

**LAND EAST OF PENNY PIECE LANE, NORTH ANSTON,
ROTHERHAM, SOUTH YORKSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP & RECORD

NGR: SK 51670 84622

Planning Ref.: RB2017/1832

PCAS job no. 2090

Site code: PPLX 18

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Prepared for:

DLP Planning Ltd.

on behalf of:

Duchy Homes

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Summary

PCAS Archaeology Ltd was requested by DLP Planning Ltd., on behalf of Duchy Homes, to undertake a scheme of archaeological excavation on land to the east of Penny Piece Lane, in the village of North Anston in the Rotherham district of the county of South Yorkshire.

A planning application for a residential development of 28 dwellings, including access and landscaping, has been conditionally approved by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. The application is supported by the results of a program of archaeological works, including a heritage assessment (Humble, 2016) geophysical survey (Bunn, 2016) and targeted evaluation trenching (Lane, 2018). Informed by the results of these works, a scheme of strip, map and record excavation was required to ensure the preservation of the archaeological record. This report details the findings of those excavations.

The strip, map and record excavations revealed few further archaeological features to those identified during the earlier evaluation trenching and geophysical survey. The excavations confirmed the presence of features dating to the late Post-medieval period (18th and 19th centuries) related to former field boundaries (in Area B) and the lime quarries and kilns around Quarry Lane to the north-east of the site (in Area C). A number of natural features consisting of tree throws and a solution pit were also identified during the excavation of all three areas.

1.0 Introduction

PCAS Archaeology Ltd was requested by DLP Planning Ltd., on behalf of Duchy Homes, to undertake a scheme of archaeological excavation on land to the east of Penny Piece Lane, in the village of North Anston in the Rotherham district of the county of South Yorkshire (NGR: SK 51670 84622, Fig. 1).

A planning application for residential development has been conditionally approved by the Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. To inform and advise the application, a program of archaeological works was undertaken within the site, including a heritage assessment, geophysical survey and targeted evaluation trenching, revealing a later post-medieval limestone trackway extending NNE-SSW across the southern part of the site, and a small number of ditches and pits.

To fully explore these features, an archaeological mitigation strategy involving targeted strip, map and record excavation in three areas of the site to expose and fully record these features has been undertaken.

This report details the finding of these excavations.



Figure. 1: Site location plan with site outlined in red. OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278.

2.0 Site location and description (Figs. 1 & 2)

The village of North Anston is situated within the Rotherham district of the county of South Yorkshire, approximately 11km to the south-east of Rotherham town centre. The development

site is located on the west side of the village, directly to the west of its historic core, on the east side of Penny Piece Lane.

The site is a roughly L-shaped plot approximately 1.7 hectares in area and under rough grass at the time of the evaluation in Spring 2018. A shallow linear earthwork was observed running across the site, following the line of a boundary, approximately perpendicular to Penny Piece Lane, that is shown on 19th and early 20th-century mapping as dividing the site into two fields. The site is bordered to the west by Penny Piece Lane, with a historic stone wall forming the south end of its roadside boundary and a hedge the north side. To the north, it adjoins a late 20th-century housing development around the modern cul-de-sac Penny Piece Place, while its southern border is formed by a block of mixed development on the north side of Main Street, ranging from 19th-century agricultural buildings – including the Grade II Listed Lodge Farmhouse – to modern residential infill. The eastern edge of the southern portion of the site borders the former grounds of Anston Hall, while the north-eastern boundary adjoins a disused quarry, redeveloped in the second half of the 20th century. The site lies across the boundary of the North Anston Conservation Area, with the southern portion falling within the Conservation Area and the northern portion outside it (Humble Heritage, 2017).

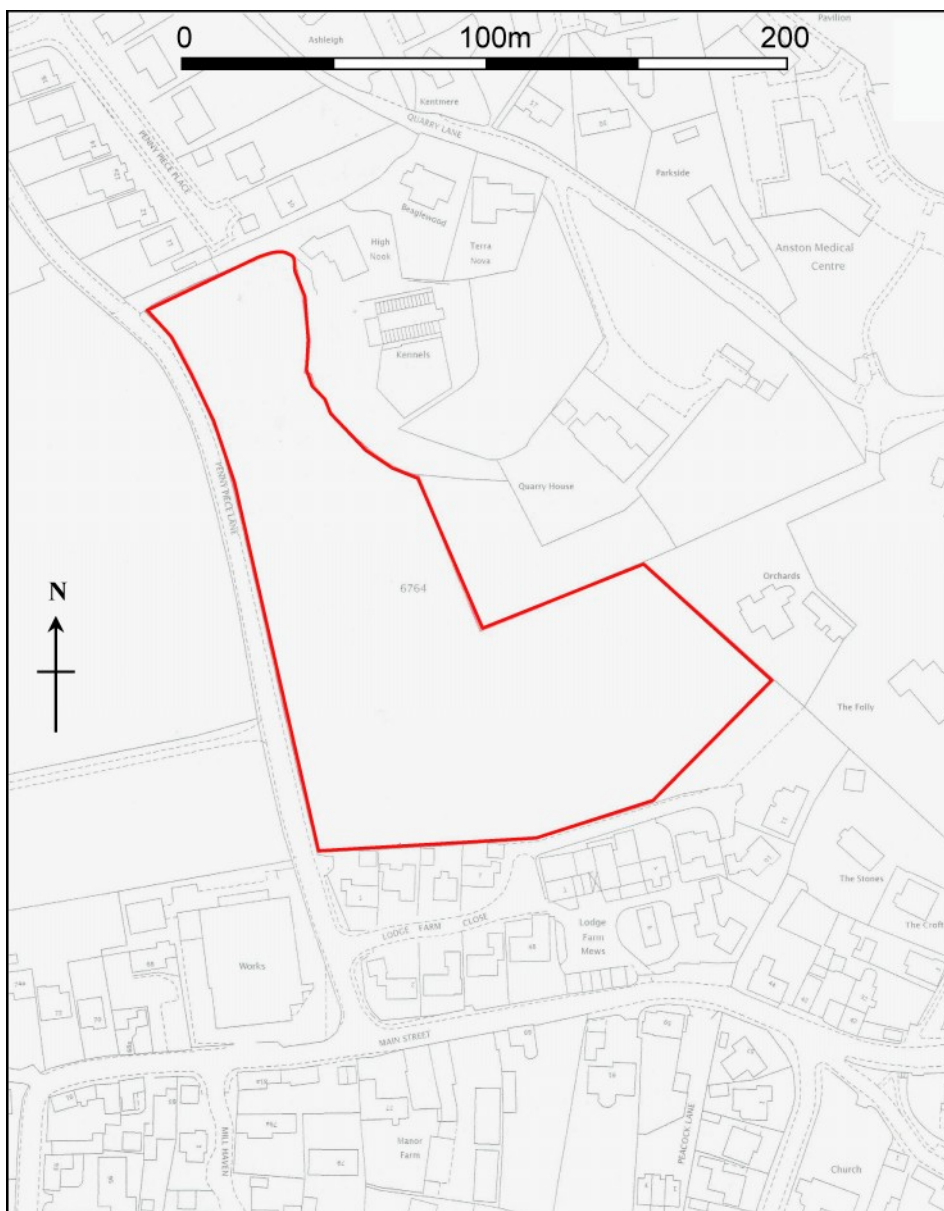


Figure 2: Detailed site location plan with application area outlined in red

3.0 Topography and geology

The site generally slopes downwards from east to south-west, with gradient increasing towards the east; the highest point, at the east side, is at approximately 115m above Ordnance Datum sea level, while the lowest point, in the south-west corner, is at approximately 99m AOD (Sirius, 2017).

