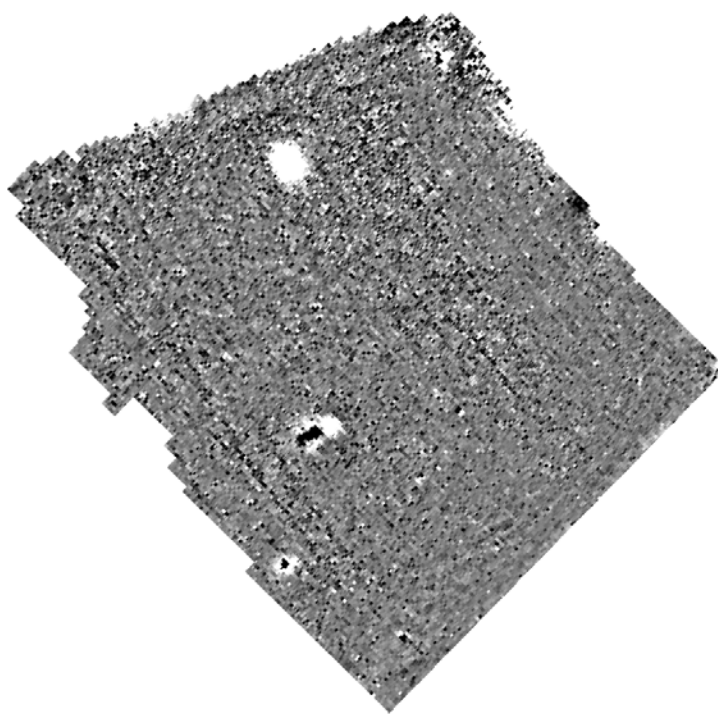




# Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological Geophysical Survey on land at  
Campden Road, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire  
September 2013



## Northamptonshire Archaeology

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Approved by	Andy Chapman	<i>AC</i>	

**OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		<b>Oasis No. 160406</b>	
Project title	Archaeological geophysical survey on land at Campden Road, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire, September 2013		
Short description	Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out a detailed magnetometer survey on 2.5ha of land at Campden Road, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire. The survey identified remnants of ridge and furrow and modern ferrous debris.		
Project type	Geophysical survey		
Previous work	Unknown		
Current land use	Arable		
Future work	Unknown		
Monument type and period	Medieval ridge and furrow		
Significant finds			
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>			
County	Warwickshire		
Site address	Campden Road, Shipston on Stour		
Easting Northing	SP 25100 40300		
Area (sq m/ha)	2.5 ha		
Height aOD	80-85m aOD		
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>			
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA)		
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting		
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire Archaeology		
Director/Supervisor	Paul Clements (NA)		
Project Managers	Adam Yates and Mark Holmes (NA)		
Sponsor or funding body	CgMs Consulting		
<b>PROJECT DATE</b>			
Start date	19/9/2013		
End date	19/9/2013		
<b>ARCHIVES</b>	<b>Location (Accession no.)</b>	<b>Contents</b>	
Physical	N/A		
Paper	NA	Site records (1 archive box)	
Digital	NA	Client report PDF. Survey data	
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>			
Title	Archaeological geophysical survey on land at Campden Road, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire, September 2013		
Serial title & volume	Northamptonshire Archaeology Report 13/187		
Author(s)	Carol Simmonds		
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Date	1/10/2013		

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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY ON LAND AT CAMPDEN ROAD, SHIPSTON ON STOUR, WARWICKSHIRE SEPTEMBER 2013

## **Abstract**

*Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out a detailed magnetometer survey on 2.5ha of land at Campden Road, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire. The survey identified remnants of ridge and furrow and modern ferrous debris.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to conduct a geophysical survey at Campden Road, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire (NGR SP 25100 40300; Fig 1). The aim of the survey was to detect and investigate the function, character and extent of any archaeological remains that may be present on the site, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework. The fieldwork was conducted on 19th September 2013 and comprised the detailed magnetometer survey of c2.5ha of land.

