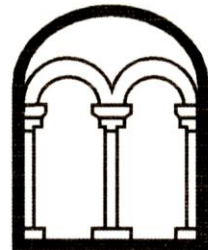


**LAND AT 7 WIMBLINGTON ROAD  
DODDINGTON  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
FIELD EVALUATION**

**Albion**  
archaeology



**LAND AT 7 WIMBLINGTON ROAD  
DODDINGTON  
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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
FIELD EVALUATION**

Project: WR2933  
CHER event no.: ECB4751  
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Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
David Ingham	Gary Edmondson	Drew Shottliff

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Produced for:  
Irvine Jones Design Ltd

On behalf of:  
Malcolm Reed Construction Ltd



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## 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

*The project was commissioned by Irvine Jones Design Ltd on behalf of Malcolm Reed Construction Ltd, and was monitored on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (CHET).*

*The fieldwork was undertaken by David Ingham (Project Officer), who also prepared this report. The project was managed for Albion by Gary Edmondson (Project Manager), 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>21/06/2016</i>	<i>n/a</i>

## Key Terms

The following abbreviations are used throughout this report:

CHER	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record
CHET	Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team
CI/A	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists



## **Non-Technical Summary**

*Planning permission was granted by Fenland District Council for the construction of a single house and garage on land to the rear of 7 Wimblington Road, Doddington, Cambridgeshire. The development site is located at a height of c. 8m OD on the eastern side of Doddington, a large village which lies 33km north of Cambridge, between Chatteris and March.*

*The development site is located north-west of Manor Farm, a medieval moated site with earthworks relating to a former residence of the Bishops of Ely. Roman enclosures and settlement have also been revealed c. 200m to the south, while Neolithic / Bronze Age remains and Iron Age and Roman enclosures are known further to the east near the line of the A141.*

*Due to the site's high archaeological potential, Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (CHET) advised the Local Planning Authority to place a condition on the planning consent requiring a scheme of archaeological work prior to development. Irvine Jones Design Ltd commissioned Albion Archaeology to carry out a field evaluation, the results of which are presented in this report.*

*Evaluation of the development area revealed a single undated ditch. This is only of local significance, and does not warrant archaeological mitigation to counteract the negative impact on it that construction of the proposed house and garage will have.*



## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 *Planning Background*

Planning permission (F/YR14/0765/F) was granted by Fenland District Council for the construction of a single house and garage on land to the rear of 7 Wimblington Road, Doddington, Cambridgeshire.

Due to the high archaeological potential of the site, a condition (number 11) was placed on planning consent requiring a scheme of archaeological work to be undertaken at the site. Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (CHET) issued a Brief for an archaeological field evaluation (CHET 2016), to assess the archaeological nature and potential of the site.

Irvine Jones Design Ltd commissioned Albion Archaeology to carry out the field evaluation, in line with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2016) that was agreed in advance with the CHET. The results of the evaluation are presented in this report.

### 1.2 *Site Location and Description*

Doddington, historically the largest parish in Cambridgeshire, lies 33km north of Cambridge, between Chatteris and March. The development area on Wimblington Road (the B1093) is located on the eastern side of the village at (NGR) TL 4052 9104 (Fig. 1). It lies at a height of *c.* 8m OD, on a ridge of level ground that forms part of the March fen isle.

The development site was a private garden at the time of fieldwork, bordered on all sides by residential land. The underlying geology of the area is Ampthill Clay with localised deposits of March Gravels.

### 1.3 *Archaeological and Historical Background*

The known archaeological remains within a 1km radius of the development site are listed within the Brief (CHET 2016). Those which had a particular bearing on the likely archaeological potential of the development site are summarised below.

The development site is located north-west of Manor Farm, a medieval moated site with earthworks relating to a former residence of the Bishops of Ely (CHER1063). The moat itself is a Scheduled Monument (National Heritage List for England ref. 1019547), while a nearby crop-mark enclosure (CHER1063a) may be contemporaneous.

Evidence for earlier activity in the immediate vicinity of the development site is limited, although Roman ditches have been unearthed *c.* 200m to the south (MCB20333 / ECB4301), where a geophysical survey also indicated pit-type anomalies (ECB4064). A Roman brooch was found *c.* 500m to the east (CHER1424) of the development site. Further afield to the east, Neolithic / Bronze Age remains (MCB17560) and Iron Age and Roman enclosures (MCB17561) were revealed near the line of the A141 Chatteris to March road.