No drift geology is recorded on the site. The exposed solid geology consists chiefly of undifferentiated strata of the Pennine Upper Coal Measures Formation, although outcrops of Cadeby Formation limestone are recorded immediately to the east of the site. A geotechnical survey carried out on the site in advance of the proposed development recorded a shallow topsoil, overlying weathered and residual soils derived from the Cadeby Formation limestone across much of the site. In the eastern and south-eastern parts of the site, deteriorated limestone was encountered at depths below 0.25m and 1.3m below current ground level. In the south-western part of the site, the limestone-derived material was absent and the topsoil directly overlay residual and weathered soils of the Upper Coal Measures, which appeared as compact clays or clayey gravelly sands (Sirius, 2017).

4.0 Planning Background (Fig. 2 & 3)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) came into force in March 2012 (updated 2018), placing the responsibility for dealing with heritage assets affected by development proposals with the developer.

A planning application for a residential development of 28 dwellings, including access and landscaping, has been conditionally approved by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (planning application number RB2017/1832). The application is supported by the results of a program of archaeological works, including a heritage assessment (Humble, 2016) geophysical survey (Bunn, 2016) and targeted evaluation trenching (Lane, 2018). Informed by the results of these works, a scheme of strip, map and record excavation was required to ensure the preservation of the archaeological record.

A methodology for archaeological strip, map and record excavation (Lane, 2018) was written and approved by the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service and the archaeological works were undertaken by PCAS in August and September 2018.

5.0 Archaeological and historical background

A heritage assessment carried out for this project has ascertained that North Anston parish was occupied in the prehistoric and Roman periods; finds include Palaeolithic and Roman artefacts recovered from the Scheduled Monument at Anston Stone Woods, to the south-east of the village. However, no evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity has been recorded on or in the neighbourhood of the proposed development site (Bunn, 2016; Humble Heritage, 2017).

The village is likely to have been founded during the Saxon period. By the time of the Domesday Survey in AD 1086, North and South Anston were already independent settlements: Domesday Book records North Anston as consisting chiefly of a semi-independent holding (sokeland) in the jurisdiction of Roger de Bully's manor of Laughton-en-le-Morthen. Roger de Bully's estate included a very large area (10 carucates) of ploughland, but nothing else is known about it, as the sokeland holdings of his manor were all assessed together and only totals for infrastructure, population and farmland other than arable are given. Another area of sokeland was associated with William de Warenne's manor of Conisborough; this was a smaller estate, with 2 carucates of ploughland and a small area of woodland pasture, occupied by four free peasant households (Williams and Martin, 2003, pp. 828 and 832). The Poll Tax records from 1379 list 250 taxable residents in Anston: as well as agricultural workers, the village population included 'wrights'

(workers in construction or manufacturing), masons, blacksmiths and tailors (Humble Heritage, 2017). A medieval moat and fish pond lie approximately 250m to the south of the site (SMR ref. 00284/01), but no medieval remains are recorded within it or in its immediate vicinity, and the results of the geophysical survey suggest that the site lay on the periphery of the village, at least partly within one of its open fields (Bunn, 2016).

A post-medieval limestone quarry and associated limekiln lie to the east of the site, forming part of an extensive mineral extraction landscape on the limestone outcrop to the north and east of the village. The easternmost and earliest part of quarry lies approximately 150m to the east of the site. This provided most of the stone for the reconstruction of the upper part of the Houses of Parliament, following a fire in 1834. During the 1840s, the stone was hauled 3km south-west to Dog Kennel Wharf where it was transported via the Chesterfield Canal eastwards to the tidal River Trent at West Stockworth, and thereafter via the River Thames to Westminster. The quarry to the immediate east of the site was a late and relatively short-lived extension, not featured on the Ordnance Survey map of 1854-5, and already labelled as disused on the 1892 edition. The former kiln lies at its northern edge and is presumably also of mid- to late 19th century origin. The adjacent quarry site has subsequently been backfilled and partially developed for housing, with exposed working faces visible to the west (*ibid.*).

Historic Ordnance Survey mapping shows the site as divided into two fields by an east-north-east to west-south-west-running boundary (fig. 3). A footpath is shown running north-east to south-west across the southern portion of the site on a map dating to 1890-92: this footpath does not appear on any other historic OS maps (Humble, 2017).

A geophysical survey was carried out on the site in 2016 in advance of the proposed development. The survey recorded a number of linear anomalies likely to represent filled-in ditches, interpreted as elements of a pre-enclosure agricultural landscape. A linear feature running north-north-east to south-south-west was thought to indicate the remains of a limestone-metalled track: the survey report suggests that it may have been used to transport stone from the quarry to the east (Bunn, 2016). This anomaly is on approximately the same alignment as a short-lived footpath identified by the heritage assessment as running across the site at the end of the 19th century, post-dating the working lifespan of the quarry (Humble, 2017), but appears to lie some distance too far to the east to correspond to the mapped feature. Extensive traces of medieval to post-medieval strip ploughing were identified across the western part of the site (Bunn, 2016).

A program of archaeological trenching targeted on the results of the geophysical survey was undertaken in Spring 2018 (Lane, 2018, Figure 4). Half of the excavated trenches were negative for buried remains, however the metalled track indicated by the geophysics was confirmed and tentatively dated to the late 19th – early 20th century, corresponding with the pathway mentioned in the heritage assessment. Another on an c. E-W alignment and intercepted at the northwest end of Trench 8 corresponded with a field boundary removed in the later 20th century. A second ditch in Trench 8 is probably a second field boundary, removed prior to the start of OS mapping. In Trench 6 a probable furrow was revealed (the furrow is on the same c. E-W alignment as the removed field boundary in Trench 8, suggesting this may be a remnant of post-medieval strip farming in the area). A small possible fire pit (Trench 3), and a partially exposed quarry pit (Trench 13), both devoid of any artefacts, were also recorded.

