

11-12 Newland Street,  
Kettering, Northamptonshire  
(SP 868789)

## Archaeological Evaluation

Planning App. Ref. KET/2016/0674  
HER Event No. ENN108635

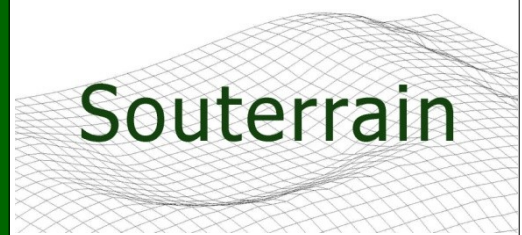


February 2018

Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd

for

Playnest Ltd



# Souterrain

**Archaeological Services Ltd**



**11-12 NEWLAND STREET, KETTERING  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, NN16 8JH  
(SP 868789)**

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Historic Environment Record Event No. ENN108635

**Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd**  
SOU17-532

**February 2018**

*Produced for:*

**Playnest Ltd**  
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204-226 Imperial Drive  
Harrow, HA2 7HH

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**Preface**

All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd (Souterrain) cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

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## Summary

*In June 2017, two evaluation trenches were excavated at a proposed development site in Kettering town centre.*

*The site is located within a previously identified zone of late medieval tenements known as The Newland, which is understood from documentary evidence to have been set out in a planned expansion of the town in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century.*

*The evaluation established that buried archaeological features deposits exist at the site, and significantly, that these remains attest to occupation and/or activity from the 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> century to the 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> century. Where features were devoid of dateable artefacts, they can be assigned to the late medieval period on account of characteristic agricultural assemblages of carbonised cereal and plant remains. It is considered that at least two of the features, a pit and a ditch, may represent tenement boundary features that had been in-filled by the 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> century.*

*To date, the discoveries at 11 to 12 Newland Street represent the most significant body of archaeological evidence for late medieval planned expansion on the north side of the town.*

*Residual late Iron Age pottery was also recovered, its condition suggesting that nearby occupation deposits had been disturbed in the late medieval period.*

*The report includes a survey and photographic record of a historic cellar exposed on the Newland Street frontage after the demolition of historic buildings.*

## 1. SCOPE OF THE DOCUMENT

- 1.1 This report has been prepared by Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd (hereafter 'Souterrain') on behalf of Playnest Ltd (the Developer) of Talbot House, 204-226 Imperial Drive, Harrow, HA2 7HH. It presents the results of an archaeological evaluation, undertaken accordance with a condition of planning permission, at the site known as 11-12 Newland Street, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN16 8JH.
- 1.2 The evaluation was conducted in accordance with a written *Scheme of Investigation*<sup>1</sup> prepared by Souterrain and approved by Liz Mordue, Assistant Archaeological Advisor (AAA) of Northamptonshire County Council and statutory archaeological consultant for Kettering District Council.
- 1.3 The evaluation, carried out in June 2017, comprised Stage 1 of a programme of archaeological work, the purpose of which was to assess the significance of potential buried heritage assets. The results of subsequent archaeological mitigation fieldwork (Stage 2) carried out during construction groundwork in 2017, fall outside the scope of this report. They are to be the subject of a separate report by Groundwork Archaeology.
- 1.4 Appended to this report is a survey of a stone-lined cellar which was exposed during demolition of historic building fronting Newland Street. The cellar is understood to pertain to a pre-19<sup>th</sup> century building.

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Kettering Borough Council (KBC) Planning Permission KET/2016/0674<sup>2</sup> has been granted, subject to Conditions to Playnest Ltd, Mr K Odunaiya, for the '*demolition of existing units and construction of 2 no. retail units and 24 no. flats with associated parking*' at 11-12 Newland Street, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN16 8JH (the Application Site).
- 2.2 On account of archaeological potential of this historic locality (*post*, 4), Liz Mordue, Assistant Archaeological Advisor (AAA) of Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) and statutory archaeological consultant for Kettering Borough Council, recommended the implementation of a programme of archaeological work prior to the site's development. In line with the recommendation, the following Condition (No. 6) has been attached to the planning permission:

*'No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall only be carried out in accordance with the approved details.'*

*REASON: These details are required prior to the commencement of development, to ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded, in accordance with Policy 12, Paragraph 141 of the NPPF [National Planning Policy Framework].'*

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<sup>1</sup>Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd. 2017. *Scheme of Investigation, for an Archaeological Evaluation: 11-12 Newland Street, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN16 8JH (SP868789), Planning Ref. KET/2016/0674, SOU17-532, V.1 11<sup>th</sup> May 17*

<sup>2</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016

- 2.3 Following receipt of a *Brief* for the programme of archaeological work from NCC,<sup>3</sup> the Developer submitted an appropriate written *Scheme of Investigation*<sup>4</sup> to the AAA and KBC. This initiated the programme of archaeological work in compliance with Condition 6.
- 2.4 Two archaeological evaluation trenches were subsequently excavated at the Application Site by Souterrain, during the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2017. Archaeological features revealed in the trenches were inspected by the AAA on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June. At a site meeting with the Developer, directly after the inspection, the AAA decided that programme of archaeological mitigation fieldwork (Stage 2) should take place during construction ground work. Prior to commencement of any construction ground work the AAA would require: 1) a preliminary Statement of the archaeological results, and; 2) the submission of an appropriate Written Scheme of Investigation for the Stage 2 mitigation fieldwork.
- 2.5 During the site inspection a historic cellar was noted by the AAA. The cellar would require recording by survey and photography prior to its conversion or destruction.
- 2.6 Subsequent to the submission of the Archaeological Statement and Stage 2 WSI, the preparation of an Archaeological Evaluation report was put on hold at the request of the Developer.
- 2.7 The Stage 2 mitigation fieldwork has been undertaken by Groundwork Archaeology, commencing in August 2017. At the time of issue of this report (February 2018) the Stage 2 fieldwork is yet to be completed<sup>5</sup>.

### 3. SITE LOCATION AND ASPECT

- 3.1 The Application Site is located in the historic core of Kettering (Fig. 1), and within the town's designated Shopping Quarter<sup>6</sup>. It is a rectangular plot of c. 1,126 sq m centred on NGR 486815, 278977 (SP 868789), at approximately 91 m OD. The front of the plot (SW) is at Newland Street, where it is situated between department stores (Wilko and Gerald S. White Ltd Furniture shop) and faces Newlands Shopping Centre. The rear end of the site is at St Andrew Street. A pedestrian passage runs adjacent to the southern (NE) boundary of the site.
- 3.2 Shortly prior to the archaeological evaluation, the site had contained a derelict shop premises (destroyed by fire in 2008) on the Newland Street frontage, and derelict brick-built structures at the rear. The built area amounted to c. 474.2 sq m. Also at the rear was a yard of asphalt and hard standing, latterly used as a car park. At the time of the evaluation, a layer of compacted demolition rubble covered the site.
- 3.3 The underlying geology is Northampton Sand Formation. The following lithological description is a *précis* from the British Geological Survey Lexicon (2017<sup>7</sup>): sandy, berthierine-ooidal and sideritic ironstone, greenish grey, weathering to brown limonitic sandstone and typically displaying a box-stone structure. The uppermost beds are generally ferruginous sandstone. It includes lenses of mudstone and fossiliferous limestone.

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<sup>3</sup> Mordue, L 2017. *Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Investigation of Land at 11-12 Newland Street, Kettering, Northamptonshire*, V1. 11th April 2017

<sup>4</sup> prepared by Souterrain on behalf of the Developer

<sup>5</sup> Pers. comm: J. Roberts, Groundworks Archaeology 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018

<sup>6</sup> Kettering Town Centre Area Action Plan, July 2011

<sup>7</sup> British Geological Survey, <http://www.bgs.ac.uk>

## 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

### Sources of Information

- 4.1 The archaeological potential of the Application Site in this section is derived predominantly from two sources: *Northamptonshire County Council's Extensive Urban Survey of Kettering* (EUS)<sup>8</sup>, researched and written by G Foard and J Ballinger's; and *Northamptonshire's Historic Environment Record* (HER). The EUS traced the development of Kettering, from its origin as a medieval agricultural village, to becoming the county's second largest settlement. The aim of the EUS was to provide an effective information base and research framework that would guide the management of the county's urban archaeological resource. Information from the HER was extracted from a 500 m radius (the Study Area) of the Application Site. The HER numbers in the footnotes refer to the specific record (monument, find spot, site, or archaeological event).

### Pre-medieval Archaeology

- 4.2 Recorded archaeological discoveries of pre-medieval date within the Study Area are few. To date, they comprise: a possible Roman iron furnace found under the modern town centre in 1864<sup>9</sup>; a Neolithic adze found at British Lane at some time before 1980<sup>10</sup>; and a Neolithic stone axe found somewhere in the town centre during building work in 1984<sup>11</sup>.

### Archaeological Investigations

- 4.3 The HER search returned no records of invasive archaeological excavations, evaluations or watching briefs within the Study Area.

### The Early Medieval Settlement

- 4.4 Kettering is mentioned in a Saxon charter of c. 963, wherein bishop *Aethelwold* made a foundation grant to *Medeshamstede*, later known as Peterborough Abbey<sup>12</sup>. In the late Saxon period Kettering (*Cytringan*) was a royal property, the bounds of which were defined in a charter of AD 956 in which *King Eadwig* made a grant of land to his minister, *Aelfsige*. The bounds of *Cytringan* are thought to correspond more or less to the pre-19<sup>th</sup> century limits of Kettering. The early village is understood to have lined a north-south road (High Street), where the population are thought to have been *virgate* tenants. By 1086 there was already a fairly large village of 32 households. The arable assets consisted of 16 *ploughlands* worked by ten plough teams maintained by the men, and one team belonging to the lord. Additional resources comprised 107 acres of meadow, 3 acres of woodland and 2 mills.

