

Baldwins Farm Pebworth Worcestershire

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Prepared by: Simon Underdown

Position: Project Officer (Historic Buildings)

Date: July 2007

Checked by: Jon Gill

Position: Project Officer (Buildings)

Date: July 2007

Approved by: Julian Munby Signed......

Position: Head Of Buildings Archaeology

Date: July 2007

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Oxford Archaeology

Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX2 0ES t: (0044) 1865 26380

t: (0044) 1865 263800 e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk f: (0044) 1865 793496 w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk

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Baldwin's Farm, Pebworth, Worcestershire

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING AND INVESTIGATION AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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Baldwin's Farm, Pebworth, Worcestershire

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING AND INVESTIGATION AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SUMMARY

Oxford Archaeology (OA) has carried out a programme of building investigation and recording and an archaeological Watching brief at Baldwin's Farm, Pebworth, Worcestershire. The work was in advance of conversion of some of the buildings to residential units and the demolition and rebuilding of one listed structure that was in an unsafe condition and it has been undertaken as a condition of planning approval for the development.

The buildings comprised a range consisting of a c1700 block that appears to have been used as a stable and hayloft, but was listed as a dovecote. This block was of some quality with stone dressings including rusticated ashlar quoins, stone kneelers and a stone coped east gable. The window surrounds and north door surround were also of dressed stone with dripmoulds over the lintels.

The stable had been built onto the east end of a 17th century timber-framed barn which had been partially rebuilt in brick. The east wall contained timber-framing and wattle and daub infill. Timber framing in the west and north walls contained later brick infill. To the west a second barn perpendicular to the main range also contained elements of timber-framing and had been substantially rebuilt in brick in 1831. Both barns retained sections of blue lias stone plinths. Joining the two was a three bay shelter shed built as infill with a stone rear wall.

Many of the timbers in the barn and shed roofs and surviving framing were of reused timber and some of the main timbers were of Elm and the buildings were therefore found to be unsuitable for dendrochronological sampling.

The watching brief on the foundation trenches for a new build on the footprint of the 'dovecote' and east bay of the barn found natural clay at 0.2m depth. There were no archaeological deposits apart from the barn foundations and a layer of demolition rubble implying that the area was levelled prior to the building of the farm.

1 Introduction

1.1 **Background**

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) has been commissioned by Dean Park Contracts to undertake a programme of historic building recording and investigation and an archaeological watching brief at Baldwin's Farm, Pebworth, Worcestershire (Figs 1 & 2). The work relates to the proposed redevelopment and conversion and partial demolition of a range of farm buildings including a purported

dovecote and an adjoining barn and shelter shed. Due to the historic interest of the buildings which are Grade II listed planning approval for the development has been granted with the condition that a programme of building recording be undertaken prior to the start of site works. This is in line with national planning guidance (PPG15).

1.2 Aims and objectives

1.2.1 The main aim of the work was to produce a record of the buildings for posterity prior to their conversion and partial demolition. The work particularly concentrated on the buildings' structure, construction development and use.

1.3 **Methodology**

- 1.3.1 The recording programme was generally undertaken to Royal Commission Level I-II.(RCHM 1996) and consisted of three main elements: a drawn survey, a photographic survey and a written survey. The drawn survey consisted of plans of the buildings. The plans were based on a pre-existing survey of the building. These were enhanced with annotation to detail the construction and phasing of the structure. The photographic survey used 35 mm film (colour slide and black and white prints) and consisted of general shots and specific details (internal and external) the location and direction of the photographic views were recorded on plans of the site for inclusion in the archive and report. The written survey complemented the other surveys and consisted of descriptive notes to explain and interpret the building. The variuos buildings were given block letters to aid identification (see figure 2).
- 1.3.2 Two major factors affecting this project were the possible presence of bats in the barn roof and the extremely unstable condition of the 'dovecote' building and the adjoining eastern bay of the barn. A delay of a year was necessary for the granting of a bat licence to enable the survey and dendrochronological assessment of the barn timbers.
- 1.3.3 Due to the poor state of the eastern building an initial photographic survey was undertaken in 2005 and it was later unfortunately found necessary to demolish this building and the eastern end of the barn. Due to their condition these buildings were only photographed and surveyed from the exterior and from the external stairs and were demolished before the dendrochronological assessment was undertaken
- 1.3.4 The dendrochronological assessment, which was undertaken by the Oxford Dendrochronological Laboratory, identified that there were no suitable primary timbers for sampling within the surviving barn and shelter shed. Many of the main roof timbers were reused and the main tie beams and some purlins in the barn were of Elm which is not suitable for ring-dating.

1.3.5 The site work was undertaken on 19th September 2005 and 27th October 2006. A project archive will be ordered and deposited with Worcestershire Museum Services (or other agreed body). It will include all site drawings, photographs (contact sheets), slides, photographic negatives, a copy of this report and other site notes. A copy of this report will also be deposited with the Worcestershire Sites and Monuments Record.

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Dean Park Contracts for commissioning the work and providing existing survey drawings and all site staff for help and co-operation during the fieldwork. Also Worcestershire Record Office for their help and for providing digital images of the inclosure map and Gloucestershire Record Office for permission to use those images in this report.

2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 Pebworth was in the County of Gloucestershire until 1931 and is now within Worcestershire. It was formerly part of the upper division of the hundred of Kirkgate and union of Evesham.
- 2.1.2 The parish (St Peter) is about 3000 acres in size and contains the hamlets of Broad Marston and Ullington. In 1848 the total population was 829 of whom 540 were in Pebworth township. At that time the patronage and impropriation of the vicarage were in the hands of Thomas Eden and T. Shekell Esqrs. ¹
- 2.1.3 There is little historical material relating directly to the farm. An Inclosure map of Pebworth of 1814 shows the farm and buildings but not in enough detail to add much to the understanding of the buildings' development (Figure 3). The map shows a long east to west range which must represent the main barn and 'dovecote' (blocks A & B) a north to south range south of this probably represents the '1831' barn (block D) before the 1831 rebuild although the spacing of these on the map is not exactly as on the ground. The two ranges are not connected suggesting that shelter shed (block C) was not yet constructed. The stone building adjoining the north-west corner of the '1831' barn is also not shown and therefore probably later. There is an irregular block to the east which has gone and other ranges to the south west and north that no longer exist.
- 2.1.4 The map also shows that the farm yard and land holdings to the West belonged to Thomas Shekell, this is presumably the same T. Shekell as mentioned as a proprietor of the living in 1848 and the T.S. who rebuilt barn D in 1831 and had his initials inscribed with the date on the south gable.

