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SUMMARY

Oldfield Design Ltd (on behalf of Longedge Developments Ltd) have made a planning application (HPK/2004/0186) to the High Peak Borough Council, for permission to convert an existing dwelling and develop the grounds to form seven apartments, seven detached dwellings, five social houses and four town houses at Burbage Hall, 95 & 97 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire (SK 0456 7294).

The Development Control Archaeologist for High Peak Borough Council recommended that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken “in view of the proximity of so many known sites of archaeological interest, including some of demonstrably national importance”. The Mesolithic and Neolithic occupation site of Lismore Fields (SK 0495 7320 / SM DR 278) is located *c* 400 m to the north-east of the proposed development area. Two small concentrations of Later Mesolithic flint were also recovered during archaeological mitigation works at Otterhole Farm (SK 0470 7326), *c* 200 m to the north-west.

Buxton is known to have been an important Roman centre, and it is thought that a Roman road followed part of the line of Green Lane, *c* 60m south of the proposed development. Poole’s Cavern, *c* 500m to the south-east of Buxton, appears to be the site of bronze working between the second and fourth century AD.

John Samuels Archaeological Consultants, on behalf of Oldfield Design Ltd, commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake the archaeological evaluation of the site. The evaluation comprised the excavation of 41 test pits, distributed across the site on a 10m grid, to determine the quality, extent and importance of any archaeological remains on the site. The work was carried out in January 2005.

The results of the evaluation have shown that large areas of the site have been subject to re-modelling resulting in substantial truncation. In total, nineteen pieces of worked flint/chert dating to the Late Mesolithic to Early Neolithic were recovered. The majority of the artefacts were recovered from an area measuring approximately 15m by 10m in the central part of the site. This area has the most potential to contain further early prehistoric remains. However, the current plans of the proposed development show that this area is to become a small parking area, and this should not impact upon the archaeological remains.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Simon Mortimer of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Dr. Andrew Myers, Archaeological Advisor to High Peak Borough Council for his help and advice.

For Oxford Archaeology North, Paul Gajos and Pip Kok undertook the fieldwork, Jo Dawson examined the ceramic finds, Paul Gajos examined the lithics and Mark Tidmarsh created the drawings. Alan Lupton managed the overall project. Paul Gajos wrote the report, which was edited by Tim Carew.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Oldfield Design Ltd (on behalf of Longedge Developments Ltd) have made a planning application (HPK/2004/0186) to the High Peak Borough Council, for permission to convert an existing dwelling and develop the grounds to form 7 apartments, 7 detached dwellings, 5 social houses and 4 town houses at Burbage Hall, 95 & 97 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire (NGR SK 0456 7294). The area of proposed development amounts to just under a hectare (Fig 2), at *c* 300 m AOD.
- 1.1.2 The Development Control Archaeologist for High Peak Borough Council recommended that an archaeological evaluation of the site should be undertaken “in view of the proximity of so many known sites of archaeological interest, including some of demonstrably national importance”. A brief was set by Dr. Andrew Myers, the Development Control Archaeologist for the High Peak Borough Council (*see Appendix 1*), and a specification was written in response by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (*see Appendix 2*, JSAC 1239/05/01). The specification, which seeks to replicate the methodology used at the nearby site at Otterhole Farm (*see below*), was approved by Dr. Myers, prior to commencement of fieldwork.

1.2 LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 1.2.1 Buxton lies within the White Peak as defined by the Countryside Commission Countryside Character (1998). The White Peak is described as a limestone plateau dissected by deeply cut dales and gorges with rock outcrops screes and cave systems (*ibid*). Buxton itself lies on the border with the gritstone moors of the Dark Peak immediately to the west.
- 1.2.2 The site is located to the south of the Macclesfield Road, Buxton and currently contains Burbage Hall and an associated annexe, barns and garage, as well as an extensive garden containing many well established trees. The underlying solid geology is Namurian mudstone (SSEW 1983).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.3.1 The development area is located *c* 400m south-west of Lismore Fields Mesolithic and Neolithic settlement (Scheduled Monument Number DR 278). These remains were exposed in 1984 during an excavation to try to establish the line of a Roman road, in advance of a housing development. One of the most important aspects of the excavation was the discovery of at least two timber-built rectangular structures with associated pits and hearths (Barnatt and Smith 2004). A series of nine circular structures, defined by closely spaced postholes or slots, of uncertain date and function were also discovered (*ibid*). The settlement has been dated by a series of radiocarbon dates to the centuries around 3500 Cal BC (*ibid*).
- 1.3.2 A recent project at Otterhole Farm, *c* 200m north-west of the current development also discovered a low density scatter across the site of Late Mesolithic flint/chert (<3 artefacts per m²), and two small *c* 5m diameter

concentrations of flint/chert of the same date, suggestive of short-term activity foci (JSAC 2003, BUFAU 2003). Burbage Hall is further from the River Wye than either Lismore Fields or Otterhole Farm, but is on a similar contour to the latter; distance from a water source and elevation both being considered important factors in the distribution of Mesolithic and Neolithic sites (Clay 2001). The activity areas at Otterhole Farm were also located on higher, drier, limestone geology away from the river margins. These lithic scatters were tentatively interpreted as suggestive of winter or base camps, based upon the scarcity of convincing microliths and the relatively high numbers of scrapers, as well as manufacturing debris (*ibid*).

- 1.3.3 Buxton was identified in the Ravenna Cosmography as *Aquae Arnemetiae* and it is possible that it originated from settlement based on a Romano-Celtic cult centred upon natural hot and cold springs (Hart 1981: 94). The 'baths' are now almost certainly covered by the Georgian crescent building. The network of Roman roads leading to Buxton is not fully understood. There are, however, references in the county SMR to the possible existence of roads converging on the Macclesfield road and it is thought that a Roman road followed part of the line of Green Lane, *c* 60m south of the current development. It is, therefore, possible that the site may contain remains relating to this period.
- 1.3.4 Place-names around Buxton and Anglo-Saxon finds in burial mound excavations in the vicinity suggest a continuing inhabitation of the area (Cameron 1992), and probable use of the warm mineral waters. Buxton is not mentioned in the Domesday Book (Langham and Wells 2005), and the earliest reference to the name dates to about 1100 when Bucstones or Buckstones is first recorded on a foundation charter for land given by William Peveril to found Lenton Abbey in Nottinghamshire (*ibid*). Later medieval records show the existence of a holy well at Buxton and the valuation taken for Henry VIII in 1536 showed the well to be worth 40 marks (about £26), a not inconsiderable sum (*ibid*).
- 1.3.5 In 1572 Dr John Jones wrote the first medical book on Buxton waters entitled *The Benefit of the Auncient Bathes of Buckstones* (*ibid*). From that time many others wrote on the curative value of the warm waters and from these accounts it can be seen how Buxton continued to develop as a spa through the seventeenth century (*ibid*). The town largely grew in importance in the late eighteenth century when it was developed by the Dukes of Devonshire, with another resurgence a century later as the Victorians were drawn to the reputed healing properties of the waters (*ibid*).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 THE FIELDWORK

- 2.1.1 The work undertaken followed the method statement detailed in the project design (*Appendix 2*) and complied with current legislation and accepted best practice, including the Code of Conduct and the relevant professional standards of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). The fieldwork methodology in the project design was adhered to in full.
- 2.1.2 **Evaluation:** it was originally proposed that 47 1m² test pits would be excavated in a 10m grid. Ten of these were not excavated, as the proposed locations were under areas of dense tree cover or extant driveway.
- 2.1.3 The pits were excavated with a mini-digger, fitted with a toothless bucket, under continuous archaeological supervision. They measured approximately 1.2m x 1.2m, and were excavated down to the natural subsoil in controlled spits of between 0.1m and 0.15m, to give spatial control over the finds. The excavated material from each of the spits was then spread in a predetermined fashion, and all of it was put through a sieve with a 10mm mesh and scanned for finds. Where clay-rich horizons made the sieving difficult, a reduced amount of spoil from each spit was sieved; the remainder being visually scanned for finds, using hand tools. Where more than three flint/chert artefacts were recovered from a test pit a further four test pits were excavated at the cardinal points, 5m from the initial pit, in an attempt to determine the size of the scatter. Only one of the original 37 test pits (Test Pit 23) produced more than three flint/chert artefacts, so four additional pits were excavated. The total number of pits excavated was, therefore, 41.
- 2.1.4 **Recording:** a complete record of all features and horizons was made on OA North *pro-forma* sheets, comprising a full description and preliminary classification of features, deposits, or structures revealed, and their accurate location in plan. A photographic record in colour slide and monochrome formats was also compiled.

