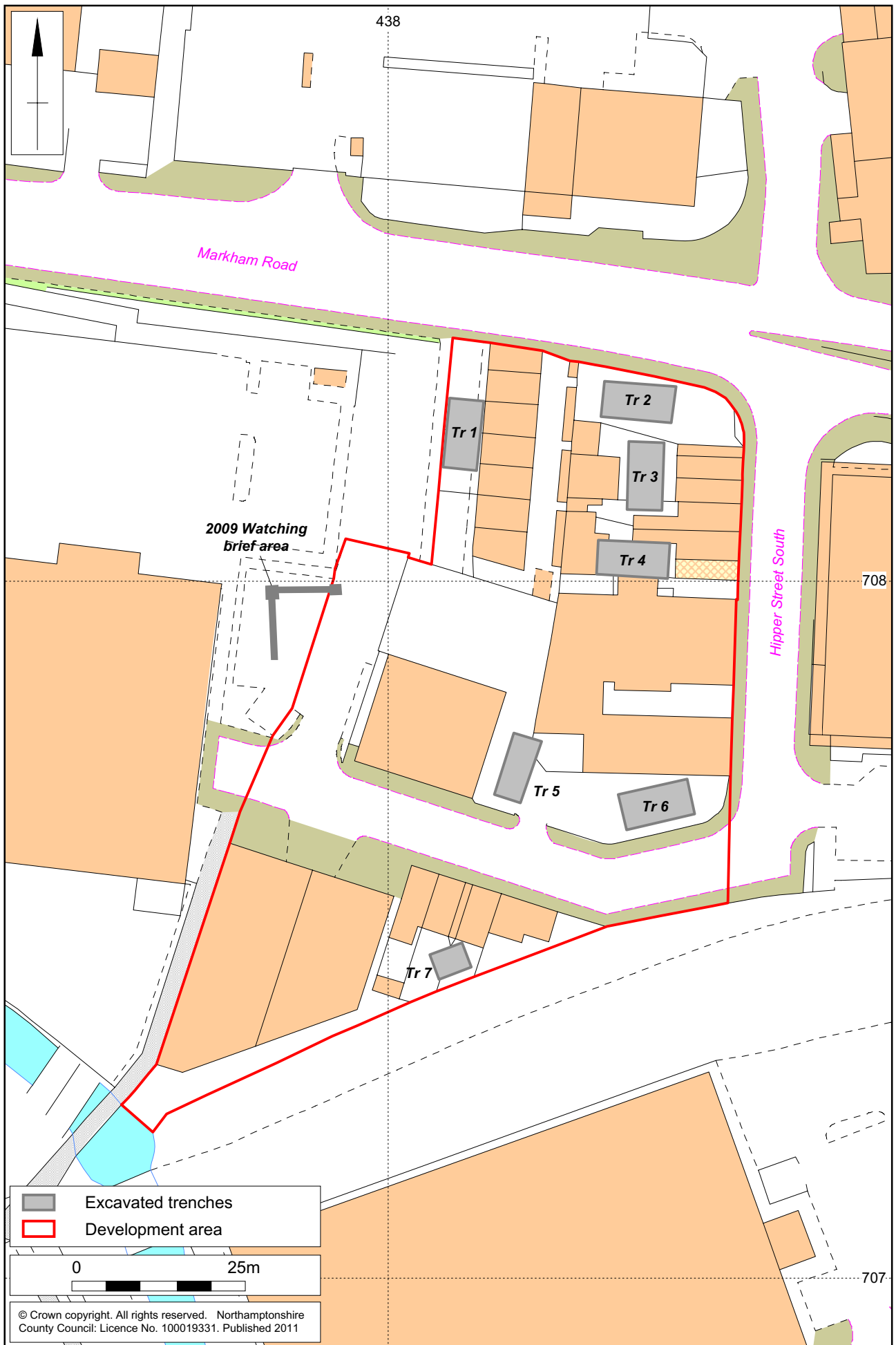
Following the Derbyshire Extensive Urban Survey report for Chesterfield (Stroud 2002), attention has focussed on the potential for the survival of earlier remains, medieval, Roman and perhaps even prehistoric, on the lower slopes above the River Hipper, which has widened the remit of the recent investigations. The known extent of the Roman occupation and the core of the medieval town, lie on the higher ground to the north, and the land south of Markham Road was only developed in the late 19th century. A new desk-based assessment was provided for the current site (Chapman 2005), although the evaluation of an adjacent site to the east of Hipper Street South failed to find any pre-modern archaeological deposits (Jones 2005).

A former Victorian lodging house and late Victorian houses, in whose gardens the current trenching was partly located, were subject to building recording in 2009 (Soden 2009).



Scale 1:5000

Site location Fig 1



Scale 1:750 (A4)

Trench location plan Fig 2

2.2 Topography and geology

The site lies some 200m south of the town centre of Chesterfield on ground sloping down from the town to Markham Road on the north side of the development area at c83m above Ordnance Datum, to c80m aOD south towards the floodplain of the River Hipper. The river course is not visible from the site, as it is screened by the remains of a former railway embankment. Hipper Street South and East View are parallel roads on a north-south alignment, running with the slope of the ground. At the foot of the slope, close to the embankment, Hipper Street South turns westward and is a vehicular route, although not a through-route. Here, at 79.3m aOD, the road is at a much lower elevation than the nearby premises of the pedestrian alleyway of East View, which is a dead-end and lies closer to the elevation of Markham Road (Soden 2009).

The solid geology of the Chesterfield area consists of productive Westphalian coal measures, with sandstones, shales and clay. Carboniferous mudstones with ironstone are exposed immediately to the north and east of the town (Stroud 2002).

3 TRIAL EXCAVATION STRATEGY

3.1 Objectives

The aim of the evaluation was to establish the presence/absence, extent, thickness, depth of burial, date and significance of surviving archaeological deposits which may relate to the origins and development of Chesterfield. It was intended that such remains may be preserved by record before the redevelopment of the site commenced, in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (NA 2009, revised April 2011).

An archaeological field evaluation of the development site was undertaken, which constituted a 3.5% sample and comprised c 250sq m of trenches, in sizes fitted to the ground conditions. Four trenches up to 10m x 5m in plan (Trenches 2-4, and 6, Fig 2). Trench 5 (4m x 9m) and Trench 7 (3.5m x 5m) were reduced in size due to the limited working area and the hazardous depth of the excavations. Trench 1 was not excavated as a live gas main passed through the proposed trench area and there was no room to adjust its position.

3.2 Methodology

The trenches were machined to the top of significant archaeological deposits using a toothless ditching bucket. Thereafter excavation proceeded by hand. The position of the trenches were located to cover the area of the development, avoiding recent disturbance, such as cellars, where this was known, and 19th-century houses and other foundations.

