

ZFDR13



Zouches Farm, Dunstable Road,

Caddington, Bedfordshire

Archaeological Monitoring

Prepared on behalf of Project Design Studios Limited

for Mr and Mrs Sinfield



HEADLAND
ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

Client

Mr and Mrs Sinfield

National Grid Reference

TL 040 213

Parish:

Council:

OASIS ref.:

Archive will be deposited with:

Central Bedfordshire
headland4-178407
Luton Museum

Project Manager:

Author:

Fieldwork:

Graphics:

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Schedule

Report

January 2015

Signed off by



Joe Abrams

Date: January 2015

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ZOUCHES FARM, CADDINGTON, BEDS.

Archaeological Monitoring

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook archaeological monitoring of groundworks associated with the conversion of a redundant agricultural building into a residential annex at Zouches Farm, Dunstable Road, Caddington, Bedfordshire. This work was undertaken as a condition of planning consent in order to provide information on its archaeological potential. No significant archaeological remains or finds were revealed.

1 INTRODUCTION

Mr and Mrs Sinfield (the client) have been granted full planning consent (CB/13/02835/FULL) for the conversion of a redundant agricultural building into an annexe at Zouches Farm, Dunstable Road, Caddington, Bedfordshire (TL 040 213). This site is henceforth referred to as the Development Area (DA) (Illus 1).

The Archaeological Advisor (AO) advises the local planning authority (LPA) on archaeological matters. In support of the planning application, the client commissioned Headland Archaeology to produce a Cultural Heritage Assessment summarising the heritage potential of the DA and the impacts on the proposed development on heritage (2013). Due to the archaeological potential of the DA the AO instructed that archaeological monitoring would be required as part of the development. This work has been requested in accordance with government guidance as set out in National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012).

The client commissioned Headland Archaeology to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for monitoring (Headland Archaeology 2014), undertake the site works and prepare a report (this document) on the results. The WSI was approved by the AO prior to commencement of the project.

2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The DA is located on land at Zouches Farm, to the north of Dunstable Road in Caddington, Bedfordshire, LU1 4AP (centred at TL 040 213). The DA is located approximately 1km to the east of Dunstable at the northwest edge of Caddington and is accessed by a long driveway leading from Dunstable Road to the south (Illus 1).

In general the farm is surrounded on all sides by open fields and small areas of woodland. The DA itself is bordered by an L-shaped stable block to the north and by the open land to the south, east and west. It lies at between 200m and 205m AOD.

The underlying solid geology comprises Cretaceous Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formations. These are overlain by superficial deposits of Quaternary and Neogene clay with flint (www.bgs.ac.uk).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The following is based on a search of the Central Bedfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER), a detailed summary of which is provided in the Heritage Statement (Headland Archaeology 2013a).

Prehistoric activity has been uncovered in the vicinity of the DA. This includes a significant quantity of Mesolithic and Neolithic flint found within 500m of the DA (HER7489). Three further prehistoric findspots are recorded within 1km of the site (HER13563, HER2033 and HER1372).

Evidence for Roman activity in the vicinity of the DA exists in the form of two possible Roman roads, positioned to the east of the DA (HER2801 and HER10463). A possible 2nd century farmstead was located to the southwest (HER1341) and an enclosure of possible Roman date has been identified, via cropmark evidence, to the northwest of the DA (HER1778). Roman pottery has also been recovered in the vicinity of this. Excavations revealing Iron Age activity (HER15287) and Roman activity (HEREBD1079) are also located around 900m north-northeast of the DA.

The DA lies to the east of Scheduled Monument 1005400. These are recorded as earthwork remains originally thought to represent a Deserted Medieval Village (DMV). However, this scheduled monument is now considered more likely to represent the remains of medieval

Manorial enclosures associated with Zouches Manor, a sub-manor of the Manor of Caddington developed during the medieval period (the earliest known reference being from 1311). It was held by the la Zouche family until the 16th century. The present site of Zouches Farm is thought to represent the focus of the Manor, although this is uncertain.

