

(MORETON-IN-MARSH) (5L)
BROADWELL.

BWMAFWB
282/00

Martin Elliott

**Manor Farm, Broadwell
Moreton-in Marsh,
Gloucestershire**

NGR SP 2005 2760

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF REPORT**

Planning Ref. No. CD.4414/T

Oxford Archaeological Unit
May 2001

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Planning Ref. No. CD.4414/T

Prepared by: K Brown

Date: 17th October 2000

Checked by: J Hiller

Date: April 2001

Approved by:

R. Williams

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Date:

16/5/2001

Oxford Archaeological Unit
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Summary

In August 2000 the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) undertook a watching brief at Manor Farm, Broadwell, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire (NGR SP 2005 2760). The footings of a possible medieval tithe barn were revealed within a small area excavated for the purposes of erecting a new extension. A possible floor deposit was uncovered that was clearly cut by a later post-medieval stone culvert. No finds were recovered in the course of the work to aid dating of these structures.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In August 2000 the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) undertook a watching brief at Manor Farm, Broadwell, Moreton-in-Marsh Gloucestershire (NGR SP 2005 2760). The watching brief was undertaken on behalf of Martin Elliot Partnership, in respect of a development proposal at the farm (Planning Application No: CD.4414/T).
- 1.2 The redevelopment proposal comprised the construction of a single storey extension, adjacent to the existing conservatory, on the north-west side of the extant farmhouse. Manor Farm is situated within the historic core of Broadwell and there is potential for groundwork to reveal archaeology associated with the origins and early history of the village (Fig. 1).
- 1.3 Martin Elliott Partnership commissioned the watching brief. It was undertaken to a brief set by and a WSI agreed with the Senior Archaeological Officer of Gloucestershire County Council. The brief for the project was compiled in accordance with the requirements of the condition attached to the planning permission (model condition 55, from DoE Circular 11/95). R D Gardiner, of Cotstone House, Stow, drew up plans for the extension.

2 Background

- 2.1 Broadwell Manor Farm is located due south-west of the medieval parish church of St. Paul, that dates to the 12th century. The church was restored in the 1860s.
- 2.2 Broadwell Manor itself dates to 1757 and is a regular square Georgian House built in ashlar. Also in the village are the 17th century buildings of Millbrook House, Broadwell Hill Farmhouse and Temple Farmhouse.

- 2.3 The site lies on natural limestone bedrock. At the time of the watching brief the site was a farm with attendant yards and outbuildings.

3 Aims

- 3.1 The aims of the watching brief were to identify any archaeological remains exposed on site during the course of the works, and to record these to established OAU standards (OAU, 1992), in order to secure their preservation by record.

4 Methodology

- 4.1 The excavation works were undertaken with an archaeologist in attendance. Within the constraints imposed by health and safety considerations the deposits and features exposed were cleaned, inspected and recorded in plan, section and by colour slide and monochrome print photography.
- 4.2 Written records were also made on proforma sheets. Soil description utilises standard charts for the approximation of percentage of inclusion types in soil deposits.

5 Results

- 5.1 An area measuring 3.6 m x 3.6 m was machined using a mechanical excavator to a general depth of 0.5 m. This area formed the site of the proposed extension (Fig. 2). A 1 m deep cut measuring 0.5 m in width was excavated around the edge of this area (Fig. 3). The following deposits and features were observed.
- 5.2 The natural limestone bedrock (10) was overlain by a linear arrangement of limestone fragments (9) with 20% coarse yellow-brown sandy clay. The structure was 3.6 m in length, 1.5 m wide and 0.15–0.18 m in depth, and probably represented the footings of a wall. A spread of dark brown sandy clay (8) with 80% limestone fragments, 0.1 m–0.30 m thick, overlay the stonework. It is possible that this material may have formed a floor or courtyard make-up deposit. The insertion of later services and levelling of the ground had truncated the wall footings.
- 5.3 Overlaying the possible floor material was a compact light yellow-brown layer of gravel (2) containing 10% rubble, 2% brick and 2% tarmac. The layer was 0.25 - 0.38 m thick and was cut by a post-medieval stone-built culvert (6). The culvert measured 0.14 m wide and 1.19 m deep, and consisted of a limestone lining filled with a dark greyish brown sandy silt (7). This was cut by a more recent modern service trench (4) that was 0.45 m wide and 0.45 m deep, containing a ceramic pipe (3). The trench was filled with a friable dark brown silty clay (5) with 5% stone fragments and 1% charcoal flecks. A concrete layer (1), 0.1 m– 0.18 m thick, sealed these all of the structures and deposits.