### The Medieval Settlement

- 4.5 In 1227, the Abbot of Peterborough acquired a grant to hold a weekly market at Kettering. The market triggered the growth of the settlement into a substantial urban settlement. The township expanded north-eastwards in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, presumably attracted by the London to Oakham<sup>13</sup> road, which was a major national route. Because of the large number of tenements in this period, it is thought that a good proportion of tenants must have been artisans. Prosperity was also boosted after the late 13<sup>th</sup> century by the re-location of the woollen cloth production industry to Kettering. However, the town's wealth was strictly administered by the Abbey of Peterborough. As a result, it did not receive any urban institutions, such as monastic houses, or hospitals. Nor did it acquire burgage tenure. All profit went to the Abbey.

<sup>8</sup> Foard G & Ballinger J. 2000. *Extensive Urban Survey (EUS) of Kettering*, Northamptonshire County Council

<sup>9</sup> HER 3802/0/1 (SP 8662 7879)

<sup>10</sup> HER3801/0/0 (SP 8686 7872)

<sup>11</sup> HER 6113/0/1 (SP 8700 7900)

<sup>12</sup> HER 7427

<sup>13</sup> HER 6283/1



### The Medieval Context of the Application Site

- 4.6 The survival of a rentals list of 1405 (believed to be complete) enabled Foard & Ballinger (*EUS*) to conjecture the layout of medieval tenements upon a modern base map. In addition, they were able to hypothesise different phases of settlement expansion from the pattern of the rental roll, which is listed in blocks. Notably, the block-rents gradually rose as distance increased from the early north-south nucleus of the settlement.
- 4.7 Based on the *EUS* interpretation, the Application Site would have been located within a zone of planned expansion of 1292, known as *Le Neweland*. It is thought to have been the final stage of expansion before the onset of nation-wide recession in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century, followed by bouts of famine and plague in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. There were 18 new tenement plots set out in *Le Neweland*, fronting the Rockingham Road<sup>14</sup>. It has been calculated that each tenancy plot was 2 rods wide (c. 10.06 m)<sup>15</sup> and contained 2 acres. Figure 2 shows the approximate position of tenancy divisions at *Le Neweland* in relation to the Application Site. The regular, long narrow form of each plot suggests that they were carved out of the existing furlong fields. The wide (double tenement plot) at the south is understood to be rental No. 138 listed in 1405. Working northwards, there were then 6 occupied plots with cottages, followed by 7 vacant tofts. Thus, two of the vacant tofts in 1405 coincide with the Application Site. Presumably, they were either abandoned, or else had remained vacant since the planned expansion.
- 4.8 The first detailed map of Kettering was made in 1587. Comparing the map with the 1405 rental list the *EUS* concluded that large parts of the town had previously been abandoned. By 1587, the area of the Application Site was a part of a large open close, attached to a tenement located beyond to the north, fronting Rockingham Road. The next available detailed historic map<sup>16</sup> was made in 1721. It shows that the area of the Application Site was occupied by two tenements with buildings fronting Newland Street. The southernmost plot appears to have buildings along its entire length, up to St Andrew's Street.

### Post-medieval Settlement

- 4.9 Kettering's woollen industry survived until the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, after which the town experienced economic decline. The stagnation was to some extent offset by boot and shoe production. Economic recovery was not, however, until 1857, when the railway facilitated an expansion of industry – in particular, footwear, iron, clothing and engineering, which subsequently saw Kettering develop into the county's second largest town.
- 4.10 It is thought that industrialisation and intensive redevelopment of the historic core in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries will have obliterated most of the buried archaeology of earlier periods, although the paucity of archaeological knowledge is rather a reflection of the few investigations that have taken place rather than a genuine absence of archaeology.

## 5. OBJECTIVES OF THE EVALUATION

- 5.1 The broad purpose of the evaluation was to identify any buried archaeological remains that might be affected by the proposed development, and to assess their significance, condition and age, in order to help formulate an appropriate level of mitigation to ensure that archaeological interest of the site is safeguarded.

<sup>14</sup> HER 7198/387

<sup>15</sup> The statute rod is 5 ½ yards. Also known as a perch, or a pole, it was originally a variable linear measurement between 15 and 24 feet. See Coleman S & Wood J, 1985. *Historic Landscape & Archaeology, Glossary of Terms*, (Bedford)

<sup>16</sup> i.e. in Northampton Archives

5.2 The broad objectives of the evaluation were thus defined as follows:

- i. establish the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation on the development site;
- ii. recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region;
- iii. recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.
- iv. to attempt to recover information that may contribute to understanding of medieval to post-medieval tenements that may have existed in this part of Kettering;
- v. to recover information that will contribute to long-term regional research aims of identifying the form and development of urban settlement and economy, and material culture;
- vi. to assess the significance (by sample excavation) of archaeological remains and to determine an appropriate level of mitigation.

#### **Specific Research Questions**

5.3 Given that knowledge of the Kettering's developmental sequence has been based primarily on medieval documentary evidence, Foard and Ballinger appreciated the importance to archaeologically test their *expansion hypothesis* "through the collection of, at the very least, stratified collections of ceramics from developments anywhere within the area of the medieval and early post medieval town"<sup>17</sup>. For this reason, the Application Site at Newland has been identified for its archaeological potential to testing this hypothesis. The following specific questions were thus posed:

- i. Is there datable evidence for the setting out of the tenement plots at Newland?
- ii. Is there evidence for occupation or activity at the new tenement plots (at the location of the Application Site) in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century?
- iii. If occupied, is there evidence of craft /artisan activities at the plot?
- iv. Are there signs of settlement hiatus between the late 13<sup>th</sup> century / first decade of the 14<sup>th</sup> century and the late 16<sup>th</sup> century?
- v. Or, conversely, can we detect signs of continuity of occupation or land-usage after the late 13<sup>th</sup> century?
- vi. Is there evidence of pre-existing open field system in the form of buried soils?

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<sup>17</sup> EUS p.70

## 6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 6.1 The evaluation fieldwork was carried out from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2017. The investigation was conducted with due consideration to Health and Safety, and in accordance with the requirements of the written *Scheme of Investigation* and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014).
- 6.2 Two trenches were excavated. The layout of the trenches was arranged to provide a representative coverage of the informed area of proposed ground disturbance, but with particular respect to the possibility of revealing a former medieval tenement boundary. The trench locations also considered existing knowledge of ground disturbance (*ante* 3.2).
- 6.3 Two trial trenches (Figure 3) were excavated by mechanical excavator using a toothless bucket, under guidance of an archaeologist. The trenches were cleaned using hand tools, and archaeological features investigated.
- 6.4 The positions of the trenches and features were accurately surveyed to Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinates and orthometric heights by means of RTK GPS. An archaeological context recording system was used for registering textual descriptions and the stratigraphic relationships of deposits. Measured sections were hand-drawn and a digital photographic record was created. The photographic record includes working shots to represent more generally the nature of the site and the fieldwork. All records are referenced with the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record Event Number ENN 108635.

## 7. EVALUATION RESULTS

- 7.1 Each of the evaluation trenches was planned to have an initial coverage of 10.6 sq. m (i.e. 6 m by 1.8 m). The trench locations were planned indicatively, which would allow for reposition or re-form in the event of constraints, or in order to characterise any archaeological features encountered.

### TRENCH 1

- 7.2 The trench was initially opened to a length of 5.5 m, orientated east –west (Fig. 3). After encountering two archaeological features, the trench was opened outwards at its west end to clarify the nature of deposits and to ascertain whether further features lay in proximity. The total excavated area of the trench was 14.42 sq. m. The existing ground height (i.e. after demolition and ground compaction) was around 91.13 m OD at the east end of the trench, and around 91.99 m OD at the west end.
- 7.3 Initial removal of modern rubble (101), between 0.28 m and 0.44 m in thickness, exposed a buried soil (102) which was present throughout the trench (Fig. 8, Section 1). The buried layer consisted of light brown friable, sandy soil with frequent small to medium angular pieces of ironstone. It was between 0.08 m and 0.26 m in thickness, possibly increasing to 0.42 m at east end of the trench (discussed below at Section 7.7). Four pieces of pottery from a Cistercian-ware vessel (15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> century) were recovered (Fig. 8; *post* 7.18, Table 1, (102)).
- 7.4 The buried soil directly overlay the upper geological horizon (000) at c.91.47 m OD – c. 91.60 m OD). The geology was comprised of weathered ironstone (fairly loose sub-angular and sub-

rounded cobbles in sandy matrix). Two archaeological features were cut into the geological stratum.

#### **Probable medieval pit**

- 7.5 One of the cut features is presumed to have been a pit [104], half of which continued beyond the north baulk (Fig. 6; Fig. 8, Sections 1 & 3; Fig. 9). This was c. 0.5 m to 0.6 m in diameter, c. 0.26 m deep, with steep sides (75° - 80°) and a flattish base. There was a single, homogeneous, fill, composed of light orange-brown friable clayey sandy soil with frequent small to medium angular fragments of ironstone. Two sherds of unabraded Late Iron Age pottery were recovered. However, the assemblage of carbonised plant macrofossils from the fill (cereal grains and weeds) is clearly not characteristic of prehistoric (Late Iron Age) agriculture, but is indeed consistent with medieval cultivation regimes (this report Summers J, *post* 7.25), which suggests that the pottery sherds are residual.

