



KDK ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION & RECORDING REPORT:

DUNTON MANOR HOUSE
HOGGESTON ROAD
DUNTON
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

on behalf of Mr & Mrs J Marsh



NGR: SP 8232 2441

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KDK: 055/DDM/2

January 2015

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Site Data

<i>KDK project code:</i>	055/DDM		
<i>OASIS ref:</i>	kdkarcha1-179081	<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	AYBCM : 2014.58
<i>County:</i>	Buckinghamshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Dunton		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Dunton		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 8232 2441		
<i>Present use:</i>	Residential		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Single storey extension, installation of spiral wine cellar and reinstatement of south chimney stack		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Buckinghamshire County Council		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	14/00046/APP		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	September 2014		
<i>Commissioned by:</i>	Chris Higenbottam Tempietto Architects The Studio 9 London Road Aston Clinton Bucks HP22 5HG		
<i>Client:</i>	Jonathan Marsh Dunton Manor House Dunton Buckinghamshire MK18 3LW		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Chris Higenbottam		

Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	Derek Watson PhD	<i>Date:</i>	30 th Sept 2014
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<i>Revisions:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	

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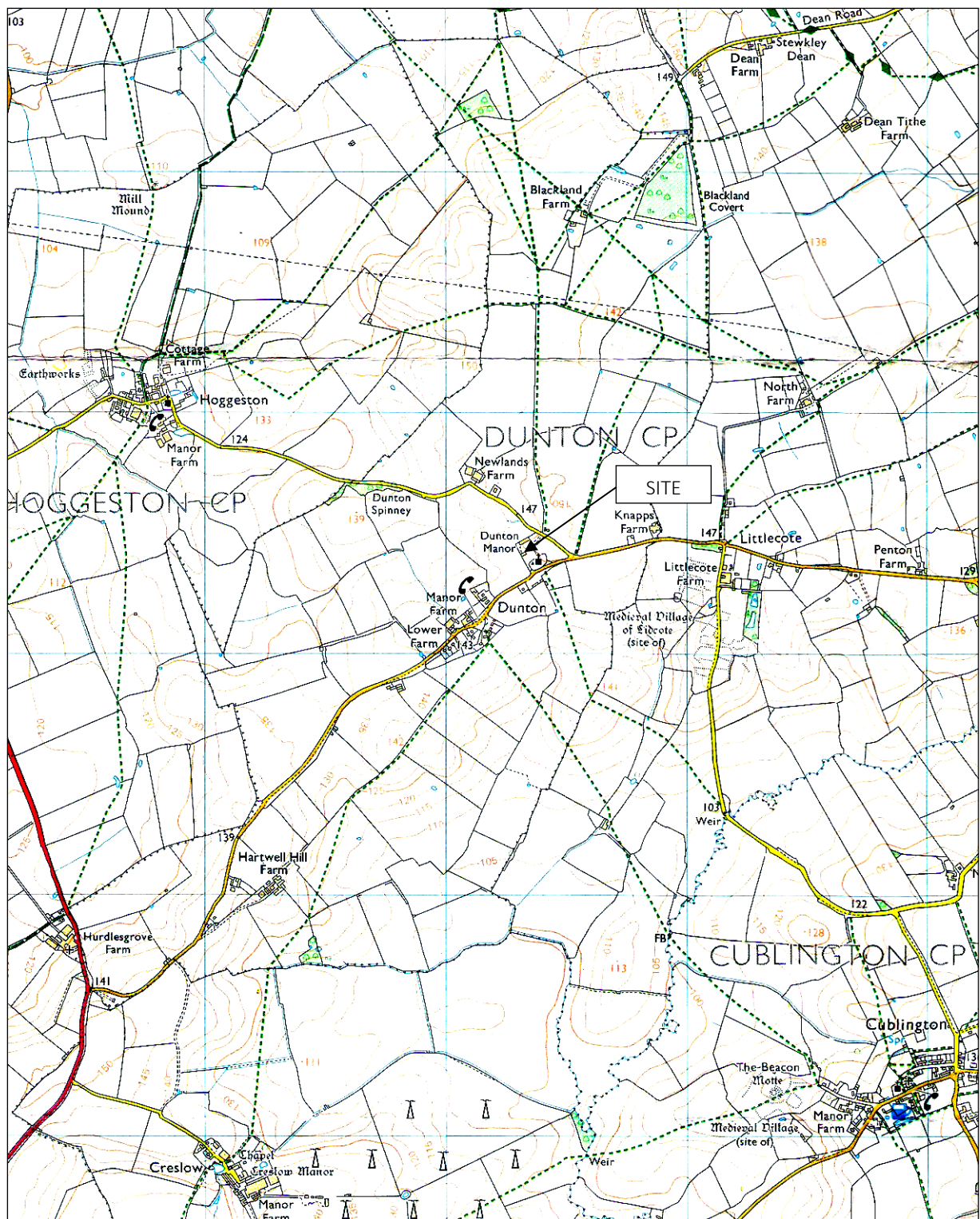


