



# Onslow Road Mickleover, Derbyshire

Archaeological Evaluation



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## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Orion Heritage, on behalf of Bloor Homes, to undertake an archaeological evaluation in relation to a proposed residential development on land located immediately north of Onslow Road, Mickleover, Derbyshire, DE3 9JH (NGR 431385 335890). Five trenches were excavated; these were focussed on an area where a Romano-British feature had been uncovered during previous evaluation work and had the principal aim of establishing whether there was any further evidence of Romano-British activity nearby. Following completion of the trenching a further four trenches were excavated to further define the nature of the archaeological remains from the early works.

One pit containing an Iron Age or Romano-British pot sherd was uncovered, and a prehistoric pot sherd of probable Iron Age date was found in the plough soil nearby. Several undated pits/postholes and a clay layer of probable archaeological origin were also noted, along with the remnants of east-west aligned cultivation furrows. The previously identified Romano-British feature was demonstrated to represent an irregular pit within a post-medieval furrow. It is therefore apparent that some further evidence of low-level archaeological activity is present in the area, although no evidence of linear features or concentrations of associated contemporary remains were evident.

It is possible that the remains recorded during the evaluations relate to rural activity carried out in the periphery of the settlement responsible for the pottery spread previously recorded to the east of the site on the playing fields of Mickleover School (HER 18962). However, the abraded Iron Age/Roman-British pottery sherd from pit 204 may be residual, and the pit and undated archaeological features could relate to activity contemporary with the ridge and furrow rather than a continuation of any Romano-British activity.

Bulk soil samples were taken from some of the excavated features, although no environmental evidence other than charcoal was found in them, and evidence of stratigraphic movement/contamination was noted. The samples are not diagnostic of any particular period, and are of limited interpretive value.

As part of the same development, a mitigation excavation was undertaken on an area of brickmaking kilns, located 320 m to the north-west, although the results of that work are presented elsewhere (Wessex Archaeology in prep.).

The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield. The site falls within the collecting area of Derby Museum and Art Gallery. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum; archive deposition is likely to also cover the mitigation stage of the project.

## Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Orion Heritage for commissioning the archaeological evaluation, in particular Cathy Patrick. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of the Derbyshire County Council Development Control Archaeologist, who monitored the project for Derby City Council, and to A E Faulkes Plant Hire for their cooperation and help on site.



# Onslow Road, Mickleover, Derbyshire

## Archaeological Evaluation

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Orion Heritage, on behalf of Bloor Homes, to undertake archaeological investigations on an 8 ha parcel of land located immediately north of Onslow Road, Mickleover, Derbyshire, DE3 9JH (Fig. 1). The investigations undertaken by Wessex Archaeology comprised two elements:

1. a strip, map and sample excavation focussed on an area of former brick kilns;
2. trial trench evaluation of a separate area.

1.1.2 The current document presents the results of the trial trench evaluation. The results of the strip, map and sample excavation will be reported on elsewhere (Wessex Archaeology in prep.).

1.1.3 The investigations were undertaken in relation to a residential development with planning approval from Derby City Council (19/00763/FUL). The archaeological works were required as a condition of planning consent (approved 4/6/20; condition 8), and were focussed on an area where a Romano-British feature had been uncovered during previous evaluation work (PCAS Archaeology Ltd 2019). The evaluation had the principal aim of establishing whether there was any further evidence of Romano-British activity nearby.

1.1.4 All works were undertaken in accordance with a mitigation strategy (Orion Heritage 2019) and method statement (Wessex Archaeology 2020), which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed in order to undertake the evaluation. The Derbyshire County Council Development Control Archaeologist (DCCDCA) approved these documents, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.5 The evaluation, comprising the excavation of nine trial trenches, was undertaken between 17 May 2021 and 25 June 2021 alongside the strip, map and sample excavation.

#### 1.2 Scope of the report

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

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

#### 1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The evaluation area was located at NGR 431385 335890 with existing ground levels lying at around 97 m above Ordnance Datum.



1.3.2 The underlying geology is mapped as Mudstone of the Gunthorpe Member, with no superficial deposits recorded (British Geological Survey 2021).

1.3.3 The evaluation area lay 320 m south-east of the strip, map and sample excavation area.

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 The period-based outline presented below is summarised from the desk-based assessment (DBA), which examined the potential for the survival of buried archaeological remains within the site and a 1 km-radius study area (Pre-construct Archaeological Services Ltd 2013). A search of the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER) has also been carried out by means of the Heritage Gateway online portal, to check for more recent findings.

### **2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development**

#### *Desk-based assessment (2013)*

2.2.1 The desk-based assessment noted a substantial find of Romano-British potsherds 170 m from the edge of the site and suggested that a Romano-British settlement was situated nearby, and that contemporary remains may extend on to the site. Documentary and aerial photographic sources suggested that the site lay within the open fields of the parish of Mickleover during the Middle Ages, with post-enclosure field boundaries being the only post-medieval features thought likely to be present (Pre-construct Archaeological Services Ltd 2013).

#### *Geophysical survey (2013)*

2.2.2 Magnetic anomalies were detected and interpreted as relating to modern/recent features including buried services, land drains and former boundaries. Zones of strong magnetic variation in the mid-northern part of the site were interpreted as possibly the remains of temporary structures relating to the construction of the railway. Weak parallel linear anomalies in the central part of the site were interpreted as residual traces of north–south aligned ridge and furrow cultivation (Pre-construct Geophysics Ltd 2013).

