ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGISTS
AND DESIGN CONSULTANTS

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
108A St. JOHNS ROAD, BUXTON

PLANNING REF: HPK/2013/0707

HERITAGE STATEMENT

The following is the HER supplied by Derbyshire County Council Environmental Services.

Derbyshire CC Monument Full Report
22/01/2014
31130 - MDR8981
Later Mesolithic flintwork recovered in 2003 from a series of test pits
SMR Number Record Type
Monument Types and Dates
Location
Description and Sources
A programme of 1m squared test pits in a 10m grid identified an extensive but relatively low density background scatter of
Later Mesolithic flintwork. Within this scatter it was possible, through further test pits inserted at 5m intervals, to isolate two
distinct concentrations at SK04627324 and SK04617319. Just 50m apart, these concentrations were subject to open area,
hand excavation of 5m x 5m each to try to obtain as complete samples of the lithic assemblages as circumstances would
allow. From the whole project 296 worked pieces of flint and chert were recovered, and only one piece is thought to be of a
later date. Pieces included 18 cores (7 single platform, 5 opposed platform, 4 rotated forms), 2 microliths, c. 12 scrapers, 8
serrated flakes/blades and 9 retouched blades. The excavations did not reveal any features that might be associated with the
Late Mesolithic activity. (1)
The archaeological investigations carried out at Otterhole Farm recovered a regionally important assemblage of worked flint
and chert. Most of the material appeared to be consistent with a Late Mesolithic date with the exception of a large scraper of
possible Neolithic date. The Late Mesolithic tools comprised of discoidal scrapers, end scrapers, serrated flakes, bladelets,
retouched pieces and microliths. The technology appeared to be geared to bladelet production with crested blades, bladelet
core trimming flakes and bladelet cores much in evidence. The content of the lithic assemblage suggests the presence of a
Late Mesolithic (6500-3500 BC) base or winter camp used by people following a hunter-gatherer way of life. (2)
<1> Cherrington, R & Jones, L (BUFAU), 2003, *Land at Otterhole Farm, St. John's Road, Buxton: Archaeological*
Investigations 2003 (Unpublished document)
<2> Cherrington, R & Jones, L (BUFAU), 2008, *'Land at Otterhole Farm, St John's Road, Buxton, Derbyshire:*
archaeological investigations 2003', Derbyshire Archaeological Journal (Article in serial)
Late Mesolithic flint scatter, Otterhole Farm, Buxton
Site Name

Monument
Sources
Address/Historic Names - None recorded
Other Statuses and Cross-References
Administrative Areas
National Grid Reference
Centred SK 04615 73226 (34m by 73m) SK07SW
Associated Designations - None recorded
Designations, Statuses and Scorings
Ratings and Scorings - None recorded
Description
Area
Associated resources - None recorded
LITHIC SCATTER (Late Mesolithic - 7000 BC to 4001 BC)
Civil Parish BUXTON, HIGH PEAK, DERBYSHIRE
SHINE Candidate (No) Active
Sites & Monuments Record - 31130 Active
Unpublished document: Cherrington, R & Jones, L (BUFAU). 2003. Land at Otterhole Farm, St. John's
Road, Buxton: Archaeological Investigations 2003.
(1)
Article in serial: Cherrington, R & Jones, L (BUFAU). 2008. 'Land at Otterhole Farm, St John's Road,
Buxton, Derbyshire: archaeological investigations 2003', Derbyshire Archaeological Journal. Volume
128, pp 1-18.
(2)

SMR Number 31130 - MDR8981 **Site Name** Late Mesolithic flint scatter, Otterhole Farm, Buxton
Associated Finds
Associated Events/Activities
Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded
Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded
Land Use
Other Land Classes - None recorded
Related Monuments - None Recorded
FDR11964 SCRAPER (TOOL) (Late Mesolithic - 7000 BC to 4001 BC) FLINT
FDR11965 BLADE (Late Mesolithic - 7000 BC to 4001 BC) FLINT
FDR11966 CORE (Late Mesolithic - 7000 BC to 4001 BC) FLINT
FDR11967 MICROLITH (Late Mesolithic - 7000 BC to 4001 BC) FLINT
Test Pitting and Excavation, Otterhole Farm, Buxton, by BUFAU in 2003 (Event - Intervention.
Ref: Project No. 1051)
EDR1779

SMR Number 31130 - MDR8981 **Site Name** Late Mesolithic flint scatter, Otterhole Farm, Buxton

Steve Baker, Derby and Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist has also been contacted and made the following comments in an email:

The HER record relates to a scatter of Mesolithic flintwork identified and recorded in advance of the housing development at Otterholes Close. The worked flint was found in topsoil and was not associated with any subsurface features.

The scatter as recorded was located just to the east of the garden of 108 St John's Road, with some indication that the prehistoric material may have once extended into the area of the garden. However, because of the nature of domestic gardens - with landscaping, movement of topsoil, root disturbance, removal of stones etc - it is extremely unusual for ephemeral archaeology of this type to survive in a garden context. Unless new information arises, therefore, I will not be recommending to the local planning authority that an archaeological condition is necessary on the proposed development.