Where archaeological features were present, recording followed the standard Northamptonshire Archaeology single context recording system with context sheets, cross-referenced to scale plans, section drawings and photographs, both in 35mm black and white negative and in digital format (NA 2006). The record was supplemented by direct annotations of the site general plan as required. The work was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidelines for an archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008) and *Code of Conduct* (IfA 2010).

The locations of archaeological features were plotted at an appropriate 1:50 or 1:100 scale, with complex features being planned in more detail. Plans were related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Measured plans and sections were drawn as appropriate and spot heights were linked to Ordnance Datum.

4 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

Trench 2 was the most northerly of the excavated trenches, lying at the top of the south facing slope adjacent to Markham Road, where the ground level was c 82.8m above Ordnance Datum (OD). To the south, Trenches 3 and 4 were positioned in open yards between the remaining terraced houses of Hipper Street South (Numbers 35, 37, 39 and 41), with east facing frontages and the demolished out-buildings to the west. Trench 2 may have been on a raised terrace as the ground drops down c 1.5m to Trenches 3 and 4, which were on roughly level ground at c 81.35m above OD (Appendix 1, Table 1, levels data).

Trenches 5 and 6 were at the bottom of the slope on the north side of Hipper Street South as it turns to the west, within the grounds of the demolished former Lodging House. Trench 5 lay on an east to west slope, with ground level heights of 79.25m and 78.52m above OD, at their respective ends. Trench 6 lay to the east of Trench 5 at between 77.28m and 77.81m above OD. Trench 7 was placed in the rear garden area of the properties that once occupied the south side of Hipper Street South with a ground level of 77.42m aOD, which would have been in the area of the floodplain of River Hipper. The trenches extended over an area of c 85m north to south (Appendix 1, levels data).

4.1 Trenches 2-4

Natural geology

These three trenches were located close together towards the top of the slope. They displayed a similar sequence of stratigraphy of natural yellow-orange sandy clay (205), (303), (403), overlaid by dark brown sandy loam subsoil (204), (302), (402), which may be the remnant of a buried soil (Figs 3 and 4). The natural in Trench 2 was between c 1.0m to 1.10m below the ground level. In Trenches 3 and 4 the natural lay between c 0.40m to 0.80m below the ground level (Appendix 1, levels data).

Subsoil

The subsoil (204) formed a distinct layer in Trench 2 (Fig 3, section 1), up to 0.30m thick, but within Trench 3 (302), its depth had been reduced to c 0.20m (Fig 3, Section 2; Fig 6). In Trench 4 the layer (402) had thinned to 0.05m to 0.15m, becoming patchy and less distinct on the downward slope (Fig 4, section 3; Fig 6). The soil contained occasional small stone and charcoal flecks, but no datable artefacts.

Garden soil

The subsoil was sealed by a substantial make-up layer of a well sorted dark grey-brown loam garden soil (203), (301), (401), with few small stone/gravel and charcoal inclusions. The soil layer in Trench 2 was up to 0.60m deep and formed a roughly level surface (Fig 3, Section 1; Fig 5). It may have been an upper terrace level above the layer in Trenches 3 and 4, possibly retained by a demolished boundary wall (Figs 3 and 4, Sections 2 and 3; Fig 6). All the garden soil layers contained pottery sherds dating to the late 19th to early 20th centuries. The layer (301) at the north end of Trench 3 was c 0.70m lower than in Trench 2, but also approximately half its depth (0.25m-0.35m), tipping gently southwards down slope to Trench 4.

In Trench 4 the layer (401) was thicker and formed a roughly level terrace in the yard area at the rear of the southern end of the Hipper Street terrace houses (Numbers 39 and 41). The layer appears to terminate against the north wall of the Lodging House (south side of Trench 4).

A few pieces of 19th-century iron-glazed earthenware pottery and a sherd of white under glazed transfer tableware were recovered from this layer.

Victorian remains

A yard surface [404] of large unbonded, square and rectangular sandstone blocks (0.25m to 0.65m by 0.20m deep) was present between the rear of Hipper Street South terrace houses (Numbers 39 and 41) and the outbuildings to the west side of the yard, where Trenches 3 and 4 were located (Figs 4 and 6). These blocks are similar to the ones that form the surface throughout the market square in the historic centre of Chesterfield.

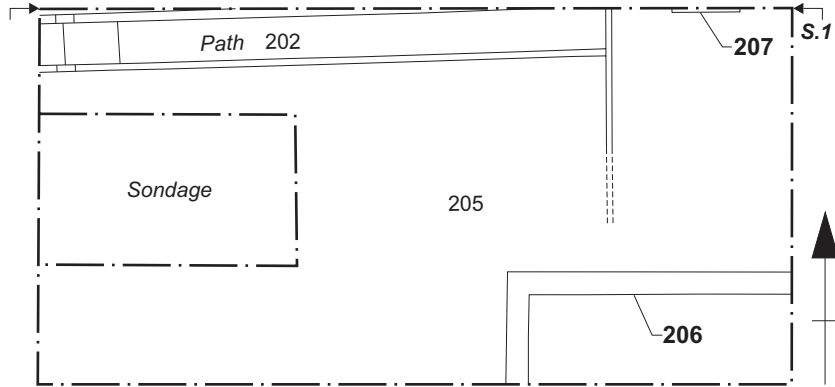
Set in the middle of the yard was a drain, comprising a large circular stone [405] 0.93m (3 feet) in diameter and 0.17m thick (6.5 inches), with a central iron grille (0.30m sq), (Trench 4, Figs 4, 6 and 8). This appeared to be a disused millstone, with pick marks on its outer edge and its underside. The stone yard surface [404] tipped gently towards the drain.

In the south-west corner of Trench 4 were the remains a probable room (2.0m x 1.5m) in the outbuildings, composed of a brick and flagstone floor [409] that had been enclosed by a brick wall [408], abutted by the soil (401) (Figs 4, 6 and 7). The flagstone/brick floor was c 0.75m below a modern concrete floor (406), creating a possible cellar or sunken room. The stone floor overlaid the natural (402), as the subsoil was probably removed to create a level construction surface. The walls on the east and north side had been demolished to the floor level and the room backfilled with brick demolition debris, roof slate and tarmac (410). The wall on the south side (412), surviving to eight courses 0.66m high, was the north side of the toilet block of the former Lodging House (Soden 2009). The backfill was sealed by concrete floor (406) over a stone make-up layer (407). The concrete floor was probably part of the 20th-century outbuilding layout as seen on the present Ordnance Survey maps.

