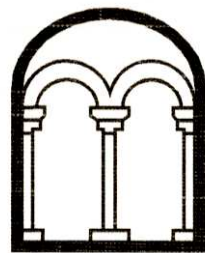


**HARLINGTON MANOR  
HARLINGTON  
BEDFORDSHIRE**

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

**Albion**  
archaeology



**HARLINGTON MANOR  
HARLINGTON  
BEDFORDSHIRE**

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

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Document: 2016/157  
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Compiled by	Approved by
Mark Phillips	Drew Shotliff

31st January 2017

Prepared for:  
Mr David Blakeman  
Harlington Manor



## ***Contents***

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<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1	Project Background	5
1.2	Site Location and Description	5
1.3	Archaeological and Historical Background	6
1.4	Project Objectives	7
<b>2</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1	Methodological Standards	9
2.2	Archaeological Observation and Recording	9
<b>3</b>	<b>RESULTS</b>	<b>10</b>
3.1	Introduction	10
3.2	Overburden and Existing Ground Surfaces	10
3.3	Geological Deposit	10
3.4	Hearth and Associated Structure	10
3.5	Stone Wall Foundation	11
3.6	Ditch or Hollow	11
3.7	Finds	11
<b>4</b>	<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT SUMMARY</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>APPENDIX 2: OASIS SUMMARY</b>	<b>15</b>



### **List of Figures**

- Figure 1: Site location plan
- Figure 2: Pre-1750 plan of Harlington
- Figure 3: 1810 enclosure map of Harlington
- Figure 4: 1882 Ordnance Survey map
- Figure 5: All features plan

### **List of Images**

- Image 1: Front of building prior to development
- Image 2: Rear wall of building prior to development
- Image 3: East end of building prior to development
- Image 4: Eastern end of trench, looking south
- Image 5: Hearth (9), looking south-west
- Image 6: Hearth (9), vertical view
- Image 7: Western end of trench

*The figures and images are bound at the back of the report.*



## **Preface**

*Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete a summary as possible within the terms of the method statement. 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.*

## **Acknowledgements**

*Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out the archaeological works by Mr David Blakeman. The project was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Martin Oake, Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist.*

*The archaeological fieldwork was carried out by Mark Phillips (Project Officer) who also prepared this report with comments on the artefacts by Holly Duncan (Finds Manager). Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).*

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## **Version History**

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Reason for re-issue</i>
<i>1.0</i>	<i>31/01/2017</i>	<i>n/a</i>

## **Key Terms**

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

BARS	Bedfordshire Archives and Records Service
CBC	Central Bedfordshire Council
CBCA	Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist
HER	Central Bedfordshire Council Historic Environment Record
CIfA	Chartered Institute <i>for</i> Archaeologists
OS	Ordnance Survey
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



## **Non-technical Summary**

*Planning consent (CB/14/03450/FULL) was granted by Central Bedfordshire Council for the demolition of an existing outbuilding and the construction of a new outbuilding as a residential annexe to Harlington Manor. Due to the potential for archaeological remains on the site a condition was attached to the planning consent, requiring a programme of archaeological works. Albion Archaeology was commissioned to prepare a written scheme of investigation and to undertake the archaeological works. They were carried out in October 2015, during construction groundworks for the new building.*

*Harlington Manor was built in the early 16th century and was extended and modified throughout the 17th to 20th centuries. The outbuilding that was demolished as part of the development was first shown on the Harlington enclosure map of 1810.*

*The uppermost deposits found within the footprint of the outbuilding consisted of modern internal floor layers above a mixed garden soil containing some building debris.*

*A brick hearth found towards the eastern end of the building was contemporary with the use of the outbuilding and was probably used to heat an adjacent greenhouse, shown on the 1882 and 1901 Ordnance Survey maps.*

*Two features were found which predated the brick outbuilding. These were an ironstone rubble wall foundation and an adjacent shallow ditch. These features were on the same alignment as the short axis of the outbuilding but extended beyond its front wall, indicating that they are part of an earlier arrangement. Bottle glass recovered from the fill of the ditch includes one piece that can be dated to c. 1790–1820. It appears that the ditch was filled in and the outbuilding was erected shortly afterwards at the beginning of the 19th century.*

*A digital copy of this report will be uploaded onto the ADS Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS ref: albionar1-170607) and the site archive will be deposited with Luton Culture (accession no. LUTNM 2014/05).*



# 1 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 *Project Background*

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) granted planning permission (CB/14/03450/FULL) for the demolition of an existing outbuilding (saving materials for reuse) and the construction of a new outbuilding as a residential annexe to Harlington Manor.