2.2 THE ARCHIVE

- 2.2.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 2*) and in accordance with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The archive will be deposited in the Derbyshire Record Office with a copy of the report sent to the Derbyshire SMR.

3. RESULTS

3.1 TEST PITTING

- 3.1.1 In total, 41 test pits were excavated (Fig 3), with each test pit measuring approximately 1.5m². Full test pit summaries are presented in *Appendix 3*.
- 3.1.2 No archaeological features other than demonstrably modern pits were encountered in any of the test pits. Lithic artefacts, however, were recovered from seven of the test pits (4, 16, 19, 23, 24, 27 and 40).
- 3.1.3 **Test Pit 4:** produced a small core of black chert, which was recovered from the upper levels of subsoil deposits, at a depth of 0.2m to 0.3m below ground level.
- 3.1.4 **Test Pit 16:** was the next nearest test pit to contain lithics and was located 40m to the north of Test Pit 4. Test Pit 16 produced two pieces of worked flint, a blade and a straight end scraper on a blade; again, both were recovered from the upper levels of subsoil deposits at a depth of between 0.2m and 0.3m below ground level.
- 3.1.5 **Test Pit 19:** was located in the centre of an area which had been terraced as part of the landscaping of the garden and revealed dumped deposits of made ground overlying the natural; however, a single piece of worked flint was recovered from the topsoil of this test pit.
- 3.1.6 **Test Pit 23:** (Plate 1) produced 10 lithic artefacts, all of which were recovered from subsoil deposits. The majority of the artefacts (eight) were recovered from the upper levels of the subsoil at a depth of 0.55m to 0.65m below ground level whilst a further two pieces were recovered from lower down in the same deposit at a depth of 0.85m below ground level.
- 3.1.7 In accordance with the project design, as more than three lithics were recovered from Test Pit 23, Test Pits 38, 39, 40 and 41 were excavated at a distance of 5m from the cardinal points of Test Pit 23.
- 3.1.8 The four test pits to produce lithic artefacts just to the north of the centre of the site, (Test Pits 23, 24, 27 and 40) were all located within an area measuring approximately 6m by 12m. This area is located at the front of a terrace and the ground here had been built up rather than truncated, so that between 0.5m and 0.75m of made ground sealed the subsoil deposits from which the lithics were recovered.
- 3.1.9 **Test Pit 24:** was located 10m to the north-east of Test Pit 23 and produced a small bladelet core. Once again this artefact was recovered from the upper levels of the subsoil at a depth of between 0.8m to 0.9m below ground level.
- 3.1.10 **Test Pit 27:** was located 12m to the west of Test Pit 24. A single chert flake was recovered from the upper levels of the subsoil at a depth of between 0.75m and 0.85m below ground level.
- 3.1.11 **Test Pits 38, 39 and 41:** showed that the ground to south, east and west of Test Pit 23 had been heavily disturbed. Test Pits 38 and 41 both contained dumps of rubble, sealing heavily truncated subsoil deposits, with only c 0.04m of subsoil surviving. Test Pit 39 (Plate 2) was found to contain a dark

silt deposit 0.3m thick interpreted as a buried garden soil overlying the natural.

- 3.1.12 **Test Pit 40:** was the only one of the additional four pits found to contain any lithic evidence; again all the pieces were recovered from the subsoil deposits. The broken end of a blade in black chert and a broken borer/awl in translucent brown flint were recovered from a depth of between 0.65m and 0.75m below ground level, and a knapping fragment of mottled grey flint was recovered at a depth of between 0.75m and 0.85m below ground level.

3.2 THE FINDS

- 3.2.1 **Introduction:** in total, 68 artefacts were recovered from the test pits, the majority of which were fragments of ceramics, comprising pottery, clay tobacco pipe, and ceramic building material. Nineteen flint and chert artefacts were also recovered, as was a single fragment of glass. Most of the ceramics were recovered from the topsoil, and most of the lithics from the subsoil. The type of artefacts found in the different contexts is summarised in Table 1, below, and all the finds are catalogued in *Appendix 4*.

	Topsoil	Subsoil	Other contexts	Total
Ceramic building material	2	0	0	2
Clay tobacco pipe	9	0	5	14
Glass	1	0	0	1
Pottery	19	4	9	32
Flint and chert	1	18	0	19
Total	32	22	14	68

Table 1: Type of finds from different contexts

- 3.2.2 The artefacts fall into two principal groups – flint and chert artefacts of Mesolithic and Neolithic date, and ceramics dated to the sixteenth to twentieth century. Details of the lithics are set out below, followed by a brief record of the other categories of finds.
- 3.2.3 **Lithics:** of the 19 flint and chert artefacts recovered in the course of the fieldwork, a high proportion, 17 (c 90%), are waste either in the form of flakes, discarded cores or more amorphous chunks, with only two tools. Ten are datable on general stylistic grounds and fall in a range from the Late Mesolithic to the Neolithic. One of the tools is a straight end scraper on a blade measuring 31mm by 13mm in translucent brown flint, removed from a bi-polar core (in Test Pit 16). The other is a broken borer/awl in translucent brown flint removed from a bi-polar bladelet core (in Test Pit 40).
- 3.2.4 None of the flints recovered have a completely corticated dorsal surface, which would indicate the primary working of a core, and only three have any cortex adhering at all. This would indicate that the raw materials being used on the site had already been partially prepared, possibly at some other location. Waste material, such as bulbar rejects associated with the

manufacture of microliths, and microliths themselves, are notably absent from the assemblage.

- 3.2.5 Table 2 below shows the range of materials from which the artefacts are made. The chert present in the assemblage could easily have been sourced locally, though it is interesting to note that both black chert and the slightly inferior quality grey chert have been utilised. The flint within the assemblage is consistent with that found in the various till deposits of eastern Yorkshire and Lincolnshire to the east and north-east of the site (Roberts *et al* 2001). A high proportion, eight out of 19 (*c* 40%) of the artefacts, had been burnt to such a degree that it is not possible to ascertain the original type of flint; all but one of these were recovered from Test Pit 23. Excluding the burnt pieces, the remaining artefacts are in very good condition, displaying little if any post-depositional damage.

Material	Quantity
Black Chert	3
Light grey chert	1
Translucent brown flint	4
Dark grey/black flint	1
Grey mottled flint	2
Burnt	8

Table 2: material type

- 3.2.6 Overall, the assemblage is consistent with a Late Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date; its small size and the lack of diagnostic tools makes more precise dating problematic. Two of the pieces exhibit more of a flake technology, typical of Neolithic flint working, rather than a blade one, typical of the Late Mesolithic. Earlier Neolithic flint industries across southern England can exhibit a high proportion of bladed pieces, and this technology survived well into the period (Clay 2001; Myers 2003a, b).
- 3.2.7 **Ceramics and glass:** the pottery included yellow-ware and purpleware vessels dated to the sixteenth to eighteenth century, blackware and slip-decorated tableware dated to the seventeenth to early eighteenth century, creamware and pearlware dated to the late eighteenth to early nineteenth century, and white earthenware dated to the late eighteenth to twentieth century. Some of the pearlware and white earthenware vessels were decorated with painted motifs in earth colours, 'Willow' and 'Broseley' blue transfer-printed patterns, and factory-made slip bands, stripes, and rilling. There were also coarseware vessels present, mainly in brown-glazed red earthenware but also in brown-glazed grey stoneware, but these vessels could not be so closely dated.
- 3.2.8 The clay tobacco pipe fragments were mainly plain stems, which were not closely datable. There were also two bowls, however, which were dated to the mid to late seventeenth century, and the late seventeenth to early eighteenth century, respectively. The ceramic building material comprised a very small piece of brick, and a fragment of red earthenware identified as a possible fragment of either flower pot, tile or drain. A single piece of brown glass was from a bottle of nineteenth or twentieth century date.