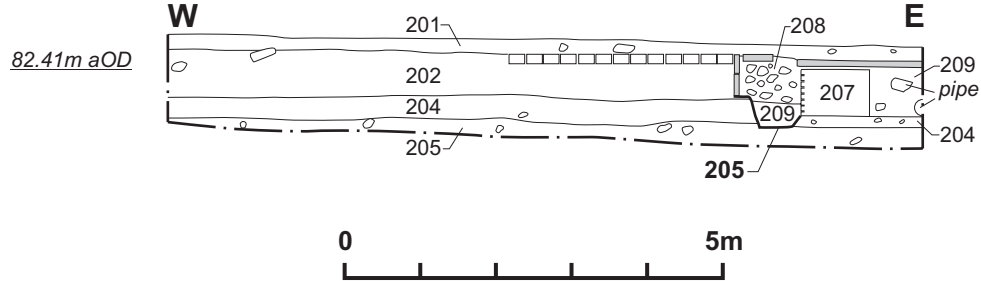
20th-century remains

Other modern remains in Trench 2 included a concrete path along the north side of the trench, the remains of a corner of brick structure in the south east corner and a recent rubbish pit. Modern service pipe trenches and inspection holes were encountered in all three trenches.

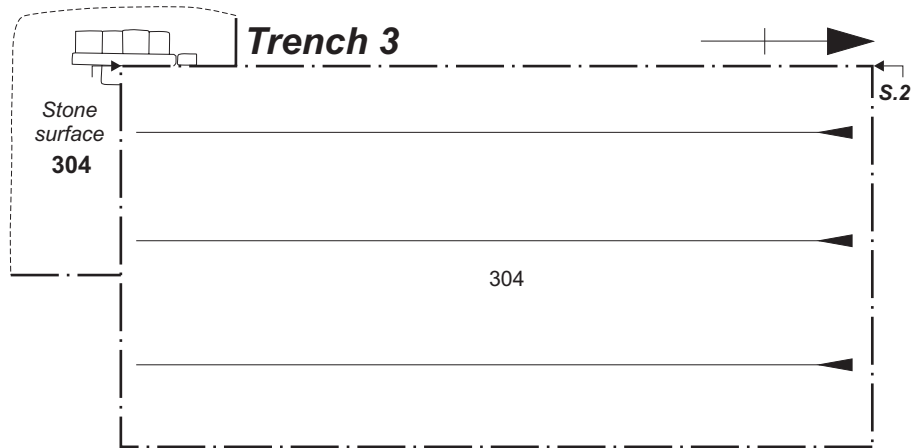
Trench 2



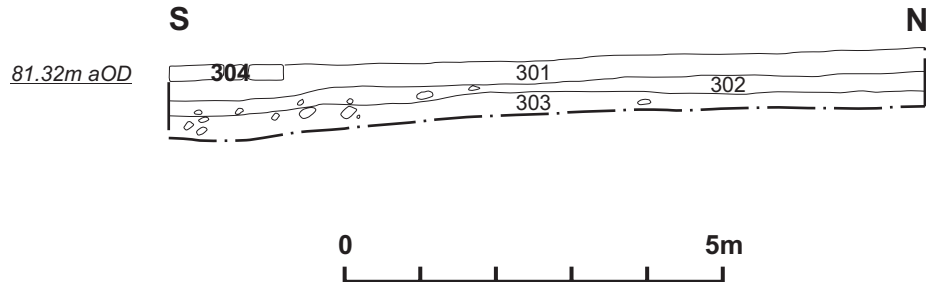
Section 1

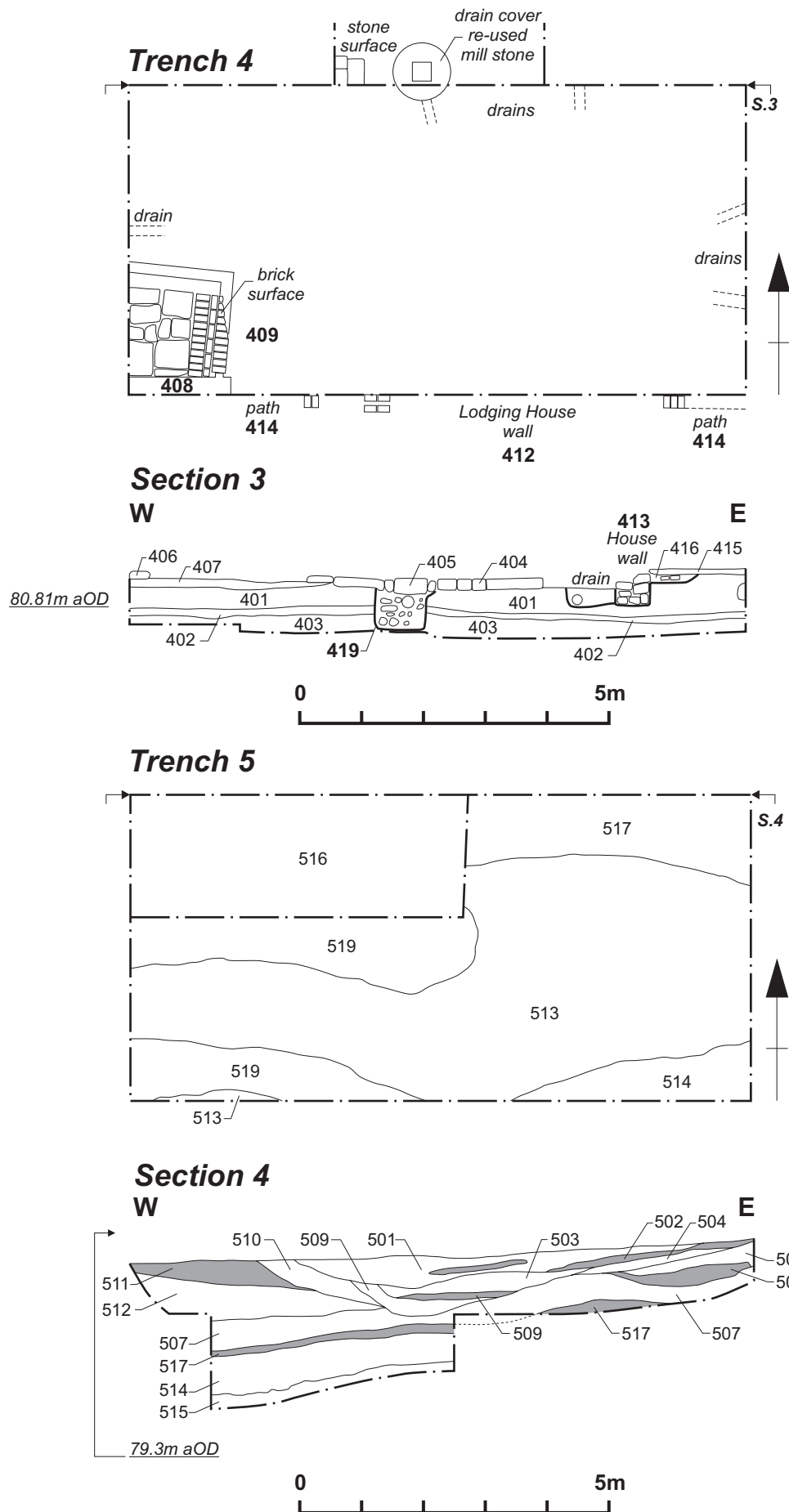


Trench 3



Section 2







Trench 2, south facing section, with soil layers (203) and (204) Fig 5



Trenches 3 and 4, the rear of Hipper Street South, facing north-east Fig 6



Trench 4, wall [408] and flagstone/brick floor [409] of outbuilding Fig 7



Trench 4, drain cover [405], a reused millstone Fig 8

4.2 Trenches 5-7

Trenches 5 and 6 were located at the base of the slope and Trench 7 a further 25m south in the area of what would have been the floodplain of the River Hipper.

Natural geology

The natural Trenches 5-7 lay between 1.90m to 2.40m below modern ground level. There was yellow-orange silty-clay in Trench 5 (Fig 4, Section 4 and Fig 10); pale yellow-grey mudstone in Trench 6 (Fig 9, Section 5 and Fig 11), both of which lay at the edge of the river floodplain, and natural blue clay at the base of Trench 7 (Fig 9, Section 6 and Fig 12).

The natural (516) in Trench 5 at its lowest point was at 76.41m aOD, but it was on an east to west slope towards the floodplain. The lowest point at the south ends of Trench 6 and Trench 7 had similar natural levels of 75.27m and 75.22m OD, respectively, which probably indicates the floodplain level (Appendix 1, levels data).

The natural geology in Trench 6 had a distinct slope southwards onto the floodplain and Trench 5 had a slope to the west, which is probably the result of a spur of land on the east of Hipper Street South. The natural geology appeared to be level in Trench 7 within the floodplain of the River Hipper.

Victorian Deposits

In all three trenches the natural was overlain by up to 2m of Victorian make-up and levelling deposits, which were probably the result of the railway that arrived in Chesterfield in the 1870s. The line passed adjacent to the south of the site requiring a raised embankment over the floodplain of the River Hipper.

The primary deposits (610) and (706) in Trenches 6 and 7 were a distinct black-purple ash clinker layer, 0.20m to 0.30m thick, and its origin was more than likely a waste product derived from the railway (Fig 9, Sections 5 and 6; Figs 11 and 12). Trench 5 had a primary deposit (514) of dark yellowish-brown clay, 0.50m to 0.70m thick, which included patches of purple-grey ash and charcoal flecks, which may also have originated from railway waste (Fig 4, Section 4). Fragments of 19th-century brick and tiles were retrieved from fills (514) and (610).

