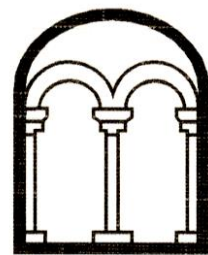


**THE BLACK LION  
LONDON ROAD  
SHENLEY  
HERTFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION,  
BUILDING RECORDING, PUBLICATION  
AND ARCHIVING**

**Albion**  
archaeology



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION,  
BUILDING RECORDING, PUBLICATION  
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Project: BL2538

Document: 2016/160  
Version 1.0

Borehamwood Museum accession no.: applied for  
OASIS reference no: albionar1-248649

24th August 2016

Compiled by	Approved by
Ben Barker & Christiane Meckseper	Drew Shotliff

Produced for:  
Oakbridge Bespoke Homes Ltd



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## Preface

*Every effort has been made in the preparation and submission of this document and all statements are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.*

*This document has been prepared by Ben Barker and Christiane Meckseper and approved by Drew Shotliff.*

*Albion Archaeology is grateful to Oakbridge Bespoke Homes Ltd for commissioning the project. We would also like to acknowledge the assistance of the staff of the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Team.*

Albion Archaeology  
 St Mary's Church  
 St Mary's Street  
 Bedford, MK42 0AS  
 ☎: 0300 300 8141  
 E-mail: office@albion-arch.com

## Version History

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Reason for re-issue</i>
<i>1.0</i>	<i>24/08/2016</i>	<i>n/a</i>

## Key Terms

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

Albion	Albion Archaeology
CIfA	Chartered Institute <i>for</i> Archaeologists
Client	Oakbridge Bespoke Homes Ltd
HCC	Hertfordshire County Council
HER	HCC Historic Environment Record
HET	HCC Historic Environment Team
LPA	Local Planning Authority
OD	Ordnance Datum
OS	Ordnance Survey
PH	Public House
Procedures Manual	<i>Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> , 2nd ed, 2001 Albion Archaeology
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



### **Non-technical Summary**

*Planning consent (15/2203/FUL) was granted for the refurbishment of the Black Lion Restaurant, London Road, Shenley Hertfordshire, WD7 9BT and the erection of three 3-bedroom terraced dwellings within the former grounds of the property.*

*The restaurant was formerly the Black Lion PH, established in the mid-19th century. The proposed refurbishment and development included the demolition of an outbuilding associated with the former pub, which lies close to the purported location of the medieval village of Shenley. Accordingly, conditions 15 and 16 were attached to the planning consent to secure a programme of archaeological investigation as a consequence of the development. Albion Archaeology prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), setting out a strategy for a programme of building recording, archaeological evaluation by trial trenching and, if required, archaeological monitoring. The WSI was approved by the Hertfordshire County Council Historic Environment Team (HET).*

*Building recording of the former stable block of the Black Lion PH was undertaken on 03/08/2016. The stable block was converted into a function and pool room for the public house sometime in the 20th century and very few original fixtures and fittings survive. The exceptions are slots for horse box timber partitions in a section of original cobble floor in the north of the building and reinforced timber wall panels in the central section. A bay window in the roof may indicate a former hay loft. In light of its current condition, the structure is of low significance and the building recording represents an adequate preservation by record of the structure prior to its demolition.*

*The single trial trench, covering 32.4m<sup>2</sup>, was excavated, investigated, and recorded between 04/08/2016 and 05/08/2016. It was signed off by the HET prior to backfilling. The trench identified a modern trackway, an early-modern ditch and associated field drain, a modern garden wall or path foundation and an undated posthole. No finds earlier than late post-medieval were recovered.*

*The trial trench evaluation did not produce any evidence for the presence of significant archaeological features or deposits within the footprint of the proposed terraced dwellings. The revealed archaeological remains are of negligible significance and have no potential to address regional research frameworks.*



## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 Background

Planning permission (15/2203/FUL) was granted for the refurbishment of the Black Lion Restaurant, London Road, Shenley Hertfordshire, WD7 9BT. The work includes demolition of porch, conservatory and rear outbuilding to be replaced with new orangery, reinstatement of bay window following removal of porch; associated parking & soft landscaping. Three 3-bed terraced dwellings will also be erected on the site.

Planning conditions 15 and 16 required archaeological works before development can take place:

15. *NO DEVELOPMENT SHALL TAKE PLACE UNTIL an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.*

*Reason: In accordance with paragraph 141 of the NPPF, Local Plan Policies E9 and E11, Core Strategy Policy CS14 and SADM Policies Plan Policy SADM30.*

16. *NO DEVELOPMENT SHALL TAKE PLACE ON land that is included within the Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation other than in accordance with the agreed WSI, which shall include:*

- *the statement of significance and research objectives;*
- *the programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works;*
- *the programme for post-investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication and dissemination, and deposition of resulting material.*

*This condition shall not be discharged until the Local Planning Authority has received written confirmation that these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI.*

*Reason: In accordance with paragraph 141 of the NPPF, Local Plan Policies E9 and E11, Core Strategy Policy CS14 and SADM Policies Plan Policy SADM30.*

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by Oakbridge Bespoke Homes Ltd to submit a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), setting out a strategy for carrying out the building recording and archaeological works required by the conditions on the planning permission. The WSI (Albion 2016) was approved by the Historic Environment Team (HET). This document details the results of the building recording and archaeological investigation carried out in accordance with the approved WSI.



## 1.2 **Site Location and Description**

Shenley is located in south-west Hertfordshire between St Albans and Barnet. The Black Lion lies at the north-west edge of the village at the junction of London Road with Rectory Lane (Figure 1). The former public house is set back from the road junction with a car park to the front and a large garden and car park to the rear. Mature trees stand on the boundaries of the property along London Road, and a wooden fence with mature shrubs line the boundary to the south. The site is centred on grid reference TL 1882 0082.

Shenley lies at the northern edge of the London clay basin just south of a small chalky outcrop that is associated with the Chiltern ridge to the north. At Shenley the underlying geology changes from white chalk to clay, sand and gravel. The geology in the area of the development site consists of superficial deposits of Stanmore gravel formation overlying London Clay formation consisting of clay, silt and sand (British Geological Survey 2016).

The topography of the area consists of an undulating landscape; the land rises from the Colne Valley in the north to the higher-lying clay soils of the Shenley area. The village of Shenley lies on a plateau on top of a hill at a height of *c.* 127m OD.

The development site is 0.23ha in total, with the residential development comprising an area of 0.14ha, of which the building plot occupies approximately 180m<sup>2</sup>.

## 1.3 **Archaeological Background**

Known information on the archaeological and historical background to the site was assessed in a heritage statement submitted with the planning application (Albion Archaeology 2014). There is very limited evidence for any heritage assets pre-dating the medieval period. This is partly due to the fact that the site lies on marginal land that was most likely never extensively settled; it could also be due to a lack of investigative work in the area. Two investigations carried out during limited groundworks near the village green revealed no datable archaeological remains. Two evaluation trenches dug at the Queen Adelaide PH in 2013, approximately 100m to the south-east of the current site, did not locate any archaeological remains (EHT1734).