A heritage statement (Albion 2013), submitted with the application, concluded that there was moderate potential for the survival of medieval remains, pre-dating the current manor, alongside Westoning Road in the form of roadside development and/or backyard activity. Such remains could potentially be of moderate significance.

In accordance with Policy 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) a condition (no. 2) was attached to the planning consent to secure a programme of archaeological investigation as a consequence of the development. Condition 2 read:

*No development shall take place until a written scheme of archaeological investigation; that includes post excavation analysis and publication, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development hereby approved shall only be implemented in full accordance with the approved archaeological scheme.*

*Reason: To record and advance understanding of the heritage assets with archaeological interest which will be unavoidably affected as a consequence of the development.*

The CBC Archaeologist (CBCA) confirmed that a programme of archaeological observation, investigation, recording, analysis and publication would be required.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by the client to prepare a written scheme of investigation (Albion 2015) and to undertake the archaeological works. This report represents the findings of the archaeological monitoring works.

## 1.2 *Site Location and Description*

Harlington is in southern Bedfordshire, c. 5km north of Dunstable (Figure 1). Harlington Manor is situated at the centre of the village, on the junction of Station Road with Westoning Road. It has large grounds to its rear, consisting of an informal grassed garden, surrounded by a mature hedge and a brick wall.

A former stable complex lies to the north of the gardens. The outbuilding that was subject to redevelopment was a brick, lean-to structure located within the east of the former stable complex. It faced north onto a yard area with its back wall tied in with the high brick wall that surrounds the manor grounds.



Harlington lies in an undulating landscape on the northern slopes of the Greensand Ridge. The underlying geology is Gault Formation mudstone with superficial deposits of Oadby Member Diamicton — a brown to grey silty clay with chalk and flint fragments and lenses of sand and gravel<sup>1</sup>.

The site is at a height of *c.* 110m OD and the area of the development works is centred on grid reference TL 03642 30478.

### 1.3 **Archaeological and Historical Background**

The planning application was accompanied by a heritage statement (Albion 2013), which provides an account of the archaeological background of the development area (DA). In addition, the Historic Environment Record (HER) has been checked for information added since the heritage statement was prepared. The key elements are summarised below.

Prehistoric to Roman evidence is known from the area. It consists of isolated find-spots of Roman pottery and a coin but there is also an Iron Age farmstead and Roman villa complex. However, these lie some distance from the DA.

Anglo-Saxon burials were recorded during quarrying at Sheepwalk Hill. The quarry lies more than 500m to the south-west of the DA and the potential for further burials or any remains dating to the Anglo-Saxon period on the DA are low.

Harlington consists of a series of hamlets that all originated in the medieval period and Harlington Manor lies at the central crossroads of the main hamlet just west of the parish church. Archaeological evaluation and subsequent works in advance of a residential development *c.* 160m south of the DA uncovered evidence of early medieval settlement activity (ASC 2011 and 2013). A series of pits contained pottery dating mainly from the 12th to late 13th century with some residual Saxon and Saxo-Norman material.

Harlington Manor was built in the early 16th century and was extended and modified throughout the 17th–20th centuries, including work in the 1930s by noted Bedfordshire architect Sir Albert Richardson. The manor is a Grade II\* listed building, and forms a historical complex together with its grounds and ancillary buildings to the north.

The building subject to redevelopment is a lean-to structure built against the northern side of the large brick wall that surrounds the manor. It was originally part of a farmyard complex in this area and several former agricultural buildings to its west also survive. The earliest detailed map of Harlington (BARS ref. X24), which is dated to before 1750, does not include this building (Figure 2). A building is shown on this location on the 1810 enclosure map (BARS ref.MA45, Figure 3), indicating that the building existed from at least the early 19th century. The first 25-inch Ordnance Survey map, surveyed in 1881, shows the building forming part of a continuous range of buildings along the south side of the farmyard complex

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<sup>1</sup> Contains British Geological Survey Materials NERC (2016)





(Figure 4). In its final form the building had probably been subject to various alterations, which are hinted at by differences in the brickwork. The western gable wall was made from red brick, 50mm to 60mm thick, in Flemish garden wall bond. In the rear wall the brickwork consisted of Flemish bond in the lower two-thirds with English bond above, the two being separated by a rowlock course (Image 2). The internal dividing walls included some timber-framed partitions (Figure 3).