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¹ S. Lewis A Topographical Dictionary of England 7th edition 1848

2.1.5 In 1868 the Lord of the Manor was a W. B. Shekell Esq., perhaps son of or other relation to Thomas.²

3 **DESCRIPTION**

3.1 Block A, 'Dovecote' /Stable

3.1.1 *Introduction*

- 3.1.2 This structure was Grade II Listed as a dovecote, dating to c1700, but there was no visible evidence of its use for that purpose. It was in a state of partial collapse and supported by scaffolding. External photographic recording was undertaken on the first visit but access to the interior was unsafe. The building was later demolished due to its dangerous condition and a new build, based on it and reusing some of the stone dressings, was constructed and incorporated into the development. Oxford Archaeology were not aware of the demolition until after it had taken place so were not present at the time and were not able to request retention of the timbers of this and the demolished part of the barn to be laid out in order for examination.
- 3.1.3 The building was almost square in plan with a ground floor and attic storey. Constructed in red brick in Flemish bond with rusticated ashlar stone quoins, a chamfered stone plinth and stone window surrounds. It had a pitched roof which was partially collapsed and clad with a mixture of stone and plain tiles on the south slope and asbestos sheeting on the north with a stone coped ridge. The building was added on to the east end of an existing barn and the west gable was therefore plain whereas the east gable was parapetted and had stone coping.

3.1.4 *South Elevation*

3.1.5 The main front of the building faced south into the yard and had a central wide stable door with a small rectangular stone surrounded window to either side (Plate 1). The door had a segmental brick arch which was a later insertion. The stone window surrounds consisted of a single sill block with a chamfered splay and plain jambs and a lintel each of one block with a slight beading detail (Plate 2). Above the plain lintel was a slightly wider stone over lintel or cornice with a decorative projecting compound moulding which effectively functioned as a drip moulding. The window openings measured 0.38m x 0.50m and were not glazed but there was evidence that there had formerly been two vertical iron bars set into the surrounds. These may have been glazing bars or just security bars. The lower half of the west window had been blocked later in brickwork.

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² The National Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland 1868

3.1.6 There was an opening in the low upper storey, offset to east of centre, which broke the otherwise perfect symmetry of the façade. The opening had plain brick jambs which did not look rebuilt or inserted and was therefore probably primary, however the sill of engineering bricks and a couple of courses of bricks below were a later rebuild or insertion. The opening had a plain old door of wide vertical timber boards. This was probably a pitching hole for hay.

3.1.7 East Gable Elevation

- 3.1.8 The east gable wall was of brick as the rest of the building with rusticated smooth stone quoins with chamfered joints. The parapetted gable had plain kneelers and plain stone coping with a detail of gablets on the finial (Plate 3).
- 3.1.9 There was a door opening at first floor level which must have had an external timber stair originally, this was a full height door for human access not a low pitching door as in the south front. The doorway had a flat arch of bricks laid on edge which looked as though it may have been inserted later, parts of the timber doorframe survived.
- 3.1.10 North of the door there was a three light mullioned window in the first floor. The window had a frame and mullions in stone with plain chamfers (Plate 4). The door and window suggest this floor may have incorporated or been used as a 'barrack room' for the carters and horsemen (Brunskill 1978, 156) as well as perhaps being a hay loft which was suggested by the low upper opening in the south wall.

3.1.11 North Elevation

- 3.1.12 The north wall was mostly concealed behind a later lean-to brick extension. This was constructed in red brick laid in Flemish garden wall bond with corbelled and dentilled eaves courses. There was a central square window opening with the remains of a wooden frame. The lean-to roof was clad in old galvanised corrugated iron sheets (Plate 5).
- 3.1.13 Within the extension the original north wall and door opening survived. The doorway was wide like the north door but had a flat head and stone surround in similar style to that of the south windows but with a plain chamfer rather than a bead moulding. There was a slightly simpler drip moulding over a large lintel stone (Plate 6). The whole was in a poor worn and weathered condition with minimal remains of a wooden doorframe and part of a hinged lower stable door.

3.1.14 Interior

3.1.15 The interior could not be safely accessed but it was possible to see some of the interior through the north extension (see Plate 6). The south door had an inner wooden lintel set into the wall either side of the doorway and this was bowed with the weight of bricks over it. Immediately west of the door and resting on

the door lintel in the wall was a main bridging beam which extended towards the south wall but its full extent could not be seen. Main joists extended east and west from the beam and there appeared to be lesser joists perpendicular to these and joined to them.

3.1.16 The main beam was chamfered with what appeared to be lambs tongue stops at the south end. The south wall was cracked west of the beam and the north had two cracks extending up from the corners of the cornice/drip mould. The weather had got into the building through a large hole in the south roof and much timber from the roof and/or first floor was laying broken and rotting on the ground floor.

3.2 Block B, Eastern Barn

3.2.1 General

- 3.2.2 Barn B is an east-to-west aligned rectangular structure largely rebuilt in brick masonry with remnants of timber framing and a stone plinth particularly in the west gable wall. It was reduced to two bays during the current development and has opposing cart doors in the west bay. The west gable of the roof is half-hipped and there is one open timber truss surviving. Originally of three bays, the east end bay was divided off by a solid brick cross wall and used as a separate animal house with later pen divisions and with an upper floor probably inserted for use a hay loft. Access to the upper floor was by an exterior stair on the north side. The 'dovecote' block A was formerly built on to the east end of the barn and appeared to incorporate the east gable wall. The east bay was in a dangerous condition with the roof largely collapsed during the first visit and it was not possible to enter the interior although views of the upper floor were taken from the stairs. This bay was subsequently demolished along with block A.
- 3.2.3 The barn was extensively rebuilt, possibly around the same time as Barn D in 1831, and was rebuilt in brick laid in Monk bond. Portions of Barn D are of similar brick and bond type. The primary building consisted of a timber frame structure on a stone plinth.

3.2.4 West Wall and Gable

- 3.2.5 A plinth of roughly dressed and coursed local blue lias, bonded with lime mortar, survives intact in the west wall and is 1.5m in height. Above the plinth the west gable wall retains a square panel timber frame but this contains many reused timbers and may have been rebuilt (Plate 7).
- 3.2.6 The lower timber frame consists of two jowled main posts rising from the plinth to support a tie beam and a sill plate laid on the plinth between the two posts. The posts contain redundant mortises for braces which are not mirrored in the tie beam, indicating reuse. The sill contains an edge-halved scarf and on

the exterior the north part of the sill has an angled rebate for a brace and a series of closely spaced now redundant pegs indicating it also has been reused (Plate 8).

- 3.2.7 There are five intermediate posts or studs which rise from the sill to the tie and each section between posts is divided into three square panels by two short intermediate rails excepting in the north panel which has no subdivision. There are no pegs visible holding the joints of the posts or rails. The posts contain various pairs of redundant peg holes indicating reuse or rebuilding. There is a central row of pairs of redundant peg holes which line up indicating formerly there was a central row of rails, however there are other pairs of redundant peg holes above and below these which do not line up. It would seem therefore that the posts may have been reused twice, the second time in a similar configuration to their present one.
- 3.2.8 On the interior an additional post and a diagonal brace have been nailed onto the existing frame. The post is nailed to the inner face of the existing central post and the brace runs from the lower junction of this post and the sill up to the junction of the south-west corner post and the tie.
- 3.2.9 Above the tie the end truss consists of two inner principals extending to a collar above which is a half hip. There are five vertical members consisting of two queen struts to each principal and a central strut from the tie to the collar with mid-rails connecting the three central struts creating a cross pattern (Plate 9). The collar-to-principal joints are both pegged, which, as few other joints in this frame have visible pegs, may indicate that these three members were reused together, perhaps from the earlier barn.
- 3.2.10 The frame is infilled with brick nogging in stretcher bond which, apart from the more modern panel at the north end, probably dates to the c1831 rebuild. The bricks used in the infill (excepting the more modern panel) measure 0.22m long x 0.065m high and have some orthogonal skintlings. A later hole has been crudely made in the brick infill in the central panel immediately south of the central post to support the reduced end of the north-east purlin of the adjoining shelter shed.

