



University of Leicester

Archaeological Services

**Archaeological Observation and Recording
at Stratford-Upon-Avon Grammar School
for Girls, Shottery Manor, Shottery,
Stratford-Upon-Avon Warwickshire
NGR: SP 1891 5464**

Nathan Flavell



ULAS Report No. 2015-117

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Stratford-Upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls, Shottery Manor,
Shottery, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Warwickshire**

NGR: SP 1891 5464

Nathan Flavell

**For: Stratford Girls' Grammar School
Planning application no. 12/02934/FUL**

Checked by

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T/1410

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An archaeological observation & recording at Stratford-Upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls, Shottery Manor, Shottery, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Warwickshire (SP 1891 5464)

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Summary

Archaeological observation & recording was carried out at Stratford-Upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls, Shottery Manor, Shottery, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Warwickshire (SP 1891 5464) by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between February and April 2015. The work was carried out on behalf of Stratford Girls' Grammar School in advance of revised site layout to provide a new service road, car parking areas, bus lay-by and widening of existing school entrance. An area for new drainage was also excavated. The investigations revealed an in-filled pond shown on the 1st edition OS map and a demolished, 20th century building. No other archaeological features were identified.

The site archive will be held by Warwickshire County Council Museum Services under the accession number T/1410.

Introduction

This document constitutes the final report for an archaeological watching brief carried out at Stratford-Upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls, Shottery Manor, Shottery, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Warwickshire (SP 1891 5464; Fig. 1). The work was carried out on behalf of Stratford Girls' Grammar School by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on 16, 19-20 February and 27-28 April 2015.

The planning consent is for demolition in part of existing school buildings, retention and reuse of existing school hall and the erection of new two-storey and single extensions to create new sports hall, dining room, kitchen, additional classrooms and ancillary accommodation. Revised site layout to provide new service road, car parking areas, bus lay-by and widening of existing school entrance (western access) and associated works (Planning ref. R12/02934/FUL; Fig. 2).

The Grammar School lies within situated in the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of the village of Shottery (HER ref. **MWA9081**). The property itself is Grade II* Listed Shottery Manor House dating to at least the 15th Century. Planning Permission has been granted for demolition in part of existing school buildings, retention and reuse of existing school hall and the erection of new two-storey and single extensions to create new sports hall, dining room, kitchen, additional classrooms and ancillary accommodation. Revised site layout to provide new service road, car parking areas, bus lay-by and widening of existing school entrance (western access) and associated works (ref. R12/02934/FUL), (Fig. 2).

The work was requested by the Warwickshire Planning Archaeologist in their capacity as archaeological advisor to the planning authority, in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Section 12: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment. The work followed the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Thomas 2014).

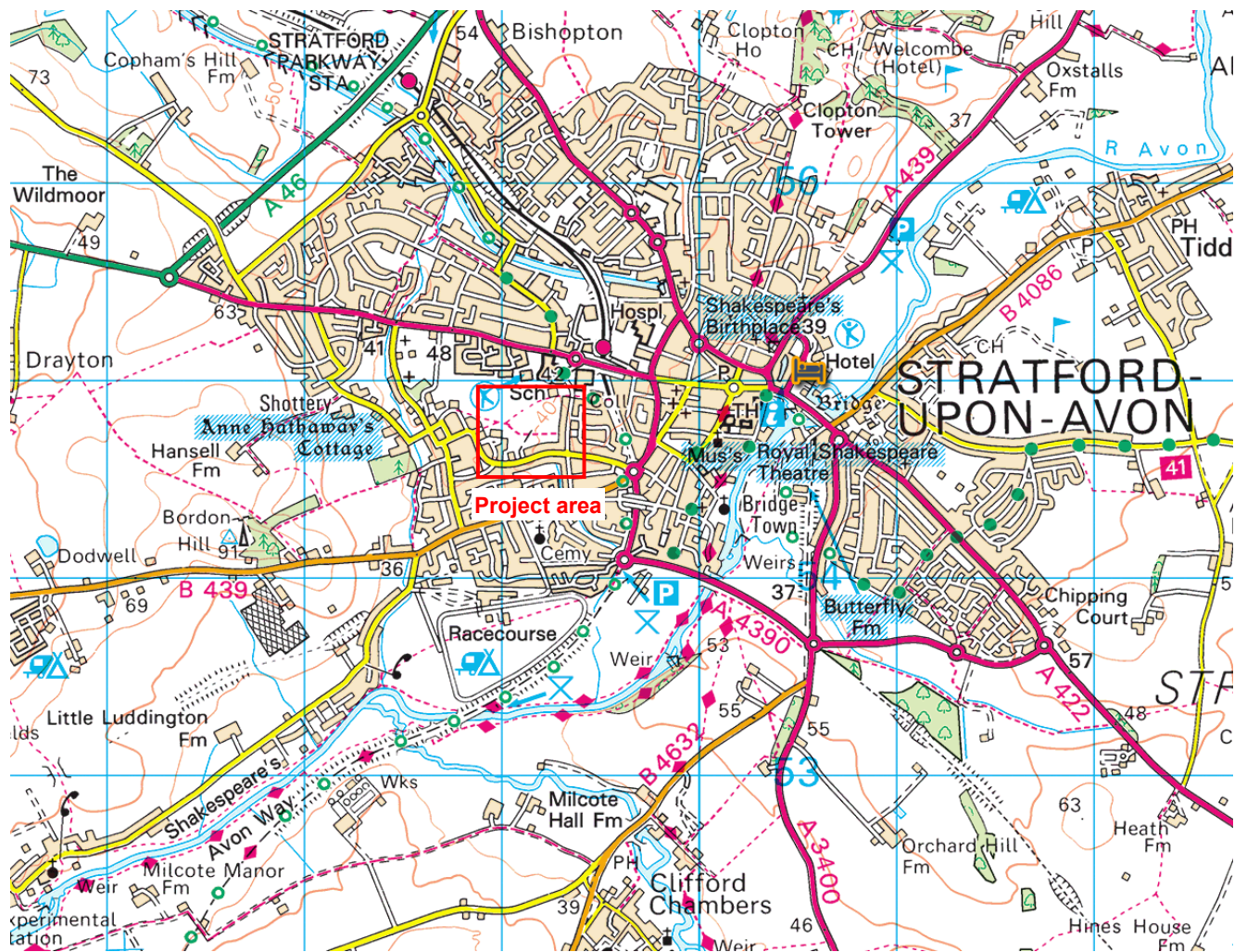


Figure 1: Site Location (Scale 1:50 000)

