

WANLIP (Leicestershire)

SK 59 11

Wanlip sits near Charwood, Leicestershire near the River Soar on the river terrace sands and gravels (Beamish 1998, 1, 5). Excavations by Leicestershire Archaeological Unit began in 1992 and lasted until 1993 in advance of road construction (Beamish 1998, 1). Wanlip is a Middle Iron Age domestic site with a potentially large stock enclosure (Beamish 1998, 44). Excavations revealed three structures; one a roundhouse (Structure 2), a large rectangular enclosure and a rectangular post-built structure (Structure 1) (Beamish 1998, 28). The large rectangular enclosure may have been for herd management; although, the acidic soils did not allow any animal bone to survive (Beamish 1998, 42). However, in the centre of Structure 2 (the rectangular post-built structure) was a cremation burial that led the excavators to believe this building may have been the focus of ritual activities for Wanlip's inhabitants (Beamish 1998, 30). Ian L. Baxter conducted the osteological analysis of the cremation burial.