The extant Zouches farmhouse is a 17th Century structure with later alterations. It is made of brick, mainly in Flemish Bond (although the western part may have originally been timber framed). It is a Grade II Listed Building (1114660). The DA falls within the historic curtilage of the 17th century farmhouse which contains a 19th Century ancillary building, protected as part of curtilage listing. The ancillary building to be converted is first shown on a map of 1880, and appears to have remained unaltered between 1880 and 1937. It was extended to the east to its present form between 1937 and 1972. Aside from these buildings there is little evidence of post-medieval activity in the vicinity of the DA.

4 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

In general the purpose of the investigation was to record and enhance understanding of the significance of heritage assets before they are lost (NPPF para 141). This was to be achieved by determining and understanding the nature, function and character of any remains on the site, in their cultural and environmental setting.

The local and regional research contexts are provided by Oake et al (2007), Glazebrook (1997), Brown & Glazebrook (2000) and Medlycott & Brown (2011). Any evidence retrieved during the works are analysed in light of the objectives contained in these frameworks.

The general aims of the investigation were:

- Establishing the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation in the DA.
- Establishing the relationship of any remains to the surrounding contemporary landscapes.
- Recovering artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region
- Recovering palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

More specific research aims comprised:

- Establishing whether there is any evidence for prehistoric activity in the area, particularly of Mesolithic or Neolithic date (Oake et al, 2007, Chapter 2, p8-9).

- Establishing whether there is any evidence for Roman activity in the area, potentially in relation to the roads to the east (Oake et al, 2007, Chapter 2, p10-12).

- Establishing whether there is any evidence for medieval activity in the area, and what form this takes (Oake et al, 2007, Chapter 2, p14). In particular, there may be evidence for activity in relation to the medieval manor of Zouches, which is believed to have been focused in this area. There may also be evidence relating to medieval agricultural activity.

- Establishing whether there is any evidence for post-medieval activity. This may take the form of agricultural activity, or the remains of earlier ancillary farm buildings.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Site works

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken over the course of several visits between 20/08/2014 and 24/09/2014. This observed the excavation of short trenches in advance of underpinning of the extant wall foundations. Each trench was approximately 0.8m long and up to 0.6m in width. Depths varied from 0.5-1.5m depending on the stability of the underlying natural geology (Illus 1). The excavation of foundation trenches for an extension to the building were also monitored.

Monitoring was carried out in accordance with the WSI (Headland Archaeology 2014) and involved archaeological observation, investigation and recording during all groundworks unless agreed otherwise with the AO.

5.2 Recording

All recording was in accordance with the code of practice of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). Contexts were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological standards. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

An overall site plan at an appropriate scale and relative to the National Grid was compiled. The site plan was accurately tied in to the National Grid and a scale version is shown in Illus 1.

A digital photographic record was taken and a metric scale was clearly visible in record photographs.

5.3 Reporting and Archives

The results of the works are presented below. A summary report has been prepared for submission to the OASIS database (headland4-178407).

There resultant archive will be deposited at Luton museum. All archive preparation will be undertaken in accordance with guidelines published by the IfA on behalf of the Archaeological Archives Forum (July 2007).

6 RESULTS

6.1 Discussion

The technical detail of contextual information can be found in Appendix 1. The following narrative is designed to interpret that technical detail and attempt to categorise its significance. Context numbers for deposits are expressed in parenthesis, i.e. (001), cuts of features are expressed in brackets, i.e. [003].

Monitoring of underpinning for the building revealed no significant archaeological remains. Furthermore, no artefacts were found.

On the exterior of the building (Illus7-8) and in the area of the foundations for the extension, the deposits encountered comprised 0.15m-thick topsoil (002) overlain directly onto the silty gravel natural geology (003). The lack of subsoil (Illus 7-8) indicates that the natural deposits had been truncated in the vicinity of the 19th Century building, probably during groundworks for its construction.