#### *Trench evaluation (2019)*

2.2.3 Twenty-four 20 x 2 m trenches were dug (PCAS Archaeology Ltd 2019). In the eastern part of the site, Romano-British pottery, charcoal and bone were recovered from a possible ditch, with two pits/postholes and a shallow probable furrow also exposed in the same trench (trench 16). In the mid-northern part of the site, the trench results revealed the potential railway-related structure detected by the geophysical survey to be the remains of 19th-century brickmaking kilns. A probable post-medieval boundary was also found.

### **2.3 Archaeological and historical context**

#### *Prehistoric (to AD 43)*

2.3.1 A palaeolithic hand-axe was found in a garden at Mickleover in c. 2002 (HER 32051).

#### *Romano-British (AD 43–410)*

2.3.2 During the Romano-British period, the site would have lain in the western hinterland of the fort(s) and vicus at Derby, which lay some 4 km to the east. Romano-British finds from the study area comprise a coin from the grounds of Mackworth Secondary school (on the north-eastern edge of the study area; HER 22804), a coin from Western Avenue, Mickleover (HER 18961) and the pottery findspot mentioned above (HER 18962), which was found on the playing fields of Mickleover School in the early 1960s.

*Early medieval (AD 410–1066)*

- 2.3.3 The Derbyshire HER has no records of early medieval sites or findspots within the study area, although there was settlement in the area in the 11th century, with both Mickleover and Littleover appearing in the *Domesday* survey of AD 1086.

*Medieval (AD 1066–1550)*

- 2.3.4 The medieval village of Mickleover lay to the south of the study area, with remnants of ridge and furrow cultivation of the open fields of the parish recorded to the north-west (HER 32248) and south (HER 3284) of the site, with aerial photographic evidence suggesting similar remains on the site itself.

*Post-medieval to modern (AD 1550–Present)*

- 2.3.5 The most prominent remains of this period in relation to the study site, is the course of the Derbyshire and North Staffordshire extension of the Great Northern Railway, opened in 1878, which forms the northern boundary of the site, passing it by means of a tunnel and cutting (now dismantled/filled in; HER 99013). The site itself remained as agricultural land throughout the period although residential and commercial development has expanded northwards out of the historic core of Mickleover to now border the site. Structures or former structures of interest from the period in close proximity to the site include a brick-built windmill (HER 32108), a late 18th-century farmhouse (HER 32784), an iron aqueduct crossing the railway (HER 32829), and a station and stationmaster's house to the west of Station Road (HER ref. 18975).
- 2.3.6 A brickyard developed to the west of the site. The DBA suggests this 'was probably associated both with the general expansion of the village and with the construction of the railway, as bricks that were not being immediately used locally could be easily traded elsewhere' (Pre-construct Archaeological Services Ltd 2013, 8).

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 General objectives**

- 3.1.1 The general objectives for the archaeological investigation within the site, as set out within the mitigation strategy (Orion Heritage 2019), were to ensure:
- the protection and recording of archaeological assets discovered during the archaeological works;
  - that any below-ground archaeological deposits exposed are promptly identified; and
  - the recording of archaeological remains, to place this record in its local context and to make this record available.

#### **3.2 Principal aims**

- 3.2.1 The principal aims of the archaeological evaluation that forms the subject of this report, as set out within the mitigation strategy (Orion Heritage 2019), were to establish whether Roman activity extends from trench 16, dug by PCAS in 2019, and to contribute to the Research Agenda and Strategy for the East Midlands (Knight et al. 2012).



## 4 METHODS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the mitigation strategy (Orion Heritage 2019) and method statement (Wessex Archaeology 2020) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

### 4.2 Fieldwork methods

#### *General*

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Leica Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), connected to Leica's SmartNet service in the approximate positions proposed in the WSI (Fig. 1).

4.2.2 Five trial trenches, each measuring 25 x 1.8 m, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.3 At the request of Cathy Patrick from Orion Heritage four additional trenches were excavated to establish whether archaeological remains were located between the PCAS Archaeology trench 16, and Wessex Archaeology trench 2. Three were dug to extend trench 2, which were numbered 6–8 and each measured 5 x 1.8 m. The final trench, trench 9 (9 x 4 m), targeted the Romano-British ditch found in PCAS Archaeology trench 16.

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

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

4.2.6 Trenches were completed to the satisfaction of the client and the DCCDCA were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

#### *Recording*

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

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

4.2.9 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

### 4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the mitigation strategy (Orion Heritage 2019) and method statement (Wessex Archaeology 2020). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (Campbell et al. 2011), and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).

### 4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The DCCDCA monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and the mitigation strategy and method statement.

## 5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Of the nine trenches excavated, six contained no features apart from furrows, and trench 4 was entirely blank (Pl. 1), although a prehistoric pot sherd was found in its plough soil. Discounting furrows, archaeological remains were confined to trench 2 and its extension, trench 6. The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological features and deposits discussed by period.

- 5.1.2 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Figure 1 shows all archaeological features recorded within the trenches.

### 5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The natural substrate presented as a pale orange yellow sandy clay with mid-reddish brown patches of smoother clay; it was generally found at a depth of 0.4 m below ground level. This was overlain by a mid-orange brown slightly silty clay subsoil, around 0.1 m thick. This material represents a former plough soil, as it resembled the fills of the furrows recorded on the site. Topsoil comprised a dark brownish grey clay silt, 0.25–0.3 m thick. The site was under pasture at the time of the evaluation.