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)



Summary

In September 2014, KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording of footing trenches excavated for the construction of single storey orangery on the northeastern elevation of Dunton Manor House, the installation of a subterranean wine-cellar and reinstatement of the southwestern chimney stack. The area impacted had been truncated and landscaped with layers of made-ground deposited to provide a level platform for building and/or for later alterations to the manor. The made-ground overlay layers of natural geology comprised of sand and clay.

1 Introduction

1.1 In September 2014 KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of Observation and Recording of Dunton Manor House, Hoggston Road, Dunton, Buckinghamshire. The project was commissioned by Chris Higenbottam on behalf of Jonathan Marsh, and was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by KDK (Breeze-Chilcott 2014), and approved by Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service, Archaeological Advisor (AA) to the local planning authority (LPA), Aylesbury Vale District Council. The relevant planning application reference is 14/00046/APP.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This project has been required under the terms of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

1.3 *The Site*

Location & Description

The site is located in the historic core of the medieval village of Dunton, in the civil parish of Dunton. It is situated in northeast Buckinghamshire in the Aylesbury Vale district at National Grid Reference SP 8232 2441 (Fig. 1).

Description

The site is set back from the main road, with a single drive from the south providing access. To the north it is bounded by an independent group of buildings, to the east is a field with a large pond, and St Martin's Church to the southeast. Dunton Road bounds the site to the south and to the west are fields with earthworks which probably represent the remains of the deserted medieval village (Fig. 2).

Dunton Manor is a Grade II listed building (English Heritage Building ID: 396495), described as:

House. Late C16 U-plan house, partly recased in brick C17, C19 alterations and infill to centre. Some timber framing, mostly brick to exterior, tiled roofs, brick chimneys. 2 storeys. N. front is triple gabled, the outer gables timber-framed, the centre one C19 with half-timbering. C19 brickwork below with narrow buttresses and irregular C20 leaded casements. C20 gabled porch extension to left. S. front has altered hipped roof and 4 bays. Outer bays are of C17 brick in English bond with moulded plinth and first floor entablature. Early C19 moulded brick eaves, traces of original gables. Windows in slight projections. Lower right-hand window has moulded brick surround with single lugs to jambs and restored plain keyblock. Other windows similar but altered, all with C20 leaded casements. Inner bays are of early C19 brick in English bond with moulded plinth and eaves. Similar 3-light casements to right, 2-light to left over C20 door with round arched radiating fanlight and wooden hood. Late C18 staircase from house in Wing.



Geology & Topography

The bedrock geology is made up of Mudstone from the Kimmeridge Clay Formation, and the upper geology is made up of glaciofluvial sand and gravel deposits from the Mid Pleistocene (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>). The site slopes slightly from north to south and at a level of approximately 150m above the ordnance datum.

Proposed Development

The proposed development comprised the construction of single storey extension of an orangery on the northeastern elevation of the house and the installation of a subterranean spiral staircase wine cellar within this footprint. The southwestern chimney stack is also to be reinstated (Fig. 3). A diagram of the footing trenches excavated is shown in Fig. 4.



Figure 2: Site location (scale 1: 1250)

