

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AT MAIN STREET, OLD WESTON.
TL099774.

by

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The above property was visited by the author on the morning of the 19th January 1998.

Excavation of the house foundation trenches were virtually complete at the time of the visit. No archaeology was visible within any of these trenches or in the surrounding areas which had been stripped of topsoil. An inspection was made of the proposed garage footings which was immediately next to the road; again no archaeology was visible in plan or traces of pottery or bone found within any area of the site.

Older properties within the village are set well back from the road and on a ridge of clays which runs parallel to the B660. The village originally ran south of the church which lies about 700m to the southwest of the site and following a fire in 1701 the village was rebuilt on the northern side of the church. A number of seventeenth century properties remain along the B660. The absence of archaeology dating to the medieval or post-medieval periods may therefore be unsurprising. Finds of a prehistoric or early historic date were also absent.

The village of Old Weston is probably of medieval foundation forming as a result of population expansion onto the heavier claylands of Huntingdonshire. Prior to the advent mouldboard plough it may not have been efficient to plough such claylands and this may account for the paucity of earlier historical remains in the area. The observations within Old Weston have however allowed us to add useful spatial information to the Sites and Monuments Record and confirm earlier ideas regarding the development of Old Weston.