### 5.3 Iron Age–Romano-British

- 5.3.1 A heavily abraded sherd of prehistoric, probable Iron Age, date was recovered from the plough soil in trench 4, although the earliest feature may have been found in trench 2. Pit 204 (0.45 m diam. x 0.07 m deep) contained a charcoal-rich fill of mid to dark grey clayey silt from which a potsherd of either Late Iron Age or Romano-British date was recovered (Fig. 2.1; cover and Pl. 2). The feature was 100% sampled for environmental remains, although none were found other than charcoal.

### 5.4 Medieval–post-medieval

- 5.4.1 Eight separate furrows were intercepted by the trench array. These were encountered in trenches 1 (104), 3 (304, 306 and 309), 5-8 and 9 (903) (Fig. 2.2; Pl. 3, 4 and 5). The furrows were east–west aligned, spaced 5 m apart and where dug were found to be 1.2–2 m wide by 0.2 m deep on average. A land drain with a ceramic pipe (505) had been laid along a furrow in trench 5. The land drain and furrow 309 provided pottery of 19th- or 20th-century date. Furrow 309 was slightly deeper than the other furrows and although on the same

alignment was slightly different in appearance, with a darker grey brown upper fill 310. The lower fill 311 contained a pot sherd of 13th-15th-century date.

## 5.5 Uncertain date

5.5.1 Two undated postholes (206: 0.46 x 0.3 x 0.36 m; 209: 0.38 x 0.36 x 0.12) were recorded in trench 2 (Fig. 2.3; Pl. 6 and 7). The former was filled with charcoal-rich greyish brown silty clay. Also in trench 2, adjacent to pit 204 with its Late Iron Age/Romano-British pot, was a 0.1 m deep spread of mid-grey brown silty clay (211). This had a maximum width of 3.5 m and continued beyond both the northern and southern trench sides. Trench 6, dug as an extension of trench 2, also contained an undated pit: 603: 1.2 x 1.1 x 0.2 m (Fig. 2.4; Pl. 8).

5.5.2 Posthole 206 and pit 603 were both sampled for environmental remains, but none were found, other than charcoal.

## 6 FINDS EVIDENCE

### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A very small quantity of finds was recovered during the evaluation, consisting entirely of ceramics (pottery and building material) and deriving from contexts in four of the trenches excavated (trenches 2–5). The assemblage ranges in date from probable prehistoric to post-medieval/modern.

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

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

Context	Description	CBM	Pottery
205	Feature 204		1/19
310	Furrow 309		4/11
311	Furrow 309		1/1
402	plough soil		1/6
506	Land drain 506	1/35	5/7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1/35</b>	<b>12/44</b>

CBM = Ceramic Building Material

### 6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 Twelve sherds of pottery were recovered. One is possibly prehistoric, one is Late Iron Age/Romano-British, one is medieval and the remaining nine are post-medieval/modern.

6.2.2 The possible prehistoric sherd came from plough soil 402. This is a small heavily abraded body sherd in a non-distinctive, medium-grained sandy fabric. In the absence of any diagnostic features, this sherd is tentatively dated on fabric grounds as late prehistoric, probably falling somewhere in the Iron Age.

6.2.3 An abraded body sherd in a grog-tempered fabric from feature 204 could be either Late Iron Age or Romano-British in date; it is undiagnostic.



- 6.2.4 The medieval sherd, from the basal fill (311) of furrow 309, is in a gritty white-firing fabric, glazed on both sides, probably a Coal measures whiteware dating between the 13th and 15th century.
- 6.2.5 The remaining nine sherds include one of porcelain, the rest comprising refined wares (whitewares and yellow wares). The whitewares (including plain, transfer-printed and manganese-mottled sherds) represent tea-tablewares, while the yellow wares probably belong to kitchenware bowls. All sherds date to the 19th or 20th century. They were found in furrow 309 (upper fill 310) and drain 506.

### **6.3 Ceramic building material (CBM)**

- 6.3.1 The single fragment of CBM is from a cylindrical field drain (19th-/20th-century). This came from trench 5 (drain 506).

## **7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

### **7.1 Introduction**

- 7.1.1 Four bulk sediment samples were taken from pits and potholes and were processed for the recovery and assessment of environmental evidence.

### **7.2 Aims and methodology**

- 7.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to determine the potential of the site for the preservation of environmental evidence. This assessment follows recommendations set out by Historic England (Campbell et al. 2011).
- 7.2.2 The size of the bulk sediment samples varied between 4 and 40 litres, and on average was around 28 litres. The samples were pre-soaked in a solution of water and hydrogen peroxide to help break up the clayey sediment. The samples were processed by standard manual flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 4 mm and 1 mm fractions. The coarse fractions (>4 mm) were sorted by eye and discarded. The environmental material extracted from the residues was added to the flots. The grid method was used to split large flots into smaller flot subsamples when appropriate. A subsample of the fine residue fractions and the flots were scanned and sorted using a stereomicroscope at magnifications of up to x40.

- 7.2.3 Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (eg, *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as burrowing snails (*Cecilioides acicula*), or earthworm eggs and insects, which would not be preserved unless anoxic conditions prevailed on site. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains was recorded. Abundance of remains is qualitatively quantified (A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30–99, A = 30–10, B = 9–5, C = <5) as an estimation of the minimum number of individuals (not the number of remains) per taxa.

### **7.3 Results**

- 7.3.1 The flots from the bulk sediment samples were of variable volumes (Appendix 2).
- 7.3.2 There were high numbers of bioturbation proxies such as roots, untransformed seeds, earthworm eggs, and insects. Their inclusion may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements.



7.3.3 The environmental evidence was preserved by carbonisation. Wood charcoal was noted in generally large to moderate quantities and comprised of both roundwood and mature fragments. No other environmental evidence was recovered from the bulk sediment samples.