3.2.11 The north wall

- 3.2.12 The north wall has a cart door at the west end and red brick masonry in the central bay. West of the door is a short section of wall with original full height blue lias plinth and timber framed panels infilled with brick nogging in stretcher bond (Plate 10).
- 3.2.13 The jowled main post of the central tie-beam truss is on the east side of the doorway and sits on a padstone lighter in colour than the blue lias plinth into which it is built (Plate 11). There are redundant mortices in the post including one for a brace not matched in the elm tie beam.

3.2.14 The central brick bay is laid in a form of English bond with two rows of stretchers between headers, on both the exterior and interior. On the exterior the wall sits on a low blue lias plinth but on the inside the plinth is of irregular brick with two rows of tiles at the top in line with the top of the blue lias on the outside. At its east end the wall abuts the upper frame and infill of the eastern bay now demolished (see below).and a brick pier supporting the upper frame.

3.2.15 The south wall

- 3.2.16 The exterior south wall has been rebuilt in red brick laid in a slightly irregular version of Monk bond set on a low plinth of blue lias which is probably a remnant of the original plinth. There are cart doors at the west end of the wall into the west bay and west of these a short run of wall which also sits on a low stone plinth and abuts the higher original plinth of the west gable wall (Plate 12).
- 3.2.17 The wallplate running above the doorway has redundant rebates for braces on outer face so is probably reused or is a survival from the earlier barn. Immediately east of the cart door the south post of the central truss has been replaced in the rebuilding by an internal brick pier. The door post is set on a padstone made from a reused dressed stone (Plate 13). Just east of the doors is a diamond shaped chequerboard pattern of ventilation holes in the exterior brick fabric. In the east end bay (now demolished) there was a stable door with a shallow segmental arched head with a very small square window opening just east of it and at the east end the rebuilt wall abutted the stone quoins of Block A (Plate 14).
- 3.2.18 The interior skin of the wall is a fairly random bond. Where the wall has been demolished the broken south end just south of the cross wall reveals in section that the wall at that point consisted of an outer double skin (9") wall and an inner single skin bonded to the cross wall.
- 3.2.19 The east cross wall
- 3.2.20 This was the dividing wall between the east bay and the open west part of the barn. but everything east of this was demolished during the redevelopment.
- 3.2.21 It is laid with 3 or 4 courses of stretchers between header/stretcher courses so is a sort of mixed garden bond (Brunskill and Clifton-Taylor 1977, 71). It is bonded to the inner skin of the south wall of the barn.
- 3.2.22 A new doorway was cut through the centre of this wall as part of the recent development.
- 3.2.23 Demolished east bay

- 3.2.24 This part of the barn along with the adjoining 'dovecote' or stable was in a derelict and dangerous condition at the beginning of the project and was demolished after the first visit to record it photographically. Because of the condition the interior was not examined. It was therefore not possible to check the construction of the floor, the internal ground-floor divisions or the lower part of the east wall of the barn.
- 3.2.25 The east bay was separated from the rest of the barn by the cross wall and there was no connecting door. It had two floors; the ground floor being accessed through a door in the rebuilt south wall and the first floor by an exterior staircase on the north wall.
- 3.2.26 The south wall had been rebuilt as described above. The north wall contained elements of timber framing with brick infill and had a brick exterior staircase with stone flag steps. The stairs rose up to a door at the east end of the first floor adjacent to Block A (Plate 15).
- 3.2.27 The upper part of the north wall was timber framed, consisting of four vertical panels and the doorway all of equal size. The four panels were separated by three posts rising from a horizontal plate at first-floor level, and each was further divided into two square panels by a horizontal mid-rail and all infilled with brick in stretcher bond. The second upper panel from the east also had some subsidiary division with a small upright and rail defining what may have been a window but later infilled with brick.
- 3.2.28 Below the main plate the ground floor was all in brick with the brick staircase built against it. The brickwork exhibited a straight joint at the west end about 0.7m west of the junction with the later north wall to the west and two straight joints at the centre also about 0.7m apart. These joints clearly define two brick piers which supported the first floor and these may have been inserted around the same time as the main rebuilding of the barn to support the upper framing. The brickwork between them is later infill and on the west this contains a square window opening. Prior to the later infilling and brick staircase being built the ground floor may have consisted of two bays open to the north and supported on timber posts prior to the construction of the brick piers. This could have been a cart shed or animal shelter/stable with hayloft/granary above prior to the construction of the adjacent dovecote/stable. This possibility is further evidenced by the fact that there is no stone plinth to this bay and the stone plinth of the adjacent bay ends cleanly at the west brick pier (Plate 16). However if the bay was open and the stair is later there must have been an earlier access to the upper floor possibly from inside but due to the dangerous condition of the structure it was not possible to search for evidence of this.
- 3.2.29 The first floor was in a state of semi-collapse but the interior was viewed from the external stair. The east wall consisted of the timber-framed gable wall of

the barn, the stone quoins of Block A were cut to accommodate the timber corner post adjacent to the door (Plate 17). The wall was similar but not identical to the west gable wall. There were four intermediate posts below a slightly cambered tie with brick infill in stretcher bond which had been rendered. There was a small plank door between the central posts giving access to the upper floor of Block A. Above the tie the wall was of wattle and daub, a central post and mid-rails in a cross pattern as in the west wall and parts of other frame members were exposed, while less substantial uprights were plastered over. There was a collar above which in the primary building would have supported a half-hip as at the west end but the triangular space above the collar was open into the roof of Block A. presumably the half-hip was removed when Block A was constructed (Plate 18).

- 3.2.30 The wattle and daub infill may be primary and the brick infill here and elsewhere in the barn is probably a later insertion.
- 3.2.31 *The roof*
- 3.2.32 The roof is pitched with a half-hip at the west end. The south slope is clad in traditional plain clay tiles and the north slope in modern asbestos sheeting.
- 3.2.33 The roof framing consists of two orders of purlins per slope supporting paired common rafters which clasp a ridge piece. At the west end the rafters are interrupted by integral windbraces. The substantial purlins are partially trenched into the backs of inner principal rafters and also supported by triangular brackets fixed to the principals. The purlins have some splayed scarfed joints and a later purlin has been lapped in.
- 3.2.34 The west end frame has been described above. There is one central open truss which consists of a tie beam supporting inner principal rafters with a pegged collar at upper purlin level and raking struts from the tie to the principals. At the east end the purlins are supported by the brick east wall (Plate 19).
- 3.2.35 The roof formerly extended one bay further east and has been demolished. The structure was seen prior to demolition but was already partly collapsed. The upper purlin on the south slope had a series of regular rebates on its upper face which did not correspond to the common rafters and indicated reuse, possibly of a beam with joist rebates or a purlin from a higher quality roof with trenched common rafters. There was a windbrace on the south slope but not on the north.