#### **1.4 Project Objectives**

The objective of the evaluation was to provide information on any archaeological remains present, and, if warranted, to enable an appropriate mitigation strategy to be formulated. In particular, the excavation sought to establish:

- the location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits that were present; and
- the amount of truncation that may have affected any remains, and whether palaeosols or 'B' horizons were present.



## 2. METHOD STATEMENT

The methodological approach to the project is summarised below and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2016).

### 2.1 Standards

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

• Albion Archaeology	<i>Procedures Manual: Volume 1 Fieldwork</i> (2001)
• ALGAO (east)	<i>Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England</i> (2003)
• Archaeological Archives Forum	<i>Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i> (2011)
• Cambridgeshire County Council	<i>Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Cambridgeshire</i> (CCC 14/05/14)
• CHET	<i>Land at 7 Wimblington Road, Doddington. Brief for Archaeological Evaluation.</i> May 10th 2016
• CfA	<i>Charter and by-law; Code of conduct</i> (2014)
	<i>Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation</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 the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)</i> (2015)
	<i>Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation</i> (2015)

### 2.2 Archaeological Trial Trenching

The trial trenching was undertaken on 14th June 2016, and comprised the excavation of a single trench measuring 12.6m long and 1.65m wide (Fig. 2). This equated to a *c.* 9% sample of the area of the proposed house plot. The trench was moved *c.* 1m south-west from its location as shown in the WSI (Albion Archaeology 2016), in order to avoid a flowerbed.

The trench was opened by a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat-edged ditching bucket. The machine was operated by an experienced driver under the supervision of an archaeologist. All archaeological excavation and recording was carried out by experienced Albion Archaeology staff.

The trench was inspected by Kasia Gdaniec of the CHET prior to its backfilling.





### 3. RESULTS

The trench contained a single ditch [103] at its south-west end, which was aligned roughly north–south. No finds were recovered from its fill (104). The profile of the ditch’s western edge suggests a physical relationship with a second feature that lay primarily beyond the trench — possibly a re-cut or a return of the ditch (Figure 2: section 1).

The topsoil (100) contained a small selection of modern items and a sherd of 18th-century pottery, which were not retained. Ditch [103] was sealed by a layer of subsoil (101), from which no finds were recovered. The ditch had been dug into a localised deposit of March Gravels (102), which included occasional patches of sandy clay.

<b>Trench:</b>	<b>1</b>			
<b>Length:</b>	<b>12.6m</b>	<b>Width:</b>	<b>1.65m</b>	<b>Depth to archaeological horizon: Min. 0.6m Max. 0.7m</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>		
100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown-grey sandy silt. 0.35m thick		
101	Subsoil	Firm mid orange-brown sandy clay. 0.3m thick		
102	Geology	Firm mid orange gravel with patches of firm mid yellow-brown sandy clay		
103	Ditch	Linear, N–S, concave sides, flat base. 1.05m wide, 0.3m deep		
104	Fill	Firm mid-grey sandy silt		

**Table 1:** Trench summary



## 4. CONCLUSIONS

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### 4.1 *Discussion and Significance of the Archaeological Remains*

Evaluation of the development area revealed a single ditch, which contained no finds. Its relationship with the subsoil suggests that its date is medieval or earlier, and it was perhaps associated with the Roman site revealed to the south (MCB20333 / ECB4301), but its date and function are ultimately unknown. This ditch is only of local significance.

### 4.2 *Impact Assessment*

Construction of the proposed house and garage will have a negative impact on a short section of the undated ditch that was identified, but the feature is not of sufficient significance to warrant archaeological mitigation.



