

**A WATCHING BRIEF AT
THE OLD VICARAGE, CLAVERLEY,
SHROPSHIRE, 2013**

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A report for
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SUMMARY

In September 2013 the Archaeology Service carried out a watching brief on excavations for an extension at The Old Vicarage, Claverley, Shropshire. The brick and concrete capping over a dis-used well was seen in one of the trenches. Otherwise no significant archaeological deposits or features were observed.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 2013 work began to construct an extension at The Old Vicarage, Claverley, Shropshire (NGR SO 7927 9338).

1.2 The development site is located within the historic core of the medieval settlement of Claverley. The property is a Grade II* Listed Building (National Ref. No. 254656). The Old Vicarage (Shropshire Historic Environment Record [HER] No 11792) is a 15th century timber-framed two-storey house, with a long black and white facade facing the road, with an oriel and jettied gable facing the churchyard to the north. There is a 19th century brick-built extension to the rear. The north end gable has an overhang with carved heads, a bead-moulded bressumer and 19th century ornamental barge boards. (Newman & Pevsner, 2006, p211)

1.3 It was considered that archaeological remains relating to the medieval and later development and occupation of the property might survive within the proposed development area.

1.4 Because of the potential significance of the archaeological resource it was made a condition of the planning consent for the works that they be accompanied by a programme of archaeological work which should include a watching brief during any ground disturbance. The Archaeology Service, Shropshire Council, was commissioned to undertake the archaeological work.

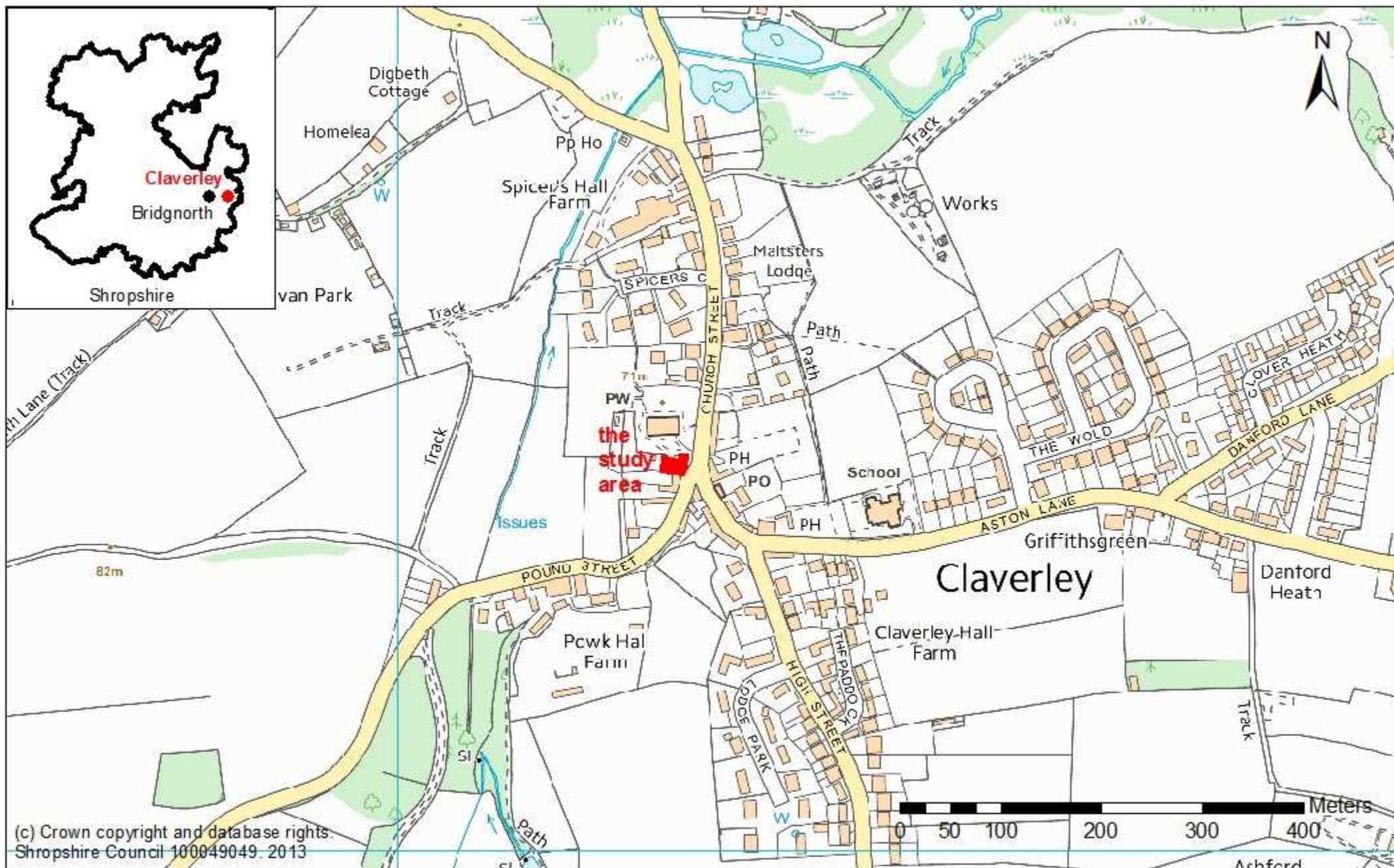
1.5 The aim of the watching brief was to allow for the preservation by record of any archaeological remains that were encountered during the groundworks.