6 Finds

6.1 No archaeological finds were retrieved in the course of the investigation.

7 Environmental results

7.1 No environmental samples were taken in the course of the investigation.

8 Discussion

8.1 The results of the investigation were limited in nature. The presence of the probable wall footing may be part of the tithe barn depicted on an historic engraving of the site by R Ripdehn (entitled 'Broadwell, the seat of Danvers Hodges Esq.'). The engraving shows a barn in the approximate area excavated for the farmhouse extension.

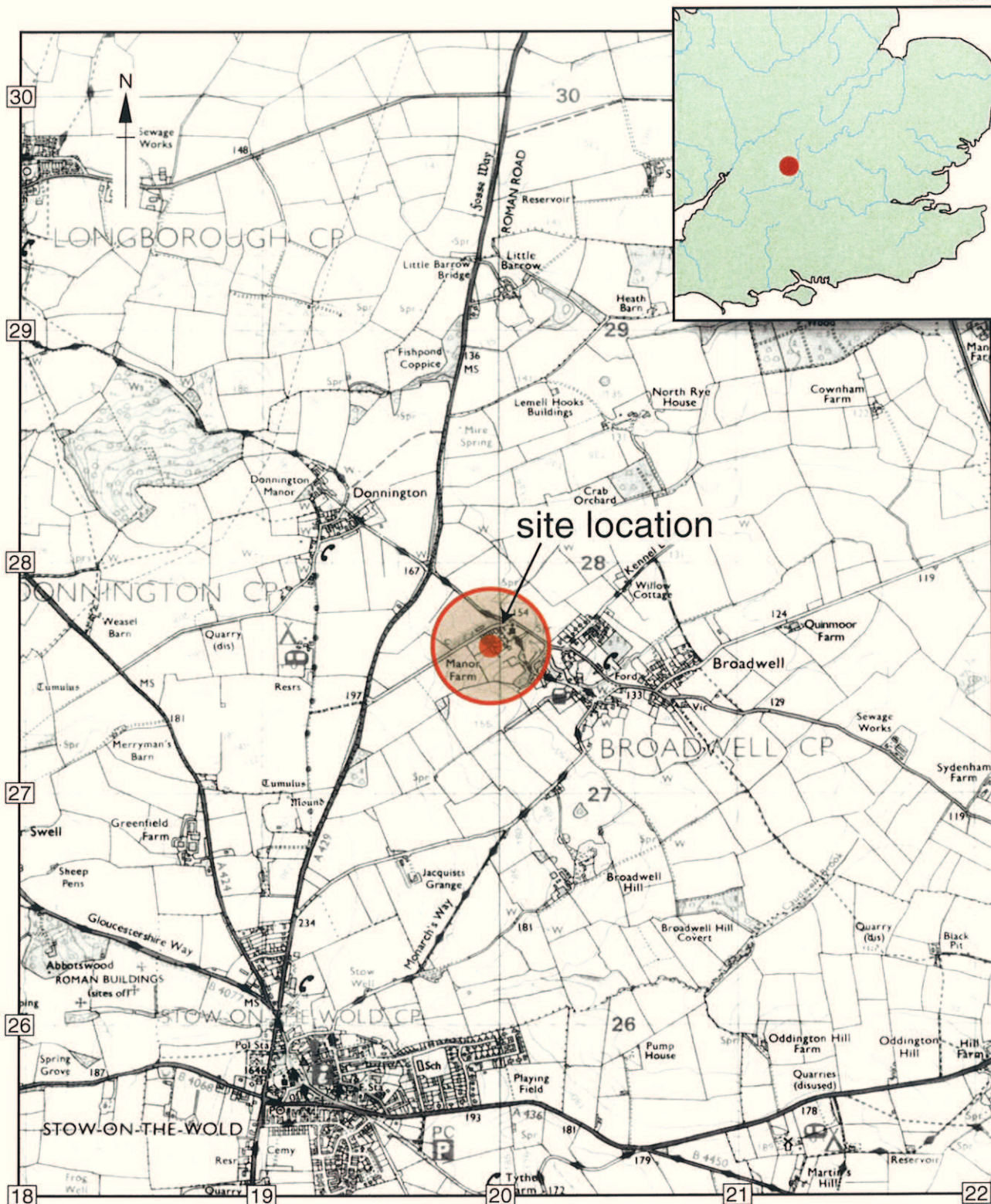
8.2 No dating evidence was recovered from the trench to aid further interpretation; the floor material associated with the wall had clearly been cut by a stone culvert of post-medieval date, so the earlier structure could relate to a late medieval or early post-medieval structure on the site.

