

CHILWELL MANOR GOLF COURSE

CHILWELL

NOTTINGHAM

Archaeological Watching Brief 2011

Prepared by R.Parker

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Easement strip at Chilwell Manor Golf Club.

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SUMMARY

- Trent & Peak Archaeology was contracted by Black & Veatch Ltd on behalf of the Environment Agency to undertake an archaeological watching brief during intrusive groundworks on land situated on the periphery of Chilwell Manor Golf Course, Chilwell, Nottingham. Archaeological attendance occurred between 2nd November and 9th November 2011 and was undertaken by Richard Parker.
- The watching brief was to be conducted during the groundworks undertaken in advance of the construction of flood defences. The flood defences at Chilwell Manor Golf Course formed part of the wider Nottingham Left Bank Flood alleviation Scheme.
- Chilwell Manor Golf Club was formed in 1906 by a group of enthusiasts who were able to rent a number of fields adjoining the old village 'Manor' House, from which the club derives its name. It was originally a nine hole golf course laid out according to the plans of Tom Williamson, a member of Notts Golf Club. Tom Williamson and his father Edmund also designed Wollaton Park Golf Club in 1926, and over 60 other courses countrywide.
- A desk based assessment undertaken by Allen and Appleton in 2005 revealed photographs taken in 1948, these demonstrated the presence of medieval ridge and furrow in certain areas of the golf course, in addition to crop-marks suggestive of former buildings and track ways.
- Topsoil was machine stripped under archaeological supervision to a depth of 150mm, exposing a subsoil demonstrating signs of previous disturbance consistent with extensive landscaping during the construction of the golf course.
- The shallow character of the groundworks precluded any examination of layers below the surface of the subsoil and this may account for the apparent absence of any observed archaeological or geo-archaeological deposits. The subsoil layer is likely to comprise an alluvial deposit and therefore may seal undisturbed archaeological horizons
- No archaeological features were observed during the watching brief. The intrusive groundworks did not penetrate below the interface of the top soil (0001) and the subsoil (0002), and appear to have had no impact on the archaeological and geo-archaeological resource.
- Finds from the disturbed surface of the subsoil comprised pottery sherds and metalwork of the late 19th/early 20th century likely to be contemporary with the construction of the golfcourse, and a single worked flint of later prehistoric date.

**CHILWELL MANOR GOLF COURSE, CHILWELL, NOTTINGHAM,
Archaeological Watching Brief 2011**

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Date	November 2012
Approved by	Howard Jones, Head of Operations
Signed	
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Plate 07. End of topsoil strip adjoining course earthworks.

Plate 08. Typical topsoil depth.

Plate 09. Concrete access ramp constructed after topsoil strip at Meadow Lane entrance

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Trent & Peak Archaeology was contracted by Black & Veatch Ltd on behalf of the Environment Agency to undertake an archaeological watching brief during intrusive groundworks on land situated on the periphery of Chilwell Manor Golf Course, Chilwell, Nottingham. Archaeological attendance occurred between 2nd November and 9th November 2011 and was undertaken by Richard Parker.

2. PROJECT BACKGROUND

2.1 The watching brief was to be conducted during the groundworks undertaken in advance of the construction of flood defences. The flood defences at Chilwell Manor Golf Course formed part of the wider Nottingham Left Bank Flood alleviation Scheme.

2.2 The site is located between SK 5246 3551 and SK 5221 3518 following the south-eastern boundary of the golf course which backs on to a residential area.

2.3. All intrusive groundworks were monitored during the course of the watching brief.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Chilwell Manor Golf Club was formed in 1906 by a group of enthusiasts who were able to rent a number of fields adjoining the old village 'Manor' House, from which the club derives its name. It was originally a nine hole golf course laid out according to the plans of Tom Williamson, a member of Notts Golf Club. Tom Williamson and his father Edmund also designed Wollaton Park Golf Club in 1926, and over 60 other courses countrywide. (Chilwell Manor Golf Club; 2008-2011. <http://www.chilwellmanorgolfclub.co.uk/club-history>).

3.2. A desk based assessment was carried out by Allen and Appleton 2005 incorporating the area of the golf course and found that in an area of the golf course north of the railway and centred on (SK 519 355) ridge and furrow was identified by aerial photographs taken in 1948. Furthermore crop-marks of buildings were noted within the ridge and furrow and further north in the golf course track ways and more crop-marks of buildings of unknown date were visible.

3.3. Apart from landscaping undertaken in the early part of the 20th century in order to create the golf course, it remains one of the few areas which has avoided residential development and therefore has the potential for archaeological remains surviving in a good state of preservation.

4. OBJECTIVES

4.1. The objective of the watching brief was to identify the presence of any archaeological remains that may be affected by intrusive aspects of the development and to achieve an appropriate level of mitigation through preservation by record. Geo-archaeological deposits of palaeo-environmental potential were also to be recorded and accorded an appropriate level of sampling and assessment.