## **7.4 Conclusions**

7.4.1 The features sampled contained remains which are of limited interpretive value, and they are not diagnostic of a particular period.

## **8 CONCLUSIONS**

### **8.1 General**

8.1.1 The trenching array was designed to further investigate an area of archaeological interest found in an earlier evaluation: this comprised a ditch with Romano-British pottery, charcoal and burnt bone (PCAS Archaeology Ltd 2019). No extension of the feature was noted in the trenches, with trench 9 of the current evaluation positioned directly over trench 16, within which the ditch of interest from the 2019 works had been recorded. Instead, trench 9 was found to contain only a furrow, the continuation of which was revealed in trenches 3 and 5 of the latest works. It is therefore not easy to reconcile the records from the 2019 and 2021 investigations of the area, although it is possible that the 'ditch' from the 2019 evaluation was a discrete feature, such as a pit or a posthole, a possibility supported by its funnel-shaped profile (PCAS Archaeology Ltd 2019, fig. 11). The presence of the Late Iron Age or Romano-British sherd from pit 204 (dug 25 m to the north-west of trench 9), along with other undated features nearby, do provide further evidence of low-level archaeological activity in this general part of the site, however.

8.1.2 The evidence of ridge and furrow is in keeping with knowledge of past local land use, with other examples of the cultivation technique known from the surrounding area. The east-west orientation of the furrows seen in the trenches is corroborated by aerial photographic evidence from the site (Pre-construct Archaeological Services Ltd 2013, fig. 8 and 9). As the furrows have impacted upon the archaeological horizon, it is possible that they have truncated/removed earlier features.

8.1.3 In terms of the principal aims of the evaluation, it is probable the area of interest around PCAS trench 16 does contain further evidence of limited archaeological activity, although no clear continuations of the Romano-British remains previously recorded in PCAS trench 16, or concentrations of contemporary remains in the vicinity were apparent. The soil samples are not diagnostic of any particular period, with the current indications being that, from an environmental point of view, the site is of limited interpretive value.

8.1.4 It is possible that the remains recorded during the evaluations relate to rural activity carried out in the periphery of the settlement responsible for the pottery spread previously recorded to the east of the site on the playing fields of Mickleover School (HER 18962). However, the abraded Iron Age/Roman-British pottery sherd from pit 204 may be residual and the pit and undated archaeological features could relate to activity contemporary with the ridge and furrow rather than a continuation of any Romano-British activity.

## **9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION**

### **9.1 Museum**

9.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield. The site falls within the collecting area of Derby Museum and Art

Gallery, and a Project Initiation Form has been submitted to the museum; the accession number is to be confirmed (and is likely to cover also the mitigation stage of the project). Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

## 9.2 Preparation of the archive

### *Physical archive*

9.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics and artefacts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Derby Museum and Art Gallery, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011). The archive from the evaluation will in due course be combined with that from the mitigation.

9.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the accession number, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 1 box of artefacts
- 1 file of paper records

### *Digital archive*

9.2.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (eg, site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Again, as for the physical archive, the digital archive resulting from the evaluation will be combined with the mitigation digital records. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

## 9.3 Selection strategy

9.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, ie the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving museum.

9.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.

9.3.3 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred and will be combined with that for the mitigation phase (for which a full selection strategy document is being prepared).



## **9.4 Security copy**

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

## **9.5 OASIS**

- 9.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (wessexar1-411834; Appendix 3). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the Derbyshire County Council Development Control Archaeologist on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

## **10 COPYRIGHT**

### **10.1 Archive and report copyright**

- 10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
- 10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

### **10.2 Third party data copyright**

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



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-



Wessex Archaeology in preparation. Onslow Road, Mickleover, Derbyshire: Archaeological Excavation.



## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 Trench summaries

Trench No 1		Length 25 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.37 m
Easting 431349		Northing 335921		m OD 97.309
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
101		Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand, 20% small stone inclusions.	0.00-0.23
102		Subsoil	Reddish brown sandy silt, 20% small stone inclusions.	0.23-0.28
103		Natural	Yellowish red silty sand, 0.5 % cobble inclusions.	0.28+
104	105	Furrow	Linear furrow with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >20.00 m. Width: 0.90 m. Depth: 0.08 m.	0.44
105	104	Secondary fill	Yellowish brown silty clay with 50% unsorted grit inclusions.	0.44

Trench No 2		Length 25 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.30 m
Easting 431385		Northing 335905		m OD 96.761
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
201		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey clay silt, 3% sub-rounded to sub-angular coarse gravel.	0 - 0.20
202		Subsoil/ploughs oil	Mid reddish brown silty clay, 2% sub-rounded to sub-angular coarse gravel.	0.2 - 0.27
203		Natural	Yellowish grey clay	0.27
204	205	Pit	Sub-circular pit with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 0.27 m. Width: 0.50 m. Depth: 0.07 m.	0.27
205	204	Secondary fill	Dark brown grey almost black silty clay with 20% small stone inclusions	0.27
206	207	Posthole	Sub-oval posthole with steep, concave sides and a v-shaped base. Length: 0.46 m. Width: 0.30 m. Depth: 0.36 m.	0.27
207	206	Fill	Greyish brown silty clay silty clay with charcoal at 50% possibly remains of the post	0.27
208	206	Deliberate backfill	Yellowish grey to grey clay with 5% grit inclusions	
209	210	Posthole	Sub-circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a v-shaped base. Length: 0.36 m. Width: 0.38 m. Depth: 0.12 m.	0.27