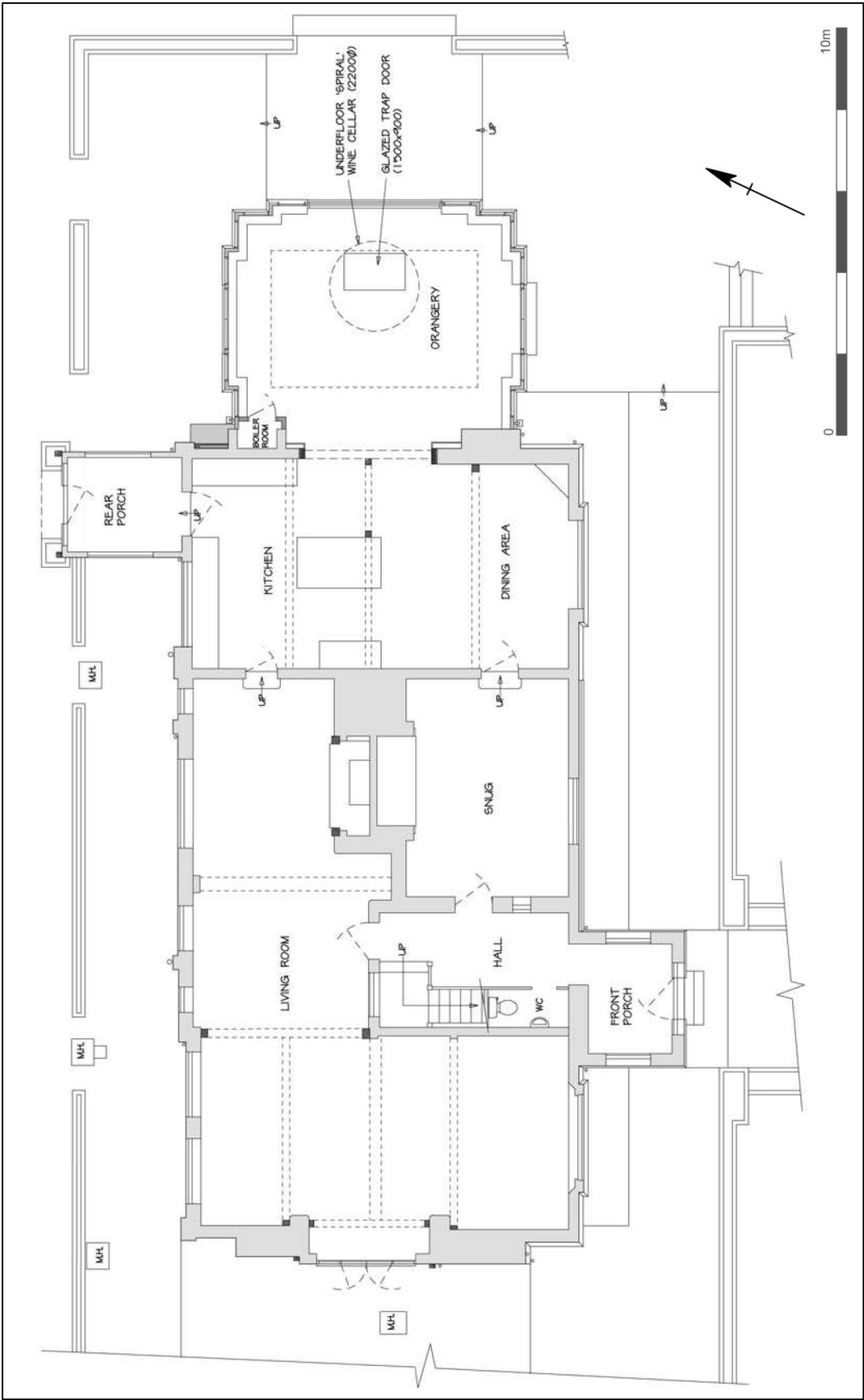


Figure 3: Proposed development (scale as shown)