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 The groundworks subject to continuous archaeological monitoring comprised the machine excavation of a 2m wide strip to a depth of approximately 150mm, following the south-eastern periphery of the golf course. The removal of topsoil occurred in advance of the construction of a clay bank forming part of the new flood defences.

5.2. Excavation did not extend below the surface of the subsoil and therefore there was no opportunity to observe any stratigraphic sequence below this layer. The geology of the study area comprises superficial deposits of alluvium, clay, silt and sand overlaying Mercia mudstone (BGS 2012).

5.3. All topsoil stripping was carried out by a tracked 360° machine using a bladed ditching bucket; excavation along the footprint of the flood bank was to an average depth of 150mm (Plate 8). All exposed surfaces were monitored for the presence of any archaeological features and artefacts.

5.4. In certain areas it was necessary to remove tree stumps and roots prior to topsoil stripping, this was carried out using a 600mm toothed bucket (Plate 1).

5.5. The groundworks were recorded by scale drawing and photography (digital images and 35mm black and white film).

5.6. All archaeological features were given a unique context number e.g 0001. Any finds were given a unique finds code, e.g. AAA and their location recorded by GPS.

5.7. Plans and sections of features were drawn on perma-trace at scales of 1:20 and 1:50.

6. RESULTS

Area 01. Contexts, 0001, 0002

6.1. After removal of the topsoil (0001 - average depth 150mm), a subsoil of light yellowish brown fine sandy silt loam (0002) was revealed. This layer was present and consistent throughout the entire length of the strip (Plates 2 - 7).

6.2. No archaeological features were observed cut into the surface of subsoil 0002. Soil stripping did not penetrate below the surface of the subsoil. The exposed surface contained fragments of late 19th/early 20th century material consistent with the formation of the golf course in the early 20th century. Evidence of earlier activity was limited to a single flint blade/scrapper of Neolithic - Early Bronze age date (AAW – Appendix 1).

7. DISCUSSION

7.1. The shallow character of the groundworks precluded any examination of layers below the surface of the subsoil and this may account for the apparent absence of any observed archaeological or geo-archaeological deposits. The subsoil (0002) layer is likely to comprise an alluvial deposit and therefore may seal undisturbed archaeological horizons.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1. No archaeological features were observed during the watching brief. The intrusive groundworks did not penetrate below the interface of the top soil (0001) and the subsoil (0002), and appear to have had no impact on the archaeological and geo-archaeological resource.

8.2. Finds from the disturbed surface of the subsoil comprised pottery sherds and metalwork of the late 19th/early 20th century likely to be contemporary with the construction of the golfcourse, and a single worked flint of later prehistoric date.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Allen and Appleton; 2005, *Desk Based Assessment Stage 2, Proposed Flood Alleviation Scheme Sawley to Colwick. Report for the Environment Agency.* Trent & Peak Archaeology 2011.

Chilwell Manor Golf Club History. (Chilwell Manor Golf Club; 2008-2011.
<http://www.chilwellmanorgolfclub.co.uk/club-history>).

Appendix 1. Summary Finds List.