## 5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Albion Archaeology 2001: *Procedures Manual for Archaeological Fieldwork*

Albion Archaeology 2016: *Land at 7 Wimblington Road, Doddington, Cambridgeshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation. Report 2016/15*

CHET 2016: *Land at 7 Wimblington Road, Doddington. Brief for Archaeological Evaluation. May 10th 2016*



## 6. APPENDIX 4: OASIS SUMMARY FORM

**OASIS ID: albionar1-253178**

### Project details

Project name	7 Wimblington Road, Doddington
Short description of the project	Trial trench evaluation on land to the rear of 7 Wimblington Road, Doddington. One trench was excavated, and one undated ditch was found, from which no finds were recovered.
Project dates	Start: 14-06-2016 End: 20-06-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	WR2933 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ECB4751 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (e.g. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE FENLAND DODDINGTON 7 Wimblington Road, Doddington
Postcode	PE15 0TJ



Study area 0.1 Hectares  
 Site coordinates TL 4052 9104 52.498744670025 0.070288336255 52 29 55 N 000 04 13 E Point  
 Height OD / Depth Min: 7m Max: 8m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Albion Archaeology

Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator Albion Archaeology

Project director/manager Gary Edmondson

Project supervisor David Ingham

Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Store

Digital Contents "other"

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

Paper Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Store

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

### Project bibliography 1



Publication type      Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title                    Land at 7 Wimblington Road, Doddington, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Field Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s)   Ingham, D