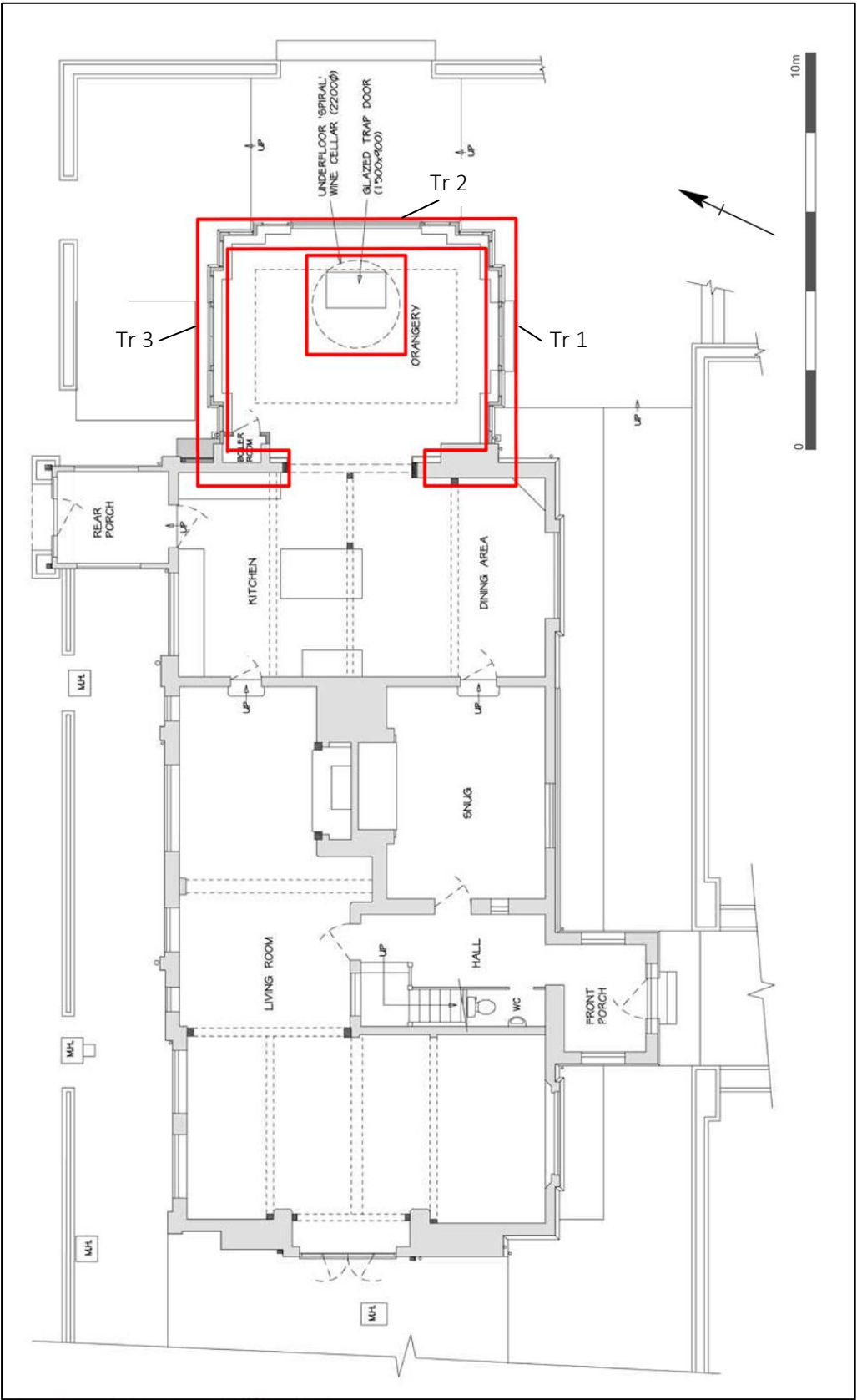


Figure 4: Footing trenches excavated shown in red (scale as shown).



2 Aims & Methods

2.1 The aims of this project as defined in the approved WSI (Breeze-Chilcott 2014), were:

- to establish the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation within the development area
- to establish the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscapes
- to recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.
- to ensure that the project findings are placed in their historical and geographical context through appropriate levels of cartographic, documentary and other research, and are then properly disseminated and published.

2.2 *Methods*

In line with the requirements of the brief, the methods used were as follows:

- Continuous and constant monitoring of all the groundworks, in this instance the ground reduction and excavation of foundation trenches.

2.3 *Standards*

The work conformed to the following requirements:

- The Design Brief
- The relevant sections of the Institute for Archaeologists' Standard & Guidance Notes (IFA 2008a)
- Current English Heritage guidelines (EH 2006,2008)
- The Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (ALGAO 2003)



3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 This section has been compiled with information from readily accessible material including Internet sources, KDK's own library and data from the Historic Environment Record (HER) including Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC).

The name Dunton derives from an estate associated with a personal name in Old English, from the name of a man called 'Dud(d)a' or 'Dod(d)a' (Mills 1991: 112). Although a Saxon settlement, with some archaeological evidence for Roman activity, most of the archaeological activity within a 500m radius of the development site is relates to the shrunken medieval settlement. The Manor house itself is a 16th century Grade II listed building.

3.2 **Roman** (AD43-c.450)

There was a Roman presence in Dunton, although probably not a settlement. There is evidence to suggest that a Roman road is located along part of the main road by the site; Viatores Route 137A-D (MBC 6022). It is aligned northeast– southwest and is parallel with Foss Way; possibly a road between Ermine Street and Dorchester-on-Thames. There are visible signs on the ground surface which suggest it was a road of great width (MBC 6018). In the fields to the northwest of the site Roman pottery (MBC 3302) and Roman metalwork which were found on the ground surface. Alongside the Roman finds was a 17th century 'mite' coin of Charles I (MBC 3301). In the fields south of the Manor House and the Old Rectory, Roman pottery was also found after ploughing (MBC 1414).

3.3 **Saxon** (c.450-1066)

It is uncertain when the parish of Dunton (MBC 74444) was formed but the village itself is recorded in the Domesday Book (MBC 2383). It notes that at the end of the Saxon period Dunton Manor was held by Earl Leofwine and was worth 100s (Williams & Martin 1992: 398).

