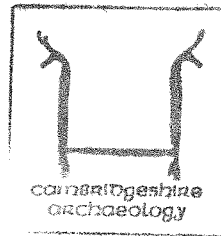
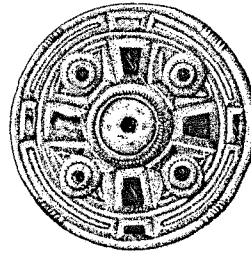


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Archaeological Field Unit

Archaeological Recording Brief at Hauxton Road, Little Shelford

J. A. Roberts

1995

Cambridgeshire County Council

Report No. A75

Commissioned By Granta Housing Society

**Archaeological Recording Brief at
Hauxton Road, Little Shelford**

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**Archaeological Recording Brief at
Hauxton Road, Little Shelford
(TL 448 516)**

SUMMARY

During October 1995 members of the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council visited the site of a proposed development at the rear of 29-57 Hauxton Road, Little Shelford in response to a planning condition (Planning Application No. S/0112/95).

A tender was forwarded to Granta Housing Society in July 1995 but notification of commencement of development and authorisation for archaeological work was not given until 17th October. Topsoil had been stripped and foundation and service trenches opened across the site. No features dating before the post-medieval period were visible.

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INTRODUCTION

During October 1995 members of the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council paid four visits (18th, 20th, 23rd and 24th October) to a site to the rear of 29-57 Hauxton Road, Little Shelford (TL448 516) (see Figure 1) which was the subject of a proposed residential development by Granta Housing Society. A planning condition (Planning Application No. S/0112/95) required an archaeological investigation of the site before and during ground disturbance connected with the development.

BACKGROUND

The site lies on 'Lowest' and Intermediate Terrace river gravels (BGS 205) less than one kilometre to the south west of the River Cam (or Granta) and just over 15m O.D.

The site lies in an area of archaeological interest with considerable evidence for Romano-British activity. Cropmarks to the north-east of Hauxton Road, and less than half a kilometre south-west of the river, indicate the presence of large areas of archaeological remains, believed to be the site of a Romano-British settlement (SMR 09636). To the south-west of the site (and running up to the boundary of the site) are cropmarks which indicate further activity, including field systems (SMR 09635) possibly associated with the settlement to the north-east. Quarrying during the 19th century is noted in the area but its effect on the site is not known.

METHODOLOGY

The tender proposed visits to the site during the ground works to monitor the development, investigate archaeological features and record them in accordance with the Development Control Office brief and using the standard techniques of the Archaeological Field Unit (AFU).

RESULTS

The two weeks notification of commencement of work, requested by the tender, was not given and consequently considerable work had been carried out by the developers before members of the AFU were able to visit the site. Topsoil and sub-soil had been stripped and foundation and service trenches had been dug across the site. Inspection during visits by the AFU revealed field drains and previous service trenches but archaeological features were not visible across the site, in the base of the trenches or in the sections. Spoil had been removed from the trenches to the edge of the site and it was not possible to check this for artefactual material.

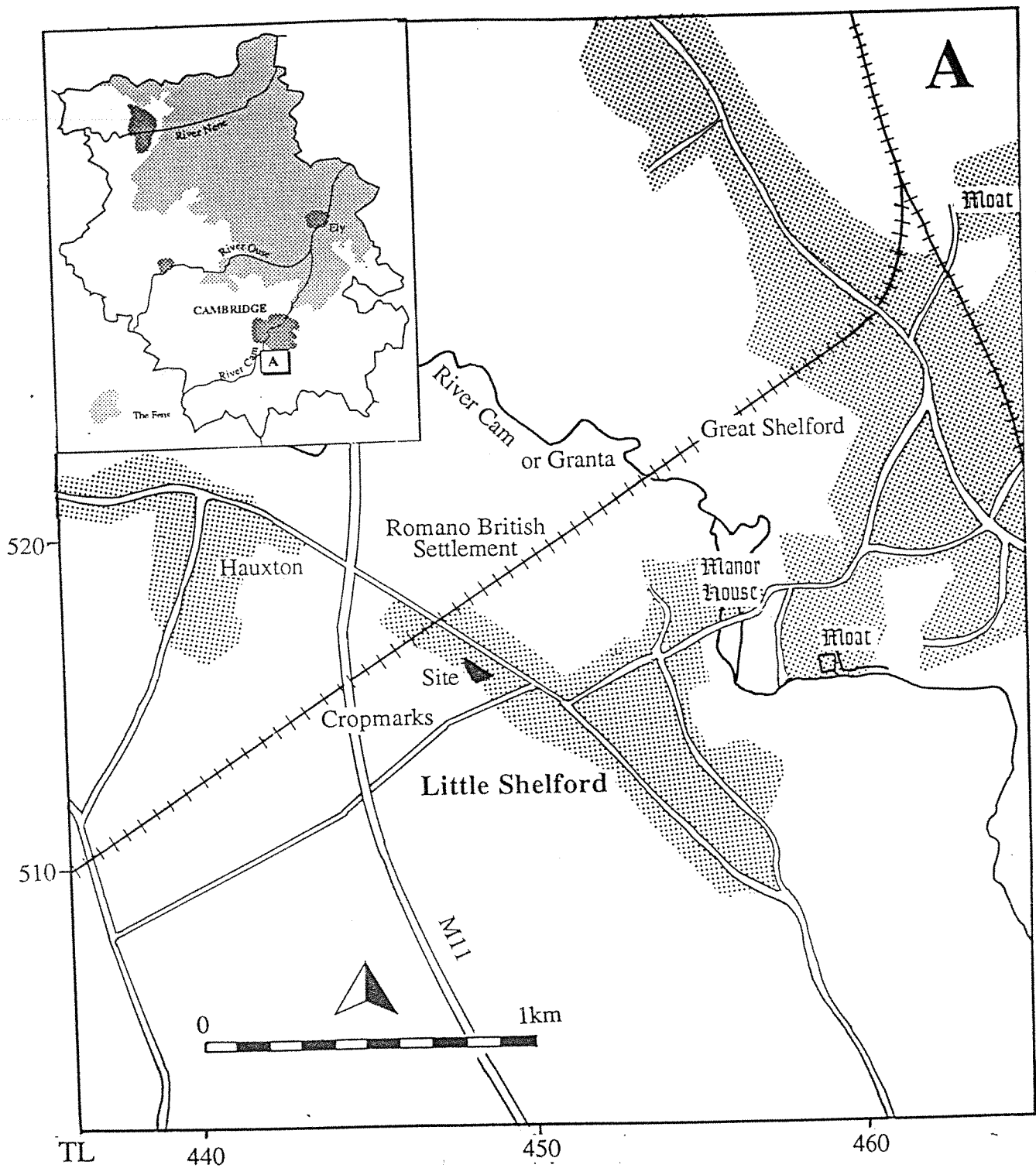


Figure 1 Location map

CONCLUSIONS

In spite of indications of the possibility of considerable archaeological activity on the site it was not possible to discern archaeological features or artefactual evidence during visits by members of the AFU.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to thank South Cambridgeshire County Council Planning Department for inviting the tender and forwarding the response to Granta Housing Society who funded the work; the County Archaeology Office - Development Control for providing the brief; Tim Malim as Project Manager and Bob Hatton who visited the site on two occasions.

REFERENCES

BGS - British Geological Survey Sheet 205
SMR - Cambridgeshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record



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