210	209	Fill	of shallow posthole.	0.27
211		Layer/spread	Hollow infill, mid grey brown silty clay	0.27

Trench No 3		Length 25 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.52 m
Easting 431368		Northing 335890		m OD 96.841
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy silt. Moderately compacted, crumbly when dry. 3% sparse sub-rounded / sub-angular coarse gravel, poorly sorted. 3% sparse charcoal. 20% common fine-medium sand, well sorted. Rooting from ground surface to 0.3m.	0-0.3
302		Subsoil	Plough soil. Light yellowish brown silty clay. Some variation in thickness along length of trench - not present in area of furrow [306]. 1% rare sub-rounded coarse gravel, poorly sorted. Firm compaction.	0.3-0.38
303		Natural	Bands of mid reddish brown sandy clay and pale yellow sandy clay, mottled with red and grey. Firm compaction. 1% rare sub-rounded fine-medium gravel. 20% common fine-medium sand, well sorted.	0.38-0.52+
304	305	Furrow	Cut of shallow furrow running through trench 3 on E-W alignment. 1.6m wide / 0.48m deep. Shallow side slope, slightly steeper towards N edge. Undulating base creating 2 shallow depressions, possibly from repeated ploughing over the same area.	0.48
305	304	Secondary fill	Fill of furrow 304. Mid reddish brown sandy clay with patches of grey and brown sand. 1% rare sub-rounded coarse gravel, moderately well sorted. Distinguishable from natural (303) by slightly coarser texture and looser compaction.	0.38
306	307	Furrow	Cut of shallow plough furrow through trench 3 on E-W alignment south of furrow [304]. Plan shape = rectangular base shape = concave side shape = concave side slope = shallow, feature dimensions length = 2m+ width = 1.51m depth = 0.09m.	0.52m



307	306	Secondary fill	Fill of furrow 306. Bright orangish brown silty clay. Larger components rare fine gravel subrounded, smaller components common 20% fine & medium sand sub-angular.	0.38 to 0.52m
308		Layer	Probable modern disturbance. Dark reddish brown silty clay. Larger components none, smaller components common 20% fine & medium sand no archaeological components, firm compaction well sorted. This appears to be natural which has been redeposited above the topsoil, presumably modern disturbance.	0.00 to 0.47
309	310	Furrow	1.43m wide, 1m long slot with feature extending to east and west beyond trench, 0.06m deep.	0.20-0.66
310	309	Secondary fill	Dark brown grey sandy silt, rare <5% gravels fine 5-15mm subround well sorted, rare <5% post-med potsherds recovered distributed randomly through fill, soft compaction, boundary below clear, dimensions same as cut.	0.20-0.42
311	309	Fill	Pale greyish yellow silty clay with occasional rounded pebbles and gravel (30-80 mm). Basal fill of furrow 309.	0.42-0.66

Trench No 4		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Easting 431397		Northing 335875		m OD 95.975
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
401		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey clay silt, 3% sub-rounded to sub-angular coarse gravel.	0.0-0.22
402		Subsoil/ploughs oil	Mid reddish brown silty clay. 2% sub-rounded to sub-angular coarse gravel.	0.22-0.33
403		Natural	Mid reddish brown clay. Mottled appearance with patches of mid brown clay.	0.33+

Trench No 5		Length 50 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.35 m
Easting 431413		Northing 335887		m OD 95.854
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
501		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey clay silt. 3% sub-rounded to sub-angular coarse gravel.	0.27



502		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay. 2% sub-rounded to sub-angular coarse gravel.	0.06
503		Natural	Mid reddish brown clay. Mottled appearance with patches of mid brown clay.	0.33+
504		Cut/fill of shrub bowl	Contains a charcoal-flecked pale grey clayey silt.	0.15
505	506	Land drain	Cuts natural (503) and a follows the course of a furrow, 1x deliberate backfill (506), east-west aligned linear, straight steep sides to cut, 0.3m wide, 0.2 m intervention (top of pipe exposed, full depth not reached) 1m slot dug with feature extending beyond to east and west.	0.33
506	505	Deliberate backfill	Mid brown grey silty clay, sparse 5-15% gravels medium 20-80mm subround moderately sorted, firm compaction, boundary below clear, dimensions same as cut. Backfill of material to cover pipe.	0.33

<b>Trench No 6</b>		<b>Length 5 m</b>	<b>Width 1.80 m</b>	<b>Depth 0.35 m</b>
<b>Easting 431388</b>		<b>Northing 335902</b>		<b>m OD 96.961</b>
<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Fill Of/Filled With</b>	<b>Interpretative Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL</b>
601		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay.	0-0.3
602		Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay.	0.3-0.35
603	604	Pit	Cut. Sub circular shallow pit, 1.1 m wide x 1.2 m length, depth of 0.2 m.	0.35-0.55
604	603	Fill	Pale yellow grey silty clay with charcoal flecks and rare small stone.	0.35-0.55

<b>Trench No 7</b>		<b>Length 5 m</b>	<b>Width 1.80 m</b>	<b>Depth 0.35 m</b>
<b>Easting 431385</b>		<b>Northing 335902</b>		<b>m OD 96.833</b>
<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Fill Of/Filled With</b>	<b>Interpretative Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL</b>
701		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay.	0-0.3
702		Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay.	0.3-0.35
703		Natural	Yellowish grey clay	0.35+

