



**Archaeological evaluation at  
land off Lower Shelton Road  
Lower Shelton  
Bedfordshire  
January 2021**

Report No. 21/006

Author: Camilla Collins  
Illustrator: Carla Ardis



# Archaeological evaluation at land off Lower Shelton Road Lower Shelton Bedfordshire January 2021

Accession number: BEDFM2020.82

Report No. 21/006

Project Manager: Camilla Collins

Quality control and sign off:

Issue No.	Date approved:	Checked by:	Verified by:	Approved by:	Reason for Issue:
1	28/01/2021	Claire Finn	Yvonne Wolframm-Murray	Paul Thompson	Draft for client and CBC review
2	26/02/2021	Camilla Collins		Camilla Collins	Updated archiving requirements

Author: Camilla Collins

Illustrator: Carla Ardis

© MOLA Northampton 2021

Kent House  
30 Billing Road  
Northampton  
NN1 5DQ  
01604 809 800  
[www.mola.org.uk](http://www.mola.org.uk)  
[business@mola.org.uk](mailto:business@mola.org.uk)

**STAFF**

Project Manager: Camilla Collins BSc PGDip

Supervisors: Kamil Orzechowski BA MA ACIfA

Fieldwork: William Tamblyn BA

Text: Camilla Collins

Illustrations: Carla Ardis MA PhD

Pottery and CBM: Jennifer R McNulty BA MA

Animal bone: Sander Aerts BA MSc

**OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		<b>OASIS No: molanort1- 501009</b>	
<b>ACTIVITY TYPE</b>			
Project Name	Land off Lower Shelton Road, Bedfordshire		
Project Type	Evaluation		
Reason for investigation	Planning requirement		
Development Type	Residential		
Planning Reference ID			
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>			
National Grid ref	SP 99987 42581		
Site name	Land off Lower Shelton Road		
<b>REVIEWERS/ ADMIN</b>			
Historic Environment Record for project	Central Bedfordshire and Luton HER		
National Organisation	Historic England		
<b>WORK UNDERTAKEN</b>			
Project title	Archaeological evaluation at Land off Lower Shelton Road, Lower Shelton, Bedfordshire, January 2021		
Methodological summary	MOLA Northampton was commissioned by Mr N Roberts and Mr P Roberts to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Land off Lower Shelton Road, Lower Shelton, Bedfordshire. The works comprised the excavation of two trial trenches measuring 30m in length and were required to inform a planning application for residential development.		
Previous work	None		
Future work	Unknown		
Start date (dd-mm-yy)	07-01-2021		
End date (dd-mm-yy)	08-01-2021		
Scientific dating done?	No	Type:	N/A
Enviro sampling done?	No		
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>			
Title	Archaeological evaluation at Land off Lower Shelton Road, Bedfordshire, January 2021		
Author(s)	Camilla Collins		
Date of publication	January 2021		
Publisher	MOLA Northampton		
Place of publication	Northampton		
Report number	21/006		
Report release delay?	No		
<b>PEOPLE</b>			
Organisation	MOLA Northampton		
Project Manager	Paul Thompson		
Project Officer/ Supervisor	Kamil Orzechowski		
Funding body	Mr N Roberts and Mr P Roberts		
<b>KEYWORDS</b>			
Monuments found/ date	18th-19th-century ditch, undated pits and ditches		
Finds types found/ date	18th-19th century pottery, animal bone and modern brick		
<b>RESULTS</b>			
Description of outcomes/ summary of research framework contribution	The evaluation encountered a sparse number of archaeological features thought to signify low levels of agricultural activity dispersed across the site. Very little artefactual evidence was recovered, which has hampered the understanding of the origins and chronological development of the evaluation area. As such, the results have limited potential to address the research priorities of the region.		



<b>ARCHIVES</b>			
Accession ID	BEDFM2020.82		
Finds Archive repository	The Higgins Art Gallery and Museum, Bedford – Animal Bone	Expected date of submission:	TBC
Paper Archive repository	Context sheets, registers, permatrace	Expected date of submission:	TBC
Digital Archive repository	Digital photos, PDF report, Database, GIS	Expected date of submission:	TBC

# Contents

1	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2	BACKGROUND.....	3
	2.1 Location, geology and topography .....	3
	2.2 Historical and archaeological background .....	3
3	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES .....	4
	3.1 Project aims .....	4
	3.2 Research framework.....	4
4	METHODOLOGY .....	5
5	EXCAVATION RESULTS .....	7
	5.1 General stratigraphy .....	7
	5.2 The excavated evidence.....	7
6	THE FINDS.....	12
	6.1 The ceramic finds by Jennifer R McNulty.....	12
	6.2 The animal bone by Sander Aerts.....	12
7	DISCUSSION .....	12
	BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	13
	Appendix 1: TRENCH INVENTORY .....	15

## Figures

Front cover: The investigation area pre-excavation, looking east

Fig 1: Site location and excavated trenches, scale 1:1000

Fig 2: All features plan, 1:500

Fig 3: Representative section of Trench 2, viewed looking north-west

Fig 4: Trench plans, scale 1:100 (T1)/1:125 (T2)