3.2.9 In general, the fragments of ceramic vessels were small, with a very low sherd to vessel ratio, consistent with refuse spread thinly on fields and subsequently subject to considerable disturbance. The vessels are all of domestic origin, and their remains are unlikely to have travelled particularly far before being deposited. The presence of these remains, therefore, indicates settlement nearby from at least the seventeenth to nineteenth century, and, over the same period, cultivation of the land from which the ceramics were recovered.

4. CONCLUSION AND IMPACT

4.1 DISCUSSION

- 4.1.1 The evaluation at Burbage Hall has revealed evidence of early prehistoric activity within the site, in the form of flint and chert artefacts.
- 4.1.2 With the exception of one piece of flint found within the topsoil (in Test Pit 19), all the remaining lithic artefacts were recovered from subsoil deposits. These subsoil deposits were not consistently present across the site. Much of the subsoil in the northern half of the site had been truncated, disturbed or completely removed by terracing of the garden. The southern end of the site does not appear to have been subject to the same degree of landscaping as the rest of the garden, and thus the subsoil here survives relatively intact; despite this only three lithics were recovered from this area. The only concentration of lithic artefacts encountered on the site is around Test Pits 23, 24, 27 and 40. These pits are all within an area where the ground has been built up to create a terrace, preserving the subsoil.
- 4.1.3 The artefacts were recovered from different levels within the subsoil. One explanation for this is that the artefacts were deposited within cut features that were shallow enough to remain within the soil horizons and not impact upon the natural. If this were the case then it would be very hard to detect these features using the methodology that was employed in the evaluation, or at all, following an extended period of continuing pedological processes. Alternatively, post-depositional processes such as bioturbation could have resulted in artefacts being moved from the surface through the soil profile. A less likely explanation is that the artefacts were discarded over a longer period of time during further deposition of soil, for example as colluvium. However, given the very small size and relatively tight clustering of the assemblage, it would seem more plausible that they were deposited either in a single short-lived occupation of the site, or a small number of short occupations over a few years.
- 4.1.4 The lithic assemblage would appear to date to the Late Mesolithic to Early Neolithic periods. The transition from the Mesolithic to the Neolithic in Britain is one of the research priorities identified by the Prehistoric Society (Prehistoric Society 1999, Myers 2003a). This transitional period in the East Midlands has been described as involving protracted contacts between hunter-gatherers and farmers, and there is uncertainty about the degree that farming supplanted or merely supplemented the economic base of Later Mesolithic cultures in the region during the Early Neolithic (Clay 2001). There is a high incidence where Earlier Neolithic material is found in the same location as seemingly Later Mesolithic material (*ibid*). This raises the question of whether these mixed lithic assemblages are evidence of a long period of use of the same location, or whether lithics using blade industry techniques continued into the Early Neolithic period (*ibid*). The lithic assemblage recovered from Burbage Hall is very small, however, and lacks any closely datable tool types, which would allow a more accurate interpretation of its date.

4.2 POTENTIAL

- 4.2.1 In conclusion, the evaluation has demonstrated that there is a potential for further early prehistoric remains to be found on the site. This primarily applies to the areas where the evaluation has shown there to be minimal disturbance by garden landscaping leaving deposits of subsoil intact.
- 4.2.2 The main area of archaeological potential is in the vicinity of Test Pit 23 where a distinct cluster of artefacts was noted. It is thought that any further work in this area would reveal more artefactual evidence, and, although no archaeological features were encountered in the evaluation, the potential for such features to exist remains.

4.3 IMPACT

- 4.3.1 The impact of the proposed development on the area of greatest archaeological potential, around Test Pit 23, would appear to be low. It is proposed to construct a courtyard and parking spaces on the area, and provided that this does not involve the disturbance of ground to a depth of greater than 0.5m below present ground level the archaeological deposits will not be disturbed and can be preserved *in situ*.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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6. ILLUSTRATIONS

6.1 LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Location map

Figure 2: Detailed site location plan

Figure 3: Test pit location plan

6.2 LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: East-facing section of Test Pit 23

Plate 2: West-facing section of Test Pit 39

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF

BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF LAND AT : Burbage Hall, 95 & 97 Macclesfield Road, Buxton

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER: HPK/2004/0186

ISSUED BY: A. M. MYERS

(DEVELOPMENT CONTROL ARCHAEOLOGIST FOR HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL)

ISSUED TO: Joe Oldfield (Oldfield Design)

DATE: 25/10/2004

1) Introduction

1.1 This document is a brief for a programme of archaeological evaluation to be undertaken in connection with a planning application to convert an existing dwelling and develop the grounds to form 7 apartments, 7 detached dwellings, 5 social houses and 4 town houses at Burbage Hall, 95 & 97 Macclesfield Road, Buxton.

1.2 From this brief a written scheme of investigation (WSI) will be produced by the archaeological contractor. The WSI will be submitted for final approval to the Development Control Archaeologist for High Peak Borough Council.

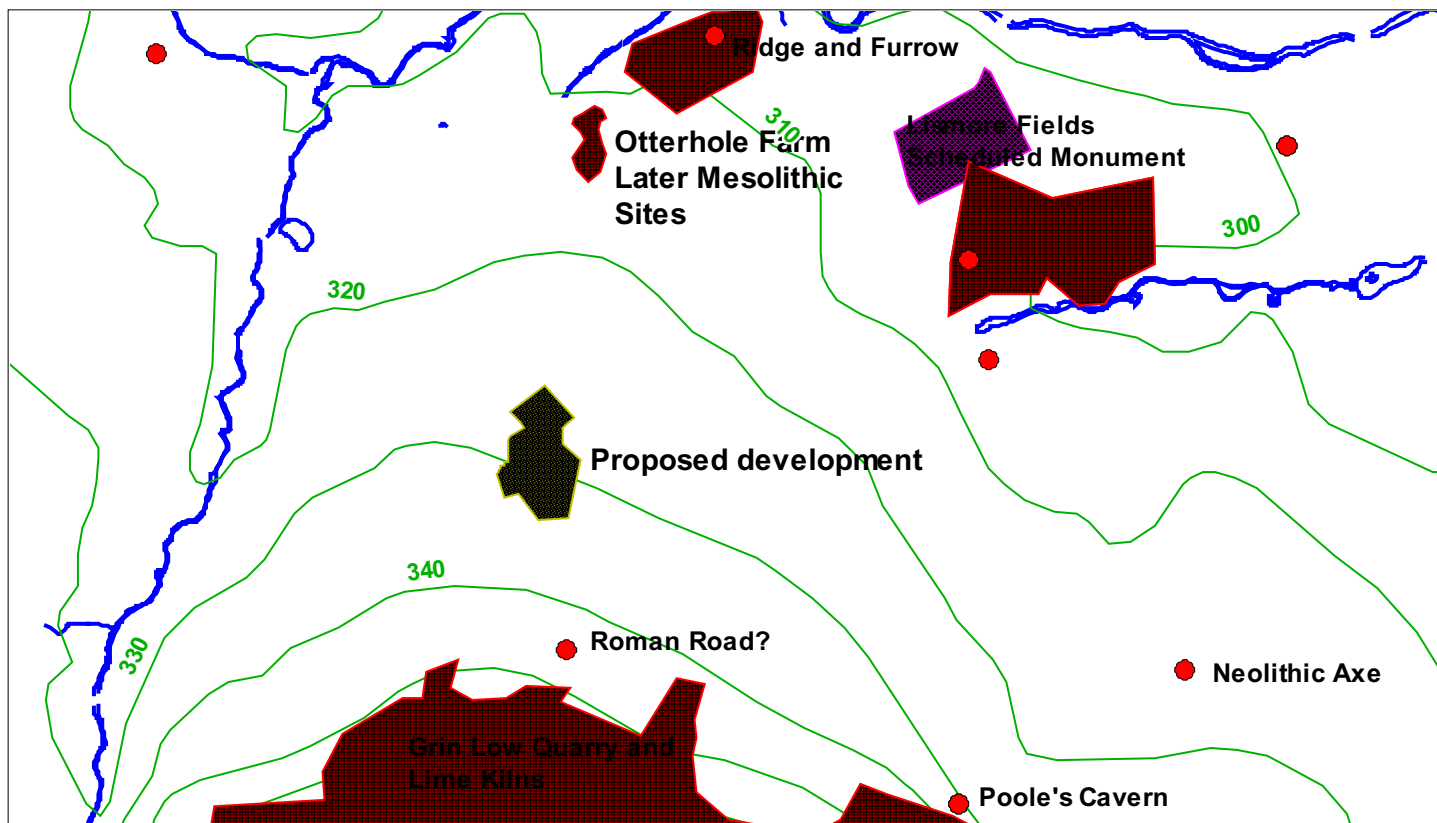
1.3 The objectives of the evaluation are to provide sufficient information for an assessment of the archaeological potential and the impact of the proposed development upon that potential to be made, for the importance of any such remains to be evaluated using the criteria set-out in annex 4 of PPG16, and for an informed decision to be taken regarding the need or otherwise for further archaeological intervention and/ or mitigation.