3.4 **Medieval** (1066-1500)

After the Norman Conquest Dunton became part of the land owned by the half-brother of William the Conqueror, Odo Bishop of Bayeux, and it was held on his behalf by Turstin de Gironde. At the time of the survey it was assessed at 10 hides and it had maintained its worth of 100s. There is land for 8 ploughs, 6 bordars, 4 slaves and meadow for 8 more ploughs. When Odo died without an heir, the manor was escheated to the crown. It was held for the honour of the service of grand serjeanty in 1322, said to be 10s for every twenty weeks' ward. The last mention of this was in 1386. It seems there was an intermediary lordship of the manor which started at some time in the 14th century, but did not continue after 1364. Until c.1425 the manor was held of the Crown (VCH 1925: 348-350).

The fields to the west of the site contain the remains of medieval village earthworks, which can still be seen from aerial photographs (MBC 3299), as well as medieval house platforms (MBC 3300). The church of St Martin's dates from the 12th century (MBC 1090) and was possibly built by Turstin de Gironde or his descendants, the de Gerundes, who held the manor until the 14th century. The church is mentioned in the reign of Edward I as appurtenant to the manor (VCH 1925: 348-350). A medieval papal seal was found whilst metal detecting in a field immediately southeast of the development site (MBC 31731).

3.5 **Post-Medieval** (1500-1900)

The current Dunton Manor House is believed to be of 16th century construction; with later alterations in the 17th and 19th centuries. It is partly timber-framed with a mostly brick exterior, brick chimneys and a tiled roof (MBC 1655). The barn to the north of the site is an



18th century timber-framed construction (MBC 1655) and was probably once associated with the Manor.

In 1746 the owner of Dunton Manor, John Spencer, died and the manor passed to his son John, first Earl of Spencer, and the title descended with the manor into the 19th century. By 1862 Lord Carrington was in possession and by 1925 it was his son, the Marquess of Lincolnshire who was lord of the manor (VCH 1925: 348-350).

The Old Cottage is one of the first houses on the main road to the west from the site and was built in the 17th century. It was timber-framed cottages with later alterations and is now a house (MBC 1655). Further west is Manor Farmhouse; a late 18th early 19th century building with later 19th century extensions (MBC 1655). In the field bounding the north of Manor Farm a post medieval coin was discovered whilst metal detecting (MBC 31915).

South of the road, opposite the church is The Old Rectory, an 18th century building with late 18th century additions and an attached service block (MBC 1655). Parts of the original 1855 landscaped gardens of the rectory still survive, but some have been re-incorporated into a field (MBC 2181).

The majority of the fields around the Manor, such as the fields to the southeast of Dunton Manor House (HBC 1058) and a sliver on the south of Manor Farm (HBC 1290), are pre 18th century irregular enclosures. A field to the west of the site is very irregular due to the location of an earlier spinney (HBC 1292). Ridge and furrow in the fields to the east of the development site only visible on aerial photographs are thought to have been enclosed during the Tudor Period. A small portion of fields were later enclosed by parliamentary act in the 18th or 19th centuries (HBC 1059). Even more localised are the 20th century enclosures in the immediate west, north and south of the Manor and north of the farm (HBC 1278 & 1291).

Evidence suggests that the pre 1885 settlement of Dunton would have included Dunton Manor House and Manor Farm (HBC 1271). The areas of settlement to the south of the farm are thought to be post 1885 (HBC 1270).

3.6 ***Modern*** (1900-present)

Dunton has remained a small hamlet since the post medieval period and there has been little development in modern times. One of the modern additions to St Martin's church are three brass plaques commemorating the men from Dunton who died in World War One (MBC 3346).

3.7 ***The Known Archaeology & History of the Site***

Dunton Manor is a Grade II listed building (English Heritage Building ID: 396495) dating from the late 16th century, with 17th & 19th century alterations and 20th century minor additions. Originally it was a U-shaped house later converted to an approximately rectangular plan. The architectural history and details recorded by English Heritage are presented in section 1.3.



4 Results

Introduction

Archaeological monitoring of footing trenches (Fig. 4) excavated for the construction of a single storey orangery on the northeastern elevation of the house, the installation of a subterranean spiral staircase wine cellar within this footprint and reinstatement of the southwestern chimney stack were undertaken in September 2014. All excavation were carried out using a 3 ton tracked mini digger fitted with toothless grading bucket for the ground reduction and a 0.6m wide toothed bucket for the linear footing trenches (Plate 1). Various services were encountered during the excavation and were dealt with accordingly.

Site Stratigraphy (Plates 1-10)

The general site stratigraphy consisted of upto 0.23m topsoil overlying approximately 0.7m of made ground, which mainly consisted of redeposited sandy natural geology, though lenses of other material such as clay, charcoal and iron panning were also noted (Plate 2). Excavations related to the under pinning of the extant building demonstrated that the redeposited material extended beneath the manor (Plate 3). The undisturbed natural geology consisted of reddish brown, soft to firm, sand to a depth of c. 2.20m, below which a yellowish brown hard clay was present.