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Geology and Topography

The British Geological Survey of Great Britain, Sheet 200 (Stratford-Upon-Avon), indicates that the underlying geology comprises superficial deposits of sand and gravel belonging to the Wasperton Sand and Gravel Member overlying bedrock deposits of Mercia Mudstone (BGS 1974).

Historical and Archaeological Background

Shottery is best known as being the childhood home of William Shakespeare's wife, Anne Hathaway, whose cottage still stands on the western side of the village c.520m to the west of the site.

The Warwickshire Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the development site lies in an area of archaeological interest, situated in the historic medieval and post-medieval settlement core of the village of Shottery (HER ref. **MWA9081**). The HER lists few other sites within a 200m radius of the development area, but c.130m to the north-east is the possible location of a deserted medieval settlement (**MWA1047**). Approximately 85m to the

west is the Grade II* Listed Shottery Manor House (Figure 2: **DWA1945**), today part of Stratford-Upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls:

'Formerly known as: Manor House Farmhouse, Shottery. Shown on OS map as Shottery Manor. Manor house, now school. Probably originally a farm building, the property of Evesham Abbey (mentioned in document of 1402); converted to house in C15, windows of late C17; altered and part demolished in mid to late C18; early to mid C20 additions. Coursed squared stone with ashlar dressings; renewed tile roof with rebuilt brick stack to front of ridge and other brick stacks. Half-H plan and single storey south-wing. 2 storeys; 10-window range, but some windows blocked. Central entrance has brick 4-centred moulded arch with dripstone and old battened door. Windows have lintels with keys over wooden cross-casements with leaded glazing; ground floor has 3 windows to left of entrance and brick-blocked window to left end; 2 canted bay windows to right of entrance, with hipped roofs and 1:3:1-light transomed and leaded windows below lintels to original windows, 2 such lintels over entrance; 1st floor has 5 glazed and 5 blocked windows, one brick-blocked; C18 gabled dormer to right half. Rainwater head with Harewell arms; attached convex walls to ends. Timber-framed gable to left return; 1st floor has 5-light ovolo mullioned and transomed window. Rear has later 2-storey projection with parapet and balcony on timber posts between re-entrant blocks, one a porch. Wing to left is brick with timber-framed 1st floor; large external end stack and return Tudor-headed entrance with heavy frame and plank door. Wing to right has cross wing enclosing balcony and stair to inner return; stone with brick 1st floor. INTERIOR: exposed original rear wall; hall and entrance lobby have C17 panelling with top fluted panels, chamfered beams and plasterwork motifs to ceiling, fireplace with hollow-chamfered ressumer and plaster overmantel with 3 panels, inverted rose sprigs flanking Harewell arms; room to left has C17 panelling and chamfered beams, and brasses to brick fireplace; room to right has C18 fireplace and round-headed cupboard; stair has square turned balusters and newels; window to landing has armorial glass, some panelling to end; left end has good C15 three-bay hammerbeam roof, originally longer, 3 trusses with arch-braced hammer beams with arch-braced collars, moulded members, double purlins with window braces; large brick chimney breast, stepped in to top, with C20 ashlar Tudor-arched fireplace and cornice. HISTORICAL NOTE: the manor was owned by Evesham Abbey until sometime in the C14 and was the property of the Harewell family 1402-c1746, and of the Flower family of Stratford from 1919. (VCH (offprint): Styles P: The Borough of Stratford-upon-Avon and the Parish of Alveston: London: 1946-: 17; Buildings of England: Pevsner N: Warwickshire: Harmondsworth: 1966-: 397; Belton J J: Shottery the Mother of Stratford; reprint from Scene: 1950-: 524-5).'

(Listed Building Description for DWA1945)

Also in the school grounds, c.60m to the west of the site is a Grade II Listed dovecote (**DWA2119**), whilst c.145m to the west is a Grade II Listed timber-framed barn (**DWA4441**). Both buildings are believed to be 17th century in date.

'Dovecote. Probably C17. Rubble with pyramidal tile roof. Tall square-plan structure. Brick plinth and channel to each face, probably for pilaster or other feature. Lantern to roof has dove holes, ledges and pyramidal roof. South face has entrance with timber lintel and battened door. INTERIOR not inspected. Included for group value.'

(Listed Building Description for DWA2119)

'Barn, now 2 dwellings. C17 with C19 or C20 additions. Timber-frame with brick infill on rubble plinth, brick additions; hipped tile roof with brick end stacks. L-plan. 2 storeys; 4-window range. Left end has square framing with tension braces on high plinth; central section has timber-framing with thin scantling; right end of brick. Recessed entrances flank central window, half-glazed doors. Windows have casements of single and 2 lights, 3-light window to ground floor right end, small light to centre 1st floor; all leaded. Left return similar. Rear similar, with timber-framed gable. Barn was possibly extended to right before being converted to dwellings, the central section having the barn doors.'

(Listed Building Description for DWA4441)

For a full list of other sites in the vicinity of the development area, see Appendix 1 and Fig. 9.