3.3 Block C, Shelter Shed

3.3.1 This, small, single-storey, three-bay, shed is a later structure infilling the space between the two barns and defining the area to the south-east as a separate yard. It abuts the walls of the barns including the rebuilt north-east wall of the '1831' barn, however it might have abutted the earlier wall which was then

replaced. It is clearly later than the original barns but it is not absolutely certain whether it predates or postdates the 1831 reconstruction but it seems most likely it is later(Plates 20-22).

- 3.3.2 The shed has a solid stone wall on the north, of blue lias, 0.4m thick, roughly laid to courses with a central door opening. The south front of the shed is semi-open with two brick piers supporting the wall plates and trusses. The west bay has been infilled with twentieth century brick laid in stretcher bond and the east bay has the remnant of a plank and muntin wall (Plate 20).
- 3.3.3 The roof has two tie beam trusses with principal rafters which are lapped and crossed at the top. There is one order of purlins to each slope which are supported at either end by having been let into the barn walls excepting one at the east end which is supported by a small plate nailed to the wall studs. The roof is clad in plain clay tiles on the south slope and stone tiles on the north
- 3.3.4 The purlins run straight across the back of the east truss principals but are staggered at the west and supported by additional blocks attached to the backs of the principals of both trusses. The principal rafters and ties are of reused timber with redundant pegs and mortises.
- 3.3.5 The shed is too narrow to have been a cart-shed and was probably originally a stock shelter where the animals either had free run into the yard or temporary partitions could be erected. This was possibly a small cowhouse of the Worcestershire type i.e. open at the front without a wall, as described by Peters (1981, 69).

3.4 Block D, '1831' Barn

- 3.4.1 This building was not highlighted in the brief but is of interest as part of the farm complex and subject to conversion as part of the development so was photographed and is described below.
- 3.4.2 This is an open three-bay rectangular plan barn with opposing cart-doors in the central bay which is a standard layout for a threshing-barn. With both doors open there would be a through draft for winnowing corn in the central bay or stead and waggons would have easy access for unloading and loading. Unthreshed corn would probably be stored on one side and threshed stalks (straw) on the other, the grain would be taken to a separate granary. The other barn (Block B) could also have been used as a threshing barn as it had opposing doors but was not of typical layout.
- 3.4.3 The roof is ridged with half-hips and clad in plain clay tiles. The two open trusses have tie beams, inner principals, raking struts and collars (Plate 23). There are two orders of purlins per slope which are trenched into the backs of the principals. Some of the roof timbers including the ties and collars exhibit redundant mortices and peg holes and are probably reused. The north gable

end wall framing is similar to that in the west end of Barn B, but with four verticals above the tie instead of five.

- 3.4.4 The west wall and north gable wall are fully timber framed with square framing on blue lias and brick plinths with brick infill (Plates 24-25). The framing consists of wall plate and sill plate with main and intermediate posts dividing the wall into tall vertical panels which, as seen elsewhere, are subdivided by mid-rails into three square panels. In the north wall three of the central square panels have a chequerboard pattern of ventilation holes in the brickwork. The mid-rails and infill of the east panel have been removed to create an opening.
- 3.4.5 There are four courses of brick above the blue lias and below the wall plate in the north and west walls which raises the plinths to about the height of the stone plinth at the west end of barn B, these plinths may have either been partially rebuilt or the barn raised by the addition of the brick courses. The frame may have been shortened due to repair, much of the frame and infill north of the doorway in the west wall has been renewed in the current development.
- 3.4.6 The east and south walls of this barn have been rebuilt in red brick in 1831, the date is recorded in the large pattern of ventilation holes in the south end of the east wall (Plate 26)and inscribed on a datestone below the letters T. S. at the apex of the south gable. These two walls both have a low stone plinth of coursed blue lias which is probably retained from the primary structure. There is a pattern of four separate lozenges in dark headers above the date in the east wall and dark headers surround the datestone in the south wall. The east wall is laid in Monk Bond and the south wall in Flemish Garden Wall Bond.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

- 4.1.1 On the 17th July 2006 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at Baldwins Farm, Pebworth. The watching brief was undertaken during the excavation of foundation trenches for the barn conversion on the footprint of the demolished 'dovecote' and eastern bay of the barn. No archaeology was revealed in any of the trenches. A large amount of building stone was located within the northern trench which relates to the original foundations of the barn which was recently destroyed.
- 4.1.2 The natural, a greenish blue clay was located at a maximum depth of 0.2 m below the ground surface. Overlying this was a 0.2 m thick layer of demolition rubble. The presence of the thin demolition layer directly above the natural and the absence of any buried ground surfaces suggest that the entire area was levelled prior to the building of the farm. Therefore any archaeology within the area would have been destroyed when the farm was built.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1.1 The buildings recorded comprised a range consisting of a c1700 block that appears to have been used as a stable and hayloft. This block was of some quality with stone dressings including rusticated ashlar quoins, stone kneelers and a stone coped east gable. The window surrounds and north door surround were also of dressed stone with dripmoulds over the lintels.
- 5.1.2 This building was listed as a dovecote and although being similar in plan shape and size to other dovecotes in the area it exhibited no cupola on the roof or holes in the walls for doves to enter and exit. The openings in the building suggest it was used as a stable below with hayloft above although the building was not examined internally as it was in a dangerous condition and subsequently demolished.
- 5.1.3 The stable had been built onto the east end of a 17th century timber-framed barn which had been partially rebuilt in brick. The east wall contained timber-framing and wattle and daub infill. Timber framing in the west and north walls contained later brick infill. To the west a second barn perpendicular to the main range also contained elements of timber-framing and had been substantially rebuilt in brick in 1831. Both barns retained sections of blue lias stone plinths. Joining the two was a three bay shelter shed built as infill with a stone rear wall.
- 5.1.4 Many of the timbers in the barn and shed roofs and surviving framing were of reused timber and some of the main timbers were of Elm and the buildings were therefore found to be unsuitable for dendrochronological sampling.
- 5.1.5 The watching brief on the foundation trenches for a new build on the footprint of the 'dovecote' and east bay of the barn found natural clay at 0.2m depth. There were no archaeological deposits apart from the barn foundations and a layer of demolition rubble implying that the area was levelled prior to the building of the farm.