#### 1.4 Project Objectives

A series of project objectives were identified in the WSI (Albion 2015). These were as follows:

*The development area lies in an area with a moderate potential to contain medieval and post-medieval archaeological deposits.*

*The local and regional research contexts are provided by Glazebrook (1997), Brown and Glazebrook (2000), Oake et al (2007) and Medlycott (2011). The development site has the potential to preserve archaeological remains that can address a number of research objectives identified in the research framework for Bedfordshire (Oake et al 2007) and the revised framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011).*

*The research framework for Bedfordshire states that, in general, few medieval rural settlements have been investigated in the county (Oake in Oake et al 2007). Oake states a need for research into rural settlement on a micro-scale of investigation, in order to establish the chronology, structure and function of individual settlements as well as classes of settlement, ranging from the prehistoric to the medieval period. The need for investigation into the origins, development and dynamics of medieval rural settlement are also emphasised by Medlycott (2011) in the East of England Research Framework.*

*The specific objectives of the investigation are to determine:*

- *whether there is any evidence for activity relating to the medieval settlement of Harlington;*
- *whether there is any evidence relating to post-medieval activity within Harlington Manor site.*

*The general objectives of the investigation are to determine:*

- *the nature and date of any archaeological remains present at the site;*
- *the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits present at the site;*
- *establishing the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscape;*
- *local environmental conditions via recovering palaeo-environmental remains.*



The results obtained from archaeological monitoring of the groundworks produced a limited data-set which does not warrant any additional, detailed analysis. The results are, therefore, presented in full in this report.



## 2 METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Methodological Standards

Throughout the project the standards set out in the following documents were adhered to:

Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2nd edn, 2001).
EAA	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> (2003)
ClfA	<i>Charter and By-law; Code of Conduct</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</i> (2014)
Historic England	<i>Management of Research Projects in Historic Environment. PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation. English heritage Guidelines</i> (2015)
	<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, 2nd edition</i> (2015)
Luton Culture	<i>Procedure for preparing archaeological archives for deposition with Luton Culture</i> (2013)

### 2.2 Archaeological Observation and Recording

After the demolition of the existing outbuilding the internal concrete floors were broken up and removed and the ground beneath was reduced using a mini-digger fitted with a toothless bucket. The ground reduction took place under archaeological supervision between 20th and 26th October 2015. The completed trench was 18.7m long, 5m wide and up to 600mm deep.

A detailed methodology for the archaeological works is provided in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2015).



## 3 RESULTS

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### 3.1 Introduction

All of the archaeological features and deposits revealed during the archaeological works are discussed below and shown on Figure 5. In the following description the context numbers for fills and layers appear in curved brackets (\*) and cut features appear in square brackets [\*]. Detailed context descriptions can be found in Appendix 1.

### 3.2 Overburden and Existing Ground Surfaces

The uppermost deposits were floor layers within the footprint of the former outbuilding. These consisted of either concrete (1) on a rubble sub-base (2) or cobbled flooring (3) in the eastern part of the former building.

Both types of flooring overlay a mixed soil layer (4) up to a maximum of 400mm thick. It comprised mid-brown sandy silt with moderate amounts of ceramic building material, mainly fragments of plain peg tile. The layer is likely to represent a former garden soil with some material derived from demolition or building debris.

### 3.3 Geological Deposit

The geological deposit (5) was mid blue-grey clay with fragments of chalk and flint nodules. At the top the layer was partly mixed with the overlying soil layer (4). The upper surface of the undisturbed geological material lay at a depth of approximately 500mm below ground level.

The presence of chalk and flint in the deposit suggests that it forms part of the superficial glacial till deposit which overlies the Gault clay in this area.

### 3.4 Hearth and Associated Structure

A brick hearth base (9) and surrounding wall (8) was found in the easternmost end of the trench. The hearth and wall were made from plain red bricks measuring *c.* 220mm x 105mm x 65mm.

The hearth base was located against the rear wall of the outbuilding. It was rectangular in plan, measuring 1.6m by 1.3m. It contained a 600mm-wide stokehole aligned parallel with the rear wall of the building. A 250mm-wide flue (towards the western end of the structure) extended into the rear wall of the outbuilding. Where it entered the rear wall it was covered by a semi-circular brick arch.

The base of the stokehole and flue had a brick floor which was covered by a thin layer of charcoal and ash. The floor was located approximately 600mm below the modern ground level. The arrangement of the stokehole and flue suggests that the stokehole would have been fired from its eastern end. The western end also appeared to be open at this level but it is possible that brickwork at this end had been removed during demolition.