The earliest reference to Shottery is in the 8th century when Offa granted an estate there to the monastery of Worcester. The village is not mentioned during the Domesday Survey in 1086, when it was included in the manor of Stratford, and a manor of Shottery is not mentioned until 1354 when the Bishop of Chichester granted it to John de Bishopsdon. In 1367 it was held by Thomas de Stratford, Archdeacon of Gloucester, but it was illegally seized by Evesham Abbey, this led to Richard II taking control of the manor in 1393 and granting it to Sir William Arundel. By 1402 it was held by the Harewell family who retained it until at least 1746. By the time the parish was enclosed in 1786 the manor has ceased to exist (Styles, 1945: 258-266).

After 1786, the manor house was owned by the Marquis of Hertford's family until 1919 when it was bought by the Flower's family. They remained in residence until 1951. After remaining empty for a few years the building and grounds were acquired by Warwickshire County Council who converted the site into a Girls' Grammar School which officially opened in 1958 (<http://www.sggs.org.uk/about-us/history/>).

Ordnance Survey maps over the last 100 years show that the development area is located in an orchard to the immediate north of the medieval manor house – titled Manor Farm on the early OS edition maps (Figs 10 - 12) and Shottery Manor on the 1938 and 1965 editions (Figs 13 - 14).

This remains mostly unchanged until the post-war period with the establishment of the school in 1958 which can be seen on the 1965 edition map (Fig. 14). The basic layout of the school at this time is very similar to the current plan.

Two previous archaeological evaluations have been carried out on the site (Morris 2011, Hunt 2012) but did not reveal any archaeological deposits.

Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the archaeological work were:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits or earlier building remains.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits/ structural evidence to be affected by the proposed works.
- To record any archaeological deposits/ structural evidence to be affected by the works.
- To advance understanding of the heritage assets
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

Methodology

The work was carried out in two phases. Firstly a large area for new drainage was excavated directly north-west of the existing property within the car park and turning circle. The second phase was a stripped area for a new lay-by directly next to the northwest side of the main school building (Fig. 2).

All exposed areas, sections and existing spoil heaps were visually inspected for features and finds. Archaeological features were hand cleaned, planned, photographed and sample excavated as per the approved WSI (Thomas 2014)

All work followed the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIFA) Code of Conduct* and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (2014)*.

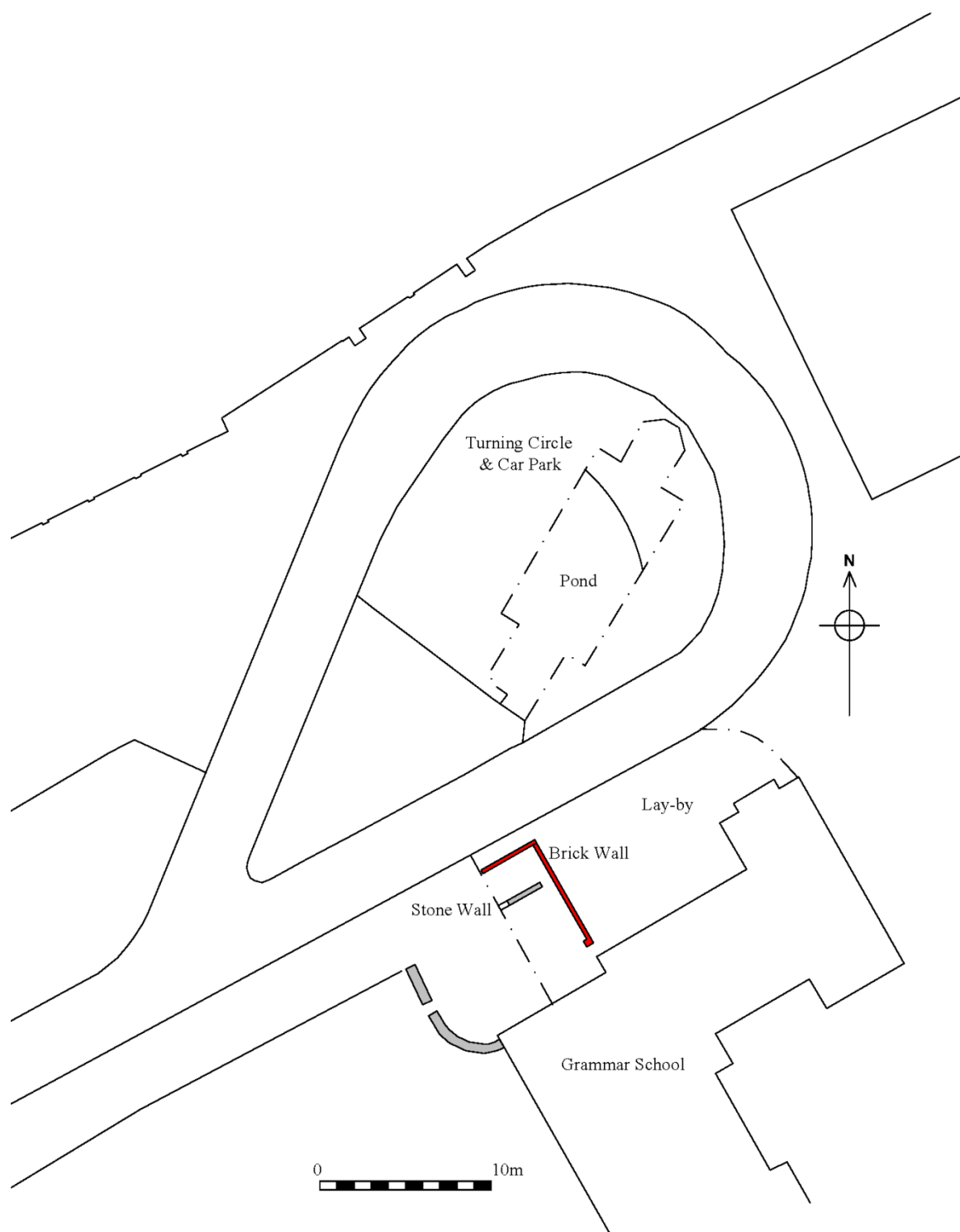


Figure 2: Site plan showing locations of areas watched
Plan adapted from architects plan provided by client.