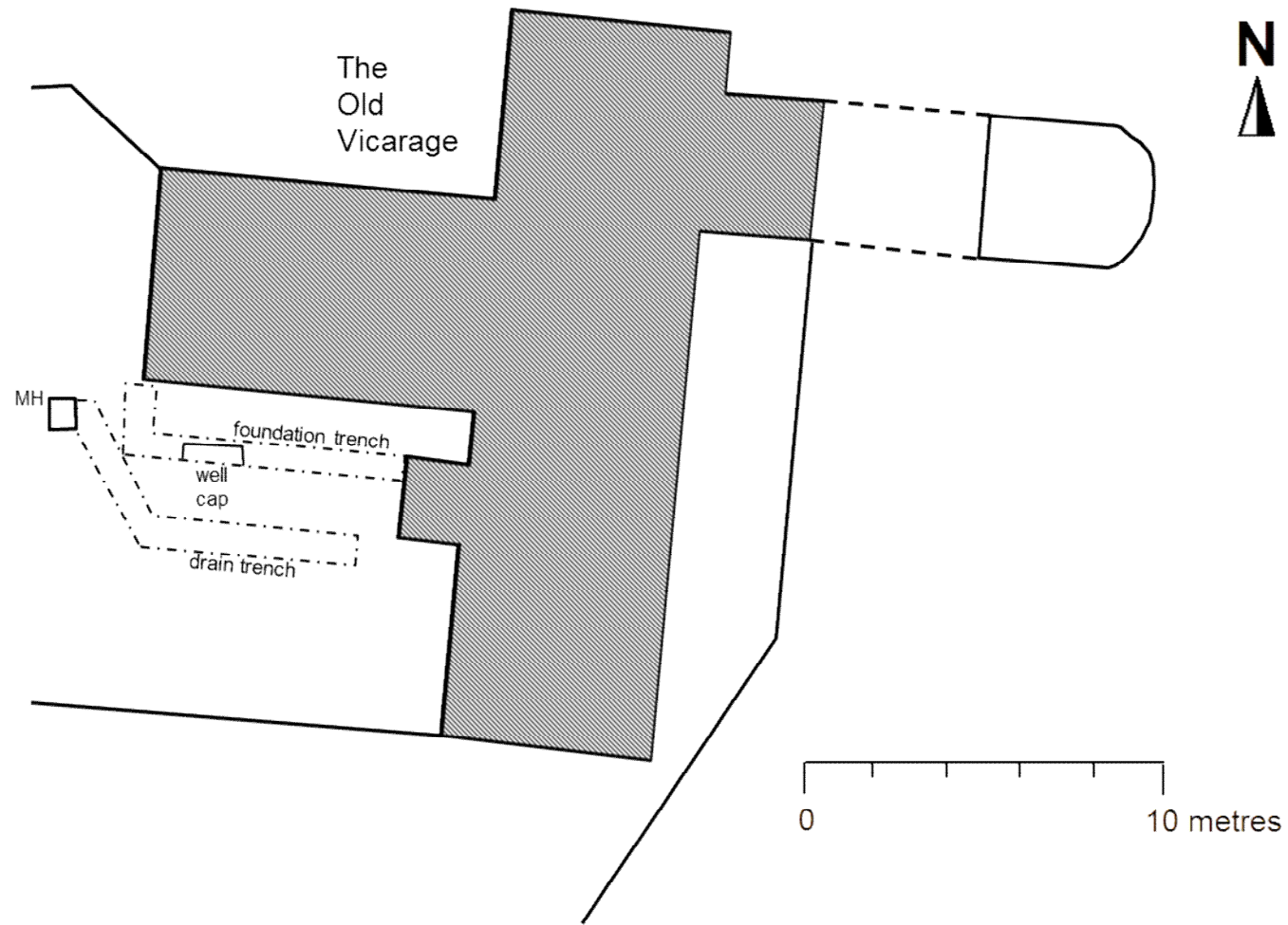
2 THE WATCHING BRIEF.

2.1 Two site visits were made to monitor the excavations for a re-aligned drain and the excavation of the foundation trench for the extension (Fig. 2). The first trench was cut to a depth of 0.5m following the removal of the existing yard surface, the second trench to a depth of 0.9m. The trenches were both cut through a very dark grey sandy loam yard soil 0.5m deep which lay over a dark reddish brown sandy clay natural subsoil. The brick and concrete capping of a well was seen in the new foundation trench 6.2m to the west of the rear wall of west wall of the medieval building and 1.5m south of the south wall of the Victorian extension. The location of the well is marked as a pump on the 2nd Edition OS 25" plan (OS 1902). No other significant archaeological features or deposits were encountered.

3 REFERENCES

Moss & Co., 2013: *The Old Vicarage, Claverley: Design and Access Statement*
Newman, J, & Pevsner, N, 2006: *The Buildings of England: Shropshire*





THE OLD VICARAGE, CLAVERLEY 2013

Figure 2: The location of the drain and foundation trenches; scale 1:200



Photo 1: The development site, looking E



Photo 2: The drain trench, looking SW; scale bars 1m & 0.5m



Photo 3: The well cap in the foundation trench, looking W; scale bar 1m