<b>Trench No 8</b>		<b>Length 5 m</b>	<b>Width 1.80 m</b>	<b>Depth 0.35 m</b>
<b>Easting 431376</b>		<b>Northing 335902</b>		<b>m OD 96.949</b>
<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Fill Of/Filled With</b>	<b>Interpretative Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL</b>
801		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay.	0-0.3
802		Subsoil	Mid orange brown silty clay.	0.3-0.35
803		Natural	Yellowish grey clay	0.35+

<b>Trench No 9</b>		<b>Length 9 m</b>	<b>Width 4 m</b>	<b>Depth 0.45 m</b>
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Easting 431397		Northing 335888		m OD 96.195	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
901		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay.	0 - 0.3	
902		Subsoil	Reddish brown silty clay.	0.3 - 0.4	
903		Furrow	Shallow, bowl shaped	0.4	
904		Fill	Reddish brown silty clay fill of furrow, 0.09 deep, c 1.1 m wide, continuing into northern edge of ex	0.4 - 0.49	



## Appendix 2: Environmental data

Area	Phase	Feature Type	Feature	Context	Sample Code	Sample vol. (l)	Flot vol. (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Preservation
Tr 2	Late Iron Age/Romano-British?	Pit	204	205	242870_1	19	1100	10%, E	-	-	-	-	-	530	Mature and roundwood	-
Tr 2	Undated	Posthole	206	207	242870_2	10	52	90%, B, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	33	Mature	-
Tr 2	Undated	Posthole	209	210	242870_3	4	18	95%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	3	Mature	-
Tr 6	Undated	Pit	603	604	242870_5	40	163	99%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	8.5	Mature	-

Key: Scale of abundance: A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30–99, A = 30–10, B = 9–5, C = <5; Bioturbation proxies: Roots (%), Uncharred seeds (scale of abundance), E = earthworm eggs, I = insects.



## Appendix 3: OASIS record

**OASIS ID: wessexar1-411834**

### Project details

Project name	Land at Onslow Road, Mickleover, Derbyshire
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological strip, map and sample excavation of a 0.39 ha parcel of land and additional archaeological evaluation trenching on land at Onslow Road, Mickleover, Derbyshire DE3 9JH.
Project dates	Start: 17-05-2021 End: 25-06-2021
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	242871 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	242870 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	19/00763/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Monument type	BRICK KILN Post Medieval
Monument type	RIDGE AND FURROW Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	DERBYSHIRE DERBY DERBY Land at Onslow Road Mickleover, Derbyshire
Postcode	DE3 9JH
Study area	0.39 Hectares
Site coordinates	SK 31072 35955 52.919794760832 -1.537811604323 52 55 11 N 001 32 16 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 96m Max: 99m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
----------------------	--------------------



Project brief originator	with advice from County Archaeologist
Project design originator	Orion Heritage
Project director/manager	Andrew Norton
Project supervisor	Paula Whittaker
Type of sponsor/funding body	Client
Name of sponsor/funding body	Bloor Homes

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Derby Museum and Art Gallery
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	ADS
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic", "Survey"
Digital Media available	"GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Derby Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Diary", "Miscellaneous Material", "Plan", "Section"

### Project bibliography

#### 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Onslow Road, Mickleover, Derbyshire: Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Whittaker, P and Daniel, P
Other bibliographic details	242870.03
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Sheffield
Description	c. 30-page A4 comb-bound report with colour plates and figures.