In Trench 6 the clinker layer (610) was overlain by a succession of mixed rubble and clay deposits (604) to (609), which were 0.45m to 1.05m thick, deepening as they tipped down slope onto the floodplain (Fig 9, Section 5). Layer (606) also contained two fragments of 18th to 19th-century brick and two fragments of tiles. Layer (604) formed the uppermost and thickest of these deposits (0.60m thick). Trench 7 similarly had 0.50m of mixed rubble and clay deposit (705) from which a number of iron-glazed earthenware pottery sherds were retrieved, including several sherds of late 19th-century locally produced Brampton ware (Nottingham stoneware tradition). A single fragment of glassy slag was also recovered, which is characteristically the residue of iron smelting in blast furnaces.

Overlying layers (604) and (705), in Trenches 6 and 7, was another dark grey-black layer of clinker and ash (603) and (704), 0.15m to 0.30m deep (Fig 9, Sections 5 and 6). In Trench 6 the clinker layer (603) tipped gently south on to the floodplain and in Trench 7 (704) it formed a level layer.

In Trench 5, layer (514) had been superimposed by clay layer (518) which, in turn, was overlaid by an ash layer (519) containing a fragment of 18th to 19th-century brick. The ash layer (519) was overlaid by a substantial layer of fissile sandstone fragments (513)

at least 0.50m deep, with slabs up to 0.45m in size (Fig 4). These layers tipped gently to the north and westwards across the trench.

Trench 5 contained a dump (517) of Victorian household waste that included pottery, glass bottles, wine glasses, clay tobacco-pipe, roof tile and brick, mixed with a dark ashy loam, charcoal and stone (Fig 4, section 4). The pottery recovered from this make-up deposit, includes a quantity of the late 19th-century Brampton (Nottingham) ware (Fig 14). The layer, up to 0.40m deep, spread across the trench over layer (513), tipping north and west, thinning out to 0.10m over layer (514) may be the remains of a Victorian rubbish tip that was levelled out and pushed down slope.

In Trench 6, overlying the clinker layer (603) was a mixed layer of dark grey ash, yellowish brown clay and clinker fragments (602), up to 0.5m deep (Fig 9, section 5). In Trench 7 the clinker layer was overlaid by a thin layer of mixed clay and soil (703), sealed by a black ashy cultivated soil (702), which was the remains of the gardens at the rear of the tenements on the south side of Hipper Street South that backed up to the railway line (Fig 9, section 6). A single sherd of the late 19th-century Brampton (Nottingham) ware was recovered from the garden soil (Fig 14).