The hearth was set in a sunken area which had been cut into the undisturbed geology. It was enclosed on the north and west sides by a 220mm-thick (single brick) wall with a course of header bricks in the uppermost surviving course. The area enclosed by the wall measured 3.4m long by 2m wide. Its western side had been largely removed during demolition but a short section remained at the back wall of the outbuilding to indicate its location.

Within the area enclosed by the wall was a layer (7) of mid-brown sandy silt, containing fragments of brick and mortar.

### **3.5 Stone Wall Foundation**

The foundation for a wall (10) was found approximately 6m from the western end of the trench. It was aligned NNW-SSE and measured at least 4.7m long and 300–500mm wide. It was made from medium-sized blocks of ironstone rubble in mortar.

### **3.6 Ditch or Hollow**

A linear feature [11] was found in the central part of the trench. It was aligned NNW-SSE. It was not excavated as it lay below the development formation level. Observation during machine excavation across the upper part of the feature suggested that it had shallow sloping edges. The fill (6) consisted of mid-brown silty clay. It contained a moderate amount of ceramic building material, mostly comprising plain peg tile, and some bottle glass.

### **3.7 Finds**

Undiagnostic post-medieval brick and tile debris was noted within some of the deposits but was not retained.

Two fragments of vessel glass were collected from the fill of ditch [11] as possible dating evidence. One of these is a neck from a clear-coloured, blown cylindrical bottle with an applied lip. It was sealed with a glass stopper and contained a light yellow-brown resinous material that smells like pine resin. This bottle is not closely dateable but could date from the earlier 19th century. The other fragment is a kick base from an olive green beer bottle (Ivor Noël Hume's type 22, dated to *c.* 1790–1820). The fragments were not retained.



## 4 CONCLUSIONS

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A brick hearth found towards the eastern end of the building was contemporary with the use of the outbuilding. It appears to be the base of a furnace that would have been used to heat a greenhouse, formerly located next to the outbuilding. The Ordnance Survey map of 1882 shows a rectangular outline against the south side of the outbuilding (Figure 4) and in the subsequent 1901 edition the outline is cross-hatched, indicating a greenhouse. The hearth was found below ground level, surrounded by a brick retaining wall. A flue from the hearth passed through the rear wall of the outbuilding at a level suitable for heating pipes located just above floor level in the former greenhouse.

Two features pre-dated the brick outbuilding — an ironstone rubble wall foundation (10) and an adjacent shallow ditch [11]. These features were on the same alignment as the short axis of the outbuilding but extended beyond its front wall, indicating that they are part of an earlier arrangement. Bottle glass recovered from the fill of the ditch includes one piece that can be dated to *c.* 1790–1820. The outbuilding is shown on the Harlington enclosure map, drawn in 1810 (Figure 3). The evidence indicates that ditch [11] was filled in at the end of the 18th or beginning of the 19th century, with the outbuilding erected shortly afterwards, possibly as part of the same phase of activity.

This report will be uploaded onto the ADS Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS ref: albionar1-210576). Following approval of this document by the CBCA, the project archive will be deposited with Luton Culture (accession no. LUTNM 2015/342).



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## 6 APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT SUMMARY

Area: 1

Extent (ha): 0.0095

OS Co-ordinates: TL0364230478

Description: Area stripped for construction of new dwelling on footprint of former outbuilding

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
1	Concrete	Internal concrete floor slab which extended over those parts of the building not covered by cobbled floor (3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Make up layer	Loose brick rubble 150 to 200mm thick. Rubble sub-base beneath concrete floor slab (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Internal surface	Close packed rounded pebbles forming cobbled floor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Layer	Loose mid brown sandy silt moderate small-medium CBM. Mixed soil layer with some brick and tile fragments. Layer up to 400mm thick found beneath layers (2) and (3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Natural	Firm light blue grey clay occasional small-medium chalk, occasional medium stones. Undisturbed geological deposit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Layer	Mid brown sandy silt moderate small-medium CBM, moderate small mortar. Mixed deposit with CBM. Layer found within lowered floor surrounding hearth [9]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Wall	Brick wall 220mm thick made from plain red brick. Formed retaining wall for lowered floor around furnace (9) in south-east of outbuilding.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Hearth	Hearth base made from plain red brick with a flue built into rear wall of building. Probably base of furnace for heating a greenhouse that stood on the south side of the outbuilding.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Foundation	NNW-SSE aligned wall foundation made from medium sized ironstone rubble blocks in mortar. Remains of structure pre-dating early C19th outbuilding.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Ditch	Linear NW-SE. Shallow linear depression, not fully excavated. Remains of ditch pre-dating early C19th outbuilding.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Fill	Mid brown silty clay moderate small-medium CBM. CBM consisted mostly of plain peg tile	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>