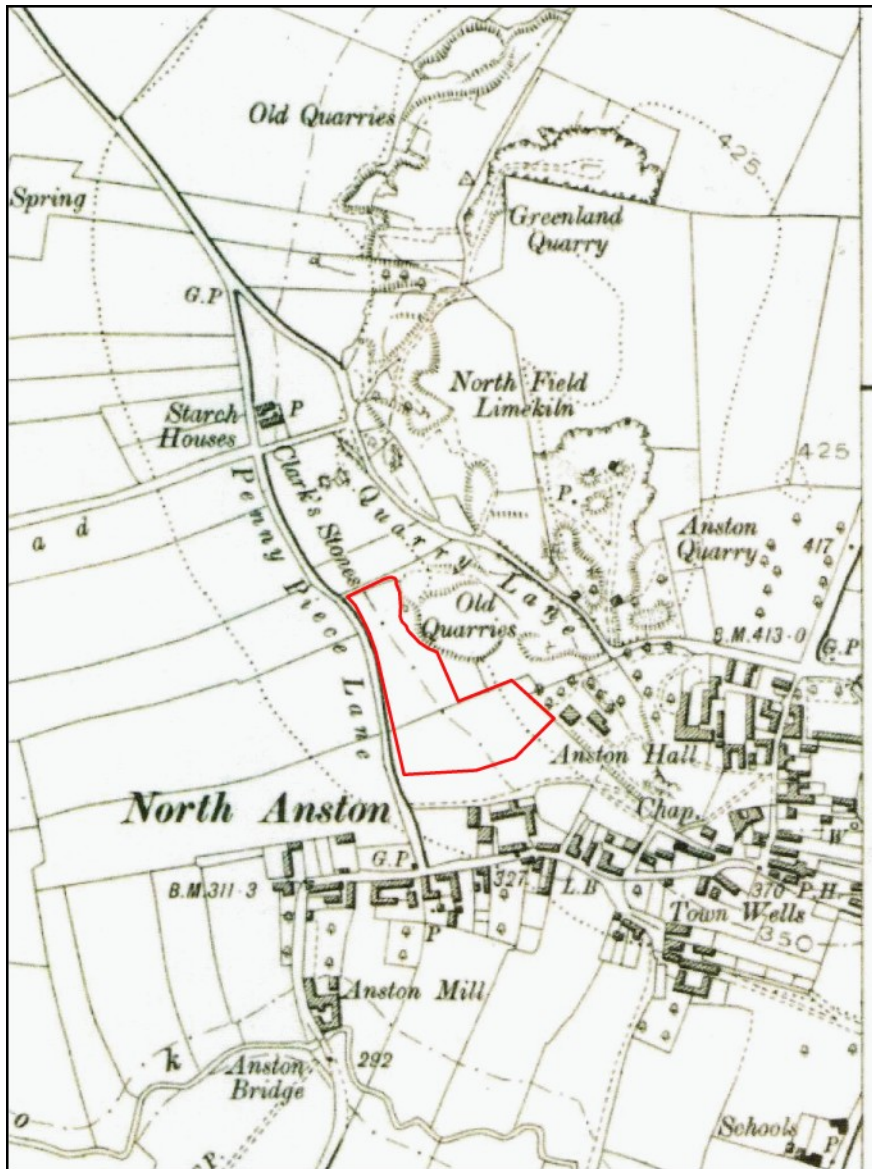


Figure 3: published in 1903 (not reproduced to scale), showing the extent of quarrying in the area of the site, and the boundary dividing it into two fields. The development site is outlined in red.

6.0 Methodology

The scheme of archaeological strip, map and record was undertaken on three targeted areas following the results of the earlier trench evaluation.

The areas of excavation are defined on Figure 4, and measured:

- Area 1: 20m x 20m, centred on the pit at the east end of Trench 3 (NGR: SK 51651 84674), 400m²
- Area 2: 20m x 50m, around Trenches 8 & 9, to investigate the field boundaries and the relationship between them, 1000m²
- Area 3: 20m x 40m, around Trench 13 intercepting both the limestone track and the quarry pit, 800m²

The excavations comprised the monitoring of the strip followed by the manual cleaning and excavation of any archaeological features exposed, the recovery of artefactual or ecofactual remains, and detailed recording.

All observed features and deposits were recorded on standard PCAS context recording sheets, and the progress of the groundworks noted on a standard PCAS site diary sheet. Sample sections were drawn at intervals at a scale of 1:20, and plotted on a base plan. A photographic record in colour slide, monochrome and digital formats was maintained throughout the fieldwork.

The excavations were undertaken between 29th August – 7th September 2018, supervised by S. Savage and J. Sleep.

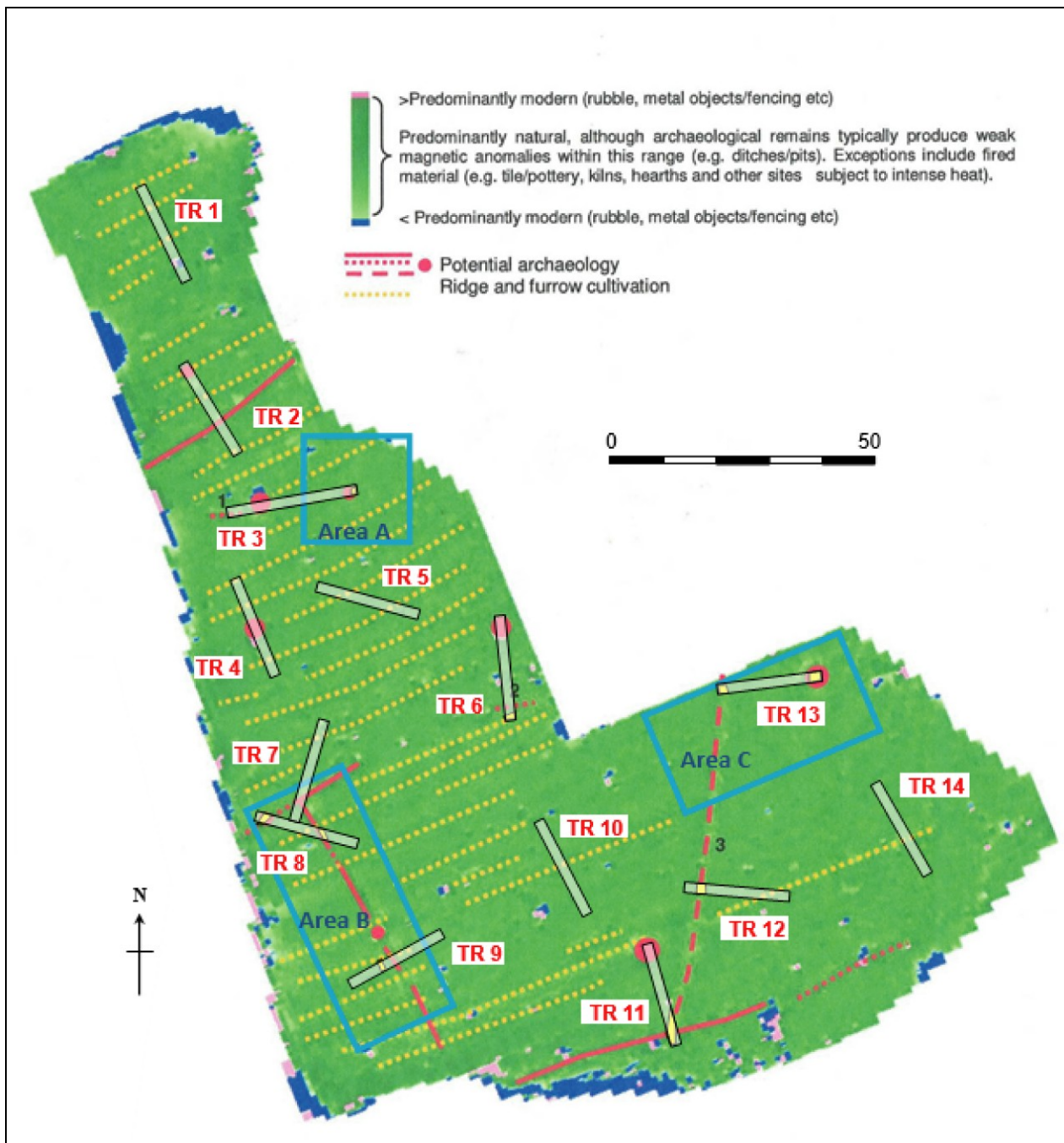


Figure 4: Interpretive plan of geophysics (Bunn 2016) overlain by evaluation results. Excavation Areas marked in blue.

7.0 Results

Area A (Fig. 5, Plates 1 & 2)

Area A was located towards the northern end of the application area, at the eastern end of evaluation Trench 3. The northeast corner of this excavation area was unavailable for excavation due to the presence of well established trees along the site boundary that are to be retained, and their root systems.

Natural light-yellow brown silt (102) was revealed across the excavation area following the removal of the topsoil (100) and subsoil (101). The only feature identified, thought possibly to be a fire pit during the trench evaluation, was a natural solution pit [103] located towards the centre of the site (Fig. 5 C-D).



Right: Plate 1: Area looking east after site strip
Below: Plate 2: Looking west at feature [103]



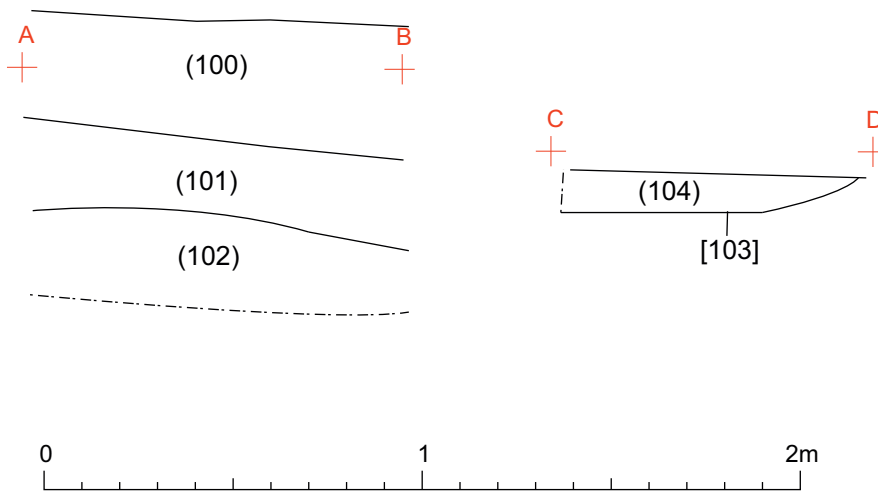
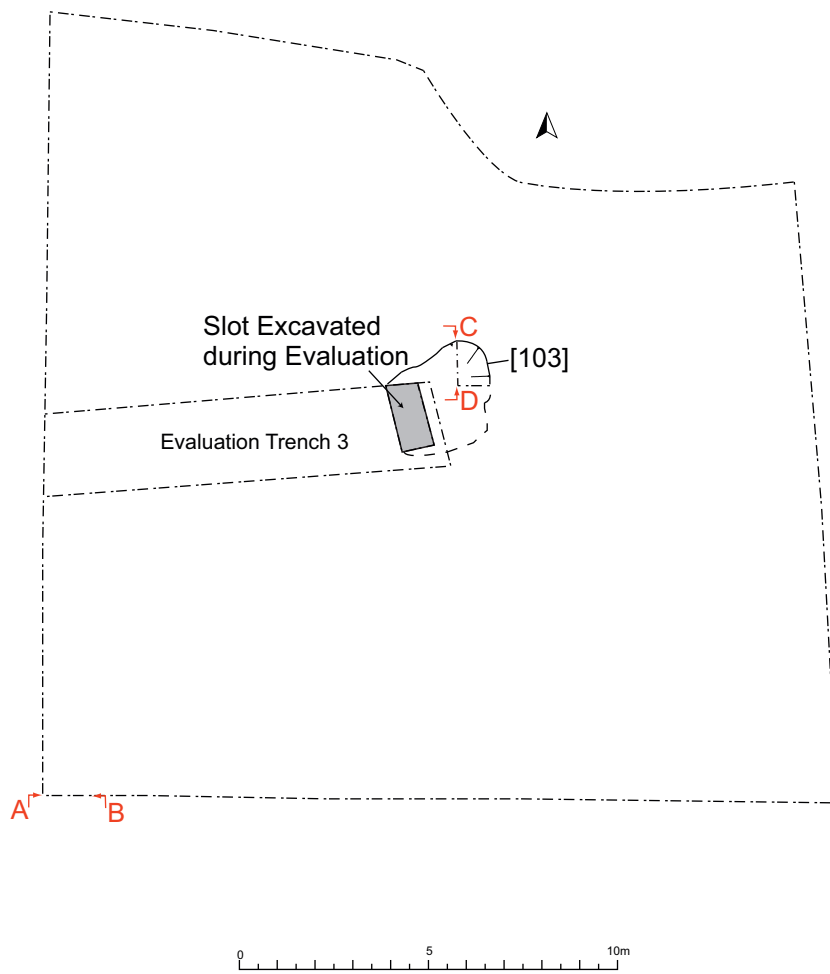


Figure 5: Plan (1:200) and Sections (1:20) of Area A features

Area B (Fig. 6, Plates 3 – 5)

Area B was located in the south-west corner of the application area, and covered the area of features identified in evaluation Trenches 7, 8 & 9. Excavation of this area revealed the two ditches previously exposed in evaluation Trenches 8 & 9 ([202] & [210]) alongside six features identified upon excavation as natural tree throws. A single sherd of 18th century pottery was retrieved from the topsoil (200) of the excavation area.

Ditch [202] was orientated on an approximate NW-SE alignment in the centre of the excavation area. The exposed length measured 42m, was 0.9 – 1.25m wide and had a shallow concave profile and rounded base (Fig 6 I-J). It contained a single fill of pale yellow brown sandy silt 0.24m thick (203, 204 & 205). No datable material was recovered from the fill of the ditch.

Ditch [210] was orientated on an approximate NE – SW alignment on the western side of the excavation area (Fig 6 A-B). The exposed length measured c. 20m, was 0.5m wide and had a concave profile which contained a single fill of mid red brown and yellow sandy silt, 0.09m thick (211). No datable material was recovered from the fill of the ditch.

Details of the natural tree throws are shown on Fig. 6 and in the context summary presented in Appendix 1.



Plate 3: Looking north at ditch [202]

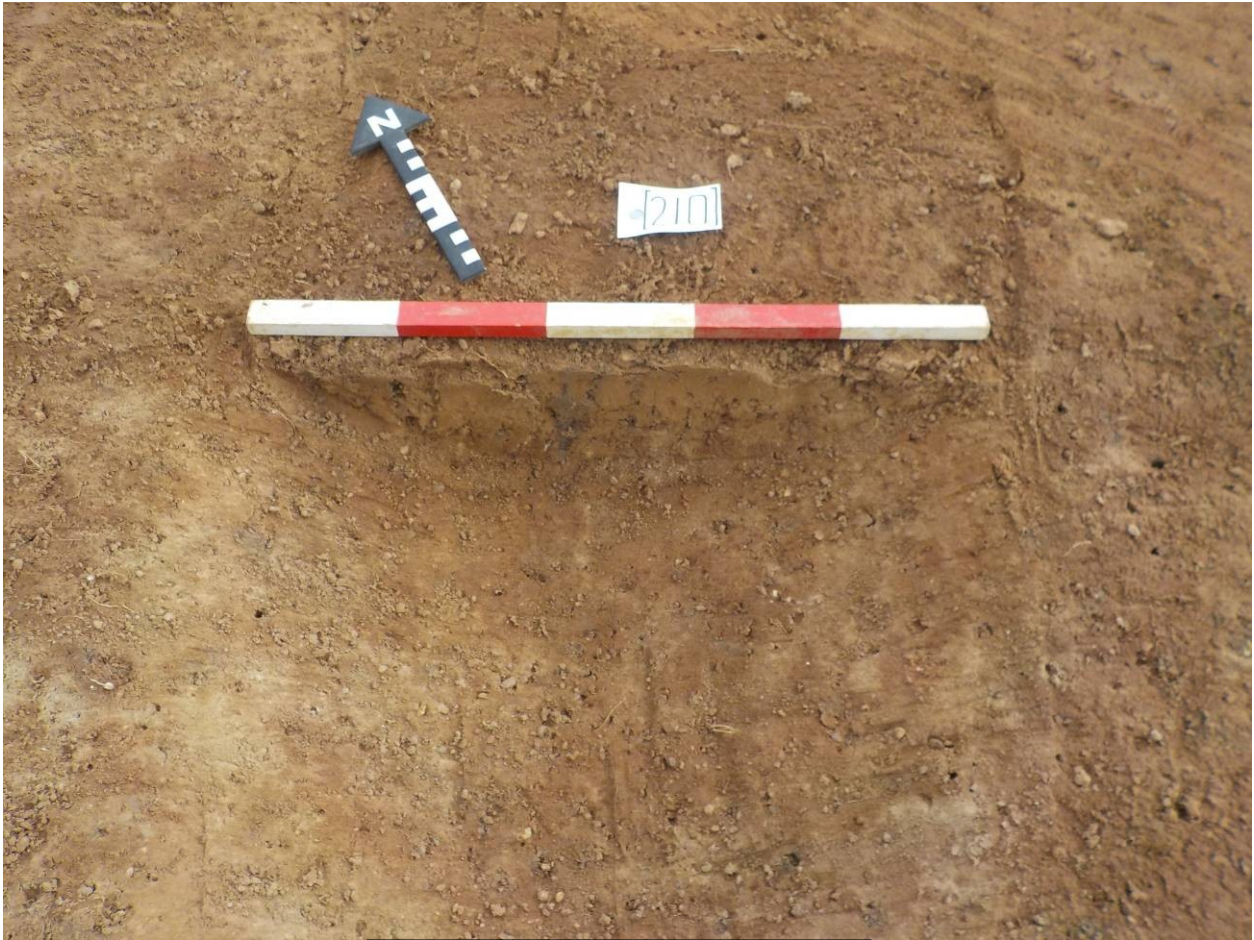


Plate 4: Looking north at ditch [210]



Plate 5: Looking east at pit [212]

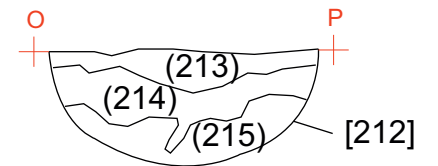
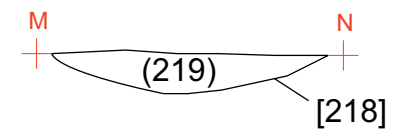
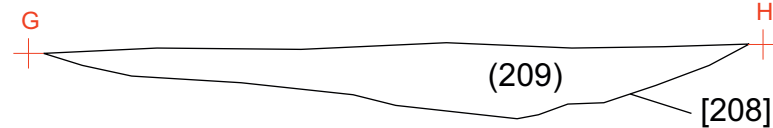
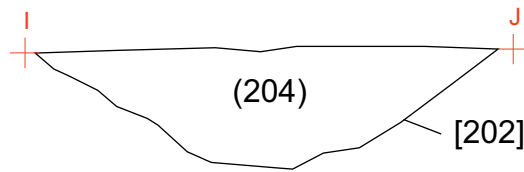
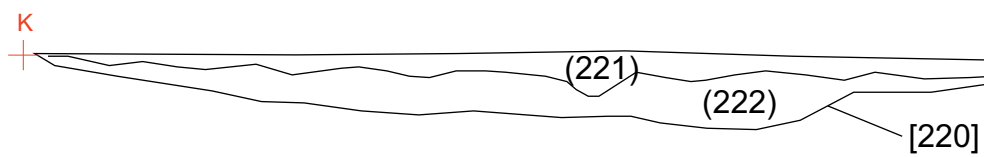
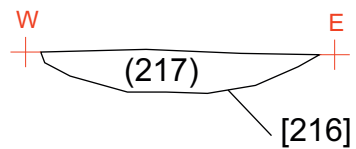
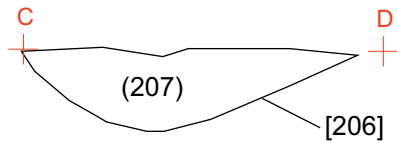
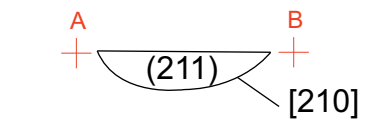
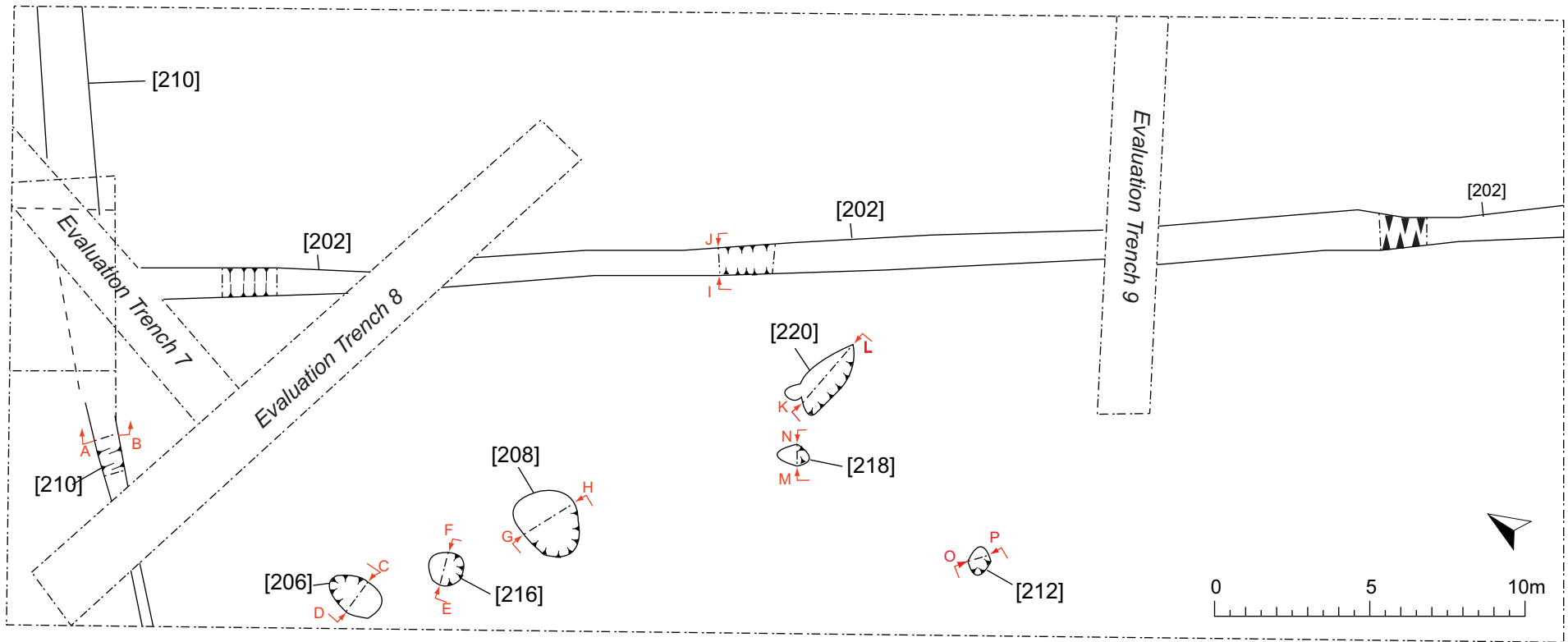


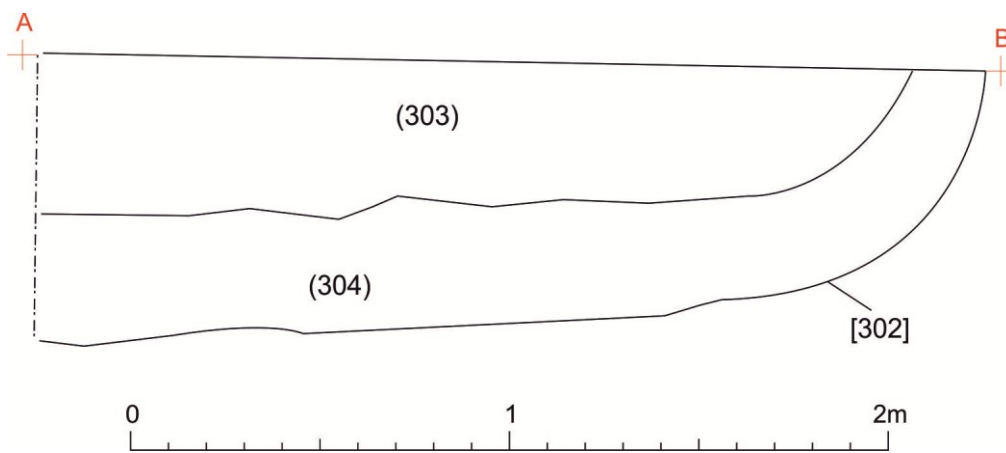
Figure 6: Plan (1:200) and Sections (1:20) of Area B features

Area C (Fig. 7, Plates 6 -9)

Area C was located in the south-east corner of the application area, and covered the features identified in evaluation Trench 13, including the limestone trackway identified in Trenches 11, 12 & 13.