Footing trenches (Fig. 4-6; Plates 11-12)

Initial excavations comprised footing trenches and under-pinning, excavated in stages, under both chimney stacks. Subsequent footing trenches were 0.75m wide, up to 2.1m deep, and comprised a rectilinear u-shape excavated adjacent to the NE elevation and a square trench within that footprint up to 2.4m deep to accommodate the wine cellar (Plate 4). A total of c. 20.73 sq. m. of trenches was excavated.

A small pit [106] (107) was noted 0.75m from the south-eastern end of Trench 2 (Figs 5 & 6; Plate 5). The cut was, approximately, trapezoidal in section, and 0.86m in length across the top and c. 0.37m at the bottom, with a depth of c. 0.70m. It appears likely that the footing excavation merely clipped the edge of this feature. The fill was highly mixed with both sand and clay, similar to the uppermost layer of the site, with the latter forming the largest component in the lower part of the feature. It also contained occasional charcoal flecks, mudstone & chalk fragments. Roof tile sherds were also note, though not retained as they were indistinguishable from those apparent on the main building.

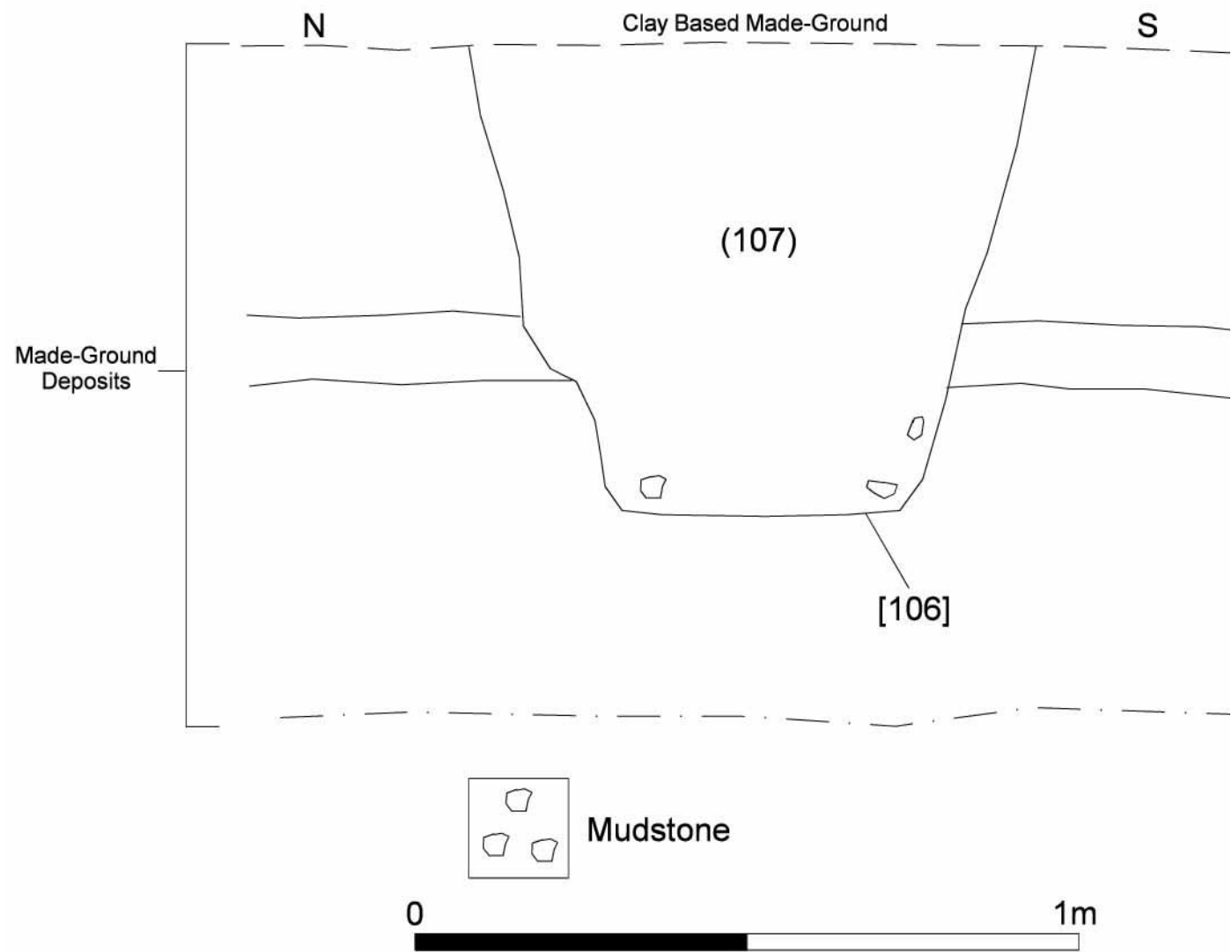


Figure 5: Section drawing of Pit [106] (scale 1:10)