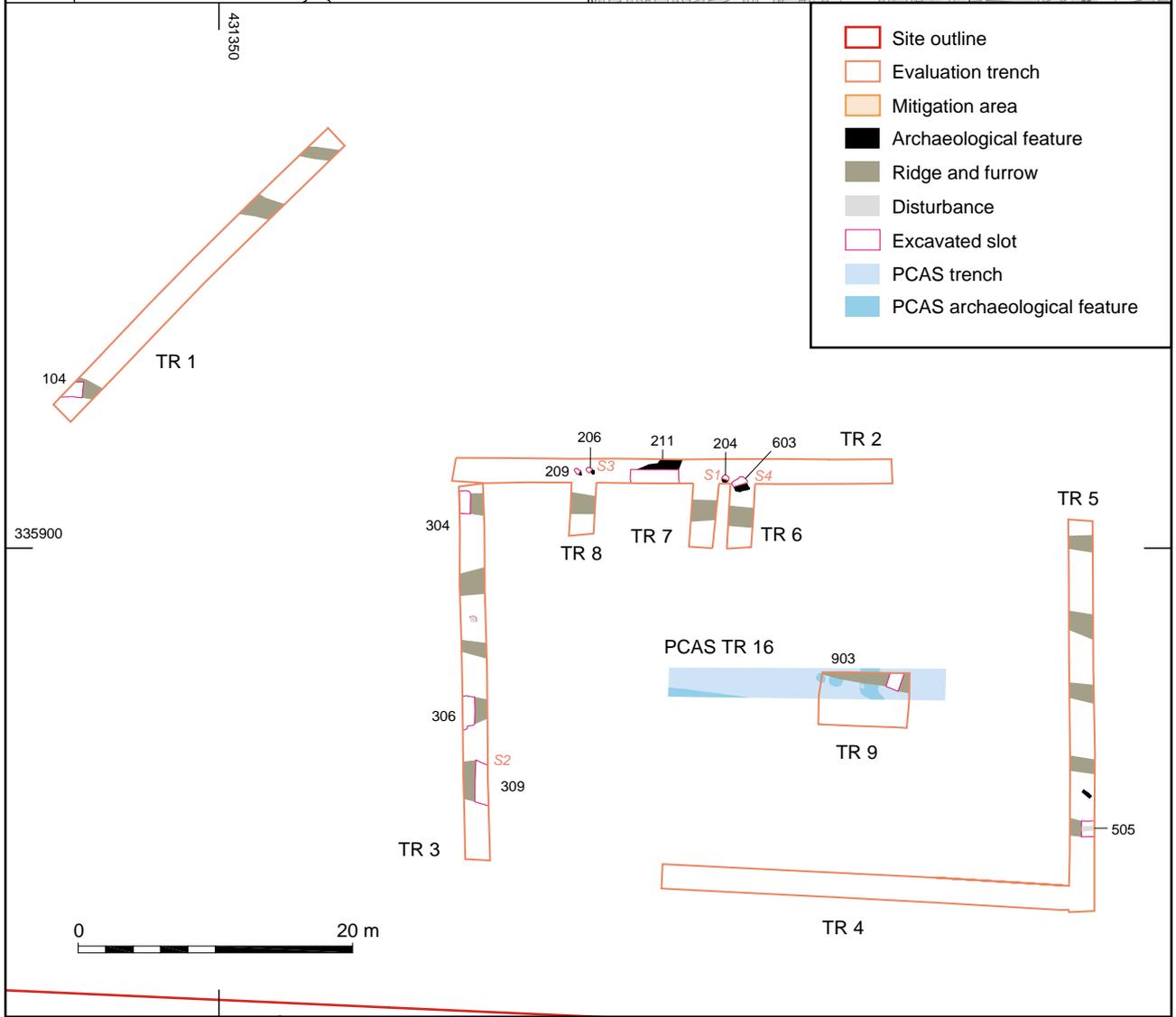
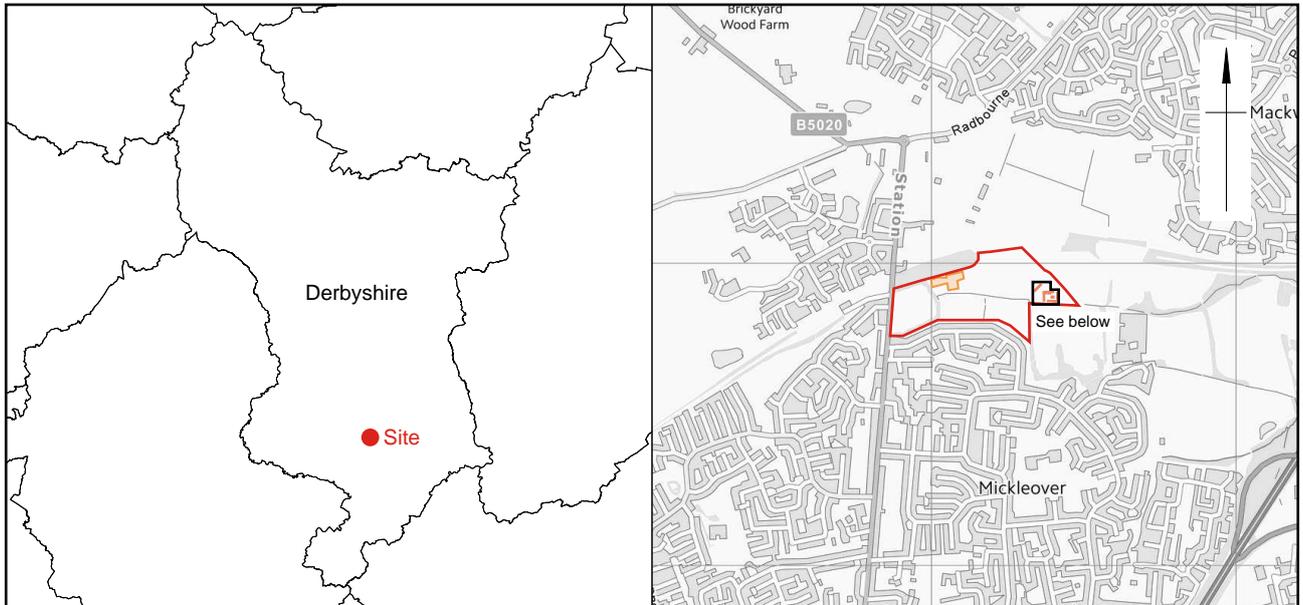
### Project bibliography

#### 2

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Onslow Road, Mickleover, Derbyshire: Archaeological Excavation
Other bibliographic details	242871
Date	2021