Shenley village is medieval in origin, although the exact location of the medieval core is still unclear. It is possible that it was located near the parish church of St Botolph to the north but the triangle of roads formed by London Road, Rectory Lane and Pound Lane framing the village green (and including this site) is also a possible location.

Shenley grew in the post-medieval period with an increase in local farmsteads and an influx of people from London. Numbers of town houses and dwellings for employees were built. Many of the houses and cottages built in the 16th–19th century are now designated Grade II Listed Buildings.





The Black Lion PH (HER 30653) was built in the mid-19th century and may have replaced an earlier public house, possibly on the same site. The earliest known record for the Black Lion dates to 1756.

Information relating to the archaeological and historical background to the site is summarised below.

### **1.3.1 Prehistoric period (Palaeolithic to Bronze Age)**

The development site lies on the marginal clay soils of the Thames basin and also some distance from the Colne Brook in the north of the parish. It is, therefore, likely that no intensive prehistoric settlement was ever established within the vicinity of modern-day Shenley. However, the absence of prehistoric remains may also be a reflection of the lack of archaeological investigation within the study area.

### **1.3.2 Iron Age/Roman (800 BC– c. AD 410)**

No Roman or earlier Iron Age remains have been identified within 500m of the development site.

The HER entry for the post-medieval farmstead at The Rookery, c. 500m to the east, mentions that a complete pot of probable Roman date was found in the pond at the north end of the farm complex. However, this evidence is largely anecdotal.

Watling Street, a major Roman routeway from London to Chester *via* St Albans, runs on a north-south alignment c. 2 miles west of Shenley. St Albans, which lies 4.5 miles to the north of Shenley, grew out of the settlement of *Verulamium*, one of the major towns of Roman Britain and remains of Roman rural villa estates have been identified in the hinterland of the town.

Despite being close to a Roman road and urban centre the available evidence suggests that there was no major focus of Iron Age or Roman settlement within the vicinity of the development site. Again, most settlement sites are recorded in the Colne Valley on the lighter chalk soils while the clay uplands most likely remained heavily wooded with limited clearance for pottery kiln sites and possible specialised grazing farms (Williamson 2010, 67).

### **1.3.3 Anglo-Saxon (c. 450–1066)**

Despite Shenley's place name originating from Old English roots, no artefacts or features dating to the Anglo-Saxon period have been identified within 500m of the development site.

It has been suggested that the name of Shenley, meaning 'clearing in the wood' was first used for Shenleybury, which lies a short distance to the north, on the more fertile chalk soil of the Colne Valley (Figure 1) (Barton 1981, 11). Shenley's mention in the Domesday survey of 1086 suggests that estates existed within the parish; the Abbey of St Albans, for example, held lands in Shenley parish and is recorded as a manorial lord in Domesday Book. However, farms and settlements are not recorded until the early medieval



period when the larger estates were split up and local farms and settlements began to be formed.

#### **1.3.4 Medieval period**

Three manors are recorded in Domesday Book; their precise locations are not known. A moated site (HER 11652) is recorded in the angle formed by Harris Lane and Mimms Lane to the east of the development site. No historical records exist for the site and its date of origin is unclear. It was first recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1872.

The geographical origin of the medieval village of Shenley (HER 2686) is unclear. It has not been pinpointed precisely in the HER records but the location of the triangular green is suggested as its possible location. Today Shenley refers to the concentration of houses along London Road between the two village ponds. It is noticeable that no houses pre-dating the 17th century are recorded in this part of Shenley.

The parish church of St Botolph stands just over 1km north of the development site in the lower lying Colne Valley. It is first recorded in 1160 but the present building dates from the 15th century. Evidence of arable cultivation in the form of ridge and furrow (HER 11490) only comes from the more fertile soil around Shenleybury to the north — land that was probably first cleared of trees in Anglo-Saxon times.

It is possible that the settlement of Shenley was first centred on the parish church. However, no obvious settlement site has yet been recorded in its vicinity. It is also likely that prior to the post-medieval period no nucleated village-type settlement existed at Shenley at all and the name referred to a loose conglomeration of manor sites, farms and hamlets, located some distance from the church with tenants living on assarted land taken from the woodland (Barton 1981, 14).

Barton still identifies the current site of Shenley with its triangular road arrangement around the village green as the most likely site for the early village as the site lends itself to house the market, granted to Adam de Stratton in 1268 (Barton 1981, 15). This is also the site suggested in the HER as a possible site for the medieval village (HER 2686).

Two small areas of registered common land survive in Harris Lane (HER 12398) and on Rectory Lane (HER 12399). These may be medieval in origin but their precise date is unclear.

It is, of course, possible that the lack of evidence for medieval Shenley itself is due to the lack of investigative work within the village.

#### **1.3.5 Post-medieval period (1500–1900)**

Most buildings and farmsteads in and around Shenley date to the post-medieval period, possibly due to the improvement of farming tools and techniques and the increasing clearance of woodland. By the 19th century, the parish was largely composed of small properties occupied by “gentlemen engaged in



professional or business pursuits in London and the population was mainly employed by them on their farms and gardens” (Page 1908).

The post-medieval built heritage of Shenley largely consists of these larger scale ‘gentlemanly’ houses and cottages for farm workers and other employees. Many of these buildings are now designated heritage assets.

The increase in population of Shenley village may also be marked by the construction of St Martin’s Church on London Road in 1841. It was built as a chapel-of-ease to serve the village in place of St Botolph’s which lay some distance up the road. When the new ecclesiastical parish of neighbouring London Colney was formed in 1909, St Martin’s became the parish church for Shenley. It is a Grade II listed building (LB164324/HER 16903).

The gradual industrialisation of the area is evidenced by the site of a smithy (HER 7046) on London Road and the site of the Colne Valley Water Works tank (HER 7047).

The site of the village pound (HER 18614), an enclosure for stray animals, was located at the junction of Rectory Lane and Pound Lane. It was demolished by 1898. The 19th century Black Lion public house (HER 30653) stands at the corner of London Road and Rectory Lane; it is discussed in more detail below (Section 0).

#### **1.4 Project Objectives**

The principal objective of the building recording was to record the historic barn (prior to demolition and development) through production of a descriptive and interpretive report. The barn will be demolished and so the report and archive produced by these works will be the record of the building. The report was to examine the evidence for the date, development and use of the building to further understand the structure and place it in its historical background.

It is not anticipated that there will be any substantive changes to the historic fabric of the former public house.

The objective of the archaeological evaluation was to establish whether or not archaeological remains were present on the site and, if so, to assess their significance. If required, any mitigation works will be specified by the HET.