Reference

OAU 1992 *Oxford Archaeological Unit Field Manual*, (First edition, August 1992, ed. Wilkinson).

Appendix: Table of Context information

<i>Context</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Width</i>	<i>Comments/date</i>
1	Layer	0.18 m		Concrete
2	Layer	0.38 m		Make-up layer
3	Cut	-	0.45 m	Service pipe
4	Cut	-	0.45 m	Trench
5	Fill	-		Fill deposit
6	Cut	0.5 m+	0.6 m	Culvert
7	Fill	0.19 m	0.14 m	Fill
8	Layer	0.3 m		Make-up layer
9	Wall	-	1.5 m	Wall footing
10	Natural			Limestone and clay



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Figure 1: Site location

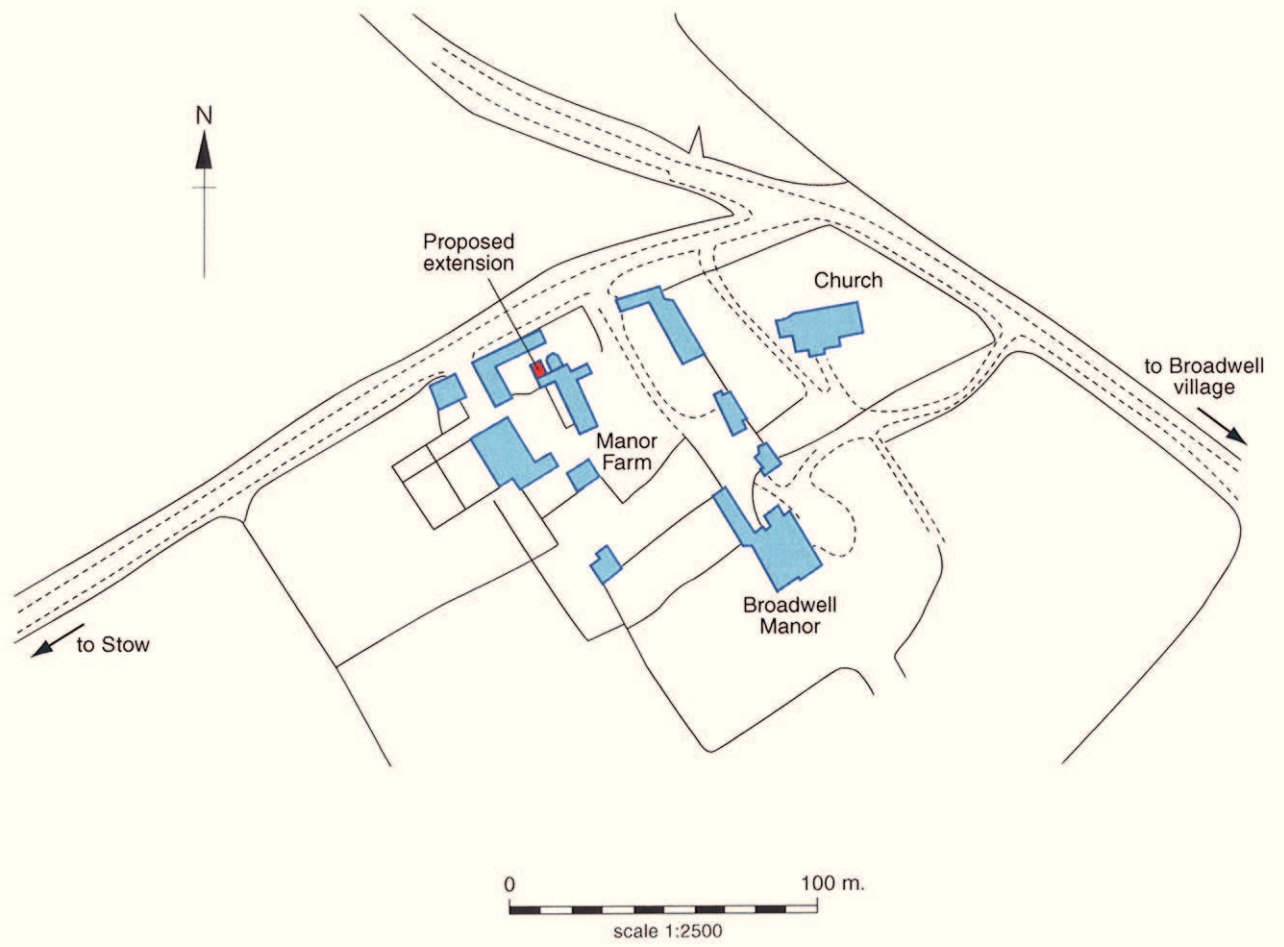
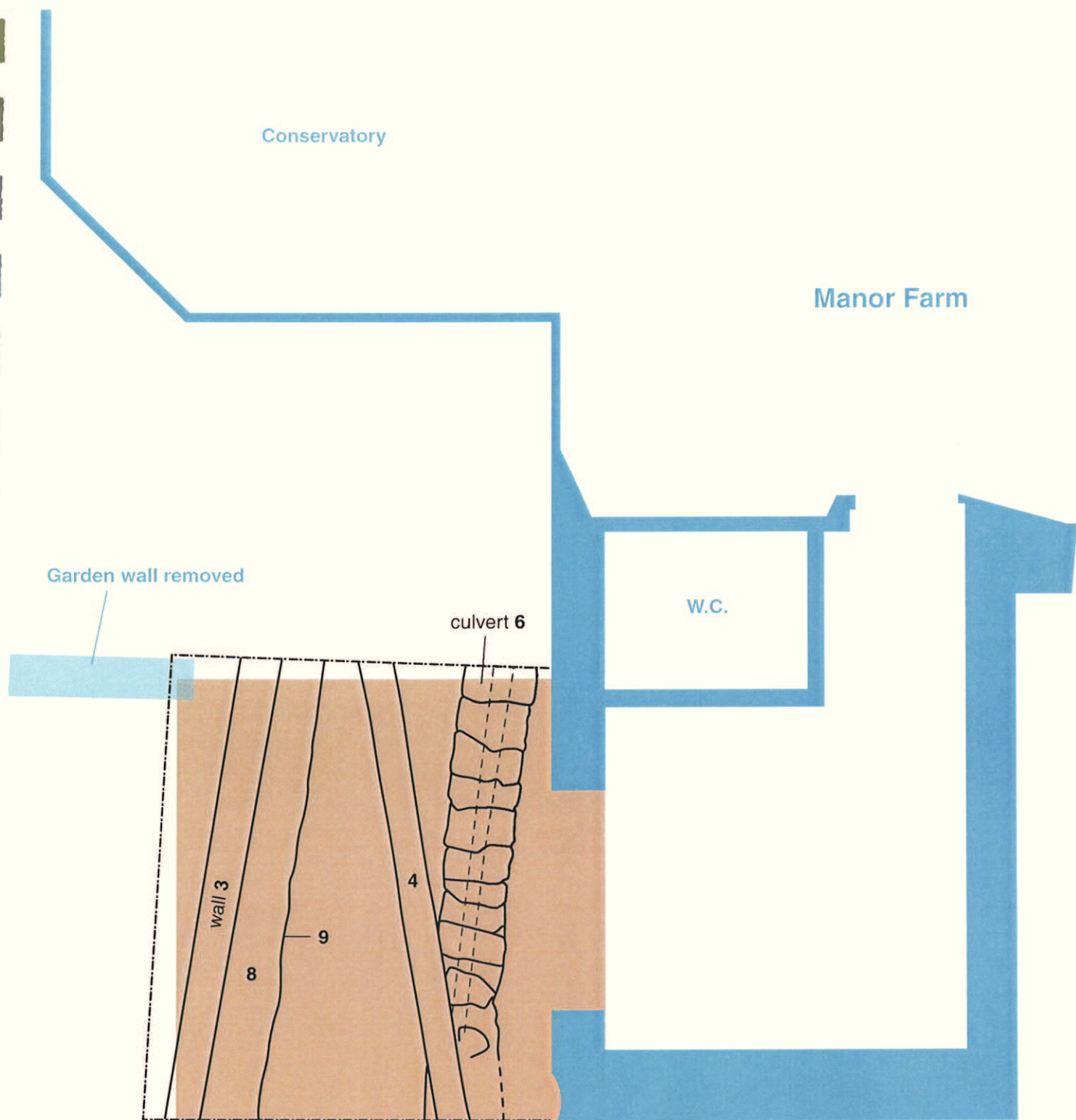


Figure 2: Location plan



- Existing buildings
- Proposed extension
- Archaeology

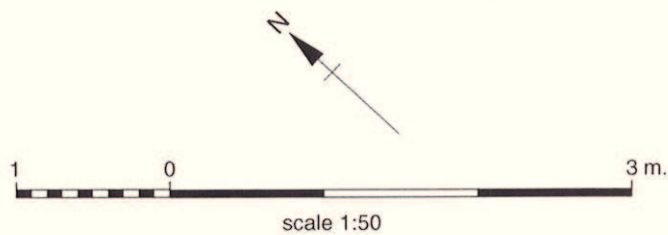


Figure 3: Site plan



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