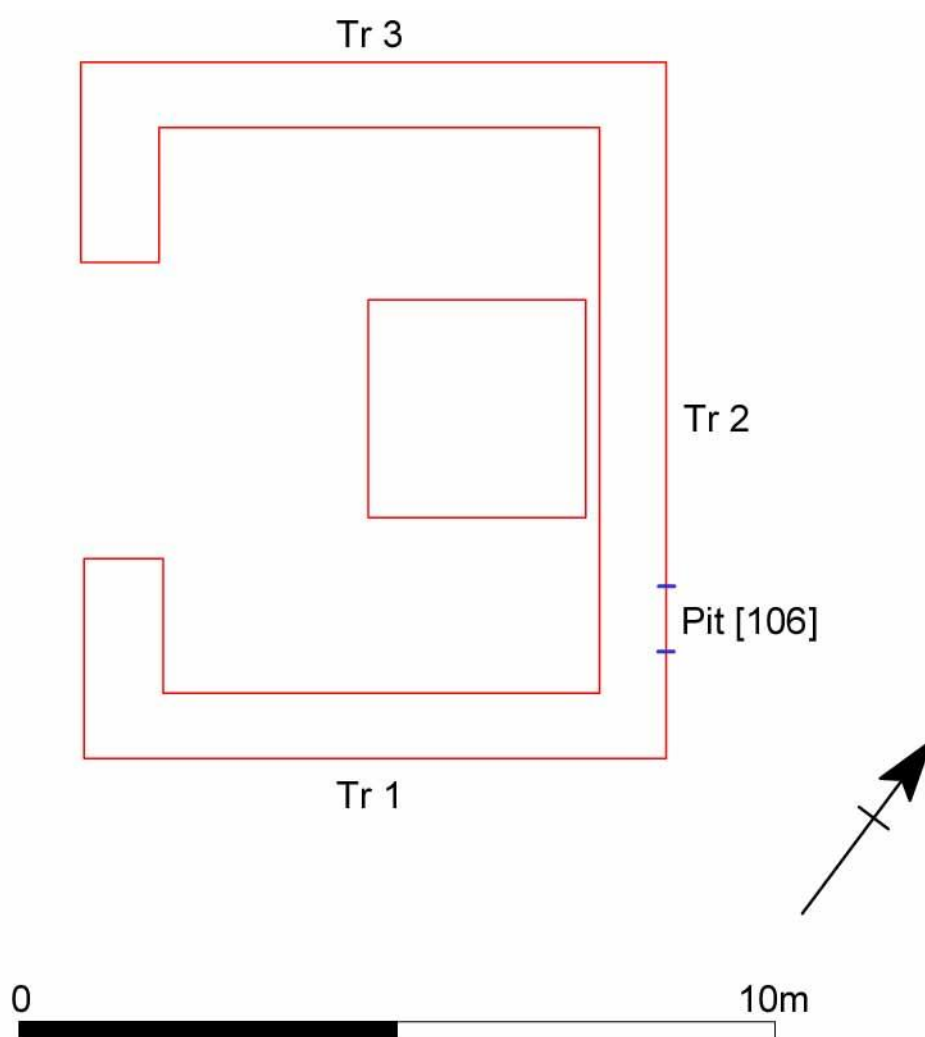


Figure 6: Location plan of Pit [106], only visible in section, highlighted in blue (scale 1:100)



Plate 1: Reduced site, facing southwest



Plate 2: Wine-cellar trench, facing southwest



Plate 3: Stratigraphy under northeast corner, facing west



Plate 4: Stratigraphy of Trench 3, facing northwest



Plate 5: Pit in Trench 2



5 Conclusions

The chimney stacks and brick wall on the northeast elevation of Dunton Manor House are founded directly onto the clay-based upper layer of made-ground, and underlain by the sand-based made-ground on which the main body of the manor appears to be built.

Historic records show that extensive work was carried out to Dunton Manor in the 17th and 19th centuries with alterations to the original U-plan 16th century building included partial recasing in brick and infilling of the central open area. The land immediately adjacent to, and on which Dunton Manor House stands was probably extensively landscaped during the 17th century and earlier with made-ground deposited as a platform for its construction. The upper clay-based made-ground was probably deposited for use during the extensive 19th century alterations to the building and the small pit in Trench 2 is also likely to derive from this period.