The broader objectives of the works were to add to the knowledge and understanding of the archaeology of this part of Hertfordshire, in particular, anything relating to the medieval development of Shenley and to produce a report and archive that fully describes the archaeological works.

The relevant archaeological research frameworks and agenda for the region are provided by *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties* (Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Hertfordshire and Essex) (Glazebrook 1997, Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).



Although they do not focus on this building type, the revised regional objectives highlight the importance of assessment of the built environment to allow the formulation of research and management priorities. Some work has been done on thematic surveys, particularly in Essex, but more are considered necessary (Medlycott 2011). In particular, the post-1840s building stock is noted as requiring recording. This work will, therefore, assist with the future development of more focused research agenda and provide more data for areas highlighted as requiring further record.

Specific research objectives were to be formulated if the remains uncovered during the trial trenching warranted a further stage of archaeological work. These research objectives were to be determined by the nature of the archaeological remains present at the site and were to be linked to the published research frameworks for the region (Medlycott 2011).



## 2. METHODOLOGY

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below. A full methodology is provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2016).

### 2.1 Standards

The standards and requirements set out in the following documents were adhered to throughout the project:

Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2nd edn, 2001).
ALGAO (East)	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> . EAA Occasional Paper No. 14 (2003)
ARCHES	<i>The Standard and Guide to Best Practice in Archaeological Archives in Europe</i> accessed at <a href="http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/arches/Wiki.jsp?page=Main">http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/arches/Wiki.jsp?page=Main</a>
CIfA	<i>Charter and by-law; Code of conduct</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for an archaeological field evaluation</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures</i> (2014)
EAA	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> , (Gurney 2003)
Historic England (formerly English Heritage)	<i>Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) Project Managers' Guide</i> (2015)
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation</i> (2nd edn, 2015)

### 2.2 Trial Trenching

One 1.8m wide by 18m long trial trench was located within the footprint of the proposed buildings (Figure 2). The area of the trench measured 32.4m<sup>2</sup>; c. 18% of the footprint of the proposed new-build. The contingency allowance for an extra 9m<sup>2</sup> of trenching, as agreed with the HET, was not utilised.

The trench was opened using a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged bucket, under close archaeological supervision. All excavation and recording was carried out by experienced Albion Archaeology staff. The trench was signed off by the HET prior to backfilling. All artefacts were cleaned and recorded by Albion Archaeology's finds specialist (see Section 3).



### **2.3 Building Recording**

Building recording was carried out on 3rd August 2016 by a professional photographer specialising in historic building recording, using both a digital camera and a medium-format camera with black and white print film. The exterior and interior of the building were photographed, including any fixtures and fittings. The ground plan and elevations of the building (Figure 5) were recorded using tape measures and a Leica laser distometer.

### **2.4 Location of the Archive**

All records and materials produced will be archived to the standards outlined in ARCHES standards and any guidelines from the collecting museum. The project archive will be deposited with Borehamwood Museum. Subject to the museum's agreement, the modern artefacts recovered during the trial trenching will not be retained.

Details of the project and its findings will also be submitted to the OASIS database in accordance with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and the Archaeology Data Service (OASIS reference no: albionar1-248649).



### 3. TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS

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#### 3.1 *Introduction*

The location of the trial trench is shown on Figure 2. A segment of ditch, a land drain, a possible structural foundation and a posthole were identified. All the finds recovered were 19th-century or later in date.

#### 3.2 *Overburden, Made-Ground and Geological Deposits*

The trench was located within the largely overgrown grounds of the former restaurant. The north-western end of the trench contained part of a block-paved access track that ran alongside to the former stables. The track linked the access off Rectory Lane to an area of hard-standing to the south-west of the trench.

The topsoil (101) was consistently 0.3m thick and consisted of dark brown-grey sandy silt with frequent small stones and common root disturbance. It contained some modern refuse, but was consistent with a garden soil.

The subsoil (102) was up to 0.25m thick. It is likely to have derived from *in situ* weathering of the underlying natural geology. Whilst the depth may indicate former cultivation of the soils it is also likely to have been a product of the frequent rooting noted within this deposit. The deposit contained the base and stem of a modern wine glass.

The trench was dug down to the natural sands and gravels (103) approximately 0.55m below the existing ground level. A compacted make-up layer (104), less than 0.10m thick, occupied the north-westernmost 2.5m of the trench; it is likely to have acted as a 'sub-base' for the block-paved track adjacent to the former stables.

#### 3.3 *Modern Archaeological Features*

An east-west ditch [105] was identified 5m from the north-western end of the trench (Figure 3). It was 1.5m wide by 0.4m deep and appeared to have had a 6-inch ceramic land drain inserted in its base. Its slightly irregular profile suggests that it may have originated as a slightly shallower ditch that was deepened to accommodate the pipe.

All finds recovered from the highly mixed ditch fill (106) were of 19th-century or later date. Pottery comprises two sherds of sponge-decorated earthenware, single sherds of creamware, modern plant pot, and the base / lower body of a brown stoneware ginger beer bottle, the latter stamped 'NO DEPOSIT CHARGED'. Two clay tobacco pipe stem fragments (7g), one with moulded / ribbed decoration and an incomplete fine-walled bowl (3g) were also collected. The plain bowl has a milled rim and thin pedestal spur with a tiny floral(?) stamp.

Ditch [105] was intersected, to the north-west, by a narrower, vertically sided land-drain cut [107]. This was at right angles to the ditch and contained a



smaller 3-inch ceramic land drain that was ‘plumbed’ into the larger E-W drain. No finds were recovered from its backfill but it is likely to be contemporary with ditch [105].

A modern wall or path foundation [113] was identified towards the centre of the trench (Figure 4). It was approximately 0.85m wide and aligned NE-SW. The foundation was composed of compacted stones with patches of fragmented bricks, ceramic building material and patches of mortar. Two sherds of transfer-printed earthenware (14g), a piece of modern roofing slate (9g), two clay tobacco pipe stem fragments (3g) and the rim from a sizeable glazed red earthenware jar (102g) were also embedded within the matrix of the foundation, along with the head of a broken spade.

The finds and irregular construction of the foundation indicate that it is most likely to have supported a modern garden feature rather than a substantial building of any significance.

An elongated posthole [109] was identified at the south-eastern end of the trench. It was less than 0.35m wide but extended beyond the south-western edge of the trench. It had vertical sides and a flat base. The lower fills (110 and 111) were very sandy in composition and were devoid of finds. In contrast, the uppermost fill (112) was extremely humic and is likely to have derived from re-deposited topsoil.

A sherd of 19th-century white earthenware (8g) and a piece of modern roofing slate derived from (112). The feature also contained a fragment of partially degraded wood that extended from top to the bottom — probably a splinter from an upright post. The degree of preservation of the organic material within posthole [109] would suggest that it was a relatively recent garden feature.