#### **Probable medieval linear feature**

- 7.6 A shallow curvilinear feature [108] ran more or less east-west along the trench, varying in width between c. 0.45 and 0.65 m (Figs. 6 and 7). The feature was perceptible only as a slightly darker discolouration within the ironstone geology (Fig. 7). Although a western terminus could be defined, the feature was discernible for a little over 2 m, beyond which to the east it became quite nebulous. Excavation of the terminus proved a maximum depth of just 0.05 m (Fig. 8, Section 7). Its fill consisted predominantly (c. 90%) of angular ironstone cobbles, the remainder being dark orange-brown sandy soil with smaller fragments of ironstone. Despite an absence of artefacts, the soil sample revealed a range of cereal grains characteristic of post-Roman (i.e. medieval) agriculture (*post* 7.28, Table 3). The feature had evidently been severely truncated in antiquity. A test sondage excavated at the east end of the trench (Fig. 10) appears to have picked up a further extent of the feature (*post* 7.7)
- 7.7 Towards the east end of the trench, the buried soil layer (102) aforementioned (*ante*, 7.3), incorporated a shallow (c. 0.16 m) depression (Fig. 8, Section 2, context [106]). This was considered to be either a superficial undulation of the geological stratum, or a continuation of linear feature [108], at a slightly higher (c. 0.07 m) level<sup>18</sup>. With the latter prospect in mind, separate context numbers (i.e. [106] and (105)) were assigned, respectively, for the cut and fill of the postulated feature. Figure 7 shows the location of feature [106] in relation to linear feature [108]. Notably, there was no visible differentiation between contexts (102) and (105) although there was the possibility that soil degradation may have blurred any previous distinction. A single sherd of 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered from the upper part of fill (105) (see Fig. 8; *post* 7.18, Table 1). A soil sample from (105) produced an assemblage of cereal grains which reflect a typical range of crops cultivated during the medieval period (*post*, 7.23, 7.27).

#### **TRENCH 2**

- 7.9 Trench 2 was initially 6 m by 1.8 m (10.6 sq. m) and orientated southwest/ north east (Fig.5). It was opened out at its southwest end in order to characterise a wide medieval linear feature [212]. The total area of the trench was 14.45 sq. m. The existing ground height (i.e. after demolition and ground compaction) was around 91.92 m OD at the northeast end and around 92.00 m OD at the south west end.
- 7.10 Recent demolition material was removed by machine, as was a compacted 19<sup>th</sup> century rubble layer (201) up to 0.22 m thick (Fig.16, Section 6). This exposed a mixed layer of loose ironstone cobbles with dark brown soil (202). The layer was 0.2 m to 0.25 m thick and had the appearance of re-deposited geological material. Machine-removal of the layer exposed the upper geological stratum (000) of weathered ironstone as witnessed in Trench 1 between c.91.37 m -91.40 m OD.

<sup>18</sup> i.e. [106] = c. 91.55 m OD; linear feature [108] at c. 91.48 m OD

- 7.11 Cut into the geological stratum at the southwest end of Trench 2 was a shallow linear feature [212], c. 1.38 - 1.9 m wide (Fig. 14). Impressed into the surface of the fill were five unabraded fragments of a late medieval (14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> century) water jug or cistern (Fig. 12; *post* 7.18, Table 1). The excavated section proved the feature to be between 0.18 m and 0.35 m deep (Fig. 15, Sections 4 & 5). It had a single homogeneous fill (211) of orange-brown clayey, sandy soil, with frequent sub-angular, sub-rounded pieces of ironstone. A sherd from a 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> century vessel was recovered from the fill (*post* 7.18, Table 1). The soil sample produced an assemblage of cereal grains which reflect a typical range of crops cultivated during the medieval period (*post*, 7.23, 7.28), thus supporting the broad date indicated by the pottery.
- 7.12 A very shallow linear disturbance [210] was cut in the surface fill (211) of the medieval linear feature, from which a sherd of 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered (*post* 7.18, Table 1).
- 7.13 The late medieval linear feature [212] concealed a pit [214], c. 0.7 m in diameter, 0.32m/0.38 m deep with steep-sides (75°-85°). Two fills were discernible. The upper fill (213) was composed of dark orange-brown, loose and powdery, sandy soil, between c. 0.12 m and 0.19 m in thickness. The primary fill (215), up to c. 0.22 m thick, consisted of orange-brown clayey, sandy soil with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent angular ironstone cobbles; the latter presumably having eroded from the sides of the pit. Although no artefacts were present in either fill, soil samples produced assemblages of cereal grain and non-cereal *taxa* characteristic of post-Roman agriculture (*post* 7.27; Fig. 24, Table 3).

## The Pottery

*by Jackie Wells & Martin Wilson*

- 7.14 A total of 11 sherds of Late Medieval pottery were recovered from stratified medieval deposits. They represent a minimum number of 5 vessels (MNV) and have an overall assemblage weight of 478 grams (Table 2). In addition, two residual sherds of grog-tempered Late Iron Age pottery were found in a medieval pit (Table 1).
- 7.15 The earliest pottery falls within the production date range of c. AD 1225-1400. Known archaeologically as Lyveden/Stanion B ware, this type of pottery was locally-produced at the village of Stanion, about 6.5 miles (10.4 km) to the northeast of Kettering. In Trench 1, a single sherd this type of pottery was recovered from the fill (105) of a possible linear feature. A second sherd was present in the upper fill (213) of pit [214] in Trench 2; the pit also stratigraphically earlier than the ditch.
- 7.16 Five un-abraded sherds from a late medieval water jug/cistern with bung hole were found in the upper horizon of an in-filled late medieval ditch in Trench 2 (Fig.12). The horizon was presumably a surface hollow above the ditch into which the broken vessel was flung. The sherds, which have an oxidised fabric, were probably locally-produced and date broadly to the 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 7.17 The latest medieval fabrics represented in the assemblage are Cistercian ware, produced in the 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. Four sherds came from a buried soil layer in Trench 1 (Fig.8) which sealed late medieval features [104] and [108]; and possibly [106].



## 7.18 Table 1. Medieval pottery types and chronology

(Note: Fabric codes used in descriptions refer to the Northamptonshire Ceramic Type Series).

Context No.	Context type	Description	Fabric Code	Date range
102	layer	x 4 body sherds, Cistercian ware	404	C15-C16
103	pit	x 2 rim sherds (joining) , Grog-tempered ware (tot. wt. 31 g.)	-	Late Iron Age
105	Layer/ or poss. linear	x 1 body-base sherd, Lyveden/Stanion B ware	320	C13-C14
209	Linear (pit)	x 1 body sherd, tin-glazed earthenware, cobalt painted	418	C18
211	Linear (ditch)	x 5 body sherds, water jug/cistern with bung hole; Late medieval oxidised ware	401	C14-C15
213	pit	x 1 body sherd, Lyveden/Stanion B ware, splashed green lead glaze	320	C13-C14

## 7.19 Table 2. Quantification of Late Medieval pottery (c. AD 1250 - c. AD 1500)

(MNV= minimum number of vessels)

Context	No. of sherds	Weight (g)	MNV
102	1	19	1
105	4	62	1
109	1	56	1
211	5	341	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>5</b>

**Assessment of Bulk Sample Light Fractions***by John Summers*(Archaeological Solutions Ltd, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017)**Introduction**

- 7.20 Six bulk soil samples were submitted to Archaeological Solutions Ltd (Bury St. Edmunds for processing and environmental and archaeological assessment. Sampled deposits spot dated by pottery comprise: (103) late Iron Age; (105) 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> centuries; and (211) 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. This report presents the results from the assessment, and discusses the results and significance of any remains recovered.

**Methods**

- 7.21 Samples were processed using standard flotation methods. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 500µm (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 1 mm. The dried light fractions were scanned under a low power stereomicroscope (x 10 - x 30 magnification). Botanical remains were identified and recorded using reference literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006) and a reference collection of modern seeds. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits.

## Results

- 7.22 The assessment data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 3. All of the six samples examined contained carbonised plant macrofossils, predominantly in the form of cereal grains.
- 7.23 The remains from medieval deposits (105) and (211) included carbonised grains of hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.), free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum*), oat (*Avena* sp.) and rye (*Secale cereale*). All of these were common medieval crops serving a range of roles in both human consumption and, in the case of barley and oats, animal fodder (e.g. Straker *et al.* 2007, 886; Stone 2006; Moffett 2006). Also present was a single cotyledon of pea or bean (*fabaceae*) in (211). Pulses were another important economic plant, being common in potages, as well as being ground into flour for low-grade bread (Stone 2006). Associated non-cereal *taxa* included small and medium legumes (*fabaceae*), stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*) and large-seeded wild grasses (*poaceae*). All of these are likely to have grown as arable weeds and be associated with the cereal remains recorded.
- 7.24 A single dropping from a small mammal, most likely a mouse, was also identified in (105). This is a small insight into the co-existence of humans with pest species, such as mice, which would have been a perennial problem in houses and grain stores.
- 7.25 The material from (103), spot dated to the late Iron Age, also contained a comparable range of material. Cereal grains identified were of free-threshing type wheat and rye. Neither of these were common crops during the Iron Age, although free-threshing type wheat is occasionally recorded from middle Bronze Age contexts and later (e.g. Campbell and Straker 2003). The primary late Iron Age wheat crop was spelt (*T. spelta*), which largely replaced emmer wheat (*T. dicoccum*) during the middle Iron Age. Also of note is the presence of stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*), which is a common weed of heavy soils that became particularly prolific during the medieval period (e.g. Straker *et al.* 2007, 885). In general, prehistoric agriculture, prior to the introduction of heavier ploughs, was restricted to lighter soils that do not favour plants such as *A. cotula*. On balance, it would appear that at least some of the carbonised remains from (103) are of later origin (i.e. post-Roman), perhaps being intrusive from later activity and disturbance. The remaining undated samples are also quite comparable, with hulled barley, free-threshing type wheat, oat and rye all recorded. Additional non-cereal *taxa* in (213) included *Veronica* sp. and ryegrass (*Lolium* sp.). This material is also characteristic of post-Roman agriculture and these deposits most likely originate from comparable sources to those in (105) and (211).
- 7.26 *Contaminants.* Small numbers of modern rootlets, seeds and burrowing molluscs (*Ceciloides acicula*) were recorded in the sample. Concentrations were low and are unlikely to reflect any significant biological disturbance of the sampled deposit.