Results

Turning Circle

The excavated area within the turning circle for new drainage contained a large infilled pond feature. A maximum depth of 1.1m was excavated across the area, however natural geology was only identified at the very north-east end. This consisted of red sandy gravel approximately 0.59m deep. A small sondage at the south-west end found gravel 0.15m below the excavated level. Above this was a layer of green-grey sandy clay with an organic component, 0.14m thick. Overlying this was a dark grey clay 0.08m thick. This was cut by the remnants of a probable brick manhole, 1.2m wide, 0.51m deep backfilled with building material and brown sandy-clay (Figs 3-5).

At the north-east was a grey sandy clay, overlain by brown silty-sand 0.4m thick and redeposited red-brown silty-clay, 0.51m thick. Only modern material was found in these layers.

To the south-west during excavation for a new manhole was a layer of dark brown sandy-clay 0.2m thick containing modern glazed pottery, probably a modern levelling for the hardcore and a tarmac surface which overlay it (Fig.4).



Figure 3: Stripped area looking north-east showing natural gravel at the far end.



Figure 4: North-west facing section of area looking south-east



Figure 5: South-east facing section of area looking north-west

Lay-by Area

The area for the lay-by was directly next to the north-west side of the main Grammar School building and was excavated to approximately 0.5m deep (Fig. 6). The area consisted of various layers of redeposited material. In the north-east part of the area, red-brown gravel was noted becoming red gravelly clay sand toward the south-west. This appeared to contain the foundations for the 20th Century extension to part of the school.

In the south-east corner of the stripped area the corner of a brick wall was encountered (Fig. 7). It abutted the existing stone building aligned north-west to south-east, and then turned south-west. It consisted of at least two courses of orange brick, each measuring 0.23 x 0.1 x 0.08m. Stone fragments were also identified aligned approximately north-east to south-west (Fig. 8) which may represent the continuation of the existing boundary wall next to the driveway.



Figure 6: Lay-by area looking south-west



Figure 7: Brick foundation wall looking southeast



Figure 8: Area showing brick foundation wall and stone fragments, looking south-east

Discussion

The excavated area within the parking and turning circle contains a pond feature with organic layers at the base consistent with lying water and silting. The layers above these appear to be modern backfill. This pond is consistent with a sub oval feature immediately north of the school on the 1889 OS map (Fig. 9). By 1905 the feature has vanished (Fig. 10) and the late 19th - early 20th century pottery found within some of the backfilled layers would correspond with an early 20th century date for its infill. It is possible this water feature was associated with the Manor House but the lack of any pottery in the organic deposits makes it hard to determine a date.

The brick foundations within the lay-by area, may represent the small square building on the 1938 OS map (Fig. 13). It does not appear on the earlier 1914 edition (Fig. 12), and has been demolished by 1965 (Fig. 14).

Bibliography

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- Thomas, J., 2014, *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Observation and Recording (watching brief) Stratford-Upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls, Shottery, Stratford-upon-Avon,*

Archive

The site archive consists of: 5 A4 watching brief recording forms, 1 A4 context index sheet, 9 A5 context sheets, 1 A4 photo index, and digital photographs.

The site archive will be held by Warwickshire County Council Museum Services under the accession number T/1410.

Publication

Since 2004 ULAS has reported the results of all archaeological work through the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) database held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York. A summary of the work will also be submitted for publication in a suitable regional archaeological journal in due course.

OASIS no.	
Project Name	Stratford-Upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls, Shottery Manor, Shottery, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Warwickshire
Project Type	Watching Brief
Project Manager	Vicki Score
Project Supervisor	Nathan Flavell
Previous/Future work	Reports 2011-107 & 2012-172
Current Land Use	Car park & turning circle
Development Type	Car park & turning circle drainage
Reason for Investigation	NPPF
Position in the Planning Process	Condition
Site Co ordinates	SP 1891 5464
Start/end dates of field work	16/2/15, 19-20/2/15, 27-28/4/15
Archive recipient	Warwickshire
Study Area	c. 237.82 square meters

Acknowledgements

Thanks are extended to the client and contractors for their co-operation and assistance on site. Fieldwork was undertaken by Nathan Flavell; the report was written by Nathan Flavell and the project was managed for ULAS by Vicki Score.