## 4. BUILDING RECORDING RESULTS

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### 4.1 Introduction

The Black Lion PH sits in a prominent position on the main London Road, in a triangular plot formed by a fork in the road with Rectory Lane. Map evidence shows that it was built between 1840 and 1872 and may have replaced an earlier public house, possibly on the same site (HER 30653). There are historical records of a predecessor to the pub in 1756 and the Drury and Andrews map of 1766 shows a building at the junction of London Road and Rectory Lane. It is one of a number of public houses in Shenley, including The White Horse and The Cock that were established as coaching inns along the London Road in order to serve the needs of horse-drawn travellers.

The pub building is locally listed as it has a strong design and retains some of its original features and because it stands in a prominent corner position and forms part of a group with its timber-framed and weatherboarded former stable at the rear.

The main building is a two-storey structure of yellow brick with red brick dressings, a hipped slate roof and two large decorated chimney stacks. The former stables at the back of the pub are of dark weatherboard with hipped clay tiled roofs. This building is likely to be contemporary with the house. At its eastern end is a lower flat-roofed extension, also made of weatherboard.

### 4.2 Chronology

The Black Lion PH and its stable block are first shown on the Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1872 (Figure 6). The map shows the stable block as an elongated building with a south-eastern extension. The extension has disappeared by the date of the 1898 OS map and this and later maps show the structure as a simple rectangular block.

This structure is represented by the current weather-boarded building with its clay tile gable roof. At some point in the 20th century a flat-roofed timber extension was added at the north-eastern end of the building. The date of this is unclear.

The main form and structural elements of the buildings date to the mid-19th century but the roof has been replaced in recent times and many alterations were carried out throughout the 20th and 21st centuries. None of the original fixtures and fittings of the stable block survive.

### 4.3 Form and Function

The original function of the building was for the stabling of horses, which arrived at the pub drawing carriages and coaches along the busy coaching route. The building is a simple timber-framed construction with weather-boarded walls and a clay tile gable roof (Figures 5, 7 and 8). It stands on a c. 0.50m high brick plinth. The original floor would have been made up of stone cobbles (see below).



Two opposing door openings in the northern end of the building and a door in the south-western gable end may be original, but the door panels are modern replacements. The southern side of the building, and its south-western end, have rectangular windows with white painted wooden frames and a wooden sill, which most likely are later insertions. All windows were boarded up at the time of the survey. The door in the south-western end had a modern compressed wood panel, but may have been a replacement of an original door opening.

Apart from the main frame of the building, hardly any fixtures and fittings or structural elements giving any evidence about its function as a stable block survive. There are a few exceptions, such as in the northern part of the building where a section of the original cobbled flooring survives. This clearly shows a former subdivision of the building, most likely into horse boxes, using timber beams. The slots for those beams are still visible in the cobbled floor (Figures 5 and 9). A drainage gully in the floor may also be original.

The door into this part of the building is a two-panel stable door but it is unlikely that it is original. Above this door in the roof is a bay with a wood-panelled door and a gabled roof. This could indicate that the top floor of the building in this end was used as a hay loft (Figure 8).

In the central part of the southern end, where the original walls have not been covered with modern timber panels, the walls are reinforced with a thicker layer of wood reaching 1.14m in height from the floor (Figures 5 and 10). It is possible that this was a protection for the walls from horses' hooves and a further remainder of the use of the building as a stable.

The building was originally divided into two parts, as the central dividing wall is original and the reinforced lower section extends along it. Both parts of the building were converted and adapted for pub use sometime during the 20th century.

The southern end of the building was converted into a pool or snooker room with the insertion of a concrete floor and a lowered ceiling imitating timber framing. An extra wall, separating the pool room from another seating area was also inserted (Figure 11). In this room the roof is its original height but the new roof insulation is clearly visible. Fixtures within those rooms date from its use as a pool room and comprise shelves for drinks, a pool cue rack and bar stools (Figures 12 and 13).

Inserted faux timber-panelled walls and a lowered ceiling in the northern end of the building suggest that it was also converted into a function or break-out room for the pub. The flat-roofed extension at the eastern end of the building has a double-size garage-type opening (now boarded up) and an internal concrete ramp, suggesting access for a car (Figure 14).



## 5. INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSIONS

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The evaluation trench produced no evidence for the presence of significant archaeological features within the footprint of the proposed new dwellings. There was no evidence for occupation, industrial or agricultural activity other than that likely to be contemporary with the construction of the Black Lion PH in the mid-19th century.

The archaeological remains identified within the evaluation trench are of negligible significance. Whilst the single ditch [105] may have earlier origins, these are not reflected in the recovered finds and the feature is unlikely to yield any further significant information on activity within the development area. The feature has been further compromised by the insertion of the modern land drain.

The wall or path foundation and post hole are likely to be of modern origin and to have been associated with ephemeral garden structures. As such they have no potential to add to any of the local or regional archaeological research objectives.

The former stable building of the Black Lion PH dates to the mid-19th century but was extensively repaired and converted for pub use throughout its life. Apart from the main frame and plan form of the building very few of its original features and fittings survive. It is, therefore, of low significance and the building recording represents an adequate preservation by record of the structure prior to its demolition.



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## 7. APPENDIX 1: BUILDING RECORDING PHOTO REGISTER

### 7.1 *Digital Photographs (Film 2)*

Thumbnail images of the digital photographs are included at the end of this report after the figures.

PH = public house, LH = left hand, RH = right hand; cardinal points are also abbreviated.

Image	Description
1	NW wall, NE end, showing northern extension, roof bay and stable door in LH.
2	NW wall, NE end, showing roof bay and stable door in LH.
3	NW wall.
4	NW wall.
5	Looking NE along NW wall.
6	NW wall and NE flat-roofed extension, stable door and roof bay.
7	NW wall and NE flat-roofed extension, stable door and roof bay.
8	Looking SW along NW wall towards Black Lion PH.
9	NW wall, NE end, flat roofed extension, gable end, looking SW.
10	NW wall, NE end, flat roofed extension.
11	NE end of building, flat-roofed extension, blocked up garage (?) doors, roof gable of main building.
12	SE wall, NE end of building, flat-roofed extension.
13	SE wall, NE end of building, flat-roofed extension.
14	SE wall, NE end of building, flat-roofed extension.
15	SE wall, NE end of building, door hidden behind ivy.
16	SE wall, NE end of building.
17	SE wall.
18	SE wall.
19	SE wall.
20	SE wall, SW end of building.
21	SW end of building, gable end view.
22	Black Lion PH, rear SE view.
23	Black Lion PH and former stable block, looking N.
24	Black Lion PH and former stable block, looking N.
25	Black Lion PH and former stable block, looking N.
26	Black Lion PH, SW corner.
27	Black Lion PH and former stable block, looking NW.
28	Black Lion PH and former stable block, looking NW.
29	Southern room interior, looking NE, inserted ceiling and partition wall.
30	Southern room interior, looking ESE.
31	Southern room interior, looking WSW.
32	Southern room interior, looking WSW.
33	Southern room interior, looking SW.
34	South-central room, looking NNE, drinks shelves on wall.