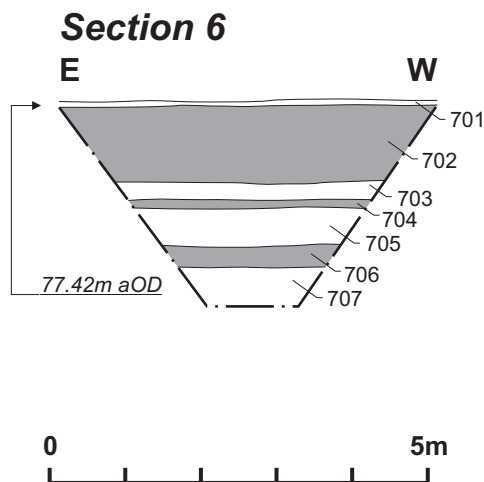
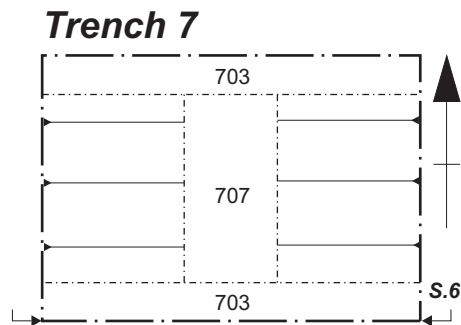
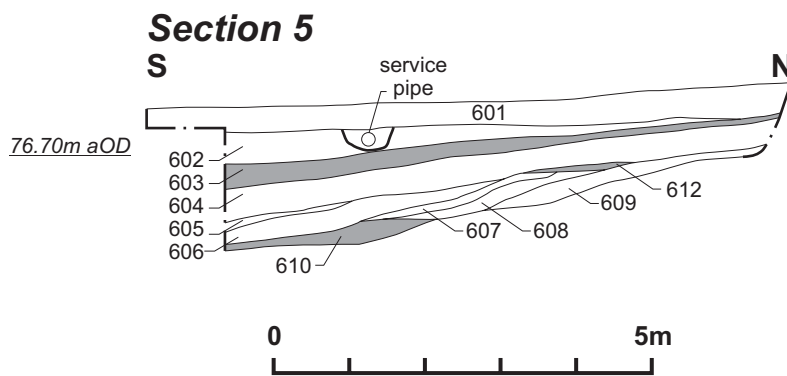
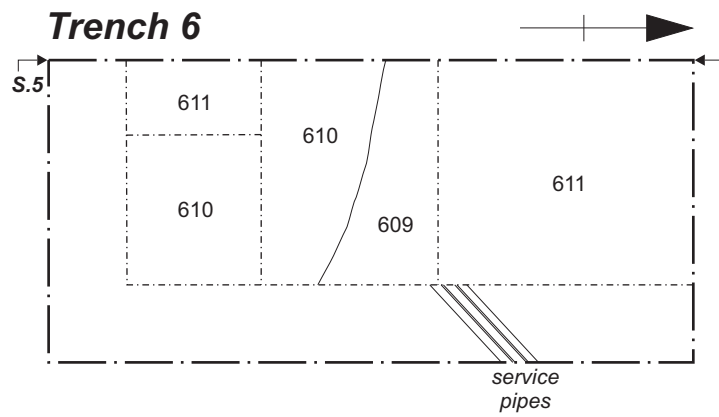
Overlying the Victorian rubbish layer (517), was a layer (up to 0.40m thick) of fragmented sandstone chips (507), also tipping gently north and west. At the east end of the trench this layer was overlaid by a fine powdery ash (506), which in turn was overlaid by a dump of demolition material of brick fragments, mortar chips and dust, forming the ground level. Both these layers also tipped to the west (Fig 4, section 4).

At the west end of the trench (507) was overlaid by a layer of mixed orange-brown clay and dark ash (512). This layer was overlaid by a mixed surface layer of dark yellowish clay loam and grey ash (511), (Fig 4, section 4).

Between the east and west ends of Trench 5 was a broad hollow 8.0m wide, with its deepest point, up to 1.0m deep (Fig 4, section 4). This was also probably the result of Victorian landscaping. The fills included various deposits including a clay dump (510) 0.40m deep, on the west side, overlaid by an ash and clinker dump (509) at the base, up to 0.35m deep. Two thin deposits of yellowish clay (504) and (508) formed the subsequent fills, both of which were superimposed by another dump of demolition material of mortar dust/chips and 19th-century tile fragments (503). The upper layers were made up of a thin dark grey ash deposit (502), overlaid by a mixed yellowish-brown clay and grey ash deposit (501). Layer (501) contained a sherd of iron-glazed earthenware pottery and (502) included several sherds of 19th-century white utilitarian pottery.

Trenches 6 and 7 were sealed by recent deposits, a stone make-up layer (601) and demolition material (701) respectively (Fig 9, sections 5 and 6).

The deposition of the bulk of the make-up layers in these three trenches probably occurred in the late 19th century, with the construction of the railway in Chesterfield during the 1870s. The route of the railway lay directly to the south of the site, which required raising the ground over the flood plain of the River Hipper. The finds from the make-up deposits of the embankment, which includes the late 19th-century Brampton (Nottingham) ware corresponds to the date of the construction of the railway. The raised ground also probably facilitated the construction of the east-west arm of Hipper Street South and the housing development on its south side in the last decades of the 19th century, infilling the piece of ground up to the railway line.





Trench 5, south facing section, with layers (501) to (519) Fig 10



Trench 6, looking west, showing section (S. 5), with layers (601) to (611) Fig 11



, Trench 7, north facing section, with layers (701) to (707) Fig 12



2009 watching brief trench north-south arm, facing south Fig 13

5 THE FINDS

5.1 Post-medieval pottery by Iain Soden

A total of 76 sherds of pottery, weighing 5.7kg, dating to the late 19th and early 20th centuries was recovered. They derive predominantly from a dump of household waste (517) (82% by sherd count), which may date from as late as c 1920, on the basis of the presence of a Hamilton-type torpedo-shaped bottle amongst the assemblage. Eight other contexts in five of the trenches also produced smaller quantities of contemporary pottery.

The material is dominated by the local Brampton ware (41% by sherd count), a sturdy and resilient oven-to-table stoneware which emerged in the later 19th century out of the Nottingham-ware tradition, but which was distinctively Chesterfield in origin from the 1870s (Walter 1999). Here at Hipper Street South the material includes jars and 'nappers', plain round dishes with steeply-angled rims, plus other non-diagnostic sherds (Fig 14). Also present are distinctive cider- or rum-type jar sherds, also a product of Brampton potteries. These were made in huge numbers for the army and forces during the First World War and were often stamped with the retailer's livery.

Table 1: Pottery by context and type

Context/type	203	209	301	401	501	502
Blackware	--	--	1/63g	1/11g	--	--
Blackware pancheon	3/31g	--	--	--	1/31g	--
Underglaze transfer-printed earthenware	--	--	--	--	--	5/72g
Plain white glazed earthenware	--	4/35g	--	--	--	--
Brampton stoneware	--	--	--	--	--	--
Brampton alcohol jar	1/6g	--	--	--	--	--
Unglazed flower pot	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total	4/37g	4/35g	1/63g	1/11g	1/31g	5/72g

Context/type	517	702	705	Total
Blackware	--	--	--	2/74g
Blackware pancheon	5/1550g	--	6/320g	15/1932g
Underglaze transfer-printed earthenware	9/808g	--	--	14/880g
Plain white glazed earthenware	8/304g	--	--	12/339g
Brampton stoneware	23/1475g	1/71g	5/112g	29/1658g
Brampton alcohol jar	2/610g	--	--	3/616g
Unglazed flower pot	1/187g	--	--	1/187g
Total	48/4934g	1/71g	11/432g	76/5686g

Although the pottery sherds are large and sturdy, as expected in a primary assemblage, there are few reconstructible vessels present. They are useful for dating but the dump was not deposited in a pit (it was spread or 'smeared' and apparently pushed down the slope) in such a way as to promote widespread preservation in a small area. The presence of Brampton ware is perhaps expected in late 19th-century deposits, but the examples do not compare particularly well with museum-held examples. The pottery has only limited further research value.



