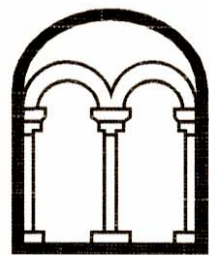


**7 PARKVIEW LANE
TEBWORTH
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION,
INVESTIGATION, RECORDING, ANALYSIS
AND PUBLICATION**

Albion
archaeology



**7 PARKVIEW LANE
TEBWORTH
BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION,
INVESTIGATION, RECORDING, ANALYSIS
AND PUBLICATION**

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Compiled by	Approved by
Mark Phillips	Drew Shotliff

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Mr Bernie Muspratt



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Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete an assessment as possible, within the terms of the specification. All statements and opinions in this document 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.

The project was commissioned by Mr Bernie Muspratt and was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Hannah Firth (Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist).

The fieldwork and reporting was undertaken by Mark Phillips (Project Officer). The illustrations are by Joan Lightning (CAD Technician). All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

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Key Terms

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

HER	Historic Environment Record
CBCA	Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



Non-Technical Summary

Planning permission (CB/11/01481/FULL) was granted for the construction of replacement stables and store on land opposite 7 Parkview Lane, Tebworth, Bedfordshire. The development lies within an archeologically sensitive area comprising medieval settlement earthworks (HER 760). A condition requiring a programme of archaeological investigation was attached to the planning permission.

An area measuring 6.5m by 4.5m and 300mm deep was subject to archaeological monitoring during groundworks undertaken on 2nd October 2014 to extend an existing floor slab.

No archaeological features were identified in the trench and no artefacts were recovered during monitoring of the ground reduction. The soil profile consisted of a 250mm-deep layer of dark topsoil above dark yellow-brown clayey silt subsoil. A small part of lighter yellow-brown clay in the south-east part of the trench is likely to represent the uppermost part of the underlying glacial till.

No evidence for settlement in the form of artefacts, archaeological features or earthworks was found. The results, however, do not disprove the potential for archaeological deposits in the area due to the limited extent and depth of the groundworks.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Planning Background*

Planning permission (CB/11/01481/FULL) was granted for the construction of replacement stables and store on land opposite 7 Parkview Lane, Tebworth, Bedfordshire.

The site lies within the area of the southern expansion of medieval Tebworth, as defined in the Historic Environment Record (HER), and Condition 2 on the planning consent required the implementation of a programme of archaeological investigation as a consequence of the development. This is in line with national planning guidelines in the form of Policy 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF)¹.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by the developer to produce a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and to carry out the archaeological works. The WSI (Albion Archaeology 2014) was prepared after consultation with the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist (CBCA) who confirmed the requirement for a programme of archaeological observation of the groundworks, investigation and recording of any archaeological remains and an appropriate programme of post-fieldwork analysis, reporting and archiving.

This report presents the results of the archaeological monitoring works.

1.2 *Site Location, Topography and Geology*

Tebworth is a small village in the parish of Chalgrave, north-west of Toddington. The site is located south-east of the village core (Figure 1) in a field on the south side of Parkview Lane, opposite No. 7 (Figure 1). It lies at a height of c. 133m OD and is centred on grid reference SP 9923 2664.

Chalgrave parish is dominated by an east-west ridge of boulder clay which rises over 137 metres OD, some 30m above the surrounding land. Tebworth is on the NW-facing slope of the ridge. Its non-chalky soils are imperfectly or poorly drained and numerous springs emerge from its slopes, giving rise to several streams which form a roughly radial drainage pattern (Coleman, 1986).

The development plans comprise demolition of existing outbuildings on the site and their replacement with stables. The stables are to be constructed on an existing concrete floor slab with an extension at the south-east end of the slab. The archaeological works comprised monitoring of the groundworks for the extension of the floor slab.

1.3 *Archaeological Background*

There is little evidence for the pre-Saxon history of Chalgrave, although the western boundary of the parish is formed by Watling Street and within the parish

¹ National Planning Policy Framework, published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (2012). Available at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/nppf>.



as a whole occasional finds of Romano-British date are recorded on the HER (e.g., HER 3293, 20508, 20565).