6 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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APPENDIX 1 Photographic Record Sheets



Site Code: PEBBF'05 | Site Name: Baldwins Farm, Pebworth | Film No: 1

Camera Number Lens Number Black and White

Camera Nu	umber	Lens N	lumber	1	Black and White
Date	Negative Number	View	Scale	Description	Initials
	0				
27/10/05	1	N		Identification	SJU
27/10/05	2	N	1m	Block A South elevation	SJU
27/10/05	3	N	1m	Block A South elevation; wall	SJU
27/10/05	4	N		Block A South elevation; roof	SJU
27/10/05	5	N	1m	Block A South elevation; west window	SJU
27/10/05	6	N	1m	Block A South elevation; west corner	SJU
27/10/05	7	N	1m	Block A South elevation; east window	SJU
27/10/05	8	N	1m	Block A South elevation; door area	SJU
27/10/05	9	N	1m	Block B Barn; east end of south elevation	SJU
27/10/05	10	NE	1m	Blocks A & B oblique view of south elevation	SJU
27/10/05	11	NE	1m	Block A south-west corner and abutting wall of B	SJU
27/10/05	12	N	1m	Block B Barn; west end of South elevation	SJU
27/10/05	13	N	1m	Block B Barn; South elevation	SJU
27/10/05	14	N	1m	Blocks A & B; South elevation	SJU
27/10/05	15	N	1m	Block C Shelter shed; Barn; South elevation	SJU
27/10/05	16	NE		Blocks A & B; oblique view of south elevation	SJU
27/10/05	17	W	1m	Block D '1831' Barn ; East elevation	SJU
27/10/05	18	NW	1m	Blocks C & D; Oblique view	SJU
27/10/05	19	NE		Block A east elevation	SJU
27/10/05	20	NE	1m	Block A south-east corner quoins	SJU
27/10/05	21	S	1m	Block A north elevation	SJU
27/10/05	22	SE	1m	Block A north elevation	SJU
27/10/05	23	S	1m	Block B Barn; east end of north elevation (timber fram	ne) SJU
27/10/05	24	SE	1m	Steps to upper floor at east end of Barn B	SJU
27/10/05	25	SE	1m	Door to upper floor of B with NW quoins of A shaped timber frame	to SJU
27/10/05	26	Е		Block B; inner east gable wall	SJU
27/10/05	27	Е	1m	Block B; inner east gable wall	SJU
27/10/05	28	S		Block B; collapsed east end floor	SJU
27/10/05	29	S	1m	Block A; North-west quoins detail	SJU
27/10/05	30	W		Block A; east window	SJU
27/10/05	31	W	1m	Block A; detail of plinth	SJU
27/10/05	32	W		Block A; East door	SJU
27/10/05	33	W		Block A; East door	SJU
27/10/05	34	NW		Block A; East window	SJU
27/10/05	35	SW		Block A East elevation	SJU
27/10/05	36	SW		Block A East elevation	SJU
27/10/05	37	SW		Block A; North-east quoins	SJU



Site Name: Baldwins Farm, Pebworth Site Code: PEBBF'05 Film No: 1

Camera Number		Lens N	lumber	Co	Colour slide	
Date	Slide Number	View	Scale	Description	Initials	
	0					
27/10/05	1	N		Identification	SJU	
27/10/05	2	N	1m	Block A South elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	3	N	1m	Block A South elevation; wall	SJU	
27/10/05	4	N		Block A South elevation; roof	SJU	
27/10/05	5	N	1m	Block A South elevation; west window	SJU	
27/10/05	6	N	1m	Block A South elevation; west corner	SJU	
27/10/05	7	N	1m	Block A South elevation; east window	SJU	
27/10/05	8	N	1m	Block A South elevation; door area	SJU	
27/10/05	9	N	1m	Block B Barn; east end of south elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	10	NE	1m	Blocks A & B oblique view of south elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	11	NE	1m	Block A south-west corner and abutting wall of B	SJU	
27/10/05	12	N	1m	Block B Barn; west end of South elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	13	N	1m	Block B Barn; South elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	14	N	1m	Blocks A & B; South elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	15	N	1m	Block C Shelter shed; Barn; South elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	16	NE		Blocks A & B; oblique view of south elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	17	W	1m	Block D '1831' Barn; East elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	18	NW	1m	Blocks C & D; Oblique view	SJU	
27/10/05	19	NE		Block A east elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	20	NE	1m	Block A south-east corner quoins	SJU	
27/10/05	21	S	1m	Block A north elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	22	SE	1m	Block A north elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	23	S	1m	Block B Barn; east end of north elevation (timber frame)	SJU	
27/10/05	24	SE	1m	Steps to upper floor at east end of Barn B	SJU	
27/10/05	25	SE	1m	Door to upper floor of B with NW quoins of A shaped to timber frame	SJU	
27/10/05	26	Е		Block B; inner east gable wall	SJU	
27/10/05	27	Е	1m	Block B; inner east gable wall	SJU	
27/10/05	28	S		Block B; collapsed east end floor	SJU	
27/10/05	29	S	1m	Block A; North-west quoins detail	SJU	
27/10/05	30	W		Block A; east window	SJU	
27/10/05	31	W	1m	Block A; detail of plinth	SJU	
27/10/05	32	W		Block A; East door	SJU	
27/10/05	33	W		Block A; East door	SJU	
27/10/05	34	NW		Block A; East window	SJU	
27/10/05	35	SW		Block A East elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	36	SW		Block A East elevation	SJU	
27/10/05	37	SW		Block A; North-east quoins	SJU	



Site Code: PEBBF'05 | Site Name: Baldwins Farm, Pebworth | Film No: 2

Camera Number Lens Number Black and White

Camera N	umber	Lens N	lumber	Black	ck and White
Date	Negative Number	View	Scale	Description	Initials
	0				
27/10/05	1			Identification	SJU
27/10/05	2	S	1m	Block B; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	3	S		Block B; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	4	Е		Block B; West elevation	SJU
27/10/05	5	Е		Block B; North elevation; detail	SJU
27/10/05	6	Е		Block B; North elevation; upper	SJU
27/10/05	7	W	1m	Block B; Interior west, middle	SJU
27/10/05	8	W		Block B; Interior west, upper	SJU
27/10/05	9	W	1m	Block B; Interior west, lower	SJU
27/10/05	10	W		Block B; Central roof truss	SJU
27/10/05	11	Е	1m	Block B; Interior east, lower	SJU
27/10/05	12	Е		Block B; Interior east, upper	SJU
27/10/05	13	S		Block B; roof	SJU
27/10/05	14	N		Block B; roof	SJU
27/10/05	15	Е		Block B; roof	SJU
27/10/05	16	SE		Block B; interior	SJU
27/10/05	17	SE		Block B; truss	SJU
27/10/05	18	S		Block A; North door, lintel	SJU
27/10/05	19	S		Block A; North door	SJU
27/10/05	20	S		Block A; North door	SJU
27/10/05	21	S	1m	Block C; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	22	S	1m	Block C; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	23	S	1m	Block D; North elevation (timber frame)	SJU
27/10/05	24	S	1m	Blocks C & D; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	25	SE		Blocks A & B; Oblique view of north elevation	SJU
27/10/05	26	SW	1m	Block D; Stone building abutting north-west corner, detail	SJU
27/10/05	27	SE	1m	Shelter Shed, Block C, abutting east wall of Barn B, detail	
27/10/05	28	Е	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	29	Е	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	30	Е	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	31	Е		Block C; East roof truss	SJU
27/10/05	32	SW	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	33	W	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	34	W		Block C; West roof truss	SJU
27/10/05	35	W		Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	36	N		Block D; '1831' Barn, interior north end	SJU
27/10/05	37	N		Block D; '1831' Barn, interior roof structure	SJU