## 7 APPENDIX 2: OASIS SUMMARY

### OASIS ID: albionar1-210576

#### Project details

Project name	Harlington Manor
Short description of the project	Harlington Manor was built in the early 16th century and was extended and modified throughout the 17th to 20th centuries. The outbuilding that was demolished in the development was first shown on the Harlington enclosure map of 1810. The uppermost deposits found within the footprint of the outbuilding consisted of modern internal floor layers above a mixed garden soil containing some building debris. A brick hearth found towards the eastern end of the building was contemporary with the use of the outbuilding and was probably used to heat an adjacent greenhouse which is shown on the 1882 and 1901 Ordnance Survey maps. Two features that predated the brick outbuilding were found. These were an ironstone rubble wall foundation and an adjacent shallow ditch. These features were on the same alignment as the short axis of the outbuilding but extended beyond its front wall, indicating that they are part of an earlier arrangement. Bottle glass recovered from the fill of the ditch includes one example that can be dated to c. 1790–1820. It appears that the ditch was filled in and the outbuilding was erected shortly afterwards at the beginning of the 19th century.
Project dates	Start: 02-11-2013 End: 26-10-2015
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	HM2294 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	OUTBUILDING Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BOTTLE Post Medieval
Investigation type	Watching Brief
Prompt	Planning condition

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	BEDFORDSHIRE MID BEDFORDSHIRE HARLINGTON Harlington Manor
Study area	95 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 03642 30478 51.96267325378 -0.4913630837 51 57 45 N 000 29 28 W Point

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Albion Archaeology
Project brief originator	No Brief



Project design originator Albion Archaeology

Project director/manager Drew Shotliff

Project supervisor Mark Phillips

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### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Physical Archive notes bottle glass not retained

Digital Archive recipient Luton Culture (formerly Luton Museum)

Digital Archive ID LUTNM:2015/342

Digital Contents "other"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient Luton Culture (formerly Luton Museum)

Paper Archive ID LUTNM:2015/342

Paper Contents "other"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Microfilm", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report"

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### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Harlington Manor, Harlington, Bedfordshire: Archaeological Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication

Author(s)/Editor(s) Phillips, M

Other bibliographic details 2016/157

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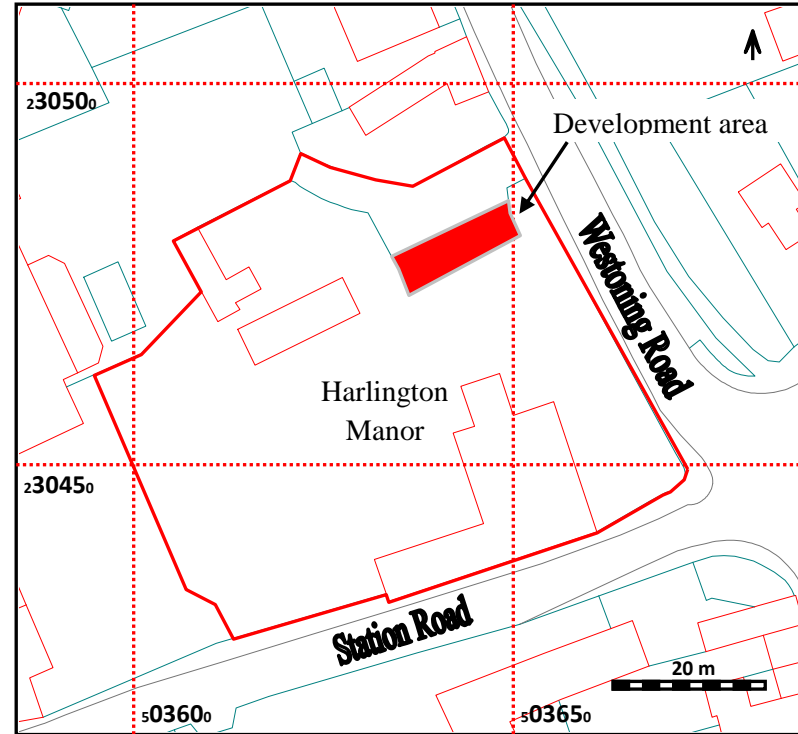
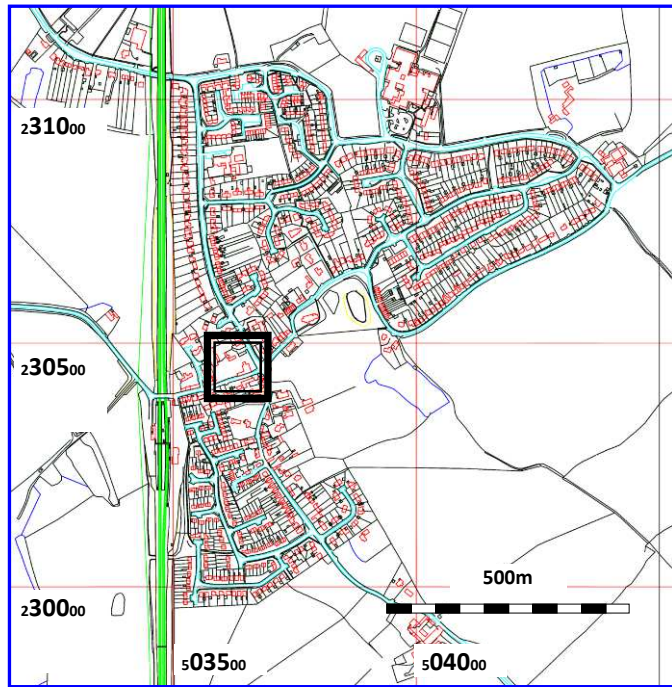
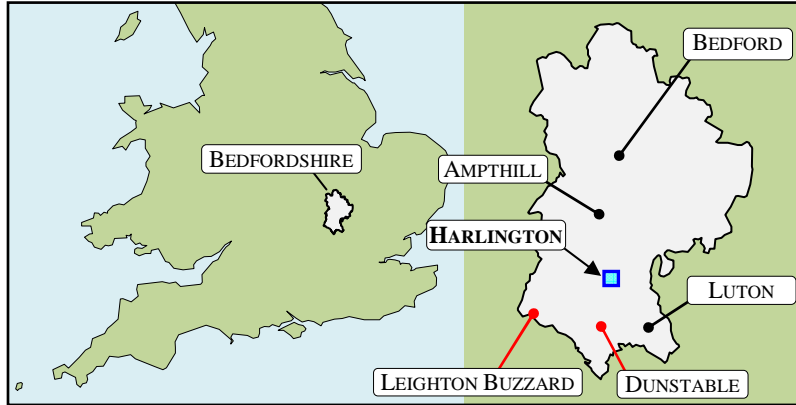
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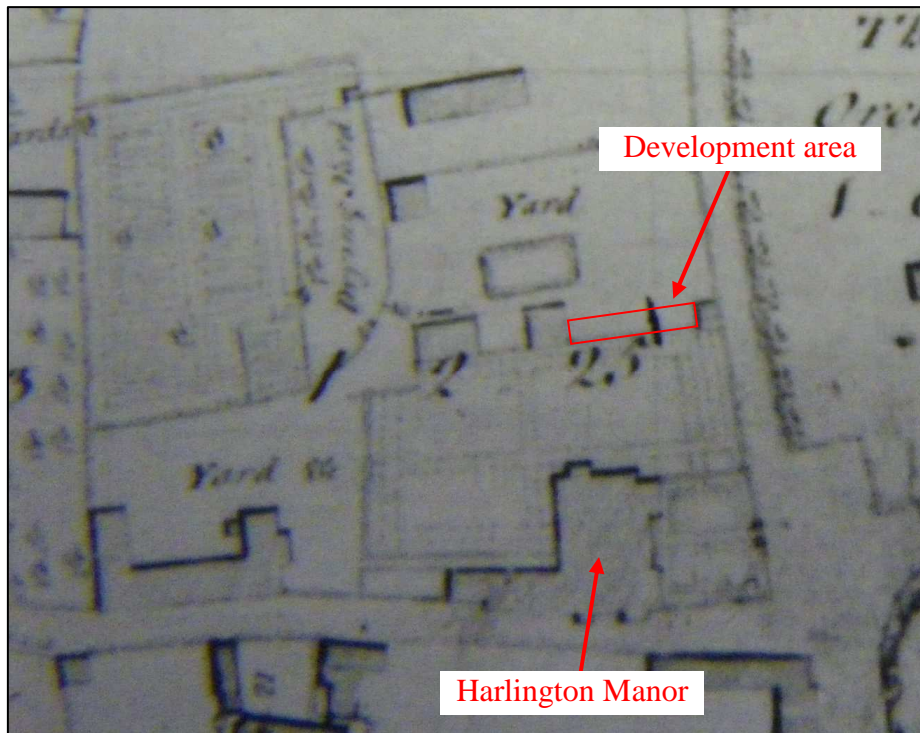
Entered by Mark Phillips (ma.phillips@albion-arch.com)