Chalgrave is known from a charter of AD 926 in which King Athelstan granted the estate to Ealdred. The charter mentions land called *Cealhgraefan* and *Teobbanhrythe* (Chalgrave and Tebworth) and although this does not necessarily mean that settlements were established in the current locations of these places, the place name Tebworth does mean Toebba's farm or enclosure (Mawer and Stenton 1926). Saxon features identified as a result of research by F.G. Gurney include the Theed Way and Dyke, all located towards the south-east boundary of the parish some way from the present-day location of Tebworth.

The early medieval focus of the Manor of Chalgrave was in the north-east of the parish where earthworks survived until the 1970s. By the 13th century the main settlements in Chalgrave parish were on the boulder clay ridge at Tebworth and Wingfield. Both areas had long established common field systems of agriculture, which separated the parish into two townships distinct from the large block of manorial demesne closes to the east (Coleman 1986). Tebworth's lands lay chiefly to the west and north of that village. Overall the landscape was open and dominated by agricultural land; the ridge and furrow was almost always located down the slopes, no doubt to aid drainage (Coleman 1986).

The medieval village of Tebworth and its crofts were on the north-facing slope near to the small green formed by a wide junction of three roads (HER16876). A chapel stood on the north-west part of this green from at least the later 13th century (HER 11797). Elsewhere in Tebworth traces of other features of probably medieval origin survive. On the south-east side of the village, deserted settlement earthworks have been identified in four closes, including Poulton's Close, the location of the current development (HER 760). An aerial photograph of these earthworks taken in 1974 and reproduced in the parish survey clearly shows that the development is located within earthworks representing the position of former tofts and crofts (house platform and close) (Coleman 1986). The relationship of these closes with the surrounding ridge and furrow shows that they represent part of Tebworth's expansion over former arable land. Other earthworks have been identified to the west of Wingfield Road and on the north-west side of the village.

The Enclosure Act for Chalgrave was passed in 1797. As a result the common arable fields and meadows were divided by straight boundaries and the plots re-located. New isolated farmsteads were created, a number of straight new roads were built and several new buildings were erected for residential and community purposes. These included a Methodist chapel in Toddington Road, built in 1842 (HER 6774). The closes on which the current development sits were, however, largely unaffected by Enclosure.

Approximately 40m to the north of the development area, a complex of buildings around a courtyard (demolished by 1887) is shown on early maps (HER 11973). None of the structures associated with this building extended into the development area.



During the 19th century the main industries associated with Tebworth were straw plaiting, brick making and timber production. Associated with the latter was a steam-driven sawmill (HER 11973 and 11970), located immediately to the south of the current development. The sawmill office (HER 5644) was located in the building opposite the sawmill on the corner of Parkview Lane. This building is the Shoulder of Mutton Cottage, formerly a public house. The sawmill closed in the early 20th century and the site was a timber yard until the recent past. The area has now been developed for housing. It is unlikely that the sawmill extended into the current development area.

1.4 Project Objectives

The full project objectives are detailed in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2014).

The general objectives of the investigation were to determine:

- the date, nature and extent of any activity or occupation within the development area;
- the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscapes;
- whether archaeological evidence for the known earthworks in the locality survived within the development area.

And, if suitable features existed to:

- recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

In the WSI a number of potential research objectives derived from the local (Oake et al. 2007) and regional research agendas (Medlycott 2011) were identified. However, the results of the investigation are largely negative and have no potential for further analysis or to contribute to the identified research objectives. The limited results of the investigation are presented in full below.

1.5 Methodology

The methodology for the archaeological works is set out in full in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2014). The site was attended on 2nd October 2014 during machine excavation for the extension of the foundation slab at the south end of the planned building. Groundworks were carried out with a tracked mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless bucket and operated under archaeological supervision. The trench measured 6.5m by 4.5m and was 300–350mm deep.



2. RESULTS

2.1 Description

The results of the archaeological observation works are illustrated in Figures 2–4.