Site Name: Baldwins Farm, Pebworth Film No: 2

Camera Number		Lens N	Co	Colour Slide	
Date	Slide Number	View	Scale	Description	Initials
	0				
27/10/05	1			Identification	SJU
27/10/05	2	S	1m	Block B; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	3	S		Block B; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	4	Е		Block B; West elevation	SJU
27/10/05	5	Е		Block B; North elevation; detail	SJU
27/10/05	6	E		Block B; North elevation; upper	SJU
27/10/05	7	W	1m	Block B; Interior west, middle	SJU
27/10/05	8	W		Block B; Interior west, upper	SJU
27/10/05	9	W	1m	Block B; Interior west, lower	SJU
27/10/05	10	W		Block B; Central roof truss	SJU
27/10/05	11	Е	1m	Block B; Interior east, lower	SJU
27/10/05	12	Е		Block B; Interior east, upper	SJU
27/10/05	13	S		Block B; roof	SJU
27/10/05	14	N		Block B; roof	SJU
27/10/05	15	Е		Block B; roof	SJU
27/10/05	16	SE		Block B; interior	SJU
27/10/05	17	SE		Block B; truss	SJU
27/10/05	18	S		Block A; North door, lintel	SJU
27/10/05	19	S		Block A; North door	SJU
27/10/05	20	S		Block A; North door	SJU
27/10/05	21	S	1m	Block C; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	22	S	1m	Block C; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	23	S	1m	Block D; North elevation (timber frame)	SJU
27/10/05	24	S	1m	Blocks C & D; North elevation	SJU
27/10/05	25	SE		Blocks A & B; Oblique view of north elevation	SJU
27/10/05	26	SW	1m	Block D; Stone building abutting north-west corner, detail	SJU
27/10/05	27	SE	1m	Shelter Shed, Block C, abutting east wall of Barn B, detail	SJU
27/10/05	28	Е	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	29	Е	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	30	Е	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	31	Е		Block C; East roof truss	SJU
27/10/05	32	SW	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	33	W	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	34	W		Block C; West roof truss	SJU
27/10/05	35	W		Block C; Interior	SJU
27/10/05	36	N		Block D; '1831' Barn, interior north end	SJU
27/10/05	37	N		Block D; '1831' Barn, interior roof structure	SJU



Site Code: PEBBF'06 | Site Name: Baldwins Farm, Pebworth | Film No: 3

Camera Number Lens Number Black and White

Camera N	umber	Lens N	lumber	Bla	ck and White
Date	Negative Number	View	Scale	Description	Initials
	0				
30/10/06	1			Identification	SJU
30/10/06	2	SE		Blocks B & C; North elevation oblique	SJU
30/10/06	3	S		Blocks C & D; North elevation	SJU
30/10/06	4	S		Block B; Part of North wall	SJU
30/10/06	5	W		Block B; cross wall and end of partially demolished south wall	SJU
30/10/06	6	W		Block B; upper cross wall	SJU
30/10/06	7	N	1m	Block B; Interior north wall	SJU
30/10/06	8	N	1m	Block B; Interior north upper	SJU
30/10/06	9	W	1m	Block B; Interior west, lower	SJU
30/10/06	10	W		Block B; Interior west, lower	SJU
30/10/06	11	W	1m	Block B; Interior west, upper gable and roof	SJU
30/10/06	12	W		Block B; Interior west, upper gable and roof	SJU
30/10/06	13	N	1m	Block B; Interior, west end of north wall	SJU
30/10/06	14	N	1m	Block B; Interior, west end of north wall	SJU
30/10/06	15	S	1m+0.5m	Block B; exterior, west end of north elevation	SJU
30/10/06	16	SW		Blocks C & D; oblique view of north elevation	SJU
30/10/06	17	SE	1m	Block B; West wall	SJU
30/10/06	18	SE		Block B; West wall	SJU
30/10/06	19	S	1m	Block B; Interior south wall	SJU
30/10/06	20	NE	0.5m	Block B; Padstone in north wall	SJU
30/10/06	21	N	1m	Block B; East side of north doorway	SJU
30/10/06	22	Е	1m	Block B; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	23	Е		Block B; Interior (roof)	SJU
30/10/06	24	NE	0.5m	Blocks B; East end of south wall and construction on site former Block A	of SJU
30/10/06	25	NW		Block C; South elevation oblique	SJU
30/10/06	26	NW		Blocks C & D	SJU
30/10/06	27	W	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	28	W	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	29	W		Block C; Interior, roof truss	SJU
30/10/06	30	Е	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	31	Е		Block C; Interior, roof truss	SJU
30/10/06	32	NE	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	33	N	1m	Block D; '1831' Barn, interior north end	SJU
30/10/06	34	N		Block D; '1831' Barn, interior, roof truss	SJU
30/10/06	35	S	1m	Block D; '1831' Barn, interior south end	SJU
30/10/06	36	S		Block D; '1831' Barn, interior, roof truss	SJU
30/10/06	37	NE		Block D; '1831' Barn, general view	SJU



Site Code: PEBBF'06 | Site Name: Baldwins Farm, Pebworth | Film No: 3

Camera Number Colour Slide

Camera N	umber	Lens N	umber	Colo	ur Slide
Date	Slide Number	View	Scale	Description	Initials
	0				
30/10/06	1			Identification	SJU
30/10/06	2	SE		Blocks B & C; North elevation oblique	SJU
30/10/06	3	S		Blocks C & D; North elevation	SJU
30/10/06	4	S		Block B; Part of North wall	SJU
30/10/06	5	W		Block B; cross wall and end of partially demolished south wall	SJU
30/10/06	6	W		Block B; upper cross wall	SJU
30/10/06	7	N	1m	Block B; Interior north wall	SJU
30/10/06	8	N	1m	Block B; Interior north upper	SJU
30/10/06	9	W	1m	Block B; Interior west, lower	SJU
30/10/06	10	W		Block B; Interior west, lower	SJU
30/10/06	11	W	1m	Block B; Interior west, upper gable and roof	SJU
30/10/06	12	W		Block B; Interior west, upper gable and roof	SJU
30/10/06	13	N	1m	Block B; Interior, west end of north wall	SJU
30/10/06	14	N	1m	Block B; Interior, west end of north wall	SJU
30/10/06	15	S	1m+0.5m	Block B; exterior, west end of north elevation	SJU
30/10/06	16	SW		Blocks C & D; oblique view of north elevation	SJU
30/10/06	17	SE	1m	Block B; West wall	SJU
30/10/06	18	SE		Block B; West wall	SJU
30/10/06	19	S	1m	Block B; Interior south wall	SJU
30/10/06	20	NE	0.5m	Block B; Padstone in north wall	SJU
30/10/06	21	N	1m	Block B; East side of north doorway	SJU
30/10/06	22	Е	1m	Block B; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	23	Е		Block B; Interior (roof)	SJU
30/10/06	24	NE	0.5m	Blocks B; East end of south wall and construction on site of former Block A	SJU
30/10/06	25	NW		Block C; South elevation oblique	SJU
30/10/06	26	NW		Blocks C & D	SJU
30/10/06	27	W	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	28	W	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	29	W		Block C; Interior, roof truss	SJU
30/10/06	30	Е	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	31	Е		Block C; Interior, roof truss	SJU
30/10/06	32	NE	1m	Block C; Interior	SJU
30/10/06	33	N	1m	Block D; '1831' Barn, interior north end	SJU
30/10/06	34	N		Block D; '1831' Barn, interior, roof truss	SJU
30/10/06	35	S	1m	Block D; '1831' Barn, interior south end	SJU
30/10/06	36	S		Block D; '1831' Barn, interior, roof truss	SJU
30/10/06	37	NE		Block D; '1831' Barn, general view	SJU