2) Background

2.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment has not been submitted.

2.2 The general area retains some evidence for medieval and post-medieval agriculture, industry and communications. Similarly, it is thought that a Roman road followed part of the line of Green Lane 60m south of the proposed development. About 500m to the south-east is Poole's Cavern where in the second-fourth century AD metal workers appear to have produced a variety of Bronze goods. The main concern of the evaluation however is the possible presence of evidence for prehistoric activity. Some 400m to the north-east is the Scheduled Monument (DR 278) "Lismore Fields – Mesolithic and Neolithic Settlement". This nationally important site produced evidence for Later Mesolithic and Earlier Neolithic settlement activity, and included physical

evidence for Earlier Neolithic houses. A recent archaeological project at Otterhole Farm identified a general low density (<3 artefacts per m²) Later Mesolithic flint scatter. The same project recognised, just 200m from the proposed development, two small (c. 5m diameter) concentrations of Later Mesolithic flintwork. The latter are probably indicative of short-term activity foci.



3.0 Evaluation Fieldwork

3.1 Whilst it might be possible to employ geophysical it is not clear that such techniques would identify the small pits, postholes and house floors of the kind encountered at Lismore Fields. The most appropriate initial course of action is to adopt an approach that will allow the best opportunity for evidence of artefact scatters to be recognised.

3.2 The following method was applied successfully at Otterhole Farm. A 10 m² survey grid should be established across the site and a regularly spaced series of 1 m² test pits at 1 per 10m² hand excavated and sieved (mesh size < 8mm) . Where artefact densities equal or exceed 3 per m² further intermediately spaced 1m² test pits should be excavated to establish if a scatter concentration can be defined.

3.3 The presence of Mesolithic and/ or Earlier Neolithic scatter concentrations, once established, would subsequently need to be investigated using open area techniques of excavation and recording.

3.4 The excavation of features identified in evaluation test pits should be limited to that which is necessary to meet the overall objectives of the evaluation.

4.0 Monitoring

4.1 During the course of the fieldwork it is anticipated the curatorial staff at Derbyshire County Council – either the County Archaeologist or the Development Control Archaeologist – would undertake monitoring visits. In particular, should significant archaeological deposits be encountered the contractor should contact the curatorial staff and arrange a convenient date and time for a site visit.

5.0 Finds & Palaeo-Environmental Samples

5.1 Artefact collection policy should be concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work. Discarded artefactual materials should be described and quantified through assignment to broad categories in the field. Retained artefacts should be cleaned, marked, catalogued and packed in materials, as appropriate, for long term storage under optimum conditions following methods detailed in *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998).

5.2 Given the focus of the project the fieldwork team should include at least one member with a demonstrable competence/ specialism in the study and handling of worked lithic assemblages. They should be named in the WSI.

5.3 The sampling and analysis of sediments for palaeoenvironmental evidence will be undertaken, as necessary, by or under the guidance of a suitably qualified specialist. The palaeoenvironmentalist should be named in the WSI.

6.0 Human Remains

6.1 In the event of human remains being encountered site works will cease and the Coroner's office notified (see Notes below). Such remains will remain *in situ* until authorised to continue by the Coroner.

6.2 Burials should be recorded *in situ* and subsequently lifted, washed in water (free of additives), marked and packed in accordance with *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains* (McKinley and Roberts 1993).

6.3 The analysis of any human remains will be undertaken, as necessary, by a suitably qualified specialist who should be named in the WSI.

7.0 Report, Archive & Publication

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

7.2 Upon completion of the fieldwork a full report will be produced and copies submitted. Recipients should include Ian Shore (High Peak Borough Council), Gill Stroud (the County Council SMR Officer), and Andy Myers (the Development Control Archaeologist for High Peak Borough Council).

7.3 The report should include as a minimum,

- Non-technical summary
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purpose of the project
- Methodology
- An objective summary statement of results
- Conclusion, including a confidence statement
- Supporting illustrations at appropriate scales
- Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices, including as a minimum a basic quantification of all artefacts, ecofacts, palaeo-environmental data and structural data.
- Supporting specialist reports including written assessments, positive or negative, of palaeoenvironmental potential by named specialists.
- Index to archive and details of archive location
- References

7.4 Arrangements should be made from the outset of the project for the archive, consisting of artefacts, record sheets, original drawings, drawn plans, photographs, notes, copies of the final report along with an index to the archive to be deposited in Buxton Museum (see Notes below).

7.5 The archive should be prepared for transfer to Buxton Museum in accordance with the document “Procedures for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives” (2003) prepared by Museums in Derbyshire. A copy can be obtained from Buxton Museum or from the Development Control Archaeologist.

7.6 A summary or full report of the project, with selected drawings, illustrations and photographs, should be submitted to Derbyshire Archaeological Journal for publication. A sheet of guidance notes has been attached for your information.

NOTES

Coroner Contact Details:

T. Kelly,
69 Saltergate,
Chesterfield,
Derbyshire,
S40 1JS
Tel: 01246 201391

Buxton Museum Contact Details:

Buxton Museum and Art Gallery,
Terrace Road,
Buxton,
Derbyshire,
SK17 6DA
Tel: 01298 24658

APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

A Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation of land at Burbage Hall, 95 and 97 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire

Planning Application No: HPK/2004/0186

NGR SK 0456 7294

Produced by

John Samuels Archaeological Consultants

for

Oldfield Design Ltd
Lumford Mill
Buxton Road
Bakewell
Derbyshire
DE45 1GS

JSAC 1239/05/01

January 2005

**A Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation
of land at Burbage Hall, 95 and 97 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire**

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Summary

Oldfield Design Limited (on behalf of Longedge Developments Limited) have made a planning application (HPK/2004/0186) to the High Peak Borough Council, for permission to convert an existing dwelling and develop the grounds to form 7 apartments, 7 detached dwellings, 5 social houses and 4 town houses at Burbage Hall, 95&97 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire (NGR SK 0456 7294).

The Development Control Archaeologist for High Peak Borough Council recommended that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken “in view of the proximity of so many known sites of archaeological interest, including some of demonstrably national importance”. The Mesolithic and Neolithic settlement site of Lismore Fields, (NGR SK04957320/SM DR 278) is located c 400 m to the north-east of the proposed development area. Two small concentrations of Later Mesolithic flint were also recovered during archaeological mitigation works at Otterhole Farm (NGR SK 0470 7326) c 200 m to the north-west.

Buxton is known to have been an important Roman centre, and it is thought that a Roman road followed part of the line of Green Lane, c 60 m south of the proposed development. Poole’s Cavern, c 500 m to the south-east, appears to be the site of bronze working between the 2nd to 4th century AD.