Image	Description
35	South-central room, looking ESE.
36	South-central room, looking NE.
37	South-central room, looking SSW, inserted wall.
38	South-central room, looking SW, showing roof construction.
39	South-central room, looking SW, showing roof construction.
40	Northern room interior, looking SW.
41	Northern room interior, looking WSW.
42	Northern room interior, looking WNW.
43	Northern room interior, looking NE.
44	Northern room interior, looking NE, detail cobbled floor and 'ghosts' of internal timber partitions.
45	Northern room interior, looking NE, detail cobbled floor and 'ghosts' of internal timber partitions.
46	Northern room interior, looking NE, detail cobbled floor and 'ghosts' of internal timber partitions.
47	Northern room interior, looking NE, detail cobbled floor and 'ghosts' of internal timber partitions.
48	Southern 'pool room' detail of fixtures and fittings.
49	Southern 'pool room' detail of fixtures and fittings.
50	Southern 'pool room' detail of fixtures and fittings.
51	Southern 'pool room' detail of fixtures and fittings.
52	Southern 'pool room' detail of fixtures and fittings.
53	South-central room, detail of reinforced wall panelling (horse boxes?).
54	South-central room, detail of reinforced wall panelling (horse boxes?).
55	South-central room, detail of fixtures and fittings.
56	South-central room, detail of fixtures and fittings.
57	South-central room, detail of fixtures and fittings.
58	South-central room, detail of fixtures and fittings.
59	South-central room, detail of fixtures and fittings.
60	South-central room, detail of fixtures and fittings.
61	Southern room, concrete floor and brick plinth.
62	Southern room, concrete floor and brick plinth.

## 7.2 Black and white print photographs (Film 3)

PH = public house, LH = left hand, RH = right hand; cardinal points are also abbreviated. Gaps in numbering are due to print film idiosyncrasies.

Image	Description
1	Former stable block exterior, SE wall NE end.
2	Former stable block exterior, SE wall.
3	--
4	Former stable block exterior, SW wall, SW end.
5	Former stable block exterior, SW gable end.
6	Black Lion PH and adjacent former stable block, looking N.
7	Former stable block exterior, NW wall NE end.



<b>Image</b>	<b>Description</b>
8	--
9	Former stable block and adjacent Black Lion PH, looking SW.
10	Former stable block exterior, NW wall.
11	Former stable block interior, northern room, looking SW.
12	Former stable block interior, northern room, original cobble floor.
13	Former stable block interior, southern room, wall with drinks shelf.
14	--
15	Former stable block interior, south-central room.
16	Former stable block interior, south-central room.
17	Former stable block interior, southern room, looking SSW.





## 8. APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT DATA

Trench: 1

Max Dimensions: Length: 18.00 m. Width: 1.80 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.3 m. Max: 0.45 m.

Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: 51881857200814

OS Grid Ref.: 51883106200801

Reason: To test the footprint of the new build for the presence or absence of archaeological features or deposits.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
101	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt occasional small-large CBM, occasional flecks charcoal, frequent small stones 0.3m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Subsoil	Compact mid brown grey silty sand occasional small-medium CBM, occasional flecks charcoal, frequent small-medium stones Heavily root disturbed. Less than 0.25m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Natural	Compact mid brown orange sandy gravel frequent small-medium stones Includes patches of pure clay.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
104	Make up layer	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium CBM, occasional flecks charcoal, frequent small-medium stones Less than 0.1m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
105	Ditch	Linear E-W sides: irregular dimensions: max breadth 1.5m, min depth 0.4m, min length 2.5m Not bottomed due to presence of a 6" ceramic land drain at base.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
106	Backfill	Compact mid brown grey silty clay occasional small-medium CBM, frequent flecks charcoal, frequent small-medium stones Very mixed fill, containing patches of subsoil mixed with redeposited natural. Greater than 0.45m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	Land drain	Linear N-S sides: near vertical dimensions: max breadth 0.45m, min depth 0.4m, min length 2.m Not bottomed due to presence of a 3" ceramic pipe.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
108	Backfill	Compact mid grey brown silty clay occasional flecks charcoal, frequent small-medium stones Greater than 0.4m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
109	Posthole	Oval E-W sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.35m, min length 0.55m	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
110	Primary fill	Loose mid grey brown sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones C. 0.15m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
111	Backfill	Loose mid brown yellow silty sand With brownish grey patches. c. 0.1m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
112	Buried topsoil	Friable dark brown grey sandy silt Very humic redeposited topsoil, c. 0.1m thick.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
113	Wall	Hard mid yellow brown sandy silt occasional medium-large CBM, occasional flecks mortar, frequent small stones, occasional large stones NE-SW aligned linear band of compacted stones containing modern refuse including modern china, brick fragments and a spade. 0.85m wide by more than 1.8m long. Greater than 0.2m deep.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## 9. APPENDIX 3: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

### OASIS ID: albionar1-248649

#### Project details

Project name	The Black Lion PH, 142 London Road, Shenley
Short description of the project	Building recording of former stable block prior to demolition and excavation of one trial trench. Former stable block was converted into pool and function room for PH and hardly any original fixtures and fittings survived. Exceptions were evidence for one beam slot for a former horse box in stone cobble floor and reinforced lower wall panels. The trial trench revealed evidence of modern garden features and a single undated ditch.
Project dates	Start: 03-08-2016 End: 05-08-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BL2538 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	STABLE Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BOTTLE Modern
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE HERTSMERE SHENLEY The Black Lion, 142 London Road, Shenley
Study area	0.23 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 1882 0082 51.69306799009 -0.280711820851 51 41 35 N 000 16 50 W Point

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Albion Archaeology
Project brief originator	No Brief
Project design originator	Albion Archaeology
Project director/manager	Hester Cooper-Reade
Project supervisor	Christiane Meckseper, Ben Barker
Type of	Developer



sponsor/funding  
body

Name of  
sponsor/funding  
body                      Oakbridge Bespoke Homes Ltd

### Project archives

Physical Archive  
recipient                      Borehamwood Museum

Physical Contents                      "Ceramics","Glass"

Physical Archive  
notes                      Finds to be dispersed subject to museum's agreement.