Site Code: PEBBF'06 | Site Name: Baldwins Farm, Pebworth | Film No: 20

Camera Number Lens Number Black and White

Camera Number		Lens N	Black at	Black and White	
Date	Negative Number	View	Scale	Description	Initials
17/07/06	0			Identification	DM
17/07/06	1	W	2m	East end of Block B after demolition of Block A and east bay of B	DM
17/07/06	2			Void	DM
17/07/06	3	W	2m	East end of Block B after demolition of Block A and east bay of B	DM
17/07/06	4	W	2m	Barn B foundations of South Wall	DM
17/07/06	5	W	2m	Barn B foundations of South wall	DM
17/07/06	6	W	2m	South foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	7	W	2m	South foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	8	W	2m	South foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	9	S	2m	West foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	10	S	2m	West foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	11	S	2m	West foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	12	N	2m	East foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	13	N	2m	East foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	14	N	2m	East foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	15	W	2m	North foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	16	W	2m	North foundation trench	DM
17/07/06	17	W	2m	North foundation trench	DM
	18				
	19				
	20				
	21				
	22				
	23				
	24				
	25				
	26				
	27				
	28				
	29				
	30				
	31				
	32				
	33				
	34				
	35				
	36				
	37				



Site Name: Baldwins Farm, Pebworth Film No: 20 **Site Code:** PEBBF'06

Camera Number		Lens N	umber	Colou	Colour Slide	
Date	Slide Number	View	Scale	Description	Initials	
17/07/06	0			Identification	DM	
17/07/06	1	W	2m	East end of Block B after demolition of Block A and east bay of B	DM	
17/07/06	2	W	2m	East end of Block B after demolition of Block A and east bay of B	DM	
17/07/06	3	W	2m	Barn B; foundations of South Wall	DM	
17/07/06	4	W	2m	Barn B; foundations of South wall	DM	
17/07/06	5	W	2m	South foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	6	W	2m	South foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	7	W	2m	South foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	8	S	2m	West foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	9	S	2m	West foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	10	S	2m	West foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	11	N	2m	East foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	12	N	2m	East foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	13	N	2m	East foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	14	W	2m	North foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	15	W	2m	North foundation trench	DM	
17/07/06	16	W	2m	North foundation trench	DM	
	17					
	18					
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	<i>31</i>	1			L	

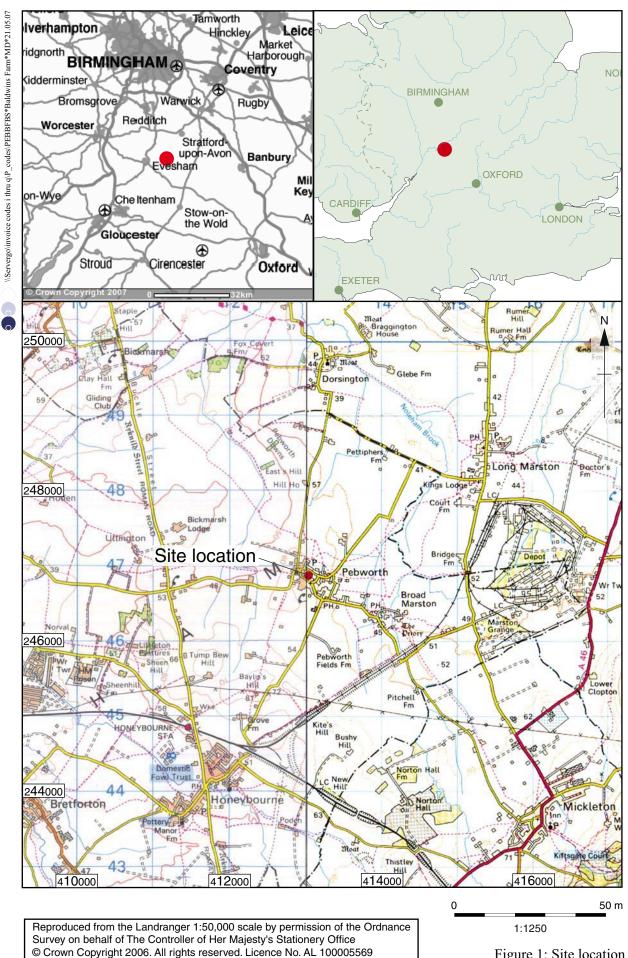


Figure 1: Site location

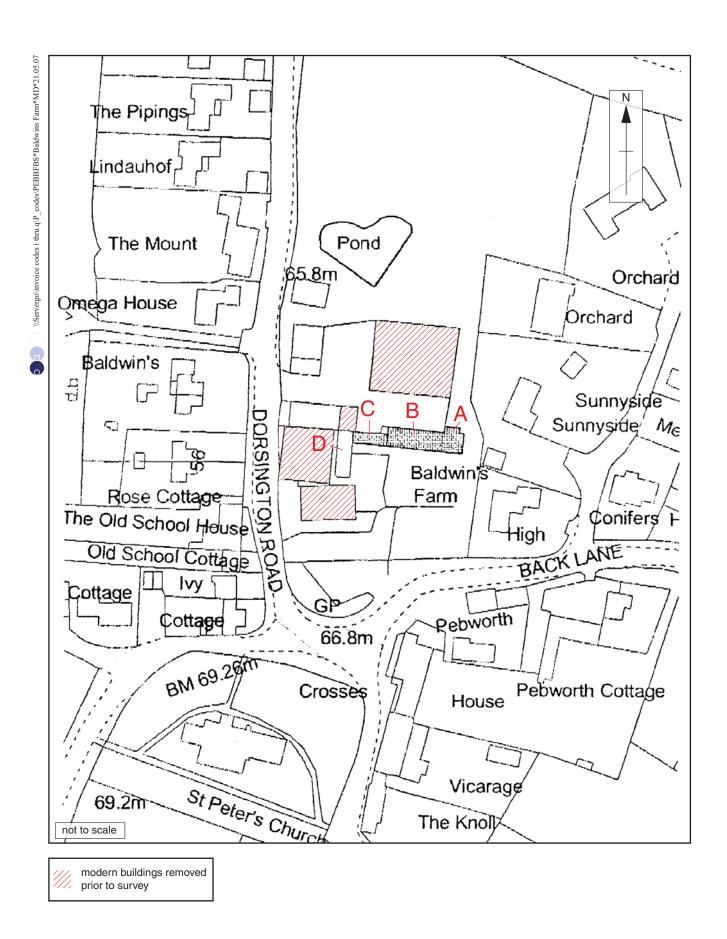
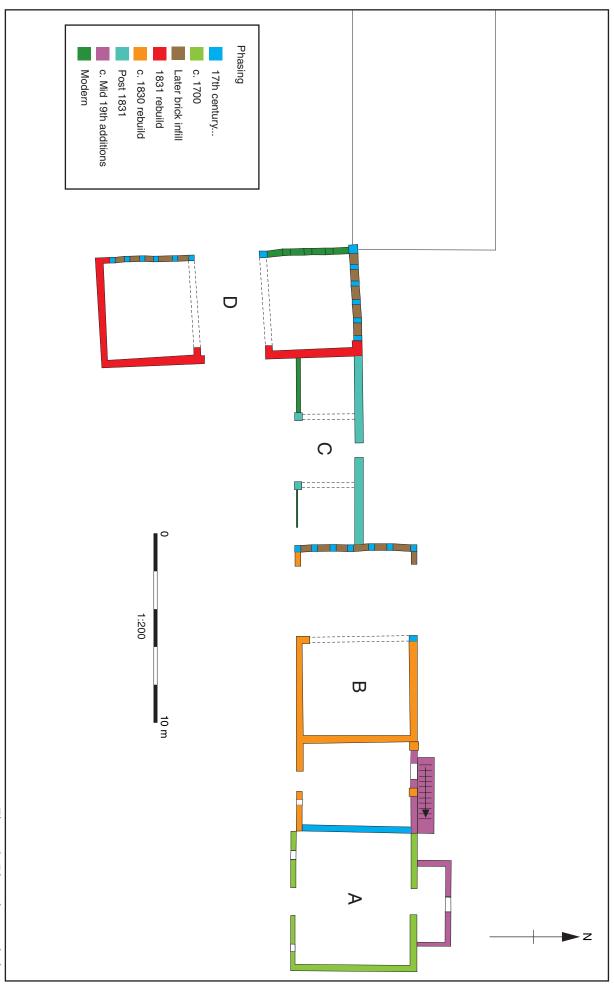