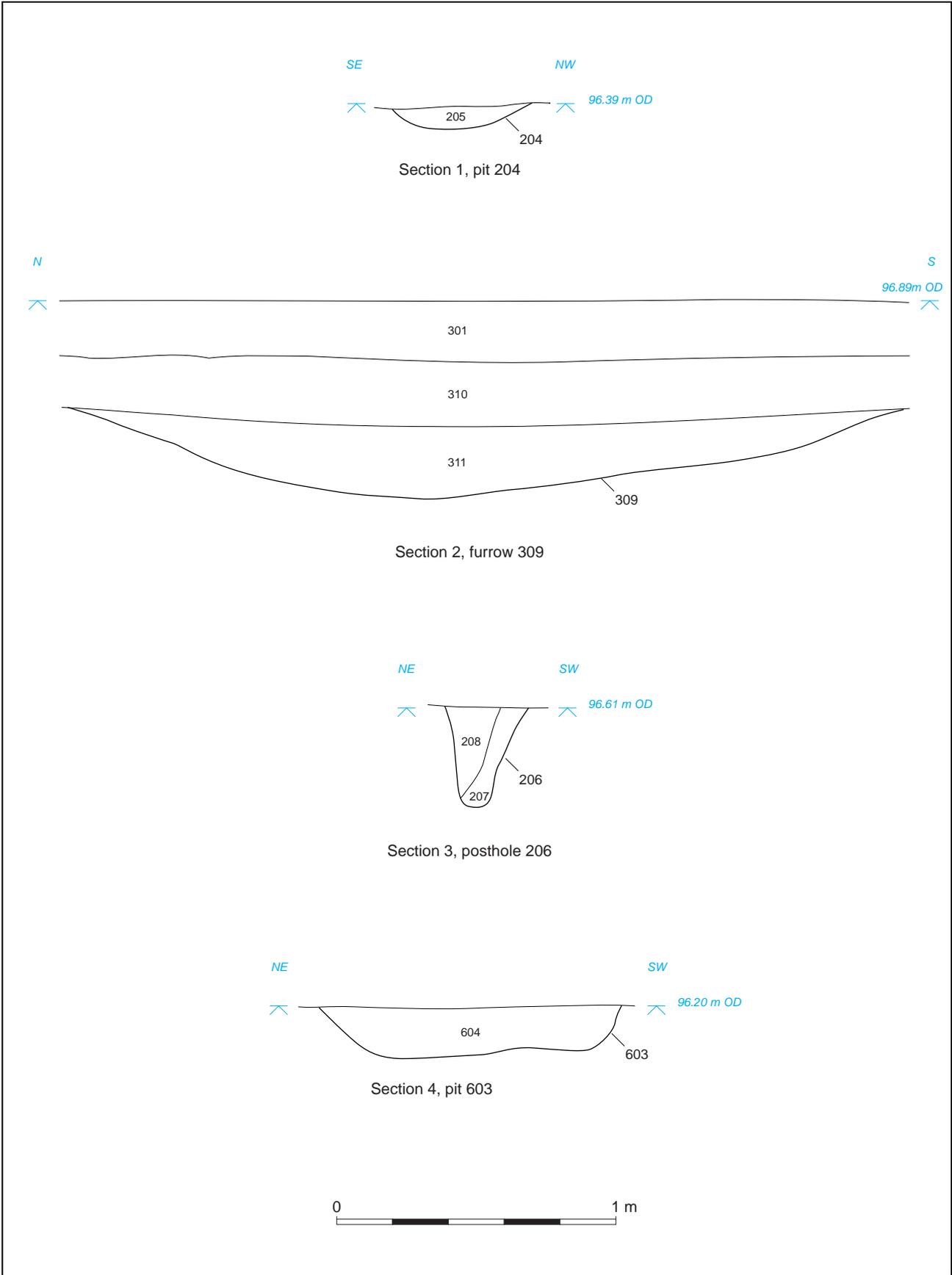
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Sheffield
Description	c. 50-page A4 comb-bound report with colour plates and figures.
Entered by	Patrick Daniel (j.irwin@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	9 July 2021



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Site location and evaluation trench results

Figure 1



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	Scale:	1:20 at A4	Illustrator:	RG
	Path:	S:\PROJECTS\242870\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\Eval\2021_07_19		

Selected sections

Figure 2



Plate 1: Trench 4, taken from the west, 2 m and 1 m scale



Plate 2: Trench 2, pit 204 taken from the north-east, 0.2 m scale

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Plate 3: Trench 3, furrow 306, taken from the south-east, 2 m scale



Plate 4: Trench 9, furrow 903, taken from the north-west, 2 m and 1 m scale

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Plate 5: Trench 3, furrow 309, taken from the west, 1 m scale

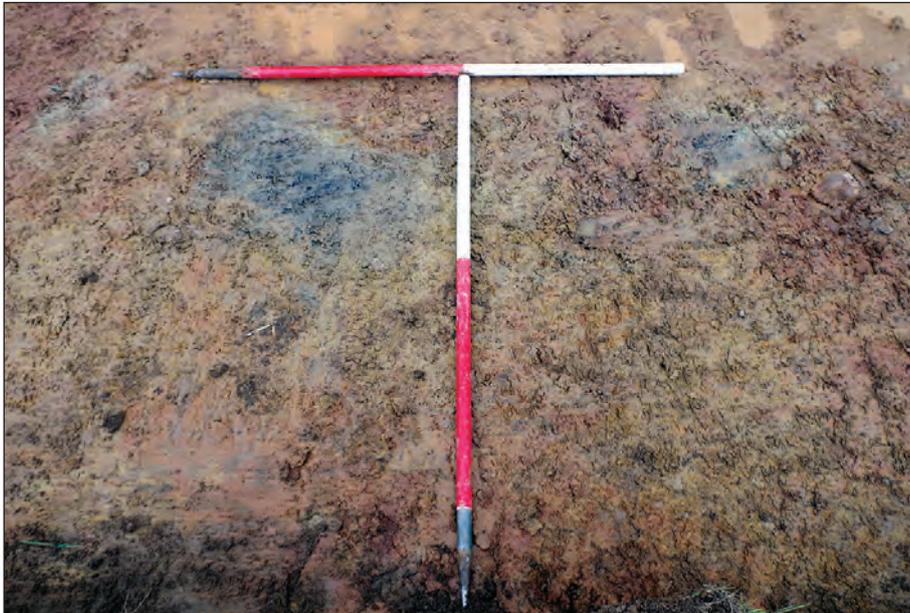


Plate 6: Trench 2, pre-excavation view of postholes 206 and 209 from the north, 2 x 1 m scale

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Plate 7: Trench 2, posthole 206, taken from the north-west, 0.2 m scale



Plate 8: Trench 6, pit 603, east of pit 204, taken from north, 1 m scale

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