Digital Archive  
recipient                      Albion Archaeology

Digital Contents                      "Survey", "Images vector","Text"

Paper Archive  
recipient                      Borehamwood Museum

Paper Media  
available                      "Plan","Report","Section","Survey ","Unpublished Text","Context  
sheet","Drawing","Photograph"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type                      Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title                      The Black Lion, Shenley, Hertfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation,  
Monitoring, Building Recording, Publication and Archiving

Author(s)/Editor(s)                      Barker, B; Meckseper, C

Other bibliographic  
details                      Report no 2016/160

Date                      2016

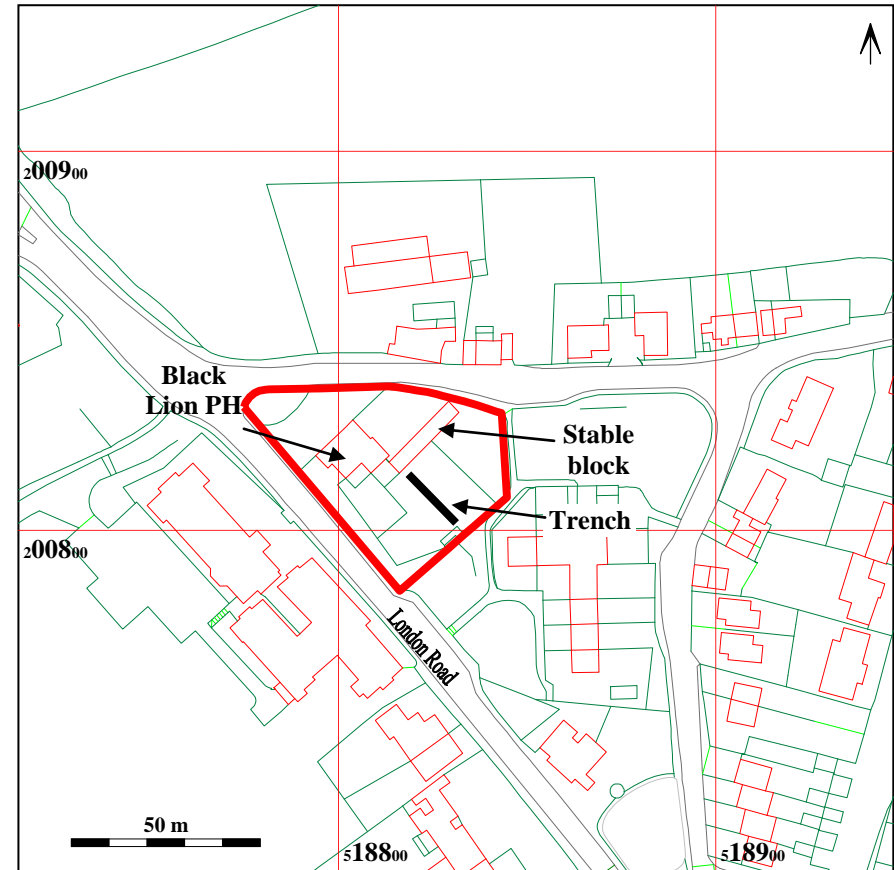
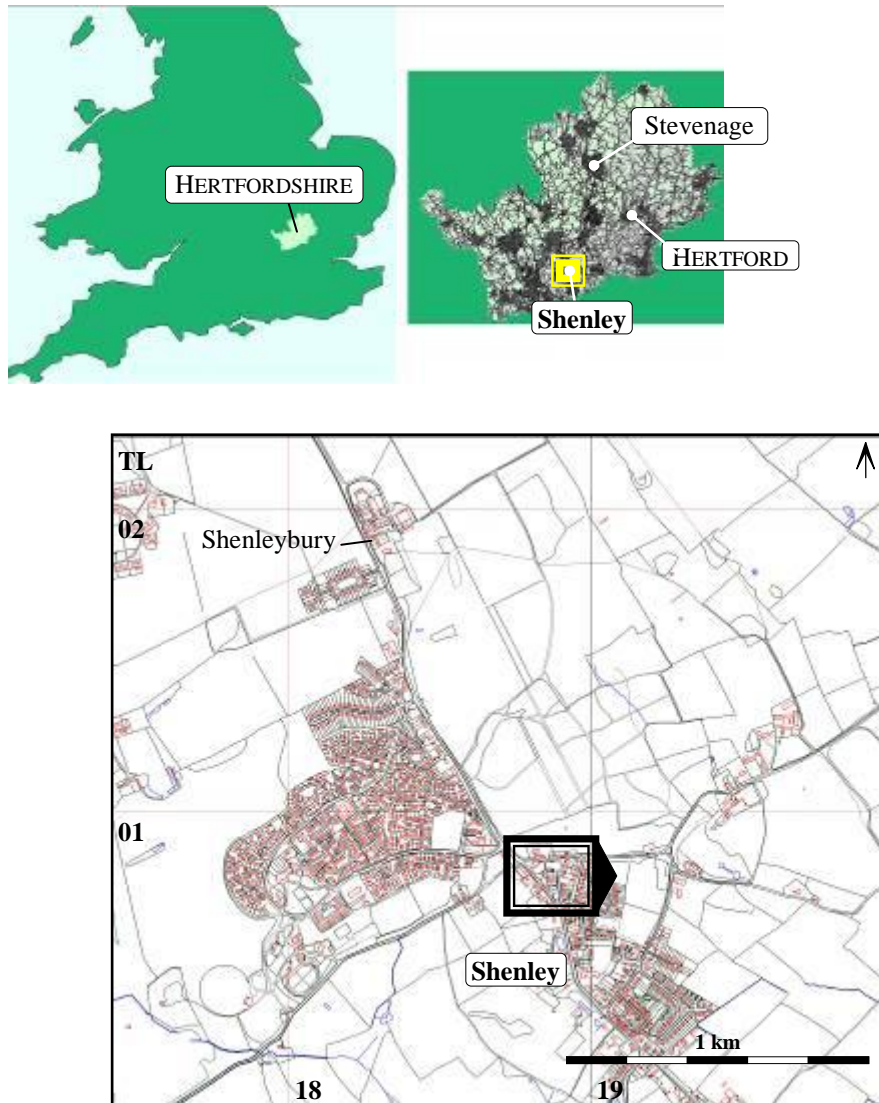
Issuer or publisher                      Albion Archaeology

Place of issue or  
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Description                      Ring bound grey report