## **2 BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Location and geology**

The town of Shipston on Stour is situated in the Stour valley in the southern part of Warwickshire. The proposed development area lies on the western fringes of the town. It is bounded to the north by Campden Road, to the east by the 20<sup>th</sup>-century urban development of Shipston on Stour and to the south and west by arable fields. Within the site are two poles carrying overhead telegraph lines.

The proposed development area lies on an east facing slope overlooking the town and the Stour Valley. It is at a height of 80m to 85m aOD. The underlying bedrock comprises Jurassic Mudstones (Dawson 2013).

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

A desk-based assessment was undertaken in September 2013 by CgMs Consulting (Dawson 2013), its findings are briefly summarised below. The assessment utilised information from Warwickshire Historic Environment Record (WHER) based on a 500m radius of the proposed development area as well as a survey of historic maps.

Although the only record for the development area comprises medieval open fields (derived from historic map evidence) the area around Shipston on Stour is rich in recorded archaeological remains dating from prehistoric times to the present day. The prehistoric occupation of the area around Shipston on Stour included Neolithic flint axes and blades. From the Roman period there was increased occupation of the area, the Fosse Way is situated approximately 1km to the west and it is possible that Shipston on Stour may have had a Roman settlement, Roman coins and other artefacts have been found within the area of the town. The fields north of Campden Road were surveyed and subject to archaeological trenching in 2012. The work identified rectangular enclosures and field boundaries of Roman date. It was speculated that the occupation extended into the current survey area.

The extent of Saxon occupation is unknown although the recovery of artefacts indicates that settlement did continue from the Roman period. Shipston on Stour was first documented in the mid 10th century where it is called *Scepeswasce*. By the time of the Domesday Survey the town of Shipston comprised a manor (held by the Prior of Worcester) located in the parish of Tredington, Worcestershire. The medieval core was located around St Edmund's Church and the Manor House. The proposed development area lay beyond the recorded core and was probably within arable farmland. A map dating from 1793 shows the extent of strip cultivation prior to enclosure by Parliament in 1812. The map shows that the curving strips were aligned north-west to south-east. Subsequent to enclosure the fields to the west of the town were small, roughly rectangular parcels of land.

### **3 METHODOLOGY**

The survey was conducted with Bartington Grad 601-2, twin sensor array, vertical component fluxgate gradiometers (Bartington and Chapman 2003). These are standard instruments for archaeological survey and can resolve magnetic variations as slight as 0.1 nanoTesla (nT).

A 30m grid was established across the area to be surveyed. It was set out with a tape measure and optical square and tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid by measurement to field boundaries and other points of detail. The gradiometers were carried at a brisk but steady pace through each grid square, collecting data along 1m spaced traverse lines. Measurements were automatically triggered every 0.25m along the traverses, giving a total of 3600 measurements per square.

All fieldwork methods complied with the guidelines issued by English Heritage and by the Institute for Archaeologists (EH 2008; IfA 2011) and with the brief for Geophysical Survey for the project (WCC 2013).

The survey data was processed using Geoplot 3.00v software. Striping was removed using the 'Zero Mean Traverse' function, and destaggering of the data was performed as necessary.

The processed data is presented in this report in the form of a grey-tone plot at a scale of +/- 6nT black/white. This has been scaled, rotated and re-sampled (georectified) for display against the Ordnance Survey base mapping (Fig 2). An interpretative overlay is shown in Figure 3, and a plot of the raw, unprocessed survey data is presented in Figure 4.

### **4 SURVEY RESULTS**

The survey detected furrows of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation across the site (Fig 3). The furrows are characterised by parallel, gently curving anomalies, aligned south-east to north-west.

The location of overhead telegraph poles was denoted by two large highly magnetic signals. Scattered isolated magnetic anomalies across the survey area indicate ferrous objects within the topsoil. These are likely to be of recent origin.