Fig 5: North-west facing section of test pit through deposit (206), scale=2m

Fig 6: Sections, scale 1:20

Fig 7: Photographs of all features

Fig 8: General view of Trench 1, viewed looking east-north-east

Fig 9: General view of Trench 2, viewed looking south-east

Back cover: The investigation area following backfill

# Archaeological evaluation at land off Lower Shelton Road Lower Shelton Bedfordshire January 2021

## ABSTRACT

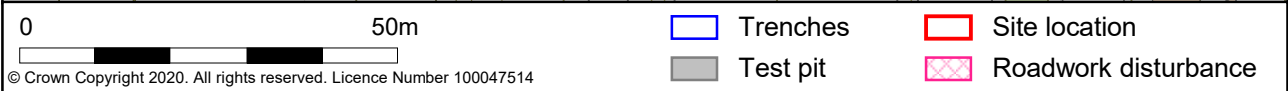
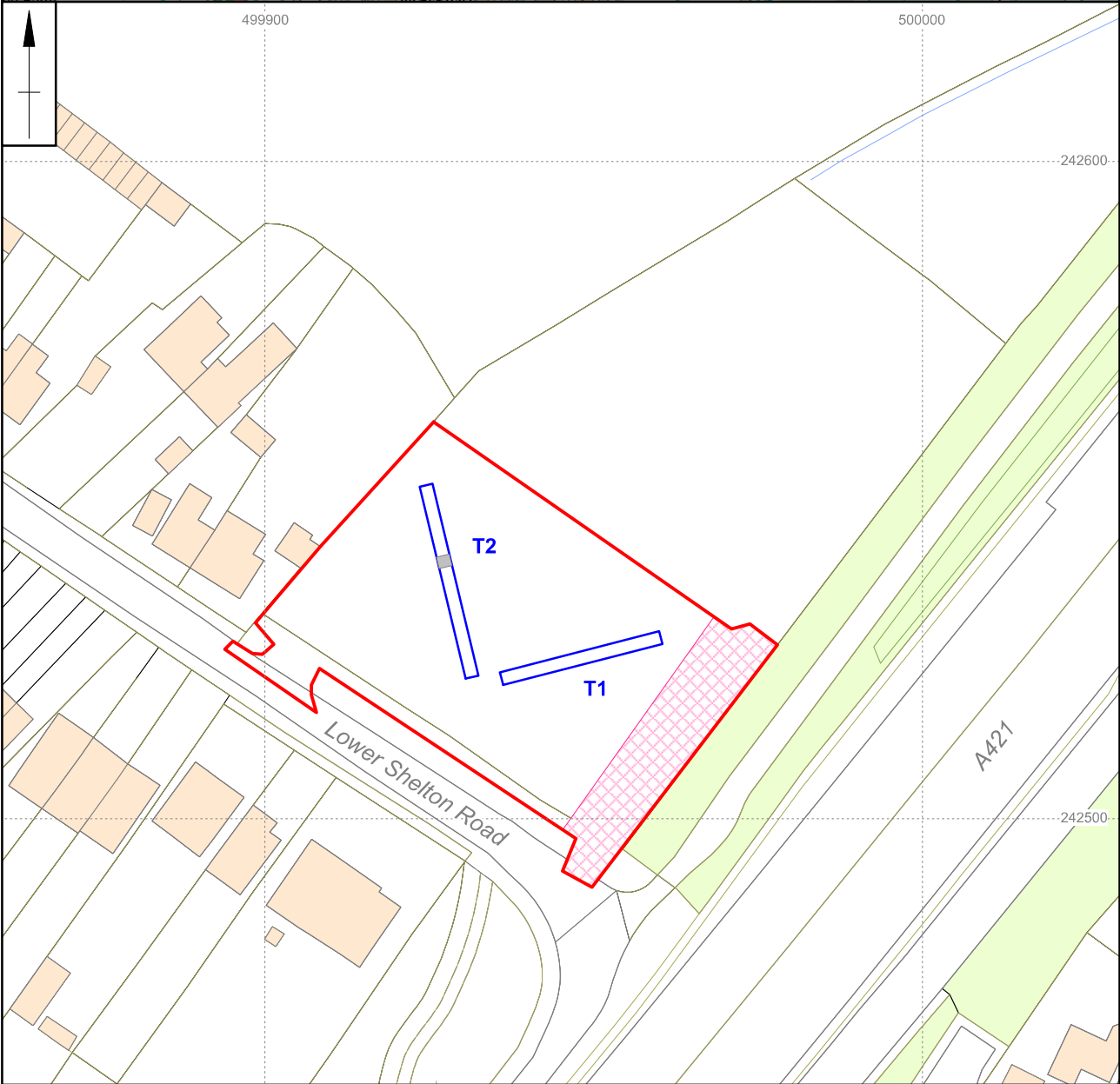
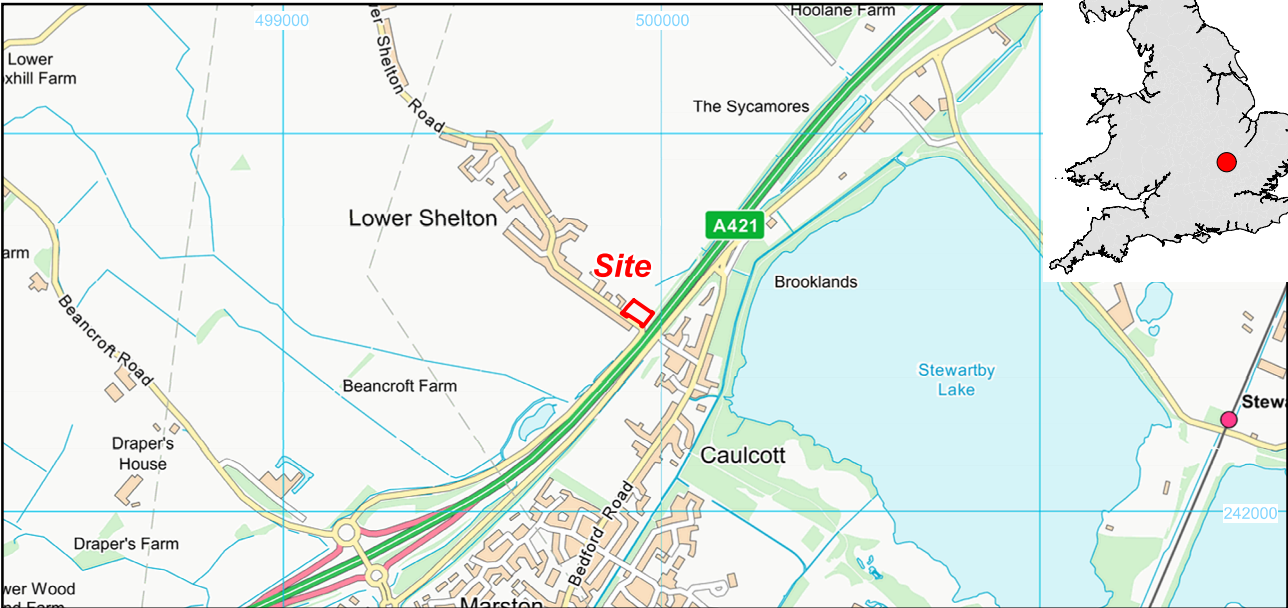
*MOLA Northampton was commissioned by Mr N Roberts and Mr P Roberts to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Lower Shelton Road, Lower Shelton, Bedfordshire. The evaluation comprised the excavation of two trenches, each measuring 30m in length and 1.8m in width. The evaluation encountered a sparse number of archaeological features thought to signify low levels of agricultural activity dispersed across the site. Very little artefactual evidence was recovered, which has provided little clarity on the origins and chronological development of the evaluation area. As such, the results have limited potential to address the research priorities of the region.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