## Conclusions

- 7.27 Based on the character of the carbonised cereals and associated weed *taxa* recovered, the material is comparable across all sampled deposits. It is likely that these all relate to the medieval occupation of the site, in line with dated deposits (105) and (211). The frequency with which these remains were recorded, being present in all of the six bulk samples, indicates that cereals were in common usage at the site. The absence of chaff elements and the fact that cereal grains in general outnumber non-cereal *taxa*, suggests that predominantly clean grain was being dealt with. This is perhaps to be expected in an urban location, such as was likely for the site in the 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. It is possible, therefore, that the material from the sampled deposits represents debris from routine use of cereals, in the form of food preparation and consumption activities, using imported cereals and pulses.

7.28 Table 3. Results from the bulk sample light fraction from 11-12 Newland Street, Kettering

Abbreviations: HB = hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.); Hord = barley (*Hordeum* sp.); FTW = free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*); Trit = wheat (*Triticum* sp.); Oat (*Avena* sp.); Rye (*Secale cereale*); NFI = not formally identified (indeterminate cereal grain).

Context	Feature	Description	Spot date	Volume (litres)	Cereals		Non-cereal taxa		Charcoal	Contaminants			Other remains
					Cereal grains	Notes	Seeds	Notes	Charcoal > 2mm	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	
103	104	Fill of Pit	LIA	20	X	FTW (1), Trit (1), Rye (1), NFI (4)	X	Medium Fabaceae (1), <i>Anthemis cotula</i> (1), Small Poaceae (1), Large Poaceae (1)	X	X	-	X	-
105	106	Fill of Linear	C13/C14	10	XX	HB (4), Hord (1), FTW (1), Trit (1), Rye (1), NFI (7)	X	Small Fabaceae (1), Large Poaceae (2)	X	X	X	X	Monocot culm (X), Small mammal dropping (1)
107	108	Fill of Linear	-	10	XX	HB (1), FTW (2), Trit (1), Rye (1), NFI (2)	-	-	X	X	X	X	-
211	212	Fill of Linear	C13-C14	20	XX	HB (1), FTW (1), Trit (3), Oat (1), Rye (1), NFI (7)	X	Large Fabaceae (1), Medium Fabaceae (1), <i>Anthemis cotula</i> (2)	X	X	-	X	Root/tuber (1)
213	214	Upper Fill of Pit	-	20	XX	HB (1), Hord (2), Trit (2), Oat (3), Rye (2), NFI (7)	X	Medium Fabaceae (1), <i>Veronica</i> sp. (1), <i>Anthemis cotula</i> (2), <i>Bromus</i> sp. (1), <i>Lolium</i> sp. (1), Large Poaceae (3)	X	XX	-	X	Amphibian bone (2)
215	214	Lower Fill of Pit	20	10	X	Oat (3)	X	Large Poaceae (1)	-	X	-	X	-

## 8. REVIEW OF RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- 8.1 The evaluation has established that significant buried archaeological deposits and features exist at the Application Site. These remains attest to occupation and/ or activity from the 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> century to the 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> century.

### Broad Research Objectives

- 8.2 The evaluation was not only able to establish both the date and nature of activity or occupation on the development site, but was to some extent able to postulate its extent (*c.f.* objectives 5.2, i and v) and to determine an appropriate level of mitigation (objective 5.2, vi). Based on the results, it was anticipated that medieval features would survive at least in the 10 m wide area between the two trenches, if not across the greater part of the north-eastern half of the development site. It is noted that foundations for 19<sup>th</sup> century domestic tenement buildings are frequently found to be shallow.
- 8.3 In Trench 1, the north-easternmost of the two trenches, a buried soil layer (102) was located 0.28 m - 0.42 m below the existing ground surface (at 91.70 m OD- 91.80 m OD). Cistercian ware pottery sherds suggest that the buried soil (102) was still accumulating in the late medieval period (*c.* 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> century). It has already been noted that a historic map of 1587 shows this area as a part of a large open close, attached to a tenement fronting Rockingham Road to the north (*ante* 4.8).
- 8.4 The buried soil layer (102) sealed two features: a pit [104] and a shallow linear feature [108]. Both features yielded a mixed assemblage of carbonised plant remains (cereals, pulses and non-cereal *taxa* - distinctive of late medieval agriculture). The absence of chaff is considered to reflect food preparation and consumption in an urban environment. There was no continuation of the buried soil layer (102) in Trench 2. However, late medieval features were preserved under a layer of 19<sup>th</sup> century rubble, *c.* 0.62 m - 0.72 m below the existing ground surface (*c.* 91.25 m - 91.35 m OD). The features consisted of a ditch [212] and a pit [214], the pit stratigraphically earlier than the ditch. Unabraded fragments of a 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> century medieval ceramic jug, or pitcher, were found impressed into the surface of a ditch fill (211), illustrating the complete disuse of the ditch by this time. An unabraded sherd of 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered from the fill (211) of the ditch. Carbonised cereal grain and non-cereal *taxa* recovered from the fill proved to be characteristic of late medieval agriculture. The pit [214] contained no datable artefacts, but again produced environmental data indicative of late medieval food production and diet.
- 8.5 The medieval pottery recovered proved consistent with the regional type series (*c.f.* objectives 5.2, ii). Significantly, the analysis of palaeo-environmental data proved critical in the determination of the period of deposition. This was particularly important with regard to late medieval pit [104] where only residual pottery from the Late Iron Age was present. The absence of chaff elements and the dominance of cereal grains (*i.e.* over non-cereal *taxa*) suggests that imported clean grain was being processed in an urban location (*c.f.* objective 5.2, iii).
- 8.6 It is thus highly probable that a tenement (or tenements) had been established at the site, at least from the 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> century (*c.f.* objective 5.2, iv). Importantly, the overall findings of the evaluation, albeit limited in its spatial extent, represent the first tangible evidence of medieval occupation at The Newlands. In this respect, the results so far, represent a significant contribution to a long-term regional research aim of confirming the extent and nature of Kettering's medieval urban settlement (*c.f.* objective 5.2, v).
- 8.7 The unabraded condition of the residual late Iron Age pottery recovered from pit [104], suggests that nearby prehistoric occupation deposits were disturbed during the late medieval period.

### Specific Research Objectives

- 8.8 With regard to testing the *EUS*'s hypothesised developmental sequence for medieval Kettering, it was anticipated that the trenches might encounter former tenement boundary features, and in particular, evidence of the planned expansion of the township in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century into *Le Neweland* (*ante*. 4.7).
- 8.9 As previously mentioned (*ante*. 4.7), Foard and Ballinger (*EUS*) based calculated that in 1405 each tenancy plot in *Le Neweland* was a double plot, 2 rods wide (c. 10.05 m). It might therefore be more than coincidental that the distance measured from the edge of public footpath demarcating the south side of the property, to the centre of the ditch feature [212] in Trench 2 (and the pit below it, [214]), was approximately 16', 5" (5.03 m), or 1 rod. It is thus possible that the ditch, and the pit before it, represent the remains of earlier tenement boundary markers of 1 rod's width. Despite the absence of dateable artefactual evidence from pit [214], the carbonised plant remains (cereals, pulses and non-cereal *taxa*) were distinctive of late medieval agriculture. Furthermore, the presence of 13<sup>th</sup> /14<sup>th</sup> century pottery from both ditch [212] and feature [106] would appear to support documentary evidence for the occupation of tenements at *Le Neweland* in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century, prior to the onset of nation-wide recession in the 14<sup>th</sup> century (*c.f.* objective 5.3, ii).
- 8.10 The presence of pottery of 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery on the surface of the in-filled ditch [212] (Trench 2) may indicate that an amalgam of plots had taken place by this time. The presence of 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> century pottery in a buried soil layer (Trench 1), reflects a continuation of land-usage after the late 13<sup>th</sup> century (objective 5.3, v).
- 8.11 There is no evidence, so far, of craft or artisan activities at the plot (*c.f.* objective 5.3, iii). At this stage there are no indicators of settlement hiatus between the late 13<sup>th</sup> century / first decade of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, and the late 16<sup>th</sup> century (objective 5.3, v).
- 8.12 There was no evidence of pre-existing open field system in the form of buried soils (see objective 5.3, vi).
- 8.13 To date, the discoveries at 11 to 12 Newland Street represent the most significant body of archaeological evidence for late medieval planned expansion on the north side of Kettering.

### 9. ARCHIVE

- 9.1 A photographic record was made and the site was surveyed to Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinates and height datum; all data is contained in this report.
- 9.2 The archive from the project is to be dealt with in accordance with the Northamptonshire Archaeological Archives Standard of Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre –NARC (June 2014).
- 9.3 The Historic Environment Record Event Number ENN108635 is the site code used for the archive.
- 9.4 The OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations: [www.oasis.ac.uk](http://www.oasis.ac.uk)) identification number for this project is souterra1-310286.
- 9.5 The archive comprises plans and section drawings, context records and digital photographs. Artefacts will remain the property of the landowner although he/she will be invited to transfer finds ownership to the county museum facility when this becomes available. Provision must be



made by the Developer for retaining the project archive until such time as a suitable depository is available including financial provision to cover one-off museum storage charges.