The proposed methodology for field evaluation of the archaeological potential of the site is outlined in this document, which is subject to the approval of the Development Control Archaeologist for the High Peak Borough Council. This methodology follows that pursued at Otterhole Farm.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Site Location and Planning Background

- 1.1.1 Oldfield Design Limited (on behalf of Longedge Developments Limited) have made a planning application (HPK/2004/0186) to the High Peak Borough Council, for permission to convert an existing dwelling and develop the grounds to form 7 apartments, 7 detached dwellings, 5 social houses and 4 town houses at Burbage Hall, 95&97 Macclesfield Road, Buxton, Derbyshire (NGR SK 0456 7294). The area of proposed development amounts to just under a hectare, c two-thirds of which is covered by the scope of this specification (see Figure 2), at c 300 m AOD.
- 1.1.2 The Development Control Archaeologist for High Peak Borough Council recommended that an archaeological evaluation of the site should be undertaken “in view of the proximity of so many known sites of archaeological interest, including some of demonstrably national importance”. The Mesolithic and Neolithic settlement site of Lismore Fields, (NGR SK04957320/SM DR 278) is located c 400 m to the north-east of the proposed development area. Two small concentrations of Later Mesolithic flint were also recovered during archaeological mitigation works at Otterhole Farm (NGR SK 0470 7326) c 200 m to the north-west. This mitigation strategy is in response to a brief set by the Development Control Archaeologist for the High Peak Borough Council and seeks to replicate the methodology used at Otterhole Farm.
- 1.1.3 The site is located to the south of the Macclesfield Road, Buxton and currently contains Burbage Hall and an associated annexe, barns and garage. The underlying natural geology is likely to be Namurian mudstone.

1.2 Archaeological Background

- 1.2.1 The development area is located c 400 m south-west of Lismore Fields Mesolithic and Neolithic settlement (Scheduled Monument Number DR 278). These remains were exposed in 1984 in advance of a housing development, during an excavation to try to establish the line of a Roman road. A recent project at Otterhole Farm, c 200m north-west of the current development also exposed a general low-density of Late Mesolithic flint/chert (<3 artefacts per m²) and two small c 5m diameter concentrations of flint/chert of the same date, suggestive of short term activity foci. The current application area is further from the Wye than either Lismore Fields or Otterhole Farm, but is on a similar contour to the latter. The activity areas at Otterhole Farm were also located on higher, drier, limestone geology away from the river margins. These lithic scatters were tentatively interpreted as suggestive of winter or base camps, based upon the scarcity of convincing microliths and the relatively high numbers of scrapers, as well as manufacturing debris.
- 1.2.2 Buxton was identified in the Ravenna Cosmography as *Aquae Arnemetiae* and it is possible that it originated from settlement based on a Romano-Celtic cult centred upon natural hot and cold springs (Hart 1981: 94). The ‘baths’ are now almost certainly covered by the Georgian crescent building. The network of Roman roads leading to Buxton is not fully understood. There are

however references in the SMR to the possible existence of roads converging on the Macclesfield road and it is thought that a Roman road followed part of the line of Green Lane, c 60 m south of the current development. It is therefore possible that the site may contain remains relating to this period.

- 1.2.3 The brief set by the Development Control Archaeologist states that the general area retains some evidence for medieval and post-medieval agriculture, industry and communications.

2.0 Excavation Methodology

The following reflexive approach was adopted successfully at Otterhole Farm. No desk-based assessment has been undertaken of the development area and it is not clear that geophysical survey would identify the small pits, postholes and house-floors such as were excavated at Lismore Fields. By following the methodology outlined below an assessment will be made of the site's archaeological potential, which can be evaluated against the criteria listed in annex 4 of PPG16.

- 2.0.1 It is proposed to excavate 47 test pits in the locations indicated on Figure 2. These should be seen as an initial phase of work to identify in the first instance the presence or absence of activity, principally of early prehistoric date (but in effect it will characterise the resource irrespective of date). Test pits measuring 1 m by 1 m will be excavated at the south-western corner of the squares set out on a 10 m grid, as indicated. The pits will be excavated with a mini-digger, fitted with a toothless bucket, under continuous archaeological supervision. The pits should be excavated in controlled 0.1 m spits, to enable some spatial control over finds and the excavated material from each of the spits should be spread in a predetermined fashion. If the first 0.1 m spit was dumped to the north of the pit and each successive spit spread next to an agreed face (possibly in a clock-wise fashion) then it would be apparent to those following up with a sieve which spoil heap related to which spit. All of the excavated material should then be put through a sieve with a 0.01 m mesh and scanned for finds. If ground conditions are not favourable this might require spoil being broken up with a spade before sieving. Where test-pits were excavated through clay rich horizons at Otterhole Farm a reduced amount of spoil from each spit was sieved; the remainder being visually scanned for finds.
- 2.0.2 Each test pit should be located using a total station. A log should be kept recording the depth of topsoil and any subsoil, plus any other observations of interest for each test pit. All finds should also be bagged by test pit and then by spit.
- 2.0.3 Should significant quantities of flint/chert (or other artefacts) be encountered, especially if there appear to be lithic scatters in situ then these should be excavated by hand. Finds should still be bagged as bulk samples, because they will be located to within 1 m². It is important that an on-site assessment is made as to whether lithics are in situ and whether there are distinct horizons in which they are found. Such an approach should characterise the fieldwork, where the derivation of the soils encountered should be recorded and consideration given to the derivation of any artefacts recovered.

- 2.0.4 It is essential that each of the test pits is excavated to natural geology and that the base of each of the pits is cleaned in order to determine the presence/absence of any features. Should any features be encountered these will then become the focus for targeted area excavation and should not be excavated within the evaluation phase, beyond an assessment of their plausibility as cut features.
- 2.0.5 The test pits indicated on the plan (Figure 2) should allow an assessment of the site's potential. Should no lithics (or other artefacts) be recovered then no further work should take place. If it is shown that there are lithic scatters, or if there is possible evidence for early prehistoric settlement then a further phase of targeted test pitting will be required to try to delimit activity areas. This will be conducted as a separate phase of work in accordance with an updated project design developed in association with and approved by the Development Control Archaeologist. Should features be exposed of later date it will probably be appropriate to assess them with targeted trial trenches; again this will be conducted as a separate phase of work. Following the methodology adopted at Otterhole Farm, should there be more than 3 flint/chert artefacts exposed per test pit a further four test pits will be excavated at the cardinal points 5 m from the initial pit to attempt to determine the size of the scatter. If scatter concentrations are established these would require investigation by targeted open area hand excavation, as a separate piece of mitigation fieldwork.
- 2.0.6 If archaeological cut features are exposed which post-date the early prehistoric period a standard series of evaluation aims will be adhered to:-
- i to assess the nature, date, density, extent, derivation and particularly the state of preservation of any features surviving on the site.
 - ii to assess their potential for answering questions about the development of human habitation in the area
 - iii where remains are of sufficient importance, in liaison with the Development Control Archaeologist, to formulate a strategy designed to determine the best method by which these remains can be preserved.
- 2.0.7 In the event of human remains being exposed the Coroner's Office will be notified. The contractor will comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act, 1981 or other Burial Acts regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains. The archaeological contractor will comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the method of removal, reinterment or disposal of the remains or associated items. Every effort will be made, at all times, not to cause offence to interested parties.
- 2.0.8 The Development Control Archaeologist will be given notice of when work is due to commence and will be free to visit the site by prior arrangement with the project director. Should any significant remains be found it will be necessary, in liaison with the Development Control Archaeologist, to formulate a strategy designed to fully establish their character, distribution, extent, condition, dating and further treatment.
- 2.0.9 Archaeological staff and visitors will respect Health and Safety provisions and site specific safety regulations.

- 2.0.10 The material excavated from the trenches and test pits will be used for backfilling following the completion of work. No specialist reinstatement will be undertaken.
- 2.0.11 This specification conforms to the requirements of Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990) (PPG16). It has been designed in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national standards and guidelines including :
- Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991);
- Model Briefs and Specifications for Archaeological Assessments and Field Evaluations* (Association of County Archaeological Officers, 1994);
- Code of Conduct* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994 rev 2002); and
- Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994 rev 2001).