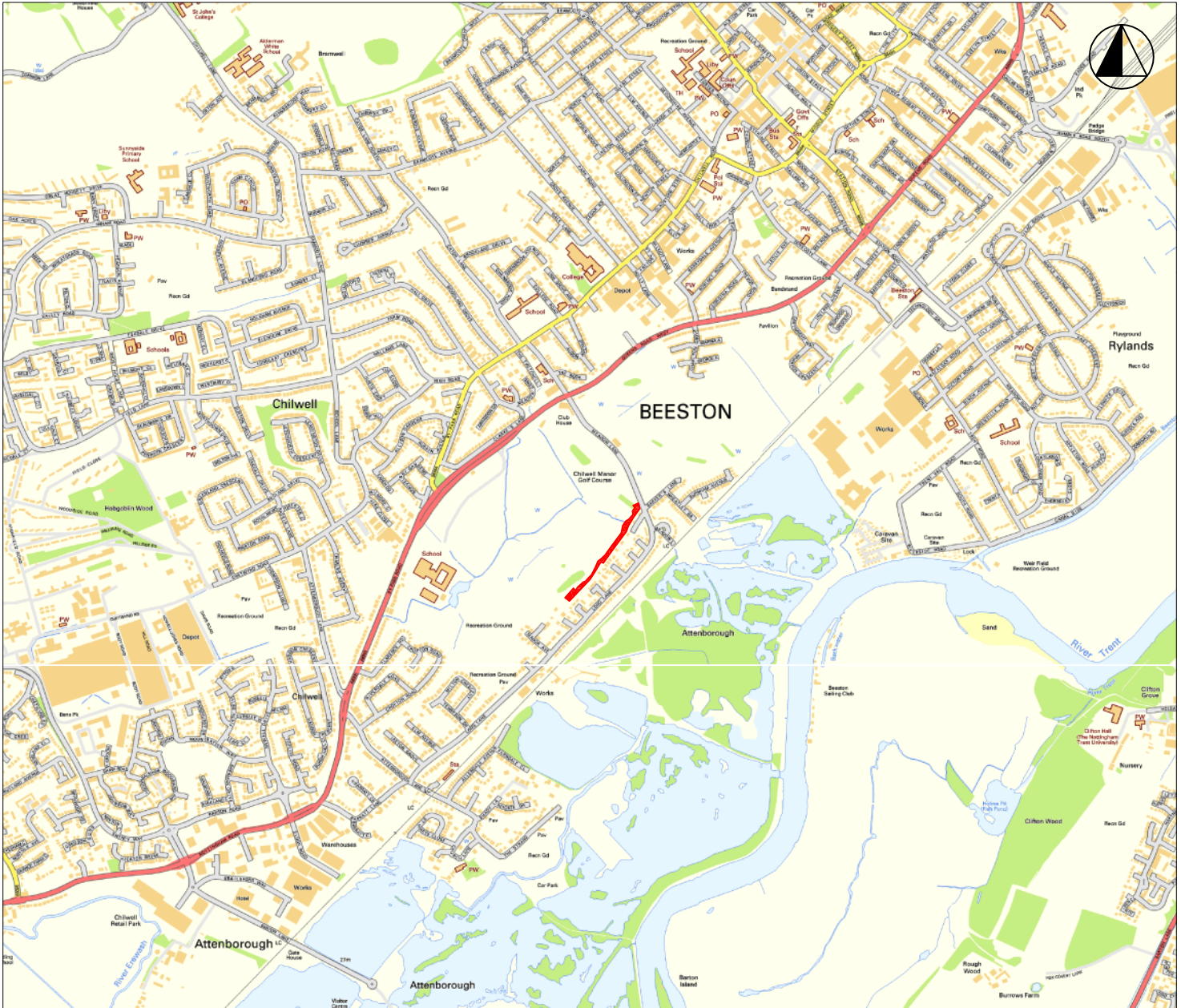
Find Code	Material	Object	Site Code	Period	Context
AAA	Pottery	Bodysherd	CMG	20th century	0002
AAB	Pottery	Bodysherd	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAC	Pottery	Bodysherd	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAD	Clay pipe	Stem	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAE	Pottery	Base/bodysherd	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAF	Pottery	Bodysherd	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAG	Pottery	Handle	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAH	Tile	Fragment	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAI	Pottery	Bodysherd	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAJ	Pottery	Bodysherd	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAK	Copper alloy	Coin	CMG	1899	0002
AAL	Metal	Blank disk	CMG	20th century	0002
AAM	Copper alloy	Button	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAN	Copper alloy	Fitment	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAO	Copper alloy	Fitment	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAP	Copper alloy	Button	CMG	20th century	0002
AAQ	Copper alloy	Button	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAR	Copper alloy	Button	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAS	Copper alloy	Button	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAT	Copper alloy	Button	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAU	Copper alloy	Button	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAV	Copper alloy	Button	CMG	19th20th century	0002
AAW	Flint	Scraper	CMG	Neolithic/Bronze age	0002

Appendix 2. Index of Archive and Arrangements for Deposition

<i>Field Records</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>
Watching brief record sheets	Record of visit and work carried out	5
Drawing record sheets	List of drawings made on site	1
Photographic record sheets	List of photographs taken on site	1
Context records sheets	Record of contexts recorded on site	2
Site drawings on permatrace sheets	Section drawings @1:20 and 1:50 on A3 permatrace. Plan of pond @1:200	2
Photographs:-		
Digital	All views	16
B&W (with negatives)	All views	16
<i>Documents</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>
Health & Safety	Safe working statement & risk assessment	1
Report to client	Report of findings of the watching brief.	1

Archive Deposition.

The archive is currently held in the offices of Trent & Peak Archaeology, Unit 1, Holly Lane, Chilwell, Nottingham, NG9 4AB. Currently Nottinghamshire Museums are not receiving archives. Until such time as they do the archive will be held at the offices of Trent & Peak Archaeology. .





CMG Figure 1. Location of Chilwell Manor Golf Course and stripped area. Scale 1:20,000@A4, Inset 1:10,000@A4.



Plate 1. Tree stump removal at beginning of watching brief. Looking south west.



Plate 2. Topsoil removal from meadow lane end. Looking south west.



Plate 3. Topsoil stripping continued. Looking south west.



Plate 4. Topsoil stripping continued. Looking south west.



Plate 5. Topsoil stripping continued. Looking south west.



Plate 6. Topsoil stripping continued. Looking south west.



Plate 7. End of topsoil strip adjoining course earthworks. Looking south west.



Plate 8. Typical topsoil depth. Looking north west.



Plate 9. Concrete access ramp constructed after topsoil strip at meadow lane entrance. Looking south west.