MOLA Northampton was commissioned by Mr N Roberts and Mr P Roberts to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation at land off Lower Shelton Road, Bedfordshire (Fig 1). The works were required to inform a planning application for residential development.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken to establish the presence/absence, character, date, state of preservation and significance of the proposed development area's archaeological resource, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019). The methodology employed by MOLA Northampton complied with recognised industry standards and adhered to the Written Scheme of Investigation (MOLA 2020).

All works were carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2019) and *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014a), as well as the Historic England procedural document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (HE 2015).



Scale 1:1000

Site location and excavated trenches Fig 1

## **2 BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Location, geology and topography**

The site comprised a broadly trapezoidal parcel of land totalling approximately 0.25ha and was located on the eastern fringe of the village of Lower Shelton in Bedfordshire. To the north, the site was bounded by agricultural fields and to the east was the A421. Lower Shelton Road was situated to the south, with residential properties fronting this road bounding the site to the west. The centre of the site lay at National Grid reference SP 99937 42531. The site was flat and lay at an elevation of approximately 39m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

The underlying geology of the site comprised deposits of Peterborough Member Mudstone Formation (BGS 2021). Superficial head deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel have also been recorded and were encountered during the evaluation (BGS 2021). The overlying soils are characterised as slowly permeable, seasonally wet, slight acid but base-rich, loamy and clayey (CSAI 2021).

### **2.2 Historical and archaeological background**

#### ***Prehistoric and Roman***

Evidence of Early Prehistoric activity within a 1km radius of the site is limited to unstratified findspots of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flint tools and flakes recovered during archaeological investigations undertaken by Albion Archaeology in 2011, approximately 1km south of the site in advance of flood compensation measures (EBD1470) (Luke *et al* 2011). Extensive settlement remains of Iron Age and Roman date were identified during the investigations. These included a number of dispersed storage pits and waterholes of Middle Iron Age date, two Late Iron Age enclosure settlements and a possible associate farmstead, two settlements of Roman date on opposite sides of the Elstow Brook, and a range of associated activities including iron smithing, pottery production and farming.

Archaeological mitigatory works were carried out in the immediate surroundings of the site during improvements to the A421 (EBD826, EBD543, EBD1258, EBD1847). The investigations revealed extensive evidence of Iron Age and Roman activity in the environs of the site, including: an Iron Age cremation burial located c90m north of the site; a late Iron Age settlement represented by two partial ring gullies and eight pits or post-holes, one of which contained a partial human femur, c24m north of the site; and a series of ditches potentially associated with early Roman agricultural activity approximately 65m north of the site.

A staged programme of archaeological mitigation at land adjacent to 175 Lower Shelton Road (approximately 700m north-west of the site) was undertaken in 2004 by Northamptonshire Archaeology (EBD425, EBD422) (Hepburn 2004). The earliest activity identified during the works comprised a series of small pits of Middle Iron Age date.

#### ***Saxon and Medieval***

A small quantity of structures and pits containing early Saxon pottery was recorded during the archaeological investigations undertaken by Albion Archaeology in 2011 (EBD1470). The remains included a single sunken-featured building. Similarly sparse remains of this date were encountered during an archaeological excavation at Lower Shelton Road approximately 700m north-west of the site (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2005). Two sunken-featured buildings associated with early medieval settlement were recorded during works at Land off Bedford Road (EBD100, EBD343, EBD344, EBD345).

The site is situated at the southern periphery of the medieval linear settlement of Lower Shelton (16936), which together with Shelton Green and Upper Shelton formed Marston Mortaine during this period. The site is likely to have been used for agriculture during this period, indicated by the earthworks of ridge and furrow visible across the site.

### ***Post-medieval and modern***

The site is depicted on the 1840 Tithe Survey of Marston Moretaine as an agricultural field. The site remained in agricultural use through the 20th century. Clay pits are recorded to the south-east and east of the site, and brickfields are recorded to the south and east.

Construction associated with the A421 extended into the eastern area of the site and was subsequently returned to grass (CSA Environmental 2020).

## **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **3.1 Project aims**

The trial trench evaluation aimed to determine the presence/absence of archaeological remains and the significance of any remains encountered. It achieved this by:

- Establishing the date, nature and extent of the activity or occupation identified;
- Attempting to recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region;
- Examining the nature, function and character of the archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting, and;
- Producing a report that presents the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to inform a decision to be made concerning the site's archaeological potential.

The overall objectives for the site were:

- To identify the presence of any archaeological remains with the potential to be adversely impacted by intrusive aspects of the development, and;
- To inform a future strategy of mitigation in order to ensure that archaeological remains are preserved either *in situ* or *in record* according to their significance.

### **3.2 Research framework**

The project was undertaken within the priorities established by the regional research frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Oake *et al* 2007; Medlycott 2011). Research objectives of particular relevance to this project include:

- To investigate the relationships between Iron Age field systems, long-distance trackways, and settlements, enclosures and funerary sites, and;
- To investigate the origins, development and dynamics of the region's medieval rural settlements in order to elucidate our understanding of the way places appear, grow, shift and disappear.

## 4 METHODOLOGY

The evaluation comprised the excavation of two trenches providing a 5% sample excavation of the undisturbed site area. An area previously disturbed during construction works associated with the A421 was excluded from the evaluation area. Trench 1 measured 30m in length and 2m in width. Trench 2 originally measured 25m in length but was extended by 5m to the east following a consultation with the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeological Officer (CBCAO) and measured 2m in width. The rationale behind the placement of the trenches was to rapidly assess the archaeological potential of a wide sample of the site.

Trenches were located using a Leica Survey Grade RTK GPS operating to an accuracy of +/-0.05m to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum. All trenches were machine excavated using a flat toothless bucket, 1.8m wide, under continuous archaeological supervision to the depth of the first horizon of archaeological remains, or where these were absent, to the upper interface of geological deposits.

The artefact content of the topsoil and subsoil, which were stored separately to either side of each trench, was examined and a metal detector was used to aid in the recovery of unstratified artefacts from the spoil heaps and stratified artefacts from archaeological features.

The trenches were cleaned sufficiently to enhance the definition of archaeological remains. Features present were further investigated through means of hand excavation to determine their date and character, and were plotted on an overall plan at a scale of 1:50. All archaeological deposits, features and artefacts encountered during the course of the excavation were fully recorded following standard MOLA procedures (MOLA 2014). All archaeological features and deposits were assigned a separate context number and were described on pro-forma context sheets that included details of the context, its relationships, interpretation and a checklist of associated finds. Finds were collected from individual deposits and were appropriately packed and stored in stable conditions by context (ClfA 2014b; Watkinson and Neal 2001). Sections and profiles through features and area of complex stratigraphy were drawn at a scale of 1:10, with all deposit heights established relative to Ordnance Datum.

No finds which came under the definition of 'treasure' were identified by the evaluation and no burials or human remains were encountered.

A photographic record was maintained using high resolution uninterpolated digital photographs exceeding 12 megapixels taken using a Canon ESO 400D camera with an APS-C or larger sensor. Overall shots of the site were taken prior to excavation and after backfilling. Overall shots of each trench were taken together with detailed shots of individual features and feature groups. All photographs, except general site shots, included a north arrow and graduated metric scales of appropriate lengths.

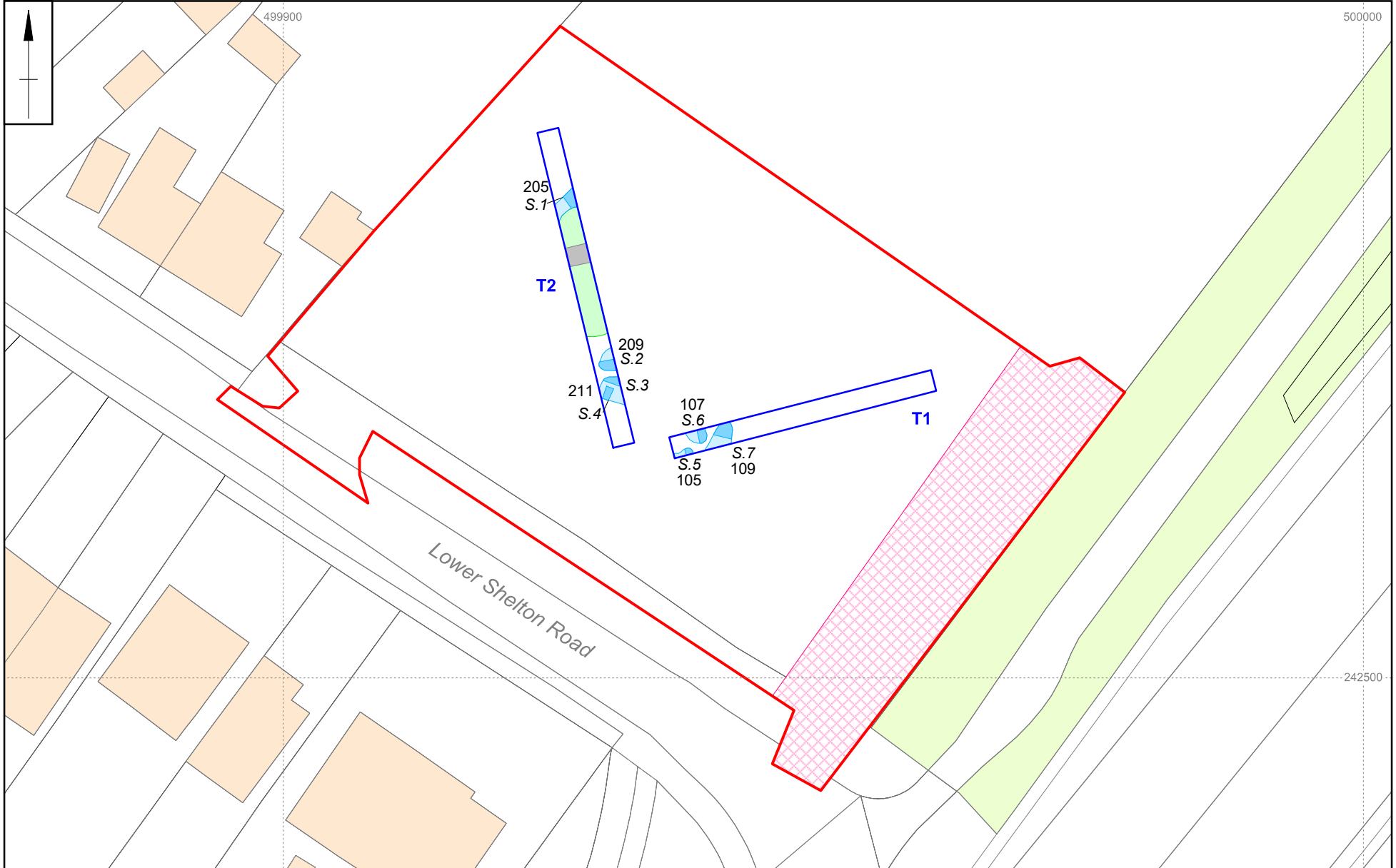
All finds were cleaned, catalogued and prepared for storage in accordance with the guidelines contained in UKIC's *Guidelines for the Presentation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (Walker 1990) and the MGC's *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (MGC 1992).

Following the approval of the CBCAO, all trenches were backfilled with their up-cast and lightly compacted by the mechanical excavator.

The field data was compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing.

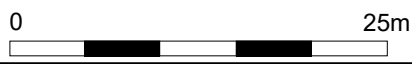
The archive has been fully catalogued and prepared for deposition in accordance with the specific regional guidelines, as well as with national guidelines by Walker (1990), Brown (2011), SMA (1992), the ClfA (2014c) and the MGC (1992).

Scale 1:500



All features plan

Fig 2



- Sections
- Features
- Modern dist.
- Test pit
- Trenches
- Roadw. Dist.
- Site location

© Crown Copyright 2020. All rights reserved. Licence Number 100047514

BEDFM2020.82



## 5 EXCAVATION RESULTS

### 5.1 General stratigraphy

A broadly similar stratigraphic sequence was observed across the site (Fig 3). The geological substrate was encountered at a depth of 0.47m to 0.79m below the existing ground level and comprised soft light orange yellow sand with patches of soft light blue grey clay. Sealing the geological substrate was a thin alluvial deposit of soft greyish yellow clay that measured between 0.02m and 0.1m in depth. Overlying the alluvium was light yellow brown silty clay subsoil, which measured between 0.2m and 0.38m in depth. Completing the stratigraphic sequence was the dark brown silty loam topsoil.



Representative section of Trench 2, viewed looking north-west Fig 3

### 5.2 The excavated evidence

The evaluation established that features of archaeological interest were present in both trenches, with the greatest concentrations of remains focused at the south-western extent of trench 1 and the south-eastern extent of trench 2 (Fig 4). No datable evidence was recovered during the evaluation and as such, only a limited understanding of the site's origins and chronological development has been ascertained. With the exception of modern features [205] and [214], all archaeological remains were sealed by the alluvium.

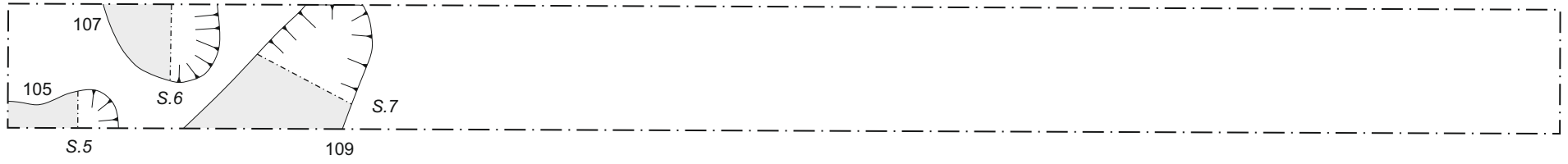
#### ***Trench 1***

Trench 1 contained one ditch and two pits, all located stratigraphically below alluvium (1102). Both pits were initially half-sectioned and recorded before being 100% excavated, within the confines of the trench, for finds retrieval. Pit [105] was located at the south-western extent of trench 1 and was only partially exposed during the evaluation. Pit [105] was irregular in plan with moderately sloping sides and a flat base (Figs 7 and 6, S.5). This feature measured 2m wide and 0.3m deep, with a single fill (104) of soft mid grey brown silty sand.

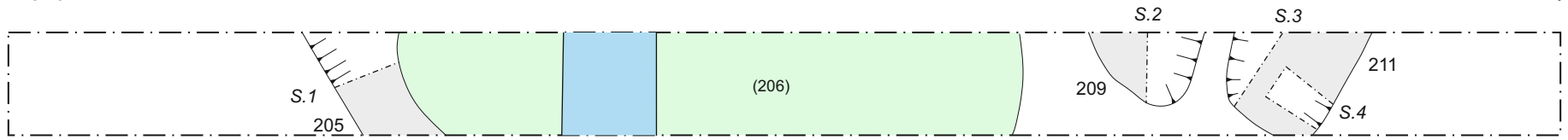
Immediately north of [105] was a second pit [107], which measured 0.95m in width and 0.25m in depth. Pit [107] was broadly oval in shape with gently sloping sides and a flat base (Figs 7 and 6, S.6). A single fill (106) of soft mid grey brown silty sand was encountered.

Scale 1:100 (T1) / 1:125 (T2)

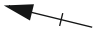
Trench 1



Trench 2



Modern disturbance Test Pit



Trench plans Fig 4

Ditch [109] was located approximately 0.5m east of pit [107] and was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west. This feature measured 1.8m in width and 0.15m in depth and exhibited concave sides with an undulating base (Figs 7 and 6, S.7). A single fill was present (108), which comprised soft mid greyish brown sandy silt.

### **Trench 2**

Trench 2 contained a pit, a ditch terminus and a ditch that had been truncated by an area of modern disturbance.

Pit [209] was located towards the centre of trench 2 and was broadly oval in shape with gently sloping sides and an undulating base (Figs 7 and 6, S.2). This feature measured 1.55m in width and 0.4m in depth. Two distinct fills were present comprising a lower fill (208) of soft mid yellowish brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions and an upper fill (207) of soft mid brown sandy silt.

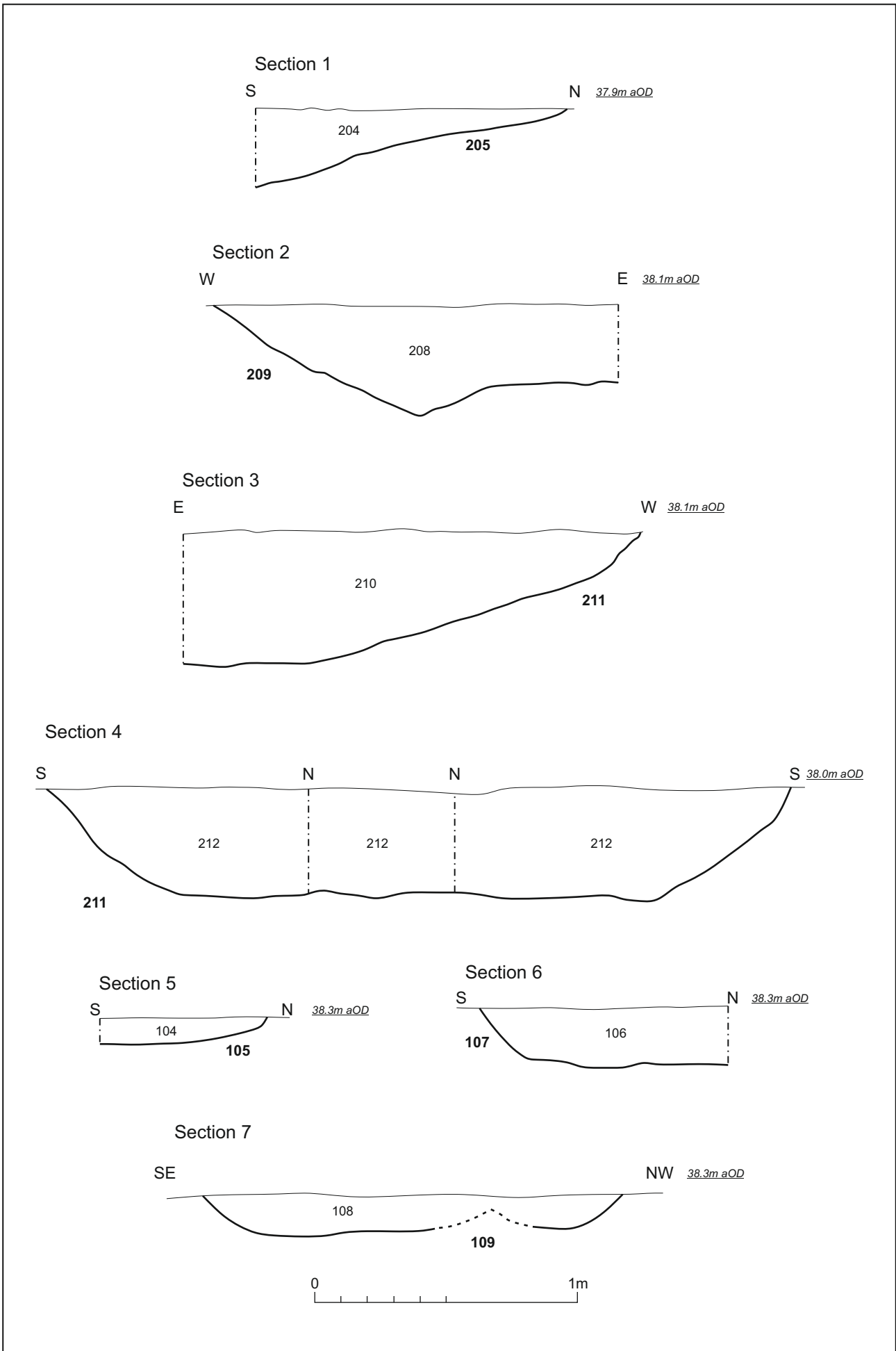
Ditch terminus [211] was located to the south-east of pit [209] and was aligned broadly east-south-east to west-north-west with moderately steep sides and a flat base (Figs 7 and 6, S.3 and S.4). This feature measured 1.5m in width, 0.55m in depth and contained a single fill (210) of soft dark brown silty clay.