Examples of the locally produced Brampton ware, (Nottingham stoneware tradition) from layers (702), top, and (517) (Scale 20mm) Fig 14

5.2 Clay tobacco-pipe by Tim Upson-Smith

Twelve fragments of clay tobacco-pipe, comprising one bowl, three mouth pieces and eight stem fragments were recovered from a dump of household waste (517).

The fragments are all mid to late 19th century in date (Oswald 1975). The bowl is damaged and abraded and has initials on the spur but these are too unclear to make out.

The three mouth pieces have had their ends dipped in a thin green glaze, possibly enamel based, to stop the lips of the smoker sticking to the pipe.

At least six pipes are represented in the assemblage.

5.3 Brick and tile by Pat Chapman

Bricks

The four handmade brick fragments weigh 1616g. The fragment from context (519), 112mm wide and 63mm thick (4½ x 2½ inches), was made from badly mixed overfired coarse orange-red clay. Two fragments from context (606), 55mm and 58mm thick (2⅛ and 2¼ inches), are made from very slightly soft pale orange clay with fine cream streaks and frequent crushed and overfired brick inclusions. A fragment from a much better quality brick, made from fine pale orange clay, came from context (610). These bricks are most likely late 18th century to late 19th century in date.

Roof tile

There are seven pantile sherds and a ridge tile sherd, together weighing 1638g, from make-up and dumped layers (503), (514), (517) (606) and (610). The pantiles are 13-15mm thick, the ridge tile is 20mm thick. The fabric of four pantiles and the ridge tile is hard coarse orange clay with a dark red surface, another sherd is made from a finer fabric and one is made from hard fine reddish-orange clay with cream streaks. A sherd from (610) is made from slightly soft fine orange clay with one black surface. Pantiles came into common usage from the 18th century onwards.

5.4 Slags by Andy Chapman

Two samples of slags were retained. From make up layer (603) there are two small pieces of grey, glassy and vesicular fuel ash slag that may be clinker from the high temperature burning of coal. From make up (705) there is a piece of dense grey-green glassy slag, with fine laminations, which is typically residue from blast furnaces producing iron, often subsequently used as hard core.

6 SUMMARY

There appears to have been little evidence of occupation on the area of investigation until the latter part of the 19th century, with the expansion of a growing industrial town. The impetus for this was no doubt partly due to the arrival of the railway to Chesterfield in the 1870s. The railway clearly had an impact on the development area as it was located adjacent to the south side of the site, needing to raise the ground for an embankment for the railway line over the flood plain of the River Hipper. This made land available for development with the consequent building of Hipper Street South, which was limited in its southward expansion by the railway line itself, Hipper Street doglegged to the west where land was available.

The trenches on the scarp were placed between the terraced housing on Hipper Street South and East View in areas that gardens and stone surfaced yards occupied. Although all three trenches contained similar subsoil layers, which may have been a buried soil, it was poorly developed and contained no artefacts.

The overlying topsoil was much darker and well sorted, probably the garden beds of the terraced houses, although they may have been a cultivation soil dating back to the plots of the Saxon and medieval properties on the Low Pavement and the south side of Beetwell Street, which extended to the River Hipper. Pottery recovered from this soil comprised pieces of late 19th-century iron-glazed earthenware.

The build-up encountered in the three trenches at the edge of and within the floodplain are almost entirely products of the late 19th-century railway construction, creating the railway embankment across the valley of the River Hipper. No buried soil or earlier features were present below the introduced deposits, suggesting landscaping prior to the making up of the ground.

The remains of the sandstone yard between the Hipper Street terrace and their outhouses/workshops to the west side, appeared to be a partially open communal area, with a central drain composed of a reused millstone. The sunken-floored structure and other exposed brick walls and services around the yard area are no doubt contemporary with the construction of Hipper Street South or a later 20th century date.

The evidence shows that the site lay on the periphery of occupation of Chesterfield until the late Victorian expansion of the town. The location of the site on the steep scarp slope and river floodplain had most probably made the area unsuitable for practical settlement or use, when easy land could be occupied, until the major landscaping with coming of the railway.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Chapman, A, 1995 *Archaeological desktop assessment, Retail Park, Park Road, Chesterfield*, Northamptonshire Archaeology report

Chapman, A, 1997 *Archaeological watching brief, Ravenside Retail Park, Park Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, May-August 1997*, Northamptonshire Archaeology report

Chapman, A, 2002 *Archaeological watching brief at Ravenside Retail Park, Park Street, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, April 2002*, Northamptonshire Archaeology report

Chapman A, 2005 *Archaeological desk-based assessment for a proposed expansion of the Ravenside Retail Park, Chesterfield*, Northamptonshire Archaeology report, **05/072**

Jones, M, 2005 *Archaeological Trial Excavation at Hipper Mill, Markham Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire*, Northamptonshire Archaeological report, **05/054**

Ellis, P, 1989 Roman Chesterfield: excavation by T Courtney 1974-78, *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal*, **CIX**, 51-130

Fitzpatrick, A P, 2004 *Roman Britain 2003. .5 The Midlands*, Britannia, **XXXV**, 286

IfA 2009 *Standard and guidance for an archaeological field evaluation*, Institute for Archaeologists

IfA 2010 *Code of Conduct*, Institute for Archaeologists

Monet-Lane, H C, 1985 *The Romans in Chesterfield: An account of the archaeological excavations and history in Chesterfield*

NA 2006 *Archaeological fieldwork manual*, Northamptonshire Archaeology

NA 2011 *Ravenside, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological building recording, desk-bases assessment and archaeological evaluation, updated April 2011*, Northamptonshire Archaeology

Oswald A, 1975 *Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist*, British Archaeological Reports, **14**

Riden, P, 1981 *The Peacock Information and Heritage Centre*

Soden, I, 2009 *Recording and analysis of premises at Hipper Street South and EastView, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, September 2009: CHTFM: 2009.66*, Northamptonshire Archaeology report, **09/145**

Stroud, G, 2002, *Derbyshire Extensive Urban Survey Archaeological Assessment Report*, English Heritage

Walter, J, 1999 *Brampton pots in the kitchen*, University of Derby

Internet sources:

http://www.ironbridge.org.uk/our_attractions/broseley_pipeworks/history/

Northamptonshire Archaeology
a service of Northamptonshire County Council

December 2011

APPENDIX 1: LEVEL DATA*Table 1: Levels (above OD) at ground level and on the natural
(lowest and highest points)*