Within the underpinning trenches, deposits with concrete and rubble were revealed (001) and (004). These are likely to be associated with the original foundations for the building and are therefore considered to be of 19th Century date. On the interior of the building, a concrete and brick rubble floor was present (005 – Illus 9). The date of this deposit is unclear although it is likely to be a later hard-standing rather than the original floor. The foundations deposits and floor directly overlay the natural geology (003).

Table 1: Significance of Heritage Assets

Description of Heritage Asset	Trench Number	Feature Number/s	Significance of heritage asset on Local, Regional, National, International scale
n/a	-	-	None

6.2 Conclusion

No evidence of significant archaeological remains was found within the DA. It is likely that there has been considerable disturbance and truncation within the farmyard which encompasses the DA, particularly in association with the construction of the foundations of the buildings.

Due to the piecemeal nature of the development groundworks, these investigations were limited in scope and have not contributed to the original objectives outlined in Section 4.

As no further ground works are required as part of the development the potential damage to any unidentified heritage assets is negligible.

Table 2: Impact on Heritage Assets (HA)

HA	Development impact	Significance of heritage asset on Local, Regional, National, International scale	Impact of development on heritage asset (None, Low, Medium, High)
n/a	Conversion of farm building	-	None

7 REFERENCES

7.1 Bibliographic sources

Archaeological Archives Forum *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (published by the IfA 2007).

British Geological Survey website, www.bgc.ac.uk (accessed 15.12.2014, 13:50)

Brown N & Glazebrook J 2000 *Research & Archaeology: A framework for the eastern counties – 2 Research Agenda and Strategy*

Communities and Local Government 2012. *National Planning Policy Framework, Government National Planning Policy*.

Edgeworth M 2007. 'Post medieval, industrial and modern periods', in Oake et al 2007, 119-141.

Glazebrook J 1997. *Research and Archaeology: A framework for the eastern counties – 1 Resource assessment*.

Headland Archaeology 2013. *Programme of Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication at Zouches Farm, Dunstable Road, Caddington,, Bedfordshire.*

Headland Archaeology 2014. *Programme of Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication at Zouches Farm, Dunstable Road, Caddington, Luton, LU1 4AP: Written Scheme of Investigation.*

Medlycott M 2011. *Research and Archaeology revisited: A revised framework for the east of England. EAA Occasional Papers 24.*

Oake M, Luke M, Dawson M, Edgeworth M & Murphy P 2007. *Bedfordshire Archaeology – Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy.*

8 APPENDICES

8.1 Appendix 1 – Site registers

Photographic register

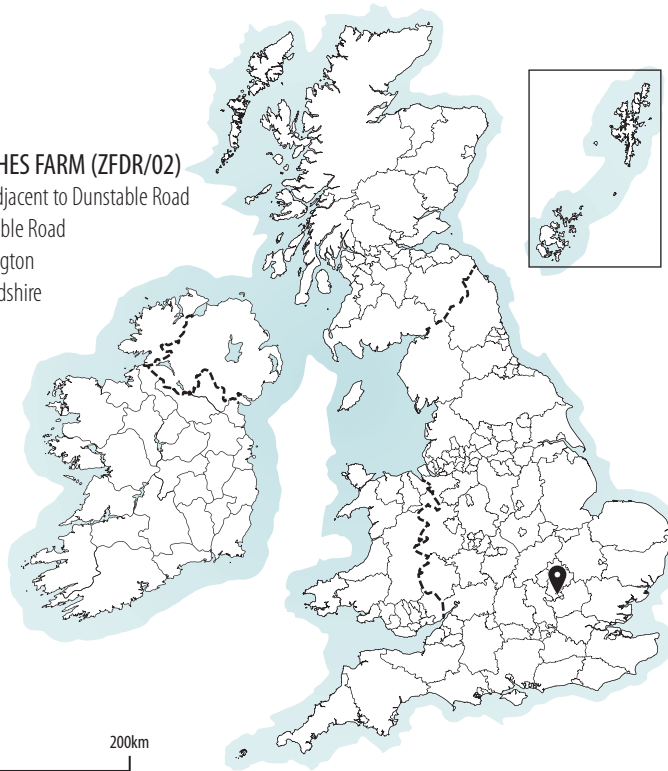
Photo No.	Direction facing	Description
001	SE	Underpinning trench with east wall of building showing (002) and (003)
002	E	Underpinning trench with east wall of building showing (002) and (003)
003	SW	Underpinning trench along north wall of building
004	N	Underpinning trench along north wall of building
005	W	Underpinning trench along west wall of north part of building
006	E	Underpinning trench along west wall of north part of building
007	E	Underpinning trench along west wall of north part of building
008	E	Underpinning trench along west wall of north part of building
009	E	North part of building
010	SW	Underpinning trench along east wall of south part of building
011	SW	Underpinning trench along east wall of south part of building
012	E	Underpinning in south part of building
013	N	Underpinning along north wall of south part of building
014	E	South part of building
015	S	Foundation trenches to east of building
016	NW	Foundation trenches to east of building
017	E	Foundation trenches to east of building
018	SW	Foundation trenches to east of building
019	W	Foundation trenches to east of building showing (002) and (003)
020	SE	Foundation trenches to east of building
021	S	Foundation trenches to east of building showing (001) and (003)