Figure 2: Site plan (based on plan from brief) with OA block numbers added



\\Servergo\invoice codes i thru q\P_codes\PEBBFBS*Baldwins Farm*MD*21.05.07

Figure 3: Phased ground plan

Figure 4: Detail from Pebworth Inclosure map of 1814, Baldwins farm is outlined in Yellow. (Courtesy of Worcestershire & Gloucestershire Record Office)

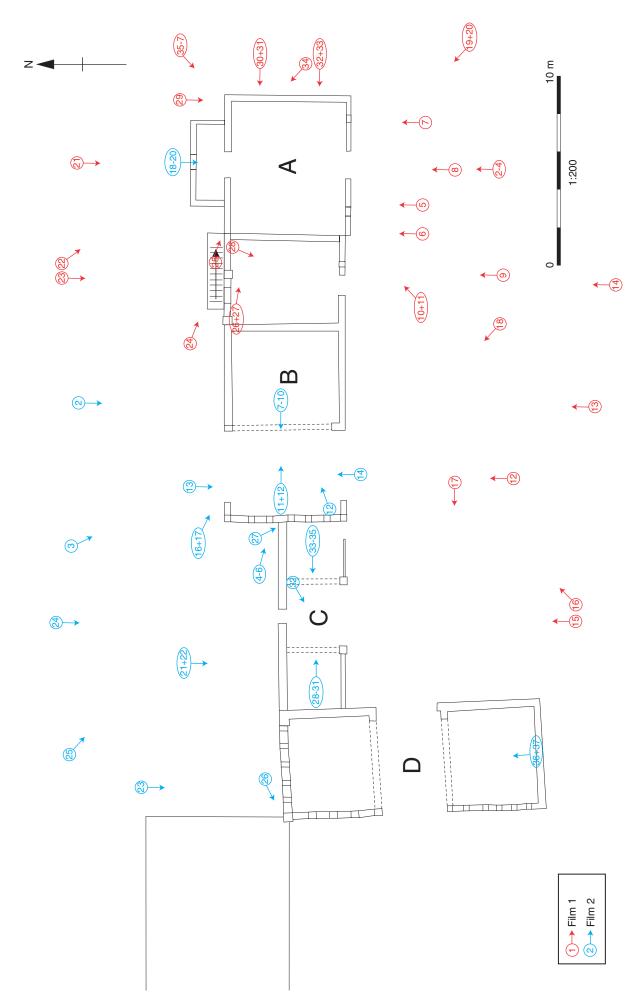


Figure 5: Location of photographic views (films 1+2)

Figure 6: Location of photographic views (film 3)

Figure 7: Location of photographic views (film 20)

footprint of demolished walls

Foundation trenches on

20→ Film 20, colour 20→ Film 20, black and white



Plate 3: Block A, East elevation



Plate 4: Block A, East window



Plate 5: Block A, North elevation



Plate 6: Block A, North door



Plate 7: Block B, West elevation



Plate 8: Block B, Interior of west wall



Plate 9: Block B, Interior of west gable



Plate 10: Block B, North elevation



Plate 11: Block B, Post and padstone in north wall



Plate 12: Block B, South elevation



Plate 13: Block B, Door post pad in south wall



Plate 14: Block B, South wall abutting Block A



Plate 15: Block B, East bay north wall



Plate 16: Block B, East bay north wall detail

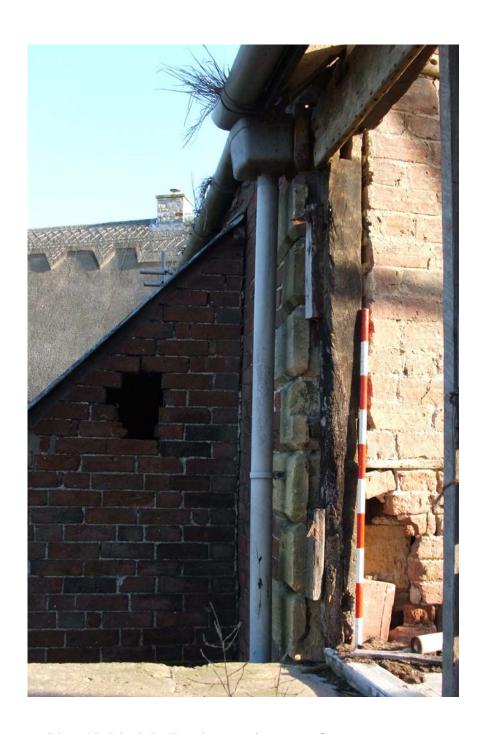


Plate 17: Block B, East bay, quoins cut to fit post



Plate 18: Block B, Interior gable east wall



Plate 19: Block B, Roof



Plate 20: Block C, South wall



Plate 21: Block C, Interior looking east



Plate 22: Block C, Interior looking west



Plate 23: Block D, Roof



Plate 24: Block D, General view looking north-east



Plate 25: Block D, North elevation



Plate 1: Block A, South elevation



Plate 2: Block A, South window



Plate 26: Block D, East wall with date in ventilation holes



Oxford Archaeology

Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 01865 263800 f: (0044) 01865 793496 e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk w:www.oxfordarch.co.uk



Oxford Archaeology North

Storey Institute Meeting House Lane Lancaster LA1 1TF

t: (0044) 01524 848666 f: (0044) 01524 848606 e: lancinfo@oxfordarch.co.uk w:www.oxfordarch.co.uk



Director: David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

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Registered Office:

Oxford Archaeological Unit Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES