

459 Lugtrout Lane, Catherine-de-Barnes, Solihull

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



understanding heritage matters

Archaeology Warwickshire Report No 1578

NOVEMBER 2015



*Working for
Warwickshire*

Project:	Archaeological Evaluation 459 Lugtrout Lane, Catherine-de-Barnes
Commissioned by:	Parimal Tanna, Damson Homes
Project Report No.	1578
Site Code:	SLS15
Planning Reference:	PL/204/01434/FUL
Planning Authority:	Solihull
Planning Archaeologist:	Anna Stocks, Warwickshire
National Grid Reference:	SP 1789 8035
Team:	
Project Manager:	Stuart Palmer MCIfA
Fieldwork:	Jan Janulewicz BA, Caroline Rann BA, Pete Thompson, BA
Author:	Jan Janulewicz BA, Pete Thompson BA
Illustrations:	Candy Stevens
Report checked by:	Stuart Palmer MCIfA
Date:	November 2015
Report reference:	Janulewicz, J, and Thompson P, 2015, <i>459 Lugtrout Lane, Catherine-de-Barnes: Archaeological Evaluation</i> , Archaeology Warwickshire Report 1578.

Archaeology Warwickshire

Unit 9

Montague Road

Warwick

CV34 5LW

01926 412278

fieldarchaeology@warwickshire.gov.uk

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/archaeology

CONTENTS	1
Summary	2
1 Introduction	2
2 Site Location	2
3 Archaeological and Historical Background	2
4 Aims and Methods	3
5 Results	4
6 Conclusions	5
Acknowledgements	5
References	5

PHOTOGRAPHS

1 Trench 1	6
2 Trench 2 looking west	6
3 Working shot	7
4 Trench 3	7

APPENDICES

A List of Contexts	8
-----------------------	---

FIGURES

1 Location of application area and Historic Environment information	
2 Detail from First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1886	
3 Trenches excavated	

SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation consisting of three trial trenches was undertaken on behalf of Damson Homes within the supposed extent of the medieval hamlet of Catherine-de-Barnes. No significant archaeological deposits or finds were encountered. The absence of any medieval finds strongly suggests that the present development area lies outside the foci of medieval settlement.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Planning permission has been granted by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council for the demolition of an existing builders' workshop and office and the erection of two dwellings and two detached garages on a former builders yard (Planning ref. PL/2014/01434/FUL).

1.2 A planning condition attached to the consent requires that the applicant secure the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.

1.3 Archaeology Warwickshire have been commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation approved by the planning authority. The approved schemes included the provision of three trial trenches. This report presents the results of the work which was undertaken on 25th and 29th October 2015. The project archive will be kept by Archaeology Warwickshire until such time as a suitable repository accepts deposition (Site Code SLS15).

2 SITE LOCATION

2.1 The site is located on the east side of Lugtrout Lane, north of Hampton Lane, in Catherine-de-Barnes in the parish of Hampton-in-Arden at SP 1789 8035. The application area covers 917 square metres.

2.2 The underlying geology of the site is Mercia Mudstone with overlying Glaciofluvial deposits of Sand and Gravel (BGS 2015).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Documentary evidence suggests that Catherine de Barnes was a small medieval hamlet recorded in the Domesday Survey as being held by Almar for Turchil de Warwick before and during William's reign (MSI 5822). The hamlet did not have a church in the

medieval period and appears in the records of Hampton in Arden. From 1100 it was owned by Chetelbern or Ketelbarnus, who gave land to build the nunnery of Henwood Priory. It was known by a variety of names in the past, including Catherine Barns Heath on a map of 1812 (Fig 1).

3.2 The Salter Street trackway passes through the village immediately to the south of the site (MSI 1376). This is an ancient saltway originating in Droitwich and traceable across the Arden, in use from at least the early Iron Age.

3.3 Historic maps of the area date back to 1814 (Ordnance Survey drawings Birmingham 24, OSD 256), subsequently mapped by Holbeck in 1843 and the Ordnance Survey from 1886. The site area was within an undeveloped triangular area of land on this early mapping and is first shown with the present builders yard on 1955 mapping, although a 1945 aerial photograph suggests it had been developed by that date.

4 AIMS AND METHODS

4.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence and extent of any significant archaeological deposits within the study area; To characterise the archaeology and understand its value. The project will determine the impact of the proposed development on any archaeological deposits.

4.2 Secondary aims include placing the results in their wider local and regional contexts as appropriate.

4.3 The objectives were to locate, record and analyse archaeological materials and deposits and to disseminate the results in an appropriate format.

4.4 The three trenches were opened up by a 10-tonne, 360° excavator with a 1.80m wide, toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and other plough soils were removed under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist until either the top of archaeological remains or geological natural was reached.

5 RESULTS

Table A Deposit sequence details

<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Trenches</i>			<i>Description</i>
	1	2	3	
Topsoil	100	200	300	Greyish brown silty clay loam
Redeposited natural	-	201	301	
Soil horizon (previous buried soil)	-	202	302	Greyish brown silty clay
Natural geological sand/ gravel	101	203	303	Yellowish brown sand and gravel (also with clay patches)

Trench 1

5.1 This trench was 8m long and aligned NE/SW. Geological natural (101) was encountered along the total length of this trench at 118.35m AOD. The natural was overlain by a layer of topsoil (100) which was 0.3m thick and present across the entire trench. Two modern pits were discovered. These are associated with the demolition of the modern building.

Trench 2

5.2 Trench 2 was 12m long and aligned E/W. Geological natural sand and gravel (203) was encountered at 0.88 m below ground level. The natural was overlain by an older plough soil 0.38m thick (201) at the east end of the trench. A modern intrusion (2.9m long, 1.5m wide and 1m deep) cut through (201) and was probably associated with the former timber yard. Ceramic building materials and pottery were recovered from the fill (204). The buried soil was overlaid by a layer of re-deposited natural which was 0.2m thick (201).

Trench 3

5.3 The trench was 4.8m long and 2.1m wide and was aligned north to south. A similar simple deposit sequence was also revealed at the southern end of the site. Natural sand and gravel (303) was revealed across the trench. This was sealed by a 0.2m thick, buried topsoil or horticultural soil (202). A redeposited layer of natural gravel, either a dump or levelling deposit (301), sealed the buried soil horizon and the top of sequence was a 0.5m thick layer of topsoil (300).

5.4 Two ceramic field drains (305 and 307) were revealed cut into natural. These were on different alignments, west to east and south-west to north-east, but were probably contemporary.

6 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 No significant archaeological deposits or finds were encountered in the evaluation trenches. Two pits in Trench 1 are modern and probably relate to the the construction of the modern building.

6.2 The area around Trench 2 was heavily truncated to a depth of 0.96m below ground level. The disturbance is likely to be associated with the former timber yard.

6.3 The absence of any medieval finds strongly suggests the present development site lies outside the foci of medieval settlement.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeology Warwickshire would like to thank Damson Homes for commissioning the work.

REFERENCES

BGS 2015 British Geological Survey Viewer

<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed September 2015.

Ordnance Survey 1814 Ordnance Survey Surveyors drawing 2": 1 mile map, Birmingham 24, OSD 256, British Library scanned collections online.

Ordnance Survey 1886 *First Edition 1:10560 map, Warwickshire Sheet 20NW.*

Ordnance Survey 1905 *Second Edition 1:2500 map, Warwickshire Sheet 20.1.*

Ordnance Survey 1937 *Revised Edition 1:2500 map, Warwickshire Sheet 20.1.*

Solihull Historic Environment Record (held by Warwickshire County Council)

WRO CR 328/22/2 *Map of Hampton in Arden and Kinwalsey*, by J. Holbeck, 1843, Warwickshire County Record Office.

WRO CRO Z151 (U) *Crown Estate map*, by James 1812, Copy in Warwickshire County Record Office.