A second ditch [205], aligned east-north-east to west-south-west, was located towards the north-west of trench 2 and measured 1.4m in width and 0.35m in depth. Ditch [205] cut the subsoil. This feature exhibited gently sloping sides with a concave base and contained a single fill (204) of soft dark brown silty clay (Figs 7 and 6, S.1). Pottery recovered from fill (204) indicated that ditch [205] is late 18th to 19th-century in date.

Truncating [205] at its southern edge was an extensive modern feature [214] that measured approximately 6m in width. A test pit was excavated by machine towards the centre of this feature, which did not reach its full extent but established that it was in excess of 2m in depth. At the base of the test pit was a fill (213) of humic, dark blueish grey degraded organic matter. Overlying this was fill (206), which comprised a mixture of dark brown clay, silty sand, tarmac and building rubble (Fig 5).



North-west facing section of test pit through deposit (206), scale=2m Fig 5



Scale 1:20

Sections Fig 6





Pit [105], viewed looking south-south-east



Pit [107], viewed looking west



Ditch [109], viewed looking south



Pit [209], viewed looking north-west



Ditch [211], viewed looking east



Ditch [205], viewed looking west

## **6 THE FINDS**

### **6.1 The ceramic finds** by Jennifer R McNulty

Two fragments of modern brick weighing 30g and six sherds of post-medieval/modern pottery weighing 92g were recovered. The fragments of brick were recovered from deposit (206) and were in a coarse oxidised calcareous fabric with one smoothed surface surviving. The fragments have been fired at such high temperatures that the fabric was bordering on vitrification.

The pottery assemblage consisted of four sherds of refined red earthenware with some internal white slip (73g) from one flowerpot and two sherds of underglaze transfer-printed refined white ware (19g) in the "Blue Willow" pattern, all of which were recovered from fill (204) or ditch [205]. The Museum of London Archaeology's medieval and post-medieval pottery fabric codes were used to date the assemblage from approximately the late 18th to the 19th century.

These fabrics and vessel forms are commonly found across the county and are of little research or intrinsic value. No further work is required. The archive repository for this project, the Higgins Gallery and Museum, Bedford, have agreed that the ceramic finds may be discarded in line with specialist recommendations.

### **6.2 The animal bone** by Sander Aerts

A total of six poorly preserved fragments of cattle-sized mammalian long bone fragments weighing 74 grams were hand-collected from fill (210) of ditch terminus [211]. No further work is required on this assemblage. The assemblage will be deposited as part of the project archive with the Higgins Art Gallery and Museum, Bedford.

## **7 DISCUSSION**

The results of the archaeological evaluation signify low levels of activity dispersed across the site. Preservation levels were consistently high in both trench areas.

With the exception of the modern material recovered from fill (206) of feature [214] and fill (204) of ditch [205], no dateable evidence was recovered during the evaluation. The paucity of the artefactual assemblage is notable as it indicates that the site most probably did not fulfil a domestic function and was presumably located externally to the occupation areas located in the immediate environs of the site from the Iron Age period onwards. It is possible that the features were used for agriculture with ditches [109] and [211] forming two axes of a small enclosure.

Feature [214] may have formed a pond or watering hole. However, there is no cartographic evidence to support this supposition.