Following the removal of the topsoil (300) and subsoil (301) four cut features ([302], [307], [311] & [317]) were identified on the eastern side of the excavation area, east of the limestone track.

Pit [302] (A-B) was located on the northern edge of the excavation area, c. 7m to the east of the limestone path. It was sub-oval in plan, 2.5m long, and had moderately steep sides and a flat base. The pit was 0.75m deep and contained two distinct fills; an upper fill of orange grey silt (303), 0.34m thick, from which the base of an 18th century jar was retrieved, and a lower fill of light yellow brown sandy silt (304), 0.43m thick, from which no finds were recovered.



Pit [307] was located on the south-east side of the limestone track, which overlay its western side (Fig 7 G-H). The pit was sub-oval in plan, 0.9m long, with vertical edges and a sloping base. It was 0.8m deep and contained an upper fill of dark brown grey silt (308) from which no datable material was retrieved. The primary fill of the pit (309) consisted of light-yellow brown silty sand, 0.18m thick, from which a single sherd of 19th century pottery and an undiagnostic, and therefore undatable, fragment of ceramic building material were retrieved.

Pit [311] was located at the eastern end of evaluation Trench 13, towards the eastern side of the excavation area (Fig 7 E-F). This large pit was sub-oval in plan measuring 6m long, 4.5m wide and 0.95m deep. It had moderately steep sides, a concave base, and contained three distinct fills (312, 313 & 314). The upper fill (312) consisted of mid grey brown silt with frequent charcoal inclusions 0.64m thick. This overlay a deposit of dark grey silt with occasional charcoal flecks (313), 0.44m thick, which in turn overlay the primary fill of light brown yellow sandy silt 0.08m thick. No datable material was retrieved from any of the pit fills. Pit [311] cut a possible limekiln ([317]) on its western edge.

A possible limekiln ([317]) was cut by the western side of pit [311] (Fig 7 C-D). The exposed remains were oval in plan, 1.5m long, 1.21m wide, and had shallow sides, 0.25m deep, to a sloping base. It contained a single fill of fine powdery burnt/heat affected limestone and degraded cinder (316) from which a single piece of undatable corroded ferrous metal was retrieved.

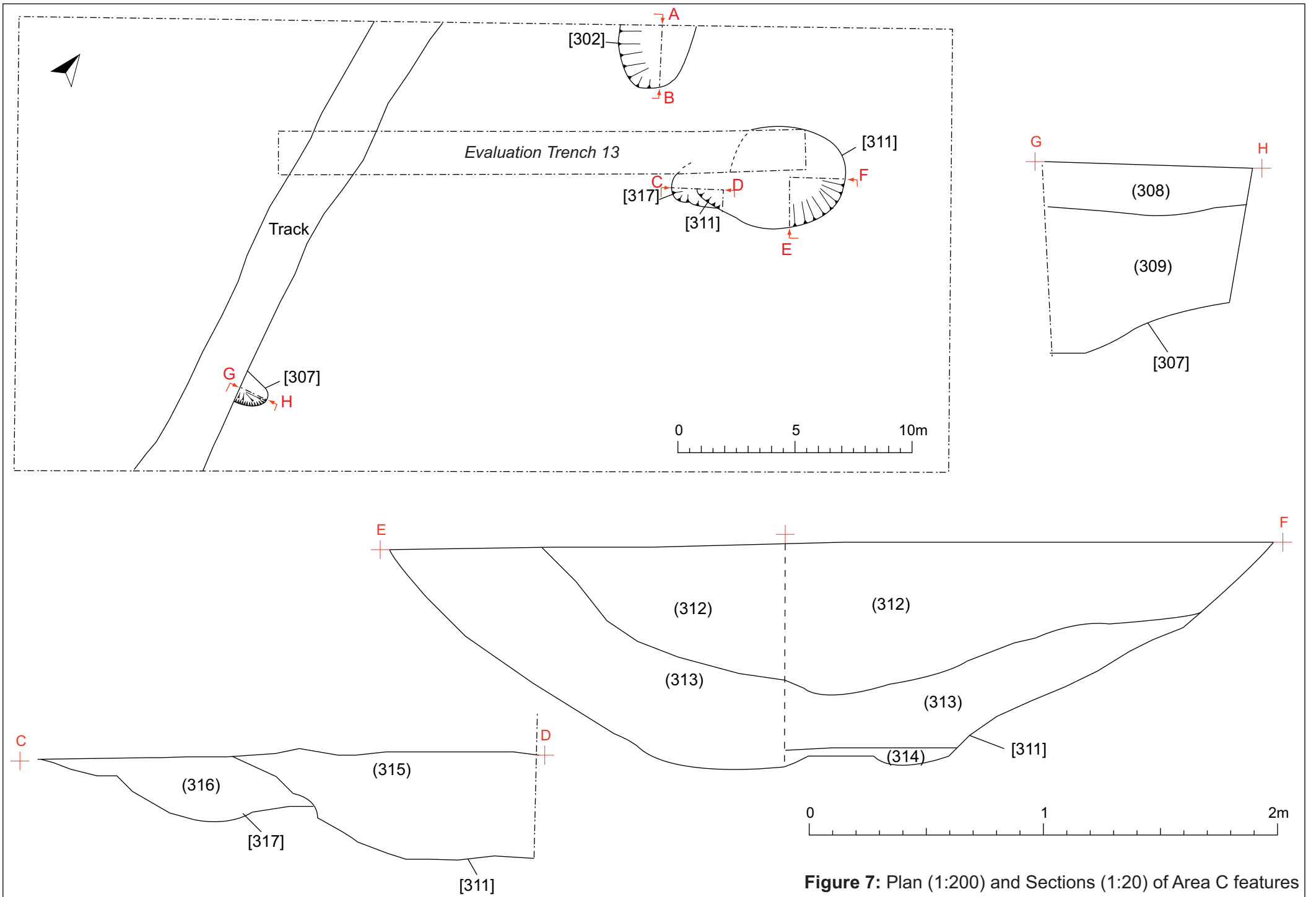


Figure 7: Plan (1:200) and Sections (1:20) of Area C features



Plate 6: Looking east at pit [302]



Plate 7: Looking south at pit [307]



Plate 8: Looking northwest towards pit [311]



Plate 9: Looking north towards feature [317]

8.0 Conclusion

The majority of the features identified in Areas A & B were shown, on excavation, to consist of natural features, a solution pit in Area A and tree throws in Area B. The exception in these two areas were the ditches encountered in Area B, previously encountered in evaluation Trenches 8 & 9. Despite further excavation during this phase of works the ditches remain undated, but are likely to represent the remains of former field boundaries, possibly dating to the Post-medieval period, as suggested by the historic mapping of the area which records a field boundary that appears to correspond with ditch [202] (Fig. 3).