Entered on 19 January 2017

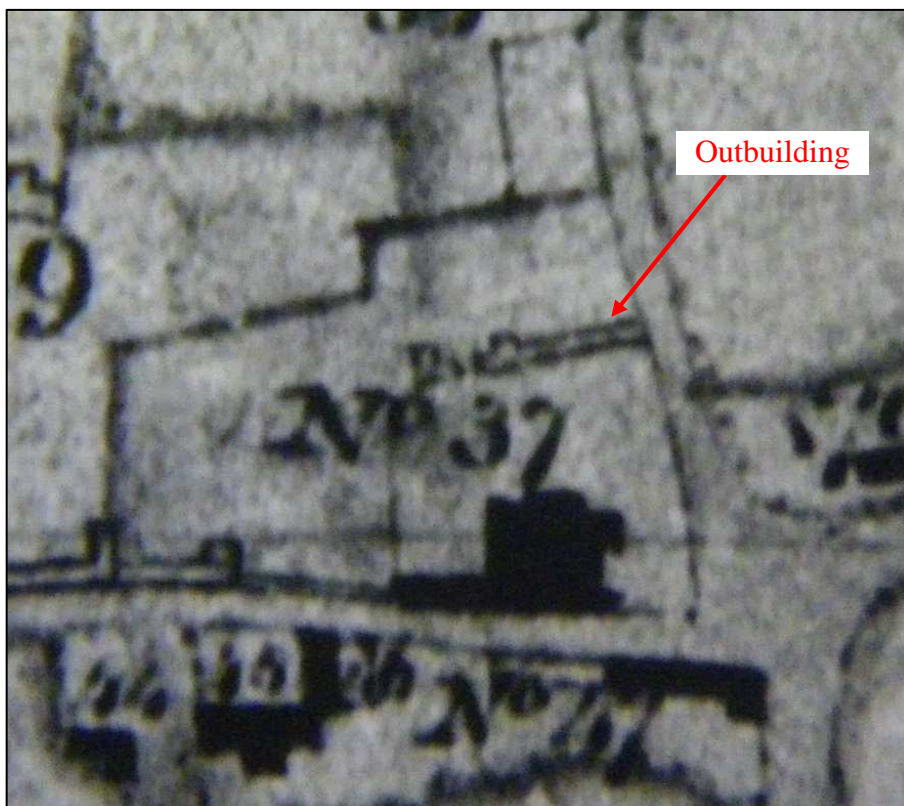


**Figure 1: Site location plan**

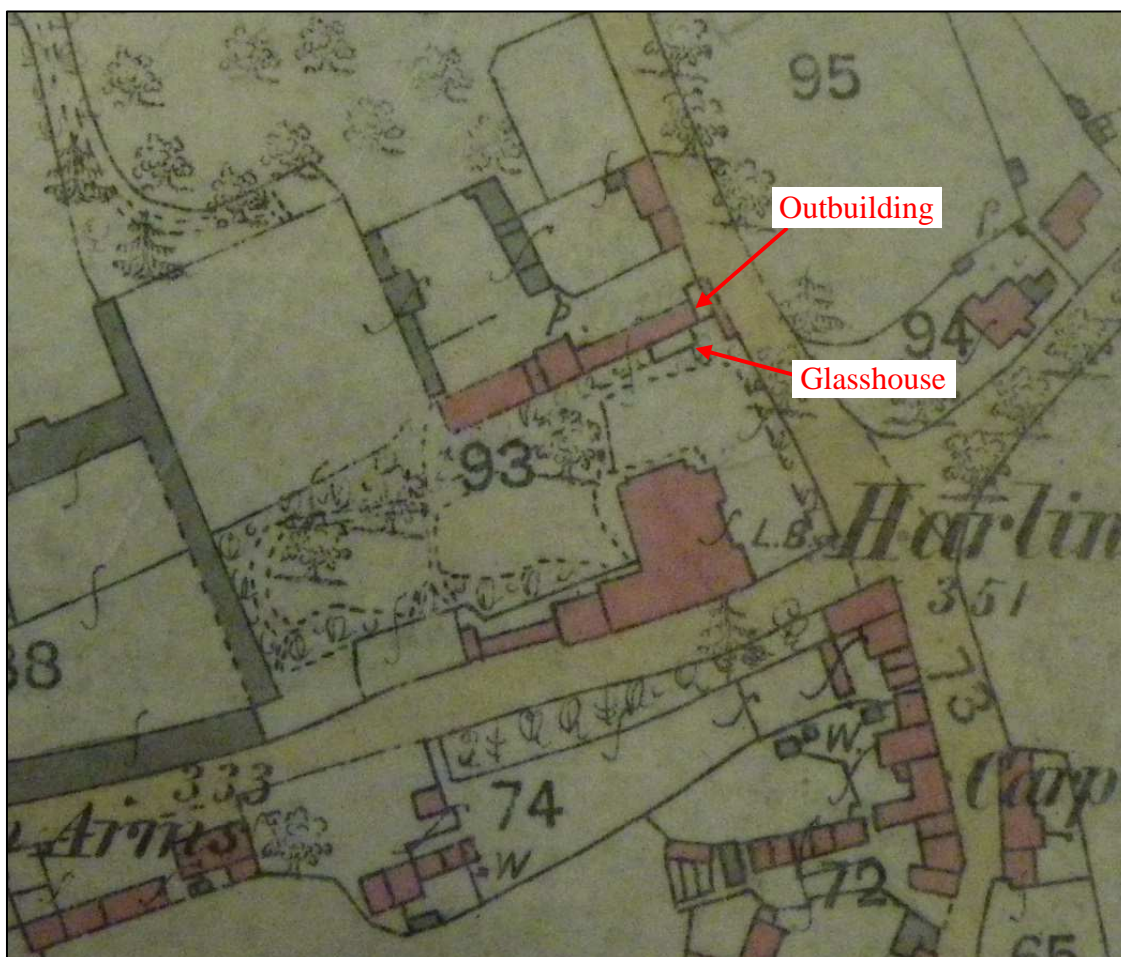
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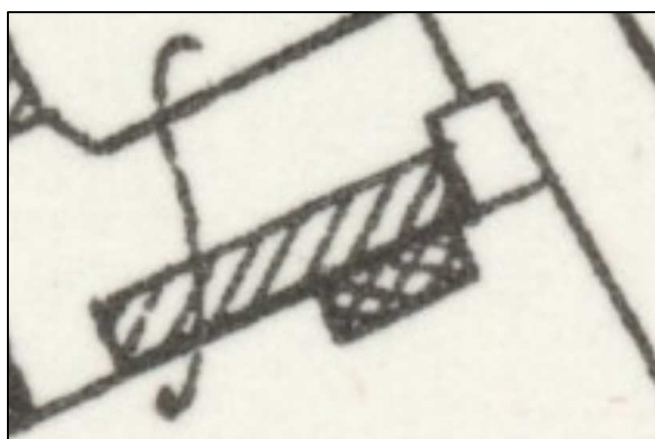
**Figure 2:** Pre-1750 plan of Harlington  
(BARS ref.: X24)



**Figure 3:** 1810 enclosure map of Harlington  
(BARS ref.: MA45)



**Figure 4:** 1882 Ordnance Survey map  
(Surveyed 1881, published 1882, Bedfordshire Sheet XXV.15)



Detail from 1901 edition of Ordnance Survey map with cross-hatching indicating glasshouse attached to south side of outbuilding



Figure 5: All-features plan



**Image 1:** Front of building prior to development  
(Looking south-west from gateway off Westoning Road. Photographed in 2013.)



**Image 2:** Rear wall of building prior to development  
(View looking west from garden. Photographed in 2013.)



**Image 3:** East end of building prior to development  
(View looking west. Photographed in 2013.)



**Image 4:** Eastern end of trench, looking south  
(Shows hearth (9) with parts of wall (8) just visible in the foreground (scale 1m))





**Image 5:** Hearth (9), looking south-west  
(Shows stokehole parallel to scale and flue in rear wall (scale 1m))



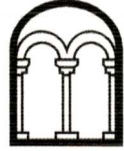
**Image 6:** Hearth (9), vertical view  
(Rear wall of building at base of image (scale 1m))



**Image 7:** Western end of trench  
(View looking towards west end of trench following completion of machine excavation (scale 1m))

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