## 5 CONCLUSION

The geophysical survey identified the remnants of medieval ridge and furrow mirroring the pattern recorded in the 1793 estate map (Dawson 2013). The survey has not recorded any earlier remains relating to the continuation of the Roman settlement to the north of Campden Road. Whether the absence of substantive archaeological features is genuine or whether the medieval and later cultivation is masking or has denuded earlier features is unclear.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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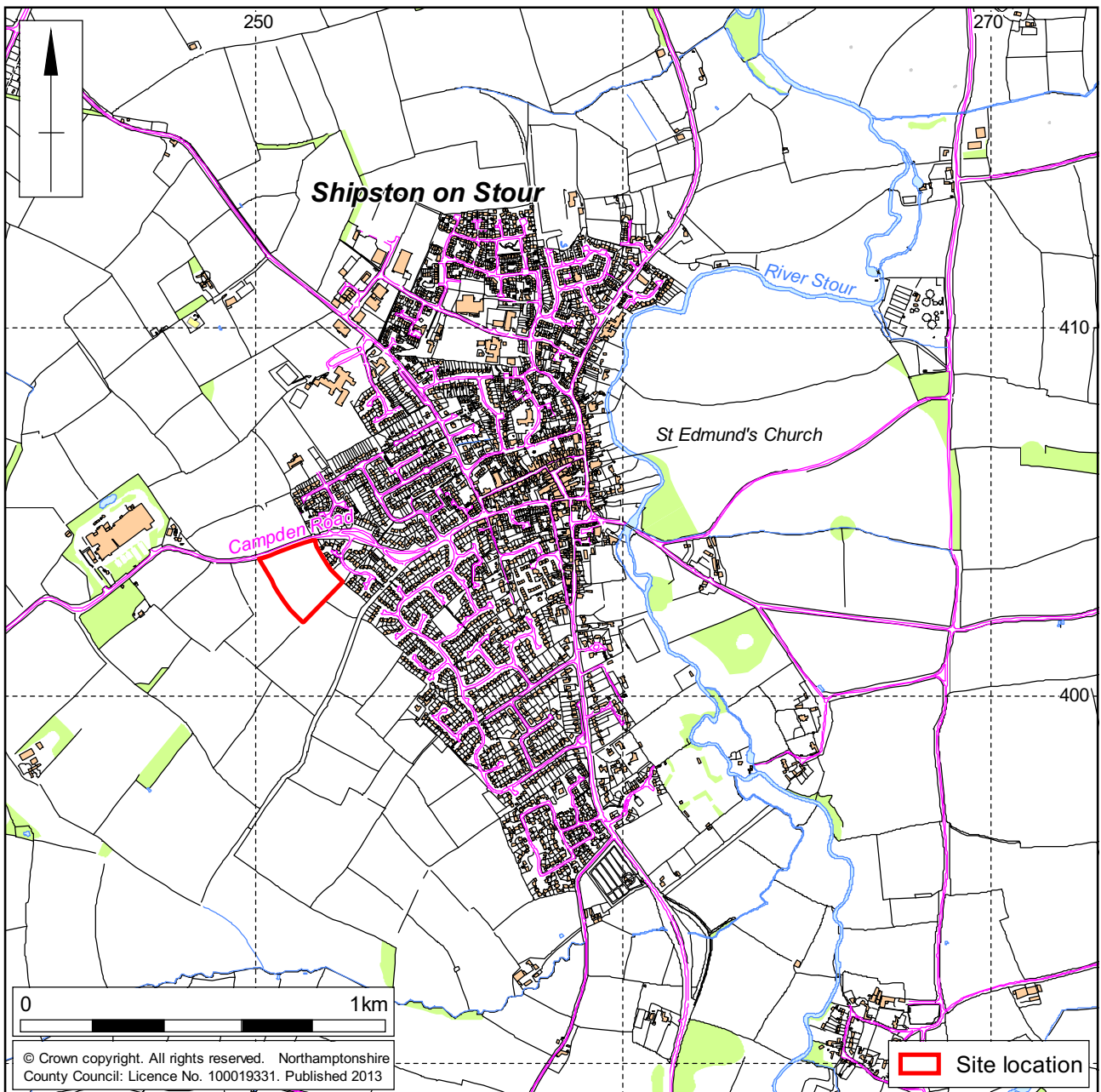
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Scale 1:17,500

Site location Fig 1





1:2,500

Magnetometer Survey Results Fig 2



1:2,500

Magnetometer survey interpretation Fig 3



1:2,500

Raw magnetometer data Fig 4



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