The pits recorded in Area C are likely quarry pits for the extraction of limestone, which based on the limited dating evidence, appear to date to the 18th and 19th centuries. Pit [307] contained a single sherd of 19th century pottery in its primary fill, which aids in the dating of the limestone track that covered the western side of the pit, previously (after the trench evaluation) dated to the late 19th/early 20th century; the pottery confirming this earlier assumption.

The earliest feature recorded in Area C was the truncated remains of a possible limekiln [317], cut by undated quarry pit [311]. The fill of the pit [317] suggests that it may have been used for heating limestone and although undated is likely to be roughly contemporary with the pits surrounding it.

The strip, map and record excavations revealed few further archaeological features to those identified during the earlier evaluation trenching and geophysical survey. The excavations confirmed the presence of features dating to the late Post-medieval period (18th and 19th centuries) related to former field boundaries (in Area B) and the lime quarries and kilns around Quarry Lane to the north-east of the site (in Area C). A number of natural features consisting of tree throws and a solution pit were also identified during the excavation of all three areas.

9.0 Acknowledgements

PCAS Archaeology Ltd would like to thank DLP Planning Ltd. and Duchy Homes for this commission.

10.0 Site Archive

The project archive is currently held at the offices of PCAS Archaeology in Saxilby, Lincolnshire while being prepared for deposition. Deposition has been arranged with Clifton Park Museum; the mid project review form will be submitted to the museum and a date for deposition arranged.

11.0 References

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Appendix 1: Context Summary

Context	feature	Type/relationship	Description
100	100	Layer	Topsoil. Dark grey brown sandy silt, friable with rare limestone inclusions.
101	101	Layer	Mid yellow brown sandy silt, firm with rare limestone inclusions
102	102	Layer	Light yellow-brown silt with frequent limestone pebbles and cobbles and rare large angular chunks, moderate lenses of mid yellow brown silt
103	103	Layer	Natural solution pit. Irregular circle in plan, gentle, straight sides and gradual break of slope, flat base.
104	103	Fill of 103	Mid yellow brown silt, rare limestone inclusions, firm.
200	200	Layer	Topsoil. Same as 100. 0.20m thick
201	201	Layer	Subsoil. Id yellow brown firm sandy silt with limestone fragments. 0.30m thick
202	202	Cut	Cut of ditch on c.NW-SE alignment. Vrey shallow concave profile, rounded base. 42m exposed length; 0.90 - 1.25m wide, <1.25m wide
203	202	Single fill of 202	Pale yellow brown friable sandy silt. 0.24m thick.
204	202	Fill of 202	Same as 203
205	202	Fill of 202	Same as 203
206	206	Cut	Cut of small possible pit (most likely tree throw). Elongated oval in plan, shallow concave sides and rounded base. L - 1.90m; W - 0.93m; D - 0.18m
207	206	Single fill of 206	Very natural looking pale yellow brown sandy silt and degraded limestone fragments.
208	208	Cut	Large shallow oval pit or tree throw. Very shallow concave, sloping profile. L - 1.90m; W - 2.50m; D - 0.17m
209	208	Single fill of 208	Mid brown-yellow sandy silt
210	210	Cut	Shallow remnants of post-medieval field boundary. Appears to align with extant tree line / boundary to NE. Concave profile. W - 0.50m; D - 0.09m
211	210	Single fill of 210	Mid reddish brown and yellow sandy silt.
212	212	Cut	Cut of small circular pit, steep sides and rounded base. Possibly burnt out stump as rooting appears in base and section. Diameter 0.76m; D 0.30m
213	212	Upper fill of 212	Mixed mid yellow and yellow sandy silts. 0.12m thick
214	212	Middle fill of 212	Burnt deposit, black / black brown sandy silt, irregular in profile. 0.13m thick
215	212	Lower fill of 212	Possibly natural staining by burnt deposit above. Mid red brown (pale) silt. 0.10m thick
216	216	Cut	Cut of natural tree throw. Diameter 0.80m; D

Context	feature	Type/relationship	Description
			0.10m
217	216	Single fill of 216	Mixed pale - light yellow brown sandy silt.
218	218	Same as 216	Same as 216. Diameter 0.73m, D - 0.10m
219	218	Single fill of 218	Same as 217
220	220	Cut	Probable tree throw; elongated sub oval, very shallow concave profile. L - 2.90m; W - 1.60m; D - 0.18m
221	220	Upper fill of 220	Mid red brown sandy silt, friable. 0.06m thick
222	220	Lower fill of 220	Light yellow brown compact sandy silt. 0.14m thick.
300	300	Layer	Topsoil. Same as 100
301	301	Layer	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt, compact with occasional limestone fragments.
302	302	Cut	Cut of pit, partially exposed NE side of Area 3. Sub oval, moderately steep sides and flat base (S side becomes steeper). Possible quarry pit. L - >2.50m; D - 0.75m
303	302	Upper fill of 302	Light orangey grey silt, fairly compact, common pieces of charcoal and occasional limestone fragments. 0.34m deep
304	302	Lower fill of 302	Mid orange brown silt, compact with frequent limestone fragments, 0.43m deep
305	305	Layer	Light yellow brown sandy silt with rare limestone inclusions, very compact.
306	306	Layer	Mid yellow brown sandy silt with frequent limestone inclusions.
307	307	Cut	Cut of partially exposed pit, sub oval with vertical sides and sloping base. L - >0.90m; D - 0.80m
308	307	Upper fill of 307	Dark brown grey silt, fairly loose, possibly due to animal disturbance. Rare small limestone inclusions and occasional charcoal fragment. Slightly mixed with 309 below. 0.18m deep
309	307	Lower fill of 307	Light brown yellow sandy silt, frequent limestone fragments becoming increasing large with depth. Fairly compact. D - 0.62m
310	310	Layer	Limestone gravel track running c.NOS across Area C. Modern
311	311	Cut. Cuts 317	Cut of large pit. Sub oval in plan, moderately steep sides and concave base. L - >6m; W - 4.5-0m; D - 0.94m
312	311	Upper fill of 311	Mid grey brown silt, moderately compact, very frequent charcoal and moderate amounts of limestone. D - 0.64m
313	311	Fill of 311	Dark brown grey silt, occasional flecks of charcoal and very frequent limestone fragments. D - 0.44m
314	311	Lower fill 311	Light brown yellow sandy silt, moderately compact with rare charcoal pieces. D - 0.08m

Context	feature	Type/relationship	Description
315	311	Fill of 311	Mid red brown friable sandy silt, W end of pit 311. probably same as 313. D - 0.46m
316	317	Fill of 317	Fine powdery possibly burnt / heat affected limestone / degraded cinder. 0.25m deep
317	317	Cut	Cut of possible lime kiln. Oval in plan but truncated by 311. shallow sides and sloping base. L - 1.50m; W - 1.21m; D - 0.25m

Appendix 2: Finds Reports

Pottery from excavations in Penny Piece Lane, North Anston, Rotherham, South Yorkshire (PPLX18)

C.G. Cumberpatch BA PhD
Freelance Archaeologist

Introduction

Three sherds of pottery from excavations in Penny Piece Lane, North Anston were examined by the author on 21st September 2018. The details are summarised in the catalogue below.

Catalogue

Context 200

A jug or cistern handle (45 grams) in a fine dark orange Brown Glazed Coarseware fabric containing sparse fine red grit. Brown Glazed Coarsewares appeared in the mid to late 17th century and remained in common use until the mid 20th century (Cumberpatch 2014). There is a general tendency for the fabrics to become finer over time and for the range of vessel types to diminish although the details of the changes in fabric are poorly understood. This sherd is most probably of 18th century date.