Trench	Ground level (m)		Top of natural (m)	
	Low	High	Low	High
Trench 2	82.49m south	82.83m north	81.56m south	81.76m north
Trench 3	81.42m south	81.68m north	80.82m south	81.22m north
Trench 4	81.26m south	81.49m north	80.58m south	80.61m north
Trench 5	79.36m east	78.52m west	76.41m east	77.06m west
Trench 6	77.28m south	77.81m north	75.27m south	76.55m north
Trench 7	77.42m		75.22m	

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Trench 1					
not excavated					
Trench 2					
Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Finds and samples
201	Surface	Modern make-up/levelling layer of stone chippings , with brick debris		0.20-0.25	CBM
202	Path	Modern linear concrete path aligned east-west, with a single line of brick each side forming a kerb	0.75m		
203	Topsoil	Firm, well sorted, dark grey-brown, friable clay loam garden soil, with occ. small stone/gravel (up to 5mm),occ. rounded pebble/ stone (30-40mm)		0.55-0.60	19th-20th century pottery
204	Subsoil	Firm dark yellowish-orange-brown, friable sandy loam, with occ. small stone /gravel (up to 5mm), rounded pebble (30-40mm) and very occ. coke/coal fleck.		0.25-0.30	
205	Natural	Firm, yellow-orange smooth/silky sandy clay loam, with mod. number rounded/sub-angular pebbles and cobbles (30-300 mm)		0.56	
206	Brick wall	Modern L-shaped wall composed of red brick (220x110x80mm). Stretcher width thick, 3 courses high. High grey cement bond. 0.2m concrete foundation.		0.45	
207	Manhole	Modern brick manhole		0.60	
208	Fill	Crushed /broken brick/stone upper backfill of manhole construction trench, including tarmac/ concrete		0.35	CBM
209	Fill	Compact dark grey-brown clay loam, with occ. small stone, coke/charcoal fleck and brick fragment. Primary fill of manhole construction trench		0.50	19th-20th century pottery CBM
210	Pit	Modern rubbish pit, sub-circular in plan, roughly conical in section. Visible only west trench section.	2.70	1.00	
211	Fill of 210	Modern debris , mixed with steel , cables, wood , stone and brick, mixed with soil 203			CBM
212	Fill	Modern stone rubble, few stone blocks (up to 300mm) and occ. small stone, mixed with soil 203. Infill of ground inside L-shaped wall 206.			
213	Construction trench	Construction trench for L-shaped wall (206), on external side of wall	0.70	0.45	CBM
214	Fill of 213	Mixed concrete/roof slate in soil similar to 203			
215	Construction trench	Construction trench for manhole 207. Vertical sided, flat base		0.90	

Trench 3					
Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Finds and samples
301	Topsoil	Firm, dark grey-brown loam garden soil , with occ. small rounded stone, included a moderate number of large charcoal flecks		0.35	19th-20th century pottery
302	Subsoil	Soft, grey brown sandy clay, with frequent sub-rounded stone /cobble (100-180mm), and very occ. charcoal fleck.		0.20	
303	Natural	Firm mottled yellow-orange-brown sandy clay with moderate number of rounded stones and /cobbles (150 -300 mm)			
304	Stone surface	Level yard area at rear of terrace housing, composed of large square and rectangular blocks (ranging from 360x340x170mm to 700x170x140mm) . No bonding or bedding material			

Trench 4					
Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Finds and samples
401	topsoil	Firm dark grey-black sandy loam garden soil, otherwise the same as 301		0.25-0.30	19th-20th century pottery
402	subsoil	same as 302		0.05-0.25	
403	Natural	same as 303			
404	Stone surface	same as 304			
405	Stone drain cover	Large circular drain cover (930mm,/3foot diameter), with iron drainage grill (with circular holes) at its centre (300mm sq.). Pitted surface on base and side of the stone- possibly re-used millstone. Set in Victorian yard surface 404 at rear of terrace housing. Ground tips gently towards the drain. Covers drain 418		0.17	
406	Concrete surface	Modern concrete yard surface – flat and level		0.10	
407	Sub-base for 406	Gravel and crushed brick layer		0.08-0.10	
408	Brick wall	Brick wall to sunken room/cellar (2.1m x1.7m) wall only survives on the south side. Eight courses of brick lay in stretcher form, 0.66m high, with hard grey mortar bonding. Brick size 230x110x70mm. Overlies flagstone/ brick floor 409. Victorian terrace outbuilding.	0.23	0.66	
409	Stone/brick floor	Flagstone and brick floor (1.4m x1.7m) to sunken room/cellar 408. Flagstones were square/rectangular, up to 0.5m in size. The brick surface was 0.60m wide on the east side of the room and a 0.40m wide band on the north side was removed by machine. Brick wall 408 was constructed on the edge of the brick surface.			

Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Findings and samples
410	Fill	Recent demolition debris, frequent brick/stone fragments, slate roof tile, tarmac in a loose gritty/gravel/dust deposit. Overlies floor 409 and abuts wall 408. Overlaid by 407 and concrete surface 406		0.60	CBM
411	Brick wall	1.4m length of wall between brick walls 408 and 412. Three courses high (0.30m), in alternate header/stretcher bond with a soft pale mortar. Rests on soil 401. Brick size 230x110x80mm. Part of boundary with Lodging House	0.23		
412	Brick wall	Wall 5.6m long of double thickness of stretcher bonded, frogged bricks, 9 courses high, (0.80m) and 0.30m thick, with hard, pale sandy mortar. Wall has concrete foundation 413. Brick size 230x110x70mm. Wall forms part of boundary with Lodging House.	0.30		
413	Concrete foundation	Hard concrete foundation for wall 412. Overlies natural 403			
414	Brick wall	Wall of 6 courses (0.55m) of frogged bricks (Brick size 230x110x80mm) with alternate stretcher/header bond and hard pink sandy mortar. Wall was 1.90m long between wall 412 and terrace house wall. Wall overlies soil 401.	0.23		
415	Concrete floor	Internal floor of extension at rear (west side) of terrace house (Hipper Street South). Extension demolished at time of excavation.		0.10-0.12	
416	Brick floor	Possible remnant of a brick floor, two bricks laid in mixed grey-yellow clay, overlaid by concrete floor 415. Internal floor of extension at rear of terrace house		0.20	
417	Stone wall foundation	Composed of sandstone blocks (150x300x150) set in a dark grey crumbly mortar. Cuts soil 401. Wall foundation for west wall of extension at rear (west side) of terrace house (Hipper Street South). Extension demolished at time of excavation.	0.55	0.46	
418	Fill of 419	Mixed yellowish-orange clay and dark grey loam, with some brick stone rubble.			
419	Drain trench	Vertical sided, flat based. 0.80m wide and 0.60-0.70m deep. Contains north-south ceramic pipe and capped by circular stone (millstone) cover 405.			