3.0 Recording and post excavation

- 3.0.1 Recording will be undertaken at appropriate scales (normally 1:50 for plans and 1:20 for sections of individual features) by measured drawing and photography and the deposits encountered described fully on pro-forma individual context recording sheets. The recording system will be based on the Museum of London's Archaeological Site Manual (1994). Spot heights across the site, and those of individual features within it, will be recorded relative to Ordnance Datum.
- 3.0.2 A photographic record, comprising black-and-white prints, colour prints and colour slides, will be maintained during the course of the excavation and will include:
1. the site prior to commencement of fieldwork;
 2. the site during work, showing specific stages of fieldwork;
 3. individual features and, where appropriate, their sections;
 4. groups of features where their relationship is important;
- 3.0.3 All artefacts will be treated in accordance with UKIC guidelines, First Aid for Finds (1998). All finds will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit or spit from which they were recovered, ready for later cleaning and analysis.
- 3.0.4 Elizabeth Huckerby of Oxford Archaeology (North) will, if necessary, make a site visit to advise on deposits suitable for environmental sampling. Any securely dated deposits containing the following will be sampled at a minimum of 20 litres wherever possible.
1. charred plant remains;
 2. large quantities of molluscs;
 3. large quantities of bone;
 4. hearths and other burnt features;

5. other domestic features, e.g. house gullies, potentially containing the above.
- 3.0.5 Charred plant samples will be wet sieved with flotation using a 0.5mm mesh. All residues will be checked.
 - 3.0.6 Should extensive and/or significant waterlogged deposits be encountered, further consultation with appropriate specialists, in close liaison with the Development Control Archaeologist, will determine the best methods for identification, sampling, preservation and/or recovery where appropriate.
 - 3.0.7 Post excavation work will comprise the following:
 1. checking of drawn and written records during and on completion of fieldwork;
 2. production of a stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site, if appropriate;
 3. cataloguing of photographic material and labelling of slides, which will be mounted on appropriate hangers;
 4. cleaning, marking, bagging and labeling of finds according to the individual deposits from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to an appropriate Conservation Laboratory. Finds will be identified and dated by appropriate specialists.
 - 3.0.8 A report detailing the finds of the evaluation will be prepared within three months of the completion of site works and receipt of appropriate specialist reports and will consist of:
 1. a title page detailing site address, site code and accession number, NGR, author/originating body, client's name and address;
 2. full contents listing;
 3. a non-technical summary of the findings of the evaluation;
 4. a description of the archaeological background with reference to previous local fieldwork;
 5. a description of the topography and geology of the evaluation area;
 6. a description of the methodologies used during the evaluation;
 7. a description of the findings of the evaluation;
 8. site and test pit location plans and plans of each of the interventions showing the archaeological features exposed;
 9. sections of any excavated archaeological features;
 10. interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape;
 11. specialist reports on the artefactual/ecofactual remains from the site;
 12. appropriate photographs of specific archaeological features;
 13. a consideration of the importance of the archaeological remains present on the site in local, regional and national terms

- 3.0.9 Copies of the excavation report will be sent to the client for approval and then to the High Peak Borough Council, the Development Control Archaeologist for the High Peak Borough Council and to the SMR.
- 3.0.10 The project archive will be prepared according to the recommendations in Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long term storage (UKIC 1990), Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992). The archive will also comply with “Procedures for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives (2003)”, prepared by the Museums of Derbyshire. Contact has been made with Buxton Museum to agree site codes and archiving arrangements. Items of gold and silver must be reported to Her Majesty’s Coroner.
- 3.0.11 Notes or articles describing the results of the evaluation will be submitted for publication to an appropriate local journal and/or national journals, dependant on the nature of the results.

4.0 Timetable and Personnel

- 4.0.1 The evaluation is expected to take approximately two weeks. The exact duration will be dependent upon the nature and complexity of the archaeology revealed. If a second phase of work is required, to excavate more test pits to delimit activity areas, or to further consider the palaeo-environmental potential of the site, this would be based upon an up-dated project design. The timetable for this would be dependent upon discussions with all relevant parties.
- 4.0.2 Simon Mortimer MA_(Oxon), MIFA will be in overall charge of the project and will monitor the work on behalf of the client. The fieldwork, post excavation and reporting will be undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North and the Project will be supervised on site by Paul Gajos. Senior contract staff CVs will be provided, if required.

5.0 Insurance

- 5.0.1 The archaeological contractor will produce evidence of Public Liability Insurance to the minimum value of £ 5m and Professional Indemnity Insurance to the minimum of £ 2m.

6.0 Health and Safety

- 6.0.1 The appointed sub-contractor will produce a site-specific risk-assessment and a copy of their Health and Safety policy prior to commencement of on-site works. The sub-contractor will be responsible for ensuring safe systems of work on-site.

7.0 Bibliography

English Heritage, 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London

BUFAU, 2003 *Land at Otterhole Farm, St. John's Road, Buxton, Derbyshire: archaeological investigations 2003*

Cameron, K, 1992 *The Place Names of Derbyshire, Part II*

JSAC, 2003 *A Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation of land at Otterhole Farm, St. John's Road, Buxton* (JSAC 1047/03/01)

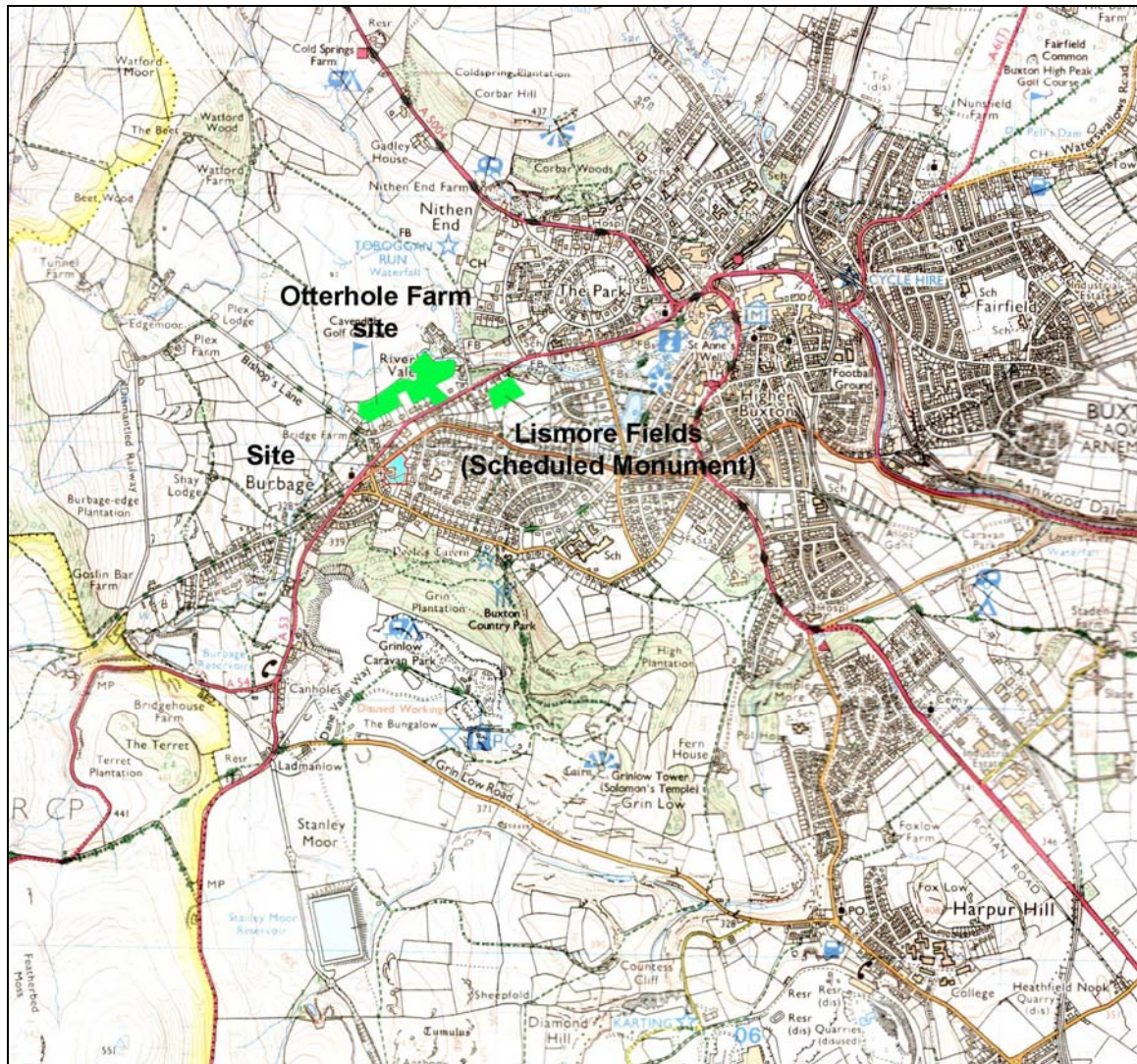
Myers, A, 2003 East Midlands Archaeological Research Framework. Resource Assessments of the Mesolithic/Neolithic and early Bronze Age/Roman periods in Derbyshire