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Appendix I: HER

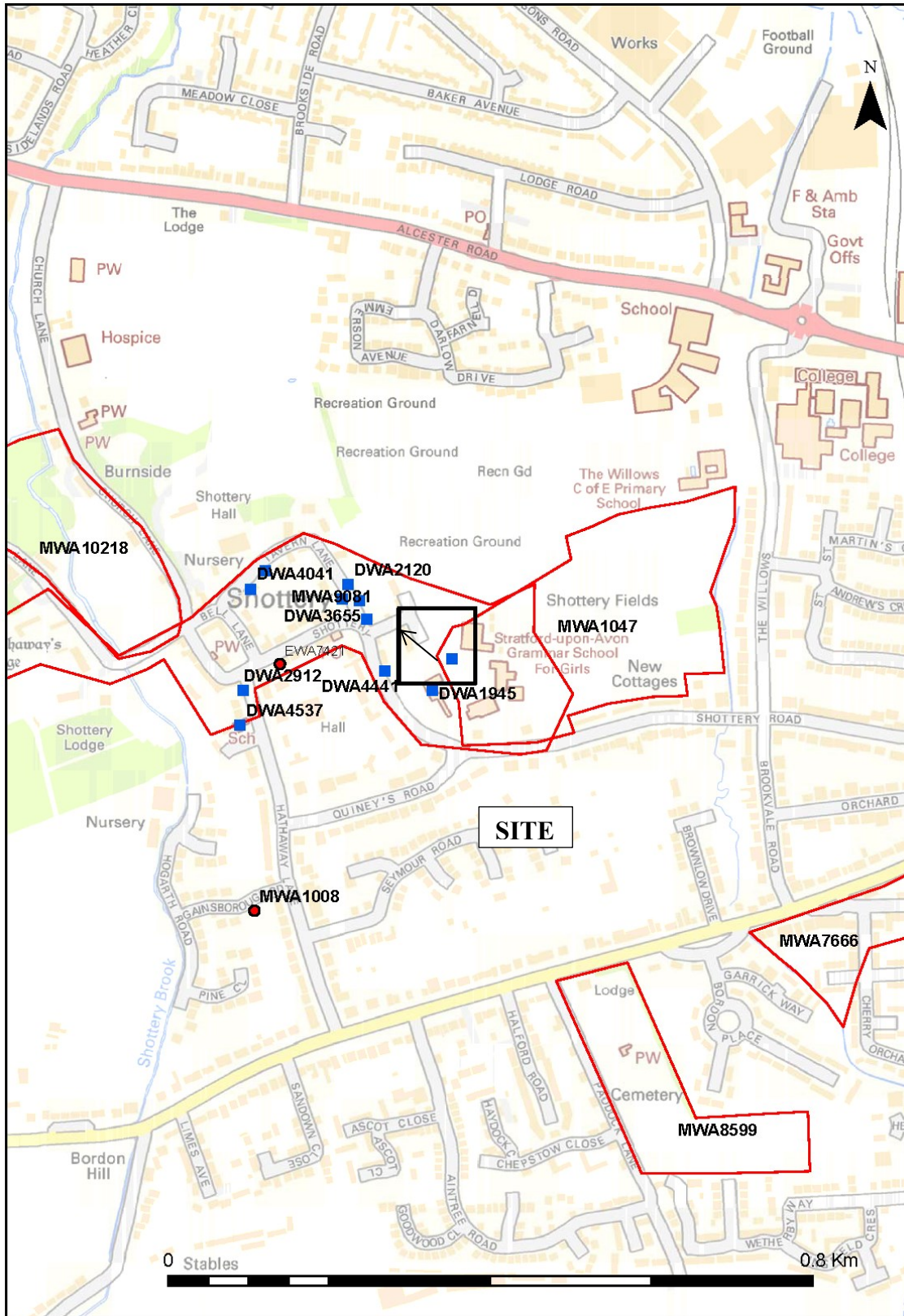


Figure 9: HER finds locations and Listed Buildings (blue).

Prehistoric

HER Ref.	Name	NGR	Date	Description
MWA1008	Findspot - Mesolithic flint	SP 1869 5439	Mesolithic - 10000 BC to 4001 BC	Various flint artefacts dating to the Mesolithic period were found 650m south of the church at Shottery.

Medieval

HER Ref.	Name	NGR	Date	Description
MWA1047	Possible Deserted Medieval Settlement at Shottery	SP 1910 5475	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD	The possible site of a deserted settlement dating to the Medieval period and located 650m south east of the church, at Shottery.
MWA9081	Shottery Medieval Settlement	SP 1870 5472	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD	The possible extent of the Medieval settlement of Shottery. The extent of the settlement is suggested by evidence on the Ordnance Survey map of 1886.
MWA10218	Possible medieval settlement at Shottery	SP 1843 5484	Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD	Possible area of medieval settlement suggested by earthworks at Shottery. The site is to the north and east of Anne Hathaway's Cottage.
DWA1945	Stratford-Upon-Avon Grammar School For Girls	SP 1891 5466	c.1402 – present	Grade II* Listed stone Manor House, now school, probably originally a farm building, converted to a house in C15, altered and part demolished in mid to late C18, early to mid C20 additions.

Post-medieval

HER Ref.	Name	NGR	Date	Description
MWA7666	Nursery at Stratford	SP 1943 5435	Imperial - 1751 AD to 1913 AD	The site of a nursery garden dating to the Imperial period. It is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1823. The nursery was situated to the west of Sandfield Road, Stratford on Avon.
MWA8599	Stratford Cemetery, Evesham Road	SP 1922 5419	Imperial to Modern - 1751 AD to 2050 AD	Stratford cemetery which dates back to the Imperial period. It is situated in Evesham Road and retains much of its 19th century character.
DWA1946	Quineys, 1 Tavern Lane, Shottery	SP 1882 5477	17th century	Grade II Listed timber-framed house with brick infill, C17 with C19 and C20 alterations and C20 range to rear.
DWA1947	The Green, 18 Tavern Lane, Shottery	SP 1879 5477	Late 16th or early 17th century	Grade II Listed timber-framed house with brick infill and thatched roof.
DWA2011	The Thatched House, 16 Tavern Lane	SP 1870 5481	c.1600	Three Grade II Listed timber-framed cottages, now one house, with brick infill and thatched roof.
DWA2119	Dovecote c.20m north of Stratford Grammar School For Girls	SP 1893 5470	17th century?	Grade II Listed rubble dovecote with pyramidal tile roof.
DWA2120	5 Tavern Lane, Shottery	SP 1880 5479	17th or early 18th century	Two Grade II Listed thatched, timber-framed cottages with brick infill
DWA2912	35 Shottery Village, Shottery	SP 1867 5466	c.1830	Grade II Listed 2-storey brick house in a Georgian style
DWA3655	Owl House, Shottery Village, Shottery	SP 1882 5475	17th century	Grade II Listed brick and timber-framed house, C17 with later alterations and early C20 additions.
DWA4041	Lavender House, 18 Tavern Lane, Shottery	SP 1868 5478	17th century	Grade II Listed brick and timber-framed cottage, C17, extensively altered late C19 with two C20 rear wings.

HER Ref.	Name	NGR	Date	Description
DWA4441	35 Shottery Village, Shottery	SP 1885 5468	17th century	Grade II Listed timber-framed barn with brick infill, now 2 dwellings. C17 with C19 and C20 additions.
DWA4537	Shottery Church of England Junior and Infant School	SP 1867 5462	17th century	Grade II Listed timber-framed Tythe Barn with brick and rubble infill, moved from Redditch, restored and converted into a school in 1870-1.