6 Acknowledgements

KDK Archaeology is grateful to Chris Higenbottam for commissioning this report on behalf of Jonathan Marsh. Thanks are also due to Julia Wise and Eliza Alqassar of Buckinghamshire County Council for providing the historic environment records and for monitoring the project respectively. The help of the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies staff is also gratefully acknowledged, as is that of Steve Wight of S. K. Wright Ltd.

The fieldwork was carried out by Derek Watson PhD. The report was written by Derek Watson PhD, and edited by David Kaye BA ACIfA.



7 Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Written Scheme of Investigation
3. Initial report
4. Monitoring sheets
5. Site drawings
6. Client's site plans
7. List of photographs
8. B/W prints & negatives
9. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum.



8 References

Standards & Specifications

ALGAO 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14.

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Online Sources

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Victoria County History 1925: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=42576>



Appendix 1: Photograph List

SITE NO/CODE: 055/DDM			Site Name: Dunton Manor House
Shot	B&W	Digital	Subject
1	x	X	Footing of SW chimney, facing SW
2	x	X	Footing of NW chimney, facing NW
3	x	X	Footings along the face of the building, facing NW
4	x	X	Footings along the face of the building, facing NW
5	x	X	Footing under NW chimney, facing NW
6	x	X	Footing under NW chimney, facing NW
7	x	X	C100 & Stratigraphy beneath the NW chimney, facing NW
8	x	X	C100 & Stratigraphy beneath the NW chimney, facing NW
9	x	X	C102 in SW chimney footing, facing SW
10	x	X	C102 in SW chimney footing, facing SW
11	x	X	Stratigraphy under SW chimney footing, facing SW
12	x	X	Stratigraphy under SW chimney footing, facing NE
13	x	X	Stratigraphy under SW chimney footing, facing NE
14	x	X	C103, facing NW
15	x	X	C104, facing SW
16	x	X	C104, facing SW
17	x	X	Trench 1 – NW section stratigraphy
18	x	X	Trench 1 – NW section stratigraphy
19	x	X	C105, Trench 2, facing NW
20	x	X	Cut C106 & fill C107 facing NE
21	x	X	Cut C106 & fill C107 facing NE
22	x	X	C108, mottled layer, facing SE
23	x	X	C109, reddish brown layer, facing SW
24	x	X	C110, mixed reddish brown deposit, facing SW
25	x	X	Trench 3, NW section stratigraphy
26	x	X	C111, Trench 3, facing SW
27	x	X	Stratigraphy beneath SW chimney, facing SW
28	x	X	Stratigraphy beneath SW chimney, facing SW
29	x	X	C113, dark layer, facing SW
30	x	X	Cellar footing stratigraphy, facing SW
31	x	X	Cellar footing stratigraphy, facing SW
32	x	X	Cellar footing stratigraphy, facing SW
33	x	X	Cellar footing stratigraphy, facing SW



Appendix 2: KDK OASIS Sheet

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Dunton Manor House, Dunton, Buckinghamshire	OASIS reference:	kdkarcha1-179081
Short Description:	<i>In September 2014, KDK Archaeology Ltd undertook a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording of footing trenches excavated for the construction of single storey extension of an orangery on the northeastern elevation of the house, the installation of a subterranean wine-cellar and reinstatement of the southwestern chimney stack. The area impacted has been truncated and landscaped with layers of made-ground deposited to provide a level platform for building and/or for later alterations to Dunton Manor. The made-ground overlies layers of natural geology comprised of sand and clay deposits.</i>		
Project Type:	Observation & recording		
Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	1091500000 - MBC1655	Site status: (eg. none, SAM, listed)	Listed building Grade II
Current land use:	Residential	Future work: (yes/no/unknown)	None
Monument type:	Building	Monument period:	Post-Medieval
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	None		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	Buckinghamshire	OS reference: (8 figs min)	SP 8232 2441
Site address: (+ postcode if known)	Dunton Manor House, Hoggston Road, Dunton, Buckinghamshire		
Study area: (sq. m. / ha)	20.73 sq. m.	Height OD: (metres)	150m
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	KDK Archaeology Ltd		
Project brief originator:	Eliza Alqassar	Project design originator:	KDK Archaeology Ltd
Project Manager:	David Kaye	Director/Supervisor:	Derek Watson
Sponsor / funding body:	Mr & Mrs Marsh		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	2/9/2014	End date:	26/9/2014
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	Buckinghamshire County Museum	None	
Paper:		Field drawings & sheets, Architects reports	
Digital:		Digital CD	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Archaeological Observation & Recording Report: Dunton Manor House, Hoggston Road, Dunton, Buckinghamshire		
Serial title & volume:	KDK Archaeology Ltd Report ref. 055/DDM/2		
Author(s):	Derek Watson PhD		
Page nos	1-20	Date:	30/9/2014