Context 303

The base of a jar or cistern in a fine, hard dark orange fabric with clear glaze internally giving a red finish (116 grams). Occasional mottling suggests the presence of iron-rich grit in the clay body. This is typical of a distinct sub-type of Brown Glazed Coarseware known as Mottled Coarseware which dates to the 18th century. The underside of the base shows parallel wire marks where the vessel was cut from the wheel.

Context 309

A body sherd from a bowl with a pale yellow buff or cane coloured body decorated with brown slip lines and a white slip band externally (7 grams). Blue dendritic decoration on the white slip band indicates that the vessel is of Mocha ware type. Mocha ware was a popular type of tableware and was manufactured very widely throughout the 19th century, having first been made in Staffordshire around 1795.

Discussion

Few definite conclusions can be drawn from such a small assemblage other than that it indicates activity on or close to the site in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Archiving and curation

On the completion of the project the assemblage should be deposited in the appropriate local museum or finds depository where it will be available for further research in the future. It should not be sampled, sub-divided, dispersed or discarded.

Bibliography

Cumberpatch, C.G. 2014b *Tradition and Change: the production and consumption of early modern pottery in South and West Yorkshire* In: C. Cumberpatch and P.W. Blinkhorn (Eds) **The Chiming of Crack'd Bells: current approaches to artefacts in archaeology** British Archaeological Reports International Series 2677 Archaeopress, 73-97

The Ceramic Building Material from Land East of Penny Piece Lane, North Anston, Rotherham, South Yorkshire.

Zoe Tomlinson. BSc. MSc.

Introduction

A single fragment of ceramic building material weighing 63grams was submitted for examination. The fragment is a small abraded piece and appears to be a fragment of handmade brick. The fragment was examined both visually and at x 20 binocular magnification. The resulting archive was then recorded in an Access database and complies with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski, *et al.* (2001).

Condition

The fragment is abraded.

The Ceramic Building Material

A limited range of ceramic building material was examined and is shown in table 1.

Codename	Full name	Total fragments	Total weight (grams)
BRK	Brick	1	63
Total		1	63

Table 1 – ceramic building material codenames and total quantities by fragment count and weight.

The Brick

The fragment of brick was recovered from the lower fill (**309**) of pit **307** of Area 3 during a archaeological strip, map and record investigation. It is an abraded fragment in a fine oxidised sandy fabric with common calcareous inclusions and a moderate number of iron rich grains. It is a fragment of handmade brick and being undiagnostic it is problematic to date but is likely to be post-medieval.

Summary and Recommendations

The fragment is of limited value to site interpretation and I recommend that it can be discarded.

References

Slowikowski, A. Nenk, B. and Pearce, J. 2001. *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*. Medieval Pottery Research Group, Occasional Paper 2.

A report on the Finds from Land East of Penny Piece Lane, North Anston, Rotherham, South Yorkshire.

Zoe Tomlinson. BSc. MSc.

Introduction

A single piece of ferrous metal was presented for examination.

Condition

The artefact is in poor condition with corrosion product and a lime rich deposit, possibly mortar, obscuring any surface detail. This deposit extends over what appears to be a broken end.

Ferrous Metal

A single piece of metal weighing 25grams was recovered from fill (**316**) of Area 3 of the site interpreted as a possible lime kiln. This curved or buckled strip of ferrous metal is 75mm in length, 20-24mm wide and approximately 1mm thick. It is slightly splayed in shape with rounded edges and part of a possible notch at one end. The poor condition and lack of features limits identification but it is most likely a fitting of some kind.

Summary & Recommendations

This broken piece of corroded ferrous metal is of limited value to site interpretation and I recommend that it can be discarded.

References

Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists. (2014). *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*.

Evaluation of metalworking remains from excavations on land east of Penny Piece Lane, North Anston, Rotherham, South Yorkshire.

(site code: PPLX18)

by Charles Simpson BSc (Hons), MA.

Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by PCAS Archaeology at land east of Penny Piece Lane, North Anston, Rotherham, South Yorkshire.

The evaluation has identified activity dating to the post medieval periods.

Eleven items listed as slag were recovered during archaeological excavations and were submitted for analysis and reporting.

There was no dating evidence available at the time of writing from pottery evidence.

Methodology

The assemblage was cleaned of surface debris, counted, weighed and macroscopically examined to identify diagnostic material and features.

Full reference was made to published guides (Dungworth et. al. 2012 (a) & (b), Historic England 2015, HMS 2009, Paynter 2011).

Results

A summary of the assemblage is recorded below in the table below.

Context

No. Material Date No.

Pieces

Mass

(g) Comments

303 furn - 3 59 Dense, iron rich, mildly vesicular, non-diagnostic furnace slag.

313 - - 3 13 Porous and very low density, laminar, coke / cinder

115 - - 5 36 Porous and very low density, laminar, coke / cinder

Key

blm = bloomery slag Rm = Roman med = medieval fas = fuel ash slag

furn = furnace slag (undiag.) pm = post medieval pio = possible iron object tap = tap slag

pcb = plano-convex bottom lin = furnace lining ore = metal working ore

Discussion

The assemblage was quite small and of mixed content with the recovered items falling into two categories – slag and coke.

The slag from sample (303) is furnace slag but is lacking any diagnostic features necessary to give a more detailed identification. All three pieces of slag are only mildly vesicular and all of the pieces have variable magnetic properties. Dating these slag samples without further supplementary evidence is not possible.

The other 8 items from samples (313) and (316) are porous and very low density. They exhibit a laminar formation and are consistent with partially burned low grade coal to form coke or cinder. It is likely these items relate to modern activity.

All items show a lack of visible abrasion suggesting they have not travelled far from a possible furnace / use location.

Recommendations

No further work is recommended at this stage and the slags should be retained as part of the archive.

The fragments of coke present in the samples can be discarded.

Any environmental samples taken from the features or deposits that produced slags, should be scanned for small fragments of metalworking debris such as hammerscale, which may indicate any associated industrial activity in the vicinity. Should further investigations be undertaken at any of the trench locations, it would be advisable to seek appropriate advice on any sampling strategies.

Conservation

The slag samples submitted for analysis have no particular conservation requirements.

Retention and disposal

All samples have been returned to PCAS Archaeology for their retention / disposal.

Archive

An electronic copy of this report has been supplied to PCAS Archaeology and a copy of the electronic records pertaining to the work have been kept by Charles Simpson.

References

Dungworth, D., Crew, P. and McDonnell, G. 2012(a). *Iron: bloomery smelting and associated processes*. The Historical Metallurgy Society - Archaeology Datasheet 301

Dungworth, D. and Starley, D. 2012(b). *Textures, microstructures and metallography*. The Historical Metallurgy Society - Archaeology Datasheet 105

Paynter, S. 2011. *Introductions to Heritage Assets: Pre-industrial ironworks*. Historic England.

Historic England. 2015. *Archaeometallurgy – Guidelines for Best Practice*.

Historical Metallurgy Society (HMS). 2009. *National Slag Collection: Catalogue*

Appendix 3: OASIS summary

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Archaeological excavation on land east of Penny Piece Lane, North Anston - PCAS Archaeology Ltd

OASIS ID - preconst3-324740

Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Alison Lane	alison.lane@pcas-archaeology.co.uk	3 August 2018
View 2	2	Alison Lane	alison.lane@pcas-archaeology.co.uk	19 October 2018

Completed sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
Yes	Yes	Yes	No	1/1

Validated sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1

File submission and form progress

Grey literature report submitted?	No	Grey literature report filename/s
Boundary file submitted?	No	Boundary filename
HER signed off?		NMR signed off?

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