The deposits observed in the trench consisted of:

- Topsoil: dark grey, clayey silt with occasional small stones, fragments of brick and tile, charcoal and some modern debris, e.g. bottle glass. 250mm thick, under grass.
- Subsoil: dark yellow-brown, clayey silt with moderate small stones.
- Geological strata. Some patches of lighter yellow-brown clay exposed towards the south-east edge of the trench may be the uppermost part of the underlying glacial till.

Apart from modern debris in the topsoil, which was not collected, no artefacts were noted during the monitoring of machine excavation or during checking of the base of the trench and the spoil heaps.

2.2 Discussion

The development area is located in the north-west corner of the field. Topographically this forms a raised plateau with lower ground in the rest of the field to the east and south-east. The excavated trench lies at the south-east edge of the plateau where the ground begins to slope downwards slightly. Although the development area lies within known settlement earthworks (HER 760), the clearest of the earthworks are a short distance down-slope, to the east and south-east (Figure 4).

No evidence for settlement in the form of artefacts, archaeological features or earthworks was found. The results, however, do not disprove the potential for archaeological deposits to survive in the vicinity, as the extent and depth of groundworks were limited — not fully extending down to the depth of the undisturbed geological strata.

The impact of the development on any possible surviving archaeological deposits will be low as the construction utilises an existing floor slab for a large part of the building and the trench for the floor slab extension was too shallow to fully expose the underlying geological deposits.

2.3 Archive

The project archive will be deposited with Luton Museum (accession no.: LUTNM: 2014/16). This report will be uploaded onto the Archaeology Data Service's OASIS website (OASIS ID no. albionar1-181158).



3. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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4. FIGURES

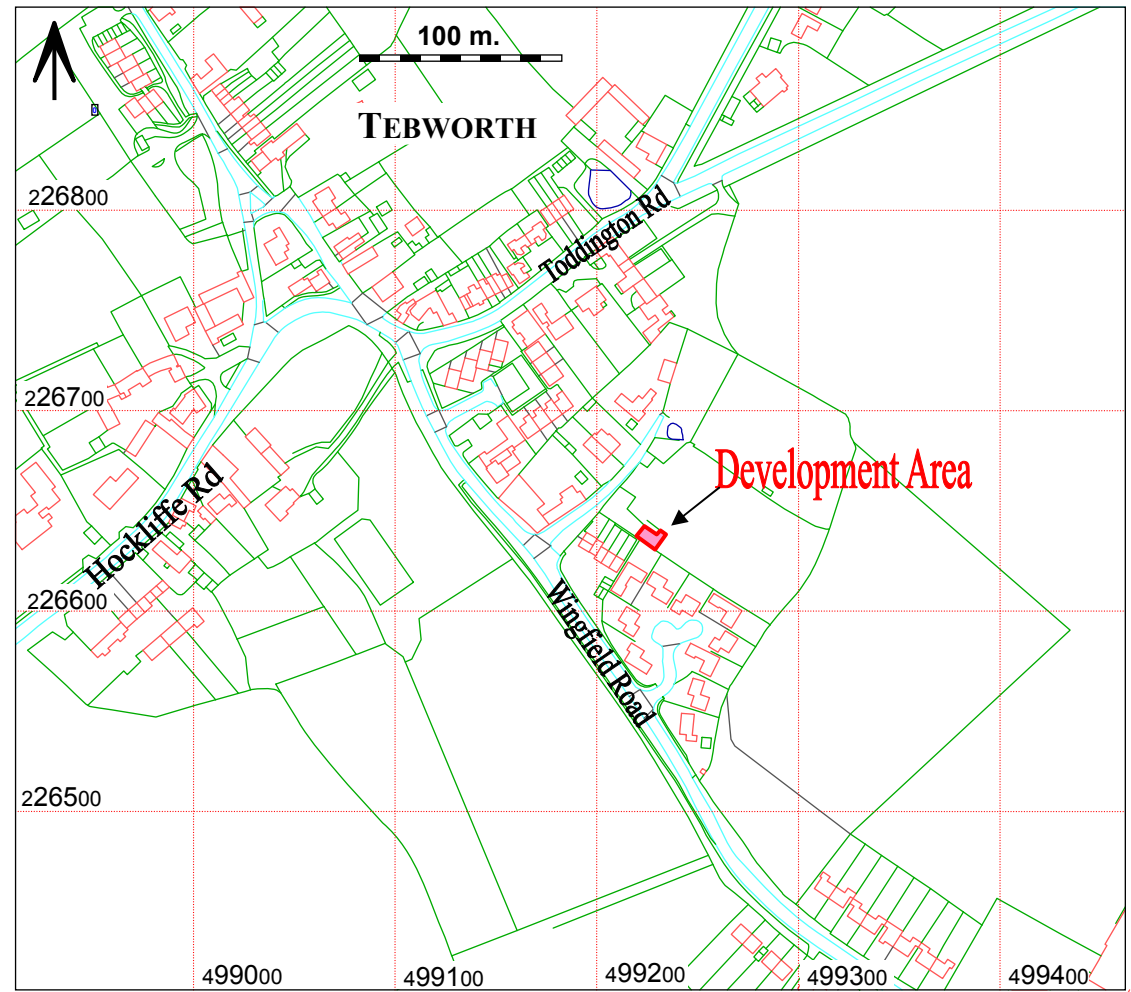
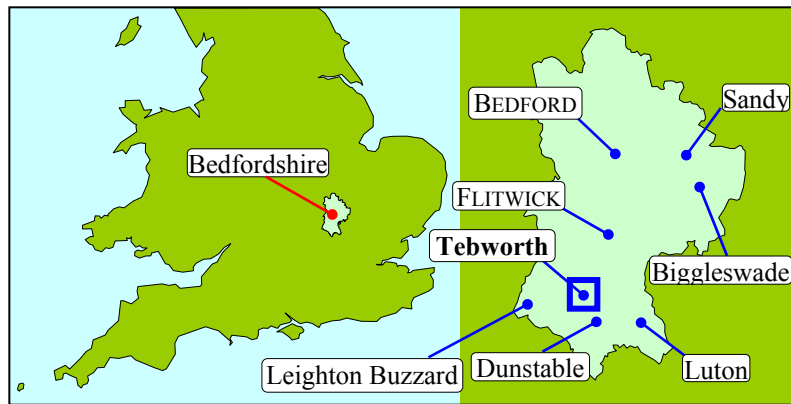