Undated

HER Ref.	Name	NGR	Date	Description
EWA7421	Failed Archaeological Watching Brief at 27 Shottery, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire	SP 1872 5469	-	A watching brief on the groundworks for the construction of two of three cottages recorded no archaeological finds or features.

Appendix II: Historic Maps

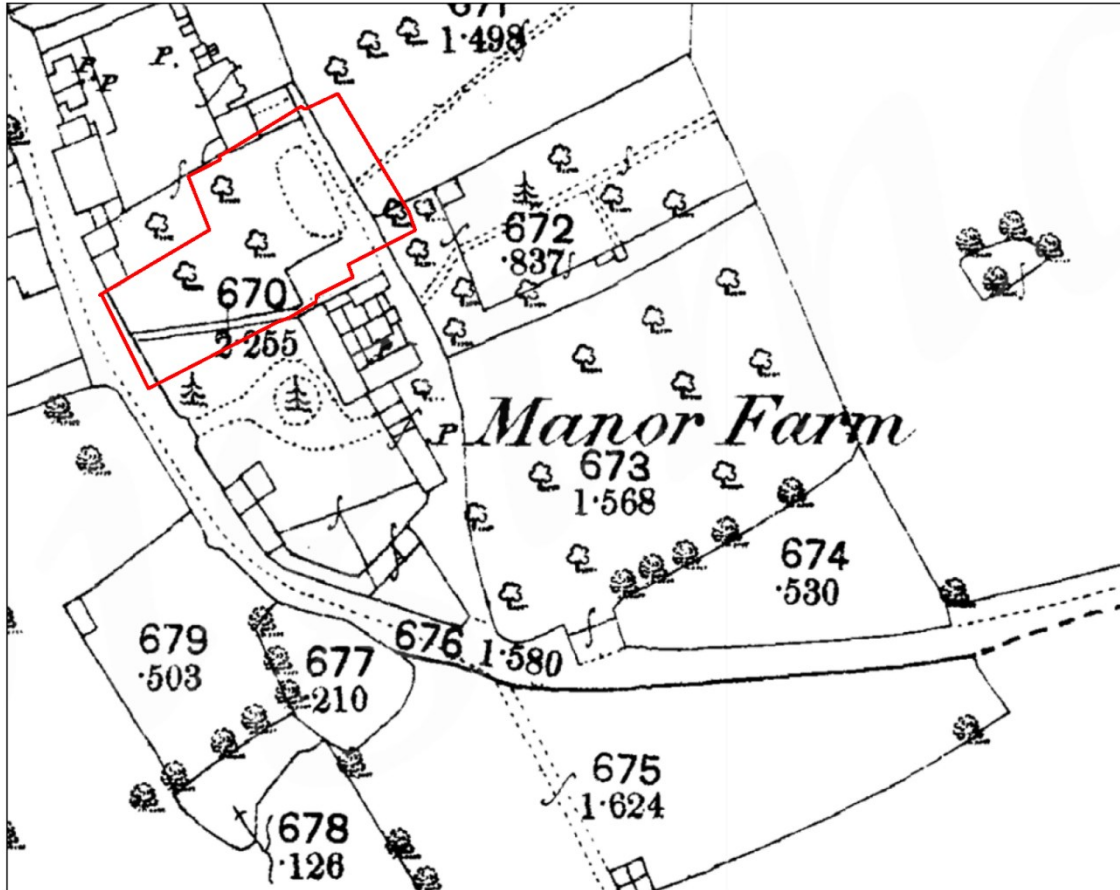


Figure 10: 1889 OS map (25 inch to 1 mile)