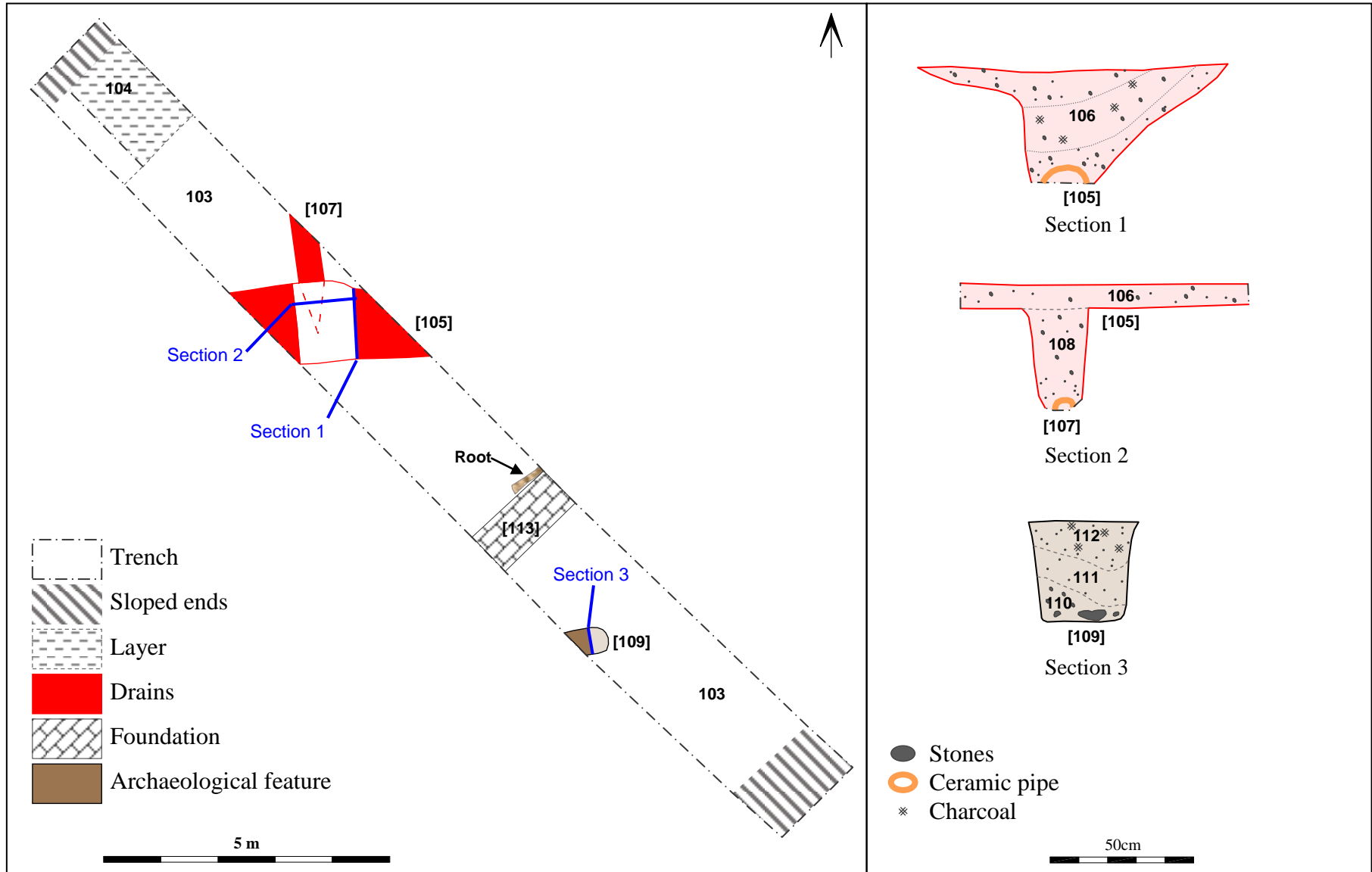
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Entered on                      19 August 2016



**Figure 1: Site location plan**

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**Figure 2:** All-features plan and sections





**Figure 3:** Ditch [105] and land drain [107]



**Figure 4:** Wall [113]

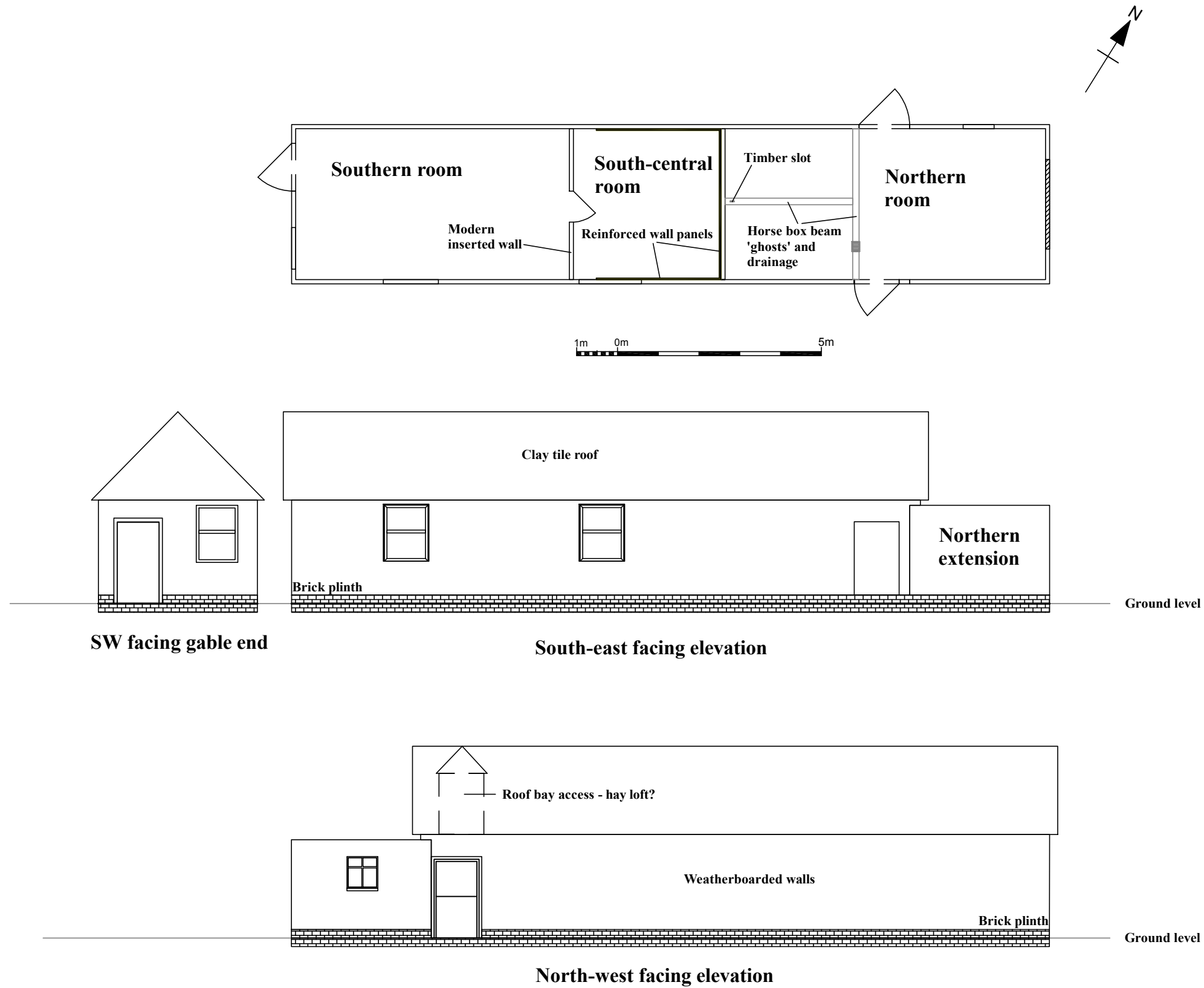
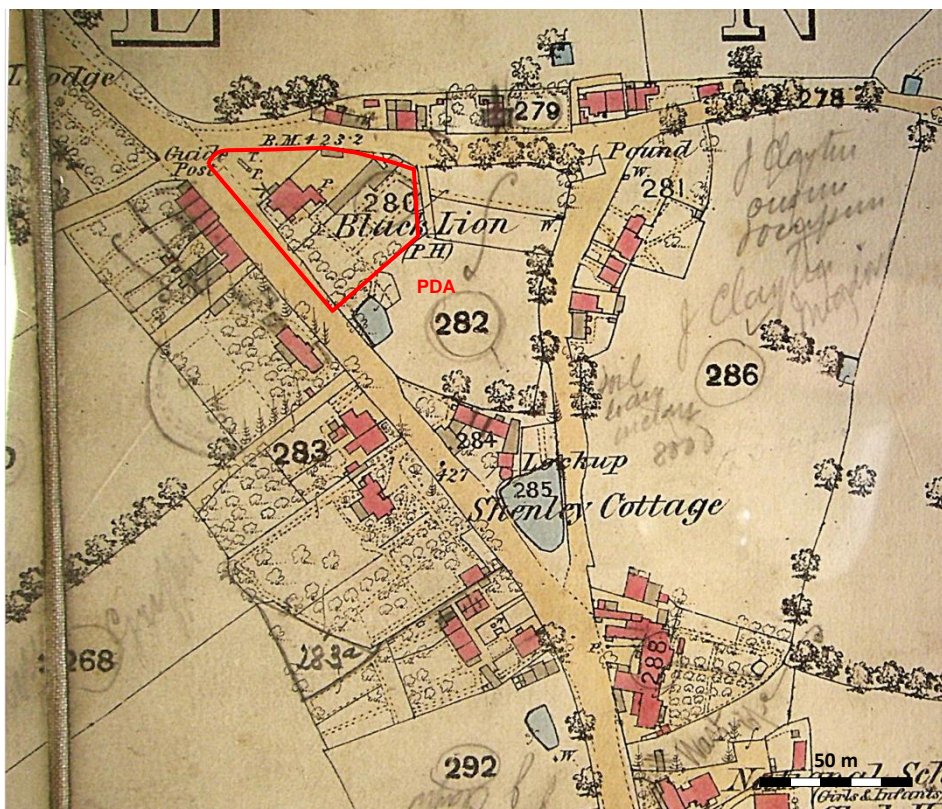