Trench 5					
Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Findings and samples
501	Dump/make-up	Hard, compact mixed yellowish-brown clay and light grey ash, with clay banding. Clay contains occ. small angular stone. Ash deposit includes few charcoal flecks/chips and occ. brick/tile fragment.		0.35	19th-20th century pottery CBM
502	Dump/make-up	Loose friable dark grey ash deposit, with brick fragments, slate roof tile		0.10-0.15	19th-20th century pottery CBM
503	Dump/make-up	Very loose pale grey mortar/plaster dust deposit with frequent chips and fragments, including moderate number of tile fragments.		0.30	CBM
504	Dump/make-up	Firm yellowish-brown, powdery sandy clay, with occ. rounded pebble and cobble, tipping west down slope.		0.15	
505	Dump/make-up	Very loose light grey mortar/plaster dust deposit with chips and fragments, including few tile fragments. Possibly same layer as 503		0.35	CBM
506	Dump/make-up	Firm mid-grey fine powdery ash, with occ. brick/stone fragment.		0.20	CBM
507	Stone dump	Predominately pale yellow angular/sub-angular stone chips/fragments (0.02-0.08m), with the occ. brick fragment. Dump/spread tipping west and north.		0.40	CBM
508	Dump/make-up	Firm to compact dark yellowish-brown clay, with the occ. yellow clay patch and small stone.		0.05-0.10	
509	Dump/make-up	Firm dark grey crumbly/powdery clinker/ash layer, with occ. small coal chip and stone fragment.		0.30-0.35	
510	Dump/make-up	Compact dark yellowish brown clay loam dump with the occ. stone chip and charcoal fleck, including occ. brick chip		0.40	
511	Dump/make-up	Firm to compact mixed dump of dark yellowish-brown clay loam and grey ash, with the occ. charcoal fleck and small stone		0.40 -0.45	
512	Dump/make-up	Firm to compact, mixed orange-brown clay and dark grey ash with the occ. small stone, brick fragment and charcoal fleck.		0.60	CBM
513	Dump/make-up	Large dump/spread of loose to firm pale yellow fissile limestone chips and fragments up to 0.45m in size, including the occ. brick fragment, tipping to the north and west.		0.50	CBM
514	Dump/make-up	Firm yellowish-brown, clay loam, with patches of grey-purple ash, orange-blue clay and occ. charcoal fleck. The occ. brick/tile fragment was recovered		0.50-0.70	CBM
Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Findings and samples

515	Layer	Soft to firm dark yellow-orange-brown silty clay (alluvium), with the occ. charcoal fleck. Forms an uneven layer over the natural clay 516. Possible alluvial deposit on the edge of the flood plain or disturbed trample layer.		0.20-0.30	
516	Natural	Firm to compact yellow-orange-brown silty clay with the occ. rounded pebble/cobble (50-200mm)			
517	Rubbish dump	A substantial dump/spread of Victorian household waste composed largely of kitchen and table ware pottery, glass bottles and clay pipe. The waste was mixed with a loose dark grey ashy-loam, including tile/brick/stone fragments and charcoal flecks. The layer tipped to the north-west.		0.10-0.40	19th-20th century pottery Glass Clay pipe CBM
518	Dump/make-up	Firm , dark yellowish brown mixed clay with the occ. brick and stone fragment		0.20	CBM
519	Dump/make-up	Loose to firm grey ash with charcoal flecks, brick and tile.			

Trench 6					
Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Finds and samples
601	Tarmac surface and make-up	Modern tarmac surface (100mm) overlying stone make-up layer (400)		0.50	
602	Dump/make-up	Firm to compact dark grey-black clinker and ash layer with dark yellowish-brown clay and some small stone chips.		0.50	
603	Dump/make-up	Firm to loose dark grey-black coarse crumbly clinker/ash layer with the very occ. small stone. Layer tips gently to the south towards the flood plain.		0.30	
604	Dump/make-up	A substantial make-up layer of firm dark yellowish-grey-brown crumbly clay-loam, with a few white mortar, brick, charcoal flecks and occ. small stone. Layer tips gently to the south towards the flood plain.		0.60	CBM
605	Dump/make-up	Narrow band of yellowish-orange clay		0.05-0.10	
606	Dump/make-up	Firm yellowish-brown clay loam, with moderate to frequent brick fragments, chips and flecks (10-150mm). Includes few charcoal flecks and occ. small stone. Layer tips gently to the south towards the flood plain.		0.30	
607	Layer	Firm to compact mixed layer of pale yellow clay and pale grey mudstone chips. Possible hill wash of natural material down the south facing slope.		0.15	
Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Finds and samples
608	Layer	Firm to compact of pale yellow-orange clay. Possible hill wash of natural material down the south facing slope.		0.15	

609	Layer	Soft to firm dark yellowish to grey-brown silty clay with small orange-brown mottles. Includes the occ. small stone/grit and charcoal fleck. Possible alluvial deposit or hill wash of natural material.		0.10	
610	Dump/make-up	Loose to firm dark grey-black to purple mixed clinker and ash layer with occ. small patches of yellow clay. Contains the occ. chips/fragments of brick and tile. A spread/makeup layer over natural 611 on the edge of the river flood plain.		0.20	CBM
611	Natural	Natural pale yellowish-grey mudstone, overlying natural pale yellowish-orange clay. Natural deposits/bands form the south facing slope onto the river floodplain.			
612	Dump/make-up	Firm, dark grey-black, ash/clinker layer with occ. white mortar and charcoal flecks.		0.15	

Trench 7					
Context	Type	Description	Width (m)	Thickness or depth (m)	Finds and samples
701	Concrete	Former factory floor surface.		0.05	
702	Top soil	A black garden soil of loam and ash, with some stone chips/fragments and occ. brick/tile fragments. Probable garden soil at rear of terrace housing.		1.00	19th-20th century pottery CBM
703	Dump/make-up	Firm to compact, mixed grey-brown clay and loam, with some stone chips/fragments and occ. brick tile fragments		0.25	
704	Dump/make-up	Firm dark grey-black mixed ash and loam, with occ. stone chip/fragment.		0.10	
705	Dump/make-up	Compact mixed grey-brown clay and loam, with stone rubble and occ. brick/tile fragment.		0.50	19th-20th century pottery CBM
706	Dump/make-up	Firm dark grey-black mixed ash, clinker and clay loam with occ. brick/tile fragments. Overlies natural 707		0.30	
707	natural	Compact blocky blue clay			



Northamptonshire County Council

Northamptonshire Archaeology



Northamptonshire Archaeology

2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Northampton NN4 8BE

t. 01604 700493 f. 01604 702822

e. sparry@northamptonshire.gov.uk

w. www.northantsarchaeology.co.uk



Northamptonshire
County Council