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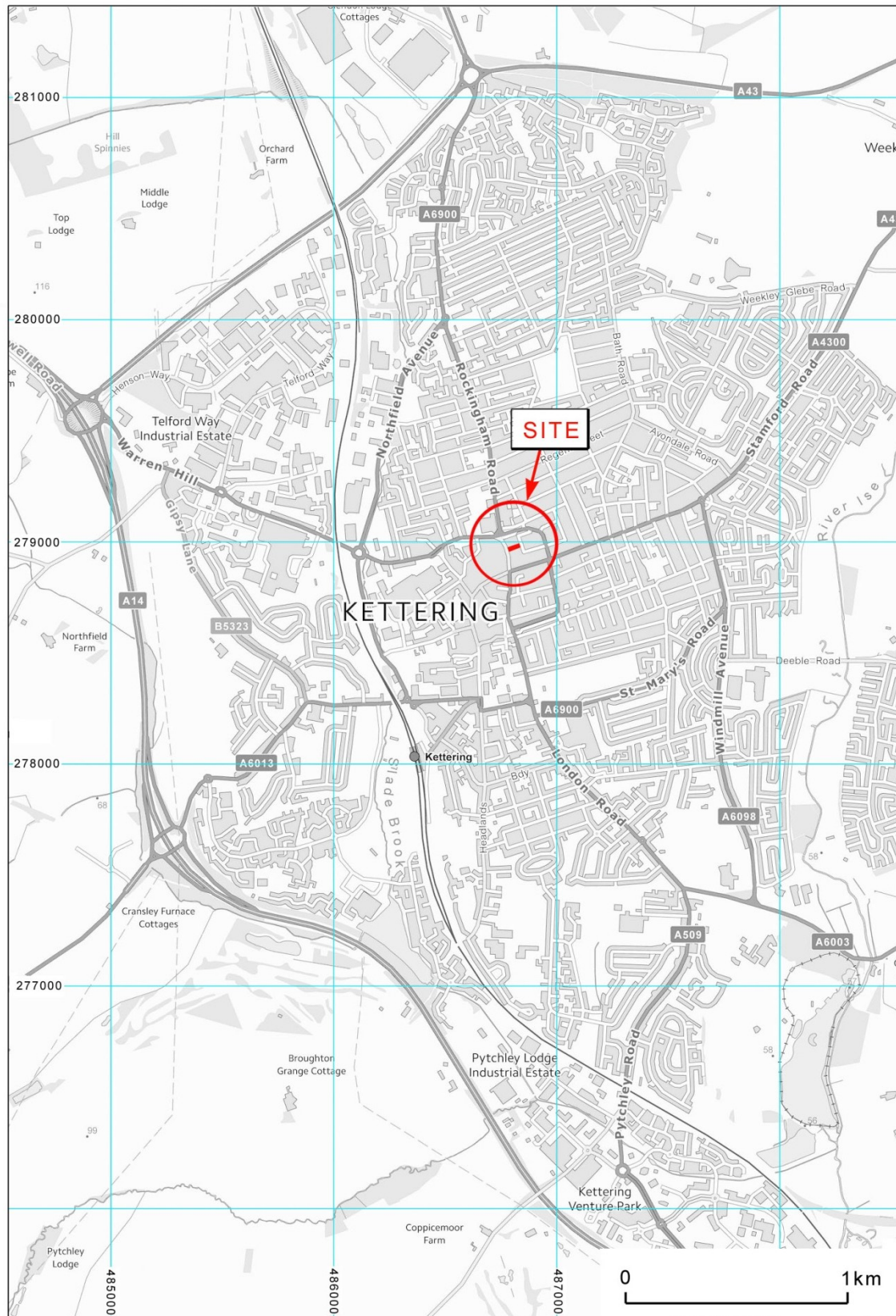
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## **12. FIGURES**



**Figure 1. Location of Application Site**

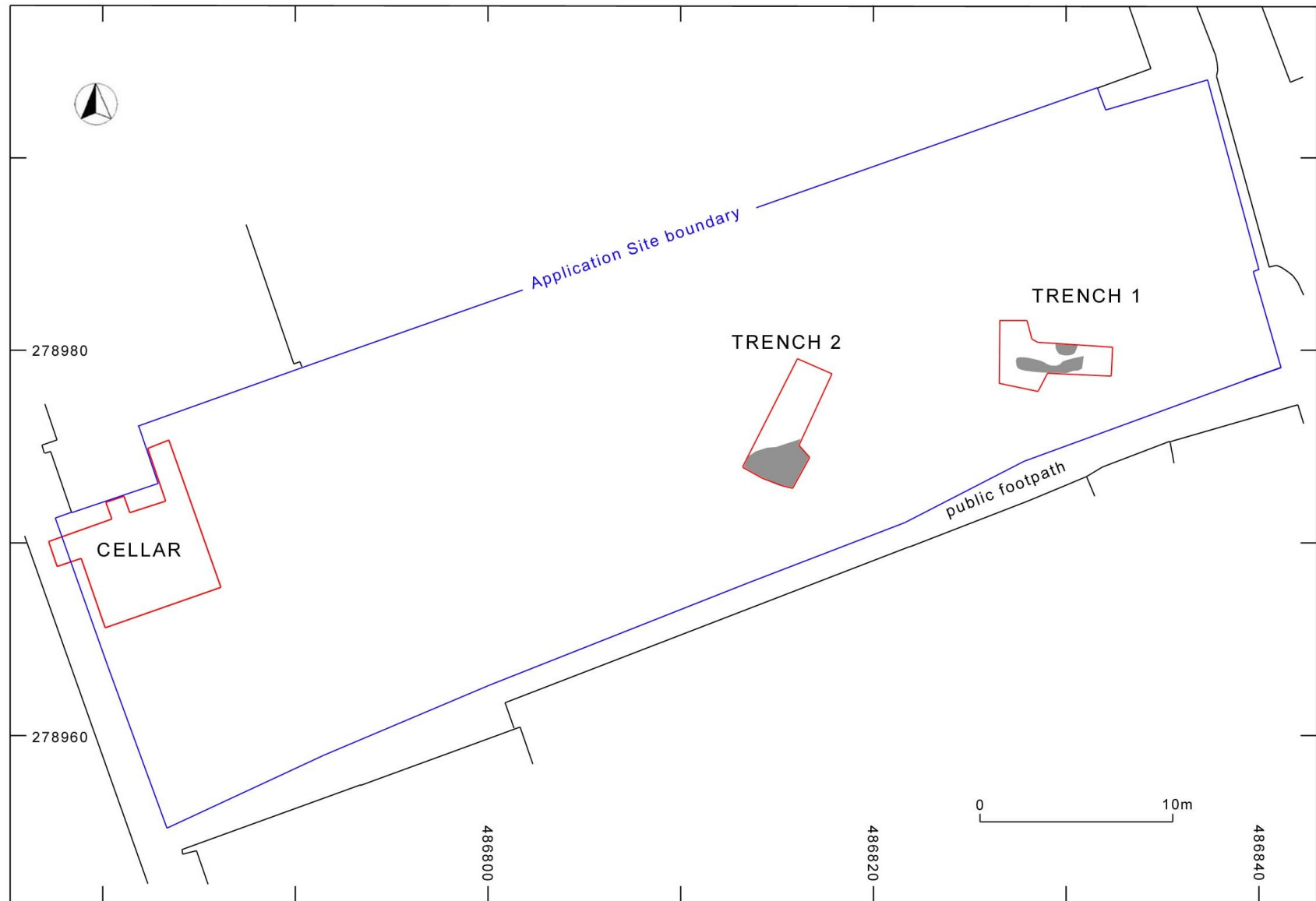


**Figure 2. Conjectured 1405 tenancy divisions at *Le Neweland* (green) in relation to the Application Site (red)**

(tenancy divisions after EUS 2000; Base map Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100015565)



**Figure 3.**  
Location of  
evaluation  
trenches &  
historic cellar





**Figure 4. Pre-excavation overview of site . Facing SW**



**Figure 5. Pre-excavation overview of site. Facing NE**



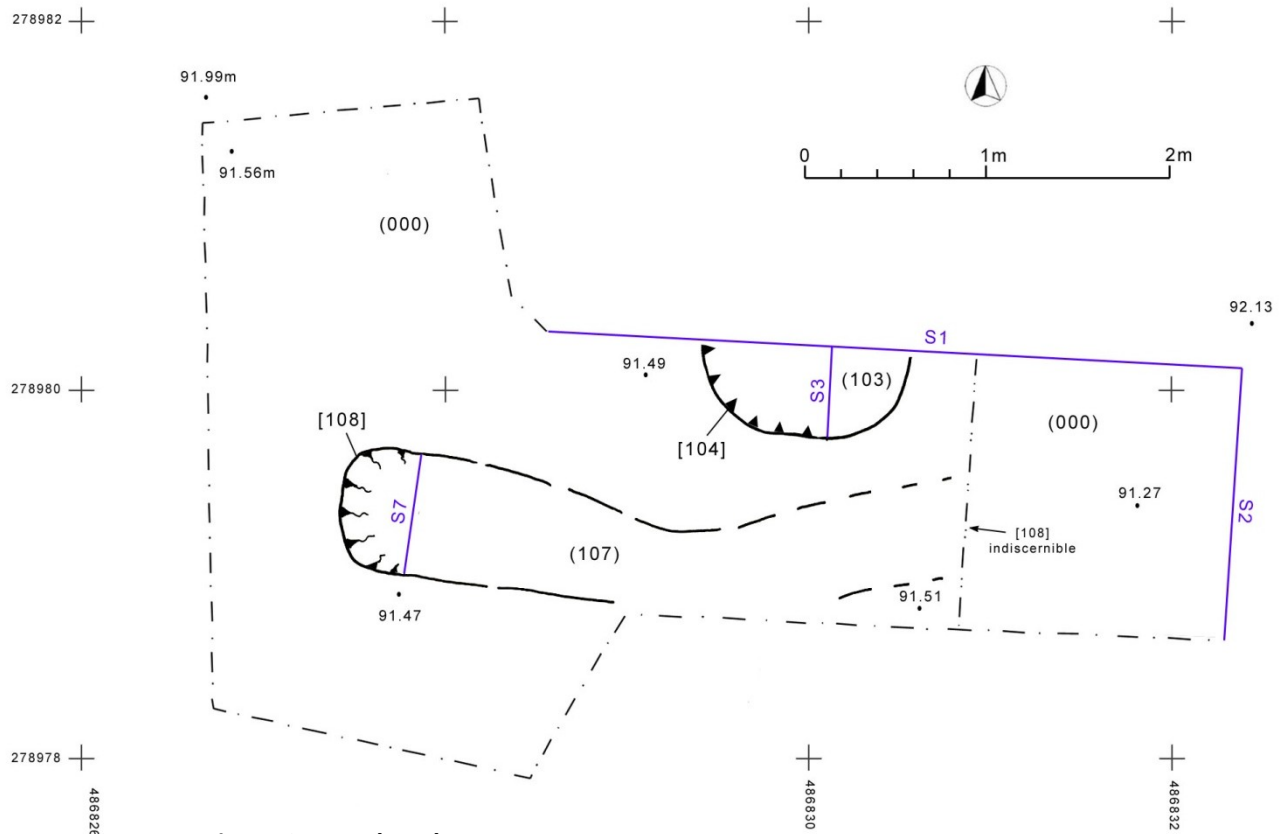
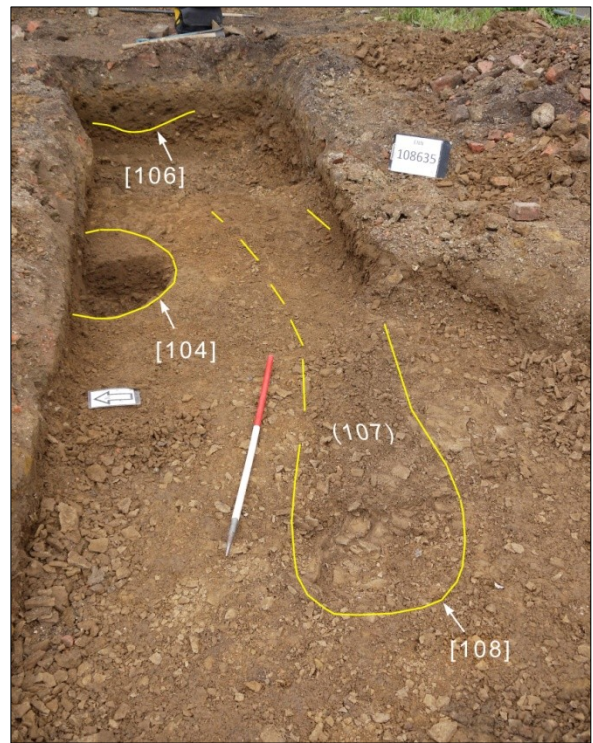