Figure 5: Former stable block, sketch plan and elevations





**Figure 6:** 1st edition OS 25-inch map 1872



**Figure 7:** The Black Lion public house and former stable block, looking NNW





**Figure 8:** Former stable block NE side with flat-roofed NE extension, stable door and roof bay access



**Figure 9:** Original cobbled floor showing outline of timber partition and slot for upright timber for possible horse boxes

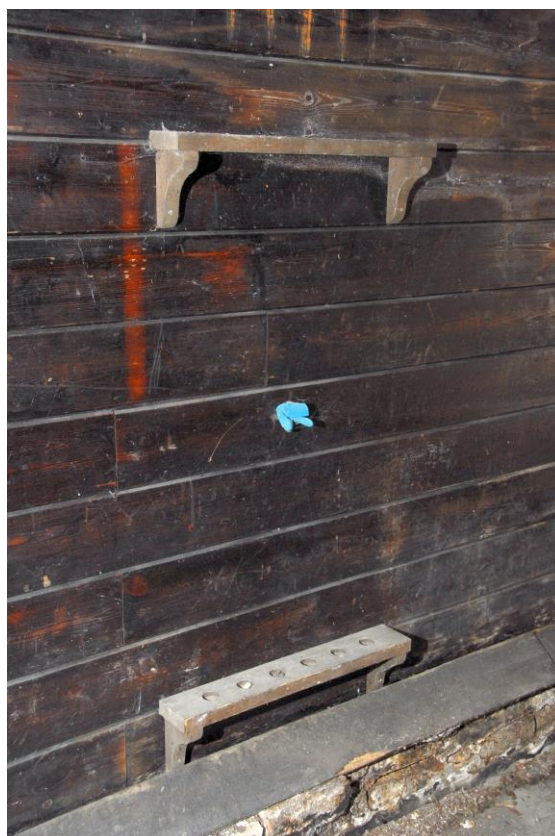




**Figure 10:** Reinforced lower wall panels (former horse boxes?) in south-central room



**Figure 11:** Southern room interior, looking NE: inserted concrete floor, ceiling and partition wall



**Figure 12:** Southern room interior, pool cue rack

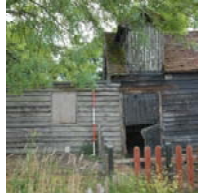


**Figure 13:** South-central room interior, bar stools hanging from ceiling





**Figure 14:** Northern room interior, looking NE



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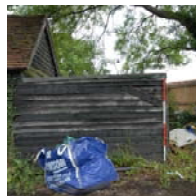
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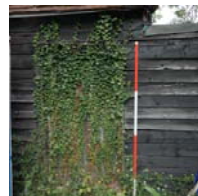
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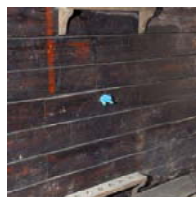
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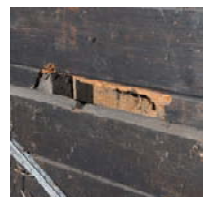
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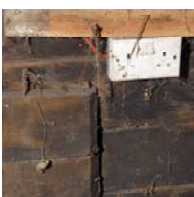
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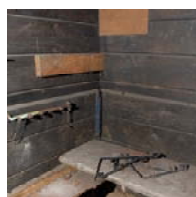
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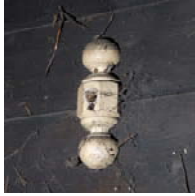
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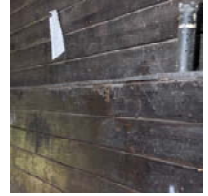
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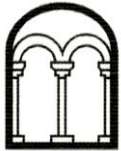
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**Albion**  
archaeology



Albion Archaeology  
St Mary's Church  
St Mary's Street  
Bedford  
MK42 0AS

**Telephone** 01234 294000  
**Email** [office@albion-arch.com](mailto:office@albion-arch.com)  
[www.albion-arch.com](http://www.albion-arch.com)