SSEW, 1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales

8.0 Figures

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Proposed test pit locations



Note: Map based upon Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationary Office, Crown Copyright Reserved
Licence No: AL 100020447

Figure 1: Site location based on OS Explorer map at 1:25000

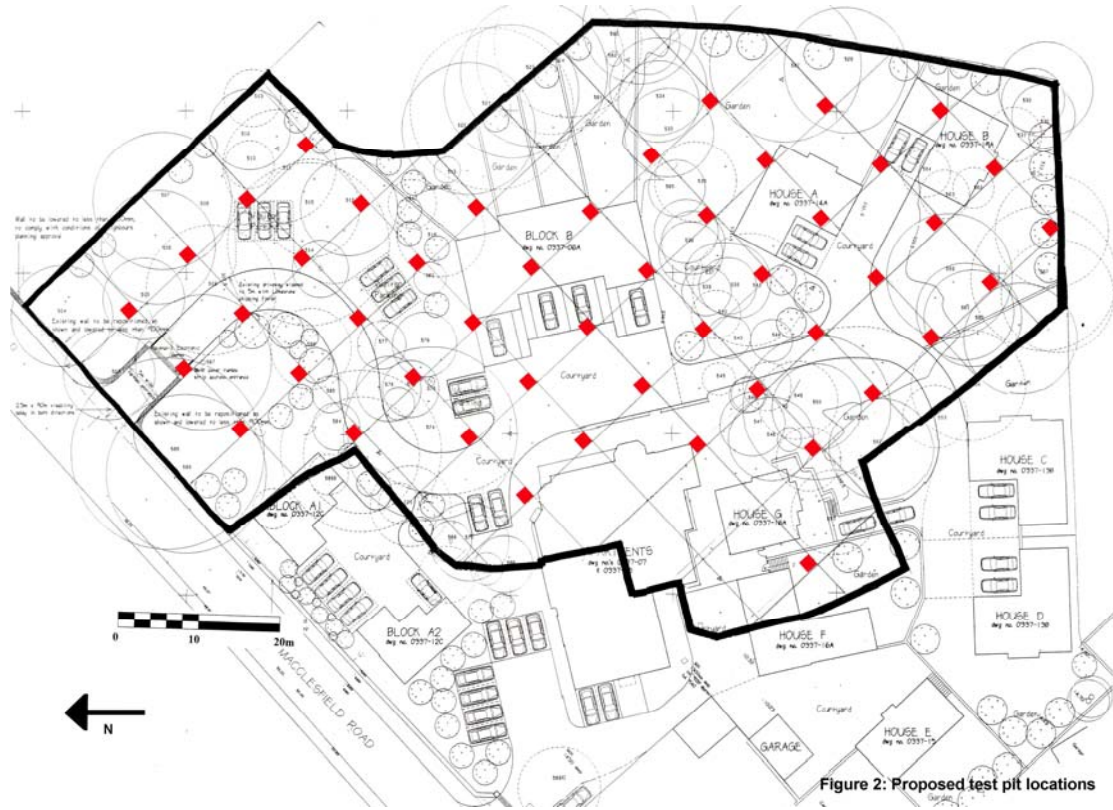


Figure 2: Proposed test pit locations

APPENDIX 3: TEST PIT SUMMARIES

Test Pit 1			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	Pottery, clay pipe.
		2	Pottery, clay pipe.
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.2 – 0.5m	3	-
		4	-
		5	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.5m+	-	-

Test Pit 2			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.16m	1	-
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.16 – 0.44m	3	-
		4	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.44m+	-	-

Test Pit 3			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.23m	1	-
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.23 – 0.43m	3	Pottery.
		4	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.43m+	-	-

Test Pit 4			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	Pottery.
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.2 – 0.46m	3	Pottery, chert.
		4	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.46m+	-	-

Test Pit 5			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.17m	1	Pottery, clay pipe
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.17 – 0.4m	3	-
		4	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.4m+	-	-

Test Pit 6			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.21m	1	Pottery, clay pipe
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.21 – 0.4m	3	-
		4	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.4m+	-	-

Test Pit 7			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.25m	1	-
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.25 – 0.45m	3	-
		4	-
		5	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.45m+	-	-

Test Pit 8			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.21m	1	-
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.21 – 0.3m	3	-
		4	-
		5	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.3m+	-	-

Test Pit 9			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.32m	1	-
		2	-
		3	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.32 – 0.6m	4	-
		5	-
		6	-
Modern pit containing cinders, paint tins and car parts. Seen in eastern half of test pit.	0.32 – 0.6m+	4 - 6	Not retained
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.6m+	-	-

Test Pit 10			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.15m	1	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.15 – 0.32m	2	Pottery
		3	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.32m+	-	-

Test Pit 11			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	-
		2	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.2m+	-	-

Test Pit 12			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.24m	1	-
		2	Pottery
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.24m+	-	-

Test Pit 13			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.15m	1	-
		2	Pottery
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.15 – 0.48m	3	-
		3	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.48m+	-	-

Test Pit 14			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.17m	1	Pottery, clay pipe
		2	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.17m+	-	-

Test Pit 15			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.52m	1	-
		2	Pottery
		3	-
		4	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.52 – 0.7m	5	-
		6	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.7m+	-	-

Test Pit 16			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	Pottery, clay pipe
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.2 – 0.44m	3	Flint
		4	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.44m+	-	-

Test Pit 17			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.16m	1	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.16 – 0.32m	2	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.32m+	-	-

Test Pit 18			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	Pottery
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.2 – 0.32m	3	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.32m+	-	-

Test Pit 19			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.16m	1	Flint
Made ground. Mixed deposit of brick rubble and limestone in a silty-clay matrix.	0.16 – 0.36m	2	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.36m+	-	-

Test Pit 20			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	-
		2	-
Made ground. Dark grey-brown silt loam with patches of orange clay and occasional limestone.	0.2 – 0.5m	3	-
		4	-
		5	-
Buried garden soil? Dark grey-brown, silt loam with a mineralised interface with the natural.	0.5 – 0.82m	6	-
		7	-
		8	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.5m+	-	-

Test Pit 21			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	-
		2	-
Made ground. Mid to dark brown silty-clay	0.2 – 0.43m	3	-
		4	-
Dump of cinders and modern waste.	0.43 – 0.68m	5	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.68m+	-	-

Test Pit 22			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.15m	1	-
Made ground. Mid to dark brown silty-clay	0.15 – 0.48m	2	-
		3	-
		4	-
		5	-
Dump of cinders and modern waste.	0.48 – 0.51		
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.51 – 0.54m	6	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.54m+	-	-

Test Pit 23			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	-
		2	-
Layer of re-deposited natural.	0.2 – 0.32m	3	-
Cinders.	0.32 – 0.34m	4	Clay pipe
Re-deposited subsoil.	0.34 – 0.44m		
Re-deposited light yellow-brown sandy clay.	0.44 – 0.46m		
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.46 – 0.9m	5	-
		6	Flint, chert
		7	-
		8	Flint
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.9m+	-	-

Test Pit 24			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.4m	1	-
		2	-
		3	Pottery
		4	-
Re-deposited mix of subsoil and natural.	0.4-0.82m	5	-
		6	-
		7	-
		8	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.82 – 1.04m	9	Flint
		10	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.5m+	-	-

Test Pit 25			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.34m	1	-
		2	-
		3	-
Re-deposited natural.	0.34 – 0.45m	4	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.45 – 0.75m	5	-
		6	-
		7	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.75m+	-	-

Test Pit 26			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.25m	1	Pottery
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.25 – 0.38m	3	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.38m+	-	-