Other bibliographic details   Report no. 2016/122

Date                      2016

Issuer or publisher    Albion Archaeology

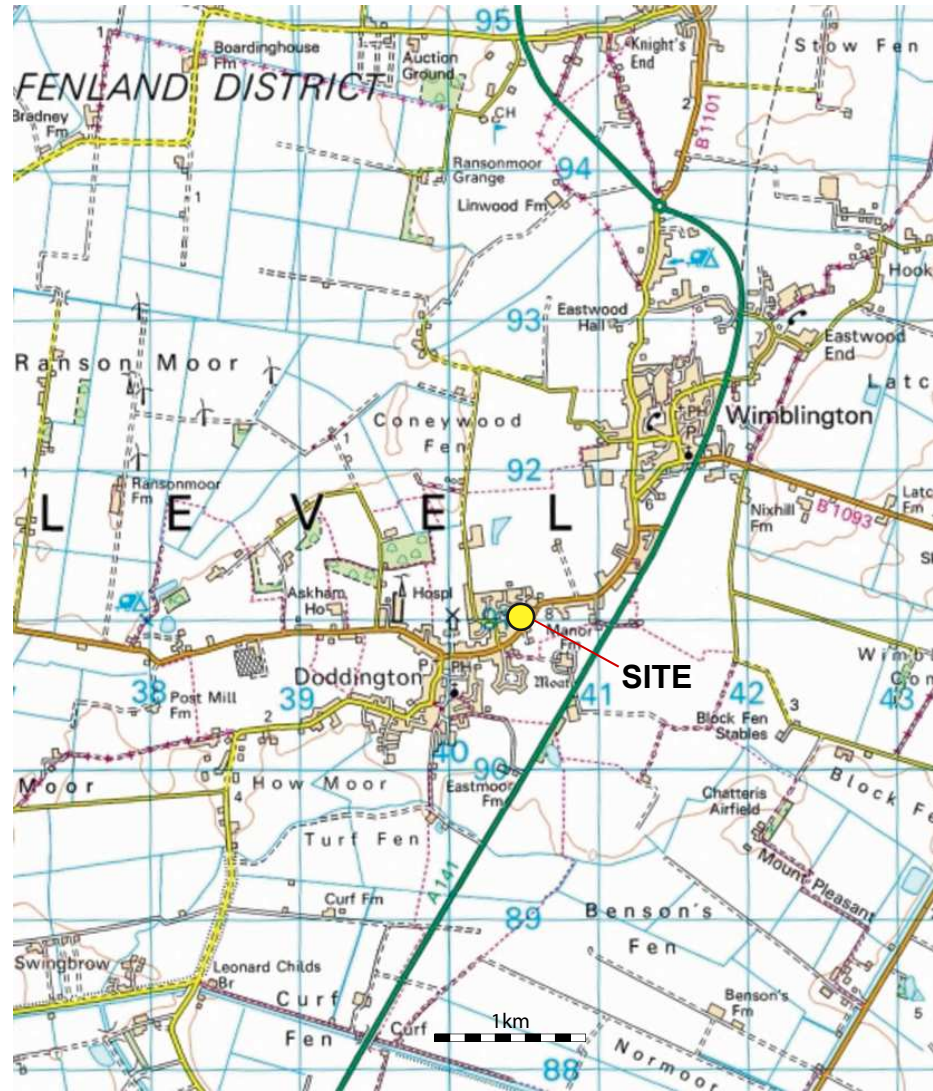
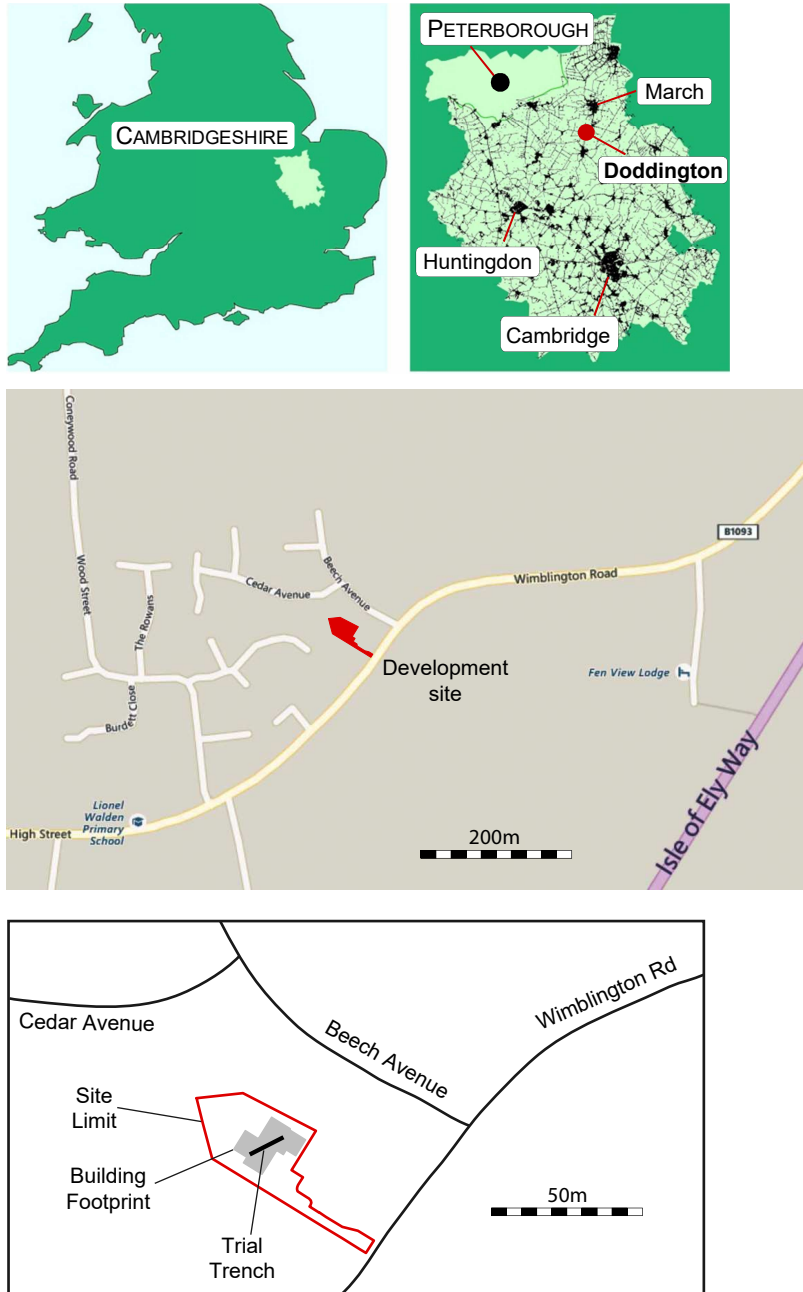
Place of issue or publication   Bedford