Figure 1: Site location plan

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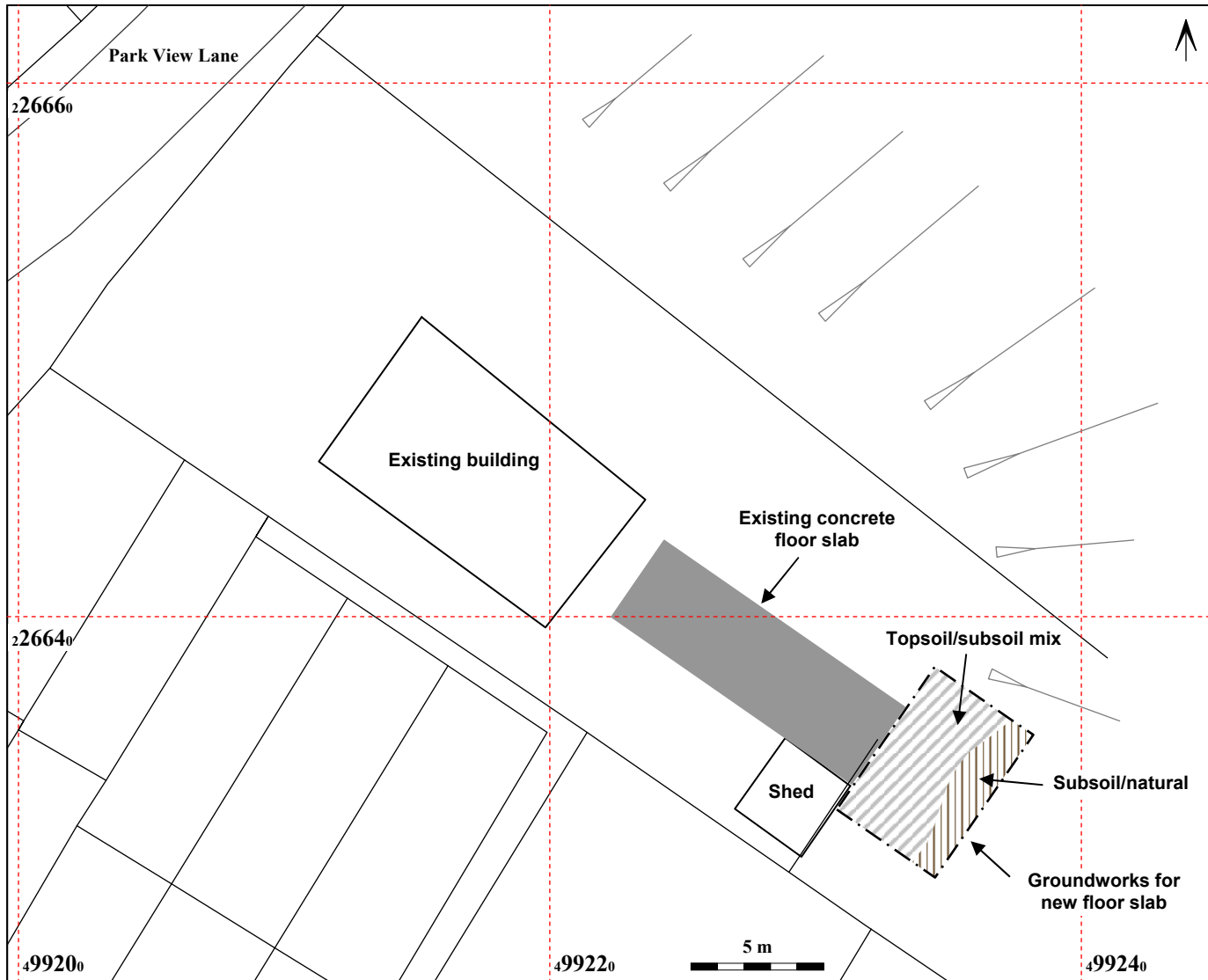