Due to the lack of clarity surrounding the site's chronological progression, the results of the evaluation have very limited potential to address the research priorities of the region.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

BGS 2021 The British Geological Survey GeoViewer, available at <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html>, last accessed 18th January 2021

Brown, N and Glazebrook, J 2000 *Research and Archaeology: A framework for the Eastern Counties: Research agenda and strategy*, East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Paper, **8**

Brown, D H 2011 *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation, Second Edition*, Archaeological Archives Forum

CIfA 2019 *Code of Conduct*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA 2014a *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA 2014b *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological archives*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA 2014c *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CSA Environmental 2020 *Land at Lower Shelton Road, Lower Shelton, Bedfordshire: Archaeological Heritage Statement*, CSA Environmental report, **CSA/202021/063**

CSAI 2021 *Soilscapes*, available at <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/>, last accessed 18th January 2021

HE 2015 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*, Historic England

Hepburn, S, 2005 *Archaeological Evaluation on Land Adjacent to 175 Lower Shelton Road, Marston Mortaine, Bedfordshire, July 2004*, Northamptonshire Archaeology report, **05/011**

Luke, M, Barker, B and Barker, J 2011 Eastcotts Flood Scheme, Nr Bedford, *Council for British Archaeology: South Midlands Archaeology*, **41**, 6-8

Medlycott, M, 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers, **24**

MGC 1992 *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections*, Museums and Galleries Commission

MHCLG 2019 *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*, Ministry of Housing, Community and Local Government

MOLA 2014 *Archaeological Fieldwork Manual*, MOLA Northampton

MOLA 2020 *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation at Land off Lower Shelton Road, Bedfordshire*, MOLA Northampton

Oake, M, Luke, M, Dawson, M, Edgeworth, M and Murphy P 2007 *Bedfordshire Archaeology, Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda*

*and Strategy*, Bedfordshire County Council and The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council

SMA 1993 *Selection, retention and dispersal of archaeological collections*, Society of Museum Archaeologists

Walker, K 1990 *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage*, UK Chartered Institute for Conservation

Watkinson, D and Neal, V 2001 *First Aid for Finds (3rd Edition)*, UK Institute for Conservation

MOLA

January 2021



**APPENDIX 1: TRENCH INVENTORY**

Trench No	Length	Width	Alignment	
1	30m	1.8m	East-north-east to west-south-west	
<i>Context</i>	<i>Context type</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Artefacts/Samples</i>
100	Topsoil	Soft dark brown silty loam	0.15m-0.22m	-
101	Subsoil	Soft light brown silty clay	0.19m-0.24m	-
102	Alluvium	Soft greyish yellow clay	0.2m-0.26m	-
103	Natural	Soft light orange yellow sand with patches of soft blue grey clay	-	-
104	Fill	Fill of pit [105], soft mid grey brown silty sand	2m wide 0.3m deep	-
105	Cut	Cut of pit, irregular in plan, moderately sloping sides, flat base	2m wide 0.3m deep	-
106	Fill	Fill of pit [107], soft mid grey brown silty sand	0.95m wide 0.25m deep	-
107	Cut	Cut of pit, oval, gently sloping sides, flat base	0.95m wide 0.25m deep	-
108	Fill	Fill of ditch [109], soft mid greyish brown sandy silt	1.8m wide 0.15m deep	-
109	Cut	Cut of ditch, north-north-east to south-south-west aligned, concave sides, undulating base	1.8m wide 0.15m deep	-



General view of Trench 1, viewed looking east-north-east Fig 8

<b>Trench No</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Alignment</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>30m</b>	<b>1.8m</b>	<b>North-west to south-east</b>	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Context type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>Artefacts/ Samples</b>
200	Topsoil	Soft dark brown silty loam	0.15m-0.22m	-
201	Subsoil	Soft light brown silty clay	0.19m-0.24m	-
202	Natural	Soft light orange yellow sand with patches of soft blue grey clay	-	-
203	Alluvium	Soft greyish yellow clay	0.2m-0.26m	-
204	Fill	Fill of ditch [205], soft dark brown silty clay	1.4m wide 0.35m deep	Pottery
205	Cut	Cut of ditch, east-north-east to west-south-west aligned, gently sloping sides, concave base	1.4m wide 0.35m deep	-
206	Fill	Fill of modern feature [214], mixture of clay, silty sand, tarmac and building rubble	>2m deep	CBM
207	Fill	Upper fill of pit [209], soft mid brown sandy silt	1.55m wide 0.3m deep	-
208	Fill	Lower fill of pit [209], soft mid yellowish brown silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions	0.1m deep	-
209	Cut	Cut of pit, oval, gently sloping sides, undulating base	1.55m wide 0.4m deep	-
210	Fill	Fill of ditch terminus [211], soft dark brown silty clay	1.55m wide 0.55m deep	Animal bone
211	Cut	Cut of ditch terminus, east-south-east to west-north-west aligned, moderately steep sides, flat base	1.5m wide 0.55m deep	-
212	Fill	Fill of ditch terminus [211], soft dark brown silty clay	1.55m wide 0.55m deep	-
213	Fill	Fill of modern feature [214], soft dark blueish grey clay	Unknown	
214	Cut	Cut of modern feature	Unknown	-



General view of Trench 2, viewed looking south-east Fig 9





MOLA  
Kent House  
30 Billing Road  
Northampton  
NN1 5DQ  
01604 809800  
[www.mola.org.uk](http://www.mola.org.uk)  
[business@mola.org.uk](mailto:business@mola.org.uk)