Description              Ring bound grey report with Albion cover

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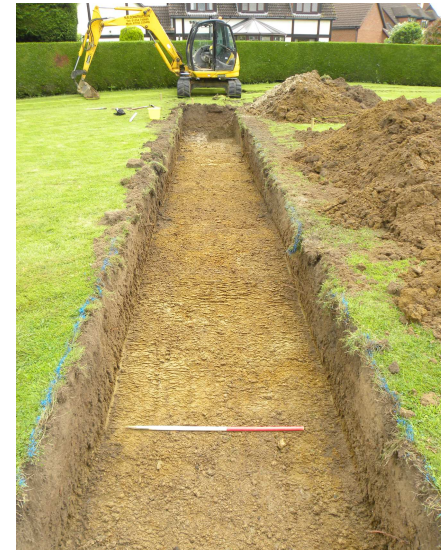
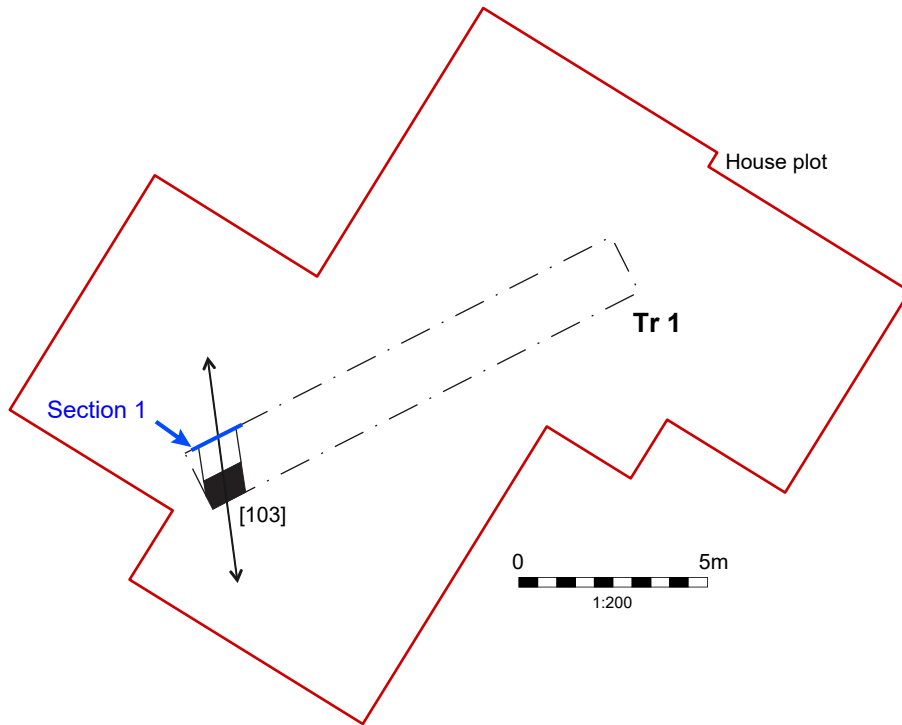
Entered by                David Ingham (dp.ingham@albion-arch.com)

Entered on                17 June 2016



**Figure 1: Site location plan and trench location**

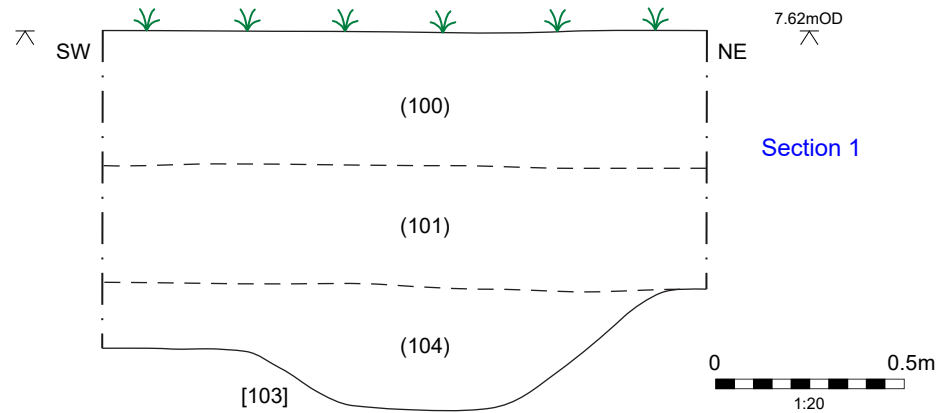
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**Photograph 1:** Trench 1, looking south-west.  
Scale 1m



**Photograph 2:** Ditch [103], looking north-west.  
Scale 1m



**Figure 2:** Trench 1



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