Figure 2: Trench plan

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Figure 3: Excavated trench, looking towards the north-east
The photo shows subsoil across much of the trench with areas of the underlying deposit towards the right-hand side. Scale 1m



Figure 4: General view showing the location of the development area
The development is situated next to the sheds at the middle left-hand side. This shows the ground dropping away to the east and south-east. Some of the settlement earthworks (HER 760) are visible in the right-hand side of the image. A linear depression, marked by greener grass, runs from bottom right towards the house above (5/7 Parkview Lane).



5. APPENDIX 1: OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

OASIS ID: albionar1-181158

Project details

Project name	7 Parkview Lane, Tebworth
Short description of the project	Planning permission was granted for the construction of replacement stables and store on land opposite 7 Parkview Lane, Tebworth, Bedfordshire. The development lies within an archeologically sensitive area comprising settlement earthworks (HER 760). A condition requiring a programme of archaeological investigation was attached to the planning permission. An area measuring 6.5m by 4.5m and < 350mm deep was subject to archaeological monitoring during groundworks undertaken to extend an existing floor slab. No archaeological features were identified in the trench. No artefacts were recovered during monitoring of the trench or from examination of the spoil heaps. The soil profile consisted of a 250mm-deep layer of dark topsoil above dark yellow-brown clayey silt subsoil. A small part of lighter yellow-brown clay in the south-east part of the trench is likely to represent the uppermost part of the underlying glacial till. No evidence for settlement in the form of artefacts, archaeological features or earthworks was found. The results, however, do not disprove the potential for archaeological deposits in the area due to the limited extent and depth of the groundworks.
Project dates	Start: 02-10-2014 End: 02-10-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	PVL1848 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	CB/11/01481/FULL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	BEDFORDSHIRE SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE CHALGRAVE 7 Parkview Lane, Tebworth
Study area	29.50 Square metres
Site coordinates	SP 9923 2664 Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Albion Archaeology
Project brief	none



originator
 Project design originator Albion Archaeology
 Project director/manager Mark Phillips
 Project supervisor No Supervisor

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
 Digital Archive Exists? No
 Paper Archive recipient Luton Museum
 Paper Contents "other"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Report"
 Paper Archive notes Accession number: LUTNM: 2014/16

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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