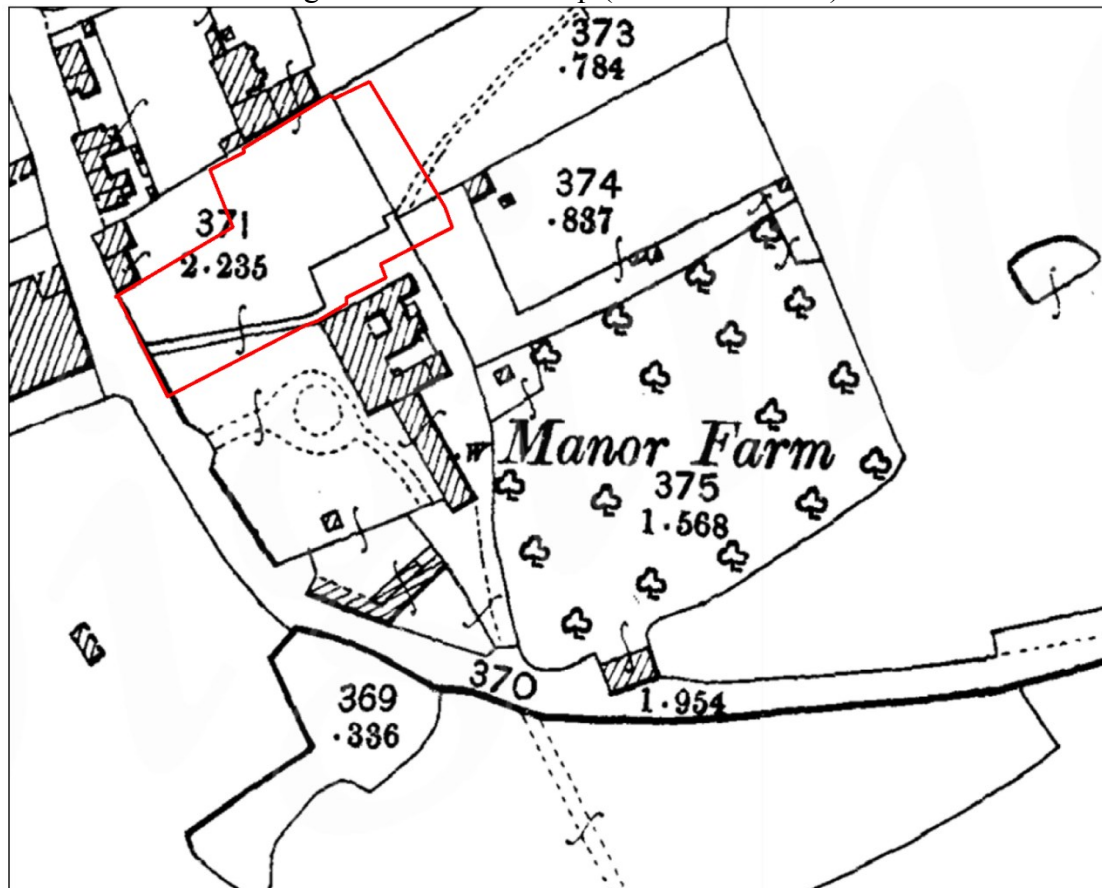


Figure 11: 1905 OS Map (25 inch to 1 mile)

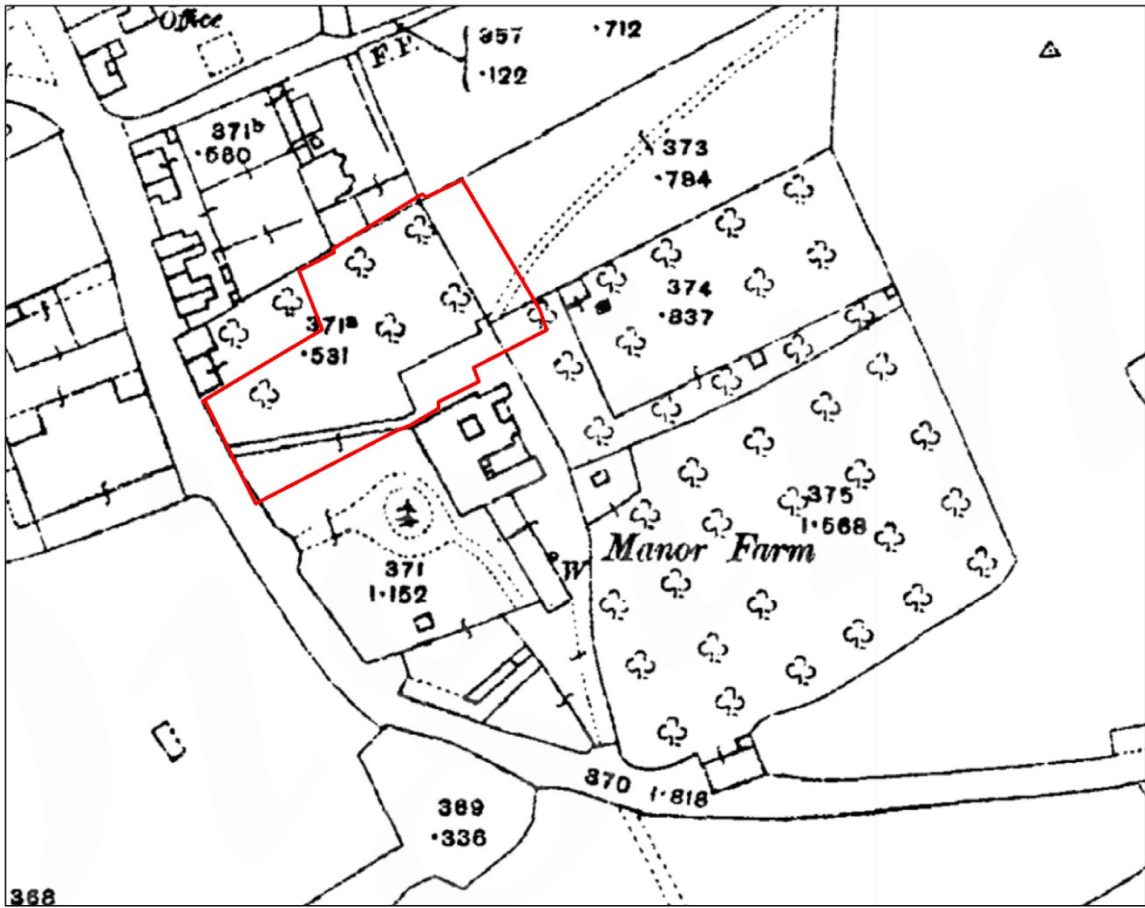


Figure 12: 1914 OS map (25 inch to 1 mile)