Figure 6. Trench 1 plan



a.



b.

Figure 7, a & b. Excavated features in Trench 1. Facing ESE

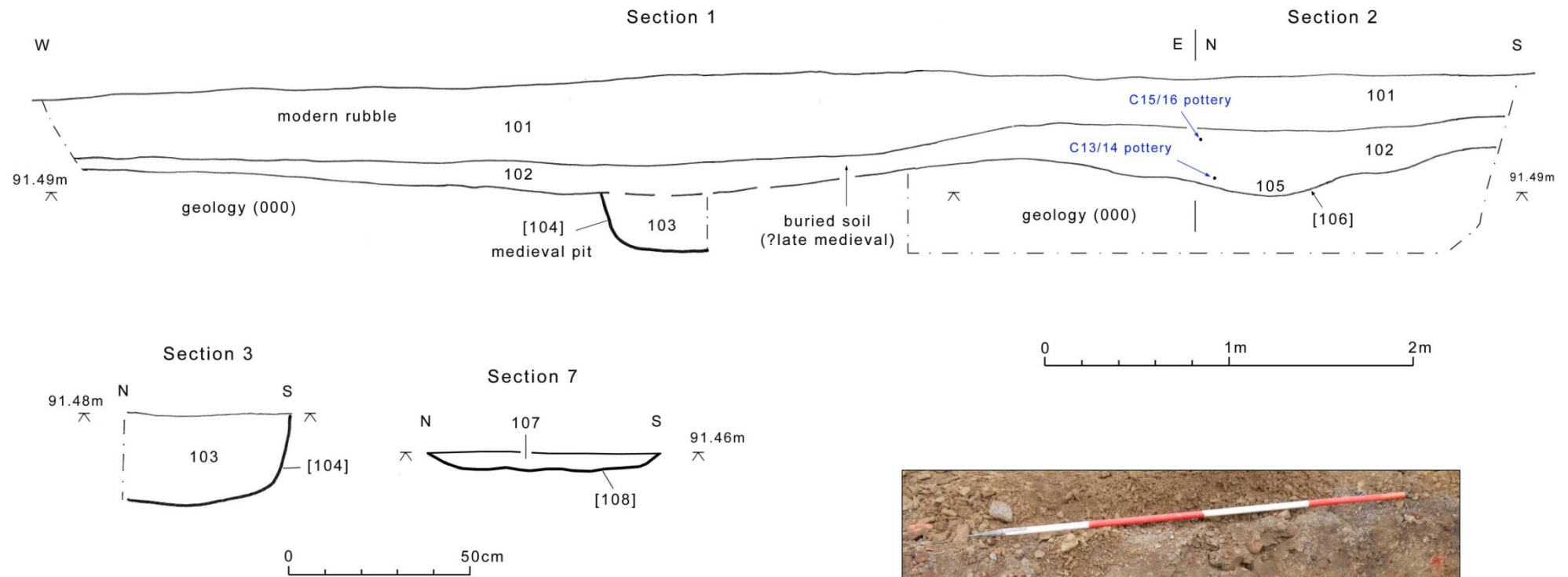


Figure 8. Trench 1, Sections 1 to 3

Figure 9.  
Trench 1, medieval  
pit [104]. Facing NE







**Figure 10.**  
**Trench 1, Section**  
**2. Facing NE**



**Figure 11.**  
**Trench 2, overview,**  
**Facing NE**



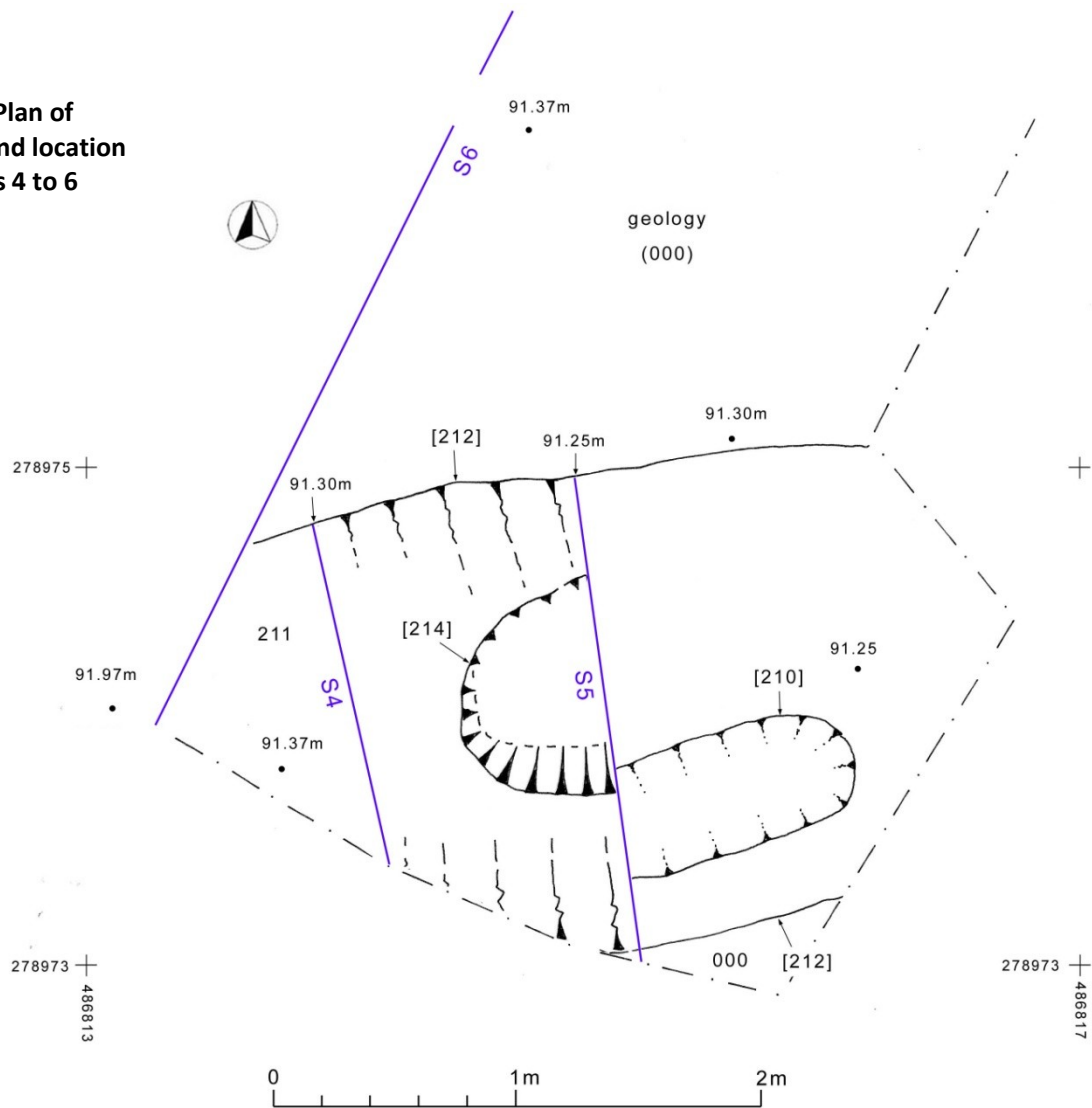


Figure 12. Trench 2. Feature [212]. C14<sup>th</sup> / C15<sup>th</sup> pottery in the surface of upper fill (211)