1. Trench 1



2. Trench 2 looking west



3. Working Shot



4. Trench 3

APPENDICES

A List of contexts

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	100	Dark brown clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions up to 10mm	Modern Topsoil
1	101	Yellowish brown sand and gravel	Geological Natural
2	200	Dark brown clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions up to 10mm.	Modern Topsoil
2	201	Light greyish brown silty sand with moderate stone inclusions up to 10mm	Older plough soil
2	202	Yellowish brown sandy gravel	Natural
2	203	Vertical sides and flat base	Modern intrusion
2	204	Mid grey silty sand with no inclusions.	Fill of [203]
3	300	Dark brown clayey silt	Topsoil
3	301	Redeposited natural	Levelling deposit
3	302	Greyish brown silty sand	
3	303	Yellowish brown sand and gravel	Geological Natural
3	304	Fill of field drain.	
3	305	Field drain	
3	306	Fill of field drain	
3	307	Field drain	

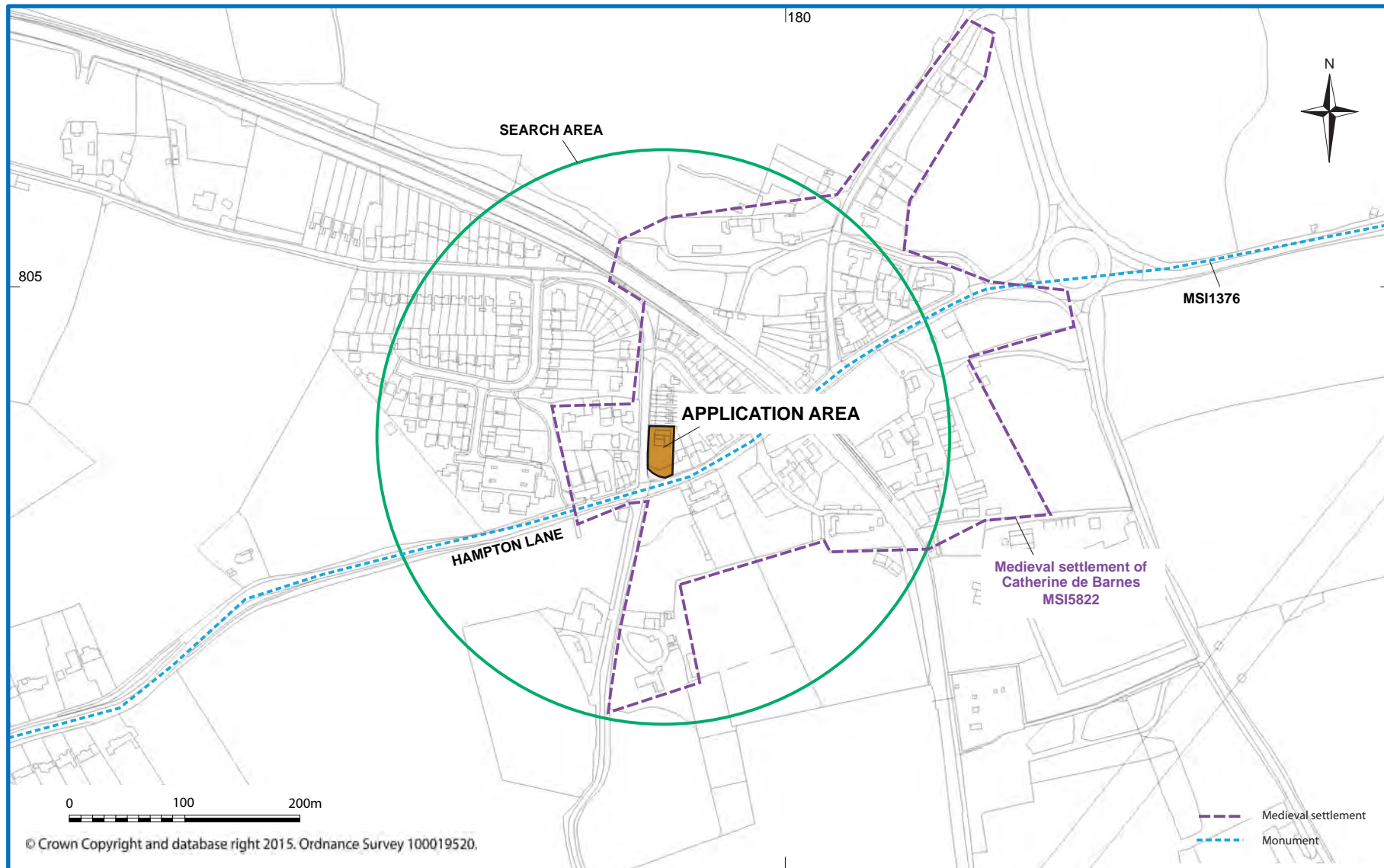


Fig 1: Location of application area and Historic Environment Information

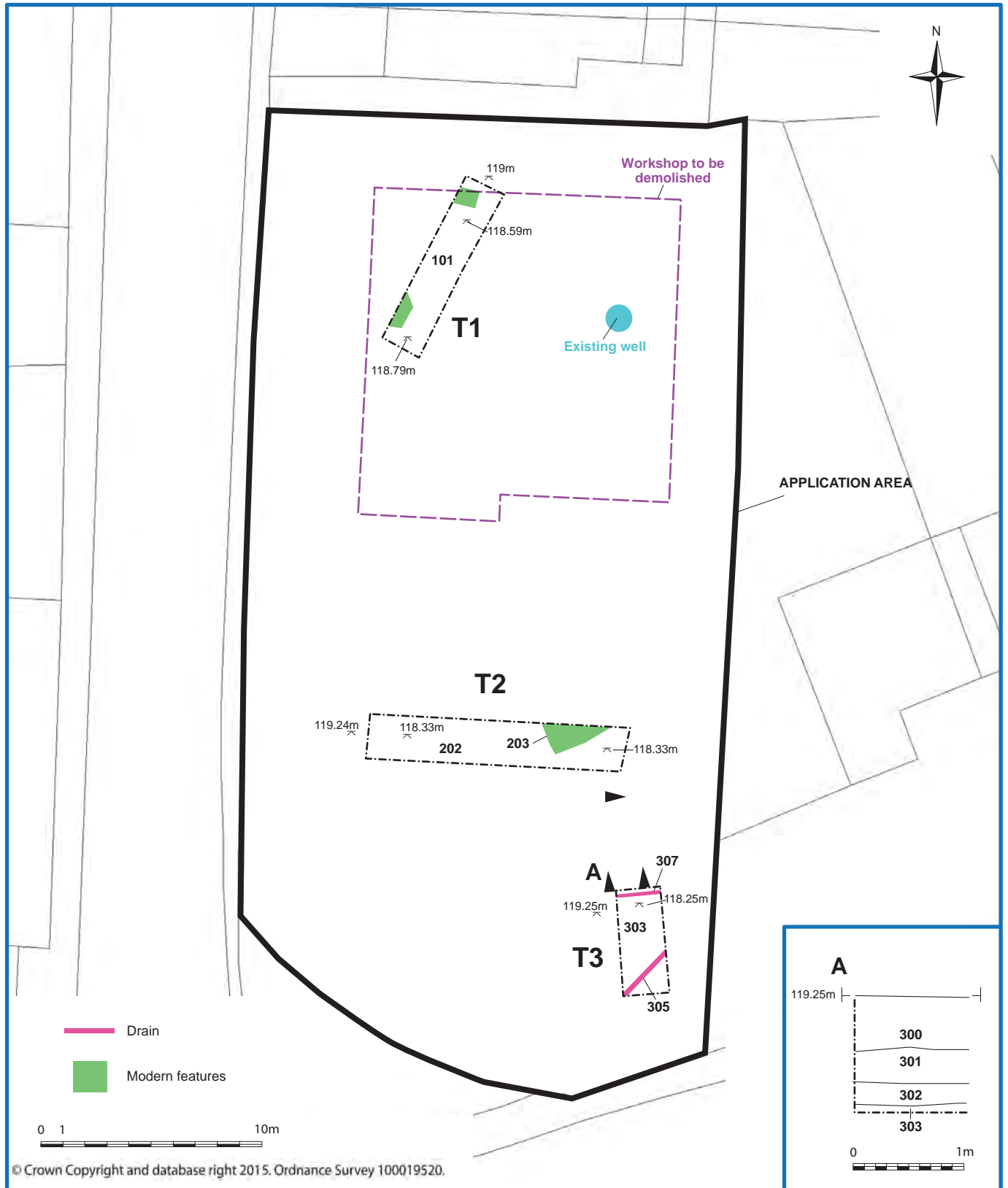


Fig 3: Trenches excavated