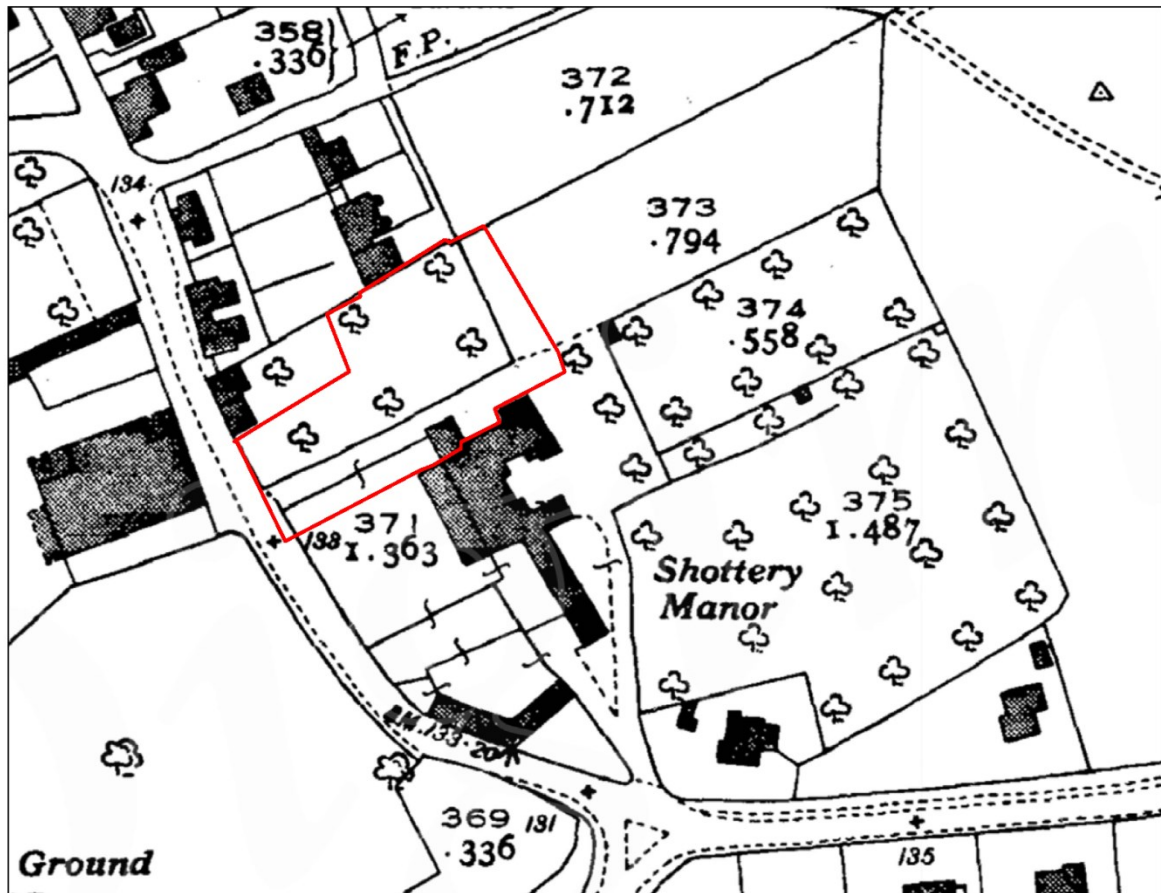


Figure 13: 1938 OS map (25 inch to 1 mile)

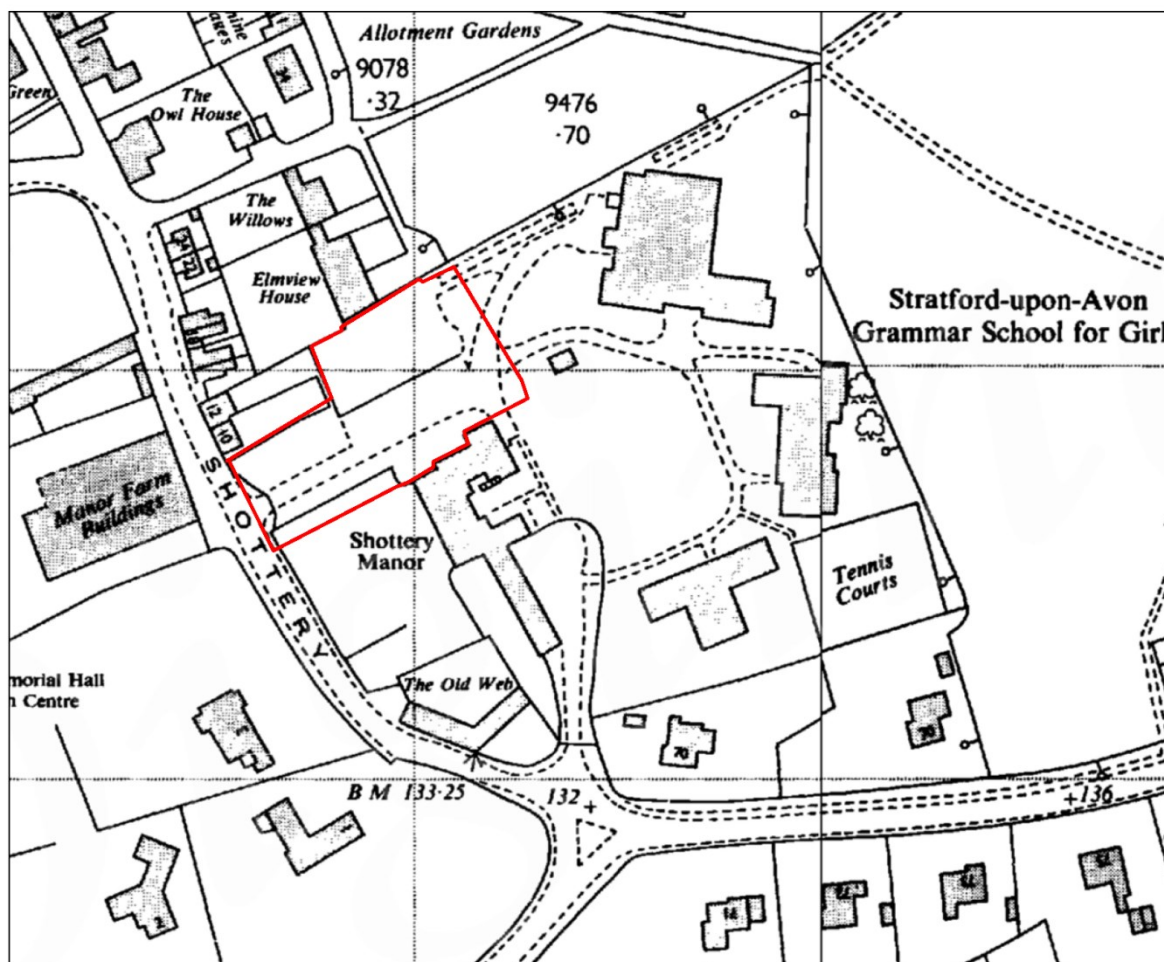


Figure 14: 1965 OS map (1:25 000)

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