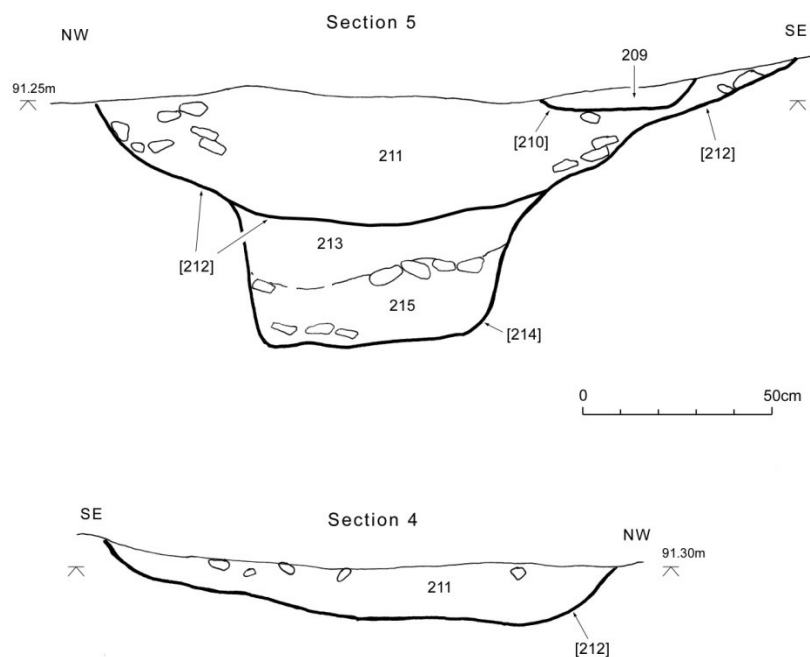


Figure 13. Trench 2, features [212], [214], & [210], Facing ENE

**Figure 14.**  
Trench 2, Plan of  
features and location  
of Sections 4 to 6



**Figure 15.**  
Trench 2,  
Sections 4 and 5



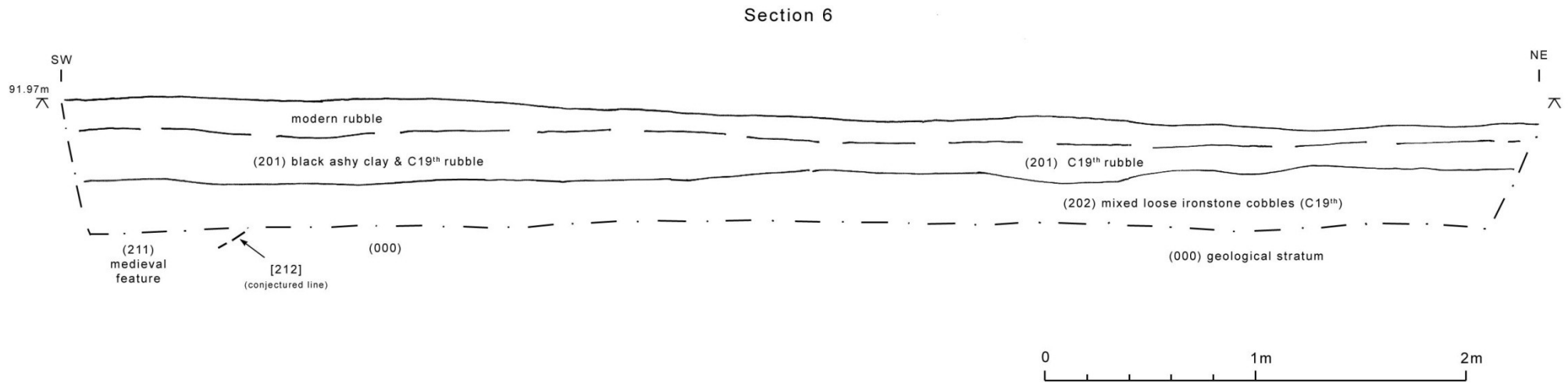


Figure 16. Trench 2, Section 6



### 13. APPENDIX 1 List of Contexts

**KEY:** Relationships: **a.** above; **abt.** abuts; **adj.** adjoins; **b.** below; **c.** cuts; **cub.** cut by; **co.** contains; **wi** within  
 Dimensions: **le.** length; **wid.** width; **de.** depth; **th.** thickness

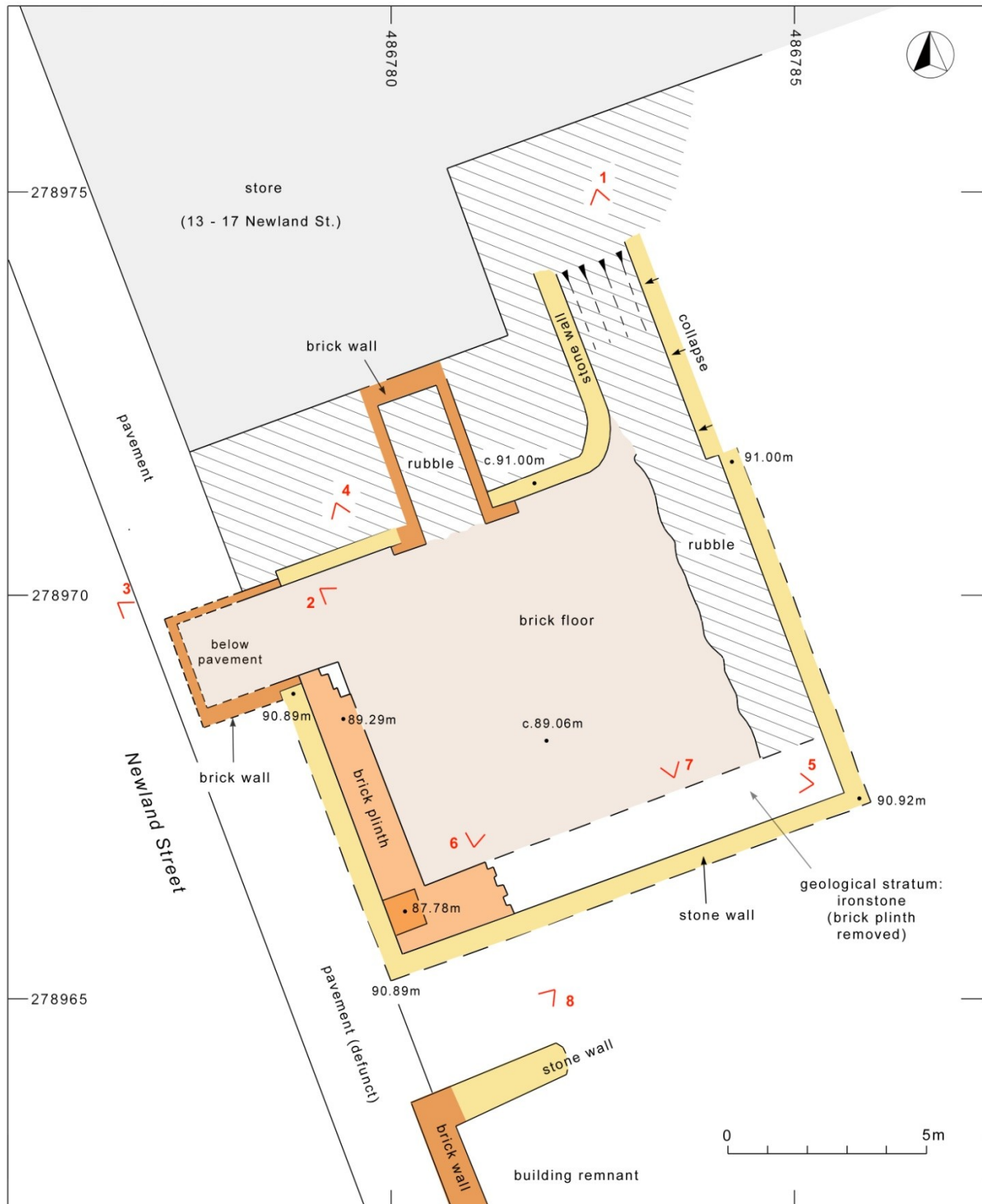
Context No.	type	Description and interpretation	relationships	dimensions	Drawing	Finds	Soil Sample	Date of record
<b>TRENCH 1</b>								
000	Geological stratum	Ironstone, weathered. Sub-angular and sub-rounded cobbles in sandy matrix. Fairly loose.	Cub.[104], [108] & poss. [106]	-	GPS plan S 1 & S2			12:06:2017
101	layer	Rubble, modern	a.(102)	Th. c.0.28 to c.0.44m	S 1 & S2			12:06:2017
102	layer	Buried soil, light brown sandy soil, friable. Frequent small to medium angular stones (ironstone)	b.(101); a.(103); (107) ?possibly same as (105)	Th. c.0.08 to c.0.29m, increases in Section 2 (see 105)	S1 & S2			12:06:2017
103	Fill	Homogeneous single fill of pit. light orange-brown clayey sandy soil, friable, frequent small to medium angular stones (ironstone)	Wi.[104]; b.(102)	th. c.0.25-c.0.27m	GPS plan; S1 & S3	X 2 sherds LIA pottery	v	12:06:2017
104	cut	Pit (probable) or ditch terminus, steep sides (75° - 80°), flattish base	c.(000) Co.(103); b.(102)	Dia. c.0.5 – 0.6m; De. c.0.25-c.0.27m	GPS plan; S1 & S3			12:06:2017
105	fill	Fill of a shallow U-shaped depression visible in section (S.2) at the east end of the trench. The same composition as buried soil (102) and no discernible division, so quite possibly the same material. However, it may have been a continuation of (107) (i.e. the fill of	Possibly the same as (102); Wi.[106]	th. up to c. 0.16m	S 2		v	12:06:2017