Test Pit 27			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.25m	1	-
		2	-
Re-deposited mix of subsoil and natural.	0.25 – 0.75m	3	-
		4	Pottery
		5	-
		6	-
		7	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.75 – 1.0 m	8	Chert
		9	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	1.0m+	-	-

Test Pit 28			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.4m	1	-
		2	-
		3	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.4 – 0.68m	4	-
		5	-
		6	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.68m+	-	-

Test Pit 29			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.38m	1	-
		2	-
		3	-
Brick, limestone and mortar rubble.	0.38 – 0.75m	4	-
Tarmac	0.75m+	-	-

Test Pit 30			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.28m	1	-
		2	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.28 – 0.4m	3	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.4m+	-	-

Test Pit 31			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.15m	1	-
Limestone, brick and cinder rubble.	0.15 – 0.45m	2	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.45m+	-	-

Test Pit 32			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	-
		2	-
Limestone, brick and cinder rubble.	0.2 – 0.35m	3	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.35m+	-	-

Test Pit 33			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	-
		2	-
Limestone, brick and cinder rubble.	0.2 – 0.35m	3	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.35m+	-	-

Test Pit 34			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.22m	1	-
		2	Pottery
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.22 – 0.35m	3	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.35m+	-	-

Test Pit 35			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.1m	1	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.1 – 0.2m	2	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.2m+	-	-

Test Pit 36			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.18m	1	-
		2	-
Re-deposited natural.	0.18 – 0.36m	3	Pottery, clay pipe
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.36 – 0.65m	4	-
		5	-
		6	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.5m+	-	-

Test Pit 37			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.19m	1	-
		2	-
Cinders and mortar.	0.19 – 0.25m	3	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.25m+	-	-

Test Pit 38			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.17m	1	-
		2	-
Re-deposited subsoil.	0.17 – 0.29m	3	-
Limestone and mortar rubble.	0.29 – 0.48m	4	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.48 – 0.52m	5	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.52m+	-	-

Test Pit 39			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.21m	1	-
		2	-
Re-deposited mix of subsoil and natural.	0.21 – 0.38m	3	-
		4	-
Buried garden soil? Dark grey-brown, silt loam with a mineralised interface with the natural.	0.38 – 0.73m	5	Clay pipe
		6	-
		7	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.73m+	-	-

Test Pit 40			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.34m	1	-
		2	-
		3	-
Re-deposited mix of subsoil and natural.	0.34 – 0.56m	4	-
		5	Pottery, clay pipe
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.56 – 0.9m	6	-
		7	Flint, chert
		8	Flint
		9	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.9m+	-	-

Test Pit 41			
Deposit	Depth	Spit	 Finds
Topsoil. Dark grey-brown silt with very occasional inclusions.	0.0 – 0.2m	1	-
		2	-
Limestone rubble in a sandy matrix.	0.2 – 0.76m	3	-
Subsoil. Dark yellow-brown silty-clay, with very occasional inclusions.	0.76 – 0.84m	4	-
Natural. Bright orange-brown silty-clay, with occasional limestone inclusions.	0.84m+	-	-

APPENDIX 4: FINDS SUMMARY

Test Pit / Spit	Context	Qty	Category	Description	Date range
1/1	Topsoil	2	Pottery	White earthenware, one with 'Willow' transfer print	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
1/1	Topsoil	3	Clay tobacco pipe	Stems, medium bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
1/2	Topsoil	2	Pottery	White earthenware, one with red and green painted enamels	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
1/2	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Brown-glazed red earthenware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
1/2	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Brown-glazed buff earthenware	Late seventeenth - nineteenth century
1/2	Topsoil	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Stems, medium bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
3/3	Subsoil	1	Pottery	Light orange earthenware with red slip coating and white slip decoration, from platter, unglazed on underside but with black staining	Late seventeenth - early eighteenth century
4/1	Topsoil	1	Ceramic building material	Brick fragment	Post-medieval
4/1	Topsoil	1	Pottery	White earthenware hollow-ware rim with 'Broseley' transfer print	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
4/3	Subsoil	1	Chert	Core	Undiagnostic
4/3	Subsoil	1	Pottery	Yellow-ware from hollow-ware vessel with possible trailed red slip decoration	Sixteenth - eighteenth century
5/1	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Pearlware small hollow-ware vessel base: factory-made slipware with blue-stained rilling	Late eighteenth - early nineteenth century
5/1	Topsoil	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem, medium bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
6/1	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Brown-glazed red earthenware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
6/1	Topsoil	1	Pottery	White earthenware	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
6/1	Topsoil	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem, medium bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
6/1	Topsoil	1	Glass	Brown bottle	Nineteenth - twentieth century
10/2	Subsoil	1	Pottery	Pearlware saucer (?) with underglaze khaki painting	Late eighteenth - early nineteenth century
10/2	Subsoil	1	Pottery	Khaki-glazed grey-bodied stoneware bottle	Late eighteenth - early twentieth century
12/2	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Blackware mug	Seventeenth - early eighteenth century

Test Pit / Spit	Context	Qty	Category	Description	Date range
13/2	Topsoil/Subsoil	1	Pottery	Unglazed purpleware jar rim	Sixteenth - eighteenth century
14/1	Topsoil	1	Ceramic building material	Red earthenware flower pot, or possibly tile or drain	Nineteenth - early twentieth century
14/1	Topsoil	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem, medium bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
15/2	Topsoil	2	Pottery	White earthenware, one with 'Broseley' transfer print from hollow-ware vessel, one with blue painted line from saucer	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
16/1	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Flower pot rim	Nineteenth - twentieth century
16/1	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Blackware hollow-ware vessel	Seventeenth - early eighteenth century
16/1	Topsoil	2	Clay tobacco pipe	Stems, medium bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
16/3	Subsoil	1	Flint	Blade, secondary removal	Late Mesolithic
16/3	Subsoil	1	Flint	Straight end scraper	Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic
18/1	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Flower pot?	Nineteenth - twentieth century
19/1	Topsoil	1	Flint	Broken blade	Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic
23/4	Cinders/Redeposited subsoil /Redeposited sandy clay	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Bowl with milled rim	Mid-late seventeenth century
23/6	Subsoil	5	Flint (burnt)	Chips	Undiagnostic
23/6	Subsoil	1	Chert (burnt)	Flake	Undiagnostic
23/6	Subsoil	1	Flint	Tertiary flake	Undiagnostic
23/6	Subsoil	1	Flint (burnt)	Broken bladelet	Late Mesolithic
23/8	Subsoil	1	Flint (burnt)	Chip	Undiagnostic
23/8	Subsoil	1	Flint	Secondary flake	Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic
24/3	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Yellow-ware base	Sixteenth - eighteenth century
24/9	Subsoil	1	Flint	Bladelet core	Late Mesolithic
26/1	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Factory-made slipware carinated bowl with blue slip stripes	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
27/4	Redeposited subsoil and natural	2	Pottery	Creamware plate rim	Mid eighteenth - early nineteenth century
27/8	Subsoil	1	Chert	Flake	Neolithic
34/2	Topsoil	1	Pottery	Tea bowl (?) with underglaze painted plants in earth colours	Late eighteenth - early nineteenth

Test Pit / Spit	Context	Qty	Category	Description	Date range
					century
36/3	Redeposited natural	2	Pottery	Fine grey stoneware with brown outer glaze	Eighteenth - twentieth century
36/3	Redeposited natural	2	Pottery	White earthenware	Late eighteenth - twentieth century
36/3	Redeposited natural	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem, medium bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
39/5	Buried garden soil?	1	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem, medium bore	Eighteenth - early twentieth century
40/5	Redeposited subsoil and natural	1	Pottery	Brown-glazed grey-bodied stoneware jar rim	Eighteenth - twentieth century
40/5	Redeposited subsoil and natural	1	Pottery	Brown-glazed red earthenware	Late seventeenth - early twentieth century
40/5	Redeposited subsoil and natural	2	Clay tobacco pipe	Stem with medium bore, and bowl	Late seventeenth - early eighteenth century
40/7	Subsoil	1	Chert	Broken blade	Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic
40/7	Subsoil	1	Flint	Borer/awl	Late Mesolithic
40/8	Subsoil	1	Flint	Knapping fragment	Neolithic