Context register

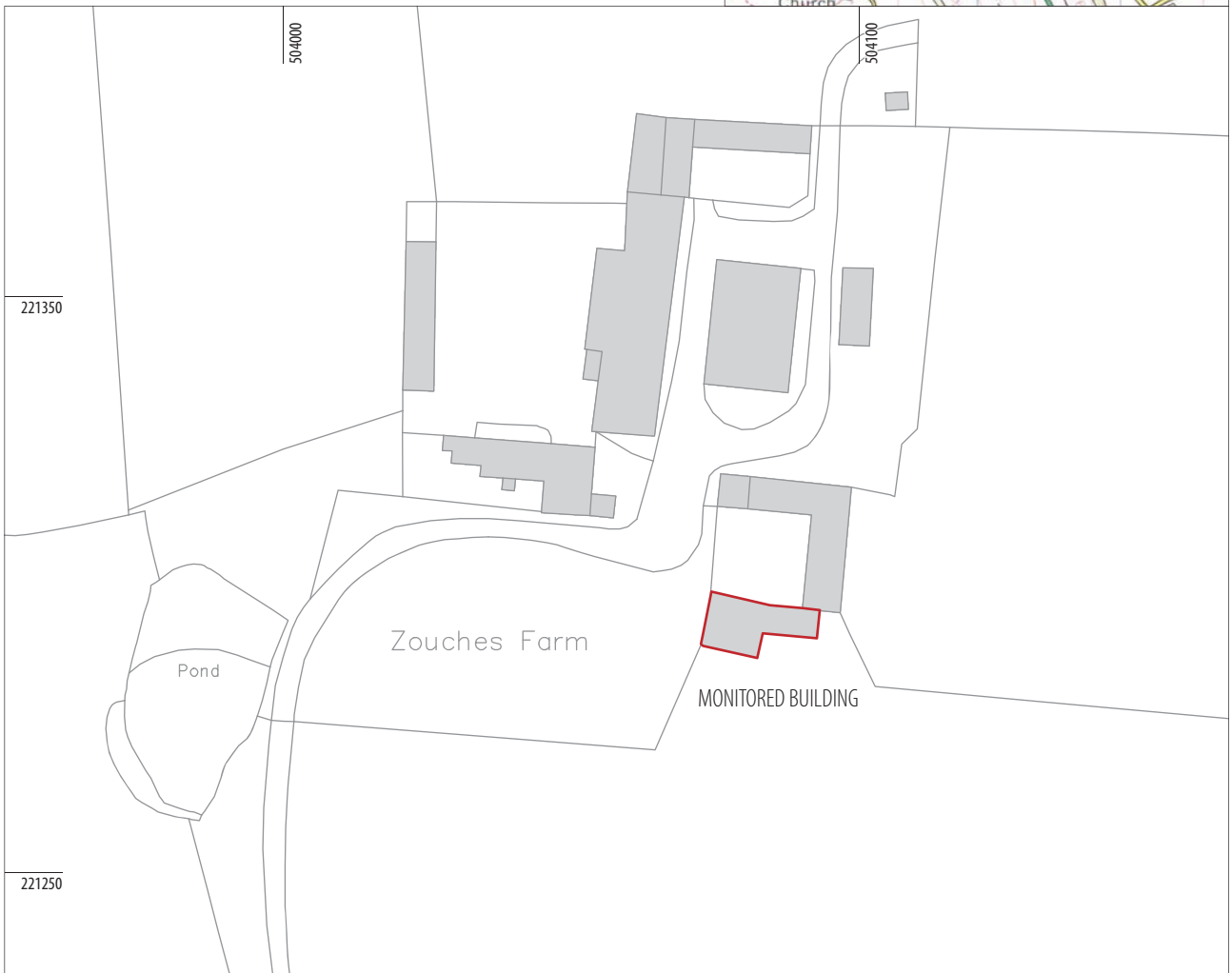
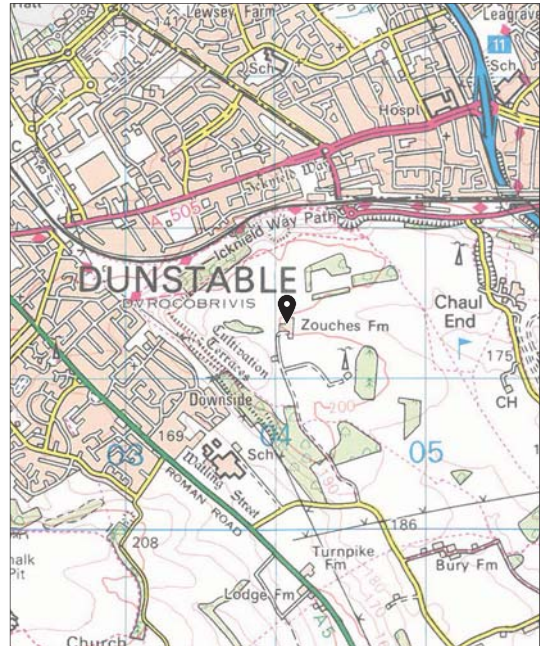
Context No.	Description	Dimensions and details
001	Previous foundations	Concrete and brick rubble - 0-0.3m BGL
002	Topsoil	Mid grey silt with occasional pebbles and CBM flecks - 0-0.15m BGL
003	Natural	Natural. Orange brown silty gravel - 0.15-0.6m BGL
004	Previous wall foundations	Red brick with mortar bond - 0-0.6m BGL
005	Floor hard-standing	Concrete and brick rubble - 0-0.3m BGL

ZOUCHES FARM (ZFDR/02)

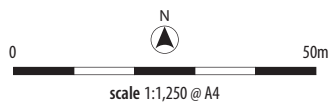
land adjacent to Dunstable Road
Dunstable Road
Caddington
Bedfordshire



0 200km



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scale 1:1,250 @ A4



SOUTH & EAST

Building 68C, Wrest Park
Silsoe
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ILLUS 1
Site location



ILLUS 2
Plan



ILLUS 3
Plan showing areas monitored during the archaeological watching brief



ILLUS 4

Underpinning works in Barn A2, looking E

ILLUS 5

Underpinning works in Barn A1, looking E

ILLUS 6

Underpinning works along southern wall of Barn A1, showing brick foundations





ILLUS 7

Foundation trenches around Barns B and C, looking W

ILLUS 8

Foundation trench at eastern end of Barn C, facing W and showing the topsoil overlying natural deposit

ILLUS 9

Underpinning works in Barn A2, facing south, and showing the concrete surface