Context No.	type	Description and interpretation	relationships	dimensions	Drawing	Finds	Soil Sample	Date of record
		[108]. N.B.. Not discernible in plan during excavation.						
106	Cut (poss.)	Possible cut / continuation of linear feature [108]. Recorded in Section 2 at east end of trench 1. Occurs at a similar depth (91.55m OD; [108] was around 91.47m / 91.48m) and is of similar width (c. 0.64m). Or just an undulation in the geological horizon. N.B. There is no visible evidence of a division in the fill	Co.(105); ?c. (000) b. (102)	de. up to c. 0.16m; wid. c. 0.64m	S2	-	-	12:06:2017
107	Fill	Fill of curvilinear feature. Discernible as a discolouration (darker) within the ironstone geology. Composed primarily Angular ironstone cobbles (c. 90%), dark orange-brown sandy soil with small fragments of ironstone pieces (10%)	b.9102) Wi.[108]	Th.>0.05m	GPS plan			12:06:2017
108	cut	Very shallow curvilinear feature, fades out to the east, becoming indiscernible at the east end of the trench	b.(102); Co. (107)	de.>0.05m; le.at least 2m Wid.c. 0.64m	GPS plan			12:06:2017
<b>TRENCH 2</b>								
000	Geological stratum	Ironstone, weathered. Sub-angular and sub-rounded cobbles in sandy matrix. Fairly loose.	Cub.[212] and [214]	u/k	GPS plan; S6			12:06:2017
201	Layer	Rubble, C 19 <sup>th</sup> , brick, ashy clay soil, compact	b. modern hard-standing a.(202)	Th. 0.16-0.22m	S6			14:06:2017
202	layer	Mixed loose ironstone cobbles with dark brown soil. Appearance of re-deposited upper geological stratum	b.(201); a. (211), [212], (209), [210]	th. 0.2 -0.25m	S6			14:06:2017
209	Fill	Fill of of C18 <sup>th</sup> disturbance / rubbish pit, black ashy soil, greasy	Wi.[210]	th. c.0.04m – c.0.07m	GPS plan; S5	C 18 <sup>th</sup> Pot sherd; clay pipe stem		14:06:2017
210	cut	C18 <sup>th</sup> linear disturbance / rubbish pit. Very shallow.	Co.(209) c.[212], (211)	De. c.0.04m – c.0.07m ;	GPS plan; S5			14:06:2017

Context No.	type	Description and interpretation	relationships	dimensions	Drawing	Finds	Soil Sample	Date of record
				Wid.c.0.42m; le.c.0.7m				
211	Fill	Fill of shallow, wide linear feature (? ditch). Orange-brown clayey, sandy soil, with frequent sub-angular, sub-rounded stones (iron stone)	Wi.[212]; b.(210); cub. [210]	th. (Section 4) between c.0.18m & 0.35m ; (Section 5) up to 0.35m	GPS plan; S5 & S4	1 sherd, Lyveden/ Stanion B ware (C13-C14); 5 sherds, Late medieval oxidised ware (C14-C15)	✓	14:06:2017
212	cut	Shallow, wide linear feature (possible ditch). appears to be at the division of former (i.e. medieval) properties. Deepens over pit [214]. Centre of feature approximately 16', 5" from edge of path on south side of the property	Co.(211); b.(201); cub.[210]	De. (Section 4) up to 0.17m; (Section 5) up to 0.35m; Wid.c.1.38 to 1.9m	GPS plan; S5 & S4			14:06:2017
213	fill	Upper fill of pit. Loose powdery, sandy, soil with rare stone inclusions, dark orange-brown	Wi.[214]; b.(211) a.(215) cub.[212]	th. c.0.12m – c.0.19m	S5	-	✓	14:06:2017
214	cut	Pit, possibly circular; sealed by linear feature [212]. Steep sides: north side 85°, south side 75°	co.(213), (215); b.(211); cub [212]	de. c.0.32; dia. c.0.7	GPS plan; S5			14:06:2017
215	fill	Lower fill of pit. Orange-brown clayey, sandy soil, occasional charcoal flecks. Frequent stones - angular ironstone, small to medium; cobbles tumbled/eroded from sides	Wi. [214]; b.(213)	th. c.0.17m – c.0.22m	S5	-	✓	14:06:2017

**14. APPENDIX 2. Survey of Historic Cellar**

<b>Location of building</b>	11-12 Newland Street, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN16 8JH
<b>National Grid Reference</b>	486782, 278969 (centre)
<b>Designation</b>	none
<b>Date of Record</b>	June 2017
<b>Recorded by</b>	M D Wilson, Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd.
<b>Description</b>	<p>Cellar of former stone-built property (latterly part of a shop) fronting Newland Street.</p> <p>Internal dimensions 5.8 m x 4.2 m. Stone-lined, c. generally 0.25m thick.</p> <p>Wall height surviving generally 1.6 m – 1.66 m (SE wall) and up to 1.92 m (NW wall). Existing ground height/ top of surviving wall generally at 90.90 m OD (SE) to 91.00 m OD (NW).</p> <p>Stone-lined access passage from the NE corner 1.1 m wide and at least 3.2 m long. Probable steps though obscured by rubble.</p> <p>Brick-built barrel shute with roof light in SW wall beneath former pavement (1.25 long x 1.08 m wide).</p> <p>Possible shute with roof light in NW wall (1.9 m long x c. 0.8 m wide). Roof of shutes supported by iron lintels.</p> <p>Brick lined floor at c. 89.06 m OD. Hand-made (C 19<sup>th</sup>) bricks throughout. Three course brick plinth along SW wall, c. 0.23m high.</p> <p>Remains of plinth continuation along SE wall, broken out during ground test works, exposing geological stratum (ironstone). Low brick ? buttress towards S corner of SW wall. NE wall collapsing due to recent passage of demolition plant.</p> <p>Cellar In-filled during course of development.</p> <p>Age of the cellar not known. Local informant recalls 17<sup>th</sup> century dated lintel inside the building prior to demolition</p>
<b>Photographs:</b>	Viewpoint plan on page 36
<b>Image No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
1_P1120773	Entrance to cellar from NE
2_P1120779	Overview of cellar from floor level, facing SE. Grubbed out brick plinth beneath ranging pole
3_P1120781	Overview of cellar from ground level, facing SE
4_P1120783	Overview of cellar from ground level, facing SE. Remains of brick plinth along SW and SE wall
5-P1120785	View of cellar from floor level, facing W. Possible shute with roof light to right
6_P1120787	View of cellar from floor level, facing NNE. Possible shute or light roof in centre; entrance to right
7_P1120789	View of cellar, from floor level, facing NNW
8_P1120793	Remnant of stone and brick-built building . Facing fronting Newland Street, facing SW



Plan of historic cellar fronting Newland Street showing direction of photographs.



**1. Entrance to cellar  
from NE**



**2. Overview of  
cellar from floor  
level, facing SE.  
Grubbed out brick  
plinth beneath  
ranging pole**



**3. Overview of  
cellar from ground  
level, facing SE**





**4. Overview of cellar from ground level, facing SE. Remains of brick plinth along SW and SE wall**



**5. View of cellar from floor level, facing W. Possible shute w roof light to right**



**6. View of cellar from floor level, facing NNE. Possible shute or light roof in centre; entrance to right**





**7. View of cellar,  
from floor level,  
facing NNW.  
Blocked entrance to  
right**



**8. Remnant of  
stone and brick-  
built building .  
Facing fronting  
Newland Street,  
facing SW**





**OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England****OASIS ID: souterra1-310286****Project details**

Project name	11-12 NEWLAND STREET KETTERING NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (SP 868789): ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
Short description of the project	In June 2015, two evaluation trenches were excavated at a proposed development site in Kettering town centre. The site is located within a previously identified zone of late medieval tenements known as The Newland, which is understood from documentary evidence to have been set out in a planned expansion of the town in the late 13th century. The evaluation established that buried archaeological features deposits exist at the site, and significantly, that these remains attest to occupation and/or activity from the 13th/ 14th century to the 15th / 16th century. Where features were devoid of dateable artefacts, they can be assigned to the late medieval period on account of characteristic agricultural assemblages of carbonised cereal and plant remains. It is considered that at least two of the features, a pit and a ditch, may represent tenement boundary features that had been in-filled by the 14th / 15th century. To date, the discoveries at 11 to 12 Newland Street represent the most significant body of archaeological evidence for late medieval planned expansion on the north side of the town. Residual late Iron Age pottery was also recovered, its condition suggesting that nearby occupation deposits had been disturbed in the late medieval period. The report includes a survey and photographic record of a historic cellar exposed on the Newland Street frontage after the demolition of historic buildings.
Project dates	Start: 11-05-2017 End: 14-06-2017
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Project ref. code	ENN108635 - HER event no.
Project ref. code	KET/2016/0674 - Planning Application No.
Project ref. code	SOU17-532 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	LAYER Medieval
Monument type	LINEAR EARTHWORK Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	SHERDS Medieval
Significant Finds	SHERD Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""; ""Targeted Trenches""
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
<b>Project location</b>	
Country	England
Site location	NORTHAMPTONSHIRE KETTERING KETTERING 11-12 NEWLAND STREET
Postcode	NN16 8JH
Study area	1126 Square metres
Site coordinates	SP 868 789 52.400839044043 -0.724049263967 52 24 03 N 000 43 26 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 91.25m Max: 91.6m
<b>Project creators</b>	
Organisation	Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd
Project manager	Mercedes Planas
Project supervisor	Mercedes Planas
Type of funding	Developer
Funding body	Playnest Ltd
<b>Project archives</b>	
Physical Archive recipient	landowner
Physical Archive ID	ENN108635
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Environmental"
Digital Archive recipient	Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record
Digital Archive ID	ENN108635
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record
Paper Archive ID	ENN108635
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

**Project  
bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	11-12 NEWLAND STREET KETTERING NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, NN16 8JH (SP 868789) ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Wilson M.D
Other bibliographic details	SOU17-532
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Olney
Description	illustrated technical report, A4 format, colour, 40 pp inc cover
Entered